

The Ford Script

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No. 8



Why is Sully a Success? The quality of the cars makes it special. See inside.



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

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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

Next Script deadline: Sunday, September 2nd

FROM THE QUAIL'S PERSPECTIVE



The MAFFI museum building construction is moving towards its September completion as witnessed by the webcam pictures on the website, www.maffi.org. When visiting the website, be sure to read the President's message by Stan Johnson, GWC member.

Our website coordinator, Tom Frazier, is asking for everyone's assistance to update club members' automobiles listed on the car section of the website.

Please take a few minutes to check the website to make sure your currently owned cars are listed. Contact Tom at tfrazier7056@comcast.net to remove cars from the website or to send him pictures of cars not listed.

Unfortunately, the club's Sully 2012 pictures were lost. If you have pictures of this year's Sully car show, please forward them to Bill Sims, for the newsletter, at billhsims@gmail.com. or Tom Frazier for the website.

Wishing you safe and fun Model A driving times,

Charlene Beckner

President

FROM THE EDITOR

THE EDITOR IS ON "VACATION" FROM RETIREMENT AGAIN. SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!

Here we are at the middle of summer. This is the best time of year for driving our Model A's. If it is too hot during the day, as it has been the past couple of weeks, just get those headlights working, and go for a cool evening drive. Also, this is another way to get the kids interested in the Model A. Try it and let me know.

My first antique car was a 1931 Studebaker, six cylinder, four door sedan. I had looked at a Model A Sport Coupe, (not sure of the year now), which needed a total restoration. They wanted \$375.00. It had the top bows, but no top material, and no upholstery. All of the parts were there, and with a bit of work it could be a running, driving car (in need of a total restoration). I thought I could get it all done in a month or two. I took my dad to look at it with me, and "we" decided that it wasn't a good idea.

Later that Spring, I discovered the Studebaker on a trip up to New Hampshire. It was only \$325.00. I got the go ahead, and my brother drove it home to our place in New Hampshire (I didn't have my license yet). No need for license plates in those days, we had 3 days to get it registered.

The best part was, the lights all worked. I would drive it over to a friend's house during the day, and I will always remember driving home at night, with the old headlights showing the way. The high beams worked too. I was hooked.

Until next time,
The Assistant Editor.

FROM THE SMOKE-FREE ROOM

**George Washington Chapter, MAFCA
Mount Vernon Region, MARC
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
July 25, 2012**



Since the Editor is on vacation, and the Assistant Editor is headed out on vacation at the end of the week, the August Script is being sent out early. This is being prepared before this month's Board Meeting, so there is nothing to report, yet. I will leave you on the edge of your seats, in anticipation of the meeting minutes, which will be reported in the September Script.

As an alternative, how about a picture of this month's GWC Meeting Flea Market.



Our newest member, Cong Q Le, and his daughter, meet other members.

GWC 25 YEARS AGO

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO

The hot weather has really taken its toll on lawns and gardens, and has probably put a crimp on some restoration projects too. Sound timely? That's what Asst. Editor Phil Kania had to say about the summer '87 's weather. How to cope and at the same time make some progress on the A despite it? More on that later.

With lots of \$\$\$ jingling in our coffers after a highly successful Sully and the recent sale of the club car, serious discussions of financial planning were slated for the upcoming meeting. How to "keep" it, what part should be reserved as our nest egg, how much food should it be spent on (sorry, couldn't resist throwing that in) and so on.

Several member-inducing incentives were in the offing. Second V. P. John Kandl, hoping to improve caravan participation, had scoped out multi-faceted goings-on for the planned excursion to the Wild's later in the month. We'd heard about the kite flying contest, but now added to this event were stops at antique shops along the way, a belly flopping contest to see who could make the biggest splash in the pool with prizes to be awarded , and a subsequent detour to the Flying Circus in Bealton. A second incentive was one for encouraging the recruiting of new members, F. A. M. E., which stood for "find a new member every day." There were prizes for this too.

Now, about that advice on how to cope with the heat and still make some progress on the A. editorial writer Kania had this to say, " Work for 2 hours and retreat to the coolness of the house for a cold one, then back out to work for an hour and return for 2, work for 1/2 hour and go inside for 3.... You get the picture.

Dave Henderson



Baby pictures at a flea market? Why not?

MAFFI Museum Update

The construction of the museum is moving along rapidly toward a completion date in early September. Individuals and local clubs have ordered over seven hundred inscribed bricks for the walkways. If you plan to have your brick installed by the Grand Opening on May 18, 2013 you should order it soon.

Several MAFFI Trustees attended both the MARC and MAFCA summer meets and provided information about the museum status, and the plans for the interior of the museum. Now is the time for individual Model A owners to consider a donation or loan of items for the museum. All donated items are tax deductible and will be labeled with the donor's name. Collections and displays that show the functioning of Model A components are especially needed as we begin to layout the exhibits. Contact Phil Lerardi at pni1938@gmail.com.

As always, we continue to ask for your financial support. The current Quilt and Tire Raffle is based on a beautiful quilt created by Ruth Janke of California supplemented by a second drawing of two Diamond Tread Goodyear Tires from Kelsey Tire Company. Your club's MAFFI liaison should have raffle tickets. You will also find photos and tickets at www.maffi.org on the quilt raffle page. The drawing will be September 15th and you do not have to be present to win. We have also received a very generous gift from the Whitehouse A's in Ohio, out of proceeds from hosting the MARC membership meet in April 2012. Thank you to the Whitehouse A's!

Congratulations go out to MAFFI editor Stephanie Grundman who was awarded the MAFFI Volunteer of the Year Award. Stephanie has been serving as our newsletter editor for several years and does a great job with the newsletter and everything else she tackles. At Marquette we thanked departing members of the board whose terms had expired – Howard Minners, Loukie Smith, Jay McCord, and Gary DuPen, and welcomed new members Rob Seiter, Janice Barker, Anne Nealy-Beck, Don Miller, Rob Mills and Steve Ribeau. Great people who are working hard to create your museum.

MAFFI Trustees



GWC Member's Model A is Best Antique Car in Cabin John Fourth of July Parade

For yet another year our '31 Roadster was the only antique car. The 1900 3-wheel Knox is just too unreliable for a stop & go parade on a hot day.

Cabin John youngsters really get into the spirit of a parade, so there are always a dozen decorated bicycles -- and this year there were two kids riding skateboards with ONE wheel, fore and aft. - - - looks like a sure trip to the hospital for an oldster like me to try one of those.....

Everyone gathers in a group of shade trees at the end of the parade and the town provides sandwiches & ice cream. There is a shaded parking lot, where a HULA HOOP contest is held. One young lady kept two going at the same time and was voted the winner.

Cabin John is a small & wonderful town, and on July 4th we all get together under the trees and enjoy fellowship and an important holiday.

Reed Martin

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GWC members discuss risks of using non-OEM parts in a Model A, at the GWC Flea Market



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COMING EVENTS

August 4, 2012 - 9:00 AM, at **Benny Leonard's garage**. **Pre-Tour inspection**, to allow members to have the experts check out their cars, **before** they start out on the **Chattanooga Tour**. Call Benny at **703-278-2994** for directions.

August 15, 2012 - Club Meeting - Benny Leonard - Pre-Touring Model A Technical Seminar. Benny will walk the members through the Do's and Don'ts of getting a Model A ready for a trouble free (FUN) club tour. Be there, or get NO sympathy when you break down on the tour.

September 3, 2012 - The former Washington Times - Vern Parker Car Show - Held at Spring Hill Recreation Center, 1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean, VA. A Great Car Show.

September 15, 2012 - Bull Run Show, Manassas, VA.

September 15, 2012 - Chattanooga Tour.

September 19, 2012 - Club Meeting - With many of the members away on tour, the details are still being worked out at the Script deadline. It should be an interesting program.

September 30, 2012 - Save the date - Bob Warhurst Picnic. Details to follow.

Let **Edna Cross** know about any upcoming events and she will send information to those who are interested.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale



For Sale: 1929 Model A Sport Coupe

This Sport Coupe is in fair condition and needs some restoration. Much of its mechanical work has been done. It has a new radiator, six volt alternator, leakless water pump, high compression head, modern points and condenser, four cast iron brake drums (three are installed). The

CLASSIFIED ADS (Cont'd)

engine, transmission, steering column and front end have been rebuilt over a ten year period. Included is a second transmission and steering column. The car was running when parked three years ago, and probably needs very little to have it running again. It has always been garaged. \$7500. **Barry Noll**, 103 West Howell Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301 **540-376-1054** (cell) nollfamily@earthlink.net


For Sale: 1930 Ford Model "A" Standard Coupe in solid, original condition. It was bought by the current owner from a New Jersey priest who is believed to be the original owner. Although probably never completely disassembled and restored, the vehicle presents well, with a re-spray over the original paint in the original black lacquer, many years ago. The straight wheels were repainted orange just a few years ago, and the original tires replaced with a set of white wall Firestones. The interior presents equally as well as does the engine bay and undercarriage. This is an honest, solid, very original Model A which can be driven reliably (I have recently been driving it daily in 100 degree heat!) I have yet to find body filler or patch panels in this original body and believe all sheet metal is original. Please don't hesitate to call **George Smolenyak Jr.** at **703-969-1715** with further questions, or to arrange a viewing. **Picture page 17**

For Rent

Offered on a first come first serve basis is very affordable indoor and outdoor collector, antique and exotic vehicle storage. Indoor storage is climate controlled, with regular vehicle exercise, battery maintenance and occasional general vehicle inspection available.

Outdoor storage is an accessible and marked parking lot. Owner is encouraged to provide their own cover if desired, however the above mentioned optional indoor storage amenities are available for outdoor storage as well. Please call **George Smolenyak Jr.** @ **703-969-1715** with specific needs and to discuss pricing.

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Membership Report

We have 2 new members and 1 returning member to welcome to the club this month:

Cong Q Le
Bichthuan T Lam
6900 Edgerton Lane
Springfield, VA 22150
(H) 703-912-5829
(C) 571-438-1795
CLE9@cox.net

They own a 1929 Tudor. Cong came to the July Meeting Flea Market.

George and Donna Merkel Jr.
9437 Merkel Rd
Bowie, MD 20715
240-508-8499

They have a 1929 Open Cap Pickup.

Edmund and Virginia Simpson
5811 Hillburne Way
Chevy Chase, MD, 20815
(H) 301-652-4680

They own 3 cars...1930 35-B Standard Phaeton. 1931 45-B Deluxe Coupe and a 1931 40-B Deluxe Roadster.

Please update your rosters with his information and make them feel welcome.

Membership Chairman,
Greg Shepherd

And speaking of rosters, the print shop finished producing our rosters and I will be handing them out at upcoming meetings. As a reminder, 1 roster per paid membership, as we have a few extras, but not enough to cover everyone's full family. I emailed out the electronic PDF version...feel free to print that out. For those out of town or who can't make it to meetings in the next couple of months, I'll be mailing them.

Membership Report Con't

I mentioned name tags at the last meeting, as there has been some interest. The club buys them upfront and then we have them made on request. We have 9 left at the cost of \$10 each. Its first come, first served. And a few people have already indicated they want one so please send me an email or give me a call with the exact name you want displayed. The price might go up the next time we have them made, so get your information to me soon.

Greg Shepherd

Shepman@gmail.com

703-476-6496

Sunshine Report

If you or someone you know wants to be mentioned, please drop me, or another club officer, a line. We need to stay in touch with and support our members when they need it and our Sunshine Report gets the word out. You can contact me at

Shepman@gmail.com. Thanks...**Greg Shepherd**

CLASSIFIED ADS (Cont'd)

Wanted

Wanted:

2001 Sully Pin - Oval pin with Sully House, Model A and Dude

2006 Sully Pin - 34th Year - Front End of a Model A - Gray

I would like to give a complete set of Sully Antique Car Show pins to the Model A museum that can be added to each year. I need these two pins to make a complete set, I have all of the rest. If you donate credit will be given or I will buy. Who knows, it may be the start of a nice display of pins dedicated the the Model A.

Woody Williams [703-629-0995](tel:703-629-0995) vamodela@verizon.net

Other Club Happenings

Chuck Kunstbeck announced that he is buying a brick for the Model A Museum, to celebrate his and Karilyn's first grandchild. A boy (he'll be called RJ) born Friday July 13, 2012 to their daughter Pam and her husband Ron Rice, who reside in Georgia.

Chuck is looking for a good Model A for a first birthday present!

A Visit to the Model A Ford Club of Great Britain

By **Tom Quigley**, Member, George Washington Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America/ Mt Vernon Region tquigley6@gmail.com

It was summer 2012, with temperatures in the balmy 60's. I was on holiday in England with the family. Being a faithful follower of the Model A Ford hobby, and frantic to find a Model A diversion, I went to the internet. Sure enough, I noted a July 1st meeting being held by the Model A Ford Club of Great Britain, in Bicester. Bicester, pronounced "Bister" for the benefit of US readers, is near my family's ancestral home in the Midlands of England. Michael Cobell, listed as the club point-of-contact, kindly responded to my email and provided driving directions.

I was a bit apprehensive about finding the location, but when they noted that the destination was near the Red Cow public house in Chesterton, I had a premonition that I would find the place. Someone in a pub always knows about area events. Despite the threatening rain, I fueled up on a good English country fry-up breakfast. Off I went, on the left hand side (the wrong side) of the M40 motorway heading south.

Before leaving, I had planned on being lost, so I sensitized myself to being on the lookout for a Model A Ford touring in the area, so that I could follow it to the site. Sure enough, I was in active search mode as I passed by the Red Cow pub. At the same time, I saw a 1928 Tudor pass me by, going the other direction. Success! My plan came together as I expected!

I followed the Tudor through the gates which opened up to a glorious sight. Before me lay a stately sandstone mansion, surrounded by cars lined up on the expansive, manicured lawn. It was a gorgeous edifice, a school that was simply awe-inspiring. Even though I was early, I was offered a glass of wine as a precursor to activities. I knew this gathering had its priorities right! We colonials could take a lesson or two on this practice! Enough of that - now to the cars.



Bruern Abbey School, Chesterton House, Chesterton, Oxfordshire

The cars ranged from the pre Model T era, to the post-Model A era. Take a look at the photos and see if you can figure out how many different Ford models are represented. I enjoyed seeing the 1906 model N, a 1914 Touring Car, the Model As and the 1934 Ford. Some were right hand drive and other were standard American issue. Mr. Sterling Silver, an American from Texas living in England, displayed his 1931 Tudor which he owned since age 16. He had a lot of Ford information to share as well as the side note that he was touring his car in France the following week. (My envy was not well concealed, I admit.)



1905 Model F Ford (Unconfirmed) and a 1912 Model T Sterling and his 1931 Tudor

I learned a few factoids that I did not know before the visit. For example, in the 1930s, cars in Britain were taxed based on the cubic inch displacement of the engine. Consequently, Model As were taxed at a rate higher than the Rolls Royce due to the displacement! Consequently, Model As in GB were equipped with smaller engines, delivering 23 HP vice the standard 40 horse power we enjoy in the US. Alternators were the order of the day for most cars and were commonly installed, due primarily to reliability requirements during the darker, winter days.

Generally, the gathering of cars was a conglomeration of vehicles, each with a set of faithful, caring owners and enthusiasts. One chap I met operated over 11 Model As that he hires out for weddings and special occasions. In all, it was a very enjoyable afternoon. Mike Cobell's only request (the price of admission) was that I provide a short article in exchange for the visit – a reasonable price in my opinion, whether paid in dollars or pounds.

Tom Quigley



Mike Cobell, Model A Ford Club of Great Britain

Cover Photo:

Our former Vice President, **Jack Melnick**, came up with a winning Model A at Sully, a **1931 Deluxe Phaeton, 180-A**, that he found in a barn on a farm in West Virginia.

This car has a winning past. In 1994, in a joint meet of MAFCA and MARC in Tacoma, Washington, it won the MARC OF EXCELLENCE, MAFCA OF EXCELLENCE, the HENRY FORD AWARD OF EXCELLENCE and the MASTER RENOVATION AWARD.

The car was originally restored by the Texas rancher, Gerald Thiele. After the car had won all the above awards, it was sold to Frank Lynch in West Virginia. Mr. Lynch never drove the car; he put it in his barn and that is where it stayed for fifteen years.

Jack has let George's Restoration work on re-restoring the car. George rebuilt the engine, restored the brakes, installed a new clutch, a new luggage rack, new whitewall tires, taillights, and turn signals.

The interior and the top of the car were done by the famous Bill Strume.

Jack says that if the weather is good, he will drive this car to our August meeting. Come and see it in person.

Outstanding Member Accomplishment



A 1929 Model A Special Coupe. “I began the restoration process 12 years ago. I did the vast majority of the work myself, including the paint and upholstery. “

“I entered it into fine point judging at the MARC National Meet in Oshkosh, Wisconsin this June, and received a **Marc of Excellence (466 out of 500 points).** “

“The next week I entered it in the MAFCA National Meet, and received a **MAFCA Award of Excellence (487 out of 500).** Many thanks to all the club members who offered advice and encouragement along the way. It was quite a journey!”

Hunter Fanney

Congratulations to Rosa and Hunter!!! Hunter will give a talk on his restoration at a future Club Meeting. Stay tuned.

Doug Tomb.

CLASSIFIED ADS (Cont'd)

After the Deadline.



1930 Ford Model "A" Standard Coupe, call George Smolenyak Jr. at 703-969-1715.