

The "A"nnouncer



Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/runningboardas/>

Volume 16

Number 9

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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

Great events occurred in Macungie, PA this August. They included Das Awkscht Fescht on August 5 and the 39th Wheels of Time Hot Rod and Custom Jamboree on August 25-27. We enjoyed some unusually beautiful weather with low humidity. It was fun to see everyone who attended.

Unlike past years at these August events, it was great to wander around the vast display of fine vehicles without even breaking a sweat for a change.

I think even Dick Bettle managed to have a great day despite his driveshaft problem on the way to Macungie. It was good to have Dick join me on the ride home since his Model A had been transported back to Florham Park earlier on Saturday. Last I heard, Dick had pulled the rear end and was waiting for parts. No one enjoys a breakdown, but we always seem to solve the problems one way or another.

We have some interesting events coming up, so check out the schedule inside this issue of the "A"nnouncer.

See you soon,
Bob

Sympathy

Sympathy from the Running Board A's goes out to Dick and Bobbi Bettle and their family on the death of Dick's mom, Ruth Bettle.

Ruth lost her battle with cancer on August 10, 2017. She lived a long life and was married to Dick's dad Eugene Bettle for 75 years.

\$

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of July 24, 2017	\$828.87
Income	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00
Expenses	
Newsletter (Copies & Postage)	\$6.95
Total Expenses	\$6.95
Balance as of August 25, 2017	\$821.92

Respectfully Submitted

Margaret Hardy

\$

On the Cover: Dick Bettle kicks the tire of his car after the drive shaft failed on the way to the Macungie Car Show. (Photo by Bob Outwater)

DAS AWKSCHT FESCHT

AUGUST 5, 2017

At 9:00 AM sharp, the members of the Running Board A's gathered at the WAWA on RT 663 just outside of Quakertown to begin our days events. Those in attendance were Ed and Peg Hardy, Bob and Leslie

Adams, Tom Burrell, Dick Bettle, Ken Nygard, Bob Outwater, Lorraine Fox, Tom Fritz and Diane and me.



The

weather was a little unsettled as a cold front was working its way through the area, but it didn't deter those in shorts and convertibles with the top down.

We left the WAWA with Diane and I in the lead, followed by Dick Bettle and then the rest of the group. Leslie Adams drove their phaeton, while Bob drove their tudor sedan. Lorraine Fox teamed up with Leslie in the phaeton with the top down to make a grand entrance to the show in style, proving once again that girls rule.



We were doing well on the way to the show. Although we encountered just a few drops of rain, the sun came out as we got closer to Macungie. About a half mile

from the show entrance, I noticed that Dick Bettle was no longer behind me, but now Bob Adams was. I wasn't sure what happened, but I just pressed on. Thankfully Bob Out-



water and Ken Nygard realized that Dick had a problem when he abruptly pulled into a parking lot, so they followed him to investigate.

The engine ran, but the wheels wouldn't turn...never a good thing. After a quick call to AAA, the car was loaded on a flat bed and sent on it's way back to Florham Park N.J. Dick however, rode with Bob the rest of the way to the show and then got a ride home with Bob afterward. That's one of the advantages of being in the club. Even if the tour leader leaves you by the side of the road, someone will be there to lend a hand.

Once we got settled in at the show, Chuck Savitske and Doug Pyatt also arrived and joined the group. It then became a family affair with some of Bob Outwater's family joining in the fun, along with some of Chuck Savitske's family. Also seen at the show were Bobbie Sliker and Carl Weissman, and Sonny Scirretta. Friends Carson and Millie Krause were also parked in the same area.



Between members, family and friends, we had quite a showing at the event.

None of us can remember a year where there was actually a chill in the air for most of the event, but even with brilliant sunshine



for most of the day, there was still a feeling of fall in the air.

We learned that our favorite ice cream joint had closed, but we still wanted to stop for some on the way home, otherwise it just wouldn't be the Macungie Car show. Luckily, a new ice cream place opened just outside the grounds of the car show, so we decided to try it out after get-

ting our participation awards. This is probably going to become our new favorite place for ice cream after the show. It was a great day and everyone made it home safe and sound, even



with a tour of the country side due to some unanticipated detours for some.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

Belvidere Victorian Days has been canceled due to lack of funds from the organizing group.

NEW!

Califon Classic Car Show

Saturday, September 9, 2017 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Registration starts at 7:30 AM

Pre registration \$15 Day of show \$20

Rain Date Sunday, September 10, 2017

Califon Island Park, Bank Street, Califon, NJ

To benefit the Califon Veterans Memorial

Go to www.califoncarshow.org for more information.

September 15 to 17

61st Annual New England Meet, North Conway N.H.

Go to <https://www.2017nemodelameet.com/>

for more information and a registration form. Contact Tom Fritz at (908) 580-0502 for more information

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued

Running Board A's Hudson, Essex, Terraplane New Jersey Live Steamers, Inc. September 24th, 2017

The New Jersey Live Steamers, Inc. has invited Hudson and Model A car clubs to their facility at 266 Mountain Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ (this is your GPS address or Google earth). The date is September 24, 2017 with the rain date being September 30, 2017. The time is 11:00 AM to around 3:00 PM.

The purpose of this visit is for the train people to view the cars and for the car people to ride on scale trains that are 1 ½" to the foot, plus, tour the facilities, and have lunch. Grilled hot dogs and hamburgers are available for purchase as well as chips and soft drinks. You are welcome to bring your own additional food for anyone not desiring the above fair.

This club is easy to get to with a Model A from PA or wherever, and involves no interstate highway travel. It takes me about an hour and a half from my home in PA with the "A". This event will also show us some other interesting cars that promise a very good exchange of ideas and stories. Let Doug know by email if you will come gcdp@rcn.com or phone 610-974-9718.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued

October

October 4 to 8 AACA Fall Event Hershey Event

This is the largest auto show on the east coast. Contact Bob Outwater for more information at 908) 237-9322.

October 14 Joint Model A Steam- boat Event

9:00 AM Lake Nockamixon, PA
Haycock Boat Ramp

Watch the October Newsletter for more details.

October 21, Flemington Speed- way Historical Society Car Show

Contact Tom Burrell at (908) 334-1415 for more information.

October 28 Road Kill Rally

Don't miss the World Famous Road Kill Rally held by Chuck and Deb Savitske, beginning at 10:00 AM at their home in Hellertown PA. Contact Chuck at (610)-573-4378 to let them know you are coming and what you will bring to share.

Frustrating Flashers



Most of you know the story of why I put LED tail lights on my cars. If you don't the short version is that I had a lot of complaints that my tail lights couldn't be seen while on tour, so I decided to play it safe and install the LED lights. The signals on the roadster work great. I put LED lights on the back and used the cowl lights on the front.

The tudor has been a bit more problematic. I put LED lights on both the front and back of the car. They have always been kind of slow to blink.

This season, I had to replace the battery in the tudor. It wasn't holding a charge and was 4 or 5 years old, so I knew it was time. After I did that, the turn signals were even slower. I mentioned something to Bob Outwater about it and he suggested, as I already knew, to check the ground. I cleaned all the ground

connections and that seemed to make somewhat of an improvement. The first trip out after doing all this work was to Macungie. During the trip they went



from not working well to not working at all. When I got home, in desperation, I pulled the flasher unit out of the roadster and tried it in the tudor, and they worked again, but still not well.

A bad ground wasn't making sense to me since the starter motor turned over quickly, the lights were bright and the horn was loud.

I finally decided that maybe the front turn signals with their built in resistors weren't all that they were cracked up to be. I decided to wire the old front turn signals in with the new ones for more resistance, and that did the trick! They may look a little weird, but they work. I was kind of aggravated that I burned up a \$25 flasher, so I did a little research and found that the same flasher that Bratton recommends for LED lights for \$25 is sold by Rock Auto for \$14. Sounded good to me!

After wiring in the extra lights and installing the new flashers, I think I have all my flasher problems solved. Either the resistors in the LED turn signals failed, or they just weren't quite enough to do the job and in the process, they took out the flasher, so lesson learned.

69TH ANNUAL THRESHERMAN'S REUNION AUGUST 16 TO 19, 2017

The Thresherman's Reunion held in Kinzers, PA has been on our calendar for a number of years, but this is the first year that I had a chance to attend. In fact, I attended the event with Ken and Judy Nygard and friend Carl Swope.

Ken volunteered to drive so we all went along for the ride. It's about a 2 hour ride to get there, so the first thing on the agenda after we arrived was lunch. There was a cafeteria style restaurant loaded with Amish style goodies. After making short work of lunch, we were off to see the show.



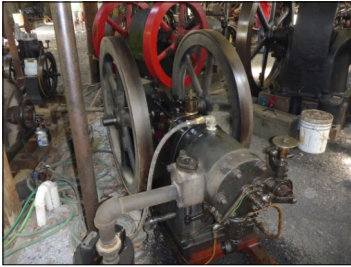
There are a lot of building and grounds to see, and I wanted to see it ALL. I ventured off on my own to see as much as I could before the 3:30 PM power parade. More on that later.

I headed for the "Little Toot" steam train where I found Chuck Savitske. He is one of the operators of the train, but was on a lunch break. After chatting with him for awhile I took a walk through the building where people who drove their antique vehicles were able to park for free.

Among the cars present were a Model A coupe, a nice phaeton and an AA truck. From there, I moved on to the construction equipment demonstration area. This is where the BIG steam shovels and other



equipment get to play in the dirt. From there, I took a quick walk through the flea market. I'm used to automotive flea markets, but this one was different with all kinds of small equipment and hand tools for sale. I then took a walk through the buildings housing the stationary engines. The mix of large and small engines was just amazing. The things I found most fascinating were the steam tractors. They were mammoth, all in a line, belching smoke and steam. It was amazing to watch one pull out of line and



lumber around the grounds. These huge machines, dating back to the late 1800's were still ready to work in the fields. The power parade began at 3:30 PM. It was the highlight of the afternoon. The four of us agreed to meet at the bleachers to watch the parade.



Many of the vehicles on the grounds passed in front of us under their own power. It was an amazing spectacle. There were stories told by the announcer to go along with each machine. Judy Nygard loved this part of the show. It brought back many memories of her childhood spent on her parents farm in Minnesota.

If you have a love of all things mechanical, this is a great show. It took a couple of years, but I'm glad I finally got to attend.



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS



1930 Model A

Closed Cab Pick-Up



Complete frame off restoration everything checked and gone over. Looks as good from the under carriage as it does on top. It is completely stock, but has a higher compression head. Many extras, runs and drives perfectly. Interested buyers can test drive and view the car by calling Doug Pyatt (610-974-9718). The car is garage kept in Bethlehem, PA., by Lehigh University.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS



For Sale
1935 Ford Tudor Sedan
Asking \$16,500
Contact Gary at 908-328-2781





**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

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