

The "A"nnouncer



September, 2019

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

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

Volume 18

Number 9

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.



Another Das Awkscht Fescht is behind us. In some ways I found this year's show to be somewhat disappointing. The weather was certainly nice enough, but the number of vendors was way off from previous years. The car corral also had a scant number of cars for sale. I hope these are not signs of a lack of interest in the car show hobby. There did seem to be almost as many vehicles on display as always. Our club was fairly well represented, but more participants would always be better. There is still good weather and other fun events to attend. As Happy the Esso Oil Drop would say "Happy Motoring".

Bob

August Events

August was a busy month for the Running Board A's. The first event was the ever popular **Das Aukscht Fescht** on August 3rd. The weather was beautiful and we had 5 cars meet at the WAWA in Quakertown to make the trip to Macungie. Members included Tom Fritz, Bob and Leslie Adams, Ken Nygard, Dick Bettel, and me. We met Doug Pyatt and Chuck Savitske at the park. Other members present were Bobbie Sliker,



Carl Weissman and Steve and Kathy Belton. It was a fun day with lots of cars, but the number of vendors and the number of cars in the car corral seemed to be down this year.

Next up was the **Rough and Tumble Threshermans Reunion in Kinzers PA**. Chuck Savitske and Doug Pyatt attended and I believe that Ken and Judy Nygard were also in attendance. This is an event that highlights steam operated equipment of all types and features a blowing of steam whistles at noon and a

steam equipment parade at the end of the day. Doug Pyatt provided me with some pictures of some of the more interesting pieces of equipment. How about a



steam powered lawn mower. You will never have to put gas in your mower again.

There are many stationary steam engines on display as well as steam shovels and steam locomotives.



The next event on the calendar was the **Wheels of Time hot rod show** in Macungie on August 23rd to the 25th. Chuck Savitske brought his newly (almost) completed Model A hot rod and Bob brought his trophy winning '40 Ford Pickup. Bob provided me with some pictures of this event, including the picture on the cover.



Chuck had a lot of interest and answered a lot of questions about his hot rod. This was his first official outing with his new creation.

Bob's '40 Ford pickup took one the *Favorite 15* awards for the third year in a row. In addition to Bob and Chuck, Bernadette Outwater, Doug Pyatt and Ed and Peg Hardy were in attendance on this beautiful



summer day. Congratulations to Chuck and Bob on the premier of his hot rod and to Bob on the winning of yet another award with his truck.

The final event of the month was the **Duryea Days Event** held on August 31. The event was hosted by Bob Adams. We met at the WAWA in Quakertown again and traveled to Boyertown for the event.



Those in attendance were Bob Adams, Chuck and Deb Savitske, Doug Pyatt, Tom Fritz, Deb Daye and Diane and I.

Member Sonny Sciarretta was

also seen at the show. We had five cars in all enter the show.



There were lots of beautiful cars at the shows, including ours.



This page includes some of my favorites, including this 1925 Lincoln, hot rods and 1930's Ford V8's. It was another beautiful day with lots beautiful



cars. This early 1960's Cadillac was Deb Savitske's favorite car of the show. I think she would have bought it on the spot if it was for sale.



August was a great month for Fords, fun and friendship. September is going to be busy too, so check out the calendar of events on the next pages.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

Belvidere Victorian Days

Saturday September 7, 2019

Tom Fritz will host the event. We will meet at the event on Saturday September 7th. Contact Tom at 908-580-0502 or 908-432-4264 to let him know that you will attend.

63rd Annual New England Meet September 13-15 2019 Hancock MA

Contact Irene Eskett (413)-967-5440, email eskett1@comcast.net or Theresa Menko (413)-665-3957 for more information or go to the Western Massachusetts Model A Ford Restorers Club <http://clubs.hemmings.com/wmmafrc/> .

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued

**Tour to the Wharton Esherick
Museum 1520 Horseshoe Trail,
Malvern, PA 19355**

**Friday September 20, 2019
Hosted by Deb Savitske**

We will meet at the G Lodge on Rt. 23 1371 Valley Forge Rd, Phoenixville, PA 19460 (5 minute drive to the Wharton Esherick Museum) for a "down home" breakfast. Then to the museum for a tour and time to explore the grounds (usually about 90 minutes to two hours). We will make an ice cream stop before heading back home.

For those coming from the Lehigh Valley area, the trip to the breakfast spot will take an hour - not sure how long the ride will be for the Jersey bunch. Our destinations are a stone's throw from Valley Forge. Museum tour tickets are \$15, \$13 for seniors. There will be a special Juried Woodworking Exhibit on display at the museum during that time. The theme of the exhibit is LIGHTING - should be a very interesting addition to the tour. I would like to have a count of those interested in going as soon as possible so that I can firm up reservations and get tour times booked. I'm hoping to get museum tours booked for 11 or 12. For details on departure times/places call Deb at 610-573-4378!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued

Annual Fall Car Show

Delaware Valley Fire Company

75 Headquarters Rd, Erwinna PA

Sunday September 22, 2019

**Rain date September 29 (in case of rain
call 610-249-9385) morning of show.**

Pre registration is \$12, day of show \$15. Show time is 9:00AM to 2:00 PM. Registration is 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Judging done by all attendees. Top 25 trophies awarded including best in show and chief officers pick.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued

October 2 to 6, 2019
Hershey AACA Fall Meet
Hershey, PA

Joint Model A/Steamboat Meet
October 12, 2019
Haycock Boat Launch
Lake Nockamixon
Nockamixon Township, PA

Come join in the fun for our annual joint Model A/Steamboat event on October 12, 2019. Spend a relaxing day at the lake and take a ride on Deb Daye's steamboat, the *Jimmy D*. Bring a picnic lunch. Afterward, join the steamboat club and the Model A club for a great catered dinner held at the Quakertown train station, just minutes from the lake. This is the 25th anniversary of the steamboat club gathering at Lake Nockamixon. The reservation form can be found on the next page. If you plan to attend, please contact Deb Daye at 908-432-4266.

The 25th Annual Lake Nockamixon Steamboat Gathering.

- Once again the October meet is a 3 day event scheduled for October 11th – 13th, The Model A club will be joining us again on the 12th with their cars and we would all enjoy your company, we would love to see a few new boats/cars (Stanley Steamers also)...so come on out for what is basically the last meet of the year on the east coast and celebrate 25 years with us. We will be ordering t-shirts for the captains and crew, **Please reply back ASAP with the return slip so we can get the appropriate amount and size shirts.**
- On Saturday the 12th I will again have a catered dinner at The Quakertown Train Station which is only a few miles from the lake. After dinner we can partake in some adult beverages and watch slides or a video and catch up. The selection for the evening will be a buffet style dinner with tossed garden salad, drinks (soda, water, beer, wine and mixed drinks) and a dessert tray. The charge for this dinner is \$16.00 per person for everything, pretty reasonable I think compared to a local pub dinner. **Please feel free to bring your favorite side or dessert if you like. (The dinner will begin at 5 pm this year.)**
 - ***Please Note: The park manager has asked again, Please No Camping or campers overnight. If you need a camp ground please contact me and I will direct you to nearby sites. Also the park has received complaints about captains prepping their steamboats in the launch ramp area and we have been o asked for all captains to please prepare your boat in the upper parking lot and not in the general vicinity of the launch ramp so that other boaters can maneuver easily.***

Please Print and return bottom portion.....

Your Name _____

Will you be bringing a boat? (Name of boat) _____

Will you have a car? (year and type) _____

How many people in your party for dinner _____ X \$16.00 = _____

Tshirt size. S___ M___ L___ XL___ XXL___ XXXL___ Captain and immediate family or crew only

Donations are greatly appreciated.

Please RSVP as soon as possible but no later than October 6, 2019 with check or money order payable to.

Don Fenstermacher, Jr.

1055 Heather Lane

Quakertown, PA 18951

If you have questions contact me at:

Email; fensty2@comcast.net

Cell; 215-460-4515

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued

**Flemington Speedway Historical
Society Auto Show, Hunterdon
County Fair Grounds, Ringos N.J.**

Saturday, October 19, 2018, 9:00 AM

This event will be hosted by Bob Outwater. We will meet at his house, 32 Mason Farm Road, Ringoes, N.J. at 9:00 AM and leave for the fair grounds from there. There is a \$10 entrance fee the day of show. Contact Bob at 908-237-9322 if you plan to attend.

Road Kill Rally

Hellertown PA

**Saturday, October 26, 2018, 10:00
AM**

Don't miss this fun event to cap off our touring season. Deb and Chuck Savitske always have a great rally laid out and there is always plenty of food and drink after the rally. Contact Chuck and Deb at 610-838-2338 to let them know that you will attend and to let them know what you will bring to share.

Ford's \$5 A Day Wage

The Downside



Henry Ford's idea of a \$5 a day wage was not driven by his intent to make his employees be able to afford the product that they made as some have suggested.

By 1913, Ford had developed and optimized the concept of a moving production line that greatly improved the speed of manufacturing and the quality of his product. It did not, however take the human element out of the manufactur-

ing process.

According to *Forbes*, in 1913, Ford maintained a workforce of 14,000 but because of attrition, he had to hire 52,000 employees to keep his plant in operation. The salary at the time was \$2.25 per day. At this rate, he needed to hire almost 4 people to fill each po-



sition. At the time, factory work consisted of 9 hour days with no breaks, no time to stop and get a drink of water or time to use the rest room without permission. The huge turnover rate was causing great inefficiency in Ford's



moving production line.

Ford reasoned that an increase in pay would reduce the amount of turnover in his factory, but the pay increase was not without some strings.

Speed was of the utmost importance to Ford. He would put his fastest worker at the beginning of a production line so that the workers downstream had to increase their speed, or be fired for inefficiency. That meant that a lack of breaks and a faster pace of the line was expected more than ever.

Ford also believed that for that wage, he should have more control of an employees personal life. He instituted home inspections to assure that employees were not drinking or gambling. There were many immigrant workers employed so they had to learn to speak English by taking classes outside of work. Women were not eligible for the wage unless they were single women working to support a family. Men were not eligible if their wives had jobs outside the home. In effect, the wage was actually half wage and half bonus provided that all of the criteria were met both at work and at home. This was extremely stressful for the employees, but it did cut down on turnover of Ford's employees.

This operation worked well until the great depression hit in 1929. Because of the concentration of auto

manufactures in Detroit and the surrounding areas, Detroit had one of the highest unemployment rates in the country with over 220,000 able bodied people out of a job.

As an employer, Ford tried to keep as much of his workforce as possible, but in the depths of the depression he had to greatly reduce his work force like all manufacturers of the times.

The massive unemployment gave rise to calls for unionization which Ford was vehemently against and it also allowed the Communist Party to make get a foothold by organizing protests and putting Communist candidate up for elected office.

In the end, various public works programs and ultimately World War II pulled the US out of the depression. In 1933, Prohibition was also lifted, so employment opportunities began to increase.

The \$5 a day pay rate that was made famous by Ford was not to allow employees to be able to afford the items that they built, but instead was an attempt by Ford to hire and retain a trained staff for more efficiency, but he believed that the rate entitled him to have control of his employees both inside and outside of work. It also had grave implications on unemployment during the Great Depression as well.





**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