EST. 1973

The Steering Wheel

Nov 2026 | A Publication by and for the members of the Victori-A's | Issue 11

Autumn A Tour 2026











AUTUMN

A TOUR

Get those A's out and ready, have some coffee, head to the Autumn A Tour





AUTUMN A TOUR

OCTOBER 2026







Under the Hood with……your Prez, *David Harris*



Howdy,

Just back from our Autumn A's Tour in Hondo. We had a great time visiting with the Capital City A's club. They always host a great event. Capital City had 16 members and 6 Model A's. We had 7 members and three Model A's and Gary's wannabe roadster. Saturday's tour took us to Leakey, passed by Lost Maples State Park, and had lunch in Utopia. After lunch, we drove to a private ranch, owned by Ron Palmer, a member of the Capital A's, for snacks and rest stop before returning to Hondo. Total drive for the day was 175 miles with no breakdowns. This was quite impressive for Larry Parker whose previous longest drive was 40 miles. Chris Grahmann, our fashionista, won a gift card for her Vintage Dress and we finished up with a Trivia game on Henry Ford. Chris tied for first place. Check out our Facebook page for pictures. We are the host for next year's Autumn A's so we need to get started thinking about where we can go and how we can make it special.

November will be a busy month for us starting with our tour to Port O'Connor on November 7 for a lunch hosted by David Schutz. Our next meeting will be on November 9 at Casa Jalisco. We will have Club elections that night so be sure and show up. Veterans' Day is on November 11, and we will participate in Victoria's Veterans' Day Parade.

In addition to Ken and Anna Bivin of Cuero, Bruce Stephens is interested in joining the Club. Bruce is from Beeville and has a Coupe. I hope we will see them at our next outing.

In addition to Club elections at our November meeting, we will be looking for places that you would like to visit on a monthly drive or other special activities where we can enjoy our cars and share our experiences with others. It could be a favorite spot or a place you have always wanted to see. If staying at home is your idea, you are probably in the wrong club.

Always looking for ideas on how we can share our passion with others in the community and perhaps recruit a few new members. Let me hear from you.

In the meantime,

Enjoy the Ride in your Model A!
Sincerely,
David

November Birthdays



Jody Brett 11/03
J.R. Rusch 11/23

November Anniversaries



Tom & Joan LaGrega 11.10
Dwight & Yolanda Byrnes 11.10

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

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

Calendar of Events – Subject to change

Nov 01 – Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov 03 – Election Day
Nov 07 – Port O'Connor Lunch
Nov 09 - Regular Meeting. (Second Monday)
Casa Jalisco 1706 N Laurent St
5:30pm to eat, 6pm for meeting.
Nov 11 – Veterans Day Parade
Nov 26 – Thanksgiving Day

Men's Cars & Coffee Wednesday morning 8am

Watch emails for any changes or additions.

Our newsletters are available on our website https://www.victoriamodelaclub.com/
Like us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/VictoriAsFordModelAClub

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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

Welcome to all our new members. I may not have your birthday & anniversary date on file. If you do not see it in the newsletter, please email me nkw348@gmail.com or text me 361.648.1961. Also, if you have more than one email, please let me know so all members are able to receive the newsletter and announcements. Nancy Whiddon, Editor.

VICTORI-A MODEL A FORD CLUB
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 12, 2026

Willie said the blessing before our meal and then lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Pres David called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm at Casa Jalisco.

Pres David also reminded everyone November 9th is election of club officers; Gary East is in charge.

Secretary Chris read the minutes from our last meeting there were no corrections. David Shutz made motion to accept minutes as read and Gail seconded motion.

Treasurer Wilma was absent, so Secretary Chris gave treasurer report. Betty made motion to accept treasurer report and Ron seconded motion.

Reporter Nancy gave update on Restorer magazine they would not accept picture she submitted because there were no Model A's in the picture.

Nena was also absent, so Nancy read list of birthdays and anniversaries for month of October.

Pres David reported Anita didn't have any new information for the webpage.

Gary East gave update on Cuero parade, said it was the quietest parade he has been to, somebody was handing out popsicles, so everyone was interested in their popsicles not the cars.

October 17th is Yorktown parade,

October 23rh thru 25th is Autumn A's tour in Hondo. Anyone interested in going meet in Kenedy at the HEB Friday 23rd at 10:00 am.

November 7th is our next clubs outing we will drive to Port O'Connor for meal at David and Sherry place.

November 11th is Veterans days parade so watch your e-mails for more information.

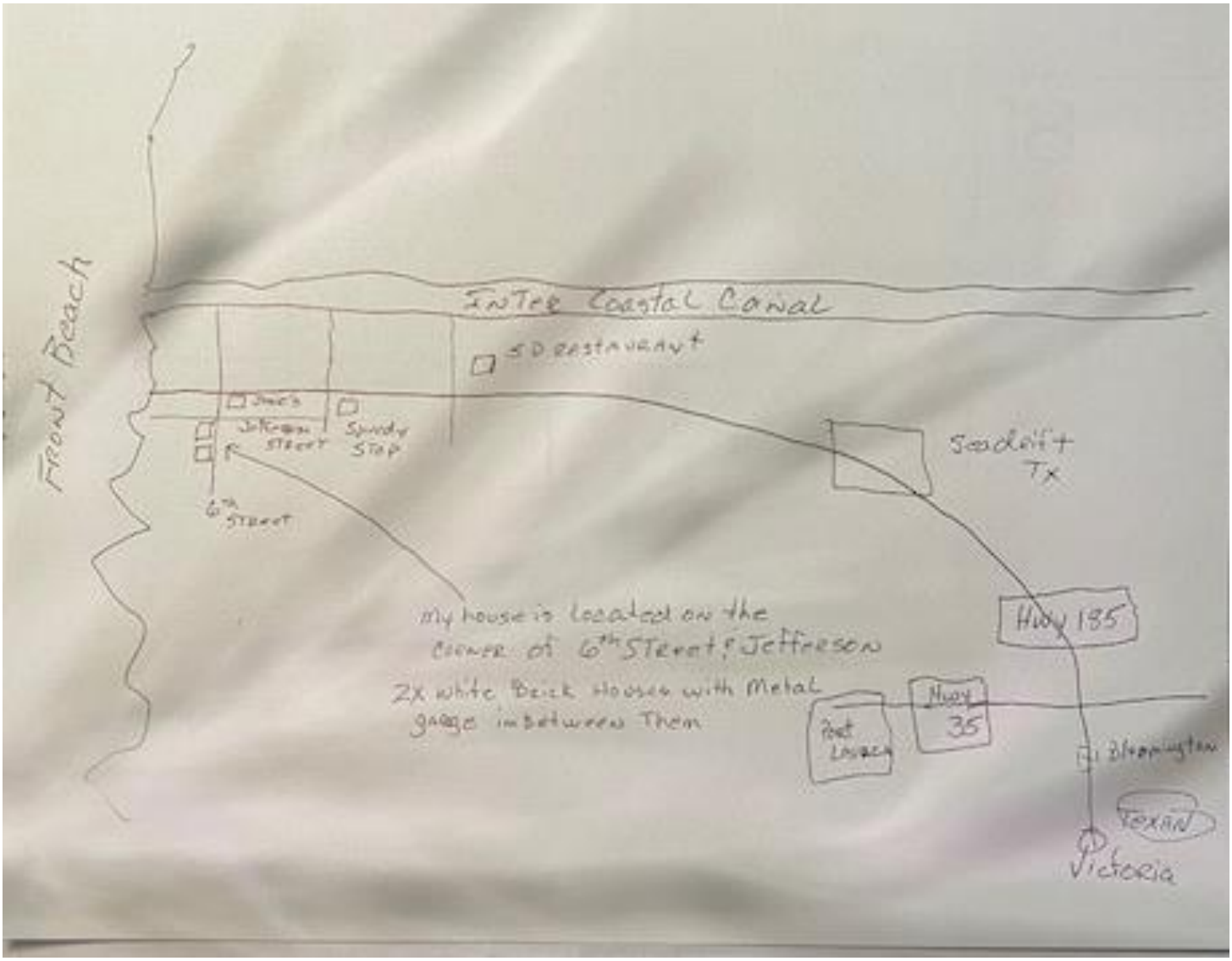
Before adjourning we drew for the 50/50 pot Willie had the winning ticket he received $20.50 and the other half goes in the club's account. After Chris's squealing joke Pres David adjourned meeting at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Chris Grahmann

Attendees:
Gary & Betty East, Willie Sanders, Ron Albert, Chris Grahmann, Nancy Whiddon
David Harris, Gail & Gary Henrich, Larry Parker, David & Sherry Shutz, Bill Spellacy

Saturday Nov 7th Tour to Port O'Connor

Our November 7th outing to Port O'Connor at David & Sharon's house for lunch. We'll leave the Texan on the Blooming Hi Way at 11am. Taking highway 185 through Seadrift to Port O'Connor. Attached is a hand drawn map that you can follow. If the weather turns out to be unfavorable, the location may move. Thanks



November 9th Regular Monthly Meeting

November 9th - Regular Meeting. (Second Monday)
Casca Jalisco 1706 N Laurent St
5:30pm to eat, 6pm for meeting.





2027 Dues

Please pay your $20 local dues to the Club Treasurer
Wilma Ferry
343 John Wayne Trail
Victoria TX 77905
361.575.1066
261.218.2194
wilma@miosjournal.org

Membership in the MAFCA or MARC is not mandatory (board members must have membership) to join the Victoria-A's, but we do encourage all members to join one or both. Application forms for these clubs can be obtained on the 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.

"Where Are We Going"???

Nov 7th – Port O'Connor Lunch
Nov 9th – Regular Club Meeting
Nov 11th – Victoria Veterans Day Parade
Dec 5th – Victoria Lighted Christmas Parade
Dec 14th – Regular Meeting & Christmas Party





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



Chapter Report

We were host to two other clubs for the annual Poor Boy Tour. We had 59 attendees with 23 Model A's to tour the Cuero TX area. We enjoyed a 90-mile drive through DeWitt County. It was a perfect day for touring our beautiful Texas back roads. We enjoyed lunch in the Cuero Park Pavilion, dinner in the clubhouse, games, and fellowship back at the host hotel. Pictured is Anita waiting to lead the A's.

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; Cowtown A*** for articles and information in this issue of our newsletter.



Successful Model 'A' clubs have one common ingredient. They have members that will plan events and volunteer to assist in running the organization.

It's a necessary ingredient.

Retro –one your ago, Nov 2025





2025 Autumn A Tour- our own Chris, the fellows checking out one of the cars.

Retro –Five years ago, Nov 2020



Autumn A

Retro –Nov 2018



At our meeting



Daylight saving time in 2026 ends on Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 2:00 a.m., when clocks "fall back" one hour to 1:00 a.m. You can track the full schedule and details on the Daylight Saving Time in the USA guide

Current Status in Congress

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Sunshine Protection Act in July 2026, which would make daylight saving time permanent nationwide. The bill remains pending in the U.S. Senate with no vote currently scheduled. Because the Senate has not approved the measure, no change is enacted into law for 2026



Happy Thanksgiving – November 26, 2026







Come, Lord Jesus, our guest to be
And bless these gifts
Bestowed by Thee.
And bless our loved ones everywhere,
And keep them in Your loving care.





Early Model A Years' Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving during the early Model 'A' years was a cherished, family-centered holiday marked by simple traditions. The Model 'A' made it easier for Americans to travel to visit relatives. Folks would head "over the river and through the woods" to Grandma's house—quite literally from the old song.

Many Americans still lived on farms or in small towns, so travel could be quite muddy or snowy, but the family reunion was worth it. Roast turkey was becoming firmly established as the centerpiece, often raised at home. Sides included mashed potatoes, giblet gravy, creamed onions, baked squash, cranberry relish, and pumpkin or apple pie.

How Turkey Became the Center of the Thanksgiving Day Feast

Turkey, at the center of our Thanksgiving celebration, was a mix of historical happenstance, practicality, and cultural storytelling over several centuries.
The 1621 harvest feast in Plymouth with the Pilgrims and Wampanoag people did feature "fowle"—but not necessarily turkey. This written account might have meant ducks, geese, or swans as easily as turkeys. Turkeys were native to North America and were plentiful, making them an attractive option for a celebratory dinner, not to mention they could feed a lot of people.



President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863. Thanksgiving spread nationally and turkey, as the main dish, was spread in cookbooks of the late 1800s and early 1900s. Not surprising—the Thanksgiving Day meal became a symbol of American abundance and gratitude .

The Model 'A' Era was the "Golden Age" for Thanksgiving postcards before the Great Depression made such exchanges less common.

Wed 10/21/2026 11:45 AM – email from Texas Tour Registrar

Hello Model A Clubs,

So sorry to have to send you a revised copy of the 2027 Registration Form and Events Description, etc. It was brought to my attention that I had left off info on the Fashion Walk for the Farewell Dinner.

This tour planning has had many obstacles to overcome, but it will be a good tour and well-planned.

Please use this info in your newsletters with the date at the bottom of 10/21/26. Please let me know if you see anything that was left out or might need to be changed. Your input is appreciated.

I have attached all promotion for the event in this email, so you have it all together in one location.

Thank you for your patience,

Nancy Cheshire

2027 Texas Tour Registrar



Registration No. _____



REGISTRATION FORM

64th Texas Model A Ford Tour
June 24 - 27, 2027
Canton, Texas

Hosted by the Cedar Creek & Tyler Model A Ford Clubs

Please print all information on form:

_____ _____ _____
Last Name of Primary Person *First Name* *Spouse/Guest*

_____ _____
Local Club Affiliation *Phone (including area code)* *Alternate phone no.*

_____ _____
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 in the **Fashion Walk** at the Farewell Dinner? _____ How many? _____

Registration for primary person will include 1 patch and 1 radiator badge. Additional patches and badges may be purchased separately. Registration fees cover free mini-tours, Welcome Dinner, Ice Cream Sundaes, Hubley Derby, Grand tour and lunch, and Farewell Dinner. **Registration Confirmation will be sent by email.**

Note: Registrations must be **received by June 7, 2027. Due to prior payment for facilities, food, and service, refunds cannot be given after June 7, 2027.**

I hereby release, indemnify and hold harmless from any and all liability whatsoever due to my attendance and participation at the 2027 Texas Tour, any and all of the following: Model A Ford Club of America Inc., and their Officers and Directors, the 64th Texas Tour committee, their facilities, and the Cedar Creek and Tyler Model A Ford Clubs, 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 Cedar Creek Model A Ford Club (CCMAFC)

Mail to: Nancy Cheshire, Registrar
8450 Fallow Run
Larue, TX 75770 972-279-4786
Email: texastour2027@outlook.com

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

10/21/26

2027 TEXAS TOUR SCHEDULE

REGISTRATION		How Many?	Cost	Total
Registration Fee for primary person			$130.00	
Registration fee for additional persons			$90.00	
No. of children ages 0 - 12 (no charge for children under 13)			No Charge	
Late Registration Fee after May 24, 2027 for primary person			$140.00	
Late Registration Fee after May 24, 2027 for additional persons			$100.00	
TOTAL EVENT PRICE				

Wednesday, June 23, 2027	Times
Early Registration/Self guided tours	4:00pm-6:00pm

Thursday, June 24, 2027		How Many?		
Registration/ Hospitality/ Raffles	9:00am-5:00pm			
Self-guided tours	all day			
Guided Tour of Canton Trade Days Grounds	3:00pm-4:00pm			
Guided Tour of Blackwell House Museum	2:00pm-4:00pm			
Welcome Dinner	6:00pm-8:00pm			
How many of each?	___ Hamburgers	___ Hotdogs	___Veg.	
Kid's Meal (under 13) - how many of each?	___ Hamburgers	___ Hotdogs	___ Veg.	

Friday, June 25, 2027		How Many?		
Registration/ Hospitality/ Raffles	9:00am-5:00pm			
Guided Tour to No. 1 British Flying Museum in Terrell (no. of people)	9:00am-12:00pm			
Tour to Hatfield Restorations (no. of people)	2:00-4:00pm			
Self-guided tours to Ham's Orchards, Grand Saline Salt Palace & East TX Safari	all day			
Ice Cream Sundaes/Hubley Derby (no. of people)	6:00-8:30pm			
Hubley Derby Races (no. of cars)	7:00pm-8:30pm			

Saturday, June 26, 2027				
Grand Tour - historic sites and lunch	8:30am - 3:00pm			
Grand Tour Lunch - How many of each?	___ Chop.Brisket	____Turkey	___Veg.	
Grand Tour Kid's lunch (under 13) - how many?	___ Chicken strips &	Mac 'n cheese	__ Veg.	
Car Games/Hospitality/Raffles	3:00pm-5:30pm			
Presidents' Meeting of TX club presidents.	5:00pm-5:45pm			
Farewell/Awards Dinner	6:00pm-8:30pm			
Fajitas - How many of each?	____ Steak	____ Chicken	__ Veg.	
Fajitas Kid's Meal (under 13) - How many of each?	____ Steak	____ Chicken	___ Veg.	

T-SHIRTS - see T-Shirt page for pictures of the shirts available		Cost		Total
T-Shirts (how many?), **Royal S** ___, **M** ____ **no pocket**		$21.00		
T-Shirts (how many?), **Royal L** ___, **XL** ____ **no pocket**		$21.00		
T-Shirts (how many?), **Royal 2XL** ___, **3XL** ____ **no pocket**		$23.00		
T-Shirts (how many?), **Royal S**____, **M** ____ **with pocket**		$22.00		
T-Shirts (how many?), **Royal L** ____, **XL** ____, **with pocket**		$22.00		
T-Shirts (how many?) **Royal 2XL** ____, **3XL** ____, **with pocket**		$24.00		
Extra Patches (1 included with registration for first person)	How Many? _____		$5.00	
Extra Radiator Badges (1 included with registration for first person)	How Many? _____		$5.00	
TOTAL MERCHANDISE PRICE - tax included with all merchandise				

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED	



Event Descriptions
Texas Tour 2027

June 24 - 27, 2027

On the Road Again…
to Canton, Texas… Roll On!

Wednesday, June 23, 2027

Come early and enjoy some self-guided tours. Early Registration will be open from 4-6pm.

Self-Guided Tour and shopping in Canton - explore the open shops along Trade Days Blvd. as you travel south to Downtown Canton. Shop and tour downtown. Continue south on TX – 19 to the Veteran's Memorial for a photo op and tour of the museum.

Self-guided tour to shops in Edom, TX – and shop for berries at Blueberry Hills Country Store.

Eat at Q & Brew, Dairy Palace, Ole West Bean & Burger, Jalapeno Tree, Ochoa's, Los Hernandos, Val's Italian, Easley's Steakhouse or other local restaurants.

Thursday, June 24, 2027

Registration/ Hospitality/Raffles – check in at the registration table and receive your welcome bag and tour information. Enjoy some snacks and water at the Hospitality table. Visit and renew friendships of Model Aers across the state. Purchase some raffle tickets and choose your favorite items.

Self-guided tour to Texas Fisheries Center in Athens (30 min. south on TX-19.) Well worth a visit. (extra cost & pay yourself) Show at 11am, tram tour at 11:30 am. Cost $5.50 adults, $4.50 seniors, $3.50 - 4 to 16 yrs., Free – 3 yrs. and under. Free fishing with provided poles & bait. No fishing license needed.

Self-guided tour of Rocky Ridge Safari in Eustace (15 min. south off TX-19.)- 2 yrs.& under - free, child 3 -12 - $15.95, adult 13-64 - $19.95, senior 65 yrs. & older -$17.95 – the grandkids will love it. Pay yourself. Fun for the kids in your air-conditioned car.

Tour of Black Beauty Ranch, Murchison, TX - must register online for this limited tour (Extra cost of $55 each – money goes to feed and care for rescued exotic animals. Well worth a visit!

Free Guided Tour and Information on Canton 1st Monday Trade Days area (3-4 pm)

Free Guided Tour of Blackwell House Museum – oldest house in Canton (2-4 pm)

Welcome Dinner – come and renew your Model A friendships over a dinner of hamburgers and hotdogs, chips, and cobbler. Vegetarian dinner will be veggie burgers, chips, and cobbler. Kids will be same as adults. Enjoy a brief history of Canton, Texas.

Friday, June 25, 2027

Registration/Hospitality/Raffles – check in at registration table and receive your welcome bag and tour information. Enjoy some snacks and water at the Hospitality tables. Visit and renew friendships of Model Aers across the state. Buy some raffle tickets and choose your favorite items.

Guided Tour to No. 1 British Flying Museum in Terrell, Texas – leave at 9 am. Free.

Lunch on your own on the way back to Canton at various restaurants along the way.

Stop at Ham's Orchards - have lunch & buy peaches or stop for lunch at the Lumberyard Restaurant in Edgewood, shop in Mineola, lick the salt at Salt Palace in Grand Saline (free), drive by the site of the salt mine and Morton's Salt Co. outside Grand Saline, and/or see the animals at the Canton Gators and Wildlife Park ($12-15). All can be done on the way back to Canton.

There will still be time to visit Hatfield Restorations – 2-4 pm in the afternoon. Free.

Dinner on your own at local restaurants.

Ice Cream Sundaes & Hubley Derby – come enjoy a make-your-own ice cream sundae and watch the Hubley Derby Races. Enter your Hubley car in kids, youth, and adult categories. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be awarded in each age category as well as a People's Choice Award and Over-all Winner.

Saturday, June 26, 2027

Grand Tour - our tour will take you to the Old Mill Pond Museum in Lindale, TX and the Van Area Oil & Historical Museum in Van, TX with lunch at the air-conditioned Brisket Love. Lunch will be a stuffed potato with choice of chopped beef or turkey and a salad. Vegetarian lunch will have mac 'n cheese instead of meat. Kids' meal will be chicken strips and mac 'n cheese.

Car Games – Model A' ers get your partners and meet at the Barn. You just might be a winner! There will be driving as well as non-driving games. Awards will be presented at the Farewell/Awards dinner.

Hospitality/Raffles – get a snack and water after returning from Grand Tour. Watch the car games and last chance for the raffles.

President's Meeting – all Model "A" club presidents will meet prior to the dinner to discuss future Texas Tours and events.

Farewell Dinner – come enjoy a dinner of Fajitas - chicken or steak, flour tortillas, Mexican rice, pinto beans, chips, queso, salsa, and dessert. Kids' dinner will be same as an adult. Vegetarian will be Veggie Fajitas of sauteed mushrooms, spinach, zucchini, squash, onions, and peppers with black beans, rice, etc. There will be a Fashion Walk, Awards, and Entertainment.

Trailer parking is available at Best Western, Days Inn, and Red Roof Inn.

Your kids or grandkids will enjoy all the tours. We want some youth to come and have a great Model "A" time.

Registration fee includes free mini-tours, Welcome Dinner, Ice Cream sundaes, Hubley Derby, Grand tour and lunch, and Farewell Dinner. Must mark your choices of food and how many on the registration form.



Royal Blue with logo on the back

Front will have: 64th Texas
Model A Ford Tour
Canton, Texas
in three lines on the left side in white print




FLYING A SERVICE
Gulf Full Service Garage
Gulf
SHELL
Esso
Sinclair
66
TEXACO
Phillips 66
AVIATION GASOLINE
ICE COLD
Coca-Cola
SOLD HERE

Tom La Grega has a 1930 Model A Tudor for sale, interior redone, rebuilt engine. Contact Tom at 361-676-3475.

I have gone online to register our club for the Victoria Lighted Christmas Parade, Hopefully we will get a number.









MAFCA National Tour
Durango, Colorado

June 13–18, 2027

Hosted by the Model A Ford Club of Colorado

Early Bird Newsletter #4 - July 2026

2027 MAFCA NATIONAL TOUR — JUNE 13–18, 2027 — DURANGO, COLORADO

Registration Officially Opens August 1, 2026

The countdown is on!

Registration for the 2027 Model A Ford Club of America's National Tour will o[illegible]ly open on: ■ August 1, 2026

■ Registration is li[illegible]e first 500 participants — don't wait to register!

Registration is now closed

Hosted by the Model A Fo[illegible]olorado, this unforgettable week in beautiful Durango, Colorado will fea[illegible]ountain touring, historic destinations, classic railroading, and outsta[illegible]hip with Model A enthusiasts from acro[illegible]

■ Hotel In[illegible]

Hotel information and booking details will be [illegible]mail when registration and payment is recei[illegible]

Participants are encouraged to make

👉 Complete registration details, lodging information, [illegible] updates will be available on the official tour website as well as in the Ea[illegible]Bird Newsletter.

■ Early Check-In Available

To help everyone get ready for the first touring day, we will offer:

Saturday, June 12, 2027

Early Check-In • 2:00–6:00 PM

Arrive early, pick up your registration materials, and be ready to hit the road Sunday morning on our first touring day.







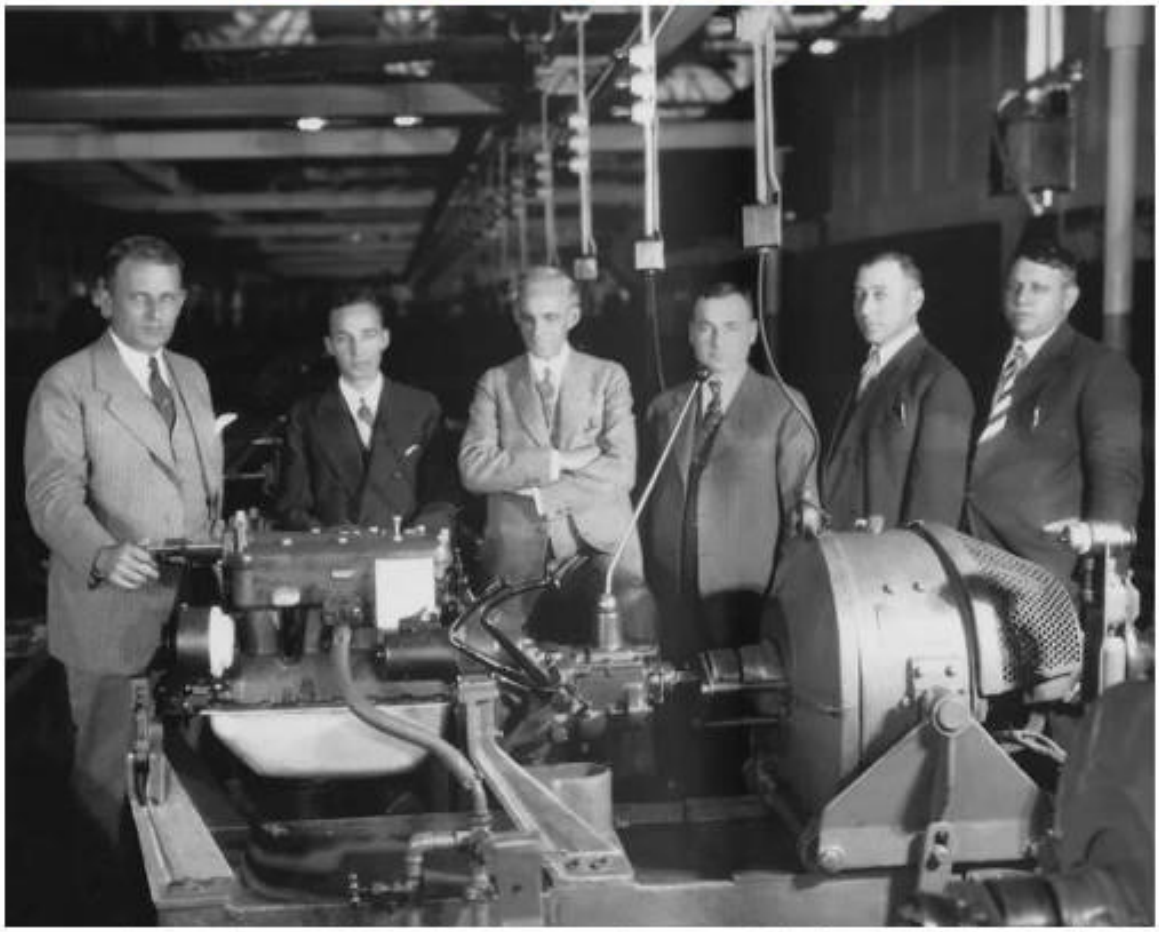
Kenner, Louisiana will be the location of the 2028 MAFCA National Convention







Historic Tidbit



This is a most interesting and historic photograph, especially for us Model A aficionados. It shows Henry Ford (third from left) with some of the men responsible for the development of the Model A. They are standing behind the first Model A engine and transmission, which is connected to a dynamometer for testing.

At the far left is chief production manager, Charles Sorensen. He started with Ford in 1905. Next to him is the distinguished and talented Edsel Ford. He was responsible for the body design of the Model A. To Henry's left are Peter Martin, who had started with Ford in 1904 and became its manufacturing chief; then Gus Degener, who started working with Henry Ford in 1902, over saw vehicle assembly; and Charles Hartner, who oversaw machining operations. Sorensen and Martin, both confidants of Henry Ford, always had blurred lines of authority, but essentially Martin was responsible for producing all of the parts made by Ford Motor Company, and Sorensen was responsible for assembling those parts into complete automobiles. Sorensen shared attitude that the Model A had to end and glad when the last Model T rolled off the assembly line. "I was sick of looking at them," he said.

This photo also illustrates how small a man Edsel was. Standing at only 5'7", he was not only small in stature, but slight in build. He was always impeccably dressed and was once recognized as the best dressed man in the country.

(From the Collections of The Henry Ford), taken from the Cedar Creek A's newsletter

MAFCA President Message – Doug Linden



I hope you have been able to get out and do some touring in your Model A. During the summer months Mother Nature had other ideas, some areas were just too hot while others got rain, both putting a damper touring. Well, fall is here and I am looking forward to seeing some beautiful fall foliage. My club has tours planned to get out and enjoy the season. Apple picking is a popular event the gets a good number of Model A out to the orchard where we can pick some apples and show off our Model A's to other non-Model A apple pickers.

The cool fall temperature makes perfect conditions for getting the Model A on the road. You may have no particular destination in mind, but sometimes you just happen to find a spot which begs you to take a picture, like this one of Model A's and pumpkins.

Earlier you received your ballot to cast your votes for the candidates for the 2027-28 MAFCA board of Directors. These candidates have generously offered their services to help guide MAFCA and ask for your consideration. Please read the bio's in the Sept-Oct issue of *The Restorer* and vote for only 5 candidates. Your ballot must be postmarked on or before October 15 to be eligible for counting.

MAFCA will once again at the Hershey Car Show and Flea Market from October 6-8. Our tent will be in Chocolate Field South at spaces CF -81-83. Come by and see us, we will have the new Restoration Guidelines & Judging Standards for sale as well as other books and merchandise. Paul Shinn will be making appearances at the tent during this time. We look forward to seeing you there.

In the meantime, keep those wheels rolling.

– Doug Linden

Tom Endy's Tech Articles – Santa Anita A's
Tech Article used with permission from Tom Endy
https://www.santaanitaas.org/tom-endys-tech-articles/
This web site has a lot of good Tech articles written by Tom Endy. Brakes, transmission, rear end and MORE.

Flathead's Floaters! by Tom Endy

Success: After about a year of procrastination and talking to anyone who had installed Flathead Ted's newly designed Model A Ford brake floaters, I decided to order a set. They are on my Vic now, and in all the years I have owned the car, and as many times as I have gone through the brake system, the brakes have never been so good. I can easily smoke the tires just like Flathead advertises.

Pre-installation: If you are contemplating installing a set, my advice is to first obtain both articles published in Model A Times magazine. Read them over several times and fully understand what the task is before you actually begin (Fall 2006 and Winter 2007 publications).

The installation: Do the front wheels first. Drive the car for a while before you do the backs. This will allow the shoes to center in before you do any final adjustment.

The rear brakes: The rear brakes involve only replacing the adjusters. However, the emergency brake carrier is in the way. Les Andrews says to remove the rear backing plates from the car and take them over to a workbench to install the adjusters. Seemed like a lot of work. Flathead says to simply "leaver" the emergency carrier out of the way. Levering is not exactly in the King's English here in the colonies. I subsequently learned that levering means to take a big crowbar and pry the carrier out of the way. I did remove the backing plates from the car in order to install the adjusters at the workbench.

The rear brakes can hang up: If the roller tracks on the rear backing plates are worn it can cause the rear brakes to not release when you come to a stop. They will release when the car again begins to move forward. Flathead has developed what he calls "pins" to remedy the problem. The pins are actually an adjustable cam that takes the place of the rear rollers that ride on the tracks. I did not install them on my Vic, as I had already installed new roller tracks. It would be a good idea to order a set when ordering the kit.

Adjusting the brakes: Once all four wheels on the Vic had the floaters installed. I put the car up on jack stands and adjusted each wheel with the adjusters until they were locked. Then I backed them off until there was just a hint of a drag. Next, I used a stick between the brake pedal and the front seat that had notch steps cut in it at 1\2" intervals. At the first notch I adjusted the brake rods so that the fronts had a noticeable drag, the rears had none. At the second notch the fronts had a heavy drag, and the rears had a noticeable drag. At the third and final notch the fronts were locked, and the backs had a heavy drag.

Brake system condition: The Vic has a set of Plasmeter cast iron brake drums installed about 15 years ago. The fronts have been turned out to be about .020 over standard, and the rears are close to standard. About a year ago I replaced all the backing plate hardware, such as roller tracks, rollers, adjusting shafts, and rear cams with Bratton's hardened components. The brake shoes are composite bonded lining (no rivets) as supplied by Mel Gross. The shoes were arced to match each drum.

Continuing development: Flathead is continuing to develop his product. He plans to offer extra-long adjusting shafts (Ford part number A-2042). This will preclude running out of adjustment on brake systems that have the drums turned out or have thin brake shoes or lining.

His "pins" are a recent development to rectify the problem of the rear brakes momentarily hanging when coming to a stop. The Spring 2008 publication of Model A times magazine has an article describing how to properly install the pins. Flathead has also discontinued gold anodizing visible parts.

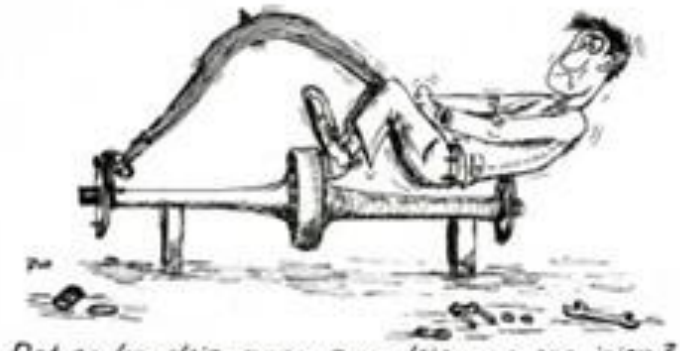
Ordering the floater kit: You can e-mail Flathead and order directly from him (tedspain@gmail.com). The cost was $130, which included postal shipping from New Zealand. I had them in less than ten days. If you want the "pins" included, they are an extra cost. ☺

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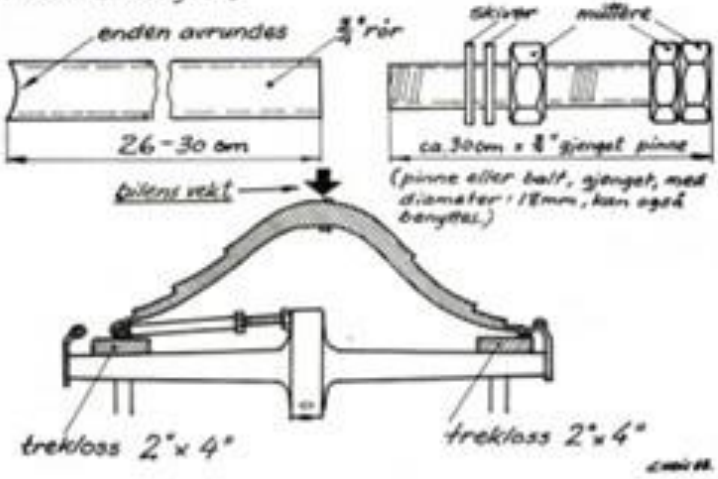
A Spring Story

Fordeler:

EN FJÆRHISTORIE:



Det er kanskje noen som kjenner seg igjen? Det må medgis at bakfjæren til "A"-modellen er vrien å få på plass, men med litt list og lempe samt dette lille verktøy, skulle saken være grei.



October's Technical Tip is again from our Norwegian member Chris Christensen, along with his delightful illustrations, which he drew for his newsletter, *Avisen*.

The Norwegian word **Fordeler** translates to "advantages," but its first four letters have a special meaning to us!

EN FJÆRHISTORIE translates to "**A Spring Story.**" The original Norwegian text explains that the Model A rear spring can be difficult to get into place, but with a little ingenuity and this homemade tool, the job should be easier.

Labels on the drawings (translated):

- **"enden avrundes"** — round off the end
- **¾" rør** — ¾-inch pipe
- **26–30 cm** — about 10¼–11¾ inches
- **skiver** — washers
- **muttere** — nuts
- **ca. 30 cm × ¾" gjenget pinne** — approximately 30 cm × ¾-inch threaded rod
- **(pinne eller bolt, gjenget, med diameter: 18 mm, kan også benyttes.)** — a threaded rod or bolt, 18 mm in diameter, may also be used
- **bilens vekt** — weight of the car
- **trekloss 2" × 4"** — 2 × 4 wooden block

Leaded Gas?



Did you know that years ago, gasoline had lead in it? It made gas burn better and it also provided lubrication for the older motors. But lead is poisonous and burning it in gas caused a lot of pollution.

Eventually motors were designed that ran well without the polluting effects of lead.

Many people ask now about how hard it must be to find leaded gas to run our old cars. But what they don't know is that the Model A was made before lead was routinely added to gasoline. So they have no problem just using the unleaded gas that is available today.

There are a lot of stories about other types fuel that were used to run a Model A, including kerosene, coal oil, and moonshine. And those stories are probably true, but I bet they were hard on the motor and gaskets!

Model A's run best on plain old gasoline - no lead needed!

Winterizing Your Model A

In some parts of the country, it is time to start getting your car ready for winter storage. Depending on how cold it gets in your part of the world, there are several things you should do.

Antifreeze can help keep the water from freezing. Make sure not to spill any. It tastes good to pets but can kill them if they lick up a spill.

In some parts of the country, moths are a real problem due to eating holes in the wool upholstery. Mothballs work but they stink. Put a few cedar blocks inside and it will smell much better. You can always find these in the closet department at Wal-mart.



Mice can also be a big problem if they get into the car and make a nest in the upholstery. Mouse poison is dangerous around small pets and children. There are some botanical mice repellents you can buy that work just as well!



Edsel Ford

Henry Ford had only one child, his son Edsel Ford. A lot of people only connect the name "Edsel" with a Ford car built in the 50's that was a flop. They don't realize that Edsel Ford the person was an important part of the Ford Company's success.

Edsel was very involved in the business and loved stylish, good looking cars. He felt that common everyday things like cars could be considered art, just like sculptures and painting.

He once said "Father makes the most popular car in the world. I would like to make the best car in the world".

Edsel also was good as seeing what new inventions could add to cars. Henry hated to change what he knew worked. Edsel was the one that knew you had to use new technology or get left behind.

He helped convince his father to add new mechanical designs to the Model A such as better brakes and an improved transmission.

When Edsel took over the Ford Company after Henry retired, he enjoyed building great looking cars. He also enjoyed having unique cars built for himself!

One of the more famous of his custom cars is his 1934 roadster. It last sold for over 1.75 million dollars!



It's now been restored and is displayed at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House Museum in Michigan.



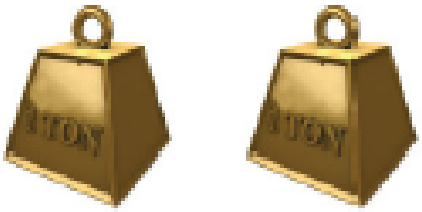
Six Different Things!

This picture of a 1929 Fordor being restored has a lot of things to check out. But the top picture seems to have lost a few details! Can you find the things that are missing?



FORD FACTS/KNOW YOUR "A"

Did you know that although a Model A's wheels are about the same width apart as a modern car, the cars today weigh almost twice as much? The typical Model A weighs about two thousand five hundred pounds while a modern car is closer to four thousand! That's almost 2 tons!



Why such a difference, you ask? Well, the answer seems simple. A Model A body is basically a thin skin of steel, with a wooden frame inside. Instead of the doors being even with the outside of the wheels like today's cars, an "A" has a narrow body with wheels that are on the outside of it. The roof is mostly chicken wire covered with cotton and vinyl! New cars have a lot more metal, glass, internal safety structure and bracing. And compare what it looks like under the hood on each car! A modern car engine compartment has so much packed so tight, it's almost solid! But the other side of the picture is that new cars would be even much, much heavier if it wasn't for all the new lightweight but strong materials that scientists have come up with, such as plastics and carbon fiber composites. That's important, since the more weight, the more gas it burns to drive. But, it's important to remember this weight difference when driving your "A". Drive defensively, because, in the long run, the heaviest vehicle always wins in a crash. And that's something every "A" owner does their best to avoid! Safe driving!



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Six Different Things Solution



Colors That Match the Season's Mode

AMONG the features of the Ford car is the privilege of selecting from a variety of beautiful colors. These colors are rich in tone and are changed at frequent intervals, in keeping with the season's mode. Frequently you will find that one of Fashion's newest shades, or a harmonious blending of it, is available also in the Ford car.

With reasonable care, the smooth, gleaming finish of the Ford car as it comes fresh from the showrooms may be maintained for a long period. The pyroxylin lacquer is not affected by heat or cold and is easily polished to a shimmering luster. The Rustless Steel used for the radiator shell, hub caps, cowl finish strip and other exterior metal parts is an additional assurance of enduring worth and permanent beauty. Throughout the life of the car it will not scale, tarnish or corrode.



THE NEW THREE-WINDOW FORDOR SEDAN

It Happened in 1929!



The Edison Institute was dedicated by President Hoover on October 21, 1929 – the 50th anniversary of first successful incandescent light bulb. private site for educational purposes only, it proved so popular that it was opened to the public as "The Henry Ford" museum complex on June 22, 1933.



Popeye the Sailor made his first appearance in January 1929 in the comic strip "Thimble Theatre." He proved to be such a popular character that eventually the strip was renamed after him.



Wyatt Earp died in Los Angeles California on January 13, 1929. He was a colorful figure of the American West and one of the gunfighters at the famous shootout at the OK Corral, an event that has been recreated in dozens of movies and books.



The first "Seeing Eye" guide dog school opened in Nashville Tn. Morris Frank, a young man blinded in WWI was inspired by reports of dogs being trained in Europe, and found an American working in Switzerland to help bring the training to the USA.



When the soft drink 7 Up first launched in 1929 it contained lithium citrate, a drug now used to treat psychiatric issues. It wasn't taken out of the soft drink until 1950!



The 1st manned rocket plane flight was flown by auto maker Fritz von Opel in Germany. Opel successfully piloted the RAK-1 over 1.5 km (1 mile) in 75 seconds of flight, but landed hard, damaging the aircraft beyond repair.



On October 29, 1929, Black Tuesday hit Wall Street. Billions of dollars were lost, more than the total cost of WWI. As a result, America and the rest of the industrialized world spiraled downward into the Great Depression which lasted for 10 years.



The 96,000 acre Grand Teton National Park was established by President Coolidge.

Baseball Star Babe Ruth hit his 500th major league home run.





The first Academy Awards were presented. The dog Rin Tin Tin received the most votes for best actor, but the academy decided it would be better to grant the award to a human.

Grandpa's Games



Chinese Checkers –

Even though it is best known as Chinese Checkers, this game was invented in Germany in the 1800's. It was called "Stern-Halma" which means "Star-Jump".

When they started making it in America in 1928 they called it "Hop Ching Checkers", but it soon became known just as "Chinese Checkers".

People were fascinated with things from Asia at the time. The far off Orient seemed very mysterious. So the manufacturers of the game tried to make it seem more interesting and unusual by making people think it was from China.

The object of the game is to get all of your marbles across the board before your opponents do. Your opponent has to move their marbles out so yours can end up where theirs started

You need an even number of players playing opposite each other. You can play with two players, four players or six players. You can play with three people, but then play across from empty star points and just race to get to the other side.

Each player has 10 marbles and each player plays a different color of marble. You play moving around the board to the left. Take turns moving a single marble. You can move one space in any direction or do consecutive hops over other marbles.

You don't capture the marbles you jump over; they all stay on the board and continue play. You can hop your opponent's and/or your own marbles. You don't have to make the maximum number of hops, if it works to your benefit to stop in the middle. Some strategies call for blocking your opponents marbles.

Once your marbles reach the point of the opposite star, they can't leave again. They can move around in the colored area, but not go back onto the center area.

If you trap one of your opponents marbles in their own star point so they can't move, then you can switch it out with one of your marbles. The best strategy is to try and form long chains of marble to hop over, while blocking your opponent from doing the same.

There are many variations on these rules, but as long as you all agree on which rules to use before you start, it will be fine! Have Fun!



The Steering Wheel
Nancy Whiddon, Editor
P. O. Box 3603
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November 2026

November 2026

Happy Thanksgiving 2026

Men's Cars & Coffee
Every Wednesday morning at 8 a.m.

MAFCA

MARC