

The Ford Script



Vol. XLVI

January 2025

No. 1



What we'll need this month. Submitted by Luke Chaplin



Dedicated to the restoration and preservation of Model A Fords
62 Years 1963-2025

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
Post Office Box 971
McLean, VA 22101

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 and the Model A Ford Museum (MAFFI). The chapter Web page on the Internet may be accessed by:

www.gwcmodela.org

Web Master: Greg Shepherd

Board of Directors

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VP & Program Chairman	Don White	703-623-9805
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Tool Chairman	Benny Leonard	703-863-5814
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National Liaison	Doug Tomb	703-967-5229

Appointed Positions

Concessions Chairman	(vacant)	
Club Librarian	Jay Melton	703-966-7719
Historian/Archivist	Doug Tomb	703-967-5229
Sunshine Chairman	Jim Gray	410-353-0381
Technical Advisor	Tom Terko	240-463-6455

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

Next deadline: Monday, February 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year!

The new year is upon us. Amazing how quickly the year goes by. We are expecting some snow in the next few days, so we shall see how that develops.

Shuyan and I visited the Hillwood mansion on the edge of Rock Creek Park after Christmas. We went last year and drove the Model A, but didn't do that this year as the weather wasn't quite as good. We both thought a Model A would look good parked at the entrance to the mansion.

The Club had a good Christmas party and gift exchange. The gift exchange got off to a slow start, but then the trading of gifts commenced and livened things up. We had lots of cookies and other refreshments, so we added to everyone's holiday caloric intake.

I got a call from Joe Freund of the V8 club about coordinating the two clubs' Christmas parties so they don't fall on the same day like they did this year. Apparently, the restaurant the V8 club uses didn't have the date the club wanted, so they had to move it and it conflicted with our party. We are synched up for next year, so that won't happen in 2025.

January is the indoor swap meet, which is always fun, so be sure to root out some parts to bring. I will be away during January's meeting, so I won't have the chance to load up on treasures.

Notice will go out soon for those in the MARC mileage program. Dave Greenwood is now in charge of the program. Those who are not members of the program should join. Only one dollar to MARC to sign up.

Over the holidays I have been trying to rectify a problem with the speedometer cable in my roadster. The end of the cable that goes into the transmission has a fitting that comes loose. I used a combination of epoxy and some vise grips to crimp the piece onto the cable. Hopefully that will work. I cleaned the end piece and the cable with degreaser, so hopefully my combination of fixes will solve the problem and provide a more accurate record of my miles driven for 2025.

We had a few nice days before Christmas so I took the roadster out for a short trip around the neighborhood to exercise it a bit. Driving around with the top down in the brisker weather is always fun.

The new (mostly old) board kicks things off for the year next week, so we should have an active year ahead of us. The good news is that two national events are planned for our area. Unfortunately, one of them, the MAFCA tour, overlaps with Sully. Maybe we can coordinate something with MAFCA around Sully. The MARC national meet is in Gettysburg and there may be opportunities for the Club to help out there, too.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Cont.)

Finally, it is New Year's Resolution time, so make at least one resolution for your Model A. Join a tour, take it out once a week for a drive, or finish some project that hadn't quite gotten done last year. I have multiple resolutions for the year, one of which is to get my Town Sedan roadworthy again.

I am looking forward to an active year for the Club, so come along for the ride.

Milford

FROM THE EDITOR

On May 19, 2017, I was returning from an event at Fort Hunt Park when "Blaze" caught fire as I was exiting Rock Creek Park. My fire extinguisher was useless against the flames. Apparently, the tube running from the shut-off valve had disengaged and gas was dropping straight onto the blistering hot manifold. Eventually, the fire department arrived and blasted the fire into oblivion.

My insurance company pronounced the car a total loss, but I wasn't so sure. Only the hood, body and interior appeared to be affected. The engine, overdrive, drive train and undercarriage were undamaged by the fire. So, I had it towed down to North Carolina, where Don Temple started the repairs.

He had hoped the body was ok but it turned out to have been too warped by the fire, so he eventually found a replacement. Then LeBarron Bonney went out of business. Donnie was not remotely happy with the 2 remaining antique upholstery companies, so the search was on to find someone else. After nearly 8 years, he came up empty. All the people he knew who used to do good upholstery work had aged out and didn't want to get back into it.

The other problem was finding someone who would paint a disassembled car without charging an astronomical price. We found several places, but they would only paint assembled cars and preferred to do insurance work anyway. The few places he talked to who would paint the car disassembled would charge more than the car was even worth to do it.

So, after nearly 8 years, with no end in sight, I threw in the towel. This fall, Donnie found a buyer and sold the running gear for a very good price. The body is still available, but since it's not Blaze's body, I have no emotional tie to it. I hated to do it, but time is not on our side. So, Blaze is no more. It had a good run, but all things must eventually come to an end. RIP Blaze.

FROM THE SMOKE-FREE ROOM

There was no board meeting held in December because it would have fallen during the Christmas holidays. The new board will begin its work on January 22nd.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO

"WELCOME TO THE NEW MILLENIUM!!!" graced the cover of the January Ford Script, heralding in the year 2000. Newly elected Chuck Manns took the presidential gavel from Clem Clement, who had served the office for two years. In his column, now called "From the President's Desk," Chuck lauded Clem, saying a standard of performance had been established that he hoped he could achieve, and that Clem had been involved in every aspect of Club activities. He thanked the Board and Officers for their efforts in behalf of Club members during 1999 and congratulated the new members saying it is this group who have committed themselves to providing the leadership necessary to bring our Club into the next millennium.



Editor Bill said it was his fifth year editing and that he was proud to serve once again, and "time sure flies when you're having fun." Jon Phillips, Membership Chairman, wasn't fooling around. If you hadn't yet paid your dues, you got a big red warning on the cover of the January 2000 Ford Script saying "LAST ISSUE Please renew your membership."

During December of 1999 we lost two devoted members. Dewey Burleigh and Bob Dalton. Dewey was Bill Worsham's uncle. Bill said he had many happy memories of Dewey and his Model A's. He owned a '29 Tudor and a '31 Victoria that had previously belonged to Jack Knowles, who was one of the founders of our Club. Bob Dalton had recently retired from Channel 9 News after more than 30 years with them, and was very active in promoting our hobby. He did a lot to help push Sully every year by getting us air time to advertise the show. He drove a '30 Deluxe Coupe that our late member Trueman Burn was handling the sale of for Bob's widow Fumiko.

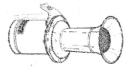
It is noted that even then, the January meeting was to be the traditional winter flea market.

Time for a little humor;
The Wolf is shaved
so neat and trim
Red Riding Hood is
chasing him

Burma-Shave

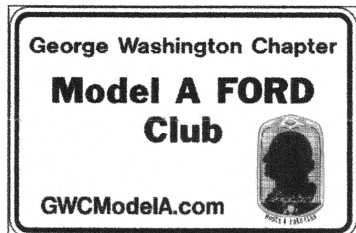
Dave Henderson

MAGNETIC CAR SIGNS



From your Activities Chair, Val Faircloth

The GWC Magnetic Car Signs for parades and shows are designed and ready to be printed. The club will order sets and make them available for members to borrow/return for activities.



However, if you wish to purchase your own set, you may order them for \$75 per set (2 signs per set).

If you only want 1 sign, please find a club member to partner with, and one of you submit the order.

Orders will be accepted until Saturday, February 1, 2025.

You may text me at 703-609-6713 followed by a check, email me at valerie.faircloth@gmail.com followed by a check, or you can send a check along with a note indicating how many sets you would like via snail mail.

Please make checks payable to: "GWC Model A Ford Club" and mail to me at:

Valerie Faircloth - GWC
803 Potomac Ridge Ct.
Sterling, VA 20164-1370

2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES

It's time to renew your GWC membership for another fantastic year! Dues remain the same:

- **\$20** for email memberships (includes newsletters, event invites, and more).
- **\$30** for members receiving paper newsletters.
-

How to Pay:

1. **Mail:** Send checks payable to GWC to:
Jeff VanGorder
46363 Newfield Place
Potomac Falls, VA 20165
2. **In Person:** Cash payments are accepted at the general meetings.

We're also working on new electronic payment options—stay tuned for updates. For now, please **avoid** using PayPal or Venmo.

Lifetime Members: No dues are required—you're all set!

A Friendly Reminder: To simplify bookkeeping, we kindly ask that payments be for 2025 only. Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. We're excited for another year of memorable events, camaraderie, and celebrating our love for Model A Fords. See you soon!

Jeff VanGorder

CARL PATRICK AWARD

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the honor of receiving the Carl Patrick Award. The award was named after Carl Patrick, who was a member of the Club in the 1970s and '80s. During his time with the Club, Carl set the standard for helping fellow Club members, promoting the hobby and giving of his time.

While I find it difficult to accept that my participation merits such recognition, I am deeply appreciative. It is truly humbling to be recognized in this way, especially given the remarkable contributions of so many others within our Club. This award is as much a reflection of their contributions as it is of my own.

To that end, I would like to mention all the past winners to highlight this rarified company:

Millard Springer	1985
Dick Lebkicker	1986
John Kandl	1987
Chuck Zierdt	1988
Bill Worsham	1990
Andy Pogan	1994
Don Temple	1997
Herschel Brummit	2000
Stan Johnson	2001
Benny Leonard	2003
Tom Terko	2005
James Kolody	2019
Benny and Sharon Leonard	2020
John Dougherty	2023

With deepest gratitude,
Shep



JANUARY MEETING AND SWAP MEET

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, January 15!** Join us at the American Legion Hall in McLean, Virginia, for an evening of fun and fellowship.

Doors open at **7:30 p.m.** for a special **swap meet and flea market**—a great way to kick off the year with our Club community. This isn't your usual business meeting; it's an opportunity to:

- Declutter your garage, shed, or workbench.
- Sell those extra parts, tools, and treasures you no longer need.
- Discover unique finds for your collection!

Take a stroll through your stash and see what might find a happy new home. We can't wait to see what treasures you'll bring!

THE MAFFI MINUTE

Here's wishing you a wonderful holiday season and please share the messages below with your clubs and Model A friends:

The Model A Museum will be closed from January 1 through 26, 2025, for expansion demolition and the Gilmore's renovations. The first half of the month, the wall between the current Model A museum and the expansion is coming down so exhibits and vehicles have to be moved. The 2nd half of the month, the Gilmore grounds will be closed because Gilmore is redoing flooring. Everything should be back open beginning January 27, 2025.

This month I'm sharing the President of the Model A Ford Foundation's message:

Dear Model "A" Owners and Hobbyists,

Thank you for your continued support of The Model A Ford Foundation Museum, located on the grounds of The Gilmore Car Museum. Through your membership and donations, we have been able to establish a world class museum exhibiting displays of vehicles, era fashions and memorabilia associated with the Ford Model A.

The Model A Ford Foundation is in the process of expanding our museum another 8,400 square feet. This expansion will allow several more vignettes, a Learning Center Garage, and restrooms to be added for your enjoyment. The Foundation's income primarily comes from annual membership dues, the selling of museum items such as bricks, proceeds from our annual Model "A" Days and from club and individual donations. We ask that you consider giving an additional gift to help us support The Museum. Your gifts allow us to continue supporting our hobby with one of the best museums anywhere in the world.

All of us associated with the Model A Ford Foundation wish you and yours well this Holiday Season. Thank you again for your generous donations.

Best Regards,
John Begg
President



ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE FASHION COMMITTEE

Fashion Display Judging at Gettysburg National Meet

The Fashion Committee will be implementing “Fashion Display Judging” at the 2025 National Meet in Gettysburg. This will be a ‘trial’ for both the Committee and the Entrant. This will show us what works and what does not. Ribbons will be awarded for this “trial”.

The same basic rules of judging will be the same as if the garment was worn except, you place all articles on a table display. A dress form placed close to the table will be allowed. A clear covered box would be allowed for the safe keeping of jewelry items. At the time of this writing we do not know the size of the tables. If they are banquet size, they will be taped down the middle for 2 displays side by side. We are planning for 4 foot of space per display.



Keep in mind, that as with ‘in person’ judging all items in a display must be appropriate for the major garment. Hat and gloves for a day dress, house dress would not have a hat, evening dress would have a hair ornament rather than a hat. The same applies to men's and children's clothing; if it would be needed for in person judging, then it should be displayed. The display could be all Original items, all Reproduction items, or Blended which includes both Original and Reproduction items.

For the time being, please refer to judging guidelines in the MARC “Fashion Standards” book as the MARC Fashion Committee further develops the specific guidelines for this new judging area.

So if you have a garment that doesn't fit properly, this is the perfect opportunity to have it displayed.

This will not count as an official showing, so consider it a practice run. We will be awarding ribbons and a critique of your display. After judging, we would appreciate your feedback on the overall new judging category process.

The Fashion Committee will be presenting an interactive seminar at the Membership Meet in Nashville, Indiana to explain more about ‘Display Fashion Judging’. The Committee hopes you can attend and hope you will consider entering a display at Gettysburg.

The MARC Fashion Committee

George Washington Chapter 2024 Approved Budget - AS OF 12/31/2024

OPERATING BUDGET

#2

<u>Budgeted Income</u>	<u>Contact</u>	2023 Actual	2024 DEC	2024 ACTUAL
Membership	VanGorder	\$ 2,895.00	\$ 935.00	\$ 3,162.00
Misc Income (Donations)	Tomb	\$ 65.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 280.00
Programs & Technical Seminars	White	\$ 56.00	\$ -	\$ -
Club Tours & Activities	Faircloth	\$ 1,460.00	\$ 920.00	\$ 1,430.00
Script Advertising	Bass	\$ 450.00		\$ 650.00
Hands on Seminars, Repair	Leonard	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sully Income	Dougherty	\$ 13,826.50	\$ -	\$ 12,839.00
Total Income		\$18,752.50	\$1,925.00	\$18,361.00
<u>Budgeted Expenses</u>				
Membership	VanGorder	\$ 868.07	\$ -	\$ 1,027.38
Club Programs	White	\$ 1,650.34	\$ -	\$ 52.73
Club Tours & Activities	Faircloth	\$ 5,701.44	\$ 2,754.38	\$ 4,876.88
Tool Shed / Tools	Leonard	\$ 308.63		\$ 428.52
Sully Car Show Expenses	Dougherty	\$ 4,445.04	\$ -	\$ 4,153.17
Web Hosting Expense	Shepherd	\$ 163.22	\$ -	\$ 165.22
Presidents Fund	Sprecher	\$ 943.63	\$ -	\$ 1,049.51
Secretary Supplies	Greenwood	\$ 157.40	\$ -	\$ -
Treasurer Supplies & Insurance	Tomb	\$ 552.46	\$ -	\$ 2,802.70
Total Expenses		\$14,790.23	\$ 2,754.38	\$14,556.11

UNDER/(OVER) Revenue

\$ 3,962.27

\$ 3,804.89

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CONTRIBUTION BUDGET

MAFFI	Board	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MODEL A YOUTH REST AWARD	Board	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
SCHOLARSHIP	Board	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 4,500.00
AFRH	Board	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -
MILEAGE AWARD EMBLEM	Board	\$ 263.92	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL		\$ 2,263.92	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00

WELLS FARGO BANK CD + RESERVE FUND (Information only)

WELLS FARGO ONE YEAR + CD	Board	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Peyton Randolph Memorial Fund	Remainder		\$ -	\$ -
		=====	=====	=====
		\$ 10,000.00		

Total Expenses	\$ 17,054.15	\$ 2,754.38	\$19,556.11
	=====	=====	=====
Sum Income and Expenses	\$1,698.35	-\$829.38	-\$1,195.11
Current Bank Balance + CD as of 12-31-2024	\$ 33,712.63		
Beginning of year Balance (01-01-2024 Actual)	\$ 34,907.74		

ROCKVILLE SHOW REVIEW



Car Show Post Meeting Agenda *Monday, December 9, 2024, at 7 p.m.* *Glenview Mansion*

Welcome & Introductions

2024 Recap

- Mayor and Council Award Winner: 1957 Chevrolet Corvette owned by Cal 'Tark' Milans
- 2024 Figures
 - Registered: 661 total Registrants
632 Show Cars 5 Sale Cars 23 Flea Spots
 - At Show:
513 Show Cars 4 Sale Cars 20 Flea Spots
- Event
 - What worked?
 - Improvements

2025 Event Details

- Saturday, October 18, 2025, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Rockville Civic Center Park
- Registration fee increase - \$5 increase across all registration types.

Registration Type	2024 Fees	2025 Fees
Show Car	\$10 Early Bird, \$20 Regular	\$15 Early Bird, \$25 Regular
Flea Space	\$30 Early Bird, \$40 Regular	\$35 Early, \$45 Regular
Sale Car	\$30 Early Bird, \$40 Regular	\$35 Early, \$45 Regular

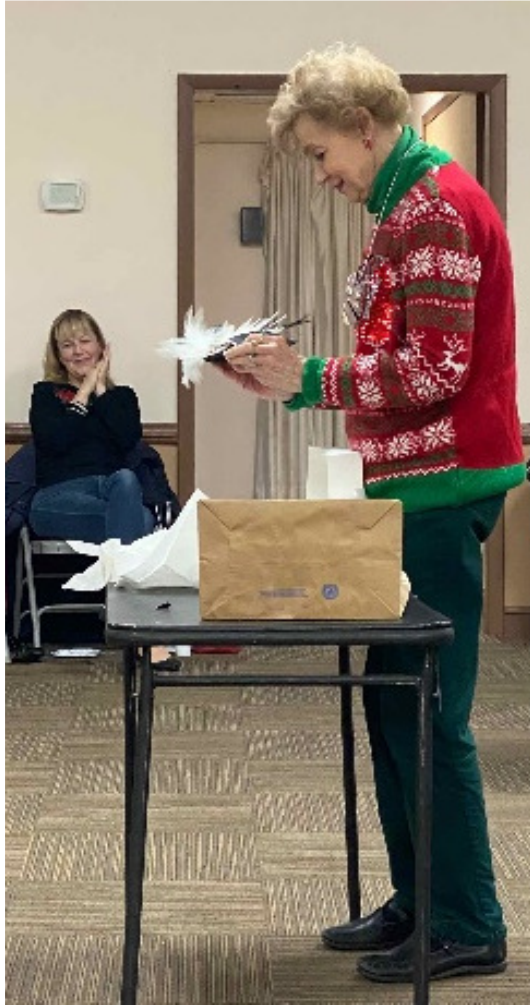
*Early bird rates have not increased since 2008.

* Show Car, regular rate was last increased from \$15 to \$20 in 2012

Special Display

- Special Display Commitment and Tasks
 - Assist with finding vehicles for the display (approx. 20-30 cars)
 - Collecting vehicle details, coordinating with owners
 - Serving as the liaison between the city and the display participants
 - Provide a write up in the program.
 - Be onsite at the show to assist display cars into the correct spots in addition to having a club members place vehicles in your clubs regularly assigned field spot.
- Are there any clubs with an idea, and willing to take on the management of the special display?

SEEN AT THE DECEMBER "BROWN BAG" MEETING



Laurel Gauthier and Jeff VanGorder open their presents



CLUB LIBRARY

of copies

Title

Books

2	Henry Ford by Carol Gelderman
1	90 Years of Ford by George H. Dammann

Videos and/or DVDs

8	Brakes/Distributor/Headlights GW Chapter Presentation
1	1st Annual Washington Congressional Concours d'Elegance
1	Brake Adjustment (Millard Springer)
1	Carburetors & Carbohydrates
1	Engine Bearing Adjustment (Millard Springer)
1	Engine Rebuilding (Bud Schwalm)
1	Engine Swap (Andy Pogan)
1	Ford The Man & The Machine (drama)
1	Generator Rebuild Gennin' Along with Lloyd and Floyd
1	Hammer Welding Techniques
1	Headlight Fundamentals (Millard Springer)
1	How to Avoid Fahrenheit Fright (Cooling System)
1	How to Stop on a Dime
1	"Kustom" Painting Secrets
1	Model A Ford Locks & Keys
2	Model A Ford Starter Rebuild (Luke Chaplin)
2	Parks Plus
2	Patch Panel Installation
1	Rust Repair
1	Model A Distributor Part I Tech Info (Millard Springer)
1	Model A Distributor Part II Rebuild Info (Millard Springer)
1	Model A Muffler (Walt Bratton)
1	TV Show for Sully 1993 (Bob Daulton)
2	Henry Ford Biography / 1998 Sully
1	1993 Sully / Rockville Antique & Classic Car Show

Please contact the Club Librarian Jay Melton at 703-966-7719 or jmelton58@verizon.net to secure books, videos and DVDs.

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TRAFFIC LIGHTS WERE INVENTED BEFORE STOP SIGNS

(From <https://historyfacts.com/science-industry/fact/>)

Although modern traffic lights are inextricably linked with the automobile, the world's first traffic light existed nearly 20 years before German inventor Karl Benz patented the first modern car. On December 9, 1868, a 20-foot-tall traffic light was installed at the intersection of Bridge Street and Great George Street outside the Palace of Westminster in London, as a way to control the flow of carriage and pedestrian traffic. An adaptation of the signaling system used by railroads, the light used pivoting "arms" (known as semaphore arms) to communicate "stop" and "go" during the day, and gas-powered red and green lights at night. (Unfortunately, relying on gas proved to be a serious problem when the traffic light exploded less than a month later.)

Surprisingly, this complex signaling system predated the idea of a simple stop sign by nearly 30 years. Stop signs originated in response to appeals for some sort of safety signage to tame the chaotic streets of early 20th-century America, which lacked speed limits, directional signs, or any traffic laws. In the year 1900, New York businessman William Phelps Eno (considered the father of U.S. traffic law, though he never drove a car himself) wrote an article suggesting stop signs be placed at intersections. It took another 15 years, but the first stop signs were installed in Detroit, Michigan — the heart of the U.S. automotive industry — and the idea was soon exported to the rest of the country and around the world.

People who cross the world's busiest intersection every day (in Tokyo)--2.4 million

Year inventor Garrett Morgan created a three-signal traffic light--1923

Days the world's first gas-powered traffic light operated before exploding--24

Time (in hours) an average American spends at red lights each year--58.6

Did you know? Stop signs were originally black-and-white squares. Although red octagonal stop signs are a fixture of today's roads, the stop sign has undergone a few changes over the years. Early stop signs in Detroit were 2-foot square pieces of sheet metal with black lettering on a white background. The first official signs to use the iconic octagonal shape arrived years later in 1923, courtesy of the Mississippi Valley Association of State Highway Departments, which decided that the number of sides on a sign should convey the level of danger. Eight was the second-highest danger level. The highest is the circle, which technically has infinite sides, and is used for railroad crossings in the U.S.



COMING EVENTS

January 2025

January 8 (2nd Wednesday) – GWC & CDC Breakfast – Fair Oaks Silver Diner – 12251 Fair Lakes Parkway – 9:00am

January 15 (3rd Wednesday) – Monthly Membership Meeting – McLean American Legion Hall 7:00pm. Annual Flea Market (see p. 8 for more info).

January 22 (4th Wednesday) – Board Meeting

February

February 12 (2nd Wednesday) – GWC & CDC Breakfast – Fair Oaks Silver Diner – 12251 Fair Lakes Parkway – 9:00am

February 19 (3rd Wednesday) – Monthly Membership Meeting – McLean American Legion Hall 7:45pm

February 26 (4th Wednesday) – Board Meeting—Zoom at 7:00pm

Save the Date!

May 18 (Sunday) – Oak Hill Farm Model “A” Gathering – Aldie, VA – Watch for more information in the coming months!!

December 6 (Saturday) – Annual GWC Christmas Party at American Legion Hall – Fairfax, VA

WANT ADS

For Sale

1930 Coupe Bart Foster, a friend of Wayne Parker, is selling his 1930 Deluxe Coupe. Asking \$15,000. The car has been garage-kept since his father-in-law bought it in the early 90's. He passed away this summer and the family is interested in selling it. A brief list of the car's features:

- Fresh professional engine rebuild (internal ignition advance installed)
- Transmission checked and resealed
- Interior redone
- Paint
- Trunk
- Toolbox

Contact Bart Foster at (540) 539-7071 or twofortheroad24@yahoo.com



>>>>>>

WANT ADS (Cont.)

For Sale

1931 Model A Town Sedan Slant Windshield with many upgrades, including new touring engine, new Mitchell Overdrive, 12-volt alternator, LED lights, master on/off switch, turn signals, 4 seat belts, 6 powder-coated wheels, dual side-mounts, new re-cored radiator with stone guard, leakless water pump, 4 new shocks, Lebaron-Bonney mohair interior, insulated firewall and doors, new channel felts in windows, safety glass, leather trunk, spare carburetor, other parts, fitted Town Sedan cloth cover, cast iron brakes. VIN on engine matches Virginia title. No rust or leaks. Runs great. Needs nothing. Excellent driver. Asking \$26,000. Contact: Mike Petty at 703-615-6513



MAFCA Restorer magazines. 185 issues going back from Jan-Feb 2020. These have removable tabs marking technical articles and indexes therein. Most issues have multiple tech articles so there is much much more information than in a full collection of the pricey series "How To Restore Your Model A". NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED.

Dave

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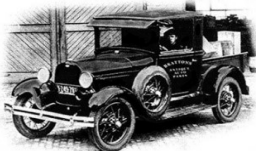
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