

The Oil Leak

OCTOBER 2005

Volume 43 Issue 10

2005 Officers

Officers:

President	Bruce Marshall 617-448-7373
Vice Pres	Tom Zappala 781-444-5825
Secretary	Janice Wright 978-658-5862
Treasurer	Gene Tallone 978-263-1257
Editor	Doug Linden 508-485-7575

Steering Committee:

Jo Johnson	Wayne Champagne
Bob Wright	Peter MacDonald

Key Contacts:

Tour Director	Dick O'Brien 781-237-3933
Membership	Nan Linden 508-485-7575
Sunshine	Helen Johnson 508-877-3152
Webmaster	Bruce Marshall 617-448-7373
Programs	Doug Linden



The Prez Speaks....

It has been a very busy month for the Minuteman club with much touring still happening. We had a fantastic tour to the Collings Museum in Stow earlier in the month with approximately twenty Model As, their drivers and passengers, enjoying the museum, grounds and a great picnic lunch. The weather could not have been better with bright blue skies and warm temperatures.

I am writing this on Sunday evening, just having returned from Long Island, NY and the 49th Annual New England Meet. The meet organizers from the Long Island Model A Ford Club should be congratulated for putting on such a great show. They had over 200 registrations, over 400 participants, 185 Model As and nineteen different clubs represented. The weather cooperated (no hurricanes) and was even better than the weather people predicted with no rain interfering with the festivities. Our Minuteman club was very well represented with approximately fifteen Model As making the trip down (and back) and we probably had 36 people from our club in attendance.

The "rotation" for the next six years of New England Meets has been more or less set and Minuteman will be hosting the 2007 meet provided the membership approves. Your Board of Directors has already given their tentative support and approval to the idea but they need the full support of the membership to make this meet happen. This doesn't mean just helping with parking cars

(continued on page 4)

Secretary's Report

Minuteman Model "A" Club Membership Meeting

September 6, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM by the President, Bruce Marshall. Bruce welcomed everyone who came out on this beautiful night. There were 55 members and guests in attendance and many cars in the parking lot.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were accepted as printed in the Oil Leak.

The President reported that he was looking forward to the dinner at the Wayside Inn on October 12th the New England Meet at Long Island, NY and the Fall Tour to Winnebago. He reported the trip to Fenway was "stunning". Check our Web page for pictures.

Vice President, Tom Zappala read notices about the Sandwich Auto Show to be held on September 17th, the New England Exposition on November 5th thru the 13th – 13 and Stow's Rotary Antique and Classic Car Show on September 24th. He also has raffle tickets for a cash prize to be awarded at the N.E. Meet.

Tom thanked Bruce and Doug for the input in the *Oil Leak* and Web Site. He was eloquent in his praise of both of them for the fine job they were doing.

Sunshine: It was announced that Skip Hurst has been sick and is now at home.

Oil Leak: Doug asked that all information for the Oil Leak be to him no later than September 21st.

Raffle: Wayne described the 3 prizes in the Raffle. Leslie Robbins won the first draw and took the wrong thing...her husband wanted the brake calibrator.

Shopkeeper: Harold Samuels has all the tan shirts that were order plus some extras. If you ordered a navy blue shirt, you must re-order. Nan Linden described the shirts that she and Jo Johnson had chosen: A man's jacket, matching man and woman's golf shirt, a denim-weight poplin shirt in tan (in lieu of the denim shirt), a woman's v-neck with collar plus several more. Most are available in tan with navy trim or navy with tan trim. Average cost: \$25.00 for shirts and \$55.00 for jackets.

Tour Director: Dick O'Brien reviewed the upcoming Tours (see your Tour Card). Bruce displayed the flag he received from a "legislator" in Nova Scotia and showed an article in the Cape Breton Island newspaper written about our tour through their island, We all received pins of the flag of Nova Scotia. This all happened at a "minor" breakdown.

Fall Tour: Janice Wright reported that 14 couples are signed up for the trip to Winnebago.

Refreshments for the October meeting: **Helen Johnson, Pauline Palmer and Bill Allen**

New Business: Art Callan read a clipping about the Wings of Freedom, a nationwide display of World War II aircraft (B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator). You can take either a ground tour or a flight. They will be at the Norwood, MA Airport September 30th to October 3rd. Art would also like you to save

the metal clips at the top of soda or beer cans. Kindly give them to him and he will in turn take them over to the Shriner's Hospital.

Nominating Committee: Consisting of Sally Legge, Gene Bunce, Tom Geagan, Rick Gadbois and Chairman, Dick Krug. The committee has been eager in their search for a Vice President. All other officers will remain.

The Board of Directors meeting will be held at the home of Janice and Bob Wright at 84 Church Street (Rte. 62), Wilmington on Thursday evening, September 15th. Supper will be served at 6:00 PM.

Bruce congratulated **David Willens**, a recipient of the MAFCA Youth Scholarship.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee reported that Tom Geagan has graciously agreed to be nominated for Vice President at our next meeting. The announcement was greeted with applause. The office is open for all other nominations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Wright
Secretary

COMING ATTRACTIONS

- ◆ **Oct 1, 2005...**Stow Airport Lunch and Fruitlands Museum 11:00AM Start
- ◆ **Oct 10, 2005...**Italian Dinner - Northborough 6:00PM Start
- ◆ **Oct 12, 2005...**Wayside Inn Dinner 7:00PM (**meet at the Inn**)
- ◆ **Oct 14-16,2005...**Weekend Tour to 49th to Lake Winnepesaukee
- ◆ **Oct 16, 2005...** Vintage Era car show at Endicott Estate in Dedham
- ◆ **Oct 26, 2005...**Dinner, Picadilly Pub, Marlboro 6:00 PM Start
- ◆ **Oct 29, 2005...**Doug to Douglas tour 10:00AM Start
- ◆ **Oct 5-8,2005...**Hershey, PA annual Flea Market

CONGRATULATIONS GRANDPARENTS - A special congratulation go to:



- Gene & Joyce Bunce on the arrival of grandson - **Max**
- Mike & Grace Doyle on the arrival of grandson - **Gavin**
- Jo Johnson/Jack Stokinger on the arrival of granddaughter - **Alyson**

Treasurer's Report....

August 16 - September 15, 2005

Income

Club Items Sold	\$577.00
Member Dues	100.00
Misc. (Int/Div/Change Value)	<u>1355.91</u>
Total Income	\$2032.91

Expense

Annual Picnic Expense	\$304.88
Banner	156.10
Club Items for Sale	1220.00
Meeting Coffee Supplies	9.37
Oil Leak Printing	188.70
Postage	271.60
Misc Tour Expense	<u>55.00</u>
Total Expense	\$2205.63

Net Income - \$172.72



(continued from page 1)

on a Saturday (not to say parking cars isn't important!) but actually serving on committees and doing all sorts of things. We will need workers and not watchers! Jo Johnson will be giving you all of the details at the October meeting and I hope we can move forward on this as soon as possible.

Don't forget to get your reservation in for the Wayside Inn dinner immediately. Seating is limited so don't delay.

I'm off to the Hershey AACA Fall Meet (the big flea market) and I'll not be at the October meeting. Your VP Tom Zapala will chair the meeting in my absence.

Bruce

ANNUAL AUCTION

The November meeting will be our annual Auction. Start gathering your auto parts that you want to donate to the auction.

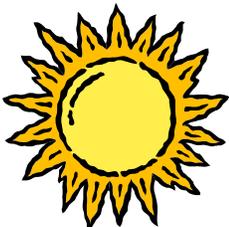
ALSO, we will again have our silent auction for those home items you no longer need.

More information in the Nov. Oil Leak.



A Keystone Cop directing traffic on the Grand Tour to Old Westbury Gardens at the 49th New England Meet on Long Island.

SUNSHINE REPORT



A get well card was sent to Skip Hurst. I talked with his wife June and she said he had a very serious operation for a hemotoma on the base of his spinal cord. He was paralyzed from it. Now after being in rehab, he is walking and doing fine. With love and prayers we wish him well.

I sent a sympathy card to Joan Taylor for the loss of her husband Snap. He will be missed by all. Our sympathies, thoughts and prayers are with Joan.

Please call me if you know of anyone that needs a card.

HELEN JOHNSON-----"SUNSHINE"

FROM THE ARCHIVES
(Submitted by Roy Johnson - Historian)

35 Years Ago --Oct 1970 -- Oil Leak missing from files.

25 Years Ago --Oct. 1980

20 members and guests were present at the meeting. Phil Iorio attempted to bolster our meager Treasury by his usual tactic --\$.25 fines for those without badges. Phil was more successful when he became the auctioneer at our annual auction of "Junque".

Treasury balance --\$465.97

The 16th annual rally was well planned by Glenn Bessert & Joe Demilla with ten families participating. Winners were: Clarks 1st; Frans 2nd; Wedges 3rd.

Our Foliage tour brought out only 5 Model A's so our Reservations for a hayride with cider and doughnuts had to be cancelled. That didn't stop us as we traveled through several towns with outstanding foliage with stops at the Bolton Country Store, Dick Batstone's home and Quick's Farm in Westboro. Our next tour is the annual frostbite. We'll leave Bldg. 19 at 1:00 PM on Nov. 16. All come!!

15 Years Ago --Oct. 1990

Officers for 1991 were nominated & voted in.

President-- Wayne Champagne

Vice Pres.--Dick Sneden

Treasurer--Phil Iorio

Tour Chairman --Ed Newman

Secretary --Art Callan

The December Holiday party has been organized by VP Wayne Champagne. We will be returning to the Natick Officers Club on Friday Dec. 7.

Treasury balance-- \$13443.23

Tour reports: 12 Minuteman families went Apple and Raspberry picking at the Tougas family farm in Northboro after enjoying picnic lunches. What was supposed to be our Annual Rally laid out by the Lindens and the Jacobsons turned out to be a 20 mile "mystery tour" which ended up at the the Annual Air Show at Norwood Airport. We obliged the DJ at the show by giving the crowd a parade of Model A's which was probably the hit of the day for many of the spectators.

Next month is our Annual Auction!

TOUR REPORTS

Aug 28th - Vintage Ford Day: Our tour began @ 9:00 AM sharp from the Grange. We had two cars in our caravan, the tour leader and Dick Stitt. I had my good friend Paul Bellevue riding shotgun. Paul doesn't have an antique but is an old car enthusiast.

Our route took us right past the O'Brien's where Dick & Barbara waited at the end of their driveway with the beautiful red pickup. We had a wonderful ride through the back roads of Wellesley, Needham, Newton and Brookline.

Once at the Museum of Transportation we met Minutemen Bucky & Josie, Art Callan, Gene Bunce, Peter and Paula Dolan, Mike Doyle, Ralph Parks & friend Yvonne, and Dom Utaro.

Many beautiful Fords were on display. One of the highpoints of the day was a walking tour of several selected vehicles (Model T, Hot Rod, Model A, 1953 Woodie). At each vehicle the owner spoke about his particular vehicle and it's importance to the auto world. We were well represented by Bucky being selected to show/explain the importance of the Model A and tell a little about his own roadster. We had beautiful weather, good food and wonderful company for a relaxing day.

Aug 30th - Subs and Ice Cream Tour: Tour leaders Wayne & Sue Champagne led an enthusiastic group of Minutemen to Southborough, albeit in moderns, due to the rainy forecast. The Linden's drove their "A" directly to White's Corner however, since they were so close to home. Subs were enjoyed by all at Quizno's. After which we went next door to Coldstone's for a special ice cream treat. The only limit to the ice cream flavor was your imagination as it can be prepared any way. It was a great night out, and it never did rain.

Sept 11th - Collings Museum/Picnic: The day couldn't have been better for the planned trip to the incredible Collings collection in Stow, MA. Arriving at the Grange, it was en-

couraging to see so many Model As ready for the tour. In fact, so many cars were on hand, we elected to leave the Grange in two smaller groups. Bob Collings met us and had the 22 Model As park in front of the Air Museum.



Bob gave the 39 Minutemen (and ladies) a personal tour of the planes. We were all amazed at the fortitude of the early pilots that flew some of these rickety looking planes. Another startling fact was when we were split into two groups and Bob explained that half of the early bombing missions in WWII did not return home. He also, gave us a tour of the race cars on display, some of which had won major races.

We moved on to the car collection and were in awe of the beautiful examples of the auto from the early 1900's up to the exquisite cars of the 1930's. One particular example was the Duesenburg, which was the personal car of Augie Duesenburg's personal car. We continued to view the rest the collection which had plenty of chrome and bright paint for everyone. We then adjourned to the to the front grass and enjoyed the great weather for our picnic. A great time was had by all.



49th ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND MEET...

is now history, but for the fifteen Minuteman families that attended the meet, it will live on in pleasant memories. The Model A Club of Long Island was the host club this year and was held in Smithtown, NY. at the Sheraton Hotel. Most of us arrived on Friday, but for those arriving on Thursday, self guided tours were available during the day and I heard a great dessert bar was set up Thursday evening. For the rest of us arriving Friday, there was the usual getting settled and meeting friends from other clubs. We also had to get ready for the welcome party, which had a "Roaring 20's" theme. Many of the guests attended wearing some kind of twenties attire and it sure looked great. Saturday morning was the Grand Tour. The 170 Model A's were lined up and were given directions to for the drive. We traveled about 30 miles to Old Westbury Gardens at the Phipps Mansion. All the Model A's on display, the Mansion and gardens, and the spectacular weather made for a great day. The Model A Hubley derby was in the afternoon and our own Nan Linden and Sue Champagne had entries. Unfortunately neither came in first, but Sue made a good effort. The Saturday banquet was very nice, with great food and an excellent band. Another night of dancing was enjoyed by all. And the



Nan and Sue square off for a Hubley Heat



Josie and Bucky show off their Treasure Chest

Model A Mailbox centerpieces was VERY hot items. Sunday morning was the Awards Brunch. The Model A awards were given out to some very nice cars in their classes. It was on to the raffle prizes next...and the first prize awarded was the \$2.7 Million (potential) lottery treasure chest. Guess who...Bucky and Josie won, let's hope all the scratching they have to do will pay off. The minuteman club won it's share of prizes...you'll have to ask

Nan Linden and Janice Wright about their winnings. The meet ended with well wishes to all, then it was a mad dash for many to the ferry for the trip home.

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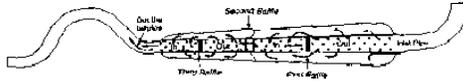
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Tech Tip

MODEL A ENGINE NUMBERS

The question of VIN number frequently comes up on the Model A. The concept of a vehicle identification number was started well after the Model A end, so there is no VIN for a Model A. The original titles for A's used the engine number for identification. The Model A engine number can be found on the boss on the driver's side of the engine just below the head. It was stamped on the engine after the break-in period. It take the form of a star, followed by either and A or AA, then the number, and finally another star. The AA was originally

used to specify the heavy duty clutch, however soon all engine had this clutch and the AA engine number was dropped. The engine was then crated and shipped to the assembly plants. As the engine was dropped into the frame the engine number was stamped on the frame rail. This number is not visible without lifting the body and even then it can be difficult to find. It may be lost to rust completely. Often times the numbers do not match due to swapping of engine in the car's history.

Longfellow's Wayside Inn Dinner

Wayside Inn Road, Sudbury, Massachusetts

** October 12, 2005 **

Cocktails at 6:00PM - Dinner at 6:30PM

Minuteman Model A Ford Club Annual Wayside Inn Dinner

Please join us for our annual dinner at The Wayside Inn.
This is a popular event and seating is limited, so don't delay!
Reservation deadline is October 5, 2005.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS RESERVATION FORM AND,
WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "MINUTEMAN MODEL A FORD CLUB"
MAIL TO:

Thomas Zappala
379 Charles River Street
Needham, MA 02492-1005

Reservation deadline is October 5, 2005

	Price per Person		Quantity		Total Price
Prime Rib of Beef	\$37.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Baked Scrod with Lemon Butter	\$32.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Boneless Breast of Chicken	\$32.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
				Total:	\$ _____

Dinner includes entree, salad, vegetable, potato, and dessert.
Price includes all taxes and gratuities!

Member name: _____

Spouse-Guest: _____

Address: _____

What's New for the Model "A"

(From the Ford Service Bulletins)

October 1928

The starter received some attention this month. A new starter switch spring and battery cable were introduced. The new switch spring is flat, which requires the starter motor terminal to be machined flat instead of angular. The new switch is slightly different than the old one, requiring the cable terminal to extend straight instead of at a right angle. On the distributor, a new breaker arm assembly is now being used. The spring is now riveted around the stud as an added protection against car theft. To install the "points" it is necessary to remove the breaker plate.

October 1929

A new head and gasket were introduced to improve water circulation. An elongated hole was placed in the gasket and head between No. 2 and 3 cylinders. The new gasket can be used with the old head, but do not use the old gasket with the new head.

The steering gear oil plug has been refitted with a 1/4" pipe plug instead of the Zerk fitting formerly used. This change will eliminate the possibility of mechanics putting grease in the steering box. Always use gear lubricant.

October 1930

Suggestions on keeping customer cars running in tip top shape are given in this issue. The focus was on the battery and charging system, keeping battery solution topped off and connection clean and tight. Checking the charging rate of the generator is also advisable. A new starter switch push rod grommet is now being used. This grommet is riveted in place holding the push rod firmly in place. For car and trucks equipped with the round split type rubber grommet, this type is now obsolete.

October 1931

The AA-17080-B truck jack assembly has been redesigned and is of heavier construction. The diameter of the screw has been increased to 1 1/4" and the number of threads per inch changed from 3 to 4. The top and bottom of the jack has been increased.

The red stripe on tires has been eliminated. However, it is still important to center the tire on the rim.

A Hub Puller Adapter is now available for the 5Z-1705 hub puller to help in the removal of 1930 and 1931 hubs.

Detailed instructions were provided for the installation of the Sportlight. Templates and the various brackets were detailed.



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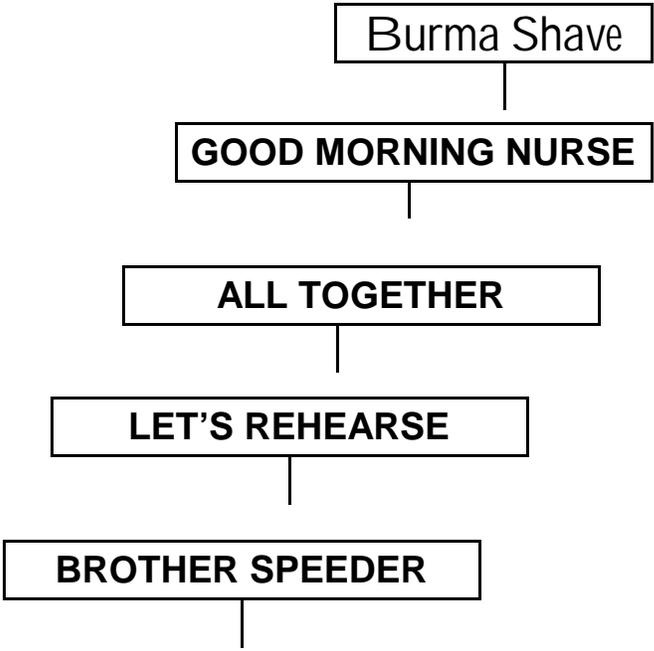
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2006 DUES is now being accepted



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OCTOBER 2005

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Be Sure to Visit www.oilleak.org

REMINDER

The October meeting will be at the Memorial Congregational Church.

If you ordered any new club apparel, you will be able to pick it up at the October meeting.



The next meeting will be October 4, 2005