

The "A"nnouncer



October, 2023

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

www.RunningBoardAs.com

Volume 22

Number 10

The Running Board “A’s” Officers

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| President | Dave Allison
108 Ervin Rd.
Pipersville PA 18947
(267)-733-3708 |
| Vice President/Director | Chuck Savitske
3379 Reservoir Rd
Hellertown, PA.
(610)-573-4378 |
| Secretary | Ken Nygard
426 Foulkeways
Gwynedd, PA. 19436
(215)-283-7225 |
| Treasurer | Doug Pyatt
1419E. University Ave.
Bethlehem, PA. 18015
(610)-844-6641 |
| 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 must admit that I do have some other hobbies besides the Model A hobby. Sometimes those hobbies get in the way of my Model A hobby. In the beginning of September, I was looking forward to the Duryea Day Car Show, but we realized that the weekend of the show was also the last time this season that we would be able to take our camping trailer and go camping up in N.Y. State. Bob Adams graciously took over leading the event for me. Toward the end of the month, I thought I would miss the Del Val Fire Dept. car show, since I would be on my way to Canada for a fishing trip. I turns out that the show was canceled until the next weekend due to bad weather, so I was able to go fishing AND attend the car show.

There are several events coming up in the next couple of months. Check out the Calendar of events to see what's happening. The Road Kill Rally is one important event because not only is it a lot of fun, but it is also going to include our annual business meeting. There are several other events on the schedule, but be sure to put the annual holiday party on your calendar. Model A's are not required and you don't need to bring anything except a present for the gift exchange if you want to participate in it.

All is all it's going to be a great fall touring season. Come out and enjoy the fun.

Dave

What's Your Diagnosis

Final Installment

In previous issues of the newsletter, we have told you about the issues that RBA member John Grier has had with his Model A Roadster. It all began with a tapping noise that he wanted to fix. After spending a lengthy amount of time trying to adjust the valves, the tapping sound was still there.

John finally decided to take down the oil pan to see if anything was going on inside the engine. He didn't

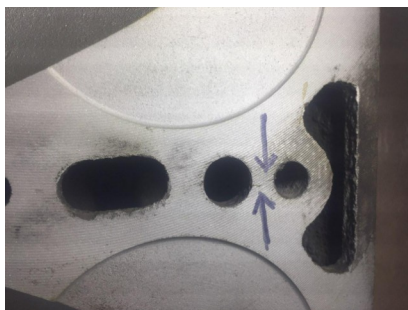


find anything obvious to cause the tapping. All the bearings seemed to be fine and there didn't seem to be any excessive play in the wrist pins in the pistons. What he did find was coolant leaking into the oil pan.

That meant that the cylinder head had to come off to see where the leak was coming from.

When the cylinder head was removed, John found double trouble, a bad head gasket and a crack in the cylinder head.

In the process, John fabricated a tool to make pulling



the cylinder head easier. Everything was cleaned and checked and then reassembled with a new high compression cylinder and a new head gasket. He also found a procedure to make the installation of the oil pan gasket leak free. If you are interested in learning about this procedure, it can be found [here](#).



John got the engine running again and got a wealth of knowledge in the process. He also got three problems fixed.

- He got a bad head gasket fixed
- A cracked cylinder head was replaced
- A very leaky oil pan gasket was fixed

All in all, John considered this to be successful repair, BUT the tapping noise is still there. John is going to drive the car and enjoy it during the fall touring season. If the problem gets worse or if something breaks then it will be easier to diagnose and fix over the winter.

So the question remains; WHAT'S YOUR DIAGNOSIS

Savitske Saga: The Clown Truck

By Chuck and Deb Savitske

I knew where it was for almost twenty years! It was on a hundred acre property somewhere in the Poconos. The only structures on the property were a two car garage, a one room cabin, and an out-house. There was a hand pump out back of the cabin for water and no electricity. The owner had health problems and needed to empty the property.

My friend Ray and I got the job of getting the Model A truck and a boat out of the garage so that they could be sold. The owner had given the garage keys to Ray. I had never seen the truck, and had no idea what condition it was in.

We drove to the property with a trailer BUT the keys didn't work!! The garage windows were blacked out



so we couldn't see what the truck looked like. Disappointed, we left and planned to come back on another day with the proper keys.

We're back!

This time with the proper keys. When we opened the door we got a big surprise! There sat a 1929 Model A pickup with a 30-31 radiator and grille shell. The hood (which was hanging on the wall) didn't fit right - the grille shell was two inches too tall. But the BIG surprise: the



truck was painted 12 different colors! And, it had three different kinds of wheels. AND the garage floor was also painted 12 different colors!

We blew up the tires, loaded it on my trailer, and brought it to my garage. Of course, I made a deal with the owner and bought the truck!

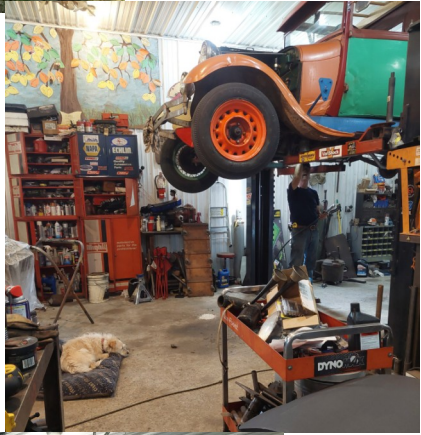
I got the engine to turn but it had no compression. I removed head and discovered that all the valves were stuck open. I freed up all the valves and installed the



head. After carburetor and distributor work, I got the engine working. It runs well! The rest is an ongoing project to make it roadworthy.

You might notice in the pictures there's a lawn mower engine on the front bumper. It was belted to a Model A generator to charge the battery.

After several days of work I got The Clown Truck running and driving!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

Come and enjoy a magical place with an historic grass runway! We'd like to welcome all cars, trucks and motorcycles, imports and domestics, hot rods and customs.... pretty much anything with wheels to the airport for a car show. The top 10 will get custom made awards, and the best of show will win a free flight in their choice of the Van Sant fleet!

We will have airplanes of all types on display and in the air. Discounted flights in biplanes, cubs, and gliders. Sign up at the show.

\$10 TO ENTER - \$25 SHOW T-SHIRT

Show cars won't be admitted until 9:30 AM.



- **FREE FOR SPECTATORS**
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- **FAMILY AND PET FRIENDLY***

**All pets on a leash, and please clean up after them.*

LOCATION: 516 CAFFERTY RD, ERWINNA, PA 18920 | **PHONE:** (610) 847-1119

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Saturday October 21,
2023

Ringoes N.J.

Bob Outwater has graciously agreed to host this fun event. If you plan to attend you can meet at Bob's house, 32 Mason Farm Road, Ringoes N.J. at 7:30 AM on Saturday October 21st. Contact Bob at 973-568-3525 if you plan to attend. From there, Bob will lead the group to the fair grounds where we can all park together. The entry fee is \$10 payable in cash only at the gate. There is no pre registration for this event.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Road Kill Rally and Annual Business Meeting Hellertown PA

**Saturday, October 28, 2023,
10:00 AM**

Don't miss this fun event to get out and enjoy the fall touring season. Deb and Chuck Savitske always have a great rally laid out and there is always plenty of food and drink after the rally. Contact Chuck and Deb at 610-838-2338 by October 24th to let them know that you will attend and to let them know what you will bring to share.

Also our annual business meeting will take place where we will elect officers and conduct any club business. You won't want to miss this event!

This event will be rain or shine. If it is raining or if your Model A is not on the road, bring your modern car. We will still have a party and a business meeting. Finally if you can spare some time to help Chuck and Deb set up for the event on Friday October 27th, call them at 610-838-2338.

Hope to see you there.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Holcombe-Jimison
Farm Museum
Route 29
Lambertville N.J.
Sunday, October 29, 2023**

This is closing day of this great farm museum. They love to have our Model A's on display for the event. We will meet at the Museum at 12:30 and be prepared to stay until 4:00 PM. Please let Craig Reed know if you are planning to attend the event by email: creed@innovativesalesinc.com or by phone at 215-805-6473.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Riegelsville Fall Roll Out Sunday, November 5, 2022 Gates open at 7:00 AM

This show is usually considered to be the last car show of the show season. There are a lot of cars and vendors present as well as lots of food. If you are interested in attending as a group, contact Bob Outwater at 908-237-9322 to let him know that you plan to attend.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Overnight Tour to Steamtown National Historic Site Scranton PA November 18 and 19, 2023 Hosted by Fred Chapman

This tour is about a 2.5 hour ride from our meeting place at the Exxon station at 1440 Easton Rd in Rieglesville PA. at 8:00 AM. From there we will travel back roads to the Steamtown National Historic Site in Scranton PA. We will visit the museum for the rest of the day. The next day we will do the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour in the area and then leave in the afternoon and be home before dark on the 19th.

Overnight accommodations will be at the Baymont by Wyndham Dunmore , 1226 Harry P O'Neill Hwy, Dunmore, PA 18512 ,
Phone: (570) 880-0329
Rates are approximately \$98.00 per night. You are responsible for making your own hotel reservations.

If you plan to attend this fun event, please contact Fred at fordchap@gmail.com or at 215-378-7303 to let him know that you will attend.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tour of the Pearl Buck House December 2, 2023 10:00 AM Hosted by Fred Chapman

The holidays are a great time of year to visit the Pearl Buck House, a National Historic Landmark at 520 Dublin Rd, Perkasie, PA 18944 . The tour of the house will be led by one of the volunteers at the Pearl Buck House.

If interested, after the tour of the Pearl Buck House, Fred will lead the group to Peddlers Village for more holiday fun.

Please contact Fred at fordchap@gmail.com or at 215-378-7303 if you are interested in attending this great event.





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Annual Holiday Party

Saturday December 9th

Christ Lutheran Church

353 East Dark Hollow Rd

Pipersville PA

11:30 AM

Our holiday party will be catered this year by C&C Catering. The meal will be buffet style with veggie lasagna, yankee pot roast and chicken francaise, salad, assorted vegetables and rolls. Dessert will be various delicacies from Lubertos Italian Bakery and Deli.

The cost is \$30.00 per person.

We will also have our famous "Gift Exchange". To refresh your memory, or for those new to the event, if you wish to participate, please bring a gift of about \$15 in value. It should be wrapped and labeled for a man or woman. You will receive a number in exchange for the gift. When your number is called, you can select a wrapped gift, or steal one that has already been opened. A single gift can only be stolen 3 times.

Come join the fun! We hope to see you at the last event of the year!

Make checks payable to Running Board A's and send to 1419 E. University Ave. Bethlehem, PA. 18015. Please mail checks no later than November 28th.

Happy
Fall





**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