

The Oil Leak

DECEMBER 2004

Volume 42 Issue 12

2004 Officers

Officers:

President	Peter MacDonald 508-877-9440
Vice Pres	Bruce Marshall 617-448-7373
Secretary	Gary Hoyt 508-655-0077
Treasurer	Dick Stitt 978-443-3196
Editor	Doug Linden

Steering Committee:

Gene Tallone	Jo Johnson
Bob Wright	Jim True

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Membership	Nan Linden 508-485-7575
Sunshine	Helen Johnson 508-877-3152
Webmaster	Bruce Marshall 617-448-7373
Programs	Doug Linden 508-485-7575



Peter's December Message

Once again my cheerful hello to everyone.

Well I guess by now you all know I missed a terrific club event which I enjoy and look forward to. **The Club Auction!!**

After 6 weeks of antibiotics, I am finally feeling like my old self once again. Fact is, I took the "A" out just this morning for a romp in the park; my thanks for the phone calls and cards.

I guess you all know we have our annual Holiday Party this month on December 6, again at the Marlboro Country Club. Don't miss this get together. . . there is still space available so call Bruce Marshall ASAP! The event committee is working diligently to provide you a festive and fun time, and luckily we have the wonderful music from the Swingers again this year. The Swingers are a live band with a singer – just terrific. Many thanks to Bucky and Joci for recommending the Swingers. If you can, please bring a holiday TOTS Christmas present--some child will benefit greatly for your generosity.

Last month I included the following, I think it is worth repeating Tours—Tours—Tours.

It's your company (not your car) that fills a room with warmth...as this season closes and the 2005 season opens under Bruce's leadership, keep this in mind: 50% of life is just showing up. Once again, my thanks to the club for your vote to support the MAFCA Youth Restoration Fund with a financial commitment. Lastly, I wish to thank you, the members, for the support and fellowship generously extended to me throughout the year, it was sincerely appreciated.

See you at the December Holiday Party....

Peter

Minuteman Model A Ford Club
Minutes for November 2, 2004 at Memorial Congregational Church in Sudbury MA

53 members and guests attended

Program: Annual Auction and Silent Auction with Gene Tallone (in Steve Goldberg's absence)
Gene, great job and fun evening! Thanks to the Silent Auction workers.

Vice President and Webmaster and "Acting President for the night" -Bruce Marshall

Bruce reported on the Wayside Inn Meeting held in October.

Reminder to members to sign up for the Holiday Party, December 3rd at the Marlborough Country Club.

Cost is \$20.00 for members and \$30.00 for guests. Dinner and live band.

Malcolm Lee from Concord introduced himself as a guest of Gene Bunce (Gene arrived later in the evening, for the auction.)

Jack Stokinger is recovering from knee surgery.

Secretary-Gary Hoyt

Minutes for October 2004 approved MSP as printed in The Oil Leak

Treasurer- Dick Stitt

Reports for two months were read and accepted. MSP

Other Reports

Sunshine - Helen Johnson...no report

Historian - Roy Johnson...no report

Membership - Nan Linden

Badge holders are in and will be passed out when dues are paid for 2005.

The Oil Leak—deadline ASAP

Video Librarian - George Day...no report

Shop Keeper - Harold Samuels...nothing to sell YET

Mileage and Raffles - Janice MacDonald/Wayne Champagne did the 50/50 raffle won by Tom Geagan

Tour Director - Dick O'Brien...Three tours are scheduled:

1. Frost bite Tour on 11/7
2. Bull Run in Shirley on 11/14/04
3. Mystery Tour on 11/21

Nominating Committee-Art Callan

Nominees for FY 2005

President – Bruce Marshall

Vice President – NO VOLUNTEER

Secretary – Janice Wright

Treasurer – Gene Tallone

Webmaster – Bruce Marshall

Electronic Oil Leak is currently sent to 20 members, more expected. Everyone still receives a hard copy. Web site now has "Members Only" section. The users name is oilleak and the password is minuteman. Email information is restricted for privacy.

New Business:

Since there is not a Vice President at this time, the three main functions of that position will be covered by three members as follows.

Summer Picnic – Bob Wright

Wayside Inn in October 2005 – Bayard Guild

Holiday Party – Irene Allen

Dick Stitt reported that we have agreed to continue to hold our monthly meetings at the Congregational Church in Sudbury for 2005. Dues are due...\$20.00 per member.

Refreshments for the January meeting: Sally Legge, Wilma Johnson and Wayne and Sue Champagne

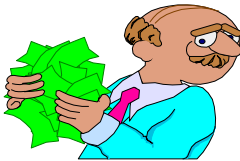
Adjourned at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted, Gary Hoyt

TREASURER'S REPORT

Accrual Basis October 15 through November 13, 2004
 Ordinary Income/Expense

Income	
Auctions	\$1,015.70
Coffee Can	20.88
Fines	5.00
Holiday Party	320.00
Member Dues	680.00
Misc.(Int./Div./Change Value)	12.01
Raffle (Club)	113.00
Wayside Inn Dinner	451.00
Total Income	\$2,617.59
Expense	
Donations	\$500.00
Dues & Subscriptions	35.00
Holiday Party General	218.31
Logo Design	153.90
Meeting Room	300.00
Oil Leak Printing	114.51
Postage	124.20
Wayside Inn Dinner Expense	1,184.80
Total Expense	\$2,630.72
Net Ordinary Income	-\$13.13
Net Income	-\$13.13



HOW TO START YOUR MODEL "A"

(From the Rumble Sheet - MAFC of LI)

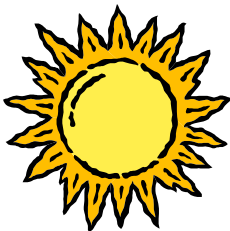
- The first thing you do when you sit at the wheel,
- Put both feet on the pedals till you get the feel.
- The next thing to do if the car must go
- Reach down for the petcock to open the flow.
- While your down there, give the choke a full turn,
- To increase the combustion when the gas starts to burn.
- This also tends to make the mixture rich.
- Now we are ready to turn on the switch.
- Pull down on the throttle and up on the spark.
- This very important if you want her to start.
- Step on the starter as you pull out the choke,
- Till you hear the engine fire on her very first stroke.
- A little more choke if she's cold, will do.
- Let her idle gently, for a minute or two.
- Ever so gently you release the clutch.
- This you must practice, till you get the right touch.
- If you always remember to press the clutch twice,
- You will shift the gears gently, quick and nice.
- After you've driven at a moderate pace,
- Remember to screw the choke back in its place.
- With a tank full of gas and a smile on our faces,
- We've got the day off and we're off to the races.

TOUR SCHEDULE*

- Dec 3*.....6:30PM.....Annual Holiday Party at the Marlborough Country Club
- Jan 4.....7:30PM.....Club Meeting and 2005 Officer Installation

* Tours start from the Sudbury Grange unless otherwise mentioned

SUNSHINE REPORT



No cards were sent this month. Please call me if you know of anyone that should receive a card for any reason.
 Helen Johnson--"Sunshine"
 November, 2004

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

MINUTEMAN MODEL A FORD CLUB

Membership Application 2005

Date _____

New Member / Renewal [circle one]

Last Name _____

First Name: _____

Spouse's Name _____

Phone: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip _____

E-Mail: _____

List Model A or other antique car information below:

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____ Restoration _____ %

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____ Restoration _____ %

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____ Restoration _____ %

Dues are \$20 per year. Make check payable to: Minuteman Chapter. You may bring this application to the next meeting or mail to:

Nan Linden, Membership Chairman PO Box 545, Sudbury, MA 01776

Membership includes husband and wife (or significant other) and dependent children.

Membership in the National Model A Clubs (MAFCA & MARC) is encouraged.

If you are over 80 years old and have been a paid member for the last 5 years you are eligible for free membership, if you would like to continue your membership just check here and return this form to the membership chairman.

CLASS "A" FIEDS

- **FOR SALE...**1930 Model A Tudor Sedan, Fully Restored, Maroon and Black, LeBaron-Bonney interior, New w/w tires, Hub Caps with Beauty Rings, Luggage Rack w/Fiberglass Trunk, New Shocks, 6Volt Alternator, Halogen Headlights, CB Radio and AM/FM Cassette Radio....\$16,000
Call Ken (781) 899-0922
- **FOR SALE...**1930 Pickup Fully Restored, Washington Blue, Tacoma Cream wheels, WW Tires. Runs and looks great, Overdrive. \$15,000 Call Bill Allen (781) 899-4360
- **FOR SALE...**1930 Deluxe Roadster, Washington Blue, a great driver Model A, take it anywhere. Call Bill Allen (781) 899-4360
- **FOR SALE...**1931 Coupe, Fully Restored, Dual Side Mounts, Rumble Seat, LB Interior, Green & Black, Excellent condition. Call Russell Pellegrine (617) 965-4659

Minuteman Model A Club Annual Holiday Party

When: Friday evening December 3, 2004

Time: 6:30 PM – 11:00 PM

Where: Marlborough Country Club
200 Concord Road
Marlborough, MA 01752

Live Band: The "Swingers" 4 piece band and vocalist

Dinner: Buffet style

Cash Bar

Appetizers

Multiple Entrees

Dessert

Coffee & Tea

Cost: \$20 per person for Minuteman MAFC members, spouses or SO (subsidized by club)
\$30 per Person non-members, Guests and Friends

Toys-for-Tots: Each person attending is asked to bring an unwrapped gift for a child

Member: _____

Spouse/SO/Guest/Non-member: _____

Number of member/spouse/and So's: _____ x \$20 each = \$ _____

Number of Guests and non-members: _____ x \$30 each = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make your check payable to: Minuteman MAFC and send by Nov 26, 2004

Mail with this form to: **Bruce Marshall**
Box 4054
Andover, MA 01810-0811

Fall Weekend Tour

Middletown, Rhode Island October, 22 - 24, 2004

story by Wayne and Susan Champagne

Weekend getaways are a perfect excuse to cruise in a Model A and the Fall weekender to Middletown, Rhode Island was no exception. Friday was cloudy with off and on mist as we left the Grange. The group spirits were in high gear as we traversed hill and dale along picturesque back roads taking in the beautiful Fall foliage as we made our way down to Middletown.

Our lunch stop at the Newport Creamery in Middletown was easily accomplished in just over three hours. The afternoon activity was filled by several of us taking in a "behind the scenes tour" of the Elms Mansion in Newport while others chose to catch a few extra winks back at the hotel after becoming "Red Sox sleep deprived". All covered the "bases" when it came to dinner at the Coddington Brew Pub only a short "throw" from the hotel. The Coddington Brew Pub makes its own beer on the premises with many palate pleasing beers like "Blueberry Ale" with real blueberries, a real "hit" with several Minutemen!

After breakfast at the I hop on Saturday morning the troop made its way over to Little Compton where we visited Ray Helger's fantastic collection of antique cars and auto related memorabilia.

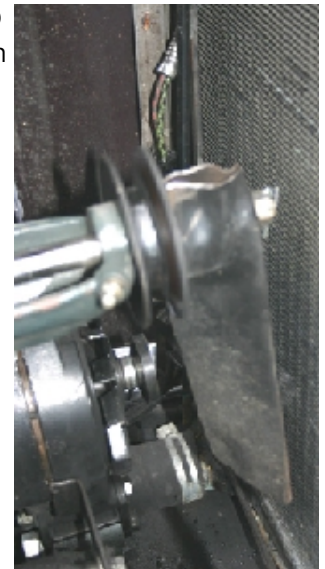


Ray's collection spans several large rooms jam-packed with many sought after collector cars and petro related items. After visiting Ray's the Minutemen got into the "spirit" by stopping into the

Sakkonet Winery for wine tasting and a few bottles to take home. Afterwards, the group divided into two with some continuing along for additional back road touring while others chose to head back to the hotel.

The back road-touring group encountered what could have been a devastating blow to Dick Berry's car while heading back to the hotel.

The breakdown occurred while traveling on Route 24 at about 45 miles an hour. Dick's fan of 70 plus years "gave up the ghost" as one half ripped off. A distress call was heard coming from the CB, "I think I just blew my engine!" We pulled over to find one half of the fan blade sitting in the engine splash pan with NO other damage!! Anyone who owns a Model A knows how very lucky Dick was not to have any major damage when this happens. He was able to drive the car back to the hotel where the able team of mechanics sprang into action replacing the fan along with the water pump in record time.



Dinner that evening was at the Glass Onion restaurant where we were surprised to have our prez. and first lady, Peter and Janice MacDonald join us. Sunday's tour back was perfect and trouble free as we made our way over to Putnam CT for antiquing and lunching in town. Again, the Fall foliage was in spectacular form heading home. All in all a very enjoyable tour destination for a weekend tour, which you could say was "a homerun". Thanks to the Callan's, Berry's, Guild's, Jacobsen's, along with Bucky, Joci, Jack Stokinger and Jo Johnson for making this trip a memorable event! - The Champagne's.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

(Submitted by Roy Johnson - Historian)

35 YEARS AGO---DECEMBER, 1969

The December meeting and Annual Banquet was held at Dick Hathaway's house in Weston. Seven couples attended. The small turnout for recent meetings have prevented us from holding nominations and elections. Our first order of business in 1970 will be to resolve that problem. One major reason for lack of attendance has been the inadequate facilities at the Co-op Oil Company including lack of water which meant no coffee during the winter meetings for the last 2 years. So, back to meeting at members houses until we can find a suitable meeting place. The January 13th meeting will be at George Reider's in Wrentham.

25YEARS AGO---DECEMBER, 1979

48 guests were present at the annual Christmas Banquet at the Wayside Inn Dec. 7. With a warm fire in the fireplace and plenty of good food consumed, we engaged in the Model A version of a " Yankee Gift Swap" with everyone trying their hand at tracing their gifts. The newly elected officers for 1980 were introduced :
President--Ed Wedge; Vice President--Glen Besert; Secretary--Doug Linden;
Treasurer--Phil Iorio.

15 YEARS AGO---DECEMBER, 1989

Having had the Annual Auction, election of officers and garage tour, we finish up 1989 with a unique Holiday party at the Natick Q M Officers Club. 70 guests enjoyed dinner and music (from the Model A era, of course) . Included in the Oil Leak is a reprint of a letter to Santa written by a Robert Kellner. Yes, our own Bob Kellner and the date (not given) was "way, way before the Model A was born" (according to Art Callan). The spelling is pretty bad so it must have been in your pre-school years---right, Bob?

Treasury Balance-----\$14,234.41



More pictures from the Weekend tour to Rhode Island. Above, members enjoy the grounds of the Elms Mansion in Newport, RI. To the right, Dick & Marcia and Bucky & Joci do some serious tasting at the Newport Winery.



WOBURN HALLOWEEN PARADE Sunday, October 31, 2004

Beautiful day, 65 degrees, light breeze, partly cloudy, ready at the Sudbury Grange just after 10AM, Jim True lead the tour on no Model "A's" 22 miles to the Woburn assembly area.

Ralph Parks with Elizabeth in a 1930 Coupe were already there; next Bucky Silvestrone and Joci joined. This was the 50th anniversary of the Woburn Lions Club hosting the Halloween Parade.

Lots of festive decorations and floats, marching units, antique and classic cars, police details, emergency equipment, youth sports teams and cheerleaders were in the parade. At the head of the parade was the color guard and units of the Woburn Host Lion Club. A large turnout of spectators lined the 3 mile parade route, waving flags and banners, all applauding and cheering. Lots and lots of Red Sox colors and displays celebrating the World Series victory.
Great Day

Barbara McElhiney, Tour Leader; Jim True Grange tour leader.



The Bull Run RESTAURANT



FROST BITE TOUR

On November 7th our Frost Bite Tour was a very pleasant 67 degree,....blue skies and sunny! A great day for a Model A Tour on country roads and a Sunday Buffet Brunch.

Ten Model A's and '67 Corvette carrying 25 hungry Minuteman members, did just that as we headed out to Shirley Massachusetts to the pre revolutionary tavern called, The Bull Run Restaurant. This landmark tavern built in 1747 actually served George Washington who stopped in for a cup of hot buttered rum. (not while we were there...) Presidents Ford and Carter also have had the pleasure of being served here.

The brunch buffet consisted of all kinds of breakfast foods and pastries plus seafood combinations, salads, pasta dishes, carving stations with roast beef, lamb and turkey. Dessert consisted of cheese cake, pecan pie, cakes and cookies...plus live entertainment.

After our sumptuous meal we all headed out in several directions...some east to a craft flea market and some west to a large indoor antique mall in Lunenburg.

Later as we headed towards home we all thought what a great day...to bad it's November...we have to start thinking of putting the A's away for several months and wait for spring touring and the Boston Red Sox spring training!...but wait, this is New England and the World Super Bowl Champion Patriots will be on T.V. at 4 P.M. this afternoon!!!

Thanks to the Allens, Champagnes, Ervins, Legges, Lindens, MacDonalds, Martins, O'Briens, Bob Scarano, Jim True & Cynthia, Wlodykas, and the Wrights it was a "wicked good" day!

Food and Ice Cream Tours

Well, the tour season is winding down and not much is happening, but we have managed to get the "A's" out this past month. Dick O'Brien led a group to Bur-tucci's in Marlborough on October 27th. Although, this tour almost got cancelled because of the Red Sox World Series competition. The group, however, thought that it could eat and run, which they did and were home in time to see the Red Sox victory. On October 30th, the terrific "Doug to Douglas" Tour was Canceled. The rains washed out what was planned to be a fun day and only a few people showed up at the Grange. I will have to reschedule this one for next year. The Woburn Halloween Parade tour was held on the 31st and Jim True's report is printed elsewhere. The Bull Run Brunch tour was a great success and what a beautiful day it was. Good thing it was on Nov 7th, as the next weekend the roads were covered with SNOW! Yikes, it's too early to be concerned about the white stuff. We only have one tour left, the Mystery Tour on November 21st, however the current forecast is for showers...we'll have to wait to see what really happens.

2005 New England Meet

I have been made aware that the Sheraton Hotel in Smithtown, Long Island is either sold out or almost sold out for the New England meet in September. I made my reservation shortly after returning from Cape Cod and got a room. I have heard that there is another hotel just down the road which has rooms available, so if your thinking of going, try the Sheraton ASAP, they may have a room or two. If not, you might want to call one of the chairmen to see what the alternative is. **Frank Ziegler 631-266-1363** or **Walter Blessing 631-757-3139**



Pres. Peter trying to muster up hurricane force winds to blow out the candle on his birthday cake while at the Bull Run Brunch. Happy - -th Birthday Peter.



Winter Auto Storage

Need to store your race, collectable or project car and/or trailer for the winter? Flatout Motorsports (www.flat-outmotorsports.com) offers secure, heated storage for reasonable rates. Take advantage of our new 3000 sq. ft facility in Bellingham. Contact Steve Ulfelder for details at **508-395-6591** or steve_u@flatout-motorsports.com

The Following discussion was taken from the internet. With all the engines being rebuilt by club members this winter, I thought that this might offer some insight into the options that are available to us when we consider rebuilding them. At the MAFCA Convention in Portland, OR this summer, insert bearing conversion was a major topic of discussion at the technical sessions. I might add, that some of the comments are the opinion of the responder and may or may not be valid.

Subject: Insert bearings

What exactly is the reason to install insert bearings versus poured babbit bearings? Is the babbit composition of today not good enough?

Thanks for your time and answers.

Joe

Joe:

I've done alot of research on Babbit versus Inserts and here's some of what I have found out.

1. The main reason to switch to inserts as I see it is that they are much more serviceable.... spin a bearing out and just pop a new one in. Also it's hard to open up an engine and see a insert bearing squeezing out all over the place.
2. Those who know how to do babbit and do it well are few in number, and unfortunately are for the most part elderly. These fellows are the few who can remember the days when ALL engines had poured bearings.
3. I think alot of the problems we have with babbit today is the lack of maintenance on the engines. Insert bearings are steel with a thin coating of babbit. Babbit by nature is relatively soft and cannot withstand undue force placed on it from loose bearings and will self destruct. That's why it is so important to check and adjust your bearings per Ford's schedule.
4. On the model A engine, the babbit in the rear main also forms the thrust surface of the engine. The babbit 'rolls over the edge' of the bearing and is faced during the boring operation to make sure the engine end play is kept in check. (end play is the movement of the crankshaft in the block in an in-and-out motion) Too much end play misaligns the rod to crank alignment. One of the greatest challenges I see to converting an engine to inserts is reliably allowing for the thrust surface, although I've seen a brass bearing that is being made that might be just fine...
5. There are no off-the-shelf insert bearings that will fit the model A engine... All of the bearing surfaces on the A are very wide my modern standards, and the solution to this is to put 2 inserts in each bearing. Additionally, the bearings used are from fairly old British sports cars, and I have misgivings about how long these bearings are going to be available.
6. Babbit by nature is soft, and therefore impurities in the engine oil will embed themselves in the babbit and the engine will keep on running, however with the inserts since the babbit is only a thin layer, any impurities will make short work of your crankshaft, therefore it is vitally important to run full flow oil filtration on an inserted engine.

As you can probably tell by now, I'm fence sitting the inserts issue. I can see some great benefits on having an inserted engine, and also some drawbacks. I know there are those on this board who would not be caught dead running a babbitted engine and likewise there are some who won't give an insert the time-of-day.

What's most important is that we do whatever's necessary to keep our A's on the road using whatever technology we choose. This whole model A addiction we have is a constant learning process and if anything I've said here is totally off-base, someone please let me know.

Hope this has been of help!

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In 1931 the 20 Millionth Ford rolled off the assembly line and it was then driven around the country for all to see. The car remained with the company, but some how got "lost." There was a great article on the Restorer Magazine on how the car was found. Turns out it was in the hands of a family that worked for Ford in a remote area of upper Michigan where wood was harvested for Ford. The son of the owner casually remarked to a Ford executive that he had the car. This set into motion an effort to validate it authenticity and once that was done arrangements were made to restore the car for the gala 100th Anniversary of Form Motor Company to be held in Dearborn on 2003.



Above is a map to the Marlborough Country Club. The Country Club is located off Rt 20 on Concord Road, where Firefly's restaurant is located.

The December meeting, as usual, will be held at the Marlborough Country Club. The party will be held on December 3rd. Space is limited, so please send your reservation form to Bruce Marshall so you can be assured of having a seat.

REMINDER

**Minuteman Model "A" Ford Club
P O Box 545, Sudbury, MA 01776**



DECEMBER 2004

**Please
Mail To:**

Be Sure to Visit www.oilleak.org