The Oil Leak JUNE 2005 Volume 43 Issue 6

2005 Officers

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Webmaster	Bruce Marshall	
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FLAG DAY - JUNE 14, 2004

The Prez Speaks....

I hope you have had a chance to get your Model A out of the garage now that the weather has improved somewhat. The program at our meeting in May included safety items for your Model A that included a discussion of fire extinguishers, bright tail and stoplights, directionals, cast iron brake drums to improve braking, safety glass for all of your windows, stopping gasoline leaks and many other important items. Just making sure your brakes are well adjusted and your headlights are working well is a good place to start your own Spring tune-up.

The annual Tour Clinic went off a few weekends ago despite threatening weather. We had a good turnout considering that we had cancelled this event the weekend before. It did start to rain a bit after lunch but a few first time attendees got some extra attention because of the lower than normal turnout. Cars were road tested, headlights adjusted, front-end alignments were done and many other checks performed on the cars. Many thanks to Jack Stokinger and Jo Johnson for hosting this tour stop again this year.

I know that John Robertson is working on his pickup truck, Bob Wright is working on his "new" '31 S/W sedan, Dick O'Brien is assembling another '29 woody, Aldie Johnson, with the help of some Minutemen, has installed a new head gasket on his Mail Truck, Craig Martin continues working on his '31 Roadster, Art Callan is painting his '29 Tudor, Jack Stokinger is restoring his AA truck (wrecker-to-be), Tom Zappala is busy working on his Woodie Wagon, and your Webmaster has a new overdrive in his coupe thanks some more Minuteman mechanics. What's happening with your vehicle(s)?

And speaking of restorations, Harold Legge has finished his 1931 coupe and it looks beautiful. See it up close at the June meeting to be held at the Legge's home in South Natick. Come early (6:30 PM) to see the cars, have some hors d'oeurves and do some "tire kicking". Be sure to bring your own chair if possible.

Bruce

Minuteman Model "A" Club Membership Meeting

The meeting was called to order by the President, Bruce Marshall, at 7:55 PM. Fifty-six (56) members were in attendance.

The President thanked everyone for coming out this evening and for the large number of Model A's in the parking lot—a total of 15!

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's report as printed in the Oil Leak.

The President reported that the Treasurer, Gene Tallone, could not be here this evening because his son had broken his leg and he was with him. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's reported as printed in the *Oil Leak*.

The President announced that there are more than 50 tours planned. He is also looking for someone to host the July meeting.

The Vice President, Tom Zappala, reported that he had a "great day" at the Tour Clinic held at Jo and Jack's house. He read invitations from neighboring clubs inviting us to attend their functions. Tom will leave the flyers on the front desk for anyone who is interested.

The President displayed a copy of *Marathon* magazine which commended our Vice President Tom Zappala for running 10 years running in the Dana Farber Cancer Marathon and being on the Honor Roll of Donors in 2004. Tom was fined \$10.00 but the fine immediately rescinded by "executive order" from the President.

Historian: Roy Johnson has on display eight binders of pictures from 1970 to-date which he has compiled and pictures of the 1988 National Meeting on the side table.

Membership Secretary: Nan Linden reported a membership of 163 members. New members present this evening are Bob Schenk, Jim Hickey, Dave Robbins and David Antos.

Webmaster: Bruce mentioned that he is continuously up-dating the web site. He has included Harold and Sally Legge's 1930 Deluxe Coupe and Lisa and Tom Zappala's 1930 "Woodie". There is now a member database in the Members Only section of the web page.

Raffle: There will be a raffle this evening. Wayne Champagne awarded mileage tabs to Jack Bickel for 2,000 miles and to Bob Wright and Gene Ervin for 5,000 miles "traveled in their As".

Dick Stitt congratulated Wayne Champagne for having his 1931 Station Wagon pictured on the back cover of the 50th Anniversary issue of the *Restorer* magazine.

Shop Keeper: Minuteman caps, in either blue or tan, with our new logo are available for \$12.00 each. Nan Linden volunteered to sell the hats at the meeting.

Tour Director: Dick O'Brien happily announced that there were 75+ members and 28 Model As at the Marathon Picnic. On May 10th there will be an Ice Cream Tour led by Patty Goldberg, May 16th a Dinner Tour led by John Jacobson, May 21st, the Concord Pops organized by Wilma Johnson, May 22nd the An-

nual Wellesley Parade led by Dick O'Brien, May 26th an Ice Cream Tour led by Doug Linden and on June 1st a Dinner and Car Show at Riley's Roast Beef led by Roy Johnson.

A Super Tour Meeting will be held on May 17th at 7:30 PM at the Goldberg's house for all members who will be going on the Super Tour.

Oil Leak Editor: Doug Linden announced the deadline for admission in the Oil Leak will be May 20th.

New Business

The President presented to Gene and Dolores Ervin and Ed Wlodyka pins in appreciation for their participation in the Club.

New members: Bob Shank, Jim Hickey, Dave Robbins and David Antos, were asked to introduce themselves and give a brief description of their cars.

Adie Johnson asks if anyone has some time to help him get his mail truck back on the road. It has been out of commission since the last New England Meet.

The June meeting will be held at Harold and Sally Legge's home. Those bringing refreshments will be: Joyce Crocci, Art Callan and Wilma Johnson. The President is still looking for someone to host the July meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM followed by a raffle and a program on "Safety in Your Model A" presented by Doug Linden and Dick O'Brien.

Respectfully submitted, Janice Wright - Secretary



THE HEADGASKET WAS BLOWN BETWEEN CYLINDERS # 3 & 4.

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED

As was reported back in October 2004, Aldie Johnson's Mail Truck had to be towed home after the engine conked out while touring to the New England Meet on Cape Cod. But this is not Aldie's first time having problems while attending one of these meets. In fact, his troubles were enough to have him win the Hard Luck Trophey for a second time. With the help of Dick Stitt, Wayne Champagne, and Art Callen lending a hand, the gasket was replaced and the truck is now ready to deliver the mail.

TREASURER'S REPORT

April 15, 2005 through May 15, 2005 Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Members Dues	160.00	
Club Items Sold	30.00	
Flea Market Vendor fee	15.00	
Misc (int/Div Change Value) <u>76.52</u>		
Total Income	\$281.52	
Expense		
Change in Value (Fidelity)	443.62	
Oil Leak Printing	94.35	
Service Charge	15.15	
Total Expense	\$553.12	
Net Ordinary Income	\$ -271.60	
Net Income	\$-271.60	





President's Tour

The President's Tour to Fenway Park and the Mary Baker Eddy Maparium has been rescheduled. The new date is **August 27**. The original date now conflicts with the Rolling Stones Concert. Change the date on your tour schedule.

Welcome our New Members

- Joseph & Marilyn Basile
 9 Blair Place
 Cambridge, MA 02140
 1931 Town Sedan
- Steve & Anne Blanchette
 77 Bridle Path
 Sudbury, MA 01776
 1931 AA Stake Body

Live on UPN 38 TV

The Morning Show on UPN38 TV is hosted by Ted Wayman and Robin Hamilton weekday mornings from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM. Ted and his son have been interested in antique cars for a few years and now that Ted is co-host of The Morning Show, he asked Jack Stokinger about the possibility of having some Model As visit UPN38 TV. Ted set things up on the TV end and then we had a only a few days notice that we would be meeting at the UPN38 - TV4 studios in Brighton for a "live shot" on Thursday May 12th. *To the left, President Bruce Marshall is being interviewed by Robin Hamilton.*

SUNSHINE REPORT

As usual lately---no calls, no cards sent. My number is--508-877-3152.

Helen Johnson "Sunshine"

FROM THE ARCHIVES

(Submitted by Roy Johnson - Historian)

35 YEARS AGO -----JUNE 1970

14 Members attended the meeting; very good considering that the meeting place was changed to the Reidel residence at the last minute. There will not be a July bulletin or a July meeting. The next meeting will be at the Walter Gird residence in Natick on August 11.

Treasury Balance--\$303.44. The treasurers report listed the expenditure of \$20 for 8 tankfuls of gas @ 2.50 per tankful to reimburse members who drove their Model A's on tours.

The Plimouth Plantation Tour was the best yet. The weather was perfect and we had a total of 6 A's, 1 '39 Plymouth, 1 '50 Ford and 2 Families in modern Iron. Jim Foran came later to guide us to his cottage for a cookout.

The July tour will be to the Amherst, N.H. flea market on Sunday, July 26. Bill McSweeney will lead the way from the J.M. Fields parking lot.

25 YEARS AGO-----JUNE 1980

The meeting held at Bud Hicks Model A Garage, didn't get started until almost 9 p.m. due to the fact that everyone was too busy looking over Bud's assortment of parts. There were 22 members and 2 guests present. Committees were formed to handle the annual picnic. It was decided to do away with the expensive trophies that we have been giving as the cost depletes our treasury significantly. Instead we will give ribbons this year and make other plans for the future.

The weekend tour to Newport, R.I. was a success in spite of the horrible weather--rain and more rain. Well the sun did shine on our way home Sunday afternoon ! There were 6 couples in A's with Tina Bessert and kids following in a Modern (Glenn was in Japan on business).

The first ice cream tour of the season enjoyed fantastic participation--10 A's plus 5 others made the trip to the Bubbling Brook in Medfield.

Treasury Balance ---- \$533.04

The next meeting will be at the home of Ed Wedge in Northboro.

15 YEARS AGO-----JUNE 1990

The Logo committee presented their creation for approval. It is an original Minuteman character drawn by Dave Mailly with professional "Tweaking" by Wayne Champagne. It was voted to accept the new look.

The annual Career Award (check & Plaque) was presented to Matthew LaRose, a student at Assabet Regional Vocational School.

Our "new lug nuts" column tells the story of new member John Darack of Wayland who discovered a '31 s/w Cabriolet in storage in a garage in Brookline. Not only was it in incredibly original condition but the current owner had bought it new in 1931. It took John 2 years to convince the owner to sell it. John says he will not restore it but will keep it in its original condition. To make a strange story stranger, V.P. Wayne Champagne has just bought a 1931 s/w Cabriolet !

Treasury Balance --- \$14,079.43

6 A's made the Wellesley College Alumni Parade June10.

.8 A's turned out for strawberry picking June 16. Ed and Joanne Giovanella hosted a lunch for 37 hot and sunburned Minute people.

.Rick Knight hosted a tour of Technical talk at his Rebuilding Shop in Gloucester followed by a cookout hosted by the Sullivan's in Gloucester. From there, a visit to Rick Knights home on top of Boulder top in Rockport. It was sunny but cool until we headed home when the Rain-x was given a good test. All 6 A's ran great followed by Gene "no side curtains" Bunce in a Modern.

The next meeting will be July 3rd at the Gulbankian Ranch in Southboro.

TOUR REPORTS

Well, the touring season is off to fine start inspite of the cool and damp weather we've been having. And the participation has been very good with many Model A's getting out on the road.

On April 27, Gene Bunce lead a group of 20 to Maynard and the Oriental Delight restaurant. Gene knows this group as the special of the evening was its buffet. All I can say was it it ever good, if you left hungry it must been because you just didn't like to eat. And, inspite of the overcast weather a good group of Model A's were on hand, so it was a great evening.

May 10th saw Patty and Steve lead a group over some really great Model A roads which eventually took us to the town of Berlin and to Berlin Orchards. Of course we weren't there for apples, we were there for ICE CREAM. While we took the "road less traveled" Gene Bunce had to stop for gas and met us there, actually before we made it there. Also, there was Susie O'Brien with Myia and Ben. This was also the maiden tour for Jim Hickey in his Fordor sedan. We hope Jim has many more tours with us. We did a little shopping in the country store and did an admirable job in the ice cream department.

On May 16th John and Shirley Jacobson lead an eager group to Nicholas' restaurant . The weather was a little nicer for this tour and all attending were driving their Model A's. It's not a long ride to Nicks, but JJ managed to find some off beat roads to take the convoy to Natick. When we arrived we were happy to see the Leggs, Grahams and Allens waiting for us. 24 hungry people enjoy the food and chitchat. Upon leaving the Allens notice a flat tire. The spare was low on air so Dick Graham took to spare to his garage just done the street and filled it no time. The Allens, and the rest of us, were on our way home in a jiffy. May21st was the night of the Concord Pops Concert which was coordinated by Wilma and Aldie Johnson...which is elsewhere in the Oil Leak. I have been told that those attending enjoyed the evening.

May 22nd was the Wellesley Celebration Parade. Of course, with it's closeness to Memorial Day, the event had a salute to veterans flavor. Those attending included the: Tallones, Lindens, O'Briens, Grahams, Leggs, Gene Bunce, Jack Stokinger with Wayne Champagne, Gus Waldron, Tom Zappala, and the Allens. We all enjoyed watching the smiles on the kids and their waving as we went by. Dick O'Brien took us to Peter's Pizza for a light lunch after we finished. Another great day.

May 26th was the final tour of the month and was lead by the Linden's (with daughter Jessica and granddaughter Jordan). It was really nasty weather, BUT Gene and Joyce Bunce were true in sprit and drove their Coupe to the Grange...the rest of us whimped out and went modern. We did have to take a few back roads to avoid a previous accident on RT20. Our destination was Steven Anthony's restaurant. We had 22 people attending. It was nice to be inside, warm and dry out of the rain. Those attending included the: Linden's, Stitt's, Champagne's, Leggs, Jacobson's, O'Brien's, Wright's, Johnson/Stokinger, Rick Gadbois, Steve Goldberg,



It was suggested that due to so many new members that a reprint of the club's touring activities be reprinted in the newsletter. So here is an outline on the various club tours through out the year. Us older members refer to these tours during meetings not realizing that our newer members aren't familiar with the names or activities.

Touring

Ice Cream/Food Tours – April thru November

Most of these tours begin at the Grange Parking Lot in Sudbury at the appointed time found on the Tour Card. Each tour is lead by a volunteer tour leader who will select the destination and route and will lead the group to the restaurant or ice cream stand. This is generally not a culinary experience, so you may want to pack some Pepcid AC in your tool kit. There is no group tour back to the Grange; everyone is on their own to return to their respective homes. Ice Cream tours usually begin at 7:00 pm and food and ice cream tours at 6:30; and they both usually finish between 8:00 and 9:00 pm, depending on the distance and amount of participants. Brunch and specialty tour departure times will be posted in the Tour Card.

Rhinebeck, NY – *early May*

Rhinebeck, NY, is a flea market and car show. It is about a 6 hour drive with an "A" (3 by modern). If traveling by "A", most people leave on the Friday morning from a designated departure site, tour through scenic Connecticut or Massachusetts, stopping for lunch and perhaps an antique shop or two, and arrive in the Rhinebeck area late afternoon. Accommodations can be found in most price ranges. There is generally an optional group dinner planned for both Friday and Saturday evenings at some of the local restaurants (\$25 to \$35 per meal). The area offers a lot of historical sites as well as antique shopping. Departure is usually after breakfast on Sunday morning.

Hildene/Manchester, VT – early to mid-June

This is one of the most popular tours for the Minutemen. It is a small flea market and large car show and optional parade. Historically, we have at least two groups leaving on Friday, one departing in the morning and the other leaving after work. The ride can take from 3 ½ to 5 hours, depending on how many stops. The Aspen Motel holds a dozen rooms for our club and many other accommodations are available in the immediate area; however, early reservations are suggested. Rates are in the \$75 - \$90 range. Group dinner reservations are made for Saturday evenings (\$20 - \$25 per meal). Saturday morning is spent mostly on the field, where there is an early pancake breakfast. Many take off in the afternoon for scenic drives, antique or outlet shopping (downtown Manchester). Sunday departure is usually around 8:30 or 9:00, sometimes before breakfast, sometimes after, and the length of the journey home varies on weather and the group's desires.

Stow, VT – early to mid August

Stow has both a large flea market and a large car show. Most years, people tour up in small groups or individually, and many times in modern cars. It is a beautiful area with lots of antique shops and local shopping. On Saturday afternoon, many of the 700 antique cars join in a short parade from the field through downtown and back again. The Green Mountain Inn is a nice place to stay and right on the parade route. Accommodations in the area range from \$80 - \$140 and reservations should be made early.

Bennington, VT – *mid September*

Bennington is more known for its flea market than its car show. It is not usually a group tour, but most of the members that attend get together for a group dinner on Saturday evening. It takes about 3 to 5 hours to drive and has some nice stopping off places on the way. Hemmings Garage and Museum is just off the downtown area and always a nice take for all automobile enthusiasts.

Super Tour – July or August

The destination varies and is usually decided by the members who are willing to do the most planning. It does not necessarily happen each year depending on what else is going on over the summer. The basic tour lasts 7 to 9 days with some people tacking on additional "A" time at either end of the trip. Destinations have included Pennsylvania, Nova Scotia, Montreal, New York and St. Andrews. Some trips have included a different location each night and others have combined a few nights in one area. Driving distance each day ranges from 80 to 150 miles. An attempt is made to keep the accommodations modest. Meals are usually in a group, but that can vary depending on the locations.

Fall Weekend – mid to late October

The destination has changed in recent years to various locations. The tour has led us to Maine on many occasions and more recently to the Cape, western Connecticut, and western Massachusetts. Group departure is Friday morning with sightseeing and occasional stops until the destination is reached, usually late afternoon. One or two group reservations are made for Friday and Saturday evening. Most times, the group travels toward home together.

HOLD THIS DATE

ANNUAL 2005 CLUB PI CNI C

At SULLIVAN'S SHAMROCK FARM

261 High Plain Road, Andover MA 978-475-1177

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Terry and Pat Sullivan have been gracious enough to invite the Club to their Farm in Andover for the Annual 2005 Club Picnic.

Terry has accumulated a "mixed bag" of collectables for you to view. Just to mention
 a few: From the oldest car, a 1927 Chrysler to the newest, a 1964 Sunliner, signs,
 bicycles, carriages, license plates and so much other "stuff" it would be difficult to
 itemize. Amazing collection of 'junque" --you won't want to miss it!

Date: Saturday, July 9, 2005

Rain Date: Sunday, July 10, 2005

Time: 11 A.M

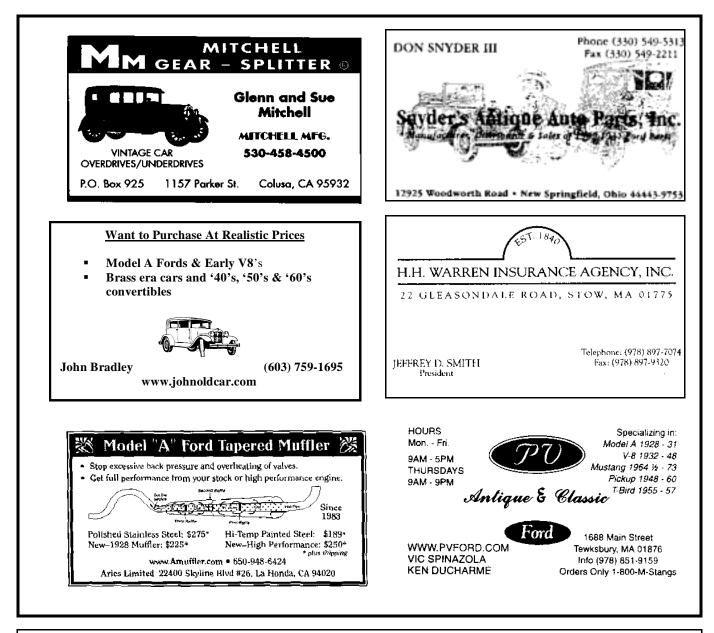
As usual, hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks will be provided. Won't you please bring either a salad or desert. Last names A to I: bring salads. Last names: M to Z, bring desserts.

Bring your own beer or wine, if desired.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS.

Directions to Shamrock Farm will be in the next Oil Leak. Or For those wishing, a group will be touring up together, leaving from the Grange

Any questions, call Bob Wright @ 978-658-5862 or wrielect@comcast.net



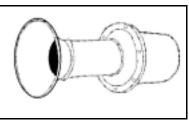
Tech Tip THE HORN (from the service bulletins)

The quality of the tone and length of service from Ford horns denpends entirely from the

care they receive. To produce the most effective tone it is necessary that the armature revolve at a high rate of speed. This speed is possible only when bearings are properly oiled and the commutator and brushes are kept clean.

LUBRICATION: Once a month remove motor cover and place a few drops of oil in groove at each end of armature shaft. Use light fine oil.

CARE: To clean the commutator, set the motor in motion by pressing the horn button.



While motor is revolving, hold a piece of sandpaper againt the commutator until it is clean. Next, with a small piece of wood (not metal) clean the gaps between the commutaor segments. **ADJUSTMENT:** Tuning the ad-

justment screw adjusts the tone. Turning right tightens, while turning left loosens the adjustment. Adjust the screw until desired tone is obtained.

In spite of the inclement weather and the lack of a major food event, the 2005 Minuteman Tour season got off to a rousing "cultural" start on May 21 with its annual tour to the Concord Orchestra Pops Concert. Lacking the two couples who made the "no show" list, the seven couple Minutepeople who did attend (plus one guest) were just adequate to get the Group Rate and enjoyed a concert of Spanish music. With only one exception (Manuel de Falla), non-Spanish composers composed all of the music that was played. Adding the lovely soprano voice of Alice Tilllotson who sang a number of Spanish folk songs and then leading a sing-along of popular songs from Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story* made for a memorable evening. Those who missed this tour this year missed one of the better tours of the year. Richard Pittman, the Concord Orchestra Conductor, acknowledged, at length, the continuing attendance of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club (sixth annual) and spoke with our members during intermission. Unfortunately, there was only one Model A (the Allens pickup) in evidence in the parking lot. Those in attendance were: the Allens, Berrys, Callans (and guest), Ervins, Johnsons, O'Briens and Tallones. Make this tour a must for next year!

- June 6, 2005...Food & Ice Cream, starting at 6:30PM
- June 10-12, 2005...Hildene Car show Manchester Center, VT
- June 12, 2005...MAAC Show at Maynard R&G Club Big Show
- June 15, 2005...Ice Cream, starting at 7:00PM, Leader Tom Zappala
- June 19, 2005...Mass Horticultural Show, Elm Bank Wellesley
- June 23, 2005...Food and Ice Cream, starting at 6:30PM
- June 30, 2005...Ice Cream Tour, starting at 7:00PM, Wayne Champagne
- July 4, 2005...Sudbury Parade Meet at Chiswick Park at 12:00 Noon
- July 6, 2005...Chinese Buffet, starting at 6:30PM, Leaders: The Ervin's



Model "A" Proctology

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Bruce Marshall's Coupe got a boost in the butt. Well, not really, but it's rearend received an overdrive recently. Thanks to the help of Wayne, Doug, Dick, Rick, JJ and Jack, the swap was completed in about 5 hours. There are a number of overdrives available for the Model A and Bruce chose one using a late model Volvo overdrive. This unit is fully electric and requires no extra levers throw or cables to pull. Once the unit was in, Bruce followed the instructions which called for a slight break-in period, and he reports the unit works great. He's looking forward to smoother ride on the Super Tour.

What's New for the Model "A" (From the Ford Service Bulletins)

June 1928

I nstructions are provided to allow the adjustment of the Coupe seatback forward or backwards 1 5/8". This is accomplished by relocating the seat cushion brackets as necessary. Drawings are provided showing the changes. A caution was presented to make sure the gas cap and radiator caps don't mixed. A radiator cap on the gas tank would prevent fuel from flowing to the carb. Service information was given on proper adjustment of the Shock Absorbers, the Generator and cleaning of the carb. For appearance, Lincoln Body and Nickel Polish was available to keep your Model A shining.

June 1929

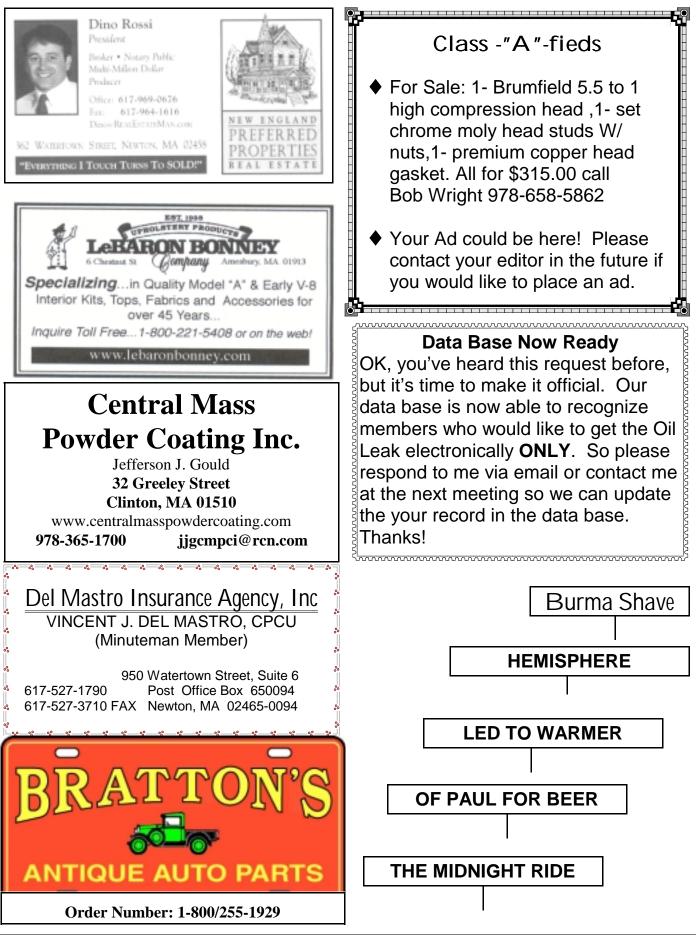
New for this month were spring washer between the clutch and brake pedals. Also a new universal joint housing was released, this eliminated the extension lug on the cap. Two new pins are now used to hold the clutch release fork and arm to the shaft. This eliminates the need for keys. New license plate clip are introduced, with a clear picture of how they are mounted. More information on how to adjust shocks. A service item shows how to eliminate water leaks at the windshield header and a new truck rack is now available.

June 1930

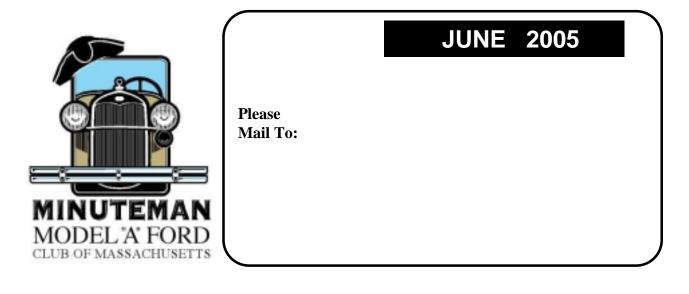
A couple of wiring announcements are made which tell how to route the dash lamp wire on the new dash panel. And another making sure the high tension wire to coil is pushed all the way in the coil for good contact. A new steering shaft bushing is being used. It has a "V" shaped lug which fits into a "V" shaped slot in the steering gear housing. The front motor mount spring has been changed by increasing the stud hole to 17/32". A speedometer drive gear is now being used. The new style has a square hole for the speedometer cable. It replaces the slotted drive arrangement.

June 1931

Care and feeding of the Shock links is given. You need to grease until it escapes from both ends so both ball joints receive lubrication. There is also a section on additional servicing of the shock that aids in it repair that cover the vent plugs. A new universal rubber floor mat is now being used for all models. The starter drive received some changes. New bolts head springs screws, and new starter drive springs. High powered head lamps (32CP) are now available. Instructions are given on how to use the Mileage tester on vehicles with the new cowl tank.



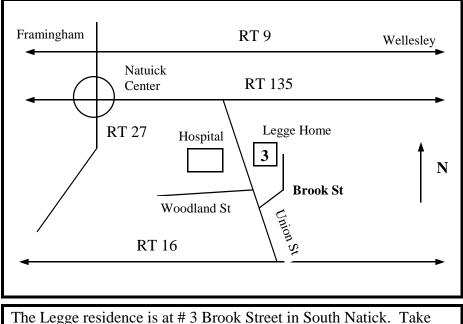
Minuteman Model "A" Ford Club P O Box 545, Sudbury, MA 01776



Be Sure to Visit www.oilleak.org

REMINDER

The June meeting will be at the home of Harold & Sally Legge. You are invited to join them starting at 6:30PM for appetizers and drinks. Plenty of time for tire kicking and kibitzing.



The Legge residence is at # 3 Brook Street in South Natick. Take Union Street from RT 135 and go past the Hospital. Look for Brook St on the left as you start down hill.