

# The "A"nnouncer



February, 2020

Newsletter of the Running  
Board "A's"

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

Volume 19

Number 2

# The Running Board “A’s” Officers

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- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| President               | Doug Pyatt<br>1419 E. University Ave.<br>Bethlehem, Pa. 18015<br>610-974-9718  |
| Vice President/Director | Deb Daye<br>275 Greenfield Rd.<br>Bridgewater, N.J. 08807<br>908-685-1935      |
| Secretary               | Ken Nygard<br>39 Holland Drive<br>Chalfont, PA 18914<br>215-822-6717           |
| Treasurer               | Peggy Hardy<br>2012 Perilli Drive<br>Telford PA. 18969<br>(215) 828-9185       |
| Editor/Publisher        | Dave Allison<br>108 Ervin Rd.<br>Pipersville PA 18947<br>(267) 733-3708        |
| Web Master              | Dick Bettle<br>170 Crescent Road<br>Florham Park, N.J. 07932<br>(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.**

# View Behind the Wheel



January seems to have passed us quickly, and at least for half of the month there was unexpected fair weather -- unusual for this time of the year. In late December, I managed to sell my 1930 Pick-up truck on a rainy day. A very nice gentleman from the

Bath, PA area purchased it, and is eager to drive it in the spring. I suspect he will join our group, and I've decided to leave his introduction until that time.

In the meantime, my interior kit arrived for the '29 Phaeton project that I started a couple of years ago. LaBaron/Bonney went out of business over a year ago, so Cartouche from Mac's Auto Parts was my choice for this car. The plan is to initially inspect the kit, then wait until warmer weather in the spring to install it. I would prefer to allow the interior material to soften slightly in the sun before attempting to work with it.

So, for now we are looking forward to the Great Chili Cook-Off in February. This is not only a good event for tasting, but also a great place to discuss some springtime plans. Hope everybody can make it to the Outwater's!

See you in the Fast Lane,

\$

## Treasurer's Report

Balance as of December 20, 2019	\$1147.29
Income	
Dues	\$30.00
Total Income	\$30.00
Expenses	
Newsletter	\$9.60
Club Touring Banners	\$106.00
Total Expenses	\$115.60
Balance as of January 19, 2020	\$1061.69

Respectfully Submitted

Margaret Hardy

\$

**On the Cover:** Fortunately we haven't had to deal with too much of the white stuff so far this winter. Hopefully mother nature will grace us with an early spring.



## **Welcome New Member**

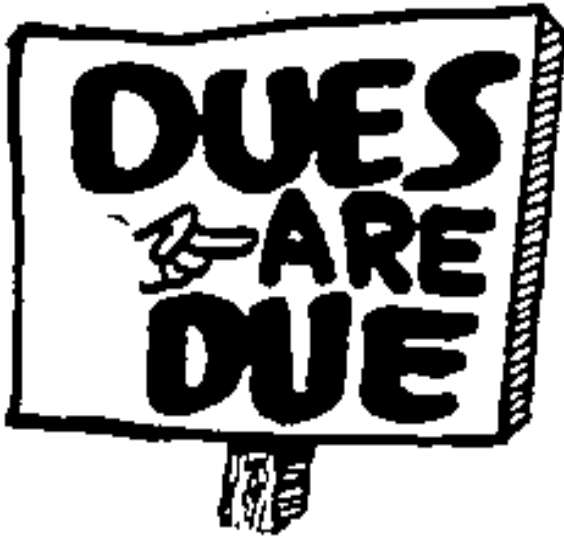
**Catherine Marek  
PO. Box 166**

**Springtown PA 18081**

**Phone 610-442-9426**

Catherine owns the barn find Model A Tudor that Chuck Savitske has in his shop. An article appeared about the car in the January issue of the *Announcer*.

Catherine is new to the Model A hobby, so let's give her plenty of help and support with her new hobby.



## **Final Notice**

Dues are due for the 2020 touring season. They are still \$15. Checks can be made out to:

Running Board A's

Mail to:

Running Board A's

PO Box 9

Hilltown, PA. 18927-9711

# Our New Club Touring Banners are Here!



New touring banners with an up to date club logo have arrived. As you may recall, the club requested that I purchase new club touring banners with the current logo on them at the business meeting last November. The logo is printed on heavy 17" x 17" white vinyl and has four grommet holes in it so that you can attach it to your car with bungee cords or other fasteners of your choice.

How do you obtain one of these banners?

There are several way to do it. See the next page for details.

1. You can purchase the banner for \$21.20 ( the cost to the club).
2. You can attend an event that requires that you drive at least 100 miles in your Model A.
3. You can attend at least 3 Running Board A events over the calendar year.
4. You may host an event. An event is defined as planning and leading a tour, holding an event at home or other location or planning other activities such as museum tours, joint club events etc.

Compliance with this criteria will be on the honor system. You can request a banner from any of the club officers.

We currently have a very limited supply of banners, but they are being manufactured by a local printer, so there is a very short turn around time.

So don't wait, if you qualify, or if you just want to pay up front, you can get a banner for your car and let the world know who is holding up traffic!

# **News From the Model A Ford Foundation Inc (MAFFI)**

**MAFFI Newsletter Minute  
February 2020**

My name is Greg Fish, and I am a MAFFI Trustee. Your Board of Directors, myself, fellow trustees, and a very important handful of other volunteers make up a group committed to the display and care of a fantastic collection of Henry's Ford Model A's. Through discussions at the last Model A Day Foundation meeting, it was decided that the upkeep of your cars and trucks should consist of more than dusting and polishing.

I am pleased to announce the VMP, or Vehicle Maintenance Program. This will be a little more involved than in years past, due to the decision that vehicles owned by the Foundation should be run annually. Despite a beautiful climate controlled building, some types of deterioration will not yield. Valves get stuck, clutch surfaces develop surface rust, and Heaven forbid, engines may become stuck fast over years of non-use. These are preservation issues that we are striving to avoid. Beginning in the spring, your trustees will convene on the museum with teams chosen by them with the goal of starting and running some of our long dormant stock. Over the course of the summer, and after a few visits, we hope to have every MAFFI owned vehicle running, and continue this goal on an annual basis. It is an important process to insure the cars and trucks we love last for generations to come.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## **NOTE: NEW DATE**

Cold Winter-Hot Chili Cook-Off  
Saturday, **February 8**, 2020 at **Noon**

Please join Bob and Bernadette Outwater for the sixth Running Board A's chili cook-off being held at our home in Ringoes. As we know from previous years, everyone seems to have their own favorite chili recipe, so whip up a batch and let's enjoy a tasty lunch and some sassy competition too.

We will again have an "expert" judge who will enjoy taste testing your fine offerings.

The cherished event trophy will be awarded to the winner of the "Best Chili in Ringoes".

Please let Bob and Bernadette know if you plan to attend by February 1. Also, please feel free to bring a dessert and or bread of your choice.

Bob and Bernadette Outwater  
32 Mason Farm Rd.  
Ringoes, NJ, 08551  
908 237-9322

# *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

## *Continued*

### **Martin Guitar Plant Tour** **Thursday, February 27, 2020** **10:30 AM** **Hosted by the Allison's**

We will meet at 10:30 in the parking lot of the Martin Guitar Factory, 510 Sycamore St, Nazareth, PA 18064 for a factory tour of the CF Martin Guitar Company. Martin Guitar is a family owned company that has been in business since 1833. They are known world wide as one of the world's best guitar makers. Each guitar is hand made, and artists such as Ed Sheeran, Willie Nelson and David Crosby have all played Martin Guitars.

There is a \$3.00 fee per person for the tour, which lasts about an hour. After that, we will have lunch at a local restaurant. Shake off those winter blues and come and join your Model A friends for this great plant tour. Contact Dave and Diane at 267-733-3708 by phone or text, or by email at [dalliso@mail.ptd.net](mailto:dalliso@mail.ptd.net) to let them know you are coming.



# *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

## *Continued*

**Planning Meeting**  
**Saturday March 14, 2020**  
**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 2020 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 and drinks. Please let them know by March 12 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



**Breakfast  
Franconia Café Market  
January 25, 2020  
Hosted by the Hardy's**



We had 14 members attend the event, in spite of the downpours that occurred throughout the morning. Unfortunately, some of our members that had to drive from Chester County decided to stay home, but with the condition of the roads being somewhat flooded, it was a wise choice. At least it wasn't snow!!! Those in attendance included Ed and Peg Hardy, John and Donna Cawthorne, Dick and Bobbi Bettle, Ken and Judy Nygard, Chuck and Deb Savitske, Lorraine Fox, Tom Fritz, Deb Daye and new member Catherine Marek. We also happened to see Don Fenstermacher Sr. and his wife, who happened to be at the restau-

rant at the same time that we were. Don and his wife are members of the steamboat club, which we have a joint meet with every fall. It was only fitting that we invite them to our breakfast since they are always so kind to us and invite us to dinner during the joint meet.

I got a chance to show off the new club banners to the members in attendance. Everyone seemed pleased with the banner, and Ed Hardy already obtained one for himself.

We also got to meet new member Catherine Marek. Hopefully we didn't overwhelm her too much. She is excited to get her car back on the road and learn to drive it. Chuck picked up the new engine for the car from Ora Landis last week. It has all the bells and whistles built into it, and should serve Catherine well. We had a great meal. A big thank you goes to Ed and Peg Hardy for organizing this event!

Our next event is the Chili Cook Off at the Outwaters. This is an event that you don't want to miss. There is great food and great company. I'm sure we can talk Bob into a tour of the projects that he is working on in his garage. Hope to see you all there.



# **A New Business Focusing on Model A Fords in the California Desert**

*Editors Note:* The information and pictures for this article were taken from the Hemmings Blog dated January 8, 2018. The article was written by Jeff Kock.

Chiriaco Summit is located between Phoenix Arizona and Los Angeles California along Interstate 10. If you have ever traveled this route, you may have stopped at the rest area there. There are also several small shops, a Chevron gas station, a Model A era gas station that was closed until recently and a municipal airport.

Chiriaco Summit got its name from Joe Chiriaco. Joe was traveling through the area back in 1927 from Alabama to go to a football game at the Rose Bowl. Joe fell in love with California and began working as a surveyor for a utility company. His job took him through Indio California where he met his future wife and he eventually discovered a spot called Shaver Summit.

Seeing an opportunity to settle down, Joe and his wife decided buy Shaver Summit, which was situated along one of the only gravel roads in the area. He built a gas station, repair shop and a general store, just as Route 60, a new paved road was opened. Joe's family began to grow. He acquired a 1931 Tudor sedan that was used daily to transport his kids to school 40 miles away in Indio.

During WWII the war department needed a desert training area and wanted an airfield in the same area,

so Shaver Summit was chosen for the location. The training area and associated air field turned out to occupy 180,000 square miles of territory spanning both California and Arizona. Camp Young, as it was called became the largest military training area ever established.

This was a boom for Joe and his business in the tiny town. Over 1 million troops passed through the gates of Camp Young and Joe's general store became the closest thing to a PX that they had. Because General George Patton was so instrumental in establishing the base in this location, the General George S. Patton Museum was built on family owned property after the war was over and is still in operation today.

As they say in real estate, it's all about 3 things, location, location, location. Interstate 10 was routed right through town and now upwards of 20,000 people pass through town every day.

In 1958, the government decided to build a post office at the summit and because of the huge influence that the Chiriaco's had on the area, the town was renamed Chiriaco Summit.

Both Joe and his wife passed away in 1996, but family members still own most of the businesses in town. In 2008, the 75th anniversary of the opening of Chiriaco Summit, family member Victor J.R. Garcia had Joe's original Model A for restored to running condition. This is when the rumors started about old cars stashed away in buildings around town.

The old garage, built in 1933 is now the home of Red's Headers, a relatively well known speed shop. The front of the garage is filled with pipe, headers and



other speed equipment for both vintage and modern applications. The shop out back is where the old cars



are stored.

The shop is full of pre war cars. There are probably a dozen cars in all, and not all are Model A's. There is a '33 roadster and a '39 sedan all awaiting their turn at the hands of the restorers. One of the cars has participated in the Race of Gentlemen.

While the shop is still being set up, much work is already being done on these vintage automobiles. There are parts, engines, transmissions and rear axles scattered all around the shop.



It sounds like you can take a peak at the works in progress by just asking to take a look.

The article states that there is a rumor that Victor and Red's Headers are thinking about a small Model A event to take place either in late winter or early spring this year.

Whether the event happens or not, I can tell you from experience that an attraction like that in that stretch of Interstate 10 would be a welcome diversion for anyone traveling in the area.

Keep Chiriaco Summit in mind if you are traveling in the area, .....or, anyone up for a road trip??????



**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