

The "A"nnouncer



May, 2018

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/runningboardas/>

Volume 17

Number 5

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The Running Board “A’s” club is a Model “A” Ford touring club. We are a region of the Model A Restorers Club (MARC). MARC recommends that all region members become members of MARC. See <http://model-a-ford.org/> for more information.

From The President

I'm not usually one to complain, but so far 2018 has been a less than great year. As you all know, I spent the month of January in the hospital. While I laid there, my sister in law was admitted to the same hospital and passed away there. Last month Leslie and I lost Rocky our golden who we considered a family member. Besides being a therapy dog and having earned many titles, he was a television actor, having co- starred in two television commercials. Only wish he was as well known as Duke, the Bush Beans golden retriever. Now we are all being treated to a never ending winter. Hopefully things will turn around soon. The stock market will begin to climb again, the trade war with China will end, gun violence will end, and our elected officials will work for the folks who elected them and not for themselves. How about one last rain to wash away winter's salt and cinder remnants and bring on spring and a fresh new beginning for the 2018 model A driving season.

Bob

Trexlerstown Model A Event

April 22, 2018

Article and Photo By Doug Pyatt

Chuck and I left from my house in our cars to arrive just before 9:00 AM at the Good Will Fire House in Trexlertown, PA. Soon after we saw Bob Adams in his Tudor come in. We were walking around after coffee and ran into Ed and Peggy Hardy, and just then Tom Fritz walked up. He came by himself with his car from New Jersey. After that Dick Bettle came with passenger Joe Kuhl. Joe had gone to the Wheels of Time Museum with us about a year ago.

We all saw that someone had painted a Model A all white. The car was nicely restored and really stood out with the all white paint job. At the bottom of the picture you can see our shadows.



I'm taking the picture, and Chuck with ball cap is giving it a thumbs up.

It was a great show that had around 100 Model A's I would estimate, plus, one running 1904 Model A. The flea market was in full swing and many "good deals" could be had. Most of us purchased some treasures at reasonable prices. Some of our members left before we did, but we finally decided to leave around 2:00 PM. Tom followed Chuck and I back toward Hellertown with an ice cream stop along the way to top off a great day.

Raise Your A Day

Hosted by Bob and Bernadette Outwater

This year's event was bigger and better than ever. There were 20 members and guests in attendance with a wide variety of Model A models and years, and a few non Model A's. Those in attendance included Bob and Dorothy Dauernheim, friend Frank, Doug Pyatt and friend Adam, Chuck Savitski, Bob Adams, Tom Fritz, Deb Daye, Dick Bettle, Ken Nygard, John and Donna Cawthorne, Ray DeMarco, Ed and Peg Hardy, Dexter Hutchins, hosts Bob and Bernadette, and me.

The models of cars ranged from a Model A race car built out of parts, to a roadster pickup, regular pickup,



several tudor sedans, a couple of coupes, a phaeton and Ken's '51 F1 Ford pickup. There would have been two roadsters at the event too if they had been road worthy.

Doug and his friend Adam were the first one's on the lift with Doug's tudor sedan. Doug gave Adam a lesson in the care and feeding of a Model A. Adam drove Doug's tudor and Doug drove his pickup. I wondered how Doug drove two cars at once??

Chuck was the next one up and he breezed through lubricating his vehicle. Next came new member Ray with his nice roadster pickup. Being relatively new to the hobby and he and his truck being new to the club, it was kind of like a pack of dogs on fresh meat. All eyes were on the truck. There were a few things that we shared with Ray about maintenance of the car, but overall, it looked pretty good. I think I was up next with the requisite jokes about checking the front cross member for cracks. (Check out

the May 2015 newsletter for a complete explanation). Thankfully, I got done with my car pretty quickly with no real issues seen. Ed Hardy's coupe also got the once over with no real issues.



By then we were ready for lunch. As usual, Bob and Bernadette put out a great spread, supplemented with items contributed by the attending members. There was also the requisite ice cream (and other goodies) for dessert!

After lunch, we were ready to tackle the oil leak that Tom Fritz saw in his tudor. First, they decided it would be smart to drain the oil from the engine.

Then, all eyes were on Tom as he attempted to use a pneumatic ratchet wrench to remove the bolts holding the oil pan on. After a little remedial training from Bob on how to use the wrench, it was off in a flash. Tom was suspi-



cious that the oil return tube at the back of the engine was plugged causing the oil leak.



They decided to remove the splash tray from the oil pan. At the bottom of the oil pan, they found some suspicious metallic pieces that they were trying to identify.

When I left at 4:30, the consensus was that it may be the oil pump drive gear coming apart. I later



learned from Doug, who left at about 5:00 PM, that they had removed the side valve cover to check the oil pump drive gear. It turned out that the gear was in perfect shape.

The consensus was that the oil pump gear had failed at some point, and was replaced, but the oil pan was not taken down and cleaned thoroughly, leaving some metal shavings in the bottom of the pan.

It took Tom, Bob and Dick Bettel until about 8:30 to get the car back together so that Tom could get on the road by 9:30 PM.

In the mean time, Chuck, Doug and Adam, who left at about 5:00 PM ran into a thunderstorm just after crossing the Frenchtown bridge. The cars were handling the storm just fine until Doug's blue tudor, driven by Adam,

stopped dead in its tracks. Chuck quickly diagnosed that the metal contact on the top of the distributor cap had burned off. A new one was quickly installed and they were on their way again.

If there was a silver lining to this event, it's that I no longer hold the record for the longest number of hours tying up the lift on Raise Your A Day. That distinction now goes back to Tom!

We all had a great day. Thanks to Bob and Bernadette for putting up with us during a very long day.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

Rhinebeck Auto show and Tour May 5 and 6

On Saturday, we will leave mid morning and travel up along the scenic Delaware River and stop for lunch in Milford PA. From there, we will then travel for about another two hours to Kingston NY along great Model A roads, where we will spend the night. Sunday morning we will cross the Hudson to Rhinebeck and the Dutchess County Fair Grounds where we spend the day at the Rhinebeck Auto Show. Registration is free for Model A's. We leave the show between 2 and 3 PM and we are usually home before dark. This is a great tour and show. It's great to blow the cobwebs out of the carburetor on this early tour and show.

If you wish to attend, contact the Super 8 Motel in Kingston @ 845-338-3078 to make a reservation. Contact Doug Pyatt at gcdp@rcn.com or at 610-844-6641 to let him know that you will attend .

May 6, 2018

NJ AACA Antique Car Show and Flea Market Mennen Arena 161 East Hanover Avenue, Morris- town, N.J. 07960

\$10 preregistration fee, and \$20 day of show. Contact Dick Bettle if you plan to attend. Dick can be contacted at BettleSr@gmail.com or at 973-615-2831

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, May 11, 2018

Firehouse Spaghetti Dinner

Erwinna PA 5:30 PM

We will meet at the Delaware Valley Fire House on Headquarters Road in Erwinna for their monthly spaghetti dinner. Bring your old car, classic car or hot rod and we will have an impromptu car show. Diners are \$10 (less if you are a senior) and include all you can eat salad and spaghetti. It also includes bread, coffee, ice tea and dessert. No need to call ahead...if you don't feel like cooking, just show up! These dinners occur on the second Friday of each month, so if you can't make this one, there will be plenty of opportunities during the course of the summer.

May 18 to 20

Tour Aldie, Virginia and Picnic

John Leydon and the Greater Baltimore Model A Ford club have graciously invited us to tour the Aldie Virginia area and attend a "Model A" only picnic at Oak Hill, the Presidential Estate of James Monroe. .

If you would like more information on the event, contact Dave Allison at 267-733-3708 or John Leydon at 215-478-1936 or at jkleydon@gmail.com. You will have to act fast! Registration cutoff was April 15 (but I understand that there are still a few spaces left).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 25, 2018

First night of the Sommerville N.J Cruise season. Contact Tom Fritz at 908 580-0502 for more information

May 26, 2018

First night of the Flemington N.J. cruise season. Contact Ray and Nel DeMarco at 908-966-7984 or at rsdemarco13@gmail.com for more information.

June

June 8, Firehouse Spaghetti Dinner

See May calendar for more information

June 16 & 17

America on Wheels Event

Vehicles on display will have their hoods open so that the public can see what powers these beautiful machines. Contact Ken Nygard at 267-893-0638 for more information.

June 17, 2018

Silver Creek Auto Show

Fathers Day auto show in Springtown PA. Registration is \$10 day of show. Gates open at 8:00 AM.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Model A Covered Bridge Tour 11 AM-Saturday, June 23, 2018

Dick and Bobbi Bettle are pleased to finally host the long awaited Model A Covered Bridge Tour . We will start at Tincum Park in Erwinna, Tincum Township (behind the John Stover house) and visit 6 different bridges with a nice, leisurely drive through the countryside of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Our final stop will be at Owowcow Creamery in Ottsville.

Sandwich fixings and salads will be provided by Dick and Bobbi. Please bring your own drinks and chairs (the picnic spot has a limited number of picnic tables).

Please let us know (908.354.8236 or bobbil70b@gmail.com) by June 21 if you plan to attend so we can get a headcount for lunch.

Dick and Bobbi Bettle

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

July 21, Garden of Reflections Tour, Yardley PA

9:30 AM

The Garden of Reflections Tour, Yardley, Pa on July 21,2018. Hosted by, Lorraine Fox. Everyone is to meet at my home around 9:30 am for coffee ,tea, pastries and conversation. From there we'll leave for The Garden of Reflections , which was built in memory of the people who lost their lives on Sept.11,2001. The gardens are 30 miles from my home. After we leave there we'll stop for lunch at the New Hope Star Diner in New Hope PA. Please contact me by July 17, to let me know if you are coming. Let's pray for nice weather! If it rains, the tour will be cancelled.

Lorraine Fox ,

1141 Arbour Lane,

Quakertown, Pa 18951

Phone# 267-347-4177

Cell# 215-512-7244

Another Technology in the Model A Era

A few weeks ago, Diane and I had occasion to spend a rainy day at the shore near Atlantic City. It was recommended to us that we take a tour of the pipe organ located in Boardwalk Hall in A.C. (This is the old Atlantic City Convention Hall where the Miss America Pageant is held).

It turns out that the pipe organ is the largest pipe organ in the world (certified by the Guinness Book of World Records) and was built from 1929 to 1932, the same time that our beloved Model A's were built. What makes this organ the largest in the world?...it has 33,114 pipes including one pipe that measures 64 feet in length.



The organ was originally designed by then N.J. State Senator Emerson Lewis Richards and built by the Midmer-Losh Organ Company in Merrick New York.

Our tour started at the entrance to the Boardwalk Hall from the famous A.C boardwalk. Our tour leader took us to the back of the hall where we overlooked the entire floor of the convention center and the stage. From our vantage point, you could hardly pick out the organ console that stands 16 ft tall and is to the right of the stage . Our tour guide gave us a brief

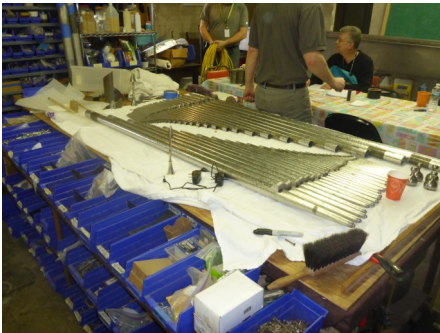
history of the building and showed us the smaller Kimball organ also located in the building.

From there, it was on to the inner workings of the organ. We actually got a chance to climb through the pipe chests to see the pipes, from the massive 32 and 64 ft pipes to the smallest pipes that only stand a few inches tall.

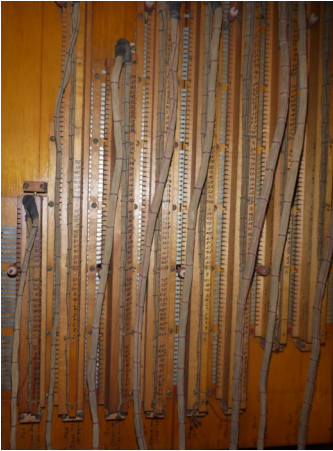


We also had a chance to walk through the workshop where volunteers are restoring various pieces of the organ. It seems that in 1944, there was a massive storm that flooded the first four floors of

the convention hall and destroyed many of the components of the organ. The organ sat in disrepair for many years, but recently has been undergoing the slow but steady process of restoration. One interesting thing that they told us in the restoration shop is that they found that kangaroo leather was the best type of leather for making the valves and seals for the organ.



The organ is also the loudest organ on record with sound recorded in excess of 130 decibels (a jet engine produces about 120 decibels). The organ was originally powered by 8 DC electric motors which totaled 394 hp, the most powerful used in a pipe organ at the time. Today, the blowers have been upgraded and are now rated at 600 hp and can now move 34,600 cubic feet of air a minute. The or-



gan is electromechanical. There is enough wire used to operate the organ to circle the earth...3 times! There is no color coding of the wire. The insulation on all the wires is all brown. Yikes!!

We wound up on the stage, standing right where Miss America would be, and had a close look at the organ console. It was very impressive. We were then directed back to our original starting point at the back of the convention hall, where we were treated to a half hour concert. The organ is currently about 35 to 40% restored. They hope, through a series of grants and private donations to have the organ fully restored by 2023. If you are in the A.C. area on a Wednesday morning stop by and take the tour. Its free and its well worth the two hours of time it takes to go on the tour. The technology used in the Model A era was truly fascinating.

Dave

For Sale

1930 Model A Roadster

This is a local car, located in Bedminster, PA. It comes with plenty of extras including a trunk, side curtains, stone guard, two spares and turn signals. It currently needs a good cleaning and the carburetor needs to be rebuilt or



replaced. Owner is asking \$25K or best offer.

If interested, please contact Dave Allison for more information and more pictures.

Phone 267-733-3708

Email dalliso@mail.ptd.net



**Membership Application
For the Running Board "A's"**

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Email address _____

Dues are \$15.00 annually. Please make checks payable to:

Running Board "A's"

Mail to:

Running Board "A's"

P.O. Box 9

Hilltown Pennsylvania 18927-9711

If renewing, please underline any information that has changed

Running Board "A's"

PO Box 9

Hilltown PA. 18927-9721

First Class Mail