

# The "A"nnouncer



May, 2021

Newsletter of the Running  
Board "A's"

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

Volume 20

Number 5

# The Running Board “A’s” Officers

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- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
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| 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           |
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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.**

## **View Behind the Wheel**

It is really nice to have decent weather upon us, and some events giving us a reason to get out our cars! Dick and Bobbi Bettle are keeping us active, and the Steve Ryan Car Show with flea market was this past weekend. A few of us picked up a good deal or two at the flea market and enjoyed a tasty lunch. There were a few members from afar that ventured out like Todd Paraschos and his wife, Tom Battle, Tom Fritz, Chuck Savitske, and Dave Allison to mention a few. Things will only get better as the Covid issue loosens its grip on our activities.

May starts off with a drive, hosted by Dick and Bobbi, that ends with a nice picnic lunch in a park. Unfortunately, I will miss this one because I'll be getting my second shot. I am hoping that the rest of the year will be clear sailing for a good driving season and wish everyone a happy and healthy spring.

See you in the Fast-Lane,  
Doug Pyatt

\$

## Treasurer's Report

Balance as of March 17, 2021	\$1405.69
Income	
Total Income	\$0.00
Expenses	
Newsletter	\$9.60
Total Expenses	\$9.60
Balance as of April 26, 2021	\$1396.09

Respectfully Submitted

Margaret Hardy

\$

### **On the Cover:**

Tom Fritz's 1929 Tudor Sedan at the Steve Ryan Car Show.

## **Millstone River and Weston Canal Tour**

With a bit of a chill in the air, Diane and I left beautiful downtown Pipersville at about 9:45 AM on Saturday, April 17 to make the trek into the wilds of New Jersey to meet the tour group at the Weston Canal lock number 11.

After a quick stop in Frenchtown, we made our way down Rt. 12, through Flemington and eventually onto Amwell Road. We had a leisurely drive through the N.J. countryside and eventually arrived at our destination at the canal lock number 11 at about 11:00 AM.

The bulk of the tour group had already arrived with just a few more attendees arriving after we did. Those in attendance were from both the Running Board A's and MG club that the Bettles belong to. They included from the MG Club, Steve & Linda Wagoner, Mary Hayes, Dave Collier & Kathy Mass, Phil Trager and Greg & June Roser from the AACA club. Running Board A members included; Dick & Bobbi Bettle, Debbie Daye and Tom Fritz, John Cawthorne and his brother Pat, (both driving MG's), Tim & Kathy Litzenberger and Diane and I.

It was a real eclectic collection of cars that included 4 Model A's, several MG's, one Mini Cooper, a 70's vintage Cadillac and a couple of modern cars.

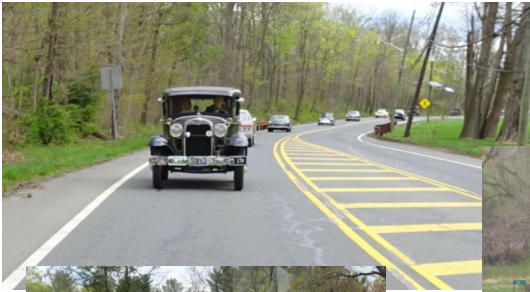


Our first stop on the tour was at the Colonial Park off Mettlers Road.



We hoped that the sun would come out and that it would warm up a little, but it never really did. It made for a very chilly ride, especially for John and Pat Caw-

thorne who were in the MG convertibles. It was a great tour around the area.



After completing the tour around the canal and the Millstone River, we headed back to Colonial Park for lunch.

The park was pretty busy, but we were able to find a spot that overlooked a small lake across the road from our vantage point. We pulled out our lunches and chairs to enjoy lunch at the end of the tour.





Google was not kind to those who came from Pennsylvania judging by the route it had laid out for them. On the way home, Diane and I had one Model A and 2 MG's following us back toward PA along those same beautiful back roads that we had taken to get there. Thanks to Dick and Bobbi for setting up and running a great tour.

(Photos by Dick and Bobbi Bettel and Dave and Diane Allison)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## **Over the River and Through the Woods Tour**

**11 AM-Saturday, May 1, 2021**

**Rain Date: May 8, 2021**

We are planning on running an “Over the River and Through the Woods Tour”. We will start in Tincum Park in Erwinna, Tincum Township PA (behind the John Stover House) and enjoy a nice, leisurely drive through the countryside of Hunterdon and Warren Counties (that’s New Jersey Folks!). Our final stop will be at Jimmy’s Ice Cream, Milford, N.J.

As we still are dealing with COVID 19 restrictions, plan on a “bring your own picnic” for our lunch stop along the route. Hopefully bathroom facilities will be available by then. Please bring your chairs (the picnic spot has a limited number of picnic tables).

Please let us know if you plan to attend by calling 908.354.8236 or emailing us at [bobbi170b@gmail.com](mailto:bobbi170b@gmail.com) .

Dick and Bobbi Bettle

# *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

## *Continued*

### **Silver Creek Fathers Day Car Show**

**Saturday June 20, 2021  
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

The 19th Annual Fathers Day Car Show will be held at the Silver Creek Athletic Field, 2943 Route 212 Springtown PA.

Show car registration is \$8.00 for pre registration and \$10.00 the day of the show. If you would like a pre registration form click [here](#) to print one out.

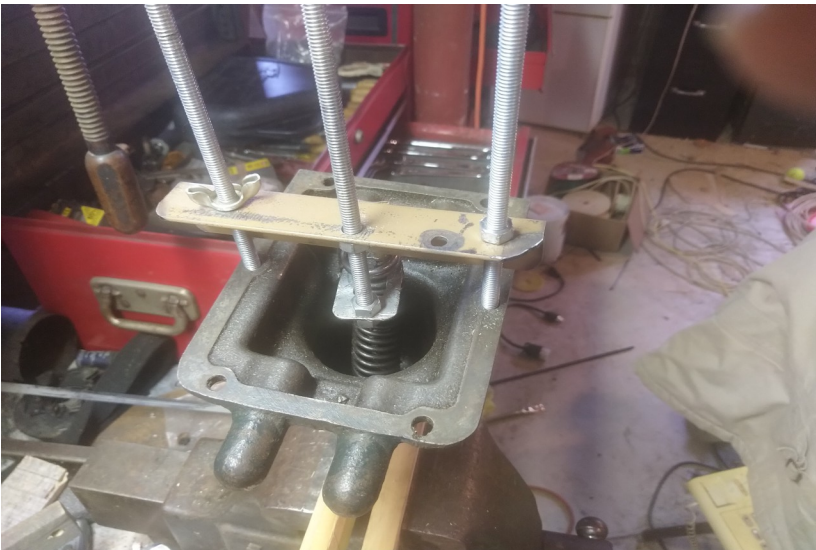


# Transmission Tower Rebuilding

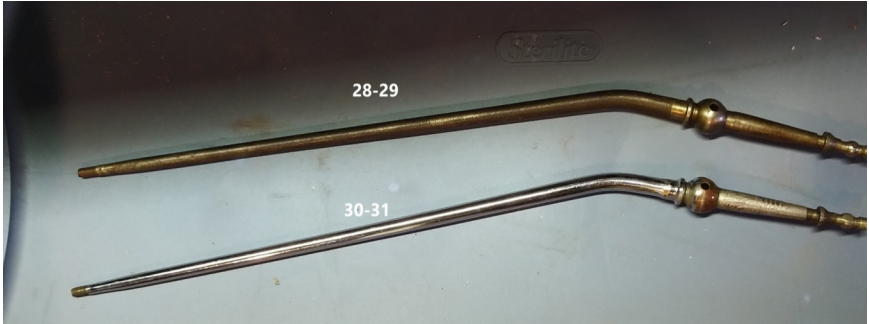
Article and Photos By Tom Fritz

So what do you do when it's your day off, it's raining, it's cold, and to make it worse, it's just another COVID Thursday. If you're me, you rebuild your trans tower. Now, the trans tower for the coupe, has been apart for a really long time.

Many years ago, I made a tool to deal with the trans tower spring. Of course, since it's not something that gets used a lot, parts were scavenged for other projects. So, the first task of the day was to rebuild the tool. When I first built this, I think I found a copy on the web and duplicated that. It is now available through some of the vendors and probably costs somewhere around \$60 (it was \$50.75 from MAC's in 2010). That's a fair amount for a tool that is rarely used, especially for something that can be made at home from a piece of angle iron, some threaded rod, a washer, a pipe nipple, and a few nuts. Mine cost almost nothing since it's made from scrap parts. The tool is shown in use in the picture 1 below.



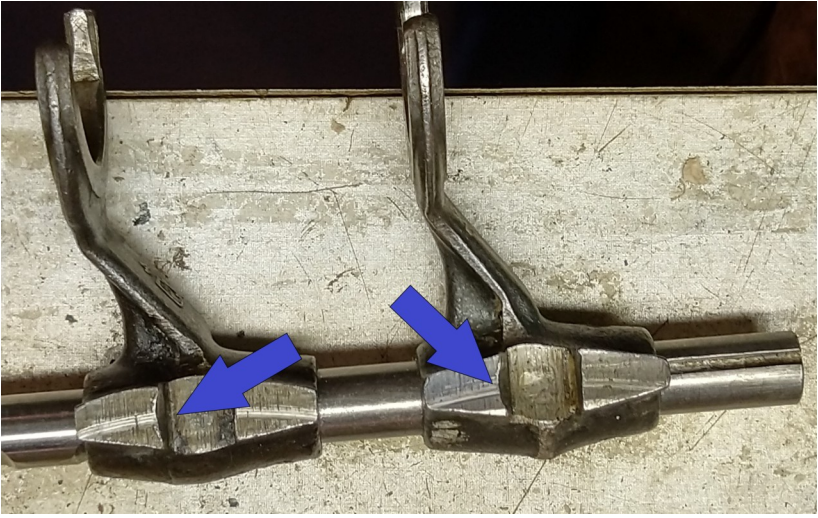
A few years ago, I found a couple of 30-31 shift levers at the Hellertown show for a price that I just couldn't resist. The second task was to modify a 30-31 shift lever to be correct for a 29 Model A. The difference between the 2 levers is shown in figure 2.



Since the angle on the 29 shifter is shallower than that of the 30 and 31, all that needs to be done is to do a slight re-bend. This is easily done by clamping the lever between a couple of pieces of wood and gently squeezing it in a bench vise as shown in picture 3.



Inspection of the forks showed some wear, while the wear probably isn't enough to cause any problems, but wear in this area can cause the transmission to pop out of gear. While it's apart, it would be better to do a bit of restoration with some weld build up; I'm



hoping that Bob will do that for me. Once that's done, it's fairly simple to finish the reassembly.

The last problem is remembering where I put the mounting bolts so I can reinstall it on the transmission; normally, I bag such parts and put them in some safe place. This time, I just can't remember where that safe place is.

Of course, for the purist, there is still one problem with the shifter. It appears to be chrome plated and has a bright finish. It should be nickel with a butler finish. The proper finish may be approximated by gently rubbing the surface with some fine steel wool. (I know of one MARC of excellence touring class car that had this done and while it may not get you through blue ribbon judging, it does look good).

**Steve Ryan Car Show  
Hosted by the Lehigh Valley  
Model A Ford Club  
Saturday, April 24, 2021**

This car show was held at the Cedar Crest Bible Fellowship Church in Allentown. I left my house a little before 8:00 AM to arrive at the show by 9:00. It was a pleasant ride tracing the route for the most part to Macungie. The show was held just a few minutes north of the Macungie Memorial Park where Das Awkscht Fescht is held.

When I arrived, I was directed to the show car parking lot where the cars were parked in every other space to give plenty of room for social distancing. I noticed that I was parked in the vicinity of Doug's Tudor, Tom's Tudor and Chuck's Coupe.





It didn't take long to find Doug, Chuck and Tom. They were wandering around the flea market looking for that one part that they couldn't live without.

While we were talking, RBA member Tom Battle also showed up, but without his Model A. It was nice to get to talk with him since he has moved across the country and back since the last time I saw him. I also noticed that RBA and LVMAC member Steve Belton



had his Panel Delivery truck at the show.

It took a while to track Steve down, but I finally

found him and had a nice chat.

Tim Litzenberger was also at the show. He also has dual membership in both clubs. He was helping out running for shirts that were being sold and anywhere else he was needed. His Fodor was parked at the corner of the church property to show everyone where to turn to enter the show.



There were many beautiful Model A's and some barn fresh ones as well on display.

While we were sitting thinking about lunch, RBA members Todd and Susan Paraschos stopped by while they were taking in the sights of the show. They did not bring their Model A saying that they are still newbie's to the hobby and were a long way from home. Finally RBA member Mike Ulmes also made it to the show. He has made great progress on his Model A, but is concerned about the car overheating, so his was left at home too. It was a great day for a car show. Some of the other Model A's at the show can be seen on the next page.





**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

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