



### 2025Club Officers & Committees

#### President

Tim Diehn 812-374-2882 timdiehn@yahoo.com

#### **Vice President**

John Emmering 331-425-1187

Shoeboxford.john@gmail.com

#### Secretary/Membership

Rob Kirkpatrick 317-402-2562 rob@kirkpatrick.net

#### Treasurer/Tour Master

Phil Sutton 812-336-8672 pgsutton@indiana.edu

#### **Board of Directors**

Jay Williamson
317-223-1379
letterpressman@icloud.com
Sid Pendygraft
812-844-0092
sidpendy@msn.com
Dennis Meyer
317-727-5098
dmeyer4066@sbcglobal.net

#### Newsletter/Historian

John Emmering 331-425-1187

Shoeboxford.john@gmail.com

#### Swap Meet Chairman/Webmaster

John Prohaska 812-350-8780 prohaska1069@yahoo.com

#### **Care and Concern Committee**

Linda Sullivan 812-523-3674 roadsterman1929@yahoo.com

### Columbus MARC Region Since 1964, MAFCA Chapter since 2009

From the Editor...



John Emmering

#### Fellow Members:

This issue once again is packed with lots of information and reports on some of our Club's past month activities. A highlight of the month was our participation in "Model A Days". Special thanks to the members who contributed to this October issue. Larry Morlock sent an interesting report on the Overlook Restaurant Tour and Linda Sullivan sent in a story detailing her and Jack's trip out to Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado and "The Four Corners". Dennis Meyer sent information and photos about "The Blue Book" which was a driver's guide to early roads. Dennis will be leading us on a "Blue Book" tour following a route prescribed by the book.

Finally Deglan Cunningham, our Youth Columnist submitted a great article on his work on his three car Model A collection. Hope you enjoy this October issue and can participate in some events this month.

John

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

October 6-9 Hershey Swap Meet, PA

October 9-- Membership Meeting El Nopal 5:30 pm

October 11 - Automobile Blue Book Tour

October 20-24 - Fall Tour Ohio Amish Country

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Word From Tim Diehn



### Hello Members,

I just returned from a fantastic trip to Hickory Corners for Model A Days and the dedication of the new Model A Ford Foundation Inc. (MAFFI) museum expansion. The addition is truly impressive. It allows for more artifacts to be displayed and, more importantly, provides a dedicated space for hands-on educational experiences. This is a unique and valuable feature that many other museums lack. While there, I had the opportunity to hawk our 2026 MARC National Meet at French Lick. We had a booth where fellow club members helped explain to passersby about French Lick, the meeting, and activities to be held that week. Many had already reserved their rooms and were excited to come see us again.

October is a beautiful time for driving, with crisp mornings and warm afternoons making every tour a pleasure. We have a full schedule of events this month, so be sure to join in on the fun. The lineup includes an annual pilgrimage to Hershey, a unique tour following a 1917 southern Indiana itinerary, our traditional Fall Tour to the Dayton, Ohio area, and the annual Sullivan Fall Foliage tour on November 1st. Please remember to let the tour leaders know if you plan to attend any of these events. Your RSVP helps them make reservations and arrangements to accommodate our group size.

I am thrilled to announce that Rick Bray, Dick Bray's son, will be our guest speaker at the **October 9** membership meeting. Rick will be sharing his passion for steel and covered bridges, and his expertise in their design and construction. I hope to see you all there for what promises to be a fascinating presentation.

Lastly, November will be election of the 2026 Officers. If you would like to be considered, please contact me. We need new ideas to keep our club fresh and exciting. You could be that person with those new ideas. Being an officer or a director gives you a front seat in making those happen.

I look forward to seeing you all Going Places!

Regards

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## Oct. 9 Membership Meeting -- El Nopal Restaurant , National Road, 5:30 dinner, 6:30 Meeting.

#### Oct. 11 Blue Book Day Tour . (Meyer)

Dennis Meyer will be leading a 1917 Blue Book tour segment of "Route 294" on Sunday October 11th, leaving at 9:30am. The tour starts in Franklin Indiana on the east side of the courthouse on E. Court St. This section of E. Court St. is one way going south from Jefferson St., with angle parking on both sides of the street. Dennis will have some addictional handouts to pass out before departure so gas up and plan to arrive as early as 8 am to enjoy breakfast and/or some coffee at "Court House Café" on East Court Street close to where we'll be parked. A CB radio (that works) is a plus for this trip... but not necessary. After we reached the courthouse in Scottsburg we will head west on Hwy 56 and have lunch at "Flip Daddy's". After lunch we will continue West on Hwy 56 and then go north on Hwy 39 through Little York, Tampico, and then on county roads to Dudleytown then to Seymour, where we'll decide on ice cream and disband. If you plan to participate be sure to call or text Dennis at 317-727-5098 and let him know. If no answer please leave a voice mail message.

#### Oct. 20-24 Fall Tour Ohio Amish Country (Howell & Sutton)

The Fall Tour Group will depart on the morning of Monday October 20. Phil Sutton will lead the Columbus Group from Eastbrook Plaza and Tim Howell will depart from Greenfield. Phil Sutton will call each participant with times and details of the departure. Anyone who has not signed up as of yet and would like to go can contact Tim Howell at 317-767-1135 and make arrangements. Phil Sutton is also available for information on the tour at 812-369-9915.

#### **Nov. 1** Fall Foliage Tour (Sullivan)

Meet at Westhill Shopping Center 4280 W. Jonathan Moore Pike, Columbus at 8:45, leave at 9:00 am. We will take 258 to Bedford and pick up Bloomington friends at the Marathon Station on the left after turning off Hwy 37 onto 450. From there, we will wind our way to Shoals, where we will have lunch at Velma's Diner. The diner has a cash only policy. Every Fall outing should include an orchard, so we will stop at Apple Archers on our way back to Bedford. Hope to see you for our last big hurrah!

## The Automobile Blue Book An Overview of Its History and Purpose

The "Automobile Blue Book" was a series of early travel guidebooks published in the United States during the early 20th century. These books were designed to help motorists navigate the rapidly expanding network of roads and highways before the widespread adoption of standardized road signs and maps

The primary purpose of the Automobile Blue Book was to provide detailed driving directions between cities and towns. Unlike modern maps, these guides offered turn-by-turn instructions, mileage markers, and descriptions of landmarks or road conditions. They often included recommendations for hotels, restaurants, and places of interest along the route.

First published in 1901, the Automobile Blue Book became an essential companion for early motorists. At a time when paved roads were rare and navigation was challenging, these guides played a crucial role in making automobile travel more accessible and enjoyable. The books were updated annually to reflect changes in roadways and infrastructure.

With the advent of better roads, standardized signage, and modern mapping technology, the need for such detailed guidebooks diminished. However, the Automobile Blue Book remains an important artifact in the history of American travel and the development of automobile culture. Collectors and historians value these books for their insight into early road travel and the growth of tourism in the United States. Our Blue Book Tour October 11 will follow one of the prescribed routes.











By Rob Kirkpatrick

#### **Membership Meeting Minutes**

#### El Nopal Mexican Restaurant, September 11, 2025

#### Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by President Tim Diehn

45 members were present plus 1 guest: Paul and Tamara Arlin, David and Kelli Brooks, Steve Butler, Tom Cherry, Jerry and Sharon Curbox, Ed and Mary Dathe, Roger Dean, Christian and Susan Easton, John Emmering, Dave Engle, Ron and Carmen Huddleston, Blake and Michelle Hudman, Maurice Ketchum, Scott King, Bob Kinser, Rob and Debbie Kirkpatrick, Ronnie and Katy Lawson, Bryan and Alice Mattison, Don and Ellen McGlothlin, Dennis and Kathy Meyer, Larry Morlock, Albert and Roberta Ogden and daughter Heather, Larry and Carol Pumphrey, Don Wesseler, Jay and Caryn Williamson, Deglan Cunningham, Dan and Connie Young, new members Walt & Sherry Brown

There were several old Fords out there, but your humble scribe didn't get a count.

Minutes from the August 2 meeting were approved.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Starting balance was \$6,674.85 Ending balance was \$6,452.09

Reminder re: Ohio Fall Tour, Let Tim Howell know if you're going.

#### **Committee Reports**

Cares & concerns

Jerry Curbox is having an experimental procedure done on his foot Ron Huddleston's radiation treatment is working! Tom Bruce will have a bypass operation

#### **Touring Notes**

Model A Days in Gilmore to promote the National. Tim Howell is leading

September 27: Aspen Trace in Greenwood

Fall Festival

The V8 Club is joining us

Setup 10:00 a.m.

Show of hands of those going to Hershey

October 11: Dennis Meyer, 1917 Blue Book Tour October 15: Trunk or Treat at Taco Bell on 25<sup>th</sup> St.

Tim Howell is leading a tour of the new Speedway Museum

Save the date: Christmas Party on December 7<sup>th</sup>

#### **Other Business**

Roger Dean won the big 50/50: \$90

Model A After Shave from Linda Gibbons went to Jerry Curbox

Uncirculated Sacagawea/Model A \$1 coins went to Caryn Williamson and Bobby Kinser

Table centerpiece from MARC Oshkosh 2021 went to Don Wessler

John Prohaska went away with an engine compartment heater

#### Speaker

Dennis Meyer gave a wonderful Historical, Hysterical & Crazy presentation about his relatives from Norway & Leonardo, New Jersey, who somehow seem to know pretty much everyone on this Earth. Thanks, Dennis!!

The meeting adjourned after 8:00 PM. Respectfully submitted,

Rob Kirkpatrick

## The Model A Restorers Club, Inc.

# THE running BOARD REPORT

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

#### October 2025

ARC your calendars for the 2026 MARC National Meet at the magnificent French Lick Resort, July 12-16. Venture on tours to the Red Skelton Museum, historic New Harmony, and Jasper Engine plant. Or try classic adventures such as French Lick scenic railway, Patoka Lake cruises, and Amish/German country tours. For an active experience, enjoy the resort's new pickleball courts, quick-play (75 minute) 9-hole gold course, and West Baden bowling pavilion. This isn't just a Meet, it's a journey through history, full of Hoosier charm and new excitement!

II, we are compiling a list of members who have Model A mechanical knowledge and a desire to help other Model A owners or be a resource to MARC to answer questions from members either via email, phone call or through a MARC forum. Please email your information to Larry Shepard, including your name, phone number, email and include your area of expertise at marctech@modelarestorers.org. For example; Jim Zimmer, 614-353-8236, jwzimmer9119@gmail.com, tire pressure.

egions, don't forget that ANY member of your Region who has never been a MARC member qualifies for a FREE 12 month membership (digital *Model A News*). Also, young adults age 18-25 not living at home qualify as well! It's easy to enroll. Just call 734-427-9050 during normal EST business hours.

onsider hosting a MARC national meet. Our national tours are very popular as there are no seminars, no swap meet, no judging, no formalities. Just drive your Model A and have fun! Contact any Board member for information and to get you started. Other Model Aers would love to see your part of the country in their cars! We're also looking for Regions fo host Membership Meets—we do not have a host for 2027 yet and would be happy to assist with your questions and comments.





## Willis "Jack" Schmeckebier



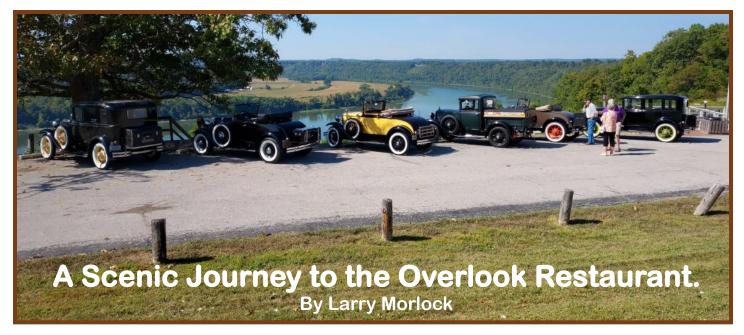
September 7, 1928 - October 10, 2024

There will be a celebration of life for our departed member

Jack Schmeckebier who passed away last year on October 10.

The event will be held on October 8 at 2:00 pm at the Cal

Brand Meeting Room of Columbus City Hall. Our members are
invited to attend.



n a sunny Saturday, September 13, six Model A cars and ten enthusiastic members of the club embarked on a delightful jour- we met Billy Tincher, a friend of Dennis and ney to the Overlook Restaurant in Leavenworth, Indiana. The convoy, which included Phil Sutton, Tim Ellis, Ed and Mary Dathe, Dennis Meyer, and Larry Morlock, set off from Columbus, picking up fellow members Jack Sullivan in Seymour and Sid and Denise Pendygraft in Salem along the way. Dave and Wilma Evanczyk joined the group at the restaurant, having traveled from their home in Utica, IN. The trip promised not only a scenic drive but also a day filled with camaraderie and picturesque views

Ye enjoyed the beautiful panoramic view of the Ohio River while having lunch at the restaurant which is situated high on a bluff overlooking a bend in the river. Meantime, the other restaurant patrons were admiring our Model A's outside.

fter lunch, Jack Sullivan led us a short distance north to the "Shoe Tree." This is a large Sycamore tree where for many years people have been tying the strings of their old shoes together and throwing them into the tree. This has now spread to other trees in the intersection. Our Model A Club visited there probably 35 years ago.

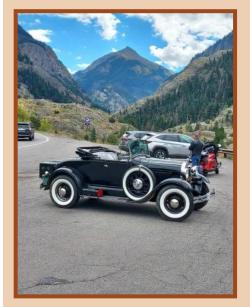
rom there, we took the country roads up to Livonia for an ice cream stop, where Kathy Meyer. Kathy plus Jack and Linda Sullivan all grew up in that area. After the ice cream, we departed several directions home. Jack led the Columbus contingent back through more country roads. We've always said the two-lane roads we travel are more interesting than interstates. The same can be said for the leisurely pace of country roads versus two lane highways. A good time was had by all.



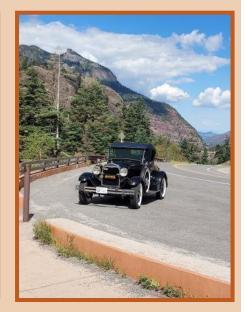
Tour participants (L to R) Ed & Mary Dathe, Jack Sullivan, Dennis Meyer, Phil Sutton and Tim Ellis.

# Exploring the Four Corners: A Road trip Adventure in a Model A Roadster

by Linda Sullivan







n August 31, we embarked on an exciting adventure to Cortez, Colorado, with our beloved Model A Roadster securely hitched to the trailer. After three days of anticipation, we finally arrived at our home base in Cortez. The moment we offloaded our Model A, the real fun began!

mersed ourselves in the breathtaking beauty of the Four Corners area. Some of the highlights included exploring the ancient wonders of Mesa Verde National Park, taking a nostalgic train ride from Durango to Silverton, marveling at the rugged landscapes of Canyonlands National Park, and standing at the unique Four Corners monument where four states, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah meet.

ur last day was the most memorable of all. We embarked on the San Juan Skyway, a spectacular 236-mile loop through the majestic San Juan Mountains in southwest Colorado. Along the way, we passed through historic towns like Durango, Silverton, Ouray, and Telluride. The route featured the famous Million Dollar Highway, offering jaw-dropping views and thrilling curves that tested our driving skills.

fter traversing four states and covering 900 miles, we reluctantly loaded the Model A back onto the trailer and began our journey home. An overnight stop in Oklahoma provided us with the delightful opportunity to drive our Model A in our 48th state. We'll leave it up to you to guess which state we'll be heading to next!



It was a bright sunny morning as I left my house in Columbus in my 1931 Model A Roadster early Thursday, September 18th for the first leg of a 240 journey to Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Making my way to Highway 9 and then north to Tim Howell's house in Greenfield, I met up with Tim, Dennis Meyer and others. We were joined along the way by a couple more Model A's as we headed north to Michigan.

It was a nice ride that took about six hours until we reached Kalamazoo and the Delta Hotel. Settling into our rooms some members attended the dedication of the Model A Museum expansion and took part in a special dinner.

Things got started in earnest Friday morning as we grabbed breakfast and headed to the Gilmore Museum Campus. I paid my MAFFI dues for year at the gate and pulled my Model A onto the grounds, landing a front row parking spot to display my Model A among about 160 others that would eventually turn out for the event.

The swap meet held both on Friday and Saturday had lot of interesting and useful Model A items and I picked up some useful parts there.



Tim Diehn and John Prohaska manned the 2026 MARC National Meet Information Tent.

Tim Diehn and John Prohaska set up a booth to publicize the 2026 MARC National Meet we are sponsoring in French Lick. They handed out information and encouraged MARC members to attend.

A Model A "First Start" activity was held with the challenge to start a Model A "Barn Find" which saw an eventual successful start up. The public was also given a chance to get a ride in a Model A and even learn to drive one, which was a hit for those not yet familiar with the cars,

On Saturday, which was day two, the swap meet went on as before and four different seminars were held. The subjects were Fashion, The Great Race, Touring 101, and the A,B,C's of Short Blocks.

An electrical problem with my Model A had plagued my drive up to Michigan and finally resulted in my car not starting. With lots of help from Tim Diehn and Larry Shephard the problem was eliminated and the Model A started up again.

Day two of Model A Days was topped off for me by a ride around the Gilmore in the restored Model AA Bus. Early Sunday morning I departed following Dennis Meyer back to Indiana after a great weekend immersed in our Model A Ford hobby.



The Model AA Bus offered rides during the event



## The Route 66 Tour is Now Underway with Rob Kirkpatrick leading the pack.

After years of planning and anticipation the Route 66 Model A Tour is now underway. The trip first took form in a "bucket list" wish of our member and club secretary Rob Kirkpatrick. Rob worked hard to organized and publicize the tour. He had hoped to hold the tour last year but found he would need a little more time so it was set to begin in September 2025.

Rob and the tour members gathered in Chicago for dinner and a trip review on Monday, September 22nd. This was timed specifically to accommodate those who wanted to go to the MAFFI Model A Days at the Gilmore Museum in Hickory Corners, MI on the 19th and 20th. The group left on Tuesday morning for the adventure heading down through Joliet and catching the Route 66 sights along the way. The Gemini Giant in Wilmington warranted a stop for photo opportunities. Next they cruised down to Pontiac, Illinois for a stopover and the oppor-

tunity to view the Route 66 Museum in that city.. They also visited the Pontiac Car Museum featuring Pontiac and Oakland vehicles.

The trip will last for three weeks, with the group arriving in Santa Monica, California on Monday, October 13th. They will average about 120 miles per day, allowing lots of time to see the interesting and historical sites along the way. Also, by averaging just 3-4 hours a day on the road, it provides them a cushion in case they experience a delay for any reason.

You may follow the Kirkpatrick's' and the group's travels on Route 66 on Rob's Facebook account and you will find access to the blog he has started. We hope the tour will be an enjoyable experience and look forward to Rob's report on the journey at a future Club Meeting.



Approaching Wilmington, Illinois



The Gemini Giant



The Rt. 66 Travelers Assembled



## YOUTH Department

By Deglan Cunningham, Age 20 Youth Columnist sw1mbug73@gmail.com



## Hello Fellow Club members!

I am Deglan Cunningham back with another update! Since June a lot has gone on. While I work two jobs, finding time to work on the cars is sometimes hard to do so my updates are sporadic but full I believe.

So, since I last updated you all the Phaeton has gone through two starters due to two separate reasons. The first issue is the top bolt that holds the spring on the end snapped off. The second starter happened this week. I'm unsure of the reason but it seemed to be stuck. It would click when the button was pressed but it wouldn't spin at all. It looks like the Bendix gear was chewed up on the flywheel, but no other damage is visible. I tossed a spare starter in, and it works just fine.

Also, during this time, I have tinkered with the Tudor. The main issue was the coil. After replacing it with a new one the car kicked right to life. Now due to my incorrect diagnosis in the first place I have rebuilt the carburetor. To say I did something wrong would be an understatement. For some reason fuel pours out of the split in the middle of the zenith-A carburetor. I'm assuming from one of the times pulling it apart I ripped the gasket and needed to dig into it some more.

Now onto the truck! As I've had the chassis for a while I have made some progress. It all started as a chassis with an engine block on jackstands. My dad and I usually spend one day a week at our shop, so we make little bits of progress at a time. Through the process a major lesson I have learned is to use the right tool for the job. It helps a lot! We started attaching the front beam and the leaf spring, without the spring spreader. It took lots of patience, but we ended up getting it attached after some brain power

We got the kingpins installed in the correct direction the second time we tried. Then we ran out of parts, so we moved to the back.

Before we started to assemble the banjo, we needed to put the axles in the spider gears. For all the information we had it took a while to figure out the correct way to do it. Once we did the rear end flew together and got the banjo and axles installed. With the original plan being for my grandma to drive it. It has an 80's ford transmission in it so we were concerned about connecting it to the driveshaft, but my grandfather was looking out for us. We already had all the parts for the swap we needed.

That is where we had a break in the action for a month or so due to family events. During this time, I pieced together parts for the engine like a carburetor and intake and a distributor I believe to be good. Only time will tell.

Let's get back to where I am now. As the car sits today it has both front backing plates on the front spindles for the brake system; the diver side is all ready except for the issue I'm having with the drums fitting over the shoes. I have heard that you need to shave them down but I'm not sure they fit in the correct way even after shaving them. The brakes have the bars connected to the cross shaft and connected to the pedal assembly. My parking brake handle is almost attached beside the nuts that hold it on. The rear brake system is yet to be installed because we were waiting for the bolts that hold the radius arms on. Now we have them and are going to work on connecting them shortly.

If anyone has any ideas for the brake shoes, please let me know. If you have any ideas, I'd love to call and chat about them and learn more from all of you folks! Thank you for reading my segment and I hope to hear from you all at some point.

Deglan

Any suggestions for Deglan? If so give him a call at 630-746-0009







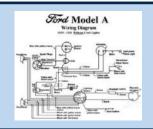
In the 1930s, as full weekends and reduced weekday hours became more common, people began to shift from work attire to more casual and sporty clothing during their leisure time. Influenced by movie stars and the wealthy, men started wearing short sleeve knit shirts, shorts, and swim trunks. Despite the high summer heat, suits, sport coats, long sleeve shirts, and long pants were still worn year-round, with casual clothing reserved for specific activities like sports or vacations.

Men's sport coats in the 1930s were colorful and bold, featuring big patterns and unique textures. They were paired with solid light pants or patterned trousers, introducing a new casual style to otherwise formal attire. Trousers were wide and came in various colors and patterns, with lighter fabrics preferred in summer and materials like corduroy in fall and winter. Grey and light tan were preferred over dark colors. Light wools were gradually being replaced by light flannels, linen, sailcloth, gabardine, and rayon blends. In fall/winter, the brown corduroy pant was a comfortable, soft, and casual pants option. *Information from Vintage Dancer Website.* 

#### FORD MODEL "A" MECHANICAL TIPS



## How to Approach Model A Ford Electrical Issues



Common problems with a Model A Ford terminal box stem from **issues with wiring, grounds, voltage drops, and internal components like the fuse and ammeter**. To diagnose, start at one end of the electrical circuit, use a voltmeter or test light to trace for voltage drops or open circuits, check for a good battery and ground connection, ensure the fuse is not blown, and verify that the ignition switch, ammeter, and coil are functioning correctly. Replacing old wiring, especially the under-hood harness and wiring to the coil, can prevent future problems.

#### **Common Problems**

Wiring Issues: Frayed, corroded, or loose wires, especially in exposed areas, can cause electrical malfunctions. Grounding Problems: Poor ground connections are notorious in Model A's and can lead to a variety of electrical issues.

**Voltage Drops:** A voltage drop indicates a high-resistance connection or faulty component in the circuit. **Blown Fuse/Ammeter:** A short circuit can blow the fuse or cause the ammeter to fail. **Bad Components:** A faulty ignition switch, a bad condenser or a failing ammeter can cause problems.

#### **Troubleshooting Steps**

- 1. **Start with the Battery:** Check the voltage at the battery, and ensure the ground cable is clean and tightly connected to the frame.
- **2.** Check the Terminal Box: Access the terminal box and check the voltage at the posts connected to the negative battery terminal and the wire going to the ammeter.
- **3. Verify Voltage Supply:** Measure the voltage across the fuse holder (if equipped).
- **4.** Trace the Voltage to the Coil: Disconnect the coil wire and measure the voltage at the post connected to the solid yellow wire from the starter switch and then at the coil terminals.
- **5. Inspect the Ignition Circuit:** Check for a significant voltage drop between the ignition switch and the distributor
- **6. Test the Points:** With the ignition on, place a piece of paper between the distributor points. Remove it, then open and close the points with a screwdriver to check for a spark. A lack of spark suggests a bad condenser.
- **7. Inspect Wiring:** Examine the wires in the terminal box and under the hood for any damage, corrosion, or loose connections.

#### **Preventative Measures**

- 1. **Replace Old Wiring:** Consider replacing the instrument panel wiring harness and the short wiring to the coil to prevent future problems.
- 2. **Keep Grounds Clean:** Regularly check and clean all ground connections for the battery and chassis.
- 3. Consult Manuals: Use a wiring diagram to help with troubleshooting.



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October 9 Membership Meeting—El Nopal National Rd, 5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Meeting.

October 11 1917 Automobile Blue Book Day Tour. (Meyer)

Oct 20-24 Fall Tour Ohio—Dayton, Holms Co. Amish Country (Howell & Sutton))

November 1 Fall Foliage Tour (Sullivan) Note the change in date

November 8 Speedway Museum Tour, Indianapolis, IN (Diehn)

November 13 Membership Meeting—El Nopal National Rd, 5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Meeting.

December 7 Christmas Party, The Seasons Lodge, 3pm, Nashville, IN (Diehn)



FOR SALE: 1930 Deluxe Coupe Nicely Restored Model "A" Ford. The car is located near Cecilia, Ky. Asking \$15,000. For more info Please Contact Jerry Mills at 270-735-2413

FOR SALE: 1930 Model "A " Deluxe Coupe. Has a Rumble seat. Excellent like new interior. Located in Noblesville, IN. Asking \$17,500. Contact Mel Minion at 317-379-1693

"95th Anniversary of the 1930 Ford"



3965 Fenwick Lane Columbus, IN 47201



Columbus, IN - MARC / MAFCA - Model A Ford





### **OCTOBER PHOTO OF THE MONTH**



Rob and Debbie Kirkpatrick took advantage of a photo op at the Route 66 sign in Wilmington, Illinois on the first day of thier Rt. 66 adventure.

Wilmington, 63 miles from Chicago is the site of some interesting

Rt. 66 landmarks.