

THE STEERING COLUMN

The Official Publication of the Greater Baltimore Model A Ford Club

Vol. XXXVII, Issue 1 (January 2026)



2025 Holiday Party



THE GREATER BALTIMORE MODEL A FORD CLUB
Please visit our website: <http://gbmodelafordclub.org>

2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD

| | |
|--|--------------|
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| MIGUEL ESCOBAR, Vice President (vicepresident@gbmodelafordclub.org)..... | 443-939-1818 |
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| DAVE MCLEISH, Membership (membership@gbmodelafordclub.org)..... | 240-676-3377 |

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Technical Advisor: Norm Molter..... | 410-692-4166 |
| Historian: Kevin Mueller..... | 443-823-0366 |
| Mileage Coordinator: Miguel Escobar | 443-939-1818 |
| Tool Coordinator (Large Tools & Wheel Straightener): Dave Sturges..... | 410-442-2724 |
| Tool Coordinator (Small Tools & Videos): Bill Crawford | 301-906-5947 |
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| 50/50: Jim Wobert | 410-207-4579 |
| Webmaster: Greg Shepherd (webmaster@gbmodelafordclub.org)..... | |
| Youth Outreach Coordinator: Bill Long | 410-497-2003 |
| Sunshine Coordinator: Jeff Whitsett | 240-461-8802 |
| Refreshments Coordinator: Bill Crawford | 301-906-5947 |
| Newsletter Editor: Dave McLeish (dave.b.mcleish@gmail.com)..... | 240-676-3377 |
| Information Technology Coordinator: Perry Lynch | 310-943-8222 |

ABOUT US . . .

The Greater Baltimore Model A Ford Club is dedicated to the Model A Ford as a means of preserving a part of our national heritage and passion for the motor car.

Classified ads are free to members and may be renewed upon request but are subject to space limitations.

Local dues are \$25 per year. Membership in the Model A Restorers Club (MARC) is required and membership in the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) is encouraged. Contact the Membership Chair at the number shown above for GBMAFC, MARC, and MAFCA membership application forms.

The Greater Baltimore Model A Ford Club remains committed to all of its members. If any Club member needs assistance, whether it's a maintenance problem or even in the event that a surviving family member needs advice on the liquidation of their Model A, please feel free to contact any of the Club officers. We will try to provide you, get you, or at the very least let you know where to get the help you need. Remember, we are here when you need us most.

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NEXT Membership Meeting:
Tuesday, January 20th
7:30 PM
Lincoln School of Technology in
Columbia, MD 21046

Newsletter Update

Keep all those articles, updates and Tech Tips flowing into the newsletters. Your efforts are appreciated.

Submit items for FEBRUARY's newsletter by
February 3rd

Send to dave.b.mcleish@gmail.com
will be published about February 6th



THE PREZ SEZ

Greetings fellow Model A Minions,

I am back from our Thanksgiving and Christmas travel to the mid-west and am happy to be home. Do not ask about the weather unless you want to hear a 20-minute diatribe.

If you know of someone who has not renewed their membership for 2026 please let them know that they will be unable to access the January newsletter; the link will be disabled for them. I cannot ask them to renew in this column because they will not be able to read it, but they will still get renewal reminders by email.

Our Holiday party at Friendly Farms on December 6 was a huge success with record attendance. Thanks to Don and Scotty and Steve and all the others who made this success possible.

Fire Engine status: Rear wheels are pin-striped and the rear brakes are reassembled and work somewhat, but I will have to get new linings put in at some point to optimize performance. Engine compartment has been reassembled with new splash pans. The newly re-plated radiator shell looks great. The steering column is now reassembled with newly plated control and horn rods and a new steering wheel added, along with needle bearings and special seals for the sector shaft. I manufactured new brackets to add outside rear-view mirrors for safety. The vehicle is now on the road and requires only some driving so that I can gain confidence in its reliability. Still lots to do but at least I can drive it now. At some point I will have a fire engine open house and give rides.

I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and I wish you a Happy New Year and MOTR (More On The Road) time.

Harvey

GBMAFC Vice President Corner

By Miguel Escobar

It was great to see everyone at the wonderful year end party.

We have the following speakers lined up for the next couple of months.

January 20th meeting

Location: Lincoln Tech 7:30 PM

Speaker: Laurent Frugier

Laurent, the CEO of Fuel2Electric, a company that assists classic car enthusiasts convert their beloved rides to electric cars. You can get more information from their website:

www.fuel2electric.com

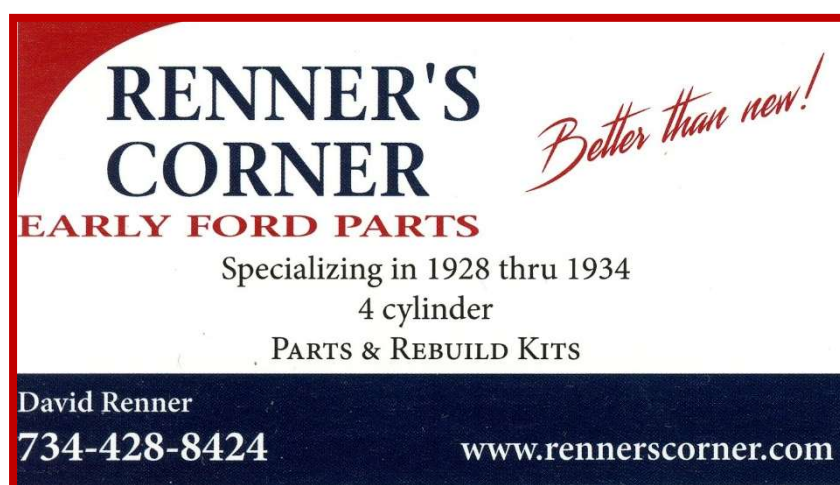
February 17th meeting

Location: Lincoln Tech 7:30 PM

Speaker: Ronald Corun

Ronald is the Owner at Ron Corun Consultant LLC a company that offers consults to the asphalt and pavement industries with over fifty years' experience in this industry. He is also a new member of our club. He will be talking about the history of these materials and their relation to the Ford Model A.

Dust off the old gears, for miles of smiles!



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MILAGE PROGRAM



IN 1928 THE PRICE OF GAS WAS \$0.21/GALLON
 IN 1981 THE PRICE OF GAS WAS \$1.00/GALLON
 IN 2025 THE PRICE OF THE MILAGE PROGRAM
 IS STILL \$1.00

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TO REGISTER EMAIL
MIGUEL@THEESCOBARS.COM

It's time to submit year-end mileage for the Mileage Program. If you've already sent your total, please disregard this message.

We invite everyone to join the Milage Program. Our goal this year is to exceed last year's five new program participants — please join us so we can beat that number!

Quick details:

- Registration is easy and costs only **\$1.00** for as long as you own your car.
- The program issues awards based on driving your Model A.

Please contact me at: miguel@theescobars.com or consult [Mileage Program Guidelines – The Model "A" Restorers Club](#) for further information.



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Steve Meyer, Activities Chair (443-285-3890)

| January 2026 | |
|--|---|
| <i>Fri., Jan. 9 12:00 PM</i> | <i>Lunch at Beck's Restaurant 7565 Main St, Sykesville, MD 21784 RSVP please to Steve Meyer by Jan 7 at 443-285-3890</i> |
| <i>Tues., Jan. 20 7:30 PM</i> | <i>Membership Meeting Lincoln School of Technology in Columbia, MD 21046</i> |
| February 2026 | |
| <i>Tues., Feb. 17 7:30 PM</i> | <i>Membership Meeting Lincoln School of Technology in Columbia, MD 21046</i> |
| March 2026 | |
| <i>Tues, Mar 17 7:30 PM</i> | <i>Membership Meeting Lincoln School of Technology in Columbia, MD 21046</i> |

FUTURE Activities (cont.)

May 2026 — MARC National Tour — May 11th – 14th - Finger Lakes Region, NY

May 2026 — Possible club road trip after the National Tour timeframe.

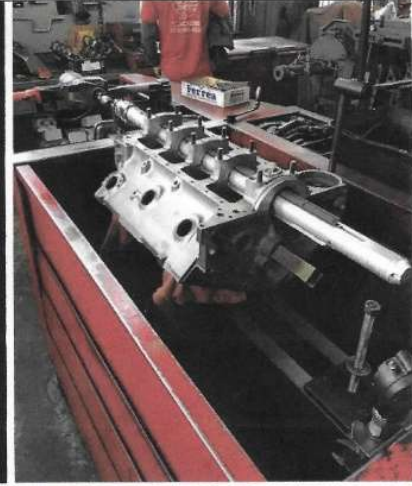
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Membership

Hello fellow members. I'd like to thank everyone who helped me this past year as Membership Chair. It was a great learning experience and the support I got from many was very appreciated. I look forward to working with the new board members and encouraging our club to grow with new members. I just got the name badges that I recently ordered and will be giving them out at the next meeting. – Cindy Titus

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The Model A Restorers Club, Inc.

THE *running* BOARD REPORT

From Tom Hovetter, President and Jim Zimmer, Director of Regions

January 2026

MARC's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that our completely restored website is alive at ModelARestorersClub.org (modelarestorersclub.org.) (If you have the link to the old website on your phone or computer, the old website will automatically connect to our new website). This upgrade marks an exciting step forward for MARC. Our new site uses modern technology to make it easier for members to:

- ☐ Browse national and regional events
- ☐ Renew memberships online
- ☐ Connect with other Model A enthusiasts
- ☐ Access club news and resources anytime — even on your phone

As our club continues to evolve, this new digital foundation helps us reach the next generation of Model A owners while staying true to our heritage.

Please take a moment to visit the new site and explore what's new. We welcome your feedback and ideas as we continue improving the online experience for everyone.

As some of you may have noticed on the MARC Facebook group, we advertised a special promotion to attract new members. If you have not been a member of MARC previously, you qualify for this promotion! Sign up for a MARC membership at the regular price of \$50 (12 months membership) and receive FREE editions of *Technically Speaking*, volumes one through thirteen, including shipping (while supplies last). AND if you want to purchase volumes fourteen and fifteen for an additional \$25 they will be shipped with the other volumes! Sign up on our new website by clicking join now. If you want to purchase the additional volumes you must call the office at 734-427-9050 within 48 hours of joining to qualify for free shipping.

Regions, please note that 2026 dues in the amount of only \$25 are now due. They can be paid by accessing our new website at modelarestorersclub.org, select Regions and the Region toolbar to take you to renew. Also, a reminder that most membership fees are due at this time of the year. Don't let your membership expire and miss an issue of the *Model A News*!

Circle your calendars now for July 12-16 and make your hotel reservations for the 2026 MARC National Meet in French Lick, Indiana. 894-241-8391. Driver Class judging standards have been updated and are available to download at modelarestorersclub.org. Plan to enter your Model "A" in the judging!



New website, modelarestorersclub.org.

The SWAP MEET

Model A Parts for sale:

Transmission late 29 -31 \$150

Chrome shifter, transmission top and shift mechanism late 28-mid 29 (e-brake pawl attached)

Flywheel housings (have 3) \$50 each.

Or best offer. Milford.sprecher@gmail.com

Send items for sale to dave.b.mcleish@gmail.com

Club Members can list items that they would like to sell, give away or are searching for.

Listings run for one month unless you extend them by email or phone call.

Sunshine News

Jeff Whitsett, Sunshine Coordinator, 240-461-8802 or jlwhitsett@hotmail.com

Please contact me if you hear of someone who needs one of our special Club cards!

It is with sympathy that I share the passing of Sandra Candella, the mother of Joe Candella, our club treasurer. She passed away peacefully on November 27, 2025, in her home in Gambrills, MD of heart failure. The memorial service was on December 15, 2025, with several club members in attendance. Please keep Joe and family in your thoughts and prayers.



National News

by Jeffrey Whitsett



MARC

January 10, 2026. 41st Annual Winter Swap meet. Specializing in Model A Ford Parts. Shepherdsville, KY.

March 7, 2026. 16th Annual Winter Swap Meet. Washington County Fairgrounds, Marietta, OH. Admission is \$5 per person.

March 20-22, 2026. Duncan Pre War Swap Meet, Duncan, OH.

March 22, 2026. East Side A's 54th Annual Swap Meet. Shelby Twp, Utica, MI. 8AM – 2PM.

April 17, 2026. All Model A Parts Swap Meet. Greenwood SC. 8AM – 3PM.

April 26, 2026. The Annual Steve Ryan Model A/AA Show and Swap. Trexlertown, PA. 9AM-3PM.

April 26, 2026. 62nd Annual Model A Swap Meet. Columbus, IN. 8AM – 12PM.

May 11-14, 2026. MARC National Tour 2026. Hosted by the Finger Lakes Region of MARC. Penn Yan, NY.

July 11, 2026. 15th Annual Car Show. Standish, MI. 10AM – 4PM.

July 12-16, 2026. MARC National Meet in French Lick, IN. French Lick Springs Hotel.

September 18-19, 2026. Model A Days at the Gilmore Museum.

September 17-20, 2026. 69th New England Model A Meet. Wellsworth Hotel, Southbridge, MA.

The Model A Restorers Club has a noteworthy youth coordinator. Her name is Emily Ellway, she can be contacted at YouthCoordinator@Model-A-Ford.org. Ask about Jr. MARC for youth.

MAFCA

President Tolman reports the following...

No new Presidents Message for January, 2026 has been published.

May 31 – June 7, 2026, MAFCA National Convention, Pendleton, OR.

MAFFI Minute (Model A Ford Foundation, Inc.)

MAFFI Minute December 2025

Happy Holiday Season, Model A'ers! Hope everyone is staying warm and that your cars are either tucked away for the winter or still enjoying the cooler air. I know I've been enjoying taking my A out in the snow.

Earlier this month, John Marshall, our Executive Director, sent out the Holiday Donation Letter, which is a great opportunity to stay involved by giving back to the museum. Don't forget that we also have a store where you can purchase MAFFI merchandise, located under the "Store" tab at maffi.org.

One of the coolest things about the museum is that it's constantly in motion. Dan Cargo and Jerry Dennany are always tinkering or moving cars around, with the help of the amazing volunteers from the Grape Country A's. If you visit the "Cameras" tab on maffi.org, you can see all the holiday decorations and even catch a glimpse of some of our newest additions.

The trustees also met in November to start shaping some exciting ideas for the museum. While it's a bit early to share details just yet, there are some great things in the works, and we're looking forward to unveiling more as plans come together in the months ahead.

Keep on motoring and have a Happy New Year!

John Grossheim Trustee and Secretary, MAFFI

Other Collector News

Our **Calendar** of up-to-date events for 2025 is listed on our website under the calendar tab. www.gbmodelafordclub.org



2025 GBMAFC HOLIDAY PARTY

The GBMAFC started off the holiday season with a luncheon/party/meeting on December 6, 2025. It was a very well attended event with 82 people present! Thanks to all who attended and made it a huge success! The event was held at Friendly Farms Restaurant in Upperco Md. from 11am -3pm. The restaurant did an outstanding job from beginning to end and the fried chicken was excellent!



Many thanks to the following who helped contribute to the success of the event: Don Keller as the event emcee, Harvey Hack who conducted a short but important business meeting, Linda Keller who gave the blessing, Jon Miller who handled the nomination/election of board officers, Scotty Scott for his presentation of the Ambitious Project Award which was a die cast miniature sedan delivery to serve as inspiration to Steve Meyer as he continues his sedan delivery restoration, Tom Hoveter for his presentation of a plaque and a Christmas planter to Betty Fisher for her many years of dedicated service to MARC and the mileage program, and last but not least, to our three photographers Dave and Laurie McLeish, and Kevin Mueller. (Without these three we would have no pictures!)



The Dahlinger award, given every year to the club member who has experienced the worse case of Model A trauma during the past year, went to our one and only small tool man Bill Crawford! It is rumored that if he did not have easy access to ALL the club tools this past year he might still be working on his Model A today! His list of Model A trauma is long and exhaustive and I encourage everyone to ask Bill about it! He and only he can do it justice!



As the party drew to a close prizes were given out. For the women the lucky winners of the \$25 Friendly Farms Gift certificates were Pat Burdelas and Sue Meyer. For the men the winners of the \$25 Home Depot gift certificates were Tim Kreft and Chip Schaffer. The 50/50 winner was Mary Ann Cordun.



Photo: Incoming and Outgoing Board Members

It was a delightful afternoon filled with good cheer and Model A camaraderie! Again, thanks to all who attended and lent their support to this wonderful activity. Looking forward to another great year with the Greater Baltimore Model A Ford Club!!

Happy Holidays to all!



THE DAHLINGER AWARD

The Saga Begins

From oil pan gasket to brake cross shaft on an early 28

In February, he decided to go to the Gettysburg meet. He needed to change his leaking oil pan gasket and in doing so noticed a chipped timing gear. He thus had to lift the front of the engine to access the timing cover, so he decided to replace his leaky radiator at the same time. Then everything really went downhill from there! The new brassworks radiator he ordered from California did not fit so he returned it at great expense to himself and got his old one fixed for cheap at a local radiator shop. The replacement timing cover he ordered from Bert's was painted sky blue and upon removal of said offending color he found other assorted colors from blue to red to yellow, so he finally decided to just paint it black! He should have just painted it his favorite color black over the sky-blue color just like other previous owners did! To lift the engine, he had to disconnect his brand new and just recently installed exhaust system. The engine was difficult to lift but eventually "pops" up. Then he couldn't get the engine back in. He ultimately got the engine back in place and then decided it was a great time replace his flywheel bolts with ones with holes that he could safety wire (on good advice from others) only to find out they were too long! He replaced those with his original flywheel bolts and brand-new grade 8 washers, a system which apparently has worked well for the past 100 years. On his test drive his clutch arm broke in half due to fatigue, and his brakes hung up due to damage done to his cross shaft when lifting the engine. After much frustration with it due to transmission alterations, he finally got a new clutch arm on, and another brake cross shaft installed! He can now drive his car! Ironically, it should be duly noted that he never made it to the Gettysburg meet.



This award goes to our very own small tool man Bill Crawford for his patience, his determination, his resourcefulness and for his amazing ability to carry on when many of us would have put up an ad simply stating "ran when last parked!!" May his trials and tribulations be an inspiration forever for all of us!



Greater Baltimore

Model A Ford Club



December 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes – Holiday Party Edition

Call to Order @ 12:57pm by President Harvey Hack

Visitors – Connor Vocks grandfather Chip was having a birthday. Today Steve Meyer and Don Keller were scheduled to celebrate their birthdays tomorrow (Dec 7th)

New Members - Ken and Mary Shaffer

Guests – Tom and Genora Hovetter – MARC President and First Lady

Presentation by Tom Hovetter – He was invited to attend by Scotty Betty Fisher was MARC Mileage Chairman from 2013 to 2025 She was presented with a plaque for her many years of service to the club. She also got a nice Christmas planter that Scotty got drafted to carry for her.

The Finger Lakes, NY May 11-14, 2026 Membership Meet and Tour registration is now open

See the MARC web site and Facebook for details and registration forms

The French Lick, IN July 12-16, 2026 National Meet is coming up, more details to come

The Drivers Class Judging is being refined. The revised standards are due out soon

Joe Valentine - MARC VP is updating the Bylaws

The MARC website is being updated. Look for the new website to appear before the end of December. It will also incorporate Facebook also.

Back to President Harvey Hack

The Tom Kortisses Award – Given to the most helpful and positively influential member for the year.

Harvey forgot to ask for nominations for the 2025 award.

With no nominations, there is no winner.

Helping others is what the club is about, so let's help Harvey not forget next year.

Election of 2026 Officers:

Nominating Committee Chairman - Jon Miller with members Don Keller and Bill Crawford

Thank you to outgoing National Representative - Jeff Whitsett

Voted in Kevin Mueller

Thank you to outgoing Membership Chair – Cindy Titus

Voted in Dave McLeish

Thank you to outgoing Secretary – Mike Silbert

Voted in Harry Pressman

Thank you and voted back in Treasurer – Joe Candella
Thank you and voted back in Activities – Steve Meyer
Thank you and voted back in Vice President – Miguel Escobar
Thank you and voted back in President – Harvey Hack

New President Harvey reminded everyone to renew for 2026

No renewal by December 31st = No Steering Column and club notices in January

TW Scotty presented the Ambitious Award Project Award to – Steve Meyer

Steve is working on restoring a rare Sedan Delivery with its many unusual parts
He got a die cast model very close to the look of his project. It even has
working doors, hood, and an engine. Let's all encourage members on
their projects large and small.

The Dahlinger Award – Presented by Steve Meyer

Hopefully the award story as it was created 25 years ago will get published and
archived.

It is awarded to someone who had the worst time with their Model A in 2025

Thanks to Joe Candella who “restored” the award this year. It is a bad Model B
Carburetor.

We had some strong competition this year

Harry Pressman - blew an engine

Bill Finagin - arrived to an event with a loose lug nuts – lucky a wheel did
not pass him

Winner - Bill Crawford - see previous story

Door Prizes – Women's

Tony Burdelas – Oops, he had his wife Pats ticket

Sue Meyer

Men's

Chip Schaffer

Tim Kreft

50/50 was \$58 and won by Mary Ann Corun Meeting closed early for more social time



The Greater Baltimore
Model A Ford Club
c/O Dave McLeish, Editor
3416 Forsythia LN
Burtonsville, MD 20866

