

The "A"nnouncer



June, 2022

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

www.RunningBoardAs.com

Volume 21

Number 6

The Running Board “A’s” Officers

President	Tom Fritz 78 Midvale Ave Millington, N.J 07046 908-580-0502
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.

From the President

I'd like to start this month's column by thanking those that hosted our recent events. First Dave and Diane for hosting the planning meeting; while I didn't attend (I still feel uncomfortable doing indoor events), I appreciate the effort that goes into planning any event. Next, I'd like to thank Bob and Bernie for hosting "Up Your A Day", make that "Raise Your A Day" for those that are more sensitive and to Steve and Kathy Belton and Doug Pyatt for arranging the trip to Rhinebeck. Finally, I'd like to thank Dick and Bobbie for the hosting the Canal Museum Tour. Without people like you sponsoring events, the club ceases to exist.

"Up Your A Day" is my favorite event of the year for two reasons. The obvious reason that I like this event is that Bob and I always exchange insults and "Up Your A Day" is one of the first times that we get to do that face to face each year. The second reason is that I just like working on Model A's; in fact, I think I like working on them more than driving them. I'm starting to wonder if the real reason that I like to drive my A is that something might break and then I get to spend some quality time in the garage with one of my loved ones. Have you ever had someone come up to you when you have one of your cars out and say, "it looks like fun until something breaks down"? My response to this is no, that's when the real fun begins. The only problem is the more you work on a car, the less likely you'll have problems which means the less likely you'll have fun. On my sedan, I'm down to working on those annoying rattles. The last one was fixed after coming back from Trexlertown; I finally fixed the rattle in my windshield. "Up Your A Day" gives those of us that like working Model A's the opportunity fix things when our Model A's are reliable (or as we'll see later, we at least think our cars are reliable). So, working on Bob

Stelle's brake pedal benefited at least two people, Bob got his car fixed and I got to work on a Model A.

I was really looking forward to going on the Bettel's tour. I actually made it a couple of miles before visibility went down to 0 inches. So, now I have to admit to being a BAD man. After all, a good man wouldn't let his club down by not showing up for a tour. At least I let Dick know that I wasn't going to make it so he didn't have to wait for me). That's right, I was a BAD man. You know what that means? A Broken "A" Driving man. I don't mind driving through fog but driving through steam isn't a lot of fun. Seems that I had a slight overheating problem, well, maybe it was a little more than a slight problem. Did you know that if you have the engine pans on your car, when you overheat, you can get steam out the louvers on both sides of the hood or that you can steam the paint off the passenger side of the engine? At least it showed that the pans really do have an impact on the air flow of the engine compartment, and I got to spend some quality time in the garage. The problem was simple enough; my thermostat worked its way up the radiator hose and twisted in the hose causing a blockage. If you use the thermostat with the tabs, I recommend when putting the hose on that you pull the hose all the way up on the radiator neck and then slide it back down on the goose neck of the engine. This way, you force the thermostat down onto the goose neck. Also make sure that you get the hose clamp over the tabs on the thermostat.

Hopefully, that's the last problem I have for a while and can get back to just being a FORD man. I'm sure you all know that FORD means Fond Of Reliable Driving. It would be real embarrassing if I miss the next tour since I'm the host!

Tom

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Treasurer's Report

Balance as of April 20, 2022	\$1463.41
Income	
Dues	\$15.00
Expenses	
Newsletter	\$16.34
Total Expenses	\$16.34
Balance as of May 20, 2022	\$1462.07

Respectfully Submitted

Margaret Hardy

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On The Cover:

Model A's lined up at the Canal Museum Park after a wonderful ride through Bucks and Northampton Counties. See the newsletter for the rest of the story.

A Message from the Regional Director at MARC

As most of you know, we are a Region of the Model A Restorers Club (MARC). MARC has a requirement that every member of every region be a member of MARC as well. The MARC Regional Director put out this article outlining why MARC has this requirement. I think that it is important that the members of the Running Board A's be informed about this issue and make their own decision based on the information presented below. The leadership of the Running Board A's has decided to not be the MARC Membership Police and leaves the decision to join MARC to each individual member.

Regional Director Newsletter May 2022

I have some great news for MARC members. Our President, Joe Valentine, and the MARC Board of Directors just negotiated a club wide insurance policy with the Hagerty Insurance Company. The new policy is terrific. It will cover activities and events for all MARC members. The key word here being "MARC members". Just because you are a member of a MARC region does not mean that you are covered. Your non-MARC members are excluded from coverage. Only MARC dues paying members are included. Let me repeat that. **ONLY MARC DUES PAYING MEMBERS ARE INCLUDED.** What does that mean for your region? Any MARC regional member must be a dues paying member of MARC. It is that simple. You can't be a nice guy or a pretty lady to qualify. You only need to pay your MARC dues.

It is still necessary for MARC members to carry auto insurance on your car. Property loss and casualty insurance is a must. You should check with your automobile insurance carrier to see what coverage your state requests and if you are entitled to a discount when you are a member of MARC. I contacted my insurance carrier and told them that I was a member of MARC. They verified it and I received a check back from them for \$28.00. It pays to be a member of MARC!!

There are a very few events that may require additional insurance such as driving on a race track or for a timed driving event or a road rally. You will need a rider for these events. Please check with Hagerty first.

You ask, what does the new club insurance cover?

Thanks to Cindy Ellenbecker, editor of *Nickel "A" News*, Nickel "A" Region for the following information:

Question: Why would I be involved in a lawsuit in our Model A Club?

Answer: An accident can happen at anytime and anywhere and may cause an injury to another club member or maybe a public person attending or passing by an event hosted by your Region. If any MARC member is accused of being negligent or actually causing damages to persons or property or if an article by a member results in a claim of libel or a copyright violation, for instance, a lawsuit may be brought against the member, the Region and also the MARC National organization. Even if the MARC member is not negligent and someone gets injured (by falling, as an example) or the lawsuit eventually is determined to have no merit, the Region and MARC National still have to defend against those claims and that will cost a lot of money in lawyers' fees and expenses. The MARC policy is in place to cover these expenses. The policy also covers the amount of settlements and verdicts in the case of actual liability.

Question: What is covered by the new insurance policy?

Answer: All members of MARC National are covered against accusations that they were negligent or responsible for damages arising from their conduct or inaction. All MARC and Regional events are covered such as tours, parades, car shows, picnics, meetings, holiday parties, parts swaps etc. Please note that there may be instances when the venue or location of a particular event may require another policy or to be named as an additional insured on our policy, such as a National meet in the U.S. where a parts swap is held, but MARC will not require a separate policy. Hagerty will assist in providing whatever is needed to secure the necessary insurance paperwork. Criminal activity, acts involving fraud, and intentional unlawful acts

by MARC members are not covered.

Question: Are guests and family members covered by the MARC insurance policy?

Answer: Guests or family members of MARC members are not covered by this policy for their negligence or conduct unless they are volunteering to work for MARC during a MARC event. MARC's insurance will cover the Region and its member against claims that they caused the injury.

Question: Are non-members of MARC covered by the MARC insurance policy?

Answer: Any person not a member of MARC National as defined in the MARC Constitution is not covered by the MARC insurance policy.

James Zellen, Director of Regions

If, after reading this articles, you are interested in joining MARC, there is a link to their website on the inside front cover of this and every newsletter that I publish. The membership fee is \$50 per year and in addition to the insurance that was described above, you also get a bi monthly magazine with lots of feature articles and Region news, including news from the Running Board A's. If you would rather sign up by phone, please call the MARC office at 734-427-9050.

Dave



Robert Stelle
34 Milltown Rd
Stockton, N.J. 08559

Phone 908-328-2558
Email r.stelle@icloud.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Car Show at Somerset Run Condo Assoc.

Saturday June 4th, 2022

10:30AM to 2:00PM

Located at 101 Stone Manor Drive,
Somerset, NJ 08873

Contact Abe Platt at (732) 752-6341 or at abeplatt@aol.com

Flemington Cruise Night.

Saturday June 4th 2022

5:30 – 8:30.

For more information go to

www.Flemingtoncarshows.com

Tom Fritz will be our club contact. You may contact
Tom at 908-580-0502 or fritz07946@gmail.com

MARC 2022 National Meet Morgantown PA

June 5 to June 11, 2022

**The Meet will be held at the Classic Auto Mall in
Morgantown PA.**

[Click here for more information](#) or call Bob

Msrtino at 610-637-0140

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Father's Day Show at
Silver Creek.
Sunday June 19, 2022
Springtown PA.**

Go to

www.silvercreekathleticassociation.com

for registration forms and information.

Pre registration \$8.00, \$10.00 day of show.

No club member host for this event.

**Sommerville, NJ Cruise Night
Friday June 24th, 2022
6:00 to 9:00 PM**

For more information, go to

www.downtownsomerville.com/events

Tom Fritz will be our club contact. You may contact Tom at 908-580-0502 or fritz07946@gmail.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Morristown National Historical Park, Jockey Hollow Friday July 15, 2022

Tom Fritz will be your host for this tour.
Watch the newsletter for more details.

Doylestown at Dusk Car Show Saturday July 16, 2022 Show begins at 3:00 PM

You must register on line for the show.
Registration fee is \$25.00

[Click here to register](#)

For more information contact Fred
Chapman at fordchap@gmail.com

Rhinebeck Auto Show

May 7 and 8, 2022

Rhinebeck N.Y.

Rhinebeck, or as I like to call it, “Rainbeck” lived up to it’s name again this year. On Saturday, May 7, members of the Running Board A’s met up at the intersection of Routes 611 and 212 just outside of Riegelsville to begin our trip North to our hotel in Kingston N.Y. Four cars met at the location. Those attending included Donna and Dennis Peters, Doug and Gail Pyatt, Chuck Savitske and me.

It had been raining all morning, but the weather report indicated that we would drive out of the rain before we reached our hotel. With plenty of Rainx on the windshield, we began our journey. Members Todd and Susan Paraschos had previously thought they would join us, but unfortunately Todd had to work that weekend. They cautioned us about a road washout close to their home in Mt. Bethel on Rt 611. They said that the best way around the detour was to cross the river and take Rt 80 for 4 miles and then exit back on to Rt 611. It worked well for us. The speed limit was only 55MPH on that stretch, so we didn’t feel like we were in an Indy 500.

All went well, and we stopped at the Welcome Center going back into Pennsylvania for a much needed break. From there, we continued on to Milford PA, taking River Rd and Rt 209 to our destination. We met Steve and Kathy Belton at Helm’s Garage in Milford where we all got gas and then went onto the Milford Diner for lunch.

While we were in the Diner, the rain let up, but the potholes and poor condition of the roads did not let up. This time Steve and Kathy led the way to Kingston. This leg of the trip was uneventful, which is always good when you are driving a 90+ year old car.



After checking in at the hotel, we had a chance to rest up a little and then it was off to dinner. We went to our usual BBQ restaurant and had a great meal. We made it back to the hotel and called it a day.

The next day, we were up early and off to breakfast. We then made the half hour trip across the Hudson River to Rhinebeck, with the sun shining (Yeah!)



We had a great day and saw lots of nice cars and trucks. There was not a lot that we couldn't live without in the flea market, but that was OK. I, for one, don't need more "stuff".



When 2 o'clock rolled around we decided to pack up and head for home. We were making great time and it was a pleasant



drive, until we made a stop and I noticed a fair amount of anti-freeze dripping out from under my car. I had recently put a

new cylinder head on the car (see last months newsletter) so I just thought a clamp had loosened up. I tightened it as tight as I could get it, but it was still leaking. We finally figured out that there was a crack in a brand new radiator hose. Steve was kind enough to loan me a new set of hoses and even ran across the street to a Walmart to get a container to catch the antifreeze that we had to drain. It took a while, but we finally got the hose replaced and the antifreeze back in the car and we were on our way again.

Unfortunately, the delay made it so we had to do our trip across Rt 80 and the rest of the trip home in the dark. Thank goodness for LED headlights. Overall, it was a fun trip. It was nice having Kathy, Gail and Donna along for the ride. We were late getting home, but I really appreciated everyone's efforts and patience in helping me with the repair. That's why its nice to belong to a club.

Dave

Tour to the Canal Museum Hosted by the Bettles Saturday May 14, 2022

Dick and Bobbi Bettle planned and hosted another great tour through the back roads of Bucks and Northampton counties in Pennsylvania.

We met in Tinicum Park along the Delaware River. The Bettles made this a joint tour with both the Running Board A's and the Lehigh Valley Model A Club. The Lehigh Valley Club was due to meet at 10 AM for their club meeting and the tour was to begin at 11 AM.

Unfortunately, due to the threat of bad weather, the turnout was very light from both clubs. I arrived at the park a little before 11 AM. The meeting broke up and a few of the LVMAC left and did not go on the tour. Those that did go on the tour were Dick and Bobbi, Dave and Connie Vanim, daughter Jennifer Moyer and granddaughter Madeline Moyer. Also, Gary

Homanick, with his '30 Fordor and Doru Popescu who was in the process of looking for a Model A. Since Doru did not have a Model A, I



invited him to ride along with me. I would have to go right by the park on the way home so he could pick up his car with no one going out of their way.

We had a great time together. We chatted about all things Model A of course, but we also found out that we both worked just a few miles from each other in New Jersey and that our kids all went to Penn State. Doru was looking for a coupe or roadster, but he told me about a week later that he found a fordor in Bethlehem. He took one of the LVMAC members with him to look at the car and he gave it his stamp of approval, so he bought it.

The Bettles did a great job with the tour. We were on plenty of scenic back roads and the tour terminated in a beautiful canal park where the museum was located. We had a nice picnic lunch and were asked lots of questions about the cars by folks enjoying the park. I made it home before the rain even started. The Bettles should definitely consider running the tour again, so it can be enjoyed by more people.



Dave



**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