

# The Ford Script

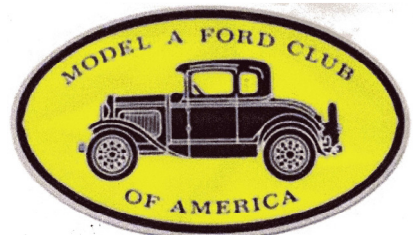
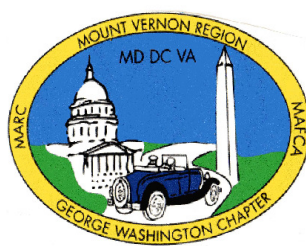
Vol. XXXI I

December 2011

No. 12



Lee Dong's 1929 Closed Cab Pickup



Dedicated to the restoration and preservation of Model A Fords

# The Ford Script

Official publication of:  
George Washington Chapter, Inc.  
of the Model A Ford Club of America  
and the Mount Vernon Region  
of the Model A Restorers Club  
3903 Old Lee Highway  
Fairfax, VA 22030

Chapter meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at the American Legion Hall, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean, Virginia. Social meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and the business meeting starts at 7:45. Members and guests are invited and encouraged to drive their antique cars to the meetings.

Chapter members are encouraged to belong to both MAFCA and MARC national clubs. The chapter Web page on the Internet may be accessed by:

[www.gwcmodeleda.org](http://www.gwcmodeleda.org)

Web Master: Tom Frazier

President	Charlene Beckner	703-791-3795	<a href="mailto:gbeckner@verizon.net">gbeckner@verizon.net</a>
Vice President & Program Chairman	Jack Melnick	703-536-8119	<a href="mailto:john.melnick@melnickandmelnick.com">john.melnick@melnickandmelnick.com</a>
Activities Chairman	Edna Cross	703-777-8561	<a href="mailto:edna.cross@prudentialcarruthers.com">edna.cross@prudentialcarruthers.com</a>
Editor	Bill Sims	301-891-3616	<a href="mailto:billhsims@gmail.com">billhsims@gmail.com</a>
Asst. Editor	Doug Tomb	703-241-4152	<a href="mailto:douglas.tomb@verizon.net">douglas.tomb@verizon.net</a>
Secretary	Chuck Kunstbeck	703-938-6653	<a href="mailto:ckunstbeck@verizon.net">ckunstbeck@verizon.net</a>
Membership Chairman	Woody Williams	703-858-1192	<a href="mailto:vamodela@verizon.net">vamodela@verizon.net</a>
Treasurer	Gil Beckner	703-791-3795	<a href="mailto:gbeckner@verizon.net">gbeckner@verizon.net</a>
Assistant Treasurer	Tom Frazier	301-695-4982	<a href="mailto:tfrazier7056@comcast.net">tfrazier7056@comcast.net</a>
Annual Meet Chairman	Bill Worsham	703-250-5474	<a href="mailto:billworsham@aol.com">billworsham@aol.com</a>
Tool Chairman	Benny Leonard	703-278-2994	<a href="mailto:ben5@cox.net">ben5@cox.net</a>
Youth Development	Paul Gauthier	703-323-0009	<a href="mailto:gokie1@verizon.net">gokie1@verizon.net</a>
National Liaison	Howard Minners	301-530-1441	<a href="mailto:minndax@aol.com">minndax@aol.com</a>
Repair Advisor	Tom Terko	301-949-7329	<a href="mailto:tterko@verizon.net">tterko@verizon.net</a>

Copy for THE FORD SCRIPT should be e-mailed to the Editor to arrive by the Sunday prior to the first Wednesday of the month to: [billhsims@gmail.com](mailto:billhsims@gmail.com)

Next Script deadline: Sunday, January 1st

## **FROM THE QUAIL'S PERSPECTIVE**



It hardly seems possible that I have served one year as Club President. The year has passed quickly with the deaths of several longtime members, another successful Father's Day Sully Auto Show, wonderful picnics at Jaeger's and Warhurst's homes, fun weekend tours at Orange and Skyline Drive, the auction of Peyton Randolph's Model A parts collection, the awarding of four scholarships at our annual Christmas Party.

We have our annual Brown Bag Christmas Gift Exchange to look forward to on Wednesday, December 21. The rules are printed on a later page in this newsletter. This is always a fun-filled evening!

The Club is collecting Toys for Tots. If you wish to participate, please bring unwrapped new toys to the December 21 membership meeting.

*May the beauty of this holiday season bring you joy and  
May the spirit of the season bring you peace,*

Charlene Beckner  
Club President

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

What an incredible year this has been. We experienced a major earthquake, followed just weeks later by Hurricane Irene (I half expect a December blizzard to kind of top things off). Then, in the autumn, we lost two stalwart members of our club—Peyton Randolph and Gretchen Minners. They will be sorely missed.

March was "movie month" as a lot of us got a shot at cameos in Clint Eastwood's biopic "J. Edgar." Unfortunately, our personal appearances and, in most cases, our car appearances were reduced to nanoseconds on the big screen. Well, that's the life of a Hollywood extra. We may not have made it to the big screen, but just being a part of it was an experience that will be long remembered and we'll all have stories to tell.

At the May general meeting, Benny Leonard was presented with a well-deserved Honorary Lifetime Membership Award for all of his contributions to the club.

Assistant Editor Doug Tomb took over The Script all summer, from May through August (and also November), to become the busiest Assistant Editor in club history. After equally successful club picnics at Andy and Ellen's in June and the Warhursts in September, they were followed by a bear-infested Apple Butter Festival. That, plus Lisa Meadows and the Bill Worsham/Carol Terko duet, made it one memorable weekend.

I guess the biggest change for the club came with the conversion of The Ford Script from paper to an electronic format. It was a revolutionary change for us, something Assistant Editor Karen Bush instigated last year after doing some research into the possibilities. It reduced the cost of operating the club tremendously and gave us newfound financial flexibility (the \$5 Christmas Party admission being one result). Without printing and mailing delays, President Bechner opted to keep the same Script deadline, but now publish it 2 weeks before the monthly general meeting instead of the membership getting it 2 days before. So now, at most, any breaking club news will be less than 2 weeks old instead of the 4 or 5 weeks of the past.

Finally, this year marked the first time our club had a woman serve as President. There's nothing left to add. It's been a great year for the George Washington Chapter. I expect it will continue into the new year.

## **FROM THE SMOKE-FREE ROOM**

President Charlene Beckner called the meeting to order at the American Legion Hall, McLean, Virginia at 6:38 PM. Other board members present at the meeting were: Doug Tomb, Gil Beckner, Bill Worsham, Edna Cross, Bill Sims, Paul Gauthier, Howard Minners, Greg Shepherd (acting Membership Chair) & Chuck Kunstbeck.



The October 26, 2011 meeting minutes, previously published in *The Script* were approved.

Treasurer Gil Beckner submitted the financial report as of November 15, 2011, and reviewed some line items.

Editor Bill Sims reminded the Board that the deadline for *Script* articles is December 4, 2011.

National Liaison Howard Minners provided an update on the efforts of MAFFI to solicit money for the Model A Museum. Howard made a motion that criteria be developed for the Peyton Randolph Scholarship, to start in 2012, and the Board would seek Hellen Randolph's thoughts regarding the distribution of the scholarship. The motion was seconded by Edna Cross and the motion carried unanimously.

Annual Meet Chairman Bill Worsham reviewed the upcoming Board of Directors (BOD) nominations for next year and the rules for nominations at the upcoming general meeting that evening. Bill also informed the BOD that almost \$4000 had been raised from the Peyton Randolph Scholarship Auction. Bill will speak with Hellen Randolph to determine what her wishes are as to what criteria will be used for the scholarship.

Youth Development Chair Paul Gauthier said that all of the scholarship awardees have been notified. He indicated that some may show up at the Christmas Party to receive their award.

Acting Membership Chair Greg Shepherd gave an update on his progress with transferring membership records from Woody Williams. Everything has gone well.

Activities Chair Edna Cross said that everything is falling into place for the upcoming Christmas Party. She will encourage members to get their reservations in soon, as there is a limit on the number that the facility will accommodate.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Kunstbeck  
Secretary

## **PHOTO CREDITS FOR THIS ISSUE**

Cover: Lee Dong

pp. 8-10 (Xmas party & auction): Chuck Kunstbeck

pp. 11-13 (Fairfax Train Day): Jim Gray

Back page: Donna Zadnik

## THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO

On the cover of the December 1986 Ford Script was an old photograph of a lonely Model A Roadster taken at the Virginia side of Memorial Bridge, possibly as early as 1949. Such pictures often conjure up thoughts like—why was it there?, who owned it?, and caused a curiosity about what became of it. It develops that that very car happened to be instrumental in first bringing together Model A owners in the local area many decades ago, and there is a direct linkage to our present club.



It was parked there over and over and was seen by many, because it belonged to a gentleman named Willard Kidd, who happened to be the Bridge Tender. It was he who opened and closed the bridge when necessary to allow passage of vessels otherwise too tall. (One wonders if the job wasn't a bit like the infamous Maytag repairman's, with lots of idle time, but it is likely he did have some other duties too). The roadster's existence there spurred other owners to stop by and meet Mr. Kidd, and as a result an informal "club" was formed. Later, in 1952, it became a club called "Model A Club of America", with "FORD" in the middle of the logo. As the story goes, this organization preceded the formation of MAFCA, and subsequently relinquished its similar name and became the Potomac Chapter of MAFCA, after MAFCA was formed. Later, our present club chapter was organized and chartered, formed by some who were previously Potomac Chapter members. So, what did happen to that lonesome roadster? Ask Bill Benedict, its his baby now.

The Restorer recently recognized some of our long-time members for their length of membership in MAFCA, and the winners are..... Luke Chaplin and Gerry DeWitt, 45 years! Fred Morse, Ed Simpson, John Shepherd and Bill Worsham, 40 years; Walt Bratton, 35 years; Bill and Marylee Cassels and Edward Brandt, 30 years; and William Cooper, 25 years.

Now, about that club car, the '31 Deluxe Delivery..... it sold! That's all that was mentioned in the December '86 script. More details?? I guess readers would have to be patient to find out.

Some who remember those sequential red roadside signs from days past are a bit nostalgic about them, so for them, here's another one;

TRAIN APPROACHING  
WHISTLE SQUEALING  
PAUSE!  
AVOID THAT  
RUN DOWN FEELING  
BURMA SHAVE

Dave Henderson



## 2012 MARC NATIONAL TOUR UPDATE

I thought I would write a quick update on the 2012 MARC National Tour. In the September-October issue of the **Model A News**, there was a one page ad about the tour. Suzan O'Neale and I are now on the distribution list for the Scenic City A's newsletter and they are working hard to make this a great tour. MARC requires all participants to be MARC members so, if you are not a member, joining now might be something that you want to do.

Janet Merkel called the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Hotel ([1-800-872-2529](tel:1-800-872-2529) or [www.choochoo.com](http://www.choochoo.com)) and found out they are now accepting reservations. Since we have not fully planned our trip, I made my reservation arriving Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, checking out on September 20<sup>th</sup>. If we don't arrive until September 16<sup>th</sup> we can always cancel the night of September 15<sup>th</sup>. The standard room rate is \$93 per night plus 17.5% tax and the train car rooms run \$179 per night plus tax. When you make your reservation, ask for the Model A Restorers Club block of rooms. I would suggest that if you are thinking about attending this tour that you go ahead and make a reservation; you can always cancel if you decide not to attend.

We will hold our first organizational meeting in early March. I am now mailing information to 22 club members. If you want to receive information and be invited to the organizational meetings, please let me know and I will add you to my list. Give Suzan O'Neale ([540-894-0658](tel:540-894-0658)) or me ([703-858-1192](tel:703-858-1192)) a call if you have questions.

Woody

### **BRATTON'S ANTIQUE AUTO PARTS**



1606 BACK ACRE CIRCLE  
MOUNT AIRY, MD 21771  
Order: **1-800-255-1929**

FREE 194-page illustrated Model A parts catalog,  
containing 3,200 Model A parts with full descriptions and  
picture of each.

Supplying Quality by using over 90% U.S. parts  
Serving the Model A restorer with parts since 1977

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Let me first say that it's an honor to be chosen to take over the Membership chair for the club. Woody has contributed years of excellent service and I will strive to match his dedication and attention to details.

We have 2 new member families to welcome to the club this month:

Joseph and Robin Thorpe  
11611 Bradley Forest Rd  
Manassas, VA 20112  
(H) 703-361-5918  
(C) 703-498-6951  
joethorpe@excite.com  
They own a 1929 Tudor.

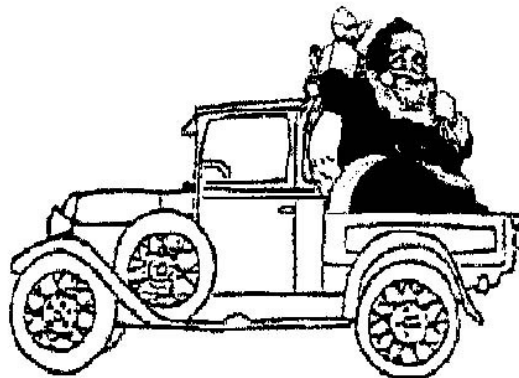
William & Marne Elam  
816 Emerald Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308  
(H) 703-780-0038  
(C) 703-623-6465  
welam@jbg.com

Looking for a 1931 Deluxe Roadster...so if anyone knows of one, please pass on the info. They also have a 1924 Model T Tudor.

Please update your rosters with their information and welcome them when you see them.

And you should have received by now, either in the mail or by email, the club renewal information for 2012. If not, please contact me to have your address and/or email updated in our database and I'll get them out to you. I'm happy to report that the dues for 2012 stayed the same, which is \$20 for the regular membership, and you still will receive the Script and roster electronically during the year. \$30 for those with no email address. Our dues are due January 1, 2012.

*Greg Shepherd*



**SEEN AT THE GWC CHRISTMAS PARTY**



**Jim Cross, Doug Tomb & Jack Melnick  
The ties that bind.**



**Marck Jaeger accepting \$1000 GWC  
Scholarship from Paul Gauthier**



**Jim Cross showing off his grand prize  
creation: a multi-level bird house**



**Dining in style**







**Incoming 2012 Board: Chuck Kunstbeck, Doug Tomb, Suzan O'Neale, Jack Melnick, Greg Shepherd, Edna Cross, Charlene Beckner, Bill Worsham, Bill Sims, Benny Leonard, and Gil Beckner**



**Jim Gray—proud winner of this year's Jim Beam decanter**

**Jim Cartmill admiring the other main Prize—Jim Cross's multi-story bird house**



**SEEN AT THE PEYTON RANDOLPH PARTS AUCTION**



## **FAIRFAX STATION RAILROAD MUSEUM SHOW**

The great clear weather brought out a large crowd for our cars at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fairfax Train Station Model Train (& Antique Car) show on Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4. Thanks to all who volunteered and attended, the station once again received a huge boost to its annual budget.



**Bill & Connie Baker's '31 Fordor; Clem Clement's '31 Cabriolet; Benny Leonard's '30 Tudor; Paul Gauthier's '30 Fordor and Jim Gray's '31 Coupe at the Station on Saturday**



**Lego Trains around the Christmas Tree**

## **FAIRFAX STATION RAILROAD MUSEUM SHOW (Cont.)**

Inside the station's freight room, we ran O, N and Z gauge trains, as well as a large LEGO layout.

Outside, we ran the very popular large scale trains all the way around the outside of the station. If you needed some energy, you should have been there to watch the kids chase the trains. We also had a live steam gauge I layout outside and an N gauge layout in the "12 inches-to-the-foot scale" Caboose.



**Clem with Grace Nelson, Loco Doctor in Training, and her Grandpa Jim**

Clem and Tony Hawker from the Model A Club, Thom McKinney from the National Capital Trackers, and Steve Childress did service as Loco Doctors, as assisted by Grace Nelson, Jim and Kathie Gray's granddaughter. Dan Danielson had planned to attend, but was called out of town suddenly. We were not super busy but continuously busy; doing lube jobs, straightening some tin, cleaning reverse units and wheels, and generally tuning up the old toys of Christmas.

Proving once again that there is always a surprise in the train hobby, one dude brought in a box of stuff that included an extremely rare British-made Bowman live steamer! A little later, two little boys went bonkers as Clem fired up the long-silent whistle on Grandpa's prewar steamer. As Clem was working, the two little guys had a grand time pawing through his nut and bolt box looking for parts for their trains, causing Clem initially to believe he'd have a 0% chance of actually making that ole' whistle fire up. But when it did, the assembled crowd around the table cheered. In the too-hard-to-do-it-right category, Clem was able to fix the engine on one fella's HO diesel loc; but with only 6 wheels on its 3 axles instead of 8 wheels on 4 axles, its probability of staying on the track was low.

Did we mention Santa was there and gave out candy canes to those who had been good? He didn't have his lumps of coal with him, so both Clem and Jim were left empty-handed.

Throughout both days, the model train enthusiasts we spoke with said time and again how much they loved having the old cars and trains together in the nostalgic setting of the ole' Fairfax Station. And since



## FAIRFAX STATION RAILROAD MUSEUM SHOW (Cont.)

you can see the museum's caboose now, this must be the end of this year's report.

Clem Clement & Jim Gray



Clem brought his '39 Ford Pickup and Tony Hawker brought his '31 Coupe on Sunday



Rumble Seat Royalty; Grace Nelson and Mom, Jaime Gray Nelson, in Grandpa Jim's Coupe

## **BROWN BAG CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE**

The December program will again be the rip-roaring Brown Bag Gift Exchange. We will operate under the same rules used over the past several years.

Each person will bring a nice gift, “wrapped” in a brown bag – and this bag will be your admission to the event. Lady-specific gifts should be marked on the outside with a large “L”. The bags are placed on a table in front of the room. Each member gets a ticket stub in exchange for his bag. The other half of the ticket goes into a bowl.

“Nice Gift” means “No Junk!” - Find something among your Model A holdings that you would like to get as a gift if you didn’t already have it. If you can’t find something, a new part or tool in the \$10-\$20 range would be just right. (For example, last year one GWC member purchased two hood prop kits, one for his own car and one for the brown bag gift exchange.)

Then comes the fun! When the meeting begins, a ticket is drawn from the bowl. The holder of that ticket comes to the front and selects a bag from the table, turns around and opens the bag so that everyone can see the gift. When the *oohs* and *ahhs* have subsided, he/she draws a ticket from the bowl, hands it to the Master of Ceremonies, and returns to his seat with the gift. The new number is called out and the holder of that ticket comes forward and announces his/her decision, 1) Take a gift that has previously been unwrapped, or 2) Select and open a new bag. If he/she takes the previously opened gift, then that person (who relinquishes the gift) comes back to the front to 1) take a bag or 2) a previous gift, but not the one just relinquished.

Each subsequent ticket holder comes forward and has the chance to take any previously opened gift or take an unopened bag from the table except that the third holder of a given item gets to keep that item. (Example: Tom opens up a carburetor, Karen takes the carburetor from Tom, Benny takes the carburetor from Karen and gets to keep it).

The fun is always increased when someone opens a gift that multiple people are eager to own. So wrap a gift up in a brown bag and come to the meeting on December 16<sup>th</sup> ready for a good time. In the end you will go home with a nice gift and pleasant memories.

## **ABOUT THIS MONTH’S SCRIPT COVER CAR**

(Email sent to Woody back in April)

You asked for a picture of my Model A a while back. What I still have left to do is wire the front turn lights, and title and register the Model A in Colorado. CCPU means closed cab pick-up. Had lots of fun at the St. Paddy’s Day parade. Don’t know why she overheated, except that at the slow speeds it did not get enough air thru the radiator. She did not overheat either going to or coming from the parade. Also, some Model A’ers put a thermostat in the upper radiator hose. The thermostat is supposed to slow down the coolant flow so the radiator can do more cooling to the coolant. There are folks on both sides who say that works and that it does not work. Timing might also have something to do with the overheating. We need to see what Ted says. Parades are hard on clutches, since we are going slower than the Model A wants to go in low gear. Low gear is also a bit noisy.

Lee Dong

## A CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTION

Have you guys seen the Gorrillatorch. What a neeeeeeto light. I have always had trouble seeing when I work on one of my Junkers. The extension cord lights turns the wrong way or I drop it and the bulb flashes or I burn myself on the bulb. A regular flashlight won't point to the work area. I have even tried the lighted tools to no avail. Most of the overhead lights in my garage don't fire any more. <http://www.usefulthings.com/shop/home/joby-gorilla-torch.php?gclid=COT4o6eFm6sCFUYaQgodpUNxmg>

This light has 3 flex arms with rubberized covered magnets on the feet. It stays where you put it and the feet hold your tools and parts. Has a dimmer as well.

I'm loving this light.

Tell Momma you must have this in yer Christmas stocking

Clem Clement

### **Joby Gorillatorch -- Hands-Free Work Light**

Illuminate your target while keeping your hands free to work! With flexible legs and magnetic feet, the Gorillatorch secures to most any surface, supplying you with bright, focused light to help you complete any job. Attach the Gorillatorch to engine hoods, duct work, wrap it around a tree, your wrist, or prop it on your nightstand. This hands-free flashlight provides 65 lumens of dimmable LED light for up to 80 hours. Weighing only 1.6 ounces, the Gorillatorch is easy to store and carry. Water resistant and backed by a limited 1 year warranty.



## **J.C. TAYLOR**

### **Antique Auto Insurance**

**Drive Through Time...  
With Peace of Mind**

For over fifty years, J.C. Taylor Antique Auto Insurance has been protecting collector cars and their owners. When you insure with us, you can  
**Drive Through Time With Peace of Mind.**



**www.JCTaylor.com**

**1.888.ANTIQUE**

(1.888.268.1783)

## RAFFLE FOR 1930 TUDOR SEDAN

Enter our Annual Raffle to Win a Model "A". It's a very solid-running car up for grabs. Great restoration project. All original interior still in car. Winner must collect the car from Maysville, GA. All proceeds will go to the Wounded Warrior Project. Pictures can be seen on our website or Facebook Page. Drawing will be December 31 2011. To learn more about The Wounded Warrior Project visit [www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org).



## COMING EVENTS

Dec. 21 Brown Bag Model A Meeting. If you would like to participate please bring a gift. (Always fun for all) No trash just GOOD stuff! (See p. 12 for gift guidance and the rules.)

Jan. 1, 2012 HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Jan.18 Model A Club winter flea market. No meeting.

Jan.25 Board Meeting

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### For Sale

I just acquired a huge collection of model a parts in excellent condition. I have not inventoried everything yet. However, I have a large amount of original and reproduction sheet metal, including front and rear fenders, hood, perfect rumble lid, cowl and gas tank. Lots of engine and transmission parts, including a rare and complete multiple-disc clutch set-up, tons of early/mid- 1930's Ford wheels, a perfect set of 4 Model A 19-inch wheels, early/mid-1930's Ford front and rear suspensions, carburetors .... the list goes on and on. I am going to build up my inventory of parts with some of it and will sell the rest. Make me an offer! Please call to arrange a viewing.

George P. Smolenyak Jr.  
George's Automotive Restoration, LLC.  
[703-969-1715](tel:703-969-1715)  
[georgesresto.com](http://georgesresto.com)

The George Washington Chapter Inc., Model A Club of America and the Mount Vernon Region of the Model A Restorers Club does not endorse or any way approve or disapprove the use of any person or enterprise that advertises or in any way is linked to the club web site or publication (e.g., the Script).

"HAVE AN "A" DAY"  
Mike's  
Michael Butcher  
1-888-879-6453  
email: mike@mikes-afordable.com  
www.mikes-afordable.com  
Specialising in 1928 - 1931 Model A Ford Parts

Specializing in Model A's  
George's  
affordable and local  
Automotive Restoration  
George P. Smolenyak Owner  
(703) 969-1715





**Gretchen Minners as we'll always remember her.**