

The "A"nnouncer



February, 2023

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

www.RunningBoardAs.com

Volume 22

Number 2

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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.

From the President

This is NOT my most favorite time of year. As I write this, it has been snowing for part of the morning and is changing over to rain. It is not very conducive to driving or even working on your Model A.

I am looking forward to spring when we can take the cars out without the risk of getting salt on the cars from the roads or running into bad weather. When I look ahead to our calendar of events in the spring, I can't wait for Raise Your A Day and the Steve Ryan Car Show. Both events are very informative and a whole lot of fun. Make sure you plan to attend!

Speaking of events, we still have the months of February and March open for events. There are plenty of museums, factory tours and other points of interest in the area that we can attend. If you have an idea for a tour, just let me know and I will get the word out to everyone.

Finally, I would like to thank Ken Nygard for leading the January tour to the America on Wheels Museum. Ken is a volunteer there and he gave us a great tour of the museum with lots of behind the scenes facts. The cover shot is from the museum. There is more on the tour later on in the newsletter.

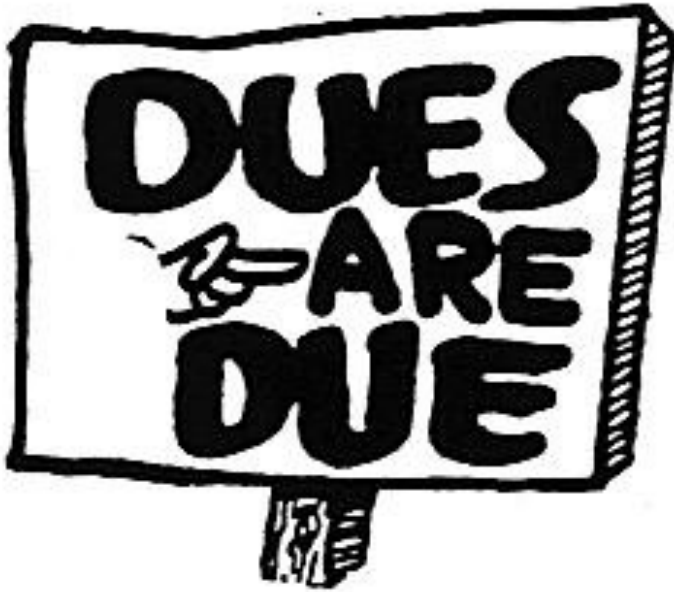
Dave

MARC Mileage Program

Your mileage for the MARC Mileage program is due to MARC by February 28th. For those not familiar with the program, MARC gives out certificates for those driving their Model A's 5000 miles or more. Mileage is cumulative from year to year, so if you don't reach a mileage award level this year, each year's mileage will be added until you hit an award level. You must be registered in the program to participate. The registration fee is \$1.00. Contact Chuck Savitske at 610-573-4378 or at savolcar@yahoo.com to report your mileage or enroll in the program by February 15th.



*Getting
There Is
Half the Fun!*



Your 2023 dues are due NOW

Please make checks

for \$15 payable to:

Running Board A's

Mail to:

Running Board A's

C/O Doug Pyatt

1419 E. University Ave.

Bethlehem, PA. 18015

America ON WHEELS

A MUSEUM OF
Education - Entertainment - Events

On Wednesday, January 11th, ten members and guests of the Running Board A's attended the America on Wheels Museum in Allentown PA. The tour was led by Ken Nygard, along with his wife Judy. Also in attendance were Dick Bettle, Chuck and Deb Savitske, and me along with Dick's friend Ole and my friends Carl Swope, Gary Monesmith and Bill

Balantine.



Ken has volunteered at the museum for quite some time now and is a wealth of knowledge about the vehicles on display that goes far beyond what is written on the write up for the display.

When we first arrived at the museum, some of the volunteers were in the process of changing over the display that was in the front of the museum just as you walk in the door. One of the vehicles going out was the 1930 GMC taxi used in the holiday classic movie *It's a Wonderful Life*. It draws quite the crowd around the holidays.



There were also a lot of trucks and motorcycles on display as well as period gas pumps like the one to the left from 1929.



After the tour, Ken made reservations at a local bar and restaurant in Allentown for lunch. It was a great way to spend a day with friends and old cars. Thanks go to Ken and Judy for sharing their passion with us.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Planning Meeting

April 1, 2023

11:30 AM

**Christ Lutheran Church
Parish Hall**

**353 East Dark Hollow Rd
Pipersville, PA**

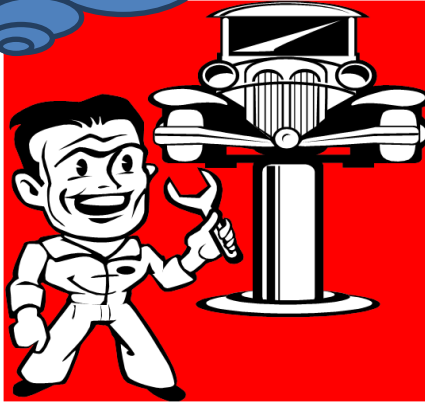
Bring your ideas for the new touring season. We will provide sandwiches, water, coffee and ice cream sundae fixins for dessert. Call Diane and Dave to RSVP by March 30th and to sign up for a side dish to bring. 267-733-3868. If you can't make the meeting, you can always let me know ahead of time what event you would like to lead.

Hope to see you there!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Model A Ford Safety
Day. I'm sure we will
have a great time! ...



Raise Your “A” Day (or as some may prefer, “Up Your “A” Day”)

10 AM-Saturday, April 22, 2023

Bob & Bernadette are pleased to once again host “Raise Your A Day”. This is a day for you and your Model A to spend some quality time together looking for those annoying rattles, cracked frames, potential suspension issues or maybe a quick lube and top off of fluids. Sorry no oil changes. Tire pressure check will be an optional extra charge (ha ha it’s a joke). As always, Bob’s lift will be available for you to check things out.

Please feel free to bring any small parts you may need for your “quick” repair. Donations of grease and transmission oil will be most welcome. Sandwiches will be provided by Bob and Bernadette. Please let us know what side salad or dessert, or other things you will bring to share. Please let us know (973) 568-3525 or boutw@aol.com by **April 15** if you plan to attend so we can get a headcount for lunch.

Bob & Bernadette Outwater
32 Mason Farm Rd.,
Ringoes, NJ 08551; 973 568-3525

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 30

2023

Sunday • 9 am to 3 pm

Trexlerstown, PA

**Stock or Original Model A Ford
and Era Equipment Only**

Vintage Fords from 1903 - 1942 also welcomed.

Lehigh Valley Model "A" Club Presents

the STEVE RYAN

Model A/AA Show & Swap



Swap Meet • Concessions • Tech Session

Rain or Shine • Free Admission • Free Registration

Pin Striping by Jim Brand • Paved Parking for Show Cars

Co-Host: LVMAC and the Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company

7723 Hamilton Blvd • Breinigsville, PA 18031 • Short Drive from Rt 78 and Rt 222

Swap meet spots are a \$10 Donation • Model A / AA & early Ford parts only • NO household items • NO dolls/toys • NO modern tools

An associated car club is not required for show. Interest in Model 'A' Fords recommended.

RSVP your swap space or your club space for the day: 484.548.0632 or lvmodelclub@gmail.com

Lehigh Valley
Model 'A' Club



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Save the dates! September 6th – 10th, 2023

Hosted by the Model A Ford Club of Long Island



Hyatt Regency Hotel
1717 Motor Parkway
Hauppauge, NY
800-233-1234

Welcome Dinner Thursday night
Guided tour on Friday
Dinner Friday at the hotel
Grand Tour Saturday
Banquet at the Hotel Saturday night
Sunday afternoon Tour
Car Judging

Make reservations by 8/1/2023 for
the Special Meet Rate of \$159 a night
Listed under Model A Ford Meet
[https://salesportal.hyatt.com/env-
web/gsm/ui/#/booking/26523323](https://salesportal.hyatt.com/env-web/gsm/ui/#/booking/26523323)

Hubley Derby
Onsite Trailer Parking
Secure Parking
Maintenance Tent
Awards Breakfast Sunday morning
Raffle Prizes and more!

For more information contact: 2023NEM@gmail.com

Join our Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nem2023>



Welcome New Members

**Scott & Christina Franklin
860 Folly Rd.**

Warrington, PA 18976

215-808-9353

s32franklin@gmail.com

Model A Accessories

When talking to some of the newer members of the club, especially folks who are new to the hobby, I have been asked, “What accessories do I need for my car”. Need is a strong word. You probably don’t *need* anything, but there are certainly many things that make driving a Model A safer and more pleasurable. Here is my list.

Seat Belts: I think these are an important safety accessory in any vehicle, not just a Model A. Lap belts are good. They will keep you from falling out of the door if the door pops open and offers some measure of protection in a crash. I installed lap belts in both my cars and use them all the time. A combination of lap and shoulder belts would be even better, but I have not figured out how to install them yet.

Safety Glass: Model A’s came with safety glass in their windshields, (a piece of plastic laminated between two pieces of glass), however, the rest of the glass in a Model is plate glass. Plate glass breaks into very sharp shards of glass. If you are in an accident, or just get hit by a rock or other road debris, plate glass can cause a lot of damage. If you are thinking of replacing the glass in your Model A, you may want to consider tinted safety glass too. It will keep your car cooler in the summer!

A Second Tail Light: When Model A’s were built, they only had one tail light on the drivers side of the car. Today, many of the Model A’s on the road have had a second tail light added to the passengers side of

the car. If you are trying to keep the car as original as possible and don't want to add a second tail light, I get it, but I do know that not many people understand hand signals, (except for maybe one that has nothing to do with turning or stopping), which brings me to the next accessory.

Turn Signals: There are a number of different ways to install turn signals. Some incorporate lights already on the car like tail lights and cowl lights. Others come with extra lights. Some of the extra lights fit between the bumper irons or can be installed any number of ways at each corner of the car. No matter how you do it, any little bit helps in today's traffic.

LED Tail Lights: Sometimes a 32 candle power bulb in your tail light just doesn't cut it. I can remember one bright sunny day when we were traveling in a group. We all stopped kind of suddenly, and all I could hear were tires squealing behind me. Nothing happened, but the person behind me couldn't see that my brake lights were on in the bright sun. Because of that incident, I went out and found the reddest and brightest LED tail lights that I could find and installed them on the car. Some tail lights are half amber and half red, to match the way the original tail lights looked, but I wanted something as bright as possible. The good thing is that they just plug into the existing light sockets and don't require any additional wiring. I have had several comments that the stop lights are now very bright and easy to see.

Speaking of LED lights, I also installed LED head lights in the car. This isn't nearly as critical as the tail lights, but last year when we got delayed coming home from Rhinebeck NY and had to drive in the dark, I was very glad to have them!

There are plenty of other accessories that are not necessarily for safety, but aid in prolonging engine life and just make traveling in a Model A more convenient.

Air Maze: Model A engines didn't come with any kind of air cleaner so this little gadget is put on your carburetor air intake. It will keep birds and squirrels out of the engine but not much else. In my house it's important to keep birds out of the engine, so I have one on each car.



Trunk: Model A's are not known for having a lot of extra storage space, so a trunk makes it convenient to carry and access all those parts, tools and other items that you can't live without.

CB Radio: Our club uses CB radios to stay in contact with each other while on tour. If you have an old one lying around, you may want to dust it off and put it in your Model A.

So these are a few my accessories, so what's on your list of "can't live without" accessories? I'm sure there are things that I haven't even thought of, so I would like to hear from you. If you are new to the Model A hobby, this is a good start, but you can learn a whole lot more by attending events and talking to club members. After all, isn't that what you signed up for?

Dave

From Dick and (mostly) Bobbi Bettie

Dick and I attended one of our other car club meeting at Bob's Auto Orphanage (Old Spokes Car Museum) in Kutztown, PA on January 14, 2023. Dick invited Greg Roser and his wife June to come along.

After a short meeting we all toured the two large garages across the street from each other with lots of cars. It was quite an impressive sight. Some of the cars we saw at the museum were Hudsons (the red 1934 Rumble-seat Roadster was my favorite); Chryslers; and Chevrolets (the turquoise 57 Chevy Bel Air was one of Dick's favorites).





**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"

C/O Doug Pyatt

1419 E. University Ave.

Bethlehem, PA. 18015

If renewing, please underline any information that has changed

Running Board "A's"

1419 E. University Ave.

Bethlehem, PA. 18015

First Class Mail