

The Ford Script

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Jim Chesley and his newly restored 1930 Huckster



50 YEARS 1963-2013

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.gwcmodela.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

Next Script deadline: Sunday, February 3rd

FROM THE QUAIL'S PERSPECTIVE



Happy New Year to everyone.

Thanks to all those who supported the Toys for Tots drive at this year's Christmas Party. The gifts were especially nice and I am sure there were a number of needy children whose Christmas was a bit happier because of your generosity.

2013 is the 50th anniversary of the GWC club and this month the anniversary committee will begin their planning. If you have any suggestions please pass them to Bill Worsham the committee chairman.

The Board members are making plans for 2013. Clarice Shaw, the new Activities Chair, is busy planning events to include picnics and the annual Christmas Party. Bill Worsham, our Annual Meet Chairman, will be holding the first planning meeting of the Sully committee this month. Doug Tomb, our Vice President, is planning programs for our monthly meetings and is seeking suggestions and looking for members who can help with these programs.

Members should ensure that their eligible family members are aware of GWC Scholarship application requirements posted on the GWC website. This is a great opportunity for the club to help worthy students defray some of their tuition costs.

Next month will be the Antique Car and Train Day at the Clement's on Sunday, February 24.

This is an excellent way to help mediate mid-winter cabin fever symptoms and an opportunity to bring the little ones to share in the fun. If the weather is nice, pull those Model As out of the garage and take advantage of priority parking along the driveway.

Wishing you a new year full of great health, happiness, safe, and fun Model A driving,

Charlene Beckner
President

FROM THE EDITOR

Not only are we entering a new year, but a very special year—our Club's 50th year of existence. In keeping with that, I plan to run a history of the Club in future issues as well as other related articles. To kick things off, this month's issue contains a list of all those who have served as president over the past 50 years—all 33 of them. Meanwhile, I'm putting out a request for any of our more long-time members, even if you've moved away, to maybe write down some of your memories from the early years of our Club and send them to me. It would be good for most of our current members to get an idea of our roots—Club adventures, misadventures, outings and far-flung caravans. Maybe it will inspire new ideas.

The only new year's resolutions I've got are to get my flat tire fixed and to learn more about the inner workings of my car. I want to know more about what to do if I break down than the number of the nearest Club member who can come to my rescue.

Finally, my apologies to Clarice Shaw for leaving her off the list of absent new members in the new-board photo caption last month.

FROM THE SMOKE FREE ROOM



The meeting was held on December 29 and was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by President Charlene Beckner at the home of Gil and Charlene Beckner. Those in attendance were Doug Tomb, Gil Beckner, Bill Worsham, Howard Minners, Benny Leonard, Suzan O'Neale, Tom Frazier, Charlene Beckner and new officers effective January 1, 2013 Clarice Shaw, Activities Chair and Woody Williams, Assistant Treasurer.

Vice President Doug Tomb reported the January general meeting would be the annual winter indoor flea market. February's meeting will be a presentation by Hunter Fanney regarding his restoration of his prize-winning Model A.

Treasurer Gil Beckner discussed the proposed budget for 2013, but no action was taken because we did not have the quorum needed to approve. Approval of the budget will be postponed until the January Board meeting.

New Activities Chair Clarice Shaw is busy setting up Club activities for 2013.

Annual Meet Chair Bill Worsham will be holding the first meeting of his Sully committee in early January. Bill is also head of the GWC 50th anniversary committee and will call the committee's first meeting in January.

National Liaison Howard Minners reported on 2013 MARC/MAFCA and MAFFI events to include the grand opening of the Model A Museum in May.

Benny Leonard, Tool Chairman, has been assisting a Club member with work on his Model A.

Webmaster Tom Frazier reported the website was down for two days and has been fixed.

The January 23 Board meeting will be held at the Fairfax City Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Beckner, President
For Secretary Chuck Kunstbeck

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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO

On the cover of the January '88 Ford Script was a picture of a forlorn '28 Special Coupe, covered with snow, and suffering from a mishap. Not visible from the picture's perspective was the fact that the right side had been badly damaged. All that was visible from the picture was the extreme tow-out of the front wheels. Hard to believe, but the wreck was brought back to pristine condition by Fred Morse and went on to earn Mark of Excellence, Masters Award. Fred still owns it.



At the December '87 meeting the Carl Patrick Award, a most significant recognition, was given to the late John Kandl, who had met its 4 criteria best. In perusing old Ford Scripts, it becomes apparent just how deserving John was for this honor.

Chuck Zierdt authored a Script article entitled "Curing The Drip From The Model A Carburetor", with helpful thoughts, including one advising that needle valve problems could be ended by substituting a rubber tipped needle from a Volkswagen, said to fit perfectly. He enumerated other potential leak causes such as improper setting of the float level. The center spread was an illustrated parts breakdown of the Zenith carburetor.

Listed in the Activities Calendar column was a Sunday visit on the 24th to view the fabulous train collection at the Clement's home. Caravans were much "in" then; members were to form up at the Giant Food Store at Braddock and Ox Road to proceed en masse. Little wonder this event has endured thanks to the effort of Clem, Sandy, and others who pitch in. It provides a great escape from the winter's blahs.

The "GWC Chatter " Script column told of Wayne Parker and George Merkel assisting Jim McCann, laying cinder blocks for a new garage, and of the phone company Model A truck of a past member being extracted from the Smithsonian in order to go on display at a telephone-related exhibit at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. Also mentioned was that one of Howard Minners' sons had attended McPherson College's 4-week workshop on restoration.

Stuff for sale in the swap column? Well yes, but how about this, a FREE car....but it was just a "brand X Chevrolet Corvair.

How about this one:

The place to pass
on curves
you know
is only at
a beauty show
BURMA SHAVE

Dave Henderson

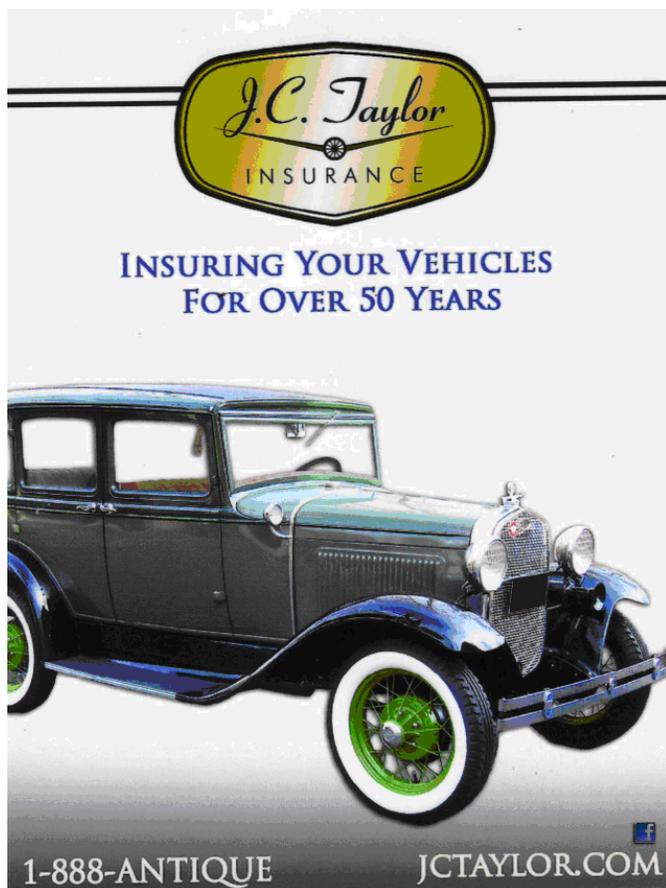
2012 MARC DRIVING AWARDS

Being as how it's the last day of 2012, it is time to send me your end of year odometer readings for the MARC Driving Awards Program. So, when you stumble out of bed on the 1st (after having drunk copious amounts of champagne watching the ball drop) please stumble to you cars, record your odometer reading (through blurry, watering eyes) and email it to me post haste.

I know several of you will have lots of miles after the Chattanooga Tour and others have probably driven all over the country side enjoying your cars, or maybe both. Cricket is still grounded after her bearing affair, but has a beautiful rear end, thanks to Ora Landis, that is waiting for an overdrive to arrive. I really need to write an article about the bearing but I keep procrastinating.

Happy "A"ing in 2013

Jim Cartmill



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Happy
NEW YEAR

GRAY WITH AN A

The Great “Snatch and Grab” Brown Bag event was held December 19, 2012, at the American Legion Hall in McLean.

Two hours; that’s all it took for the 50-odd (some might say mighty odd) GWC gang members to rotate ownership of two great piles of plain brown bags stuffed with... well, stuff. I’m talkin’ everything from bluebird houses; tulip bulbs and vintage “dresses” to carburetors and script generator cut outs. You know... stuff.

Green Bay Santa Paul Gauthier traded you a ticket for your sealed brown bag; guy stuff in the near pile and lady stuff in the far. With ticket in hand, you entered the snatch and grab arena. Two rows of chairs in a semicircle faced the “table of truth”. Unlike Hogwarts, we didn’t have a sorting hat to choose for us, so we were on our own when it came to grabbing the right nondescript bag; Potter magic would have helped.

Instead, we had brownies, cookies and high-test rum and Crème de Menthe cake to enhance our powers of selection. It didn’t help. As a caution to those of you game enough to join this merry throng next year, George Merkel, Jr. will be giving breathalyzer tests to those who sample Woody’s Bundt cakes.

Charlene called new club member Jamie Lucas’ number first at 7:30 p.m. His bag contained a clock... and the game was on. George Junior’s tan Panel Truck bank was quickly snatched as was Santa Gauthier’s bird house. Madame President got to hang on to her angel figure for a little while, as Gil did his over-the-fiscal-cliff tree ornament; 2 painted car tiles; and a “Tiny Tips for the Model A” book.



Santa Paul & Kathie Gray: the joy of momentary ownership of a Jim Cross Blue Bird House

Judy Worsham grabbed the lady bag with a Jim Cross blue bird house; which was promptly snatched by Kathie Gray. Amidst the hubbub, Suzan O’Neale tried to sneak back to her seat with a Santa Claus & reindeer figure, muttering how this had to be kept safe “for the good of the grandchildren”.

GRAY WITH AN A (Cont.)

Tom Terko got a carb; a car wall hanging; and a steering wheel cover (“...to prevent a smiley face on his stomach” explained Woody to Jim O’Neale, adding “I live with it all the time.”)



Doug Tomb’s carb... a murmur from the cheap seats claimed it had a crack

After Kathie Gray lost her blue bird house, she got a period “dress” which she claimed was a scarf. After Roz Johnson drew a similar “dress,” Stan and I agreed that the garments were, indeed, dresses.



It’s NOT a dress... it’s a SCARF!

Laurel Gauthier relieved Madame President of her angel figure, who then grabbed a bag with a serving dish and a blue Ford medallion necklace. Shortly after, Roland Dawes got a set of pliers, and Jean Henderson grabbed a Snowman cocoa/tea pot, which was promptly snatched by Betty McCormick.

GRAY WITH AN A (Cont.)

Clarice Shaw snatched a fine Santa figure from Janice McNulty, who grabbed a bag of 120 tulip bulbs. Val Zadnik grabbed an original Ford script generator cut out; which he set down on the table of truth while asking where the bag with the "Tiny Tips" book had gone. Madame President directed him to his chair with the enjoiner that it was snatch *or* grab; not grab, set down and then try to snatch.

Howard Minners snatched Doug Tomb's Model A advertisement, so Doug snatched Roland's pliers; Roland then grabbed a great-looking book about the history of the Motor Car, which he sat down and began to read. Mark Kuklewicz got a bag with a copy of "Those Unauthorized Accessories" and the 3^d volume of "A Gallery of The Far Side". He sat down next to me muttering he may never leave his bathroom again.

Donna Zadnik snatched the bulbs from Janice, who snatched Linda William's Santa centerpiece. Linda then snatched the bulbs from Donna, who grabbed a bag containing a neat looking red stained glass roadster.



"I got mine!"

Bill Sims snatched a Model A wrecker model from Jim O'Neale; who wound up with a Sears multimeter. Stan relieved a giant crescent wrench from Jim Cross, who snatched the script cut out from Val, who managed to grab what he wanted - a set of manifold gaskets.

When the final number was called, Ed McNulty made his way across the floor with measured step, and pried – mid-sentence, mind you - "The History of the Motor Car" from Roland's steely grip. Roland snatched Tank's wrenches; Tank snatched Andy's Model A hat, leaving Andy as the last man standing. Andy grabbed the last bag and scored a pair of red nitrile-coated mechanics gloves. Suddenly, we were done.

Well almost; Mark Kuklewicz directed the drawing of numbers for the dozen or so door prizes and THEN we were done.

Jim Gray

p.s. Kathie still thinks her prize is a scarf; authorities differ.

MORE SCENES FROM THE BROWN BAG EXCHANGE



The GWC brown bag Greek Chorus



The first prize about to be lost



Tom Terko tearing into his prize ...



as the crowd looks on in anticipation



Judy claims temporary custody of bird house



Jack Melnick wondering what he's got

**GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER, MAFCA
PRESIDENTS**

1964	Clem Griffin	1989	Bobby Harrington
1965	Charles M. Moltz	1990	John Howell
1966	Robert Moore	1991	Jerry Breedlove
1967	Clem Griffin	1992	Andy Pogan
1968	Clem Griffin	1993	Andy Pogan
1969	Gerald Pendergrass	1994	Jim Cartmill
1970	Donald Pope	1995	Jim Cartmill
1971	Donald Pope	1996	Millard Springer
1972	Donald Pope	1997	Millard Springer
1973	Donald Pope	1998	Clem Clement
1974	Joe Thoma	1999	Clem Clement
1975	Bill Worsham	2000	Chuck Manns (Jan. to July)
1976	Bob Wild		Stan Johnson (July to Dec.)
1977	Arthur Richmond	2001	Jon Phillips
1978	Wayne Parker	2002	Jon Phillips
1979	Gordon Sanford	2003	Jon Phillips
1980	John Dingle	2004	Woody Williams
1981	Tom Shaw	2005	Woody Williams
1982	John Howell	2006	Paul Gauthier
1983	Art Storer	2007	Tom Quigley
1984	Don Temple	2008	Tom Quigley
1985	Walt Bratton	2009	Tom Quigley
1986	Chuck Zierdt	2010	Tom Quigley
1987	Richard Dove	2011	Charlene Bechner
1988	Peyton Randolph	2012	Charlene Bechner
		2013	Charlene Bechner

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WHAT I LEARNED AT A HOT ROD SHOW

I met up with Clem at 0700 for coffee at his place before heading off to Herndon for the AARP-sponsored Herndon car last September. We figured we needed to support this show, since they were raising money for scholarships for students in geriatric nursing.

The weather was great. When we arrived we found mostly hot rods and heavily modified cars. Clem and I had two of the three or four antique cars there. This is a private show, so they had participant judging, which in my mind is kind of like a self-licking ice cream cone. However, they did well financially, raising enough money to fund 4 \$2,000 scholarships and collecting 400 pounds of food for local charities.

Speaking of food, the food at the meet and the coffee were good, as was the music; all big pluses in my book. Lots of folks watched the swing dancers; Clem, Kathie and I got serenaded by a barbershop quartet from "The Chorus of the Old Dominion" singing "Goodbye My Coney Island Baby." None of the singers passed Clem's Coney Island quiz after the performance, but it was a fun performance anyway.

I kept seeing this odd-looking fellow with a cropped white beard in what appeared to be a 19th century naval uniform walking around looking at our cars. Turns out he was re-enacting the famous (but, admittedly unknown to me) Captain Herndon – a native of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and namesake of the town. Little did I realize how bright a reflection of the energetic "Manifest Destiny" mood of mid-19th century America, our re-enacted Captain Herndon was.

In 1850-51, Captain William Lewis Herndon, USN, completed a 4,000 mile expedition into the Valley of the Amazon by foot, mule, canoe and small boat. His narrative report to the Secretary of the Navy, "Exploration of the Valley of the Amazon" became an international best seller, and lit the imagination of a young man in Keokuk, Iowa. This young man quit his job in a print shop and made his way down the Mississippi to New Orleans, planning to book passage on the next ship bound for Para, Brazil. Upon arrival, the young Samuel Clemens found that there was no ship sailing for Para, and never had been. Had Herndon's writing not inflamed his imagination, the young Samuel Clemens might never have taken that trip to New Orleans where he heard the frequent melodic "mark twain" calls of the "leadmen" on the bow of a paddle wheeler; and might never have explored the backwaters of that mighty river where so many of his stories were set.

On September 12, 1857, Captain Herndon met his destiny as the heroic captain of the mail ship SS *Central America*, caught, ripped to pieces, and sunk by a monster hurricane off the coast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. Captain Herndon and nearly 500 men and over \$2,000,000 in California Gold Rush gold went down with the ship in 8,000 feet of ocean. Credited by the survivors of the worst sea disaster in American history with saving the lives of every woman and child aboard the doomed ship, Captain Herndon was the first naval officer to be honored with a statue at Annapolis for service in peacetime.

And I had thought this was just a hot rod show.

Jim Gray

ANNUAL WINTER FLEA MARKET AT JANUARY MEETING

The meeting on January 16th will once again give members a chance to exchange unneeded parts for needed parts. Members should bring in the parts and tools they no longer need and use the money gained from selling those to buy *other* parts and tools that the rest of the members have on display. The bonus of these swap meets is that there is plenty of time for Model A talk and asking questions about problems you might be having with your car. So bring your questions and your parts for a good, warm time in the middle of winter.

COMING EVENTS

Jan. 16 Club Flea Market (see above). No general meeting.

Feb. 20 GWC general meeting

Feb. 24 Train Day at the Clements. See next month's issue for details.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale

1931 Model A Ford Standard Coupe. Asking \$7,000. Number on the body cross channel is 20856, Engine Number A3043125, and the New Jersey Title Number is 4047876. A mostly complete car needing restoration or just get her running. Some disassembly started. They were damaged in some long ago accident and poorly repaired. Engine runs but overheats quickly – idle since 2006. Battery shot. Car is for sale as is with no guarantees or warranties. Contact John Dougherty, Home PH: [703-971-8033](tel:703-971-8033); email doughert@cox.net

1963 Volkswagen rare double-door camper. Restored, original, green and pearl white, rebuilt 1500 cc motor. Second owner for 24 years. Only 7,860 miles. Big tent plus original camping equipment. \$21,500. Jerry Olexson 571-338-0166 ggjjoo@cox.net

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One each Model B, rebuilt short block, balanced rods & pistons, adjustable lifters, touring camshaft, oversize intake valves, hardened seats, counter balanced crankshaft, polished valve ports, warranty. \$3,450.00. Call Don Temple at 252/923-9903

Aluminum down draft intake manifold with 2 new Ford 94 carbs with linkage, WICO brand magneto with cap & linkage, vintage speed equipment from 1960. \$850.00. Call Don Temple at 252/923-9903

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