

The "A"nnouncer



March, 2019

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

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

Volume 18

Number 3

The Running Board “A’s” Officers

President	Bob Adams 525 Rich Hill Rd. Sellersville, PA 18960 215-538-2425
Vice President/Director	Doug Pyatt 1419 E. University Ave. Bethlehem, Pa. 18015 610-974-9718
Secretary	Ken Nygard 39 Holland Drive Chalfont, PA 18914 215-822-6717
Treasurer	Peggy Hardy 2012 Perilli Drive Telford PA. 18969 (215) 828-9185
Editor/Publisher	Dave Allison 108 Ervin Rd. Pipersville PA 18947 (267) 733-3708
Web Master	Dick Bettle 170 Crescent Road Florham Park, N.J. 07932 (973) 966-2947

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



With a chill in the air it's hard to imagine spring is less than a month away (March 20). I sit here putting together the rest of my garden seed order. Some of the flowers that take the longest to grow have already poked their heads up in the seed trays. As well as planning the gardens, now is the time to start thinking about getting the model A's ready for this years driving season. Think about the things that annoyed you last year while driving your car.....not counting other drivers. Be it minor or major there is still time to address old problems. When was the last time you packed the wheel bearings or checked the brakes? Do the tires need air? Of course they do. Does the paint remember the last time it was coated under a layer of wax? Not likely. Make plans now and follow through for a carefree summer of driving. See you on the road.

Bob

In Memory of Louise Martin



Louise Martin passed away on February 7 at her home at Heath Village in Long Valley N.J. Louise was 96. Louise, along with her husband Jack were long time members of the Running Board A's.

Jack passed away in 2013. Louise has been an honorary member of the Running Board A's since then.

The club made a visit to Heath Village in 2015 and put on a small car show for all of the residents of the community. Louise, along with Jack are greatly missed by the club.

From the Editor

As we round the bend toward March and spring, it can mean only one thing. Touring time is almost here! We have a great club that continues to grow. Bob Outwater is providing his garage and lift for an opportunity to make sure your Model A is in tip top shape for the touring season. So we have people, we have cars, now all we need are.....TOURS!

We are a touring club. We don't have a lot of meetings because we would rather be out driving our cars than talking about them. But there is a little planning needed to make sure that we have plenty of activities to keep us busy.

This month is our annual planning meeting. We devote one meeting a year to laying out our activities for the touring season. We live in a great area of the country for touring in Model A's. There are lots of great places to visit and they don't always have to be auto related to have a good time.

We also have several active Model A clubs in the area that are looking for things to do to. We also have members that belong to more than one club. How about planning an event where we could invite members of other clubs?

The opportunities are endless. There are plenty of museums, parks, factory tours and back roads to tour.

If you have never planned a Model A event, it's really not that hard to do. Diane and I have planned events that range from an afternoon drive to a 5 day, 600

mile tour. Here are a few tips that seem to work.

1. Pick something that interests you. It doesn't have to be car related. There are plenty of people in the club with interests other than cars. Chances are others will be interested in the same thing.
2. Depending on the event, you may have to do a little planning. If it's something like attending a car show together, pick a starting time and gathering point so we can all attend together. For other types of tours, find Model A suitable roads to get to your location and you may need to find gas and bathroom stops depending on the length of the tour.
3. Advertise the event well in advance in the newsletter. I try to look ahead 3 months so that everyone knows what's coming. The sooner you get your event to me the sooner I can include it on the calendar and the more chance you have for success. I have also found that putting a reminder email out if the event is toward the end of the month helps. Keep in mind that this is a club of procrastinators, so don't get discouraged if you don't get a lot of response right away.
4. Don't be discouraged if only a few people show up. Sometimes, the stars just don't align.
5. Finally, the sure fire thing that always makes people come out of the woodwork is to advertise that there will be.....ICE CREAM.

So don't sit on the sidelines of the club and wait for others to plan the events. Bring some ideas with you to the planning meeting. If you have an idea, but need some help getting it off the ground, there are plenty of folks who can help.

Dave

Happy
St. Patrick's
Day



Don't forget Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday March 10.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Planning Meeting
Saturday March 16, 2019
11:30 AM
Hosted by the Allison's
108 Ervin Rd Pipersville PA. 18947

Come to the planning meeting where we will plan our touring and event schedule for 2019. Bring your ideas! If you have never planned an event, we can offer plenty of help to make sure your event is a success.

The Allison's will provide sandwich makings, desserts and drinks. Please let them know by March 13 that you are coming and find out what you can bring to share in the way of a side dish with the group. Contact Dave and Diane at 267-733-3708.

See you there



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Raise Your “A” Day



(or as some may prefer, “Up Your “A” Day”)

10 AM-Saturday, April 27, 2019

Bob & Bernadette are pleased to once again host “Raise Your A Day”. This is a day for you and your Model A to spend some quality time together looking for those annoying rattles, cracked frames, potential suspension issues or maybe a quick lube. As always, Bob’s lift will be available for you to check things out.

Please feel free to bring any small parts you may need for your repair.

Sandwiches will be provided by Bob and Bernadette. Please let us know what side, salad or dessert, or other things you will bring to share. Please let us know (908 237-9322 or boutw@aol.com) by April 24 if you plan to attend so we can get a headcount for lunch.

Bob & Bernadette Outwater
32 Mason Farm Rd.,
Ringoos, NJ 08551
908 237-9322

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued



Annual
Formerly the Trexlertown Show

Lehigh Valley Model "A" Club Presents
the STEVE RYAN
Model A/AA Show & Swap

Saturday, May 18, 2019
9 am to 3 pm
Rain or Shine

Free Admission
Free Car Registration
Hubley Model Car Display
Technical Presentation
Pin Striping by Jim Brand
Variety of Model "A" Cars
Show Car Paved Parking
Swap Meet & Concessions



Model 'A & AA' Only Car Show & Swap

Stock or Original Model A Ford & Era Equipment Only

Hosted by: Goodwill Fire Company & Lehigh Valley Model A Ford Club

Trexlertown, PA



7723 Hamilton Blvd • Breinigsville, PA 18031 • Short Drive from Rt 78 and Rt 222

Swap meet spots are a **\$10 Donation** • Model A / AA & Early Ford Parts Only

NO house hold items • NO dolls • NO modern tools • NO modern toys

An associated car club is not required for show. RSVP your swap space or your club for the day: 484.548.0632 or lvmodelclub@gmail.com



Oak Tree Supply • timzavacki@gmail.com

Malmark Bellcrafters Tour

February 25, 2019

Hosted by the Allisons

Because the Bellcrafters factory is only open weekdays, we had to schedule this event on a Monday. My apologies to anyone who missed this because of work.

There always is a risk for bad weather when planning an event at the end of February. The weather report was, however, looking good for the event. What we didn't bargain for was wind gusts of 60 miles per hour. It definitely made for a bad hair day.

We were very pleasantly surprised with the turnout. We had 15 members in attendance. They included Ed and Peg Hardy, John and Donna Cawthorne, Dick and Bobbi Bettle, Bob and Bernadette Outwater, Ken and Judy Nygard, Bob and Leslie Adams, Doug Pyatt and Diane and I.

Upon arrival, they hustled us all into a conference room. We were there with at least two other groups, so there were probably 30 folks in all on the tour for the day. We heard about a 20 minute talk on the history of the company.

It was explained to us that bell ringing became popular in Europe as early as the 1600's Churches at the time had 7 bells that they could ring with the potential for over 2000 different combinations where each

note was only used one time. The bell ringers needed to practice all of these combinations, so smaller hand bells were developed so the bell ringers didn't have to use large church bells to practice. Over time the hand bells became more and more popular, but there were not a lot of manufacturers, making the purchase of the bells very expensive.

In 1973, Jacob Malta founded the Malmark Bell-crafters company. Mr. Malta was the Vice President and Chief Engineer in another bell manufacturer and felt that there were ways to make the bells better and less expensive. He along with William Markley, the former VP of Sales from the same bell manufacturer that Mr. Malta was from went on the manufacture and sell hand bells in 1974 from a location in Doylestown PA.

Sales continued to increase as well as the number of products offered. The company moved several times until they finally found their current location in Plumstead township in 1985.

One of the few things that they don't do at the factory



location is to cast the metal into the proper shapes to make the bells. They use two foundries for that purpose, one in Pennsylvania and one in New Jersey. The picture to the left shows one of the

sand molds used by the foundries to make the initial casting.

We were issued safety glasses and began the factory tour. The first stop was in the room where the casting are turned on a lathe to get them to the correct shape. This is also where the first attempt to tune the bell to the proper sound occurs.



Each bell is machined on a lathe by highly skilled machinists who have to be careful to not remove too much

metal from the bell so that it can be fine tuned at the next step of the process, which is the polishing step.

The polishing step is done by machine by another highly skilled craftsman who constantly tests the tonal quality of the bell while it goes through the polishing process to give it a jewelry-like finish both inside and out.





The picture to the left shows the polishing process for each bell. Once the bells are polished, they are stored and tested again with the aid of a machine to determine if the sound of the bell is

within specification to move forward in the process.



The picture above left, shows Ed Hardy speaking with one of the technicians who is checking the sound of an aluminum bell with a meter. The picture to the above right shows stacks of brass bells waiting to go onto the next step in the manufacturing process.

The assembly is the next step in the process, where the clapper and the handle are installed in the bell. The process is explained by our guide in the video link found by clicking [here](#).

From here, we went to the area where they actually make the handles for the bells. The handles are color coded like piano keys as explained in the video, but

can also be made with custom messages on the handle of the bell depending on the need of the customer. There was also a little gift shop set up for items that the company makes that are bell related.



We then had a tour of the area where they make Choir Chimes. These are made from square aluminum tubes of various sizes

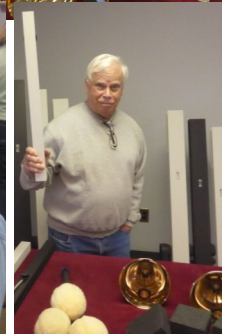
and then milled on a Bridgeport machine into the shape of a tuning fork. The clapper is then placed on the outside of the chime. This is a much less expensive alternative to a set of hand bells.



From there, we had a tour of the company wood shop where they make all the cases for the chimes and bells. They also make percussion instruments called Cajons.



The final stop was in the display room where they had their entire product line on display for everyone to see and try.



After the tour, we went back to our place for lunch. We decided that it would be more relaxing for everyone if we didn't have to wait to be seated in a restaurant with such a large group. That worked out well,



but we found out later that we had a power failure due to the high winds from the time we left the house until the time we came back. Dodged a bullet on that one.

I hope everyone had a good time. I know Diane and I did!



**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