

The "A"nnouncer



July, 2020

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

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

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The Running Board “A’s” Officers

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| President | Doug Pyatt
1419 E. University Ave.
Bethlehem, Pa. 18015
610-974-9718 |
| Vice President/Director | Deb Daye
275 Greenfield Rd.
Bridgewater, N.J. 08807
908-685-1935 |
| 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.

View Behind the Wheel

It is great to see that our club continues to participate and grow in spite of pandemics, national events, etc. We have shown our good side and natural ability to succeed in positive thinking. On that note, I think we owe a special thanks to Bobbi and Dick Battle for their creative and very interesting tours. The “Covered Bridge Tour” amassed some twenty cars – a record for us, I’m sure.

I missed that trip due to a breakdown on the way to the meeting place. Gail came to give me a ride home, and we got to spend some time watching the activity at the Narrows Restaurant, people floating down the Delaware River, and others walking along the canal. The restaurant folks didn’t seem to mind having a nice Model A parked out front for their customers to admire. So hanging out for a couple of hours waiting for a rollback wasn’t all that bad!

The next day I found that a faulty ignition switch was the culprit. Repairs were made and the car is back in service. It just goes to show that with the nice events we have had, the people who make it happen, and ups and downs along the way, it is so worthwhile to be a member of the Running Board A’s.

See you in the fast lane,
Doug Pyatt

\$

Treasurer’s Report

Balance as of May 22, 2020	\$1155.69
Income	
Dues	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00
Expenses	
Newsletter	\$9.60
Total Expenses	\$9.60
Balance as of June 19, 2020	\$1146.09

Respectfully Submitted

Margaret Hardy

\$

On the Cover: Model A’s about to go over the Cabin Run Covered Bridge in Plumstead Township on the Covered Bridge Tour. I lost track of who took the picture, but thank you to whom ever did!

Tech Tip

Ignition Switch Jumper

If you have ever been in a situation where your car is running fine one minute and then it suddenly dies, you know it's not a good feeling.

I had that experience a few years ago when I pulled into a gas station on the second day of a 5 day tour. I turned off the car to wait in line, and the car refused to start. The bigger problem was that Diane and I were leading that tour!

Doug Pyatt had the same experience last weekend when his car suddenly died with no warning. In both cases, the problem was eventually traced to a faulty ignition switch, or in my case at least, a loose connec-



tion on one of the switch terminals. The solution to this is this handy little jumper cable. It is nothing more than an armored cable with a fitting that screws into the base of the distributor housing and an alligator clip that clips on one of the coil terminals.



Simply remove the armored cable from the ignition switch to the distributor and screw in the jumper cable. (In some cases, it might be necessary to remove the distributor to do this). The other end just clips to one of the coil terminals, effectively bypassing the ignition switch. I completed the remaining 3 days of a tour using a jumper. You just have to disconnect the alligator clip to shut off the engine.

Doug had a jumper, but it was in another car. Most Model A parts suppliers carry this handy jumper.



You Never Know Who You will find Driving a Model A

All kinds of people drive Model A's. Most are only famous to friends and family but not known beyond their circle of influence. This is why the owner of this Model A caught my attention.



The person in the picture above is Andy Reid, the former coach off the Philadelphia Eagles and the current coach of the Super Bowl Champion Kansas City Chiefs. According to an article on the Motorious.com website, written by Amie Williams in February of 2020, Andy is the proud owner of a 1928 Model A Ford Coupe.

The car was originally his dad's car. Andy's dad was a WWII Navy Veteran and purchased the car just after the war for the huge sum of \$25. After a time, it sat on blocks in Los Angeles until Reid was Assistant

Coach for the Green Bay Packers. His team won the Super Bowl in 1997, so with the extra cash that he had from that Super Bowl win, he had the car trailered from Los Angeles to Wisconsin.

Some of the old guys in the Packers organization had experience restoring Model A's so he let them take a crack at it.

The result is a beautifully restored late '28 Model A Coupe seen here.



Andy says that it's nice to have things like furniture, Super Bowl Rings and Model A Fords that you can pass down to your kids.

I agree!



Henry Friedberger & Dorothy Weiss
481 Pebble Hill Road
Doylestown, PA 18901
Phone 610-656-4671
Email; friedberger1@gmail.com

AND

Gary and Karen Homanick
634 Gladys Drive
Nazareth, PA 18064
Karen phone 610-261-1172
Gary phone 201-394-7788
Email; homanick@msn.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dick and Bobbi Bettle Have A New Tour:

**Hackettstown to Frenchtown
on July 18, 2020**

**Tour: Leave at 10:30 am from
VFW in Morris Plains.**

**Leave at 11:30 am from the
Lowe's at 217 Mountain Avenue
(Rt 57), Hackettstown**



An uncluttered rural landscape of rolling hills awaits on the scenic and splendid Warren Heritage Scenic Byway. Although this ride starts in Hackettstown, it quickly becomes an uncluttered rural landscape of rolling hills. The 19-mile scenic drive follows Route 57—originally laid out in the 19th century as the Morris Turnpike—and stretches southwest from Hackettstown in

Warren County to Pohatcong. Then we will head south on Route 519 to Milford, for a total of approximately 35 miles. Along the way, we will pass





the historic district of Beat-tystown (a sign marks the site of a Revolutionary War march and encampment),

Just off route 57, we're on to the Royal Diner, 150 State Route 31 S, Washington, for "curbside"

lunch (menu will be provided so you can order before we leave Lowe's), or you can bring your own lunch.

We will eat at the Washington Borough Park and Pool a few blocks away from the Diner.

Back on Rt 57, we can gas up at Guy's Washington Filling Station, a 1920s gas station, with its original, ornate Ionic columns still intact, and gas comes out

of an actual vintage gas pump!

Around MM 4, near Stewartsville, watch for the Concrete Mile marker; the site of the first concrete highway in New Jersey and one of the first in the country.



Originally done in 1912 by Thomas Edison's New Village cement plant as an experimental road surface, most of the road has been paved over, but a portion remains.

Although Rt 57, ends around Phillipsburg, the tour continues south towards Milford & Frenchtown. Our final destination, of course, is ice cream at Jimmy's Ice Cream in Milford.



Please contact us at

908.354.8236 or bobbil70b@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Covered Bridges Tour June 20, 2020 Hosted by the Bettles

After many checks with Weather.com; Accuweather and NOAA, we finally decided that the cars were old enough to have been wet before, and we were “wash and wear”. On with the bridge tour!





I guess everyone else was anxious to have a tour; We were 20 minutes early, and greeted by a parking lot with about 15 cars already assembled. A few arrived after us, and Chuck & Debbie were the last ones to arrive as they were nice enough to try to help Doug & Gail who had Model A Gremlin problems.



We were contacted by a member of Running Board A's to ask if he could

let members of the Lehigh Valley Club know of the tour; friends at the NJAACA heard about it from Dick; and Steve and Linda Wagoner (MG Club) joined in on the fun.

Attending from the Running Board A's: Ken & Judy Nygard; Steve & Kathy Belton; Bobbie Sliker & Carl Weissman; Timothy & Kathleen Litzenberger; Ed & Peggy Hardy; Dave & Diane Allison; Chuck & Debbie Savitske; Debbie Daye and Tom Fritz. The Lehigh Valley Club was represented by Peter Osmani; Karen & Gary Humanic; Brian Burkert and Bryan Grube. NJAACA members Bill & Bette Pritchett; Ann & Abe Platt; Brian & Sarah Pritchett, together with Sarah's parents also joined our group.



We left Tincum at 11:30, and were off and running - something like 12 Model A's and other assorted antique cars, followed by some modern. Dick followed Bobbi's nagging directions fairly well and only missed two turns. Luckily, we knew where we were going and



it worked out ok. The Angler's entrance of the park was not crowded, potty rooms open and there was plenty of space to park and eat. After lunch, it was



off to Pine Valley bridge which according to the signs was closed (it closed on **Monday** - signs were up early) and the rest of the tour. We ended, of course, with ice cream. By the way, the rains only came down when we were 15 minutes from home. The weather was very cooperative all day.

I really need to thank Dave for my sanity in planning the route and keeping me off a couple of dirt/gravel roads, and Ken Nygard for his addition of the Pine Valley bridge as well as the Creek Road entrance to Peace Valley Park. Their help was invaluable! Dave

and Ken also ran sections of the tour before we finalized it. We only had to run the whole route once before [Saturday](#). Since it is over 50 miles to Tinicum and over 50 miles home from the end - well you get the picture!

We hope you all enjoyed the ride.



A comment from Tim and Kathy Litzenberger; Just wanted to comment on Saturdays bridge tour. We have lived in Bucks county for 70 years, but it took a couple from NJ to show us a few back roads and two covered bridges we had not been through. Thanks to Dick and Bobbie for a great day and some great new scenery!



From the editor: Thanks to EVERYONE who contributed to the write up and for all the pictures that were contributed for this article. It was indeed a great day!

GOTS AND WANTS



FOR SALE:

To all Running Board A's members: My friend Dan Chervenak is selling a Model A Coup for his Dad. The car is in pretty good shape, maybe a number "2". He is asking \$9,000.00 and it's negotiable. Call Dan for info and pictures (201) 317-3398. Sent in by Steve Belton. It sounds like a great Father's Day present to me! LOL



**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