

# The Oil Leak

July 2004

Volume 42 Issue 7

## 2004 Officers

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## Peter's July Message

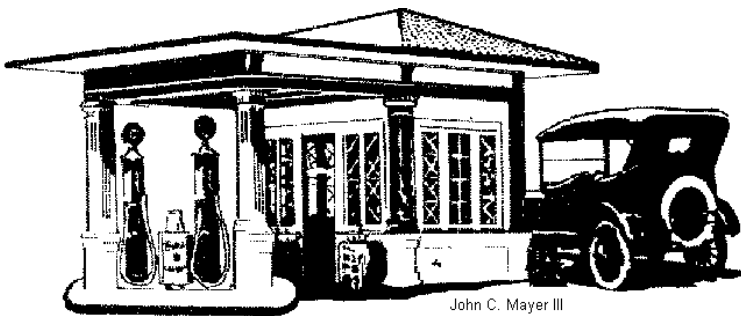
Many thanks, to Harold and Sally Legge, for the use of their garage and homestead, to host our June Meeting. Harold, the new coupe is wonderful, and I certainly could use some of your energy...would you believe we had at least 85 members at the meeting. My sincere thanks to all of you for our support it means a lot to me and I am grateful for the efforts you extend to make the club stronger.

As you all know, we had been searching for a host for our July meeting, 3 families graciously stepped forward – Harold & Sally Legge (again), Barbara McElhiney, and Wayne & Susan Champagne. THANKS TO ALL!

**Mark your calendars for the place for our July meeting:** our July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at **Wayne & Susan Champagne's** garage in Ashland. Wayne tells me that beer and steamed hot dogs are on the agenda for the evening, so bring our appetite. If some of you will bring along a desert or salad, I know it will be appreciated. Don't forget your chairs!

Well folks, as of this writing HILDENE is over, what with the best weather I have seen in years, it was a terrific weekend. So many things to do and see, the car show is now operated by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce rather than the Hildene historical association, For a first try they did a right fine job at keeping everything together. (I can't wait for next year) By my count the Minutemen did

themselves proud with at least 36 members attending the show. Thank you to Dick and Barbara O'Brien for once again shepherding the whole group through a successful weekend tour. As always, the Jacobsons extended their warmth and hospitality with the Saturday lunch for the entire group—a huge undertaking. Peter....



John C. Mayer III

**Minuteman Model A Ford Club**  
**Minutes for June 1, 2004 at Harold and Sally Legge's in Natick**  
50 members and guests attended

**President**

Peter MacDonald welcomed the gathering and thanked the Legge's for their hosting.

Peter introduced ...Dick and Nancy Graham and Babe Johnson

Introduced Gene Bunce as the speaker...Gene told of his experiences with the new Mitchell Synchronizied transmission and the benefits he has enjoyed from having these gears.

**Vice President and Webmaster**

He is constantly updating and adding new photos to the web site. Check it out.

Flyers of upcoming shows this summer are always available on the front table.

**Secretary-Gary Hoyt**

Minutes for May 2004 approved MSP as printed in the oil leak

**Treasurer- Dick Stitt**

Report accepted as published in the oil leak MSP

**Other Reports**

**Sunshine**-Helen Johnson...no report

**Historian**-Roy Johnson...no report

**Web Master**-Bruce Marshall...see above

**the oil leak**—deadline 6/18 or **before**, Doug asked for “classified ad listings for the oil leak”  
Call or email him!

**Video Librarian**-George Day...no report

**Shop Keeper**-Harold Samuels...no report

**Mileage and Raffles-**

**Tour Director**-Dick O'Brien...**Tour schedule in the oil leak and on the web site**

Wellesley College Alumni Parade is Sunday 6/6

Hildene Show is 6/11-13

**Old Business:**

- ✓ Aldie reported on the Concord Pops. Nice evening even with a smaller attendance. He has a tape of the program for use at a club meeting.
- ✓ On September 11 there is scheduled tour of The Schooner Fame . Twenty have signed up, see John Jacobson

**Current Business:**

- ✓ Nan Linden is working on jackets, hats, name tags and pins.
- ✓ **Club Picnic at the Clark's Farm** on June 26 at 11:00am Rain date of 27<sup>th</sup>
  - A-L** Desserts
  - M-Z** Salads and/or AppetizersIf the weather for the picnic is questionable...call MacDonald's by 9:00 am for a recording
- ✓ August Meeting at Stokinger/Johnson home in Sudbury
- ✓ **Executive Board Meeting** June 23 at Gary Hoyt's (Appetizers and Desserts) at 6:30pm

**Next Meeting is July 6 at the Wayne and Sue Champagne's in Ashland, MA**

Refreshments for July Meeting are the Jacobson's and the Wright's

Adjourned at 8:15pm

Respectfully submitted, Gary Hoyt

**Minuteman Model A Ford Club**

06/14/04 Income & Expenses  
Accrual Basis May 15 - June 14, 2004

May 15 - Jun 14, 04

Ordinary Income/Expense  
Income

Misc.(Int./Div./Change Value)	109.77
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$109.77</b>

Expense

Annual Picnic Expense	34.50
Donations	500.00
Oil Leak Printing	50.40
Service Charge	5.75
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$590.65</b>

Net Ordinary Income	-480.88
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-480.88</b>



**Ice Cream Tour - June 8, 2004**

Model A's can't resist ICE CREAM on an evening with the temperature in the 80's and tonight was no exception. Terri & Pat Sullivan, Carolyn & Ed Wlodyka, Ray & Doty Renner (their first tour with their new/old/new coupe), Wayne & Susan, Dick & Barbara, Joyce & Gene, Jack & Jo, Doug with Jill & Jordan, Harold & Sally Legge, Peter MacDonald (in his new Cabriolet), Rick Gadbois and your tour leaders Dick & Mazie.

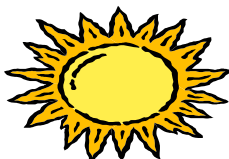
We took an easy tour out Hudson Road to PC Creams in Hudson. This will be our last tour to this facility, as it is going to become a Dunkin Donut.

**MAY TOUR SCHEDULE\***

- **July 4th**..12 noon.....Sudbury Parade...meet at starting point on Union Street
- July 7.....7:00 PM.....Ice Cream Tour...Tour Leader Mike Doyle
- July 10.....TBD.....Mendon Drive-In Cruise....Details at next meeting
- July 11-16.....MAFCA National Meet in Portland Oregon
- July 21 ....6:30 PM.....Chinese Buffet....Gene Ervin Tour Leader
- July 23....7:00 PM .....100th Anniversary of the Ice Cream Cone..Jim True leader
- July 24... 11:00 AM.....Blueberry Picking, meet at the Clarks
- July 29....6:30 PM.....Ice Cream Tour...Wayne Champagne Tour Leader
- Aug 5.....7:00 PM.....Ice Cream Tour...Patti Papernow Tour Leader

**\* Tours start from the Sudbury Grange unless otherwise mentioned**

**SUNSHINE REPORT**



Again this month, no cards were sent. Everyone, hopefully, is staying well. Please call if you know of anyone who needs cheering up.  
Thanks.... Helen Johnson

**From The Archives**  
(submitted by Roy Johnson - Historian)

35 YEARS AGO---JULY 1969-----OIL LEAK MISSING

25 YEARS AGO---JULY 1979-----OIL LEAK MISSING

15 YEARS AGO---JULY 1989

45 MODEL A'ERS MET AT ANDERSON DODGE IN HUDSON. NEW MEMBERS (CHAMPAGNE'S AND SULLIVANS) WERE ANNOUNCED. A ROUND OF APPLAUSE WENT TO SEVERAL MEMBERS FOR THEIR RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDING DAVE SMITH FOR A TV CABINET; BO CARTER FOR GETTING TABLES FOR THE GRANGE AND TABLES AND A REFRIGERATOR FOR THE GIRL SCOUT CAMP; LEN MI CHALAK FOR PLACING FIRST AT THE ENDICOTT SHOW WITH HIS MODEL A AND DENNIS PORTER FOR PLACING SECOND ( COMMERCIAL CLASS ) AT ENDICOTT.

TREASURY BALANCE---\$15,482.37

UPCOMING TOURS

JULY 27--FRUIT LANDS MUSEUM CONCERT

JULY 29--18TH ANNUAL MINUTEMAN SHOW & PICNIC, CAMP VIRGINIA ( GIRL SCOUTS) BOLTON.

PREVIOUS TOURS

JUNE 14--FLAG DAY ICE CREAM TOUR TO ERICSONS IN MAYNARD.

JUNE 17---AN AUTO APPRAISAL SESSION BY RICHARD MORSE AT ED GIOVANELLA'S GARAGE.



**Touring Tips**

A couple of touring tips come to mind in light of the recent showers and high humidity we've been experiencing on tours. If the forecast mentions rain during a planned tour, one thing you might want to do is to clean your windshield and then give it a treatment of "Rain-X". This really does work to help keep the windshield rain free, without, using you windshield wiper. Ah, yes, but what about the fog on the inside of the windshield? Well, as it happens, "Rain-X" makes a product call "Anti-Fog" and I can tell you that it also works great keeping the fog from forming on the window. This is really a safety item, as the fog or condensation while driving can be a real distraction. For me, this was a big help coming home from Stowe, VT last year in all the rain we had.

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### **RILEY'S ROAST BEEF TOUR --- JUNE 2, 2004**

Yet another rainy day in one of the wettest springs on record. The tour was preceded by a day of heat and humidity, bright sun and then rain, thunder, lightning and even hail... fortunately the sun came out again about 6:00 PM and a few hardy Model A people met at the Grange parking lot for the short run to Riley's. With only 4 cars, we didn't need the CB's. In fact, we skipped the usual scenic tour in favor of the more direct Nobscot/Edgell Road route. We arrived to find 2 more A's at Riley's along with 4 moderns. This gave us a total 20 minute people. So what looked to be a disappointing evening turned out to be a full house at Riley's. Joe Breed was a generous host as usual with free ice cream for all and a great raffle prize, a cordless wet/dry vacuum won by Mike Doyle. We especially want to thank the people who joined us at the Grange: Bob & Janice Wright, Rick Gadbois and Jack Stokinger. They made a tour out of it rather than just a dinner meeting at Riley's. Waiting for us at Riley's were Dave & Maryann Clark, The Linden's - Doug, Nan, Jill and Jordan in Model A's. Ed & Joyce Croci, Gene & Joyce Bunce, Dick & Mazie Stitt, Mike & Grace Doyle in moderns.

## SOUTHERN COMFORT



Yes, it's true, Peter and Shelly Kaptain have built a beautiful home in northern Florida, so no more winters for these folks! Recent winters have been too much to handle and they finally packed up the Model A's and headed south. Long time members, the Kaptains have been very active in the club and the hobby in general. Peter has served as Vice President and President of the club, while Shelly has been editor of the award winning newsletter. Outside of the club, Peter is an active flea marketer with his "partner" Clyde Kelton selling original Model A parts and cars.



Shelly is the lifeblood of the very popular

internet website [www.fordbarn.com](http://www.fordbarn.com). So inspite of the fact they have moved 1500 miles south, we will still be seeing them at flea markets and always on the internet. We also see that Peter is already making trips back to the area to keep Clyde focused getting assembling Model A's, while Shelly is in Florida assembling the house. And if you have known Peter for some time, you will for sure remember at any of the big flea markets you could always find Peter by following the smoke and awesome aroma. Peter had the fire going and special sausages on the grill. Oh boy, were they good and you could always count on a crowd being present and lots of great old car talk going on. Maybe we'll have to schedule a winter tour to Lake City, Florida....Any takers??

### Class -"A"-fieds

**Wanted:** Lazy Boy or Barca-Lounger Recliner for garage. Partner moved and I have extra time. Would prefer one with cup holders if possible. What have you? Please contact Clyde Kelton at (508) 653-1187

**Wanted:** -- a bottle of Minuteman Beer of 1999 vintage with the Minuteman Logo on the label (beer brewed by Ed Foster for the summer picnic). Will accept full or empty with nice label and can trade a full bottle of 2001 (Sedan Suds) or 2002 (Phaeton Foam) --quality as good as Sam Adams--OR CASH from my next Soc Sec check. Call Art 617 332 3363.

**Wanted:** Weaver Auto Crane. This is a hand crank tow rig for the Model AA Truck. If you have one or know someone who does, please contact me.  
Jack Stokinger 978-440-8031

**FOR SALE:** 1940 Ford 4-Door DELUXE V-8, 90% restored, looks awesome !  
New paint (black), tires, and dash. Must see ! Just \$14,500.  
Gary Hoyt 508-655-0077

### NEW ENGLAND MEETS

**September 24-26 2004** - MARCOM is hosting the weekend meet at the Sea Crest Resort in North Falmouth, MA. Reports are that over 250 rooms have been reserved for the event and that this could be the largest NE Meet in history. If you are interested in going check out ([www.oilleak.org](http://www.oilleak.org)) for information.

**September 2005** - Long Island Model A Club is hosting this event and it will be at the Sheraton Hotel in Smithtown, NY. The exact dates are not available at this writing, but this event is always held around the 2nd or 3rd weekend in September.

**September 2006** - Connecticut Model A Restorers Club. No specifics yet.

**SEPTEMBER 2007** - MINUTEMAN Hosts this event! Are you ready!!!

### Additions to the Fleet:

- Barbara Tallone (Yes Barbara) has a "new" Pickup truck...a 1953 Ford F100, bright Vermillion red, just like the one she learned to drive on back home in Illinois. It sure look beautiful.
- Dick Berry has finally aquired an open car, yup a nice 1931 Roadster. I hear it's a former museum car. I guess that means it looks great, but it will take time to tighten all the nuts and bolts to make it a good driver.

### PLEASE WELCOME

#### New member

Tom Lynch  
340 Wood Lane  
North Andover , MA  
01845  
978-685-3933  
tom@vhc.biz  
Tom has a 1931 Town  
Sedan Please add this  
information to your roster

### How's Your Hooter??

In a recent issue of the "Model A News" there was an article on getting your Model A horn to sound right. Well, after participating in a local parade, my horn needed a tune up. I decided to follow the simple suggestions in the article one afternoon while sitting in the shade of a tree in the backyard sipping a cold beer. It was an easy procedure and after a few tries I put everything back together and gave it a try. "Holy Aogah Batman" the old hooter sounded better than ever. So I can truthfully say the procedure works. Find out for yourself...give it a try someday.



**Bucky Slivestrono  
Celebrates 45 years  
as a MARC Member**

In case you didn't know,  
Bucky has been fooling with  
Model A's for quite a while.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> ELM BANK SHOW

The Father's Day show at Elm Bank Park in Wellesley on June 20th was a great time. There were 7 club members there: Doug & Nan Linden, Dick & Barbara O'Brien, Tom & Lisa Zappala, Gene & Barbara Tallone (in Barbara's new '53 Ford pickup), Harold Legge, Wayne Champagne, and new member Dom Uttaro . Ed & Joyce Croci came by as spectators. This was our first time attending and I can only say, we really enjoyed the day. First of all, the grounds are beautiful, with wonderful flower gardens and kids play area. And secondly, the display of cars was great. The wide variety of cars and trucks on display made this a great show and fun to walk around, checking them all out. The 1936 Warner Brothers Mobile Sound truck was surely something to see. Maybe it was the beautiful day, but, we all agreed that this was a very enjoyable show. I know we are looking forward to next years event.

## CAN YOU SEE ME NOW???

### *Two Degrees Down, 0 Left or Right*

I like to drive my Model A at night. I know that involves some risks, but I restored my model A at a night school class, and it has become natural to drive it the 16 miles to school on a regular basis to do minor adjustments and maintenance. The trip home is usually after 9 PM, and down back roads.

For a long time, I have been disappointed with my headlights, and have just written it off as one of the shortcomings of the model A. Not any more. I was at school one night and asked the instructor how to aim headlights. Modern headlamps have several protrusions on the surface of the glass that are used to align the lamps with an aiming device, but no such luck on the Model A. The instructor looked at the lamps and said that we'd just have to do it the old fashioned way, Two degrees down, 0 left or right.

He went and got an angle finding protractor out of the tool room. Basically, this is a protractor that has a weighted needle in it and will indicate the angle of what ever object it is placed against. Home Depot sells them along side the builder's levels, and calls them an angle finder. He also brought out a 4 foot straight edge. Here's the procedure we went through.

First we loosened up the bolts holding the headlights to where we could move them with a little tension. Next, we held the straight edge against the lamps and adjusted them to the point that the lamps were touching them at two places for each lamp. This indicates that the lamps are zero degreed left or right, since they are parallel with the straight edge and the other reference point is the headlamp bar.

Now, here's where it gets a little tricky. We next had to hold the angle finder against the face of the headlight lens and adjust it to where it would

read two degrees down all the while maintaining the zero left or right. Trust me, it takes a few times to get it right. When we were satisfied that we were close, we tightened down the headlamps.

Next was the focusing operation. I took the car out into a dark parking lot and turned the lights on low beam (first click to the right) and covered one lamp with a towel. I left the car running at a high idle so the generator had cut in. I took a screwdriver and adjusted the focusing screw (on the back of the lamp) to make the sharpest, most focused light pattern. I then covered that lamp and did the same with the other side.

Then, it was off for a test ride. For the first time ever, I had a very good, focused low beam, and wide spreading high beam. Before I tried this method, there was little difference between high and low beams, I honestly thought that they were more of a backup system in case one of the bulb filaments burned out. I feel more secure driving at night now, and I noticed the other night when Sandi was driving home and I was in front of her that the A had a nice, even pattern of light coming from the headlamps where before they had left a lot to be desired.

I've tried the Henry approved method of adjusting headlamps several times over the years, carefully marking out the space and alignments on the wall, but for me, this simple trick taught to me by my instructor was just the ticket. I surely hope some of you will give it a try and let me know how it works out for you.

(I got this write up for adjusting headlights off of Ahooga website - Editor)



## Hildene 2004

You couldn't have asked for better weather to start a tour. And the weekend forecast was for more of the same. HOWEVER, some of us got off to a bad start. Morning tour leaders, the Linden's, sent out a warning message that they might be late due to a last minute mishap with the 1959 Metropolitan, the drivers seat broke. And a call came in from the Wright's stating they were having engine troubles, it seems some preventive maintenance was preventing the engine from running. Changing back to the original distributor solved the problem. Like they say "If it ain't broke...Don't fix it."

We had 7 cars leave the Grange and our mission was to make it to Johnson's to pick up the rest of the group. Travelling on back roads that we don't normally take, we arrived at Johnson's right on time. After a quick bite to eat we regrouped and headed out, again taking "the road less traveled." In Townsend we veered off RT119 onto RT124. This is a pleasant road that takes you through great NH countryside and small towns like Jaffery. Though Keene and across the river into Bellows Falls, VT. Dick Stitt found a great restaurant called the "Log Jam" which we all enjoyed. I had my route to Manchester planned and all was going well, UNTIL the pavement gave way to dirt. Yup dirt. It was however, a great road, through the picturesque town of Grafton, VT. I was concerned about the dirt, but I could only keep going. We made it to RT 11 and it was a nice to be back on pavement, all the way to Manchester and the Aspen Motel. Once all checked in, everyone commented on the great roads we took, making no mention of the dirt..phew!

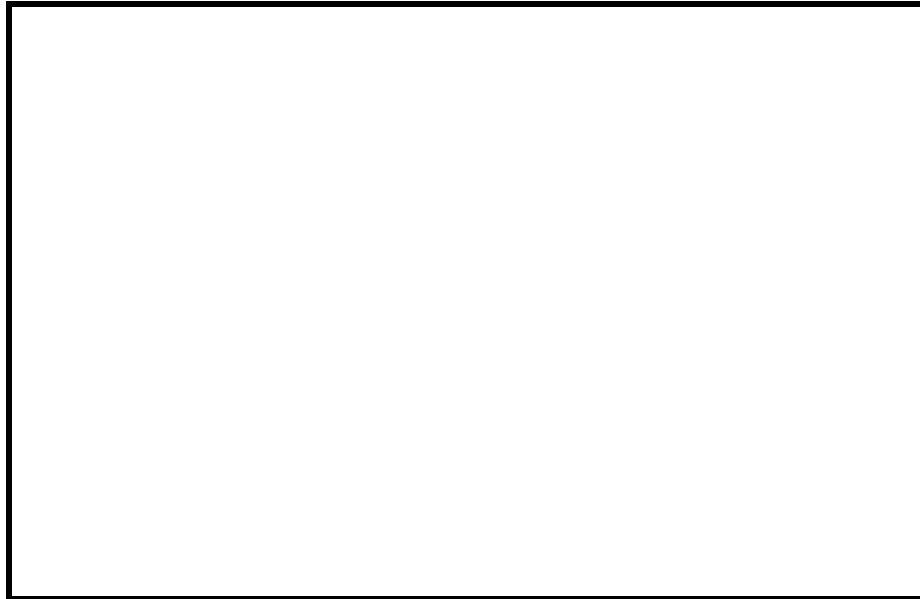
At approximately 3PM the second and smaller group headed north to meet up with the morning group. Dick & Barbara O'Brien with passenger Steve Goldberg, and Jack & Pam Bickel took about 3 1/2 hours to arrive in Manchester. After a late supper it was back to the motel and bed for an early wake up to head to the car show. oops, another slight delay, seems someone had lost their ignition key and their Woodie had to be hot wired. Some chose the pancake breakfast on the field (which was very good this year) and then checked out the flea market where we found a few "must have" trinkets (i.e. ignition switch). By noontime everyone heard this loud air horn blasting, but only the Minuteman group new it was John and Shirley signaling our club it was lunch time...As most of you know John and Shirley set up a super lunch each year for all of the Minuteman members. This is a huge effort by them each year and is appreciated by the hungry club members!!

Later in the day everyone met at the Aspen Motel where we enjoyed a cocktail party for about an hour before we headed off to dinner at Lany's Restaurant. As in the past this is always a loud and fun loving time.

Sunday morning was was breakfast on your own and this year some of the group planned to spend additional time at the show while several of us meandered overt to New York and then back to Bennington and home. However, it seems that one of us forgot to check that little gauge on the dash, and all of sudden a call came out over the CB that his Model A was conking out. Oops, could it be it was out of gas?? This year many club members thought this was one of the best shows out of the 12 we've attended so far. This is one show in a beautiful part of the state of Vermont you should try to attend...maybe we'll see you next year...???



Monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at the Memorial Congregational Church on Concord Rd, Sudbury. Meetings start at 7:30PM, preceded by "Tire Kicking" at 7:00PM. June, July and August meeting locations will be announced. The December meeting is replaced by the Holiday Party.



The July meeting will be held at the home of Wayne and Sue Champagne. They have invited folks to arrive early and enjoy Hot Dogs and cold drinks. Their address is 233 Winter St, Ashland. See the map for directions

**Summer Meetings**

**REMINDER**

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



**JULY 2004**

**Please  
Mail To:**

**Be Sure to Visit [www.oil1eak.org](http://www.oil1eak.org)**