



April 2024

The Steering Wheel



Issue 04

Model A Club, Victoria TX Our March Meeting



Our hosts



Anita booking our next meeting at The Victoria Public Library



03.06.2024 The gang & cars at Wednesday's tall tales & coffee at the Nursery store.



Our March Meeting 03.10.2024



Cars & Coffee Saturday morning 03.13.2024



Bill Spellacy's 1930 Model A Roadster is a fine-looking car!



Anita & David touring with the Alamo As 03.17.2024



Wednesday morning coffee 03.20.2024



Gary's Model A saved the club



I see Gary, Willie, Joanne, congratulations to the Houston Model A Club





Gary East debuted his 1953 Chevy PU 3100

and my favorite Gary Spellacy's Mustang

COMING EVENTS

Mark your calendar, Saturday May 11, we will meet David Harris at Goliad Market Days, he will lead us to his place in Berclair for hamburgers.

MAP OF TEXAS REGIONS



It's a joke, people!

Under the Hood with.....your Prez, *Ron Albert*

Hello Model- A Club Members,

I hope everybody is enjoying the spring like and unusual weather. I am looking forward to a fun April as we have the Poor Boy Tour coming up next weekend on the 4th, 5th, and 6th. Hope to see some of our members there.

Also, our Tour Director Willie Sanders has planned a tour for us on May 11th, we will meet David Harris in Goliad at Market Days, and he will lead us to his place in Berclair Texas. Looking forward to a fun time.

Take care of yourself and others and have a fun day with your Model-A

Sincerely,
Ron Albert



*See you all soon,
Ron Albert*

April Birthdays

Wilma Ferry	4/01
James Kasper	4/12
Steve Whiddon	4/24



April Anniversaries

Bob & Wilma Ferry	4/10
Gary & Gail Henrichs	4/10
James & Chris Kasper	4/12



If I have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let me know by email nkw348@gmail.com

Calendar of Events – Subject to change

April 5,6,7 – 54th Poor Boy Tour –
Gonzales, TX Hosted by The Alamo A's
April 13 - Regular Meeting (moved to Saturday)
3pm Victoria Public Library
April 15 – Tax Day
April 24-27 – Pate Swap Meet
May 11 – Tour to David Harris Ranch in Berclair
Watch emails for any changes or additions.

The first Ford Model A was built on October 30, 1927, and the last was built on April 20, 1932.



Our newsletters are available on our website <https://www.victoriamodelaclub.com/>

Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VictoriaFordModelAClub>

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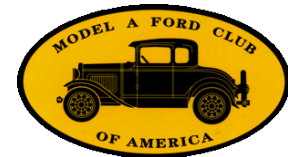
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MOTTO: A society which is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the Model A Ford as manufactured from 1928 through 1931.



Some information contained in our newsletter may have been reprinted from other newsletters; we thank and acknowledge them.

Model A Ford Club of America, 250 S. Cypress St. La Habra, California 90631

Minutes of the March 10, 2024, Meeting

Minutes of Meeting VictoriA's Model A Ford Club March 10, 2024 @Ferry Home

Attendees: Bob and Wilma Ferry
Steve and Nancy Whiddon
David and Anita Harris
Gary and Gail Henrichs
Willie Sanders and Joanne Shaffer
Gary and Betty East

5:15 pm - Hostess Wilma Ferry announced that the food was ready, so Willie Sanders offered the prayer and led the pledge. The meal was a potluck with members bringing the food.

6:10 pm - In the absence of President Ron Albert, Vice President Gary Henrichs called the meeting to order. Since the secretary was absent, Gary suspended the reading of the minutes and asked if there were any additions or corrections, and since there were none, Willie made a motion to accept the minutes of the February meeting as printed in the newsletter, and Bob seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Wilma reported she had received more dues, and that was the only deposit. Nancy Whiddon added that she and Wilma are finalizing the new roster and will be sending it out as soon as they hear from the last few members who have not joined for this year. Wilma asked Gary if he had received any correspondence from those who have been contacted about membership, but nothing has come in. David Harris made a motion to accept the report, and Willie seconded it. Motion passed.

New Business – Anita Harris has added the Poor Boy Tour registration form on the website. Willie read a letter from the Richters with Alamo A's asking for a head count since we are only 26 days out from the Gonzales tour and discussed that the host hotel is full, but the Best Western across the street has trailer parking.

Old Business - David Harris brought up the topic first discussed last meeting about the meeting space and meals at the Ferrys, and even though it is so generous of them to offer a quiet place for the meetings and asking their son to cook for us, some members feel the location is just too far out for them to come. Others brought up the fact that the club cannot afford catered meals, and the members did not feel comfortable paying for the cost of catering based on meals planned versus attendance, which has been low this year. Several ideas were presented, such as changing the day and time of the meeting, and Anita gave her report on using the Victoria Public Library's free meeting rooms as an alternative. Since the library is not open on Sunday, she checked the availability of Saturday, April 13th and trying a new meeting time of 3 pm with no meal involved. This will be a trial run for this new meeting format, and if the club agrees to this new arrangement, she can book the room for a total of 6 times a year. Nancy pointed out that since it will begin in April, and we will have the December meeting/Christmas party at a restaurant, we will only have to find a few other meeting places, and they could be tied to an outing or a tour. The overall consensus was to try this next meeting and see how it goes. The meeting will be held at the library, and then members can travel to Dairy Queen or another designated place for a snack, eliminating the need for food to be brought in.

Tours: Tour Chairman Willie said he has several ideas for places to go for a tour, but he is waiting on dates from those offering a place. He explained the difference between a meet and a tour, and he emphasized that he is only interested in heading tours where members can drive their Model A's for a distance run instead of just meeting for a meal or an event.

Willie had received a question from the Austin club about who is responsible for the Autumn tour, and a discussion followed. Since our club planned the last tour that got cancelled due to weather, Willie expressed his

opinion that the Austin club should be in charge this year. Gary Henrichs suggested that the decision be tabled until the presidents of the two remaining clubs involved in this tour discuss the options.

Willie listed the participants of the Poor Boy Tour as 4 clubs:

- San Antonio
- Houston
- Piney Woods
- Victoria

but stated that the Autumn tour is down to only 2 clubs, Victoria, and Austin.

Sunshine Report: Since Nena Albert was not present, Wilma reminded members present of the Welcome Home Party for former president and member James Kasper, who has been in Houston for medical treatments for some time and is now home. The party will be Friday, March 15th, at the Albert home, starting at 6 pm.

6:55 pm - Since no one else had business to bring before the club, Gary Henrichs called for a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joanne. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Betty East in the absence of Secretary Chris Kasper.



Chris & James, welcome home James from cancer treatments at MD Anderson, we love you!

What you should see in the March/April issue of *The Restorer* or *Model "A" News*



Chapter Report

Here in Victoria the Veterans Day Parade was cancelled due to weather. We did participate in the Victoria Lighted Christmas Parade and enjoyed dinner together afterwards along with our local Antique Car Club. We enjoyed a lively Christmas Party, auction, gift exchange. Vice President Gary Henrichs presented to our long-time member Betty East our Annual Rotating Award, The Steering Wheel, for helping to steer our club in the right direction.

Nancy Whiddon
Victori-A's Model A Ford Club
Victoria, TX



Thanks to all club members and friends for pictures and info, *On the Road*, *The Flying Quail*, *The Ford Squeaks*; *Cowntown A* for articles and information in this issue of our newsletter.



2024 Dues

Please pay your \$20 local club dues to the Club Treasurer.

Membership in the MAFCA or MARC is not mandatory to join the Victori-A's, but we do encourage all members to join one or both. Application forms for these clubs can be obtained on their website as follows: MAFCA www.mafca.com (\$50); MARC www.modelaford.org (\$50). You will receive all the national information and opportunities in the enjoyment of your Model A. You will also receive *The Restorer* magazine. (MAFCA) or *Model A News* magazine (marc). Membership does not require the actual possession of a Model "A," but merely an interest in the club's objectives, and a desire to take an active part in club activities.

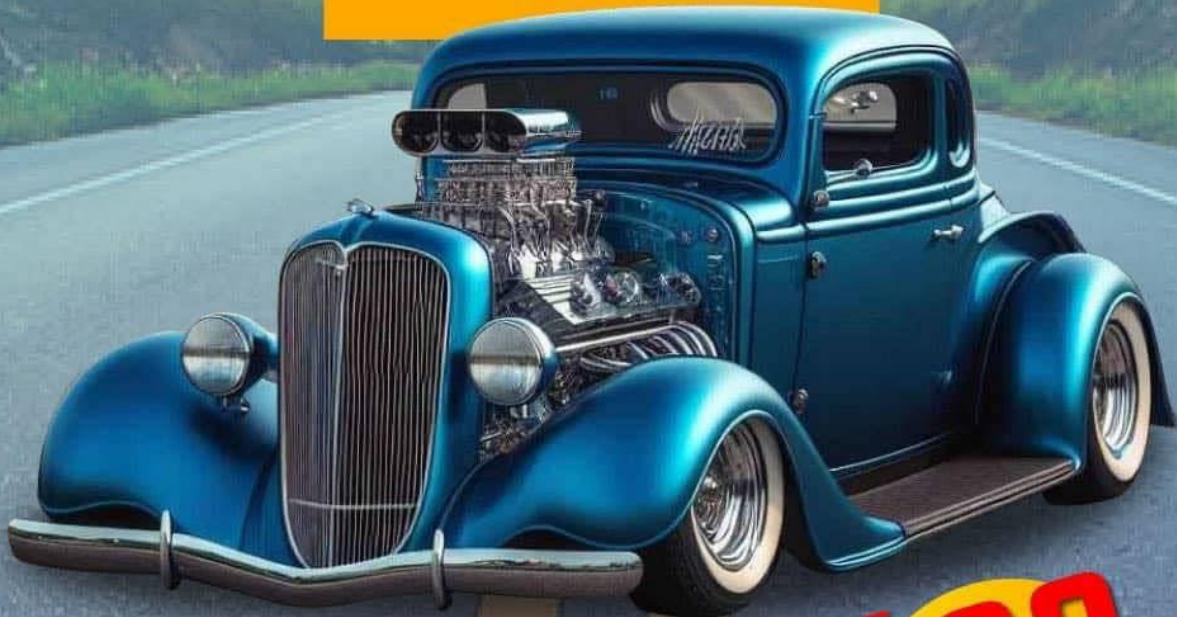


FATHER'S NIGHT OUT

CROSSROADS CRUISERS

A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

CAR SHOW



All show cars must register
Top 30 and Specialty Awards
No Alcohol Allowed

April 20, 2024
Registration -
9am-12noon
Awards - 3pm

\$30
REGISTRATION
*CASH OR CHECK ONLY

PARKWAY CHURCH
4802 JOHN
STOCKBAUER
VICTORIA, TX. 77904

For more Info Contact Car Show Chairmen
Henry Danysh • 361-920-4524



Spring is here!

The 2024 Poor Boy Tour

Hosted by The Alamo A's, is scheduled
for the weekend of April 5,6,7 in Gonzales, Texas

The headquarters motel is The La Quinta Inn. 1631 Water Street, 78629 which is Hwy 183 South.
It is approximately 1/2 mile south of Hwy 90A on Hwy 183 South 830-519-4255.

We selected this hotel for several reasons: Cleanliness, 62 rooms, a conference room that we can use,
plenty of parking, and the best overnight rates offered in Gonzales or any adjacent towns.

There are several other motels located just blocks away. See below.

1. **La Quinta Daily Rates:** Doubles, 2 queen size beds.....\$ 82.00 + tax
King: Single king size bed (no couch).....\$ 82.00 + tax
Suite Executive King: Single king size bed (couch/does not fold out).....\$ 92.00 + tax

*CODE: To get this discount rate you must identify as "MODEL A POOR BOY Tour". Will have this price
until 3/15/2024, then regular rates resume.

Reservations **MUST** be made by phone. No discount rates online!!

2. **Best Western:** Approximately 3/4 mile from the La Quinta. 1811 E. Sarah Dewitt Drive. 830-672-
5555 Breakfast 6:00 am - 9:30 am Best location if you trailer. They have regular rooms (27) and
cabinettes (23). The inside of the cabinettes are almost an exact match to the regular rooms, but individual
cabins. Very cute & convenient trailer parking is gravel area close to cabins.
website: "The Texas Lodge Gonzales"

Single: King size bed.... \$ 75.99 + tax
Double: 2 Queen size beds.....\$ 89.99 + tax
Cabinets: 2 Queen size beds.....\$ 89.99 + tax

*CODE: To get a discount, you must say "MODEL A". Will hold the discount until 3/15/2024, then regular
rates resume. Reservations **MUST** be made by phone.

Other motels in close proximity to the La Quinta:

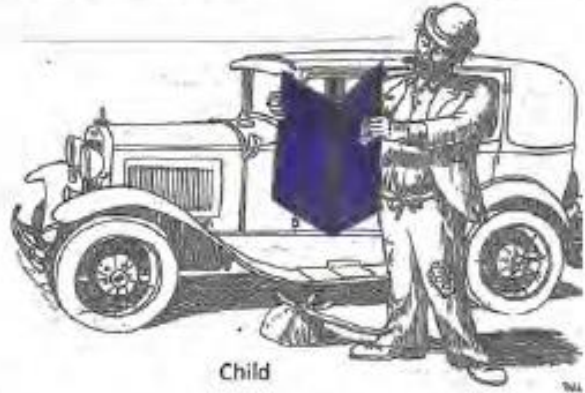
3. **Holiday Inn**
126 Middle Buster 78629
830-672-2777
Rates: Double - \$140 + tax
King - \$140 + tax
King Suite - \$150 + tax
2 rooms with wheelchair access
4. **Microtel (by Windham)**
2019 Water Street 78629
830-443-9534
5. **Sleep Inn Suites**
2138 Water Street 78629
830-399-2003

Please note: Make your reservations early. All the towns in this area of Texas are involved in the Eagle Ford Oil
Production business. Oil workers can move into local motels for weeks or even months at a time. For these small
towns this is great business for them. As of October, there are very few oil field workers in the area.

Registration Form

54th Annual Poor Boy Tour
Hosted by the Alamo A's
Gonzales, TX April 5-7, 2024
 *No Poor Boy Tours in 2020 & 2021

Wow! The Poor Boy Tour is coming to the historic city of Gonzales. Hosted by the Alamo A's. Lots of great food and fun! I just gotta hitch me a ride there!



Registration Fee: Adults \$ 50.00 each
Children 12 & under \$ 25.00 each
Sorry, No Refunds after March 15, 2024

Name of Attendees	Adult	Child
_____	\$ 50.00	
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Registration Fees Total	\$ _____	

_____ address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone number

Club Affiliation (Select one) Alamo A's Houston A's Piney Woods A's Victori-A's

Model Year _____ Body Style _____ Are you bringing a trailer? _____

Registration check-in & the hospitality room is located at the La Quinta Inn, Hwy 183, Gonzales, TX

Registration will be on Friday, April 5, 3:00 - 6:00p.m. & Saturday April 6, 7:30-9:00a.m.

Please make check payable to the Alamo A's. Send check and this registration form to Marlene Richter, 146 Palo Duro, San Antonio, Texas 78232.

I hereby release the Alamo A's Model A Club, Model A Ford Club of America, Model A Restorers Club, including organizers & sponsors of this tour & their families from all liabilities. Submittal of this form whether signed or unsigned constitutes acceptance of this release.

Signed _____ Date _____

Note: This is the updated version of the Registration form

Pate Swap Meet



Sponsored by
Car Clubs and
Regional Organizations

APRIL 25-27

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2024, to Saturday, April 27, 2024

Time: All Day

Location: Texas Motor Speedway - Pate Swap Meet

Address: 3545 Lone Star Circle
Fort Worth, TX 76177

Website: <http://www.pateswapmeet.com/>

There are now 14 clubs from all over the state that are on the board. The arrangement with Good Guys this year is still on track. The parking fee of \$10.00 is for both the Pate and Good Guys event. Pate will not be charging an entrance fee whereas Good Guys will be charging \$25 to \$35 entrance fee. Good Guys agreed not to have vendors. There needs to be more care about the use and occupancy of golf carts and parts haulers due to liability issues. Currently there are 8,821 spaces sold. A contract with TMS is set until 2035.

ABOUT US

A Brief History of the PATE Swap Meet

The Pate Swap Meet started out as the South-Central Swap Meet in 1972 when several car clubs in Texas decided that it was too much to keep going all the way up to Pennsylvania to Hershey when we could have a swap meet here in Texas. Among the starting members were Dr. Aggie Pate, Russ Gruenwald, Barney Calvert and others from the Gulf Coast Region AACA, car club in Houston.

The "Pate" name is a tribute to Dr. Aggie Pate, founder of the Pate Museum of Transportation near Cresson, original home of this annual rite of spring. Pate, president of the Texas Refinery Company that owned an employee recreation ranch southwest of Fort Worth, housed his private automobile collection in the museum. The inaugural swap meet was held in a rough semi-circle under trees across from the museum with about 350 vendors.

The Pate Swap Meet Association now consists of the 12 largest vintage car clubs in Texas, with the event serving the car restoration hobby and the collection of antique, vintage, and notable automobiles, and hot rods. Pate Swap Meet is the largest event of its type in the Southwest and second largest in the United States. Operations of the Pate Swap Meet have been located at Texas Motor Speedway since 1998.

Vendor-wise, the event is organized by street and block and space, allowing visitors to readily locate folks eager to deal inventories of the following: New Old Stock (NOS) car parts, Genuine Old Rusty car parts, complete (and typically grease-covered) V8 engines, front clips, hoods, grilles, tires, wheels, tools, steering wheels, antique and reproduction signs and gas pumps, license plates, emblems, manuals, diecast collectibles, assorted clothing and homemade Americana yard art. Motorcycles of various makes, and their parts, occupy their own space in the Pate landscape.

Just think that from a humble 350 vendors and 500 spaces to now over 4,000 vendors and a13,000 spaces in just 51 years is quite an accomplishment. We have increased our vendor spaces every year we have had the swap meet. We started out with just 4 car clubs putting on the meet to now 12 clubs of volunteers to keep this running. We have only missed one year since starting and that was 2020 and we all know what caused that.

- Date: Thursday, April 25, 2024, to Saturday, April 27, 2024.
- Time: All Day.
- Location: Texas Motor Speedway - Pate Swap Meet.
- Address: 3545 Lone Star Circle. Fort Worth, TX 76177.
- Website: <http://www.pateswapmeet.com/>



Here's what you need to know about Daylight Saving Time in 2024 (DTS)

Participating states turn clocks forward an hour on the second Sunday in March during the spring. DST ends on the first Sunday of November in the fall of each year and that's when states turn clocks back an hour. Clocks fall back on Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024. Amtrak and the railroads were the main reason clocks change at 2am for DST. There were no trains leaving the station at 2am on Sundays in New York City when DST was established. Sunday morning at 2am was when they would interrupt the least amount of train travel around the country.

Hawaii and parts of Arizona do not participate in DST. The Navajo Nation is the one exception in Arizona. The territories of American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands also do not participate.

States may exempt themselves from observing DST by state law in accordance with the Uniform Time Act, as amended.

Despite the Sunshine Protection Act being unanimously approved by the US Senate in 2022, there is no permanent end in sight. The bill was not signed into law by the US House citing other priorities that needed to be addressed before tackling DST. Thus, the bill has not been signed into law by President Joe Biden.

DST continues to fall flat with an emphasis on geographical issues rather than political party lines. A lot of people would like to not switch back and forth, we should just have standard or DST, but then they disagree over which one to enact. And so that's the problem. We need a consensus that if we're going to have one time, what is it? There seems to be no consensus on that. A 2023 version of the Sunshine Protection Act sat idle in the US House for the entire year.

Did DST start because of farmers? No, according to almanac.com. "Many Americans wrongly point to farmers as the driving force behind DST. In fact, farmers were its strongest opponents and, as a group, stubbornly resisted the change from the beginning. "When the war ended, the farmers and working-class people who had held their tongues began speaking out. They demanded an end to DST, claiming it benefited only office workers and the leisure class. The controversy spotlighted the growing gap between rural and urban dwellers."

<https://www.indystar.com/story/news/2024/02/29/when-daylight-savings-time-change-spring-forward-2024-dst-end-permanently-day-light-saving-start/72786329007/>

<https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/usa/texas>

My opinion, our lawmakers can't agree on anything, even the time!



Many members of all the Model A Clubs in Texas will be fortunate to experience the Solar Eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024. The ideal location will be the centerline shown above. This will result in a total eclipse of 4:25 minutes. All the areas within the band will be able to enjoy some of the eclipse but it will be a much shorter duration.



What started as an April Fool's Day joke ended up as a real-life product popular enough to sell out in a day.

MAFFI Sweepstakes



Late breaking news... Through the generosity of Donna Lewis, former MAFCA President and MAFFI Trustee, "Betsy", a '30 Sport Coupe restored by Red Grow in the 1950's, has been donated to help raise funds for the expansion of the Model A Ford Museum. This is a truly historical vehicle, once owned by a MAFFI Hall of Fame inductee. Its restoration helped in developing the MARC judging standards. Full details can be found at...

<https://maffi.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c62394a14efa05d1233aa6e77&id=c1d2059219&e=d398d5a005>



I found (actually, they found me) a really great website for those interested in automotive museums of all types. It's called THE AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM GUIDE. It gives a taste of what's to see, gives locations and other info, and can be searched by state or region to make it easy to find if your planning a trip or vacation. If you sign up, they send you a weekly notice that highlights featured museums. This week it's the Gilmore, with our own Model A Museum! Check it out! <https://automotivemuseumguide.com>.



MAFFI Minute

Through the generosity of Donna Lewis, former MAFCA President, and MAFFI Trustee, "Betsy", a 1930 Ford Model A has been donated to help raise funds for the expansion of the beloved Model A Ford Museum. The car remains in the same condition as restored by Red Grow in the 1950's. Enjoy driving "Betsy", your newest Model A, to your next cruise-in or car show. This is a truly historical vehicle, once owned by a MAFFI Hall of Fame inductee. "Betsy", became famous as the best Model A in the world. The Ford Model A has gathered 32 top place trophies in the 34 shows which the car was entered. That includes two national shows in 1957 and 1962.

Overall, the car won 39 trophies. It is said that Red Grow's car, "Betsy", was an inspiration at the time. It drove many people to do their best in restoring their own car. This urge to do the best restoration possible developed the need for more information about how to a better job. As a result, the Judging Standards evolved. We can thank Red Grow and the MAFCA founders for their vision. In 1967, Red sold "Betsy" to a Ford car dealer named Dave Grubbs for \$5,000, an unheard-of price in those days. As a result, Dave Grubb placed the car in a glass cage centered in his dealer showroom. Now, you have a chance to own "Betsy" by entering a Sweepstakes through our website, <https://www.maffi.org/index.htm>, or scan the QR code and receive 20% more tickets for your Donation, available at checkout!"



Happy Motoring, Cindy Ellenbecker, MAFFI Trustee-Secretary

Model A Ford Club of America

Over 20 Years on the Web - 1997-2020

"The Largest Car Club in the World Dedicated to One Type of Automobile"

President's Page

March 2024



I don't know about you but time sure seems to slip by faster as I get older. I remember how time seemed to drag by when I was younger. Day to day activities seemed to move along at a snail's pace. I've finally reached the age where I have trouble keeping up with the world around me. Either I have too many things going on or I'm just not as efficient as I once was. Since I've spent 50 years of marriage trying to convince my wife that I'm perfect it must be that I have too many "things" happening in my life. I guess having too many activities is better than having none but sometimes it sure gets hectic.

I do have a couple of items to mention that are time sensitive. If any of the following item's appeal to you now is the time to be acting on them. If you are like me, they will be in our rear-view mirror before we know it.

1. Now is the time for you to decide if you are interested in participating in MAFCA's leadership as a National Director. Information is available on the MAFCA website at: <https://www.mafca.com/elections.html>. Additionally, each Director is available to answer your questions and help steer you in the right direction to run for office. Having a sufficient number of volunteers to run our club is essential to MAFCA's future. There is no better time to get involved than now.

2. Our 2024 MAFCA national convention, Southwest "A"ventures, is scheduled for June 23 – 29 and is being hosted by the Southwest Model A's. They have planned a great list of activities and are working diligently to put together a great outing. Check their webpage: <https://www.southwestaventures.com/> for information on registration, including the registration forms, convention clothing items, raffle items and access to purchasing raffle tickets. The registrations are steadily coming in and we're sure to have a great convention. Sounds too good to miss so start your planning now!

3. In prior years MAFCA has clearly supported the concept that youth are essential to the Model A hobby's future and chapters are the means to introduce youth to the hobby. Two great organizations: The Model A Youth Restoration Award, MAYRA, provides financial support to youth whose interest in the hobby is demonstrated by their efforts in restoring a Model A and the Model A Youth Scholarship Fund provides financial support to assist children and/or grandchildren of any MAFCA/MARC member in pursuing their undergraduate education, whether it be a state university, college or technical school. Both organizations have website links on the MAFCA website under Youth, Grants and Scholarships. Establishing club activities that invite youth participation is a fundamental key to turning our youth into lifelong hobbyists. May of each year has been designated as Model A Youth Month. Now is the time for chapters to complete their planning and begin to publicize their event. I look forward to reading about the many different ways our chapters are involving our youth in the hobby.

It's shaping up to be a great year in the Model A hobby. On a national level we have a MAFCA presence at the annual MAFFI Model A Days, MAFCA's national convention in Ruidoso, NM, MAFCA's annual award banquet in Salt Lake City, UT and a MAFCA tent and seminars at Hershey. Throw in a few local state tours along with some local club tours and everyone can fill out their calendar with Model A touring events. Looks like I'm going to have a big mileage year, I hope you do as well.

"See you down the road."

Robert Bullard, 2024 MAFCA President

Tips from “the Know”

from Technical Editor by Paul Koncak



Technically Speaking XI

Spark plugs have always been a subject of conversation amongst car enthusiasts. Model A fans are no exception. Which spark plug is the best for my Model A is usually the result of the discussion. Henry Ford chose to install Champion 3X sparkplugs in all new Model A's. The term "heat range regarding sparkplugs refers to temperature produced by the sparkplug at combustion time. Compression ratio and fuel mixture are factors in choosing the heat range. The Model A Ford engine has approximately a 4.2:1 compression ratio which is very low considering modern engines. And the fuel mix ratio is generally on the rich side. This calls for a spark plug with relatively high heat range. The 3X was an excellent choice.

While Champion 3X sparkplugs are still available but they are quite expensive. In the twenty-five-dollar range each. There are, however, alternative spark plugs that are available at a much lower price and can function as well as the 3X. The Champion W18 is the closest match to the 3X and will perform equally as well.

Below is a picture of the most used sparkplugs in a Model A Ford.



The W18 and 3X are shown side by side so that tip length can easily be compared.. Of course, with a high compression head the heat range can be slightly cooler than the 3X. Checking the performance by looking at the tip of the spark plug is a good way to determine which heat range performs best in your engine. A White tip is a plug too hot, Black tip is too cold. Brown/gray is just right.

Have you hugged your Model A today? Paul K.

The following article was taken from *The 4-Banger*, Naper A's newsletter —

MODEL A COUPE START-UP & IGNITION ISSUES

Story & Photos by Alan Petrik

Our President, Gene Egert, was contacted by Amy Ruyle, whose husband was a previous member of the club. He had passed away recently and she requested help with his 1930 Model A Coupe. So, Gene called up Lindy and me to go forth on a Naper A's House Call.

All we knew was that the car had not been run in at least 5 years. Upon arrival, we viewed a very nice car up on jack stands. Other than a new battery, we scrutinized the car for a startup. After routine review, we began work with adding about 3 quarts of coolant. The gas tank was quite full. We gave it a fresh oil change, checked the timing, inspected the spark plugs, and installed the new battery.

When we first tried a start, there was no power at the points and no power to the spark plugs. Further investigation found the points badly burnt. Replacement parts were ordered. A week later, we returned and installed the points and made some timing adjustments. The car started and ran great. Gene took Amy for a quick ride and photos were taken to help her sell the car.

Now, the rest of the story.... Let's begin with an electrical and ignition system review. In basic terms, the Model A has two circuits supporting engine operation. First the HIGH Voltage circuit which energizes the spark plugs and the LOW Voltage circuit that acts as a control circuit and power source. The High

Voltage circuit begins at the top of the coil mounted on the fire-wall, then via the coil wire to the distributor cap, thru to the rotor inside the cap, then through the distributor cap distributing power through flat copper connectors to the appropriate spark plugs.

PHOTO 1



Original
Condenser
Location

Photo 1 shows an original type distributor where the condenser slides into a slot in the body of the base and it can be serviced without opening the distributor cap.

The Low Voltage path brings six volts to the bottom of the coil, then on to the dashboard ignition switch, then (through the ignition cable) to the inside of the distributor, ending at the points, which are assisted and protected by the condenser.

Operation is quite simple. The points open and close based on engine rotation. When the points are closed, electricity from the battery flows through the primary windings in the coil and energize a strong magnetic field in the iron core of the coil. When the points open, a high voltage is produced that will jump the spark plug gap. The rotating crankshaft

is geared to the cam shaft, which in turn drives the distributor/oil pump shaft. On this shaft in the distributor is a 4-lobe cam. As this shaft rotates (one lobe for each cylinder) each lobe pushes the points open and the spring tension on the points forces them closed in between the lobes. The timing of the lobe opening the points must be in sync with the top piston position for each cylinder and the rotor rotation to deliver spark energy to the proper spark plug. To help manage the 6-volt power arc or spark at the points as they open, the condenser plays a role to help manage this voltage and in turn it lengthens the life of the point contacts.

PHOTO 2



NuRex
Top Plate

Photo 2 shows the NuRex top "new style" upper plate inside the distributor with the points and condenser.

Now back to Amy's car. The points were badly burnt and not functioning. Causes for this condition could include a bad condenser, the ignition was left on, or someone may have tried to start the car with a 12-volt charger, we just don't know.

This car had a NuRex updated distributor installed, so the

Continued on next page

condenser had been relocated from the customary slot at the

PHOTO 3



Copper Connector, see Photo 4

Photo 3 shows both plates, upper and lower. The arrow points to a copper plate connector, enlarged closeup on Photo 4.

bottom of the distributor body and is now inside the distributor, attached to the inside distributor plate holding the points. This parts conversion setup is made by NuRex and marketed by many parts houses.

We had ordered matching NuRex parts, and installed new points on the car. Well, once you have the ignition on, there should be a small spark when you take your finger and manually open the points. We found no such spark.

So, we took the distributor apart again and re-inspected our work, tried again, but still no spark. We checked all places in the Low Voltage circuit and found 6 volts where we should. We spent an hour reworking and rechecking both high and low voltage electrical circuits before discovering a simple culprit.

This small s-shaped piece of copper was the culprit. We removed the old upper and lower plates that had the burnt points and simply replaced with new plates. We had entirely missed transferring this copper strap

from the old plates to the new

PHOTO 4



Connector to transfer 6 volts from bottom plate to top plate

Photo 4 shows the Modern Plate Connector.

plates. This little copper connector is what transfers six volts between those plates. And, without it, we had no power to the points. Once we discovered this and installed the connector, within ten minutes we started the engine and it ran fine.

Perhaps a simple oversight but a huge learning experience!

The Pop Boys Manny Moe & Jack

Guaranteed STORAGE BATTERIES

BUILT TO MEET THE INCREASED DEMAND OF MODERN DRIVING CONDITIONS—AND NEW CAR EQUIPMENT—NEWLY DESIGNED—FOR ALL CARS—NEW OR OLD

The New Improved Super Built for 2 Full Years of Service

25% Greater Starting Capacity

CADET SUPER BUILT BATTERIES are always ready for action—they stand up to the most severe tests with heavy loading, higher ground currents, sudden starts, and long trips.

40% Longer Life!

Full Size construction—made only from the finest of selected battery materials. Standard 12 volt 7 plate battery is 12 inches long, 6 1/2 inches wide, and 7 1/2 inches high.

For Sale Every Where

FULLY CHARGED; you may get in place if longer use—4 1/2 years or more!

6 Volt 13 Plate \$4.95

12 Volt 7 Plate \$6.95

with your old one

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SIZE	SALES AND RETAIL	RETAIL PRICE	WHOLESALE PRICE
12 Volt 7 Plate	\$7.95	\$9.45	\$6.95
6 Volt 13 Plate	\$4.95	\$5.95	\$4.45
6 Volt 15 Plate	\$5.95	\$6.95	\$5.45
6 Volt 17 Plate	\$6.95	\$7.95	\$6.45
6 Volt 19 Plate	\$7.95	\$8.95	\$7.45
6 Volt 21 Plate	\$8.95	\$9.95	\$8.45
6 Volt 23 Plate	\$9.95	\$10.95	\$9.45
6 Volt 25 Plate	\$10.95	\$11.95	\$10.45
6 Volt 27 Plate	\$11.95	\$12.95	\$11.45
6 Volt 29 Plate	\$12.95	\$13.95	\$12.45
6 Volt 31 Plate	\$13.95	\$14.95	\$13.45
6 Volt 33 Plate	\$14.95	\$15.95	\$14.45
6 Volt 35 Plate	\$15.95	\$16.95	\$15.45
6 Volt 37 Plate	\$16.95	\$17.95	\$16.45
6 Volt 39 Plate	\$17.95	\$18.95	\$17.45
6 Volt 41 Plate	\$18.95	\$19.95	\$18.45
6 Volt 43 Plate	\$19.95	\$20.95	\$19.45
6 Volt 45 Plate	\$20.95	\$21.95	\$20.45
6 Volt 47 Plate	\$21.95	\$22.95	\$21.45
6 Volt 49 Plate	\$22.95	\$23.95	\$22.45
6 Volt 51 Plate	\$23.95	\$24.95	\$23.45
6 Volt 53 Plate	\$24.95	\$25.95	\$24.45
6 Volt 55 Plate	\$25.95	\$26.95	\$25.45
6 Volt 57 Plate	\$26.95	\$27.95	\$26.45
6 Volt 59 Plate	\$27.95	\$28.95	\$27.45
6 Volt 61 Plate	\$28.95	\$29.95	\$28.45
6 Volt 63 Plate	\$29.95	\$30.95	\$29.45
6 Volt 65 Plate	\$30.95	\$31.95	\$30.45
6 Volt 67 Plate	\$31.95	\$32.95	\$31.45
6 Volt 69 Plate	\$32.95	\$33.95	\$32.45
6 Volt 71 Plate	\$33.95	\$34.95	\$33.45
6 Volt 73 Plate	\$34.95	\$35.95	\$34.45
6 Volt 75 Plate	\$35.95	\$36.95	\$35.45
6 Volt 77 Plate	\$36.95	\$37.95	\$36.45
6 Volt 79 Plate	\$37.95	\$38.95	\$37.45
6 Volt 81 Plate	\$38.95	\$39.95	\$38.45
6 Volt 83 Plate	\$39.95	\$40.95	\$39.45
6 Volt 85 Plate	\$40.95	\$41.95	\$40.45
6 Volt 87 Plate	\$41.95	\$42.95	\$41.45
6 Volt 89 Plate	\$42.95	\$43.95	\$42.45
6 Volt 91 Plate	\$43.95	\$44.95	\$43.45
6 Volt 93 Plate	\$44.95	\$45.95	\$44.45
6 Volt 95 Plate	\$45.95	\$46.95	\$45.45
6 Volt 97 Plate	\$46.95	\$47.95	\$46.45
6 Volt 99 Plate	\$47.95	\$48.95	\$47.45
6 Volt 101 Plate	\$48.95	\$49.95	\$48.45
6 Volt 103 Plate	\$49.95	\$50.95	\$49.45
6 Volt 105 Plate	\$50.95	\$51.95	\$50.45
6 Volt 107 Plate	\$51.95	\$52.95	\$51.45
6 Volt 109 Plate	\$52.95	\$53.95	\$52.45
6 Volt 111 Plate	\$53.95	\$54.95	\$53.45
6 Volt 113 Plate	\$54.95	\$55.95	\$54.45
6 Volt 115 Plate	\$55.95	\$56.95	\$55.45
6 Volt 117 Plate	\$56.95	\$57.95	\$56.45
6 Volt 119 Plate	\$57.95	\$58.95	\$57.45
6 Volt 121 Plate	\$58.95	\$59.95	\$58.45
6 Volt 123 Plate	\$59.95	\$60.95	\$59.45
6 Volt 125 Plate	\$60.95	\$61.95	\$60.45
6 Volt 127 Plate	\$61.95	\$62.95	\$61.45
6 Volt 129 Plate	\$62.95	\$63.95	\$62.45
6 Volt 131 Plate	\$63.95	\$64.95	\$63.45
6 Volt 133 Plate	\$64.95	\$65.95	\$64.45
6 Volt 135 Plate	\$65.95	\$66.95	\$65.45
6 Volt 137 Plate	\$66.95	\$67.95	\$66.45
6 Volt 139 Plate	\$67.95	\$68.95	\$67.45
6 Volt 141 Plate	\$68.95	\$69.95	\$68.45
6 Volt 143 Plate	\$69.95	\$70.95	\$69.45
6 Volt 145 Plate	\$70.95	\$71.95	\$70.45
6 Volt 147 Plate	\$71.95	\$72.95	\$71.45
6 Volt 149 Plate	\$72.95	\$73.95	\$72.45
6 Volt 151 Plate	\$73.95	\$74.95	\$73.45
6 Volt 153 Plate	\$74.95	\$75.95	\$74.45
6 Volt 155 Plate	\$75.95	\$76.95	\$75.45
6 Volt 157 Plate	\$76.95	\$77.95	\$76.45
6 Volt 159 Plate	\$77.95	\$78.95	\$77.45
6 Volt 161 Plate	\$78.95	\$79.95	\$78.45
6 Volt 163 Plate	\$79.95	\$80.95	\$79.45
6 Volt 165 Plate	\$80.95	\$81.95	\$80.45
6 Volt 167 Plate	\$81.95	\$82.95	\$81.45
6 Volt 169 Plate	\$82.95	\$83.95	\$82.45
6 Volt 171 Plate	\$83.95	\$84.95	\$83.45
6 Volt 173 Plate	\$84.95	\$85.95	\$84.45
6 Volt 175 Plate	\$85.95	\$86.95	\$85.45
6 Volt 177 Plate	\$86.95	\$87.95	\$86.45
6 Volt 179 Plate	\$87.95	\$88.95	\$87.45
6 Volt 181 Plate	\$88.95	\$89.95	\$88.45
6 Volt 183 Plate	\$89.95	\$90.95	\$89.45
6 Volt 185 Plate	\$90.95	\$91.95	\$90.45
6 Volt 187 Plate	\$91.95	\$92.95	\$91.45
6 Volt 189 Plate	\$92.95	\$93.95	\$92.45
6 Volt 191 Plate	\$93.95	\$94.95	\$93.45
6 Volt 193 Plate	\$94.95	\$95.95	\$94.45
6 Volt 195 Plate	\$95.95	\$96.95	\$95.45
6 Volt 197 Plate	\$96.95	\$97.95	\$96.45
6 Volt 199 Plate	\$97.95	\$98.95	\$97.45
6 Volt 201 Plate	\$98.95	\$99.95	\$98.45
6 Volt 203 Plate	\$99.95	\$100.95	\$99.45

Future National MARC Meets

2024 National Membership Meet

April 4-6, 2024

Joliet, Illinois

2024 National Tour

May 21-23, 2024

Berlin, Ohio

2024 National Meet

July 15-18, 2024

Asheville, North Carolina

Future National MAFCA Meets

MAFCA National Convention

June 23-29, 2024

Ruidoso, NM

MAFCA National Awards Banquet

December 11-14, 2024

Salt Lake City, Utah

MAFCA National Tour

June 15-22, 2025

Waynesboro, VA

Save Time by Working Smarter



Jim's Tech Tip

by Jim Cannon, MAFCA Technical Director

While My Oil Gently Drains

Every time you drain the engine oil to change it, while you are waiting for all the dripping to stop, may I suggest you add the following simple items to your oil change routine?

- Check the ignition point gap with a 0.020" feeler gauge. Adjust if required. Look at the points to make sure they still look good (not pitted or burnt).
- Wipe off the ignition cam with a rag. Now put a small dab of fresh cam grease on 2 of the lobes of the ignition cam.
- Put a drop or two of light oil in the little oiler on the side of the distributor. If you have the cam screw with the hole drilled in it, put a drop or two in there, too.
- Put a couple of drops of engine oil in each hole on top of the throttle assembly that is bolted to the back of the engine.
- Check the fan belt for tension.

That's it! In the time it takes for the oil to all drain out, you have taken care of several little routine maintenance items on you're "A" that will help keep it running well and avoid a problem on the road.

Have a Model A Day!



The Model "A" RESTORERS CLUB

Member Benefits

The Benefits of belonging to the Model A Restorers Club

There are many benefits to joining and enjoying a membership in the Model A Restorers Club. First of all, each member receives an award winning magazine "The Model A News" published bi-monthly which is filled with fantastic articles and information about the Model Ford.

Secondly, This gives you access to one of our many Regions which may be located in your local area so you will meet other Model A enthusiasts. These fellow members will help you learn about the Model A and offer help when needed. Many life long friendships have been developed from membership in our club.

Thirdly, by being a member you will realize the wealth of knowledge that many of your fellow Model A members have in all subjects pertaining to the Model A.

Perhaps you need to get a generator repaired or need to know how to set the timing, you can usually find a fellow club member to give you a hand. I have found many members are good mechanics, welders, machinists and the list goes on and on. You will find their advice and help invaluable in your restoration efforts.

Fourth, if you are looking for a Model A you may find one in the "Cars For Sale" section in the Model A News which is free to all members of MARC. The same is true if you are looking to sell a car or parts and the "Wanted" section will give you an opportunity to find a part you may be looking for.

Fifth, You and your family will be able to attend National Conventions designed for "Fun for the Whole Family" These meets are held annually and are all planned out for you to just be there. All of the tours and fun is ready to go. typical are visits to museums and tourist attractions in the area. Car games and picnics and welcome parties with live entertainment are just a few of the exciting things you will be doing.

Sixth, You will be able to learn more about the Model A that you could any other way. Club members are always helping each other and you will pick it up really fast with this kind of support.

There are many more wonderful aspects of joining the Model A Hobby as I have only covered a few. Joining the Model A Restorers Club may be the biggest life changing event you have done in years.

So sign up today and let the "FUN BEGIN"



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[Programs and Awards](#)

[Events](#)

Model A Ford Club of America

Over 20 Years on the Web - 1997-2020

"The Largest Car Club in the World Dedicated to One Type of Automobile"

This Day in History - February 28, 1932

The last Ford Model A was produced, ending an era for the Ford Motor Company. The successor to the Model T, the Model A was an attempt to escape the image of bare bones transportation that had driven both the Model T's success and its ultimate failure in the market.

The vastly improved Model A boasted elegant Lincoln-like styling, a peppy 40 horsepower four-cylinder engine, and, of course, a self-starting mechanism.

The Model A was as affordable as its predecessor, however, and with a base price at \$460, five million Model A's would roll onto American highways between 1927 and 1932.



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CLASSIFIEDS



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MAFFI Minute

The Trustees are already planning Model A Days 2024! So far it looks like a candidate for the First Start Event (barn find which hasn't been run in a few decades) has been located. And, the report from the Gilmore Auto Museum is that one of the Event Centers will be finished in time for Model A Days, which will be nice for our Model A visitors.

Other news is that Model A's donated to the museum to be sold for the Model A Museum Expansion are getting checked over and repaired so they are roadworthy to sell. Our hardworking team of volunteers devotes Thursday evening to getting the Model A's in "sale ready" shape.

1. One Model A Tudor (1929) is on the sales floor already.
2. Another 1928 Tudor has had Trustees and friends repairing brakes, gas gauge, and a gas tank, to name a few, so it should be ready shortly
3. A 1929 Fordor Blindback is also in the queue for roadworthiness work.
4. And there are two 1928 Phaetons that we anticipate will be available to sell in the coming months.

Please contact Jerry Dennany, jerrydennany@gmail.com or John Begg, jwbegg@gmail.com for information about these cars or if you have a vehicle you would like to donate to be sold for our expansion fundraising program.

Many of you have been following our Save the Bus project (school bus) and although the bus has taken longer than we anticipated, things are coming along nicely now. The sides are up and all 4 fenders have been installed as well as the the bumpers. There's lots of sandblasting, and just plain sanding and priming going on now. Things are getting exciting at Save the Bus Headquarters!

As always, we appreciate your support as we move forward with fundraising. It's all of you that make the Model A Ford Foundation Inc. Museum so awesome.

Cindy Ellenbecker, Model A Ford Foundation, Inc. Trustee/Secretary



Tips from “the Know”

from Technical Editor by Paul Koncak



Have you hugged your Model A today?

Technically Speaking XIII

Take a good look at me. I watch the temperature of the coolant in your engine. Normally I stay down near the bottom of my circle. I like it there because I know your engine is OK. When it is there the coolant is somewhere near 160 degrees. Give or take a few. But if you let your coolant get below where it should be then I will start to rise up so you can see me. I am trying to tell you that something is developing that could cause you to have a bad day. And, if you don't do something to put me back down where I belong I will raise up even higher. Ignore me altogether I may blow my top! In fact I know some of my fellow MotoMeters have literally hit the ceiling. They have taken on the appearance of a shuttle launch. I heard one fellow got his nick name changed to Geyser simply because his MotoMeter tried to look like “Old Faithful”.

I work on the water vapors inside the cooling system. I really do not have to have my sensor in the coolant. Just in the vicinity of it. The vapors simply heat my sensor and I begin to operate. I like to be near the center of my small circle of my window. I don't mind it I am below it though. But if I start to rise above the center then you can bet conditions are getting ready to mess up your windshield as well as your firewall. You will be a lot happier if you don't let that happen.



If you will take care of your cooling system by making sure it is flushed annually and good coolant with anti-rust additives in it or antifreeze, I can almost go on vacation. But if you skimp on your radiator, like running one with less than adequate cooling capability then you better get prepared for an unpleasant event. And for heavens sake..spring for a leakless waterpump.

With coolant on your mind let me tell you the two kinds I like best. My preference is either Sierra or Prestone LowTox. Well, I will accept others if their base is Polly Propylene Glycol. You can almost be assured that if you use Ethylene Glycol I won't even get the chance to warn you because that stuff will cause the coolant to throw misty vapors out the system and all over your pretty paint job. Beside that I don't like it!!!

Your Model

Paul K.

Registration No. _____



REGISTRATION FORM

61st Texas Model A Ford Tour
June 13-16, 2024
Nacogdoches, Texas

Hosted by the Dallas Model A Ford Club

Please print all information on form.

Last Name First Name Spouse/Guest

Local Club Affiliation Phone (including area code) Alternate phone

Address Email

City/State/Zip Any food concerns?

Children Attending (First and Last Names and Ages) _____

Will you drive your Model A to the meet? YES NO Will you be trailering your A? YES NO

Year _____ Body Style _____ 2nd "A" Year _____ Body Style _____

Will you be entering Restored Class Evaluation? YES NO. Restored class evaluation only.
Your Model A must be registered by May 31, 2024, in order to be evaluated.

Will you be willing to serve as a Car Evaluator? YES NO Have you evaluated before: YES NO

Will you be entering Fashion Model Judging YES NO or Fashion Display Judging YES NO

Fashion Judging Participation forms will be emailed. Forms must be received by May 31, 2024.

Will you be willing to serve as a Fashion Judge? YES NO Have you judged before: YES NO

Registration **will** include 1 patch and 1 radiator badge. Additional patches and badges may be purchased separately. Registration Confirmation will be sent by Email. Lady Drives an "A" info will be sent by email also.

Note: Registrations must be received by May 31, 2024. Due to prior payment for facilities, food, and service, refunds cannot be given after May 31, 2024.

I hereby release, indemnify and hold harmless from any and all liability whatsoever due to my attendance and participation at the 2024 Texas Tour, any and all of the following: Model A Ford Club of America Inc., and their Officers and Directors, the 61st Texas Tour committee, their facilities, and the Dallas Model A Ford Club, and their Officers and Directors. Submission of this Registration form whether signed or unsigned, constitutes acceptance of this release.

Signed _____ Date _____

Make checks payable to Dallas Model A Ford Club (DMAFC)

Mail to: Nancy Cheshire, Registrar
8450 Fallow Run
Larue, TX 75770 972-279-4786
Email/Zelle: texastour2024@dmafc.com

For Registrar use only:
Check# _____
Amount\$ _____
Date Received _____

Southwest Model A's
P.O. Box 44
Peralta, NM 87042

2024 Model A Ford Club of America National Convention
June 23-29, 2024 in Ruidoso, NM

Dear MAFCA Chapters -

As you may know, the 2024 MAFCA National Convention is being held in Ruidoso, NM, hosted by the Southwest Model A's group. MAFCA National Conventions are the largest gatherings of Model A enthusiasts from all over the country. Being centrally and conveniently located between large populations of Model A owners from California, Arizona, Colorado and Texas, not to mention the many attendees that regularly travel even farther to participate in these events, we're expecting a tremendous turnout!

One of the most anticipated and visited areas of any National Convention is the Raffle Room, where participants can purchase tickets to win a wide variety of prizes donated by generous supporters. A successful Raffle Room is an essential part of making National Conventions financially possible.

Can we count on your club for a donation for our raffle? Donors are credited by name and larger items receive special promotions. Supporting the National Convention would be a wonderful way to show your support of the Model A community nationwide.

Any car-related item, gift certificate to a Model A vendor or even a cash donation would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance for your generous support and please feel free to contact us with any questions or for help coordinating your gift.

If you donate an item to the Raffle Room please take a picture of the item and send it to Marlies Plaggenborg at marlies57@aol.com.

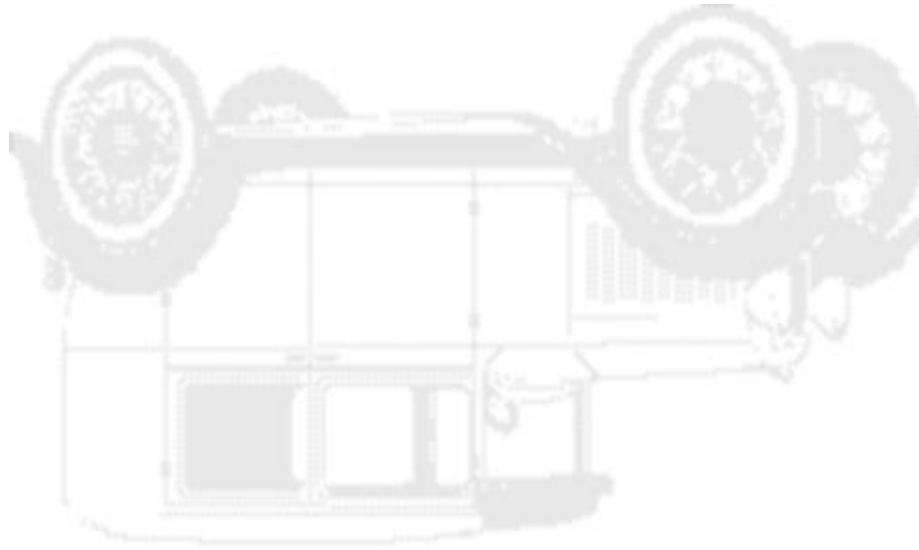
Please mail or ship donations to:

Ray Gabaldon Convention Chair
66 Don Ramon Rd.
Belen, NM 87002

Thank You

Vicky Lujan Gibbs Convention and Raffle co-chair
505-235-1713 vjee@comcast.net

Marlies Plaggenborg, Raffle co-chair
508-361-3817 marlies57@aol.com



April 2024

 The Steering Wheel
 Nancy Whiddon, Editor
 P. O. Box 3603
 Victoria, TX77903

April 2024



MEN'S TECH SESSIONS
Every Wednesday morning at 8 a.m.
Nursery "Cimmaron Crossing" Shell Station.

