

# The Ford Script

Vol. XXXIII

February 2012

No. 2



The train layout at Clem's; yours for the viewing and enjoyment on Feb. 19th



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.gwcmoela.org](http://www.gwcmoela.org)  
Web Master: Tom Frazier

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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](mailto:billhsims@gmail.com)

Next Script deadline: Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

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



Where has our winter been? Being a snow lover, I have been disappointed with our lack of winter-type weather. Have you taken advantage of the unusual number of warm days this winter to drive your car?

I am sorry to report that Jack Melnick has resigned as Club Vice President due to health issues. Jack had open heart surgery on December 19 and he is now on the mend. Jack always made sure we had an interesting program and we will miss his participation on the Board. Jack plans to remain active in the Club and would welcome your calls and cards.

At the January Board meeting, I permanently appointed Doug Tomb as the new Vice President with the Board's approval. Thank you Doug and we all look forward to working with you this year. If you would like to present a general meeting program or have suggestions, please let Doug know.

Dues for 2012 are now past due. If you have not paid your dues, please get your payment to Greg Shepherd as soon as possible. We are working plans to put out a new Roster and distribution will be limited to club members. Also, you don't want to miss getting your Script. Woody Williams, GWC Chattanooga tour coordinator, will have a kickoff meeting for the 2012 MARC National Tour on Thursday, March 1. If you are not on the contact list and desire to know more, please ask Woody to add you to his list.

The Board has approved two Peyton Randolph Scholarships, which will be awarded as two \$2,000 scholarships to be given to the recipients at the Sully Father's Day Car Show. Two-time recipients of a GWC scholarship, who otherwise are no longer eligible to apply for a GWC scholarship, may apply for a Peyton Randolph Scholarship. The scholarship application will be posted to the GWC website soon. The GWC scholarships of \$1,000 each will continue to be awarded to four recipients. That application will also be posted to the GWC website soon.

I hope to see you at Old Car and Train Day at the Clements' on February 19. This is a great opportunity to get your car out this winter and socialize with friends.

Wishing you safe and fun driving times in your Model A,

Charlene Beckner, President

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

Despite the fact that Doug is now the Vice President, he is still staying on as my assistant editor. Fortunately, his workload will be a lot lighter because I don't plan to be away nearly as much as I was in 2011.

That being said, it looks like I will miss Train Day this year. I'll be in New York helping my eldest celebrate his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday (sigh—old age is creeping up on me). However, I HAVE signed up for the MARC National Meet in Chattanooga set for next September. I'm just itchin' to get on the road again.

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



President Charlene Beckner opened the meeting at 7:15 PM at the Fairfax City Library. Other board members present were Edna Cross, Howard Minners, Gill Beckner, Bill Worsham, Bill Sims, Benny Leonard, Doug Tomb, Greg Shepherd, Chuck Kunstbeck and Tom Frazier.

Reading of the December 2011 Board Meeting Minutes was dispensed with and approved as published in *The Script*.

Annual Meet Chair Bill Worsham reported that he is scheduled to meet with the Sully folks on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 for planning purposes. Benny Leonard has agreed to take over the Chairman position of Sully set up, this year only, for Paul Gauthier, who will be away. Greg Shepherd has agreed to be the Chairman for the Snow Cone Concession at Sully. Bill also reported that the new Benny Leonard Sully Pins are available for sale and that Sully sign-up sheets have started to come in.

Membership Chair Greg Shepherd reported that about 60 members have not yet renewed. He has sent one email reminder and will send another.

Treasurer Gil Beckner reviewed the club's financial report as of January 14, 2012. All of last year's advertisers have renewed. Assistant Treasurer Tom Frazier reported that he has filed the Club's required report with IRS. Tom also gave a brief update on the Club's website.

Editor Bill Sims reminded the Board that the deadline for articles in the newsletter is Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

President Charlene Beckner informed the Board that, due to health reasons, Jack Melnick, Vice President, has resigned. Charlene appointed Doug Tomb as the new Vice President. A motion was made unanimously approving the appointment.

President Charlene also reviewed suggested changes to the scholarship application form submitted by Youth Development Chair Suzan O'Neale. Discussion also centered on how the one-time special Peyton Randolph Scholarship should be distributed. Howard Minners made a motion to have two \$2000 Peyton Randolph scholarships. After discussion, the board agreed unanimously. Another motion was made by Bill Worsham to keep the application requirements for both the club's and Peyton's scholarship the same. The motion was unanimously carried.

President Charlene also brought to the Board's attention a matter relating to The Virginia Legislature's Bill to increase the tax on inoperable, unlicensed or untitled motor vehicles that are visible from the road, from \$100 to \$500. Clarification and additional information will be published in the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.  
February meeting will be at the Fairfax City Library.

Respectfully submitted:  
Chuck Kunstbeck, Secretary

## THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO

The club's January '87 flea market had been a roaring success, so much so that nothing was up for sale in the February *Script's* "Market Place"! Was it all sold out and everything sought found? Contrasting 1987 with now, our then less-massaged cars probably needed upgrades, and some of us were more eager to dive in when we were 25 years younger. More original parts were circulating around, and for some, money was scarcer too. A special treat at the "flea" was seeing the then-long-time member Gary Hubbard conducting an auction in his inimitable way, good humorously concealing part defects that everyone already knew existed.



A very special '31 deluxe roadster, formerly owned by Willard Kidd and which is credited with bringing Model A's together to form our predecessor club, was now in the hands of Bill and Carol Benedict. It seems that Bill had drooled over that "A" ever since he was 13. He told Kidd then that when he grew up he was going to buy his car from him. And he did! I remember asking Kidd about buying it some years earlier and he said he'd "put me on the list". Bet he wanted it to go to Bill all along.

Tom Mortimer, whose job was being transferred to the West coast, had a '29 roadster, "Adeline." Movers loaded it into the van for the trip west. Shortly after departing, Tom got an excited call from the movers. It seems that he had forgotten to close the gas valve and gas was "sloshing all over everywhere", and the van company, out of fear of fire, had removed the car from the van. Tom was able to calm them down and explain where the shut-off was, thus saving the day.

Coming up were the MARC National at Virginia Beach, but before that, its Membership meet at Flint, Michigan. Plus lots more meets. 2 full pages of them in chronological order.

Funny script cartoon showing newly-weds in a bedroom setting, he explaining, " But you knew when you married me that this was my Model A Club meeting night"!

## SUNSHINE REPORT



No reports for this month. If you or someone you know wants to be mentioned, please drop me a line or another club officer. 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](mailto:Shepman@gmail.com).

Greg Shepherd



## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

No new members this month but plenty of activity with receiving dues for 2012. Keep it up. We now have about ¼ of our members that still have not paid for 2012 and are at risk for not making it into the hardcopy of the roster being provided this year. Dues for 2012 stayed the same which is \$20 for the regular membership and you will receive the Script electronically during the year...\$30 for those with no email address. Send your dues check payable to GWC Inc. to

Greg Shepherd  
3715 Brices Ford Ct  
Fairfax, VA 22033

to insure that you will continue to receive your monthly and other club correspondence. If the club has not received your check by February 29th, your membership will be placed in an inactive status. If you are unsure whether or not you have paid your dues, give me a call at 703-476-6496 or email at [Shepman@gmail.com](mailto:Shepman@gmail.com) to find out; and let me know if you are not planning on renewing your membership. Thanks in advance for your attention to this matter.

As an additional note, some members are very generous when repaying their dues and contributed to our Memorial Fund. Please thank the following members when you see them:

Choate, Nat & Dorothy  
Crews, Curtis and Grace  
Cross, James & Edna  
Elam, William and Marne  
Petty, Stephanie and Michael  
Williams, Woody & Linda

Thanks...Greg Shepherd

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



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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

## 2012 SULLY PINS

The new 2012 pin features Benny Leonard and his 1930 Tudor. Look closely and you can see Benny's grandson as a passenger. The pins are in and will be for sale at the February Membership meeting for \$5 per pin. Make sure you get one early because we expect to sell all again this year. And don't forget to sign up as a volunteer at Sully. Bill and Woody will have sign-up sheets at the membership meetings – we need over a 100 volunteers to make Sully a great show.



## TREASURER'S YEAR END REPORT

The year ending 2011 was another year which was financially executed close to plan. Monies received from club dues, Sully Father's Day show, activity ticket sales, 50/50, and interest was \$19,500 against a budget projection of \$22,451. These numbers do not include the \$3,984 collected during the Peyton Randolph auction which has been set aside for special scholarships in 2012. Expenses were \$17,810 against a budget projection of \$22,451. The net result is a carryover into 2012 of \$1,690.

Gil Beckner, Treasurer

**Mike's "A" Ford-able Parts**  
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*George P. Smolenyak Owner*  
*(703) 969-1715*

## TAX REMINDER

The George Washington Chapter, Inc. of the Model A Ford Club of America is registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a not-for-profit tax exempt (501(c) 7) organization. We are not a charitable organization. Consequently, dues and other payments to the club ARE NOT deductible on your personal income tax returns.

Gil Beckner, Treasurer

**A TRIP TO HIGHLAND COUNTY**  
**or**  
**A ONE-CAR CONVOY TO VIRGINIA'S MOST MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY**

It has been a year since finishing the Victoria's restoration. I decided it was time to put the car to a moderate test on a moderately long trip. I realize going it alone is not the wisest of decisions, but after all, this was Virginia and not some wild, untamed wilderness. I decided to go. And so last November I did.

My plan was to travel to Monterey, Highland County, one day going down and one day back. My route was to follow blue roads through the Blue Ridge Mountains, down to Staunton, then west via Hwy 250 to Monterey. The trip down was cool (in the high 40's) but otherwise uneventful. I was delighted to find a treasure in a Waynesboro antique shop, a Model T tire pump among the furniture. That "find" was success enough to make the trip more than satisfactory. I pressed onward and arrived in Monterey before dark. The car performed very well - over several high mountain passes without downshifting. This included Shenandoah Mountain (2936 feet) on the Highland Highway between Staunton and Monterey.

When I arrived, I became aware of a factor that could not be ignored—the weather. The weatherman predicted a hard freeze that night, into the low 20's. I put that out of my mind for a while and concentrated on photographing my Victoria posed before the Highland Inn. This ornate hotel was built in 1904 for the wealthy as a place to escape the summer heat of the lowlands. I stepped into a shop across the street to see if they sold antifreeze. They did not. However, before I left, the shop owner inquired if the antique car across the street was mine, which I confirmed.



"What is the year of manufacture and how many cylinders does it have" he asked.  
"It was made in 1931 has 4 cylinders," I replied.  
"Just like a Model A", he quipped.  
"It is a Model A" I said.

(more)>>>>>>

## A TRIP TO HIGHLAND COUNTY (Cont.)

“No it’s not”, he said. “The rear silhouette of the Model A is much squarer than yours. I know because I have seen many.”

I thought of continuing the argument but I could see little benefit in it. I left it at that, and continued my search for antifreeze.

I found some antifreeze and prepared to add it to my radiator. Before doing so, I started the engine to warm the system, readying it for the cold night to come. While the car was idling, it suddenly stopped! I was unable to restart the car in spite of all efforts. I added what antifreeze I could and hoped for the best. My only ability to protect the engine block from freezing was to cover the hood with a blanket and my jacket over the engine. I hoped for the best.

Next morning, the temperature was indeed in the low 20’s and there was ice in the radiator neck. I again tried to restart the car without luck. No spark to the plugs. That pointed to a bad coil or some other electrical anomaly. I disassembled the distributor checking for shorts. In doing so I broke off the tang to the condenser, so I needed a soldering gun. Benny Leonard provided some guidance by phone, so I set out to find a coil and/or a soldering gun. I tried two gas stations, an auto parts store, and electronic repair shop. In doing so, learned that there are no Model A Fords in the county, no 6 volt coils nor soldering irons available to borrow. I finally went to the high school/elementary school, which generously yielded a soldering gun.

Facts and Lessons Learned:

- Lesson: Carry an extra distributor or electrical components to rebuild distributor.
- Lesson: Bring a multimeter or circuit tester in your tool box.
- Lesson: Ensure your touring spare “parts kit” is complete (per the club recommended list)
- Lesson: Put your antifreeze in your engine early in the fall
- Fact: Highland County was named by the Scots Irish settlers and has about 3,000 residents
- Fact: The high school, junior high and elementary school share the same building in Monterey
- Fact and Lesson: It gets cold in Highland County in November – don’t ignore it.

To complete the tour I drove north on Hwy 220 to Franklin, WV and eastward over the mountains to Harrisonburg. It was very pretty, even though most of the leaves were off the trees. The rivers, hills and farms made up for the lack of foliage. From there, I crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains at Elkton, VA and then up Hwy 29 home. In all, it was a wonderful test of the car and it did very well, acting like a Model A for the most part. The car seemed to add a mystery challenge at an inopportune time, as they sometimes do - just to keep me on my toes. The entire trip of more than 400 miles was wonderfully refreshing and confirms that Highland County is worth a visit by one and all. But don’t go alone.

Tom Quigley

## 2012 MARC NATIONAL TOUR – PLANNING MEETING, MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>

We will have our first 2012 MARC National Tour planning meeting at 7:00 PM in the Thomas Jefferson Library, Falls Church, on Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. At this meeting we will go over preliminary schedules, driving routes, towing your Model A, places to visit, hotel accommodations, safety inspections, test drives and get your inputs.

### Thomas Jefferson Library

7415 Arlington Boulevard  
Falls Church, VA 22042-7409

[703-573-1060](tel:703-573-1060)

Contact: Woodrow Williams

Organization: George Washington Model A Club

Room: Thomas Jefferson Meeting Room 2

Date: Thursday, March 01, 2012

Time: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Request Number: YKIZMWO

### **From the Beltway:**

Take Exit 50B (old Exit 8E), Rte. 50 East (Arlington Boulevard).

Go through the first light (Jaguar Trail).

Go 0.4 miles to library on the right, just before the traffic light at Allen Street.

The library is a brick building surrounded by apartment buildings.

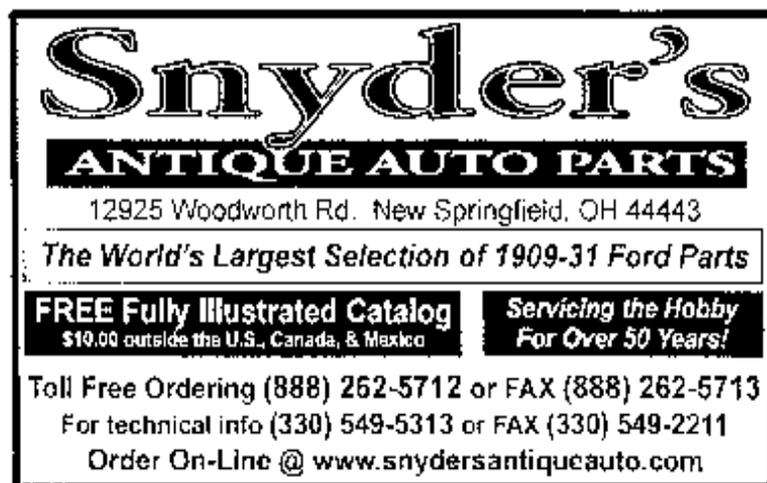
### **From Seven Corners:**

Go 1.3 miles west on Rte. 50 to the third traffic light (Allen Street).

Turn left on Allen Street, then immediately right onto service road.

The library is the second brick building on the left.

MapQuest Link <http://mapq.st/A8DuhZ>



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*The World's Largest Selection of 1909-31 Ford Parts*  
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## **HB 878 LICENSE TAXES ON CERTAIN VA VEHICLES**

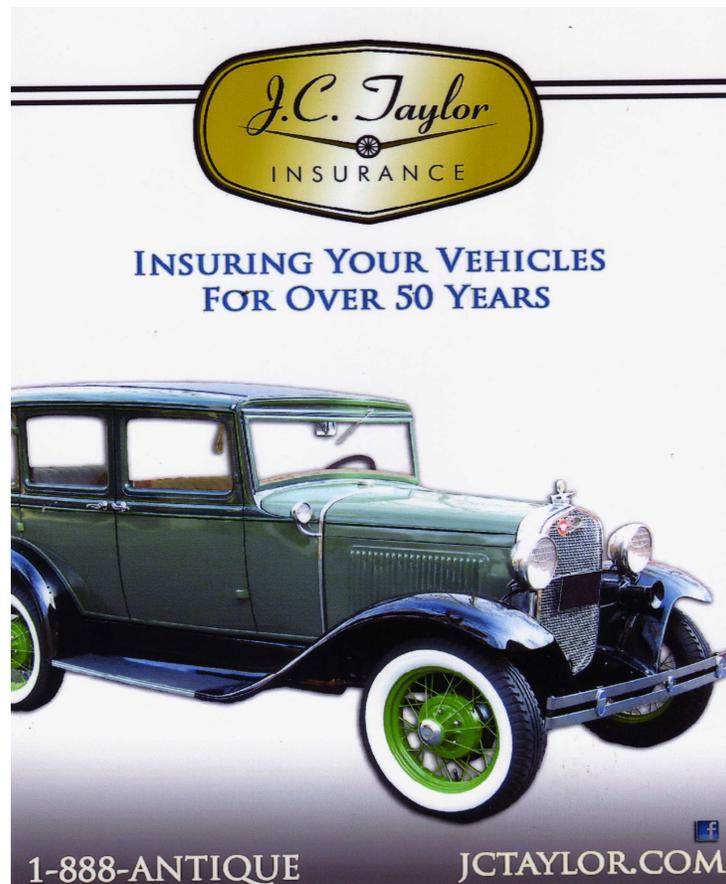
This bill is aimed at inoperable/unregistered cars not normally garaged or screened from view and increases the current \$100 license tax limit to \$500. Bill text is as follows:

Any locality may adopt an ordinance imposing a license tax, in an amount not exceeding \$500 annually, upon the owners of motor vehicles which do not display current license plates and which are not exempted from the requirements of displaying such license plates under the provisions of Article 6 (§ 46.2-662 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of Title 46.2, §§ 46.2-1554 and 46.2-1555, are not in a public dump, in an "automobile graveyard" as defined in § 33.1-348 or in the possession of a licensed junk dealer or licensed motor vehicle dealer.

Such ordinance shall exempt from such tax any vehicles which are stored on private property for a period not in excess of sixty days, for the purpose of removing parts for the repair of another vehicle. Nothing in this section shall be applicable to any vehicle being held or stored by or at the direction of any governmental authority, to any vehicle owned by a member of the armed forces on active duty or to any vehicle regularly stored within a structure. A link to the bill is as follows: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?121+ful+HB878>

Many car enthusiasts do not support this bill while others do. The Board decided to provide this information to the membership for information and action as deemed appropriate by the member. If you have comments you want to pass to your representative, you may go to the Virginia General Assembly web site <http://lis.virginia.gov/121/mbr/MBR.HTM> for contact information.

Gil Beckner



The advertisement features a central image of a dark green vintage sedan with white-walled tires. Above the car is the J.C. Taylor Insurance logo, which consists of a gold oval with the name "J.C. Taylor" in a cursive font and "INSURANCE" in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. Below the logo, the text "INSURING YOUR VEHICLES FOR OVER 50 YEARS" is written in a blue, serif font. At the bottom of the advertisement, the phone number "1-888-ANTIQUE" and the website "JCTAYLOR.COM" are displayed in a white, serif font. A small Facebook logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

**YOU ARE INVITED  
TO OLD CAR AND TRAIN DAY**

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2012**

**12-5 PM**

**AT**

**THE CLEMENT HOME**

**12106 GARY HILL DR  
FAIRFAX VA 22030**

Bring your significant other, kids, parents, and any other train, antique or old car lovers to join in the fun and fellowship of antique trains and old cars.

Weather permitting, additional antique cars may join us. New additions to the antique train collection are on display and some trains are under power. Bring "show and tell" trains, if you like, and we'll try to run them. If you have trains to be repaired, this is a good time to drop them off.

A favorite appetizer, finger food or dessert brought for sharing would be gratefully appreciated.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Route 66 West to Exit 55 (Fairfax County Route 7100) South to Braddock Road. Turn right toward Clifton/Centreville. Turn left at the first traffic light onto Colchester Road and go 2.2 miles. Cross Popes Head Road (Church on corner), turn left on Saddlehorn Drive (Through the brick entranceway into Colchester Hunt Village.) Second right is Gary Hill Drive. We are the first house on the left.

Alternate route: Take Braddock Road West off the 495 Beltway. Travel west about 15 miles, cross under Fairfax Parkway and turn left at the traffic light onto Colchester Road and continue as above.

See you on Train and Old Car Day!

Sandy and Clem Clement  
Ph. (703) 830-5597 C (571)-239-1701  
Email: [clem.clement@cox.net](mailto:clem.clement@cox.net)

**FEBRUARY'S PROGRAM**

Because of the recent appointment of Doug Tomb as Activities Chairman, Doug has not had time to line up a program yet. However, he is working on it and when it is finalized, the club members will be notified by email. But there WILL be a program, rest assured.

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **Feb. 15 General Meeting**

**Feb. 15** For members who get flea market spaces for the fall AACA Hershey meet, this year registration for spaces MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 15TH!.

### **Feb. 19 Old Car and Train Day at Clem's (see p. 12)**

March 10 Howard County AACA car parts meet, 7:00 – 3:00, Howard County Fairgrounds, Rt. 144, West Friendship, MD For info: <http://local.aaca.org/chesapeake/>

March 10 PATINA in Damascus, MD, antique tools of all kinds. Mostly hand tools. For information: <http://www.patinatools.org/auctioninfo.asp>

March 10 16th annual Mason Dixon Gas Automobilia and Petroliana swap meet, Frederick , MD [http://www.oldgas.com/pp\\_swaps.htm](http://www.oldgas.com/pp_swaps.htm) This is held in the main hall at the Frederick Fairgrounds. A fully heated building of gas station signs, uniforms, tin cans, oil cans, gas pumps and such. Lots if neato tin and paper to adorn yer garage or man cave.

### **March 21 General Meeting**

March 23-24 Sugarloaf Mountain AACA indoor/outdoor flea market at the Frederick County Fairgrounds Great chow, home prepared. Bob Clubb runs this fine event. 300 vendor spaces. Doors open at 6:00 a.m. both days. Free parking and admission. For info: call 301-831-0300 or go online to <http://www.amosauto.com/Events/20120323>

March 25 Cowtown! Now called Salem County AACA Swap Meet and car corral Great early spring event. Several buildings of treasures. Good chow. Back 40 fills with pickups and vans full of wondrous necessities. For information online, go to: <http://www.amosauto.com/Events/20120323http://www.amosauto.com/Events/20120323>.

## **CLASSIFIED ADS**

### **For Sale**

Transmission out of a '31 Model A CCP, clean inside and may be a rebuild - misplaced shift tower, \$50  
Photos available via email. Can possibly deliver to DC area. Call Denny at [804-752-6064](tel:804-752-6064)

Archie Marks, editor of The Generator, is trying to help the widow of a deceased Old Dominion Club member dispose of his assortment of Model A parts. She wants to sell it all as a lot at one time and is firm about this - no cherry picking. There are a few treasures along with some scrap. Included are:

a good quality foldable engine lift  
some jack stands  
a few other new items.

a nice engine stand  
a new water pump

two small floor jacks  
new step plates

(more)>>>>>>

## **CLASSIFIED ADS (Cont.)**

Among the engine blocks is an early five cam bearing block (on engine stand). There are several Tillotson carbs, one with accelerator pump. There are numerous heads, manifolds, cranks, flywheels, clutches, cams, rods and pistons and other engine parts. There are front wishbones, a front axle assembly, radius rods, rear end parts, housings, torque tubes, a rear axle assembly, and boxes and jars of fasteners and small parts. There are 21", 19", 17" and 16" wheels as well as some tired sheet metal items and radiators for their tanks, etc.

The asking price for the lot is \$2000 but offers will be considered. If you know of anyone in your club or elsewhere who might be interested in this assortment, please have them contact Archie or let him know how to contact them. His number is 804-282-6864. His email address is: [avmarks@verizon.net](mailto:avmarks@verizon.net). The parts are in Midlothian, VA.

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 in 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).