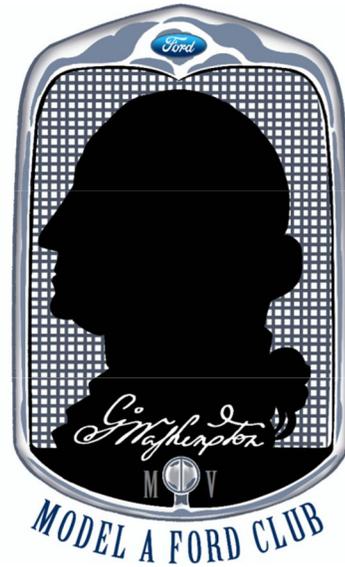


# The Ford Script



Vol. XLII

May 2021

No. 5

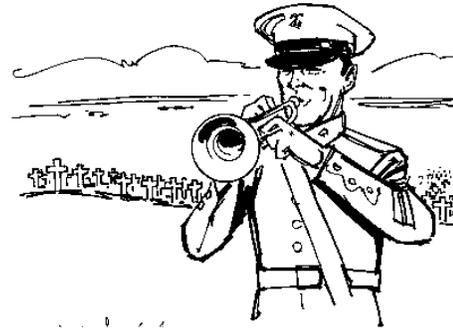


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# The Ford Script



Official publication of:  
George Washington Chapter, Inc.  
of the Model A Ford Club of America  
and the George Washington Region  
of the Model A Restorers Club  
GWC Model A Club  
Post Office Box 971  
McLean, VA 22101

Chapter meetings will be held by computer on the third Wednesday of every month using Zoom technology until it is safe to return to physical meetings. The meeting starts at 7:30.

Chapter members are encouraged to belong to both MAFCA and MARC national clubs and the Model A Ford Museum (MAFFI). The chapter Web page on the Internet may be accessed by:

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

Web Master: Greg Shepherd

## Board of Directors

President	Doug Tomb	703-241-4152	douglas.tomb@verizon.net
VP & Program Chairman	Luke Chaplin	301-865-5753	lukechaplin@comcast.net
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Youth Development	James Kolody	703-795-9301	grubsworms1@gmail.com
National Liaison	Milford Sprecher	301-563-3021	milford.sprecher@gmail.com

## Appointed Positions

Concessions Chairman	(vacant)		
Club Librarian	Jay Melton	703-237-6953	jmelson58@verizon.net
Historian/Archivist	Tom Quigley	703-912-4293	tjquigley6@gmail.com
Sunshine Chairman	Jim Gray	703-250-1991	jrg240z@cox.net
Technical Advisor	Tom Terko	301-949-7329	tterko@verizon.net

Copy for THE FORD SCRIPT should be e-mailed to the Editor at: [billhsims@gmail.com](mailto:billhsims@gmail.com)

**Next deadline: Tuesday, June 1st**

## **THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**



Well, here we are in May. The weather is nice and warm, and that just makes you want to get outside and do something! Mow the grass, plant the garden, paint the back fence, or drive your Model A Ford? Your choice. They all sound like fun, but I'll take the drive in the Model A.

With no Sully Car Show again this year, we feel like there is something missing. Part of that is having a deadline to meet, so you get the car out. We also miss seeing old friends, and a chance to catch up with others in the hobby.

At the end of the Sully Show, we all have that feeling of accomplishment, and that we have started the summer driving season off right. All that will have to wait until next year, when we plan to hold Sully 47 (third time is the charm) and can enjoy another pleasant Father's Day Car Show.

What about this year? Your Board is hard at work on that. We plan to have a Zoom Monthly Meeting again in May, but we will have our first In-Person Monthly Meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Balls Hill Road American Legion. We will start to gather at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 7:30 PM. Masks are still required inside the building.

We will meet inside, but we will open all the doors, so there is plenty of fresh air. We plan to have an interesting speaker, lined up by Programs Chair Luke Chaplin. Refreshments will be served, and we will celebrate getting back together again.

Gene Rainville, our Activities Chair, is working on some one-day local tours, so we can get out and drive our Model A's to a local place of interest. The GWC has been invited by the Nation's Capital Model T Ford Club to join them on their 5 T Tour on Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Milford Sprecher is planning another Canal Tour.

John Dougherty and James Kolody are planning more Sit & Sip gatherings as the weather warms up. We also plan to have a Club Picnic we can all join in on. Stay tuned.

And, don't forget the Friends of the GWC Breakfast, held the second Wednesday of each month, at the Fair Oaks Silver Diner. We start at 9:00 AM, and the crowd has gotten bigger each month. Join in on Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.

That's all for now. "See" you at the Zoom session on May 19<sup>th</sup>, but I will really see you on Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Balls Hill Road American Legion Hall. Can't wait! Get out and drive that Model A. I hope to see you down the road,

Doug.

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

It's looking like things are going to start opening up with the Club starting with an in-person general meeting in June. Meanwhile, the restoration of "Blaze" continues apace. Donnie tells me that he's pretty far along but that he's hit two major roadblocks. The demise of LeBaron Bonney has resulted in a desperate search for upholstery and his faith in the surviving competitors is less than stellar as a result of past experience. The other road block is his inability to find anyone to paint the car. His former painters have all aged out and new companies don't realize enough profit to justify re-painting antique vehicles. I considered suggesting he tow it up here and find someone around here to do it, but the car's primed and in pieces. This resurrection could take awhile. Meanwhile, its substitute is running fine, at least locally. A tour will be the test.

Bill Sims  
May 2021

## REPORT FROM THE BOARD ZOOM TELECONFERENCE

### Board Meeting April 2021



The meeting, via Zoom, was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Doug Tomb. Present were Doug Tomb, Luke Chaplin, Stan Johnson, Paul Bjarnason, John Dougherty, Gene Rainville, Bill Sims, Greg Shepherd, Milford Sprecher, James Kolody, and Bruce Metcalf. Absent was Benny Leonard.

President Tomb introduced the issue of returning the Club to normal in-person monthly membership and board meetings. A **motion** was made and unanimously approved to have the next board meeting be in-person. The location will be determined by Doug Tomb and Stan Johnson investigating and deciding between *Milos* (McLean) and the *Red Hot and Blue* (Fairfax).

Another **motion** was made and unanimously approved to have the May membership meeting via Zoom and the June Meeting to be held at the McLean American Legion Hall, featuring a talk by Jim Baker. Jim Baker has not yet confirmed his availability for this date and venue.

The meeting programs planned for the coming months include the following:

May (via Zoom) – Transmission disassembly and assembly, James Kolody

June (in person) – Past travels in a Model A, Jim Baker (tentatively)

July (in person) – Summer Swap Meet

President Tomb asked that members step forward and offer to give a presentation at a future meeting. Contact Programs Chairman Luke Chaplin at [lukechaplin@comcast.net](mailto:lukechaplin@comcast.net). Some discussion took place regarding the Club sponsoring a potential out-of-town guest speaker.

It was decided to re-institute the “Swap Meet Table” at all in-person Club meetings.

President Tomb stated that there needs to be a Welcome Committee designated to assist new members into becoming fully active members of the Club. A roster of volunteer committee members will be established.

John Dougherty reported that there has been no response to latest email on 21 April from John Dougherty to Randy Jueben of the Fairfax County Risk Management Office.

Future activities (tours, parties) planned for reactivation was discussed by Gene Rainville. Two near-term possibilities are a tour of the George Washington Distillery, and a possible tour to Oak Hill. A multi-day trip to Orange, Virginia, is a possibility in the summer/fall.

The status of venues for the annual Christmas Party was discussed. The Fairfax American Legion status is unclear due to redevelopment in that area. A possible substitute is the Knights of Columbus Hall but food would have to be catered from off-site.

Bill Sims announced that the deadline for input to the May Script newsletter will be May 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35

Stan Johnson  
Secretary

## THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO

Words of wisdom came forth from our Model A Guru extraordinaire, Millard Springer: "The big moment is here. It's time to get your car out for its first caravan of the season." He went on to say that caravanning can add enjoyment to traveling since getting there is half of the fun. Going in a group provides camaraderie and also gives reassurance to those drivers who lack complete confidence in their cars. While it can add enjoyment to your trip, there are a few simple rules that should always be followed. A good wagon master should go over these before departure, and also make sure everyone has a basic understanding of the route. The Number One Rule is to keep track of the car behind you. If that car gets caught at a light don't stop but rather keep going at a slightly slower pace and he will eventually catch up. And, of course, a little judgement must be used and not keep driving for hours without any contact. Oh, and arrive at the meet-up location on time, with a full stomach and an empty bladder. Timeless advice.



Perry Dunn, reporting on the April Board meeting, said that Lloyd Hoffman was coordinating with a local Toyota/Volvo dealer for use of their garage on a weekend day in order for us to have a "small problems day." More information was to follow. He also commented on discussions recently being heard concerning Fairfax County taxes on antique cars, and said that you should voice your opinions to your District Supervisor.

At the May meeting, Trueman Burn was scheduled to cover the evolution of "Big Jim," his AA truck, saying, "You may even be inspired to go and acquire one of these ancient road warriors, as I was crazy enough to do, and embark on a REAL restoration project!" Steve Van Pelt was to have his AA there, available for inspection.

Stan Johnson wrote about "Your body's underwear." Well, not really YOURS; your Model A's. He was referring to what was directly under a Model A's body, the sub rails, which came in a variety of conformations depending on the model. Most had steel ones but the Victoria, 4-dr Sedans, the A400 and Cabriolet used wood. He said keeping the inside lower edges dry and clean was a good way to avoid having to change your body's underwear, better described as a body-off/body-off restoration, one in which the body is taken off the frame and must be taken off the sub rails too. His conclusion was, "That's a major auto surgery requiring the combined skills of a plastic surgeon, a blacksmith and a saint!"

Dave Henderson



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## MAFFI NEWSLETTER MINUTE

**Buy A Brick** One of the ways that you can support the museum is to purchase a brick for the walkways in front of the museum. There are currently 20 spaces left in front of the museum under the gas station canopy but we have prepared another area and will be utilizing it as more orders come in. The cut-off date is June 1<sup>st</sup> for installation at the museum on the 2021 Model A Day. If you have been thinking about ordering a brick 'In Memory' or 'In Honor' of someone near and dear to you, or if your club/region doesn't have a brick at the museum with its name on it, now would be a great time to do it. Each brick is \$150 and the form can be found at [www.maffi.org](http://www.maffi.org). Just go to the tab that says Store and go to Just a Brick. There will be an order form for you to download.

**Make your Reservations for Model A Day 2021** Our Host Hotel is ready for you to start making your reservations! You can easily do this by going to [www.maffi.org](http://www.maffi.org). Just go to the tab that says INFO and follow it to the link for Model A Day. The Gilmore is open and running with required Covid Restrictions in place. We hope that you will be excited to come and enjoy our museum as well as the other fun activities, seminars, swap meet and tire-kicking that goes along with any Model A get-together! We look forward to seeing you there on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. (If you come a day early, there will be a few seminars on Friday afternoon and evening.)

Marsha Quesnel,  
MAFFI Trustee  
[clubcontact@maffi.org](mailto:clubcontact@maffi.org)



**Annual Model A Day**  
**Swap Meet**  
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For more Info 269-615-3719 Jerry Morrissey  
For Seminar Information Ken Ehrenhofer 630-697-3906  
For Swap Reservations Mark Maron 847-302-7900

## REPORT FROM SPRING CARLISLE

I got back a little while ago from Spring Carlisle and have the following to report. There was a massive crowd there, the very upper car-for-sale area has become more of a flea market, and the usual flea market area was packed! I got into Carlisle at 7:30AM and it took until 8:15 to cross town and get parked at the National Guard parking lot and was about 80% toward the main road! There was plenty of Model A stuff there, nothing that I truly needed though. But one guy had a whole stack of 16" "beauty rings" for 1935 wire wheels and they were only \$1 each and not even in bad shape! I grabbed six of them and left the rest for the other guys who were pawing through them. My only other purchase was a 1930 Lincoln hubcap that was in excellent condition... this has to do with the deluxe AA wheels I have; gets complicated! But overall, the show seemed to be a hit. They did not enforce mask rules there but had up signs saying to wear one "if you can't social distance."

Luke Chaplin

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## **A WOMAN'S DAY RIDING IN A MODEL A**

(By Becky Cale, Blue Ridge Model A Club)

As we go on this tour  
Everything seems calm and pure,  
The weather is beautiful  
And our gas tank is full.  
So it's off for a ride we go  
To travel some back road.

Up the hill and across the stream  
The car is hot and letting out steam.  
Halfway up the hill, we took a second gear,  
We see the top, we're getting near.  
Over the top and down the other side,  
We put it in high gear and let her ride.  
All is going well, then something pops.  
Lo and behold, the car rolls to a stop.

I ask, "What in the world do we do now?  
He looks at me and begins to frown,  
I'm glad I brought a good book.  
Sitting in the hot sun, I'll probably cook.  
I'm told the pop was a condenser,  
I hope and pray they can fix her.

At last we are ready to go,  
How long will we travel? Nobody knows.  
As we wave to children close to the road  
They think we are out to put on a show.  
The sun will soon be going down,  
Thank goodness we'll soon be back in town.

Why do I go on these tours every month?  
The road is rough and he hits every bump.  
This is life and I love my man  
So I bite my lip and do what I can.

It's been a long hot fun day  
And this is what it's like for a woman  
Riding in a Model "A."

## TOURING WITH THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY MODEL A CLUB

As some of you know, I recently spent a few weeks in Menlo Park, CA, visiting with grandchildren. Menlo Park is adjacent to Palo Alto in the heart of Silicon Valley. I had the idea of connecting with a local Model A club to see if they had any activities planned. I got in touch with the Santa Clara Valley Model A Club, which is in the San Jose area. I heard back from them and was invited to their monthly Zoom meeting and to join them on a tour they had planned.

The club is a MAFCA affiliate and is a very active club with over 100 members. The club was very welcoming to me and I enjoyed the meeting and decided to go along on the tour they had planned. I believe that Terry Burtz, who has developed the new 5 main bearing Model A engine, is a member of that group.

The tour was scheduled for Saturday, April 11, leaving from a Target parking lot in San Jose and going into the Northern Coast mountain range and ending up in New Almaden. It was a short tour of only 16 miles, but had lots of twists and turns and climbs through the mountains.

The weather in Northern California is uniformly nice with sunny, warm days and cool nights. Lots of opportunities to take your car out.

The tour had a good turnout with about 25 Model As and handful of modern cars. There were no organized stops - just a tour through the mountains and back again.



As I walked through the Target parking lot, I saw a car that I had seen at a MARC meet that had driven across country, a yellow phaeton. It had a 100,000-mileage sticker in the windshield. The owner told me he thought that he had been 140,000 miles in his Model A. There was another car with a 50,000-mile sticker on it, so this is a touring group.

I had been told that there was a couple in the club, the Griffins, whose son was moving to Virginia and would likely join our club. His name is Sean. I have yet to hear from him, but hopefully soon we will. He has a Model A pickup that is getting a new Terry Burtz engine

I was also introduced to Paul Grometer, who was interested in getting in touch with Jay Tennent, a former member of our Club. His interest is in the non-slant window 1931 town sedans. Jay had written an article about his non-slant window town sedan some years ago and Paul wanted to contact him. When I got home, I was able to connect the two of them. Jay sold his car to George Smolenyak and dropped out of the Club.

We were at the tail end of the caravan leaving the Target lot. It wasn't long before we couldn't see too many Model As due to traffic and traffic lights. We did follow club president Bill Cilker in his 1930 standard coupe as we snaked through the mountains

>>>>>>



## TOURING WITH THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY MODEL A CLUB (Cont.)

The cars did quite well on the roads. There were a few cars going our direction, but I saw very few coming toward us on the roads. It is quite easy to get out of the heavily populated areas and up into much more sparsely populated areas in the mountains in northern California.

Only one car developed problems, which was resolved so the owners could drive home rather than return on a rollback truck.

After we finished the tour, we stopped at an In-N-Out Burger with Bill Cilker and his wife and another club member, Chuck Christiansen, who is the technical columnist for *The Restorer*. For those not aware, In-N-Out Burger is a popular chain in California. The chain is known for using fresh ingredients and has a limited menu with some unusual sauces and characteristics. I can't say that it was anything special, but I enjoyed stopping for a lunch break.

I am glad I took the opportunity to get to know another club and participate in their meeting and short tour.

Milford Sprecher



## **FROM YOUR ACTIVITY CHAIRMAN**

**Friends of GWC Breakfast** – On April 14 we had our second breakfast with nine people in attendance. Two persons were from the V8 Club – Wayne & Jane Chadderton. (We are always glad to have members of our Sister Clubs join in on GWC activities.) GWC members included Doug Tomb, Bruce Metcalf (who drove his Model A), Benny Leonard, Stan Johnson, Gene Rainville, Milford Sprecher, and Jim Baker (who also drove his Model A). Doug led much of the conversation describing how one seals a fuel tank on antique cars. This created much discussion over the hour-long breakfast event. Milford spent some time characterizing his travels over the past few weeks visiting family. Everyone had a great time and we all enjoyed each other's company. Hopefully others will attend in the future with their Model "A's".



**Christmas Party** – At the April 28, 2021 Board Meeting, it was decided that we should start planning for the 2021 Christmas Party. We recognize that it may be a little early; however, it has been a while since we had this event and we may need the extra time to get back up to speed. In addition, our new Activity Chairman (Gene Rainville) never planned this event in the past. Please consider volunteering to help him plan and get ready for the Christmas Party. Please contact Gene at 703 489-7321 or by email at [rainvillegl@gmail.com](mailto:rainvillegl@gmail.com).

### **Just a couple reminders:**

**May - Friends of GWC Breakfast** will be held at the Fair Oaks Silver Diner on May 12 beginning at 9 a.m. The Silver Diner has upgraded their ventilation system for COVID and maintains 6ft distances between tables. The address is 12251 Fair Lakes Parkway. It's at the corner of Fair Lakes Parkway & West Ox Road in Fairfax. GWC Point of Contact is Gene Rainville, 703 489-7321 or [rainvillegl@gmail.com](mailto:rainvillegl@gmail.com). See you there – drive your A's if possible.

The **White Mountain Adventure 2021 National Tour** is scheduled for June 20 thru June 25. A second hotel has been added to meet the National Tour demands. If you plan to attend - suggest that you make your reservations as soon as possible. The January/February "Restorer" has the initial details for this tour and the March/April "Restorer" has all the updated details. Daily tours include Mount Washington Valley - Route 153 Museums and Wolfeboro, NH - Kancamagus Highway - On Golden Pond Kennebunk Highlights. The MAFCA point of contact is Dave Libbey at (774) 293-0085.

**Consider purchasing a hat:** The Board has purchased 30 yellow ball caps for resale to Club Members. The price is \$15 per hat. They can be redeemed for cash or check at any of our scheduled Club events.



*Gene Rainville*  
703 489-7321  
[rainvillegl@gmail.com](mailto:rainvillegl@gmail.com)

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **May**

**May 12 (Wednesday) - Friends of GWC Breakfast at 9 a.m. at the Fair Oaks Silver Diner. See details above.**

May 14-15 (Friday -- Saturday) – Luray Pre-war Swap Meet. – This event offers auto, transportation, steam, and gasoline power plant, antique tools, and farm equipment – related items from the 1800's through the 1940's. Public Admittance: Friday May 17 -- 18, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. Location is at the Comer-Jones VFW Post 621, 218 Veterans Lane in Luray Va. Club Members may attend individually or as a group.

**May 19 (Wednesday) - Monthly - Membership Zoom Meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

May 23 (Sunday) 2<sup>th</sup> Annual Prince William Cruisers Hundred Car Pile Up – Car Show will be held from 9:a.m. to 3 p.m. The location is Springfield American Legion Post 176 at 6520 Amherst Ave Springfield, VA. Registration is open from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Trophies for: Top 50, Best Paint, Best Engine, and Best of Show in Memory of Joe Mizer. For more information, please call 703 971-8455

**May 26 (Wednesday) - Monthly Board Meeting will resume in person at 7:00 p.m. Site to be determined.**

### **June**

June 7 – 11 (Monday – Friday) - MARC National Meet in Oshkosh, WI (see p. 18)

**June TBD - Potomac & C&O Canal Tour. This Tour is in the planning stages. We hope to have this tour finalized by mid-May. More to follow in the next few weeks.**

June 7 thru 11 – Oshkosh, 2021 MARC National Meet – Location is Oshkosh, WI. For details see Model A News Restorers Club March – April Magazine

**June 9 - Friends of GWC Breakfast at 9 a.m. at the Fair Oaks Silver Diner. See details above.**

**June 16 – Monthly Club Meeting – First in person meeting for 2021. 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, McLean. Hope to see you there.**

June 19 – Asbury Methodist Village Father's Day Car Show from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please register by June 11. This show is closed to the public. Only residents of the Village, vehicle drivers and family members of the drivers will be in attendance. Screening and Safety Protocols will be in place. Due to COVID Concerns, no food or beverage will be available. Contact person is Patty Malatt pmalatt@asbury.org 301 987-6408

June 20 thru 25 - The White Mountain Adventure 2021 National Tour - see details above.

**June 23 - Monthly Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Location TBD**

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1931 Coupe 45B with added cowl lights. Very good condition. Owned for 11 years and in that time, brakes were rebuilt using Randy Gross's cast iron drums and bonded shoes; rebuilt carb, starter, generator, water pump, horn. Replaced gas tank, cut-out with a voltage regulator (Fun Projects canister), radius ball, points, plugs with 3x plugs, battery. Had repaired a growing crack in driver's-side fender. Paint is a 5-footer with one not very obvious exception (chip). Comes with a custom fitting inside garage cover. Lots of tread on tires but white SW are checked. Good city driver but if you intend to tour, I would go with white SW tubed radials. Summary of 11 years of maintenance available. Pictures available. Also 2 short videos, which I will send to you if you email me your cell phone number. \$13,500. Contact Bud Pratsch at 703-620-2518 or lpratsch@verizon.net



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The Maryland Chapter  
of the  
Model T Ford Club International

presents the

COVID Safe 5T Tour

Sunday, June 13, 2021

Approximately 9:30am-3:30 pm

In deference to the uncertainty of COVID restrictions & circumstances, this will intentionally be more of a driving tour with fewer stops.

Join us for an 80~90-mile ride through the countryside of Carroll County in Central Maryland

**Highlights include:**

- ❖ Leisurely & Scenic drive to view several Barn Quilts
- ❖ Outdoor Picnic Lunch at Historic Grist Mill
  - ❖ **Bring your own Lunch\***
  - ❖ No Restaurants or Food options nearby
  - ❖ Food Options are available near Tour start
- ❖ And of course, a stop for everyone's favorite creamy cold summertime treat at an outdoor stand



\* Participants are responsible for providing their own food

**Tour Details:**



- Location: 16104 Frederick Road Woodbine, MD
- Times: Arrive: 9:00 am -- Driver's Meeting: 9:30 am
- Options nearby to pick-up food for lunch: High's, Dunkin, McDonald's, Food Lion

If Model T is unavailable, drive the oldest antique car available

A "Rescue Truck & Trailer" will be available "just in case" & can carry lunch coolers

For additional information, please contact: Erik Krause @ 301-370-1693 or erikk@krausecp.com



Pictured is the new Squad coverall, which costs \$40. Paul thinks the quality is acceptable and the fit of the “large-regular” is good for Paul’s 6-ft, 200 lb. self, So expect a well-dressed crew to show up the next time you need help with your Model A.