

# The "A"nnouncer



February, 2025

Newsletter of the Running  
Board "A's"

[www.RunningBoardAs.com](http://www.RunningBoardAs.com)

Volume 24

Number 2

# 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.**

Hello everyone, well winter is here and baby it's cold outside. We have ice, snow, salt on the roads which brought a halt to driving my old cars. I've been forced to occupy myself with other hobbies. January might have been wintry but we did have several events happen including breakfast at the firehouse, a trip to Allentown to the Auto Mania swap meet, a day at the Jacktown winter snow show.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



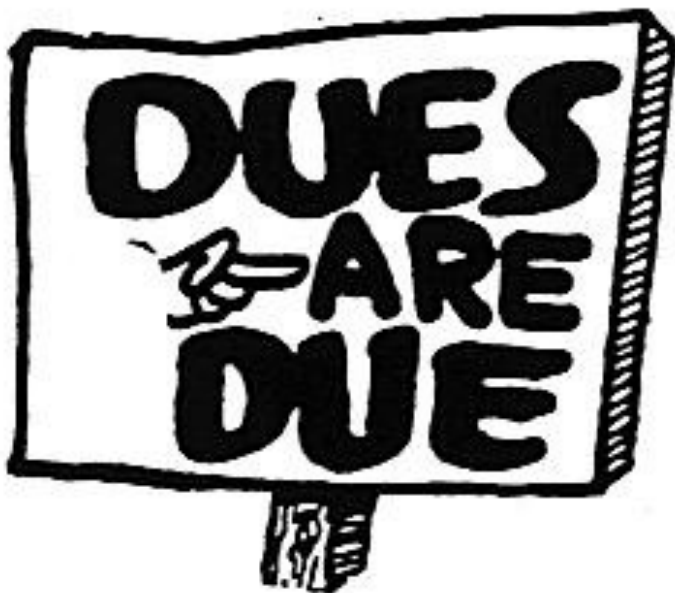
I plan to attend the breakfast again on February 9th at 9 am let me know if you plan to join us. I also heard Ken Nygard is planning a trip to the America on Wheels museum in February. See that information in the newsletter.

Looking ahead I have a trip planned for the How's it Made tour for March 20th to the Martin Guitar factory in Nazareth Pa If you have any other event or tour ideas let me know or bring them up at the planning meeting in March.

I was watching the news one evening and saw Doug being interviewed at the model railroad exhibit in Bethlehem. Great job Doug.

Dennis





**Your 2025 Club Dues are due NOW!  
Dues are still only \$15**

**If we do not receive your dues by February 28th, you will no longer receive this poorly written newsletter and will be dropped from the roster.**

**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**

# Member Profile

## Fred Chapman

Fred started out in the Model A hobby, helping out a friend Craig Kelleher in New Hampshire in 1973. Fred grew up in New Hampshire and he helped get Craig's grandmother's "Doodlebug" Model A running after it



sat in a field for 30 years before that! We felt like Dr. Frankenstein bringing the engine back to life again! As an aside, after more than 50 years, Craig still has his first car, a 1929 Coupe! Fred was hooked on Model As! Craig and his Dad sold Fred his first Model A, a 31 Slant windshield 4 door in pieces! It was too much to deal with as a college student heading back to school so he sold it. Many years later, living in Dallas, TX, he finally bought a running Model A, a late 31 Tudor sedan! That car was replaced by a 29 Sport Coupe, then a 30 Coupe, then a 31 Deluxe Roadster. He went several years owning other classic cars such as a 66 Mustang, 65 Ford Galaxie Convertible, a 63



Corvair Convertible, and a 64 Malibu convertible but never lost his love of Model A's.

Now retired and while visiting his in-laws in Michigan, he noticed an estate auction in 2018 where they were selling a 1928 "4 Door Model A". Fred took a good look at the photo. It was an early 28 Phaeton, originally from Dallas, TX with no rust and a perfect body! He was the high bidder and trailored his Phaeton home. He got started right away on going through the motor, front end, brakes etc. and got it back on the road where he now drives it over 2,000 miles a year. In 2023 he even received the coveted Award of



Excellence in Touring Class at the MARC National meet! Since the Phaeton has side curtains and is cold in the winter, Fred needed a garage mate and in 2019 purchased a 1929 Coupe from Braintree, MA. He and Carmen Morelli made the trip up to see the Coupe and a second trip to retrieve it. Once the

engine, brakes, steering column and front end were rebuilt, he added a heater and drives it during the colder months with fellow club members



up and down the Delaware River “Model A” roads in PA and NJ. Fred loves retirement and having the time to get together with Model A people, cars and activities and helping other club members keep our great cars on the road as living history.



# Running Board A's Members in Florida

By Tim Litzenberger

Two couples Craig and Lynn Reed and Tim and Kathy Litzenberger of the Running Board A's who winter in Venice, FL spent a Sunday afternoon listening to good old Rock & Roll music. Of course that music wants to make you dance also! So that's what we did on a beautiful sunny winter day. Interesting note: The leader of this group called "Bandana", was part of a group in the 60's called "Sam the Sham and Pharaohs." They had two Gold records, "Lil Red Riding Hood" and "Wooly Bully", which they play at every outing we have attended. Thinking about you in PA & NJ as the temps are getting near ZERO!!



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**5 North Front Street  
Allentown, PA 18102**

## **Friday, February 21, 2025**

AOW is in the process of being updated and has a new layout as well as new displays. The current changing exhibit is a Battle of Clubs between 4 local clubs. Each club has their own display of their best. You'll be able to vote on the best club as well as your favorite car. Then we will eat lunch (bring your own) at the museum. At 1:00 we will take a guided tour of the RB Collection, a restoration shop and classic car dealer adjacent to the museum.

Meet at America on Wheels 10:30 - 11:00

Self guided tour of the museum 10:30 - 12:00

Lunch: Bring a bag lunch to eat at the museum

Tour the RB Collection 1:00 - 2:00.

Seniors are \$14.00 + \$4.00 for the RB Tour.

RSVP to Ken Nygard at 267-893-0638 call or text or email by February 20th.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## HOW IT'S MADE TOUR!

### MARTIN GUITAR

Thursday, March 20th, 2025  
meet at 9:45AM

Location: 510 Sycamore St,  
Nazareth, PA 18064

\$5 a person, tickets must be purchased  
online ahead of time. Tour times start at  
10AM. Join us for lunch after tours are  
completed!



RSVP to Dennis Peters by March  
17th, 2025  
Cell: 267-374-4856  
Email: [dpeters15@verizon.net](mailto:dpeters15@verizon.net)

*CALENDAR OF EVENTS*  
**Spring Planning Meeting**  
**March 22, 2025**  
**11:30 AM**

The Allison's will host our spring planning meeting again this year in March. The meeting will be held at Christ Lutheran Church, 353 East Dark Hollow Rd in Pipersville. The Allison's will provide wraps, coffee, tea, water and ice cream sundaes for dessert. Please let us know what side you will bring to share. Call 267-733-3708 or email [daliso@mail.ptd.net](mailto:daliso@mail.ptd.net).



# *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

## **Joint Luncheon with the Active A's**

**Saturday, April 12, 2025  
12:00 PM**

**Franconia Café & Market  
513 Allentown Road  
Souderton, PA. 18964**

We will have a joint lunch with the Active A's on Saturday April 12. This year, we have the café's private room reserved for the event. The room only holds 30 people, so we are limiting the event to only two clubs. If we have less than 30 people signed up for the event a week before we will open the event to other area clubs. Contact Dave and Diane Allison @267-733-3708 or dalliso@mail.ptd.net if you plan to attend.



# 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 19, 2025**

Bob & Bernadette are pleased to once again host “Raise Your A Day”. This is a fun day for you and your Model A to spend some quality time among friends looking for those annoying rattles, cracked frames, real or imagined suspension issues or maybe a quick lube and a top off of fluids. **Sorry, no oil changes** due to time constraints. 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, etc., will be most welcome to help defray costs of this event.** Sandwiches will be provided by Bob and Bernadette. Please let us know what side salad, dessert, or soft drink you will bring to share.

Please let us know (973) 568-3525 or [boutw@aol.com](mailto: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; [boutw@aol.com](mailto:boutw@aol.com)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**April 27**  
**2025**

**Sunday • 9am to 3pm**  
**Trexlerstown, PA**

*Lehigh Valley Model "A" Club Presents*

the **STEVE RYAN**  
*Model A/AA Show & Swap*

**Model A Ford**  
**Stock / Original**  
**Era Equipment**

Swap Meet • Concessions • Rain or Shine  
Tech Session • Free Admission & Registration  
Pin Striping by Jim Brand • Paved Parking for Show Cars

**Co-Host: LVMAC & Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company**

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


Swap meet spots are 20' x 20' with a \$10 Donation • Model A / AA, T & early Ford parts only

NO household items • NO dolls/toys • NO modern tools • NO home services

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 via email ONLY: lvmodelclub@gmail.com

- Rain or Shine • No Dogs •
- No Drugs & Alcohol •

Lehigh Valley  
Model 'A' Club 

# **New Tires for Your Model A**

Most of us have our Model A's tucked away for the winter, anticipating the time when the weather will warm up and the rain will wash all the salt off the roads. It's a good idea to start thinking about what it will take to insure trouble free operation of your car this touring season.

One of the things that is often overlooked is tires. Tires on any car, old or modern, can affect the handling and roadworthiness of the car.

Now is a good time to look at the tires on your Model A. Are they worn, cracked, scuffed or out of round? If they are, it may be time to replace those tires.

If you think you need new tires, then the question is, "What do I replace them with?" There are many options out there covering a wide range of prices. I have had sets of tires ranging from inexpensive bias ply to top of the line radials.

The first set of tires that came on my roadster was a set of no name tires, which had a fair amount of tread on them, but they wore out in just a few thousand (like 2000) miles. They were also out of round. I figured this out because no matter how smooth the road was that I was on, I always felt like I was going over bumps. One day I jacked the car up and found that the tires were out of round by as much as 1/4 of an inch, but the wheels were perfect.

My next tires for the roadster were a set from Universal. They were not out of round, but also wore out in just a few thousand miles.

I've had a little better luck with my tudor sedan. After I bought it, I put all new Firestone tires on it, but I wore them out fairly quickly because I failed to realign the front end of the car after I rebuilt it. Duh!

I bought another set of Firestones after doing an alignment, and they have held up well, with close to 10,000 miles on them. The only problem with them is that they are too wide to fit in the spare tire wheel well fully inflated, so I have to keep my spare under inflated and carry an air pump with me.

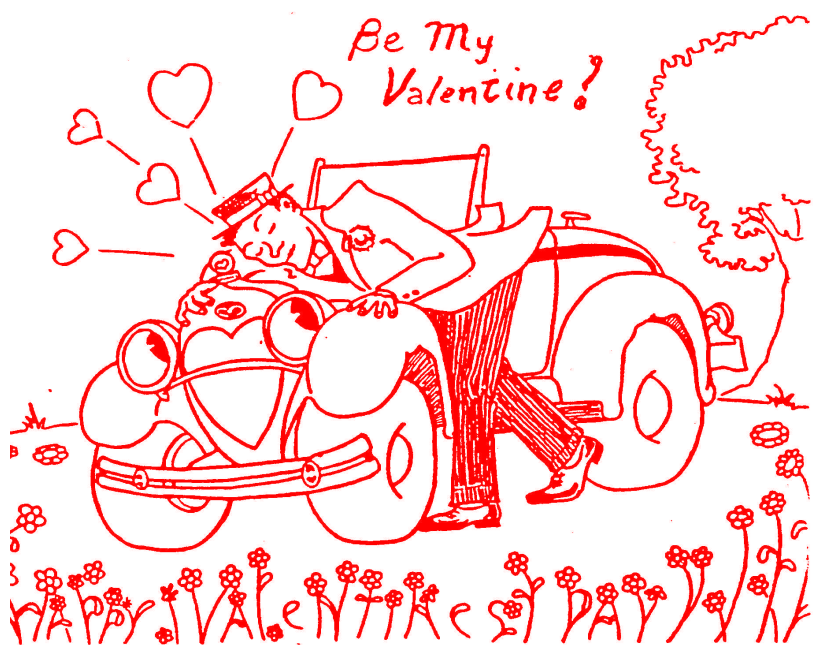


I finally broke down and got a set of American Classic radial tires for the roadster. I have had them now for two years and have put over 1000 miles on them with no sign of wear. They have been trouble free. The handling of the car with these tires on makes them well worth the premium price. I had them professionally mounted to avoid any issues with pinched tubes, etc. Before these tires are mounted, make sure there are no labels or other foreign objects in the tires. I have seen reports of flat tires with radials because labels inside the tire wore a hole in the tube due to the flexing of radial tires.

The bottom line is that I would stay away from the real inexpensive tires. They just don't hold up. Name brand tires like Firestone or Goodyear seem to be a good value if you plan to take your car to local events. If you plan to do a lot of touring, the handling properties and peace of mind make radial tires well worth the extra expense.

Dave

# Happy Valentines Day





**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"**

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**Doylestown, PA, 18902**

**First Class Mail**