

The "A"nnouncer



July, 2024

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

www.RunningBoardAs.com

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Number 7

The Running Board “A’s” Officers

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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

Happy Fourth of July everyone!! It seems like all of a sudden the summer touring season is upon us. So is the season of grass cutting, visiting family and friends, vacations and all the other things that we like to do and have to do in the warm weather.

I know that I have already been on one fishing trip to Canada and one mini vacation to Central NY as well as having a relative stay with us for two weeks. (Ok it was actually our grand dog, but she needs to be walked twice a day so she can be just as needy as a relative).

The bottom line is that sometimes our beloved Model A's take a back seat to all the other activities that we try to do in the summer. I get my Model A "fix" by taking the roadster out for an evening drive or by using one of the "A's" to run some errands.

For more organized events, check out the calendar of events. There are plenty of activities coming up. If you hear of an event that is not on the calendar, let me know. The impromptu events can be just as much fun as the scheduled ones. Scheduled events include the Holcomb-Jimison farm and auto show, Christmas in July, Das Awkscht Fescht and a fantastic overnight trip lead by Fred and Cindy Chapman.

See you down the road,

Dave

Craig Reed's "New" 1928 Phaeton

Editors Note: Recently Craig saw an ad for a 1928 Model A Phaeton in South Jersey. The car was in beautiful shape, body wise, with a good top and nice interior. It was missing a few pieces of body hardware for the top, but otherwise it was in nice shape. The only problem was that the engine was frozen. The price of the car was very reasonable, even with the stuck engine, so Craig took the plunge. Craig, Fred Chapman and Carmen Morelli worked on the engine in Fred's garage. Below is the story of the car after bringing it to Fred's garage.

In Craig's words, it was sitting in a garage for over 10 years and the engine was stuck. So prior to our pickup, Marvin Mystery Oil was put in each cylinder and I hand cracked it free (which took every bit of strength I had).





Upon arrival at Fred's house, we checked / greased all moving parts and replaced all fluids (some were previously drained for storage), replaced the battery, rebuilt the leaky carburetor, and adjusted the distributor points. The car immediately fired up and it sounded great.... However, the head leaked antifreeze around its entire circumference. So, we began to torque the head bolts and noticed that several of the studs were not installed properly (they were too short) and one was stripped.

Once the car was in Fred's garage the tear down began. Fred takes up the story from here.

With Craig's '28 Phaeton, where do I begin!?

Craig's car had a leaky head gasket when he got it. It had 59-60 lbs of compression in each cylinder, but was



“weeping” on the side. We started by trying to torque the head bolts to specification but the # 2 nut spun on the stud. It turns out that none of the head studs had 2 and 7/8” clearance from the block to the top of the stud, which meant there was not enough thread on the studs to torque them properly.

We went in!!

We took the head off and tried to take out the studs to replace them and put them in to the proper depth.

No go! The # 1 stud snapped right off! We had a mechanic friend come by to use Map gas and an Easy Out. That also snapped off! We then pulled the motor and took it to Lorenzo’s Machine Shop in Hulmeville. He is a



Model A friend who does great work. He pulled out the broken stud, took out the other 13 with plenty of heat and we were back in business. So we thought!

We put the head and gasket back on after repainting the block, but an old Helicoil on the #2 stud spun in the block! We hadn’t put the engine back in





yet so back to Lorrenzo's we went! He drilled it out and put a new Helicoil in. We then took it back up to my shop! This time all head studs appeared to take 55 foot pounds of torque until we broke the ear off the goose neck at the water pump! Of course another setback! Craig ordered two new ones just in case! The only problem was that after explicit instructions on where to overnight ship the parts, Snyders sent it to my shore house in Wildwood!

UGH! I was going there that night anyway so I retrieved the parts, painted them the same night and brought them back up to Doylestown where we completed the head torque process. Before we could put the engine in we needed to borrow Bob Outwater's frame stretcher (thank God for club members always ready to help out at the drop of a hat) which made the re-installation job much easier! We got to 60 foot pounds of torque for the high compression head on all 14 studs. We put the motor back in, got everything all hooked up and fired the old girl up. She ran great. Just one more problem, a front spring on the motor mount Y had popped sideways so we had to jack up the oil pan, take off the front mount and pop it back in place. Then we were finally complete!





Craig was very excited to get his car in his new garage addition! He is taking it easy doing heat cycles but did drive it to a

local Strawberry Festival . I went to his house to give the engine head bolts a final re-torque. It was a lot of work but very satisfying to do all this work and have the old girl running so well and back on the road with her new caretaker!



On another topic, I want to go give Chuck Savitske a shout out. I was having a tough time finding a short in my 29 Coupe wiring harness so I asked Chuck to help me out by taking a quick look at it. With a second set of eyes, we discovered an old, crimped connection which I temporarily fixed at Chuck's until I got it home to solder it and shrink wrap the wire connections with heat. All set!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Holcombe Jimison Car and Tractor Show

Sunday, July 21, 2024

**Holcombe Jimison Farm Museum
Lambertville N.J.**

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Route 29 Lambertville N.J.

Contact Craig Reed at 215-805-6473 or at
creed@innovativesalesinc.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Christmas In July Picnic/Party!

Saturday July, 27th 2024 at 10am
RSVP by July 22nd, 2024

Hosted by Dennis and Donna Peters

Home: 267-536-4825
Cell: 267-374-4856

Located at:
347 New St
Quakertown, PA, 18951
(parking lot behind Peters' residence)



Join us for homemade ice cream, white elephant gift exchange, a short covered bridge tour and a Christmas themed decorate your car contest!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Das Awkscht Fescht

**Saturday, August 3rd
2024**

Macungie PA

Hosted by Ken Nygard

This is a great car show with literally hundreds of cars to look over. This show has been a tradition for the club for many years.

To enter your car in the show, **YOU MUST BE PRE REGISTERED BY JULY 1st!** There is no day of show registration. [You can download a registration form here.](#)

If you plan to attend, please contact Ken Nygard at 215-283-7225 or at kanygard@msn.com. We will meet at the WAWA, 1960 John Fries Highway (RT 663) in Quakertown at 9:00 AM and proceed to the show from there.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

East Broad Top Railroad Tour August 16,17&18 Hosted by Fred and Cindy Chapman

This is an overnight tour led by Fred and Cindy Chapman over back country roads to the East Broad Top Railroad. It should take about 4.5 hours by Model A. We will leave the local area on Friday morning and stop at the Swigart Auto Museum on Friday afternoon. The cost of the museum is \$8.00. We will stay at the Huntingdon Motor Inn,6920 Motor Inn Dr. Huntingdon, PA 16652 (814) 643-1133 The rates are as follows: \$85.00/night Queen Beds, \$95.00/night King Beds, we have a block of 20 rooms there now, each person needs to call for reservations. Tell them you are with the “Model A Group”. Saturday will be spent all day at the train museum where will get a train ride, a trolley tour and a machine shop tour. The combined ticket price is \$45 per person. On Sunday, we will attend the Lincoln Caverns (\$24.36) and then head home. The tour has been opened to three area Model A Clubs, so it should be a lot of fun. If you are interested, please contact Fred at 215-378-7303 or at fordchap@gmail.com. Don't forget to contact the host hotel also at the phone number above.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**Saturday, August 31, 2024
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Boyertown Community Park
419 South Madison Street
Boyertown, PA. 19512**

Host: Bob Adams. We will meet at 9:00 AM at the WAWA on Route 663 outside of Quakertown and then travel to the show together. [Download a preregistration form here](#). Preregistration is \$12 and must be paid by August 25th. Registration day of show is \$20. Contact Bob at 215-718-7100 or at boblesadams@verizon.net. This is a great show with lots of shade where your car will be parked.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tinicum Park Polo Saturday September 21, 2024

Hosted by the Allisons

We will meet at the Erwinna Fire House 75, Headquarters Road Erwinna PA at 12:45 PM. We will then travel together for a short ride to the park. We can back right up to the field to watch the match. Bring chairs, snacks and drinks for yourself or to share. The cost is \$10.00 per car. Let Dave and Diane know if you plan to attend by calling or texting 267-733-3708 or by email; dalliso@mail.ptd.net

Hope to see you there!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Delaware Valley Fire Company Car Show Sunday, September 29th 2024

DELAWARE VALLEY VOL FIRE CO

ANNUAL FALL *CAR*

29
SEPTEMBER
2024

RAIN DATE:
OCTOBER 6, 2024



ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE DELAWARE
50/50 VALLEY VOL FIRE CO. RAFFLES

** SHOW CAR FEE \$15 *** REGISTRATION: 8 AM TO 11 AM ** SHOW TIME
9 AM TO 2 PM ** JUDGING TIME: 11 AM TO 1 PM **

** ALL ATTENDEE TYPE JUDGED SHOW ** TROPHIES: TOP 30 PICKED, PLUS
BEST IN SHOW & OFFICERS PICK ** 100 50 ARRIVALS WILL RECEIVE A DASH
PLAQUE ** DOOR PRIZES ** FOOD & DRINK ** LARGE ASST OF RAFFLES **

AT STATION 48
75 HEADQUARTERS RD
BRYANNA, PA 18020

SPECTATORS
FREE

MORE INFO
CHRIS 610-442-7239

Happy
Fourth of
July





WANTED

The late 1927 Model A Ford crank (A-17036) with FORD script on the middle (angle) bar, 11/16" lug nut socket, 8 inch throw-offset, 90 degree pin position. Contact Bill Nitschke Cell (914)-323-8958

THANK YOU !

Bill Nitschke
163 Essex Street
Deep River, CT. 06417

E-mail : williamjnitschke@gmail.com



**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 Cindy Chapman

5266 Valley Park Rd.

Doylestown, PA. 18902

If renewing, please underline any information that has changed

Running Board "A's"

5266 Valley Park Rd

Doylestown, PA, 18902

First Class Mail