

AhoogA

CENTRAL IOWA MODEL A CLUB

September 2025

Volume 65 Issue 9



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FAMILY OF THE MONTH

John & Edith Gowen

John attended a Summer membership meeting. His daughter, pictured above, drove him in his Model A. He has a 1931 Deluxe Coupe and a 1931 Tudor. He had a machine shop near the Iowa State Fair. Multiple member said he always was good to the Model A members.

They have been a club members since 1980.

Nominating Committee Report: 2026 Election of Officers

The November membership meeting will include the annual election of officers. Each club member, and spouse, will have the opportunity to vote for the candidates of their choice. Yes, that means two votes per family.

The Nominating Committee's proposed Slate of Officers is listed below. In addition to these names, nominations are accepted from the floor for any board position. All contested positions will be decided at the annual election meeting.

The positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and Director of Publications all have the incumbents willing to continue in those positions. We thank them for their continued service.

The Nominating Committee has proposed Kevin Szcodronski for President and Gary Graber for Vice President, with Scott Lang assuming the Ex-Officio position.

The position of Director of Finance may be eliminated. More on this to follow.

Two remaining positions need to be filled;

Director of Programs and one 3-year term as **Board Member**. The responsibilities of these positions are described in the Club by-laws that can be found on our website at the following link: [https://www.cimafc.org/history Club Bylaws.pdf](https://www.cimafc.org/history%20Club%20Bylaws.pdf)

The Board Member position is a great gateway to club governance.

The **Director of Programs is a vital position** within the club. That's our entertainment function. We have been two years without a Program Director, with the board managing to fill in those duties on a temporary basis. The club needs your help. Is it your time to step up and lead this effort?

This doesn't have to be a single person position. Perhaps a group effort, a committee with a friend or two would be a viable option. Those who have previously held the position will be happy to help, planning events and discussing ideas that worked in the past.

Please consider volunteering, it's vital to the success of our club.

Willie Priaulx, Chairman of the Nominating Committee



2026 Proposed Slate of Officers

President	Kevin Szcodronski
Vice President	Gary Graber
Secretary	Holly Szcodronski <i>Incumbent</i>
Treasurer	Beth Graber <i>Incumbent</i>
Director of Finance	<i>Position may be eliminated</i>
Director of Publications	Kay Huntimer <i>Incumbent</i>
Program Director	Open
Director 3-year term	Open (Serve to 2028)
	Joe Lamb (2027)
	Dave Klein (2026)



UPCOMING CLUB “A”VENTS

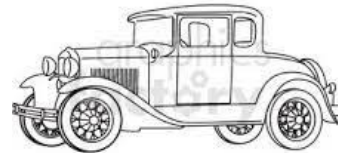


09/07/2025, **Sunday, Club Meeting and Annual BBQ**, 1:00 PM, Cherry Glen Picnic Area, Shelter #4, 4499 NW 94th Ave., Polk City, Iowa. Club will provide burgers, brats, chicken, buns, and condiments. Bring your own drink and a dish to share. NOTE: The meeting is scheduled earlier than usual to not conflict with GAMARAI preparations.

9/8/25 Monday, Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, Perkins, 714 SE Oralabor Road, Ankeny, IA.

- 09/11/2025, **Thursday, IHOP Breakfast**, 8:00 AM, 2402 SE Delaware Ave., Ankeny, IA.

- 09/15-19/2025, **GAMARAI** to NE Iowa.



10/06/2025, Monday, Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, Perkins, 714 SE Oralabor Road, Ankeny, IA.



10/09/2025, **Thursday, IHOP Breakfast**, 8:00 AM, 2402 SE Delaware Ave., Ankeny, IA.

10/12/2025, **Sunday, Club Meeting and Potluck**, 1:00 PM, Ankeny First United Methodist Church, 206 SW Walnut Street, Ankeny, Iowa. Club will provide ice cream with fixings for sundaes. Bring a dish to share – entrée, salad, vegetable, or a dessert that goes with ice cream.

10/18/2025, **Saturday, Courthouse Driving Tour** to Newton, Marshalltown, and Nevada. Note: We will also be driving through the Veteran's Home while in Marshalltown. More details to follow.

10/23/2025, **Thursday, Social Night**, 6:00 PM, Applebee's, 1001 E. 1st Street, Ankeny, Iowa.

UPCOMING CLUB “A”VENTS

November

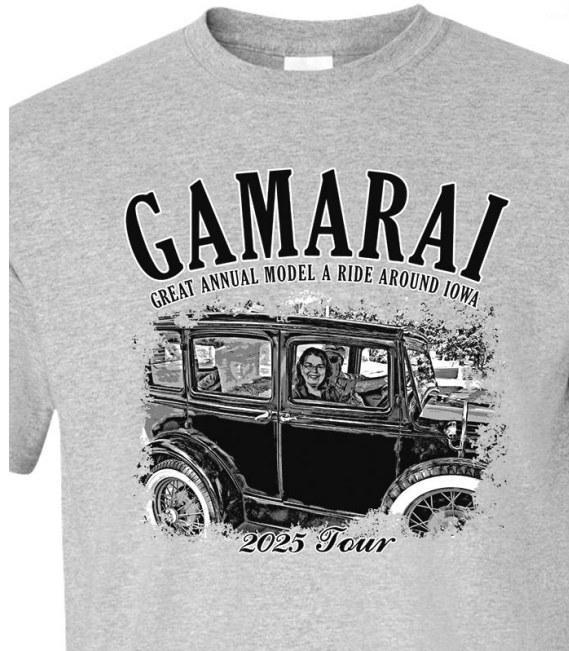
11/03/2025, Monday, Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, Perkins, 714 SE Oralabor Road, Ankeny, IA.



11/09/2025, **Sunday, Club Meeting, Annual Elections, and Potluck**, 1:00 PM, Ankeny First United Methodist Church, 206 SW Walnut Street, Ankeny, Iowa. Club will provide the soup. Bring your own drink and a dish to share.

11/13/2025, **Thursday, IHOP** Breakfast, 8:00 AM, 2402 SE Delaware Ave., Ankeny, IA.

No Social Night this month. Happy Thanksgiving!!



Club Tours

Sunday Sept 7th, 2025 1:00 PM **Annual Cherry Glen Cookout**

September 15-19, 2025 **GAMARAI**

Saturday October 18, 2025 **Fall Color Courthouse Tour**
Tour Hosts: Kevin Szcodronski

Fall Colors, Courthouse Tour, Marshalltown Veterans Home

Ford Then and Now: More Iowa History by Curt Carlson

I reached out to the Benson Ford Research Center with questions about early Iowa Ford factories and dealers. The Benson Ford Research Center manages the Ford historical archives and is located between the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Here's some of the highlights from the opening of the new parts depot in 1948 and a public announcement of the 35th anniversary of Ford in Iowa from 1951.



Then: Ford's first operation in Des Moines started in 1916 on East 5th Ave with a thirty person sales supervision and parts distribution operation. The following year, construction started on the branch assembly factory at Grand Avenue and Fleur Drive. With delays due to WWI, the branch factory wasn't completed until 1918. At one point plans had been adjusted to make part of the building a hospital for returning vets, but fortunately the hospital capacity wasn't needed.

In 1920, the Des Moines factory made Fordson tractors for just one year, before converting to Model T production. Branch assembly plants enabled Ford to ship the parts for 21 cars in a single rail car vs. 4 completely assembled cars for a significant savings in rail shipping costs. In the 1920s Ford had over 30 of these branch plants. In addition to completed model Ts, the Des Moines plant specialized in making closed cab bodies and shipping them all over the western US.

Ford was a major employer in Des Moines with over 2000 employees working in two to three shifts. The Grand Avenue factory shut down in 1927 for conversion to the Model A with production starting in 1928. Maybe some of our model As were made in Des Moines? In 1932 the plant converted again to manufacture the B and model 18 before closing production, along with many of the branch assembly operations around the country due to the prolonged depression.

Parts depot and dealer management remained in the building until WWII. After WWII work was started on a new parts organization at 2121 Walnut, conveniently located next to major rail lines. This facility was officially opened on January 16th, 1948 with a banquet.

Now: More research is needed to determine exactly where on 5th street the parts distribution was located. Perhaps the building that contains Twisted Vine? Of course, many of us have driven by the familiar landmark of old Ford plant on Grand Avenue, that became the Solar Aircraft factory in the 1940s, later Des Moines School's Tech High School, and today, Central High School.

Another Des Moines landmark, the Register and Tribune building for a time housed the dealer management offices. The east Des Moines parts plant, close to the State Fairgrounds, is now Emco, a manufacturer of doors and windows, owned by Anderson. Clearly, Des Moines played an important role in Ford history. The complete 1948 Parts Depot opening document and 1951 - 35th Anniversary document will be on our web site so you can see the details of our region's history. Enjoy!

www.cimafc.org

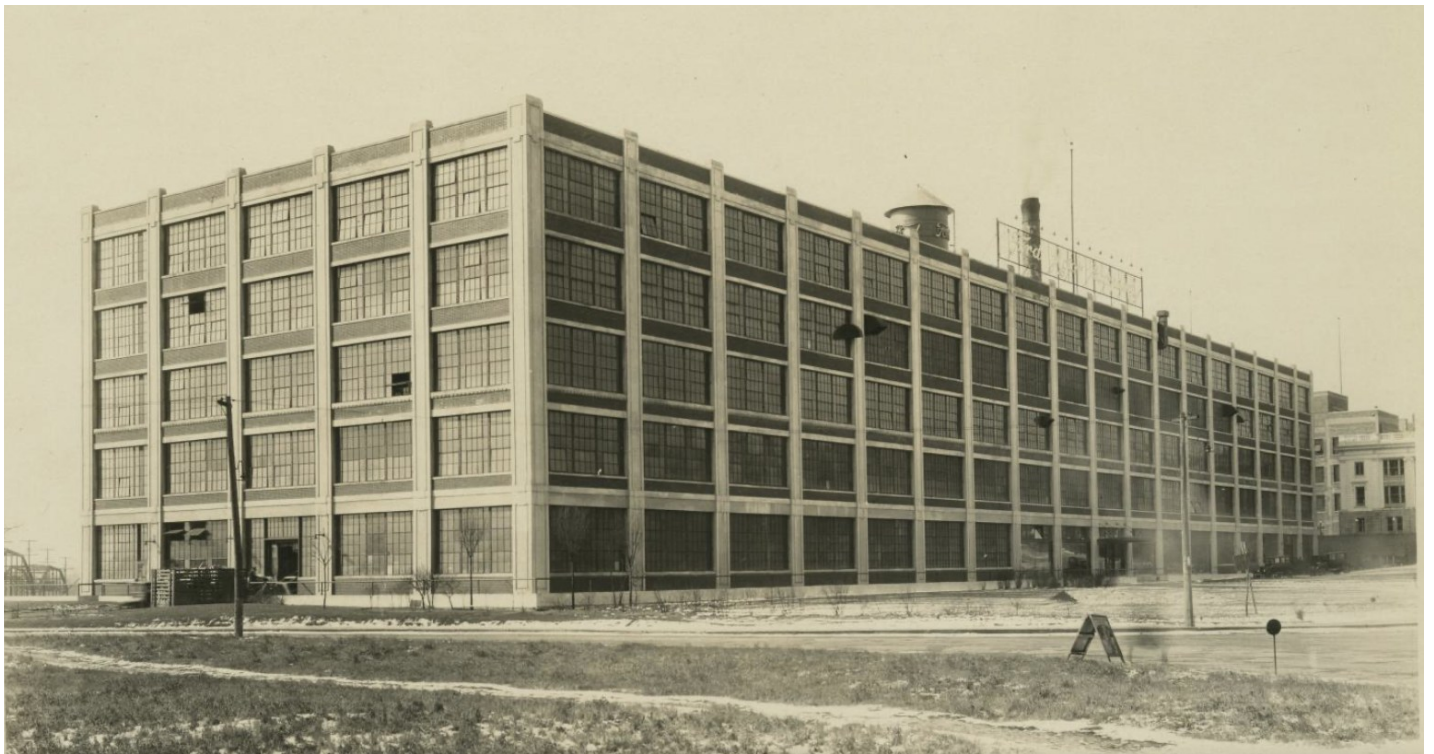




2121 East Walnut

January 16, 1948

Des Moines, Iowa



Ford Des Moines Grand Avenue Plant

Technical Q & A by Willie Priaulx August 2025

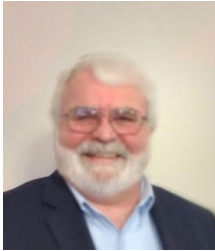
Q: How do you clean your white wall tires?

- Jerry Kluver

A: PPC CRUD REMOVER – Without question, the strongest, most powerful cleaner you've ever experienced! Works where all others fail. If CRUD REMOVER can't clean it, forget it! Multi-surface usability and dilution versatility, water-based and biodegradable. It's so strong it should be diluted at least 1:4 with water for most cleaning needs. The crud will still start rolling off the tire before you can grab a scrub brush. PPC's best seller for over 25 years – Made right here in Johnston, Iowa. Available at Bomgaar's or Ace Hardware in Ankeny and Johnston. Able to strip carbon from the side of a piston in 15 seconds, yet gentle enough to use on all your clothing and carpeting. This is reliable cleaning strength!

Don't give it to your spouse...you'll NEVER see it again!

- Willie



Secretary Notes

Holly Szcodronski

Ahh September, hopefully cooler weather will be headed our way. Many of you are gearing up for GAMARAI this month, and with that in mind note that our **September club meeting will be September 7th**. The meeting is a week earlier than normal since GAMARAI starts Monday September 15th and many will be getting ready the day before. The September club meeting will be our annual BBQ with the club providing brauts, hamburgers and chicken. This is our last outdoor meeting for the year, join us if you can.



Larry Hutzel former member of the club passed August 1, 2025. He always loved old cars and owned many of them, mainly Model A Fords. He had a 1930 Fordor.





Black Hills Trip led by Marty and Rhonda Green. 5 model As trailered out and 1 modern car. Toured the Badlands of South Dakota. Saw the Rushmore Memorial, drove needles highway. Saw a young man repel off of the "needle rock". Then Drove to Wyoming and saw the Devil's Tower and drove up Spearfish Canyon. The adventure was shared with Green's sons Chris & Kevin, Kevin's 2 young sons, Chris & Dave Klein, Kay & Ron Huntimer, Doug Smith & his daughter Amy, Jim & Karen Coe.

FOR SALE, WANTED OR TRADE

Members place your free ad here by contacting Kay Huntimer @ (kayhuntimer@gmail.com)

Non-members ads may be placed for \$25 fee. Ads will be shown for 3 months and removed unless you notify Kay to renew.

FOR SALE: 32 center crossmember modified to fit "A" frame-\$400:

"A" frame with 32 crossmember fitted in- \$500:

"A" transmission rebuilt by Paul Couch(never used)-\$300:

S-10 chevy PU trans with Steve Serr adapter(\$800 now)

to "AA" truck bellhousing-make offer: S-10 chevy trans with aluminum adapter to "A" bellhousing-make offer:

2 complete diamond block "A" motors-\$250ea. Lots of other mechanical parts.

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Dairy Queen History

1938 American's discover McCullough's new, softer and tastier kind of ice cream called soft serve.

1940 "The Cone With the Curl On Top" lights up for the 1st time in Joliet, Illinois.

1949 Shakes & malts added to the line of cones, sundaes, & take home pints.

1953 1st Dairy Queen store opens in Canada.

1955 Dilly bar debuts.

1961 The 3,000-store chain launches Mr. Misty drinks, pioneering the "slush" drink business.

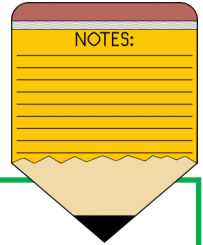
1968 Buster Bar debuts.

1971 The "scrumpdillyishs" Peanut Buster Parfait premiers.

1980 "We Treat You Right" theme line is debuted.

1981 Menus includes frozen cakes and logs.

1985 Blizzard makes debut.



Central Iowa Model A Club Minutes

Minutes taken by Beth Graber, Treasurer

Meeting held at Jester Park, Iowa.

Gary Graber, Director of Finance, call the meeting to order at 1:20 pm. We had 24 members in attendance. Members brought their own lunch.

Following lunch, several events were announced including:

Thursday IHOP breakfast at 8:00 AM. It was mentioned that attendance has been low the last few months.

Thursday (Aug 28th) social night, 6:00 at Inside Scoops Ice Cream Shop.

This Saturday is the Amana Tour. Meet at 9:30 at the Hy-Vee in Altoona.

Next meeting on Sept 7th at Cherry Glen Park.

Gary introduced a new member, Stephen McCowen.

Tom Jamison gave an GAMARAI update. 67 people have signed up, so far.

Beth Graber gave an update on the club's finances. \$17k in checking and \$28k in a CD.

Willie Priaulx talked about the nominating people for next year. Kevin Szcodronski for president, and Gary Graber for VP. Open is Program director and Ron Huntimer's Board Position.

The Juncks attended the State Fair parade. They said there was a good turnout, about 20 model As and Ts.

The meeting adjourned around 2:45.

Check out the site at:

www.cimaafc.org

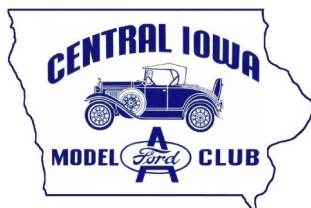
The website is always open without a password, but if you'd like to view the current and past newsletters, the club roster, or meeting minutes, you'll need to visit the "Members Only" section.



The password is: **roadster**

And don't forget — we've got a growing Facebook Group where members post pictures, share stories, and stay in the loop (It's a great way to keep the "Model A" conversations rolling between meetings.)

☐ facebook.com/groups/cimaafc



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL IOWA MODEL A CLUB

All news items, articles of interest, photos and want ads are to be submitted by the **20th of each month** to Kay Huntimer
kayhuntimer@gmail.com

Membership dues are \$25 annually Please submit to: Beth Graber 6430 NE 8th Ct. Des Moines, IA 50313 Dues entitle members and families to: Club Privileges* Monthly newsletters* Free want ads* All Club meetings*

The Central Iowa Model A Club is regional and affiliated with: Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) and

Model A Restorers Club (MARC) We encourage membership in both National Clubs. Applications for membership are located on the website for all 3 clubs.

2025 CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Scott Lang **No president's report submitted**

515-238-5881

contact@cimaafc.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Kevin Szcodronski

515-240-7668

vicepresident@centraliowamodelclub.com

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

MERCHANDISE COORDINATOR

Gary Graber

515-261-2113

gear@cimaafc.org

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Position is open, can you help?



SECRETARY

MEMORIALS & NOTICES

Holly Szcodronski

515-201-6783

info@cimaafc.org

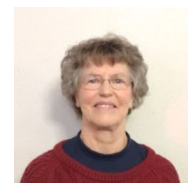
TREASURER

Beth Graber

6430 NE 8th Ct.

Des Moines, IA 50313

gbgraber@gmail.com



WEB MASTER

Scott Johnson Martin

support@cimaafc.org

TECH & TOOL COORDINATOR

Willie Prialux 262-716-1846

wpreo@cimaafc.org

EX OFFICIO

John McClain

515-988-1085

jrmc@mchsi.com

BOARD MEMBERS (2024)

Joe Lamb (2027) 515-205-2917

lambmjt@gmail.com

Dave Klein (2026) 515-783-6569

chrisklein61@gmail.com

Ron Huntimer (2025) 515-306-2350

rhuntimer911@gmail.com

Director of Publications

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

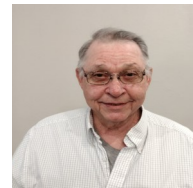
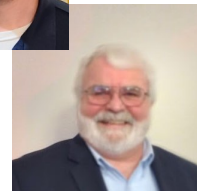
Kay Huntimer

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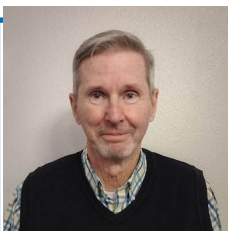
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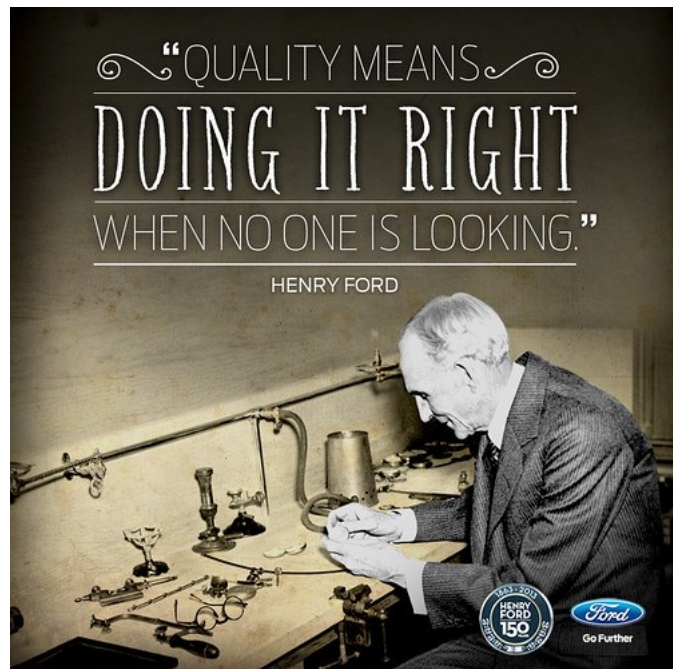


We are always looking for additional advertisers for our newsletter.

If you know of someone or some company that would be interested in doing so, please forward their contact information to **Gary Graber** either by email gear@cimaafc.org

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