

The "A"nnouncer



January 2018

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

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

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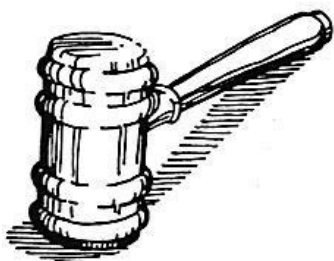
The Running Board “A’s” Officers

President	Bob Adams 525 Rich Hill Rd. Sellersville, PA 18960 215-538-2425
Vice President/Director	Doug Pyatt 1419 E. University Ave. Bethlehem, Pa. 18015 610-974-9718
Secretary	Ken Nygard 39 Holland Drive Chalfont, PA 18914 215-822-6717
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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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



I hope the new year finds everyone well and looking forward to a great year of model A ing. Many thanks to Bob Outwater for a fine job as president of the Running Board "A's". I'm sure we will all miss Tom Burrell, but none the less, wish him well in his future endeavors.

Maybe we'll meet at Macungie or a show in N.J.

Speaking of Macungie, regis-

tration can be made up until July 1 2018. We always have a great club turnout, but wouldn't it be better to have a 100% participation! If you need a registration form, contact me and I'll get a form to you. As many of you know, MARC has a mileage awards program. It only costs a dollar to register. If you would like to participate, I have the form that needs to be filled out. Contact me with your vin number, the year, the model and the current mileage before mid January. For those already in the program, I need your mileage at your earliest convenience.

(email: boblesadams@verizon.net) (phone [215-538-2425](tel:215-538-2425)) Hope to see everyone out at the breakfast hosted by the Hardy's at the Franconia Café on Saturday January 27, 2018.

Bob "A"

From the Editor

In the last issue of the newsletter we announced that Tom Burrell was our new President and that Bob Adams was our new Vice President. Since then, Tom has resigned to pursue other interests. We appreciate all of Tom's efforts while he served as Vice President. We wish he and Eva all the best!

Bob Adams has graciously accepted the position of President and Doug Pyatt has stepped in as Vice President. We know that the club is in good hands with the leadership provided by Bob, Doug, Ken Nygard as Secretary, Peg Hardy as Treasurer, and Dick Bettle as Webmaster.

Finally, make sure you support the club by providing ideas for tours and events and by attending events. They are a lot more fun with YOU there.

Dave

BABBLING ABOUT BABBITT BEARINGS

While I was doing some totally non-automotive reading recently, the name Isaac Babbitt popped up as an important figure in industrial history and (of all things) the Spiritualist movement of the mid – 1800's. So, with a little more research, thanks to all things Internet, the idea for this article came to my mind.



Isaac Babbitt was born in Massachusetts in 1799. His training in metallurgy was as a goldsmith. While experimenting in 1839 with various alloys, he developed the materials still used today in modern bearings in many industrial bearing applications as well as in internal combustion engines. The alloys used in internal combustion engines are primarily tin based along with varying proportions of copper, zinc and lead. These relatively soft metals have a crystalline structure and are known as “metal matrix composites”. They work because the crystalline structure is harder than the surrounding metal and as they wear in, passages develop that allow the lubricating oils to permeate the bearing material. Being car guys and gals, most of you probably know most of this, but there is more to Isaac's life than just bearings!

Isaac was quite important to the military! He invented the first ever “Made in America” all brass cannon. He patented a method of sharpening blades without the use of a honing wheel. He invented and became rather wealthy because of his “Babbitts Cytherean Cream of Soap” powder, the soap that

made all other soaps not necessary. This soap had strong disinfectant properties and proved to be so important to armies on the march that the government purchased it in large quantities.

Unfortunately, most likely due to exposure to toxic fumes from his metallurgy research, Isaac “lost his mind” and ended his life in an insane asylum in 1862. He died as an emaciated man with a shaved bald head.

Babbitt’s wife, Eliza, was a spiritualist. A few years after his death, she still missed him and wanted to communicate with him in the afterlife. She met with Mrs. Dr. William Mumler, a well-known medium at the time, for a séance. She then sat for her portrait with Mr. William Mumler, a famous spirit photographer. The resulting photograph showed Isaac’s spirit figure in the background, his body in his younger vigorous condition, yet with a shaved head as in the insane asylum.

Mumler was later put on trial for fraud in New York city. After a 3-week trial, he was acquitted of all charges. Even though somewhat discredited, Mumler continued his career as an apparitionist. It is still unknown how he created his photographs. Or were they real? (His most famous spirit photograph was of Mary Todd Lincoln with Abraham Lincoln standing behind her, his translucent hands on her shoulders).

Ken Nygard

Sources: Wikipedia (Search Isaac Babbitt) and “The Apparitionists” by Peter Manseau. (Worth reading!)

Model A Trailer



I saw this little gem in Hemmings and immediately thought of Bob Outwater. How cool would this look behind his Woody Wagon? Check it out below. I tried to give him a hint that it would make a great gift from Bernadette, but they didn't take the bait. This custom built trailer was available in Oregon for \$12000.



Happy
New Year



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Breakfast at the Franconia Café
Saturday January 27, 2018
10:00 AM
Hosted by the Hardy's

Join the Hardy's and the rest of the Running Board A's for breakfast at the Franconia Café, 513 Allentown Rd in Souderton PA. This is the same location as last years January breakfast. The 10:00 AM start time should give those coming from a distance plenty of time to get there (and rescue any owls found in distress along the way). **Please contact Ed and Peg by January 25 to let them know that you will attend so they can give a count to the restaurant.** Call Ed and Peg at (215) 828-9185 to let them know that you are coming.

If you want a sneak peak at the menu click here for the [Franconia Café menu](#).



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DAY AT THE MUSEUMS WEDNESDAY, FEB 7TH

It might be winter but that doesn't mean there is nothing to do! Please join me at the Mack Truck Museum in Allentown and the National Museum of Industrial History in Bethlehem for a day of automotive and industrial history.

The Mack Truck Museum has been remodeled and showcases Mack's history with many exhibits. Did you know that the Mack Truck started as a BUS manufacturer?



The National Museum of Industrial History is located in the former Electrical Repair Shop at the Steel Stacks/Bethlehem Steel Plant. Steel making and many other types of manufacturing are on display like this giant drill press!

Contact Ken Nygard 267-893-0638 phone or text, or kanygard@msn.com We can meet at Quaker-town Walmart parking lot at 9:00 a.m. to carpool or at the Industrial Museum and go on from there.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Planning Meeting
Saturday March 10, 2018
11:30 AM
Hosted by the Allison's
108 Ervin Rd Pipersville PA. 18947

Come to the planning meeting where we will plan our touring and event schedule for 2018. Bring your ideas! If you have never planned an event, we can offer plenty of help to make sure your event is a success.

The Allison's will provide sandwich makings and drinks. Please let them know by March 7 that you are coming and find out what you can bring to share in the way of a side dish with the group. Contact Dave and Diane at 267-733-3708

See you there

***YOU MEET THE
NICEST PEOPLE
DRIVING MODEL A'S***

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SAME SHOW • NEW LOCATION

Trexlertown Model 'A & AA' Only Car Show & Swap

Hosted by: Goodwill Fire Company & Lehigh Valley Model A Ford Club



NO Car or Entrance Fee
Hubley Model Car Display
Technical Presentation
Swap Meet & Concessions
Pin Striping by Jim Brand
Variety of Model "A" Cars
Paved Parking for Show Cars

Stock-Original Model A Fords and Ford Era Equipment Only

Sunday, April 22, 2018

Rain or Shine

9 am to 3 pm

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



An associated car club is not required for show.
RSVP your swap space or your club for the day:
484.548.0632 or lvmodelclub@gmail.com

Lehigh Valley
Model 'A' Club



Swap meet spots are a \$10 Donation • Model A / AA & Early Ford Parts Only
NO house hold items • NO dolls • NO modern tools • NO modern toys

Oak Tree Supply • timzavacki@gmail.com

MARC 2018 National Meet Schedule

MARC Membership Meet

April 12-15

Granville, Ohio

MARC National Meet

June 24 to July 1

Branson Missouri

MARC National Tour

September 17-20

Elkins, West Virginia

Information on the meets above can be found in the MARC magazine, *Model A News*, or on the MARC website <http://model-a-ford.org/>

Raffle Tickets for Sale

Raffle tickets are available for the upcoming MARC National Meeting next year.

Tickets are available for three different raffles with three different grand prizes. They include:

- A newly rebuilt Model A engine
- Four new tires
- A new radiator

Tickets can be purchased from Ken Nygard. Three tickets are \$5.00.

Let Ken know if you are interested.





Running Board A's 2017 Holiday Party December 10, 2017 Frenchtown Inn Frenchtown, N.J



The 2017 holiday was a huge success. Thanks go to President and First Lady Bob and Bernadette for planning and organizing this event.

There were 22 members in attendance. They included Ed and Peg Hardy, Bob and Bernadette Outwater, Dick and Bobbi Bettle, Chuck and Deb Savitske, Nancy and Don Steinberg, Nel and Ray DeMarco, Ken and Judy Nygard, Doug and Gail Pyatt, Bob Adams, Lorraine Fox, Tom Fritz, Deb Daye and Diane and I.



There was plenty of time to socialize and catch up with club member and it was a great time to get to know our newest members, Nel and Ray DeMarco. We settled in for a great meal provided by the Frenchtown Inn.

The weather even cooperated with a light coating of snow the day before. It was just enough to put us in the holiday spirit, but not enough to cause problems traveling. The view out our dining room window was wonderful with a view of the Delaware River and snow covered river banks in the distance.

After our meal we got down to the task at hand...the gift exchange. Thing stayed pretty civil until the end when the stealing got hot and heavy. Finally, Deb Savitske handed out the prizes and awards for the Road Kill Rally. It was a great way to kick off the holiday season.





Your 2018 club dues are due NOW. They are still a bargain at only \$15 (in spite of the fact that you get this mediocre newsletter). Send your check to the address on the next page, or just attend the breakfast in January and hand the money to Peg directly. Don't be left out in the cold!



**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

Running Board "A's"

PO Box 9

Hilltown PA. 18927-9721

First Class Mail