



Published by the Script "A" Club,
Ford Model "A" Club of Michigan
October 2025



October 18, 1931

I believe my house is haunted. Every time I look in my mirror a crazy old lady stands in front of me so I can't see my reflection.

Script Club

Ford Model "A" of Michigan

<https://www.script-a-region.org>

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Notes from Nora

A Message from the President

Happy October Everyone! This month's meeting will be held on October 15th, at Bridgeport Community Church. The meeting will start early at 6:30 p.m. due to our annual Turkey Bingo which will follow the meeting. We will also be holding nominations for officers during the meeting. The board positions available this year are Nora Petriches - President, Cathy Thompson - Secretary, Connie Green and Ken Roy – Board Members. These positions are held for a two-year term and are open to any Script "A" member who is in good standing with our club. Those elected to the board of directors are required to be members of MARC and MAFCA. The Script "A" Club pays for one national membership for the officers. This is the time to expand your involvement with our club. Being on the Board of Directors is not difficult, it is not time-consuming, and it does not pay well, but it is an important part of our club. I ask everyone to consider sharing the load.

Most of our vehicles are

already covered and ready for winter. I still have my

pickup available to travel to a Trunk or Treat that is planned for October at the Davison Library on the 18th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. This is always a fun event where we decorate our vehicles, ourselves, and our dogs, to hand out candy. If you know of a Truck or Treat in your area, please share it with our club members.

So, as the days get shorter and winter approaches, we should all take advantage of the warm weather and drive the A's whenever we can. Take the family to an apple orchard for some hot cider or a pumpkin patch. These kids don't stay young for long, make your memories while you can.

Nora

My wife asked me why I was doing the dishes while sitting down.

I told her it's because I can't stand doing them.

- Bob Davies

The Script "A" News is the official publication of the Script "A" Club, Ford Model "A" of Michigan. This Club is a member of the Model A Restorers Club and Model A Ford Club of America. The Script "A" Club is a non-profit organization formed to encourage the members to acquire, preserve, restore, exhibit and make use of the Model A Ford vehicle, model years 1928 to 1931 and all things pertaining to the Model A Ford including literature, technical, and historical information and to promote the introduction of ideas and fellowship among its members. The provides information on meetings and activities that have taken place and schedules of coming events. Members may publish, at no cost, items for sale, trade, or wanted. The membership is invited to submit articles of interest. Material must reach the Editor by the 3rd of the month to assure publication in the next issue. Dues for both the Script "A" Club (\$10 includes mailed newsletter); MARC (\$50) and MAFCA (\$50) are due to the Script "A" Club Membership Director on or before December 1st. If you would like to receive a mailed Script "A" News, please add an additional \$40 per year.

NOTE: Some materials printed in this newsletter, including cartoons, diagrams and articles, may be borrowed from other publications. We wish to thank the other clubs for sharing their newsletters with us. We are also happy to share our articles for publication in other club's newsletters. Where known, sources of items used will be included with the item.



Meeting Minutes

by Cathy Thompson



Minutes from the Sept. 17th meeting

On September 17th the regular meeting was held at the Bridgeport Community Church and called to order at 7:00 p.m. Nora led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. We were joined by guest, Cheryl Larkin, Verl Newman's daughter.

Nora announced our door greeters for October (John Dros) and November (Key Roy). Thank you greeters!

The Secretary's Report was approved as printed in the newsletter.

Bonnie Prado gave the combined July/August Treasurer's Report. A check for \$300.00 was donated to the Flushing Historical Society. The checking account balance as of August 31st was \$4,312.78. The members in attendance approved the report.

Cheryl Roy gave the Sunshine Report, sharing that Duane's wife, Barb Hazelton, passed. Rusty Gould shared that Leonard is out of rehab and home recovering after a series of mini strokes. Nick Palmreuter said that his wife, Sandy had triple by-pass surgery and is doing good.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Davison car show on August 9th went well. They want us to come back next year!
- There were lots of Model A's in attendance at Back-to-the Bricks this year.
- Rusty Gould made the Top 20 out of 175 cars at the Reese Car Show!
- Chris & Connie Green led a great lunch run to Ford Garage in Utica.
- Nora's daughter took Best in Show at the Labor Day Show at Emmanuel Baptist Church!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sept 18th Gilmore Museum - MAFFI Museum addition ribbon cutting ceremony

Sept 19th-20th Gilmore Model A Days (check website for details)

Sept 21st Golden Memories Show @ Sloan Museum - potluck/finger foods & Rita's Ground Bologna Spread!

Oct 13th MAFCA Route 66 Tour

Jan 25th (last weekend) 43rd Annual Script "A" Swap Meet at McDonald Cadillac/GMC in Saginaw.

CORRESPONDENCE:

● Flushing Historical Society sent the club a very nice "Thank you" letter for our recent donation.

● MARC letter from Mark Zimmer announcing the 2024 MARC Award of Merit presented to Mark Kendall for his hard work and dedication to making our monthly newsletter top notch!

NEW BUSINESS:

Oct 18th Trick-or-Trunk at Davison Library & Historical Society from 11am-3pm (be there early!)

Oct 30th GISD Marion Krause Instructional Center on Luce Rd. in Flushing is having a truck-or-treat for approx. 90 special needs students from 10am-12pm. No nuts, think stickers and trinkets for passing out.

REMINDER:

You will need to pay your National Membership Dues to MARC/MAFCA directly this year - Script A will not be collecting dues on your behalf.

Rita Gould gave an Above and Beyond Award to Mark Kendall for all he does with our newsletter. Thank you, Mark!

Rita donated several mini flashlights for a special drawing giveaway, as well as bringing in lots of clothing & accessories free to a good home.

The Membership Drawing was not won this meeting since Jesse Kendall was not in attendance, but Verl Newman was a winner of 50/50 for \$55.50!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm. Our next meeting will take place on October 15th. Join us then for board member nominations and Turkey Bingo!

Cathy

Cathy Thompson



October



November



OCTOBER

- 4 Barbara Lloyd
- 6 Kirk Stucky
- 12 Sandy Tryles
- 12 Virginia Knag
- 19 Kevin Fuelling
- 27 Vickie Wille
- 29 Connie Green
- 31 C. Rusty Gould
- 31 Beth Gulliver

NOVEMBER

- 4 Jerry Schlorff
- 5 Julie Kendall
- 5 Donna Sunday
- 6 **Edsel Ford 1893**
- 9 Jim Drysdale
- 9 Sharon Booth
- 10 Gary Gavord
- 11 Jon Aldrich
- 14 Mel Greenwald
- 15 Wendy Hillman
- 16 Shirley Burghardt
- 16 Gwen Schlorff
- 21 Cathy Barden
- 23 Larry Neubecker
- 23 Fred Tryles
- 24 Sally Wheaton



All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt
- Cartoonist Charles M. Schulz

A guy knows he's in love when he loses interest in his car for a couple of days.

-Actor Tim Allen

Cold Weather and Batteries -

When adding water to a battery in cold weather, the engine should be run at a charging speed for at least five minutes after the water has been added.. This is so the water will mix with the electrolyte.

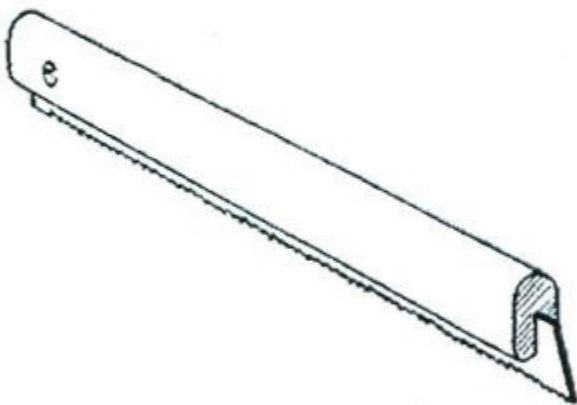
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Repair Fuel Tanks - Do not try to repair leaky fuel tanks unless you know what you are doing. Gas fumes are dangerous due to their explosiveness.

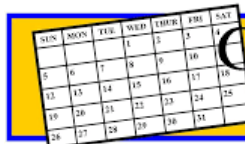
**Squeaks and Rattles****Shop Hints**

Ron Hooper, Old 96 District A's

Most Model "A" owners who have had an occasional generator repair job use a hacksaw blade to clean out the mica and dirt between the commutator segments. To ease this task I use a hardwood handle around the blade to act both as a depth gauge for sawing out the segments and also as a frame to hold the hacksaw blade.



I have found it very helpful to have in my tool box a screwdriver with a deep notch ground in the center of it. This is handy for boosting springs into place and is especially good for servicing brakes. The tool, of course, can still be used in the usual way.

**Calendar
of Events****OCTOBER**

- 15th Turkey Bingo/Nominations/Meeting, Bridgeport Community Church, 6:30 p.m.
- 18th Trunk or Treat, Davison City Parking Lot, noon to 3:00 p.m. Arrive at 11:00 a.m.

NOVEMBER

- 19th Elections/Meeting, Bridgeport Community Church, 7:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

- 13th Christmas Party, Horizons, Saginaw, 11:00 a.m. with lunch at 11:30 a.m.

25th MERRY CHRISTMAS

2026**JANUARY**

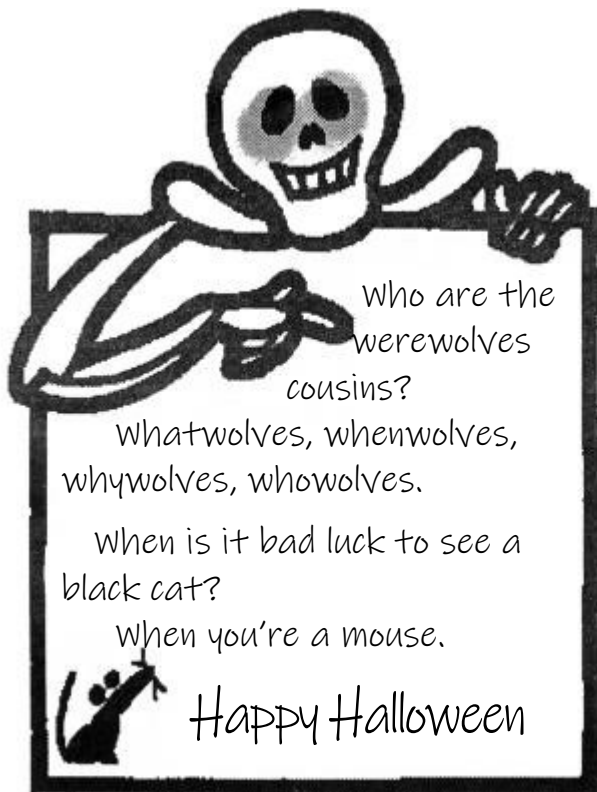
- 1st HAPPY NEW YEAR
- 21st Regular meeting, Bridgeport Community Church, 7:00 p.m.
- 25th Script "A" Swap Meet, McDonald Cadillac/GMC, 5155 State St., Saginaw, 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

That's not a leak, my car's just marking its territory!

To obtain maximum attention, it's hard to beat a big mistake.



Ken Roy sent this picture in. I don't believe it's a photo of Cheryl! Nope someone's mother-in-law.



1928

MEMORABLE EVENTS

October 9: In the 25th Baseball World Series, the New York Yankees are the first team to sweep a consecutive World Series when playing against the St. Louis Cardinals. During the game, Yankees slugger Babe Ruth hits three home runs.

- Joliet A's

What do you call a sleeping bull?
A bull-dozer.

If a child refuses to nap, are they resisting a rest?

I asked my dog what's two minus two.
He said nothing.

RIP boiling water, you will be mist.

MAFFI Newsletter Minute

September 2025

Model A Hobbyists,

The air is just “electric” at the Model A Museum in Gilmore! You can feel the energy of Model A Days: the biggest and best yet! The Thursday evening ribbon cutting is sold out! The Friday evening dinner is sold out, and the Delta Hotel (host hotel) is sold out, but there are other hotel options in the area.

Also, your time to enter the Sweepstakes for the 1928 Phaeton is running out; you need to enter by October 19, 2025. Like a traditional phaeton, this open car has no side windows, providing an open-air driving experience. Unlike a Ford Model A roadster, the Phaeton has four doors, allowing passengers access to the back seat. With an open design, the Phaeton was not as commonly purchased as other Model A body styles, so wouldn't it be fun to win this car? Go to the Model A Ford Foundation Inc. page and click on Expansion and then Sweepstakes to be routed to enter.



And lastly, my term on the board as a Trustee is up and John Grossheim, a young Model A Trustee, will be taking over as the Secretary for the MAFFI Board. He's from Ohio and his enthusiasm bubbles over for this hobby. I know you will look forward to his MAFFI Minute each month!

Cindy Ellenbecker
MAFFI Trustee/Secretary

From the Twin Cities A's comes this tip...

Vince Smith found a great way to keep the ever messy grease gun in a clean and handy storage container. Simply using an empty one gallon oil container modified by cutting two holes in it. The excess grease that is always present leaking from the tip is now contained in the leak-proof container. It also stores well on the shelf or floor.





From the Clean Editor's Desk

At the September meeting it was give recognition to the "editor night." First, Nora presented the "Award of Merit" for the newsletter from MARC and then Rita presented me the "Above & Beyond" pin which means a lot to me coming from the membership. *Thank you!*

MARK



NOTICE

National dues for both MARC and MAFCA are payable directly to the national offices this year. Connie Green will be collecting only Script "A" dues of either \$10 (email newsletter) or \$50 (mailed newsletter)

She will be collecting local dues in October and/or November. Be ready to renew!! See page 23!

NO LATER than Dec. 1st.

At our September meeting, it was my honor to present the *Above & Beyond* award to Mark Kendall, editor of the Script "A" newsletter. Mark has always maintained the highest quality for the *Script "A" News*. He has previously been awarded, Newsletter of the Year (the highest award possible), Award of Excellence, Newsletter Cover of the Year and many more top awards.

THANK YOU Mark, for all you do for Script "A".

Rita Gould

Dops!

Jesse Kendall wasn't at the meeting when his name was drawn for the Membership Attendance!

Congratulations

To Verl Newman for winning the 50/50 drawing at the meeting. You now have gas money to get home!

GOLDEN MEMORIES - SLOAN MUSEUM - SUNDAY, SEPT. 21st

Seven Script "A" Model A's braved the weather but unfortunately the rain scared many participants. We had a nice lunch (as always) but then the rain became steady so your reporter Chris headed home.

Thank you. Chris



A few of the Model A at Sloan



A few more of the Model A at Sloan



Model A guard-dog, letting people know
"DON'T TOUCH THAT MODEL A"

Model A direct from factory
still wrapped in plastic!



Leroy Truman braving the elements.





Henry Ford in the act of stamping the number on the first Model A motor completed on the Fordson motor assembly line, October 20, 1927.

Mr. Ford Numbers First Model A Car

As the first Model A Ford motor left the Fordson assembly line late in the afternoon of October 20, 1927, it was numbered by Henry Ford with a hand stamp and machine hammer. When finished, the first car, a Tudor sedan, was driven to the Dearborn Laboratory and put through a series of tests. Eventually this car will be placed in the Ford Museum.

Who says men can't decorate?

– John Hoffman, Calumet A's



Sunshine Report

Sandy Palmreuter had major by-pass surgery recently and is doing well. Keep her in your thoughts and prayers as she continues to recover. Cards can be sent to:

Sandy Palmreuter
2635 N. Towerline Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48601

Leonard Hammermeister had a stroke and was in the hospital. He is now home, using a wheelchair, and has 24-hour care. He wants **no** cards, visits, or such. Shirley is about the same. Prayers are welcome.

Stay home, stay safe, stay healthy.
till next month...

*Cathy Thompson &
Cheryl Roy*

I was driving when I saw the flash of a traffic camera. I figured that my picture had been taken for exceeding the speed limit even though I knew I was not speeding.

Just to be sure, I went around the block and passed the same spot, driving even more slowly, but again the camera flashed. Now I began to think that this was quite funny, so I drove even slower as I passed the area once again, but the traffic camera flashed yet again.

I tried a fourth and a fifth time with the same results and was now laughing uncontrollably as the camera flashed as I rolled past at a snail's pace.

Two weeks later, I got five tickets in the mail for driving without a seat-belt.

**Invite us to
your next
blowout.**



Shirley Burghardt got this from a tire shop in Milwaukee.

A woman was shopping for a dress to wear to her 30 year high school reunion where a bunch of teenagers were shopping for dresses for prom.

"Ew, this dress would make me look like I'm 40!" said one of the girls.

"Give me that!" the woman says, snatching the dress from the young girl, "That's EXACTLY what I'm looking for!"

- Bob Davies

Almost forgot to include the newsletter award I received from Nora at the meeting.



Donut time after the meeting -

Thanks Cheryl Roy
for the pictures



What are you talking about?
I want to eat my donut

Sheryl Larkin & Mark Thompson posing



These donuts look great!

You should try one of these donuts Ver!



TECH TIPS BY BOB BIDONDE

- from Long Island A's

Ignition Coil Hookup Tests

- Determines coil hookup beneficial to performance
 - **Wear rubber gloves**
- Pencil test difficult to distinguish flare vs spark
- Sparklite tester is simple to use
 - Illuminates to show right hookup
 - Available from Model "A" parts suppliers

Better Way



Things I learned from my mother...

1. My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION. *"Just wait until we get home."*
2. My mother taught me about RECEIVING. *"You are going to get it when you get home!"*
3. My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE. *"If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to freeze that way."*
4. My mother taught me ESP. *"Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"*
5. My mother taught me HUMOR. *"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."*



Exercising can add YEARS to your life. For example, I jogged 4 miles today and now I feel like I'm 73.

England doesn't have a blood bank. But it does have a liverpool.

This Week in Auto Heritage



On October 12, 1915, James Couzens resigned as a vice president and general manager of Ford Motor Company, but kept his seat on the board of directors. Four years later, he sold his shares in Ford for \$30 million and was elected mayor of Detroit.

Couzens served as mayor until 1922 when he was appointed to the U.S. Senate to fill a vacancy. He was reelected to a full term in 1924 and continued to represent Michigan in the Senate until his death in 1936.

-motorcities.org

DID YOU KNOW...

- dreamt is the only word that ends in mt
- honey is the only natural food which never spoils
- the only continent with no active volcanoes is Australia
- elephants are the only mammal that can't jump
- hummingbirds are the only bird that can fly backwards
- in a deck of cards the king of hearts is the only king without a moustache
- the hyoid bone in your throat is the only bone in your body not attached to any other
- there are only 4 words in the English language which end in 'dous' (they are: hazardous, horrendous, stupendous and tremendous)
- 'Bookkeeper' and 'bookkeeping' are the only 2 words in the English language with three consecutive double letters
- only female mosquitoes bite
- the word typewriter is the longest word that can be typed using only the top row of a keyboard
- Hawaii is the only US state that grows coffee
- the word 'underground' is the only word that begins and ends with the letters 'und'

Trunk or Treat

The History of the Humble Suitcase Smithsonian Magazine
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history-humble-suitcase-180951376/>



When Phileas Fogg decides to circle the globe in *Around the World in 80 Days*, the 1873 novel by Jules Verne, he doesn't take a suitcase. "We'll have no trunks," he says to his servant Passenpartout, "only a carpet bag, with two shirts and three pairs of stockings for me, and the same for you. We'll buy out clothes on the way."

At the time, the suitcases as we know it today hardly existed. In Verne's day, proper travel required a hefty trunk built of wood, leather, and often a heavy iron base. The best trunks were waterproofed with canvas or tree sap, as steamships were a reigning mode of travel. Without this protection, a suitcase in the hold of a heaving, leaky ship would probably have been wet within a few hours and crushed by sliding trunks within a few more.

When the suitcase finally did catch on at the end of the 19th century, it was quite literally a case for suits. A typical suitcase came equipped with an inner sleeve for storing shirts, and sometimes a little hatbox on the side. But even in the early 20th century, the "dress-suit case" was only one of countless styles of container that travelers could buy, from steamer trunks to club bags to Eveready portable wardrobes. These were boom times for the baggage business.

The history of the suitcase spans every major transportation revolution since the steamship. And this means that suitcases carry a lot more than spare socks and underwear — they carry in their design a subtle history of human movement.

It's a good thing Phileas Fogg didn't take a trunk, because dragging one from steamship to railroad to carriage to hot air balloon would have ruined his rapid pace. Trunk-laden travel was becoming increasingly illogical as long-distance transportation grew more common and diverse. Up to that point, tourism had begun a decidedly upper-class phenomenon, and the rich could rely on an army of hired hands to carry luggage. In the 18th century, young European elites on the Grand Tour had often traveled with several servants in a coach filled with trunks and furniture. There wasn't sufficient incentive to revise an inconvenient design while rich travelers simply relied on railway porters and hotel bellhops.

(Indeed, when Fogg meets an Indian princess along the way, he buys luggage for her, and the pair is soon carried to their steamship by palanquin—basically a chair with handles that's lifted with human labor—with "their luggage brought up after on a wheelbarrow.")

But the late 19th century marked a pivot point in the history of transportation: it was the beginning of mass tourism, of travel for travel's sake (as opposed to, say, pilgrimages to Jerusalem

or migration to industrial mill towns.) Humans had long traveled for the sake of curiosity and exploration, of course, but by 1900 or so, hotels in Switzerland were recording millions of overnight stays per year, and a summer day could draw hundreds of thousands of visitors to British beaches. Travel wasn't just for the wealthy anymore.

Suitcases began as an afterthought in the luggage and leather goods business, but they soon became the very symbol of travel. An 1897 wholesale price list included the words “suitcase” only twice in a 20-page list of luggage types. In a 1907 T. Eaton & Co. catalog, trunks took up a full page while suitcases share a page with club bags and valises. In a 1911 United Company catalog, however, around 40 percent of the advertisements were for suitcases. (It's worth pointing out that these catalogs were from North America, where migration required people—and not just the wealthy—to carry their own belongings far and often).

Early suitcases were lighter and more portable than trunks, but they were still bulky by today's standards. Leather, wicker or thick rubbery cloth was stretched over a rigid wood or steel frame. Corners were rounded out using brass or leather caps. Such suitcases tended to have roughly the proportions of a hardback book: flattened and easy to carry, with a handle on the long side. Until steamship travel declined during the mid-20th century, many were advertised as waterproof. Lightweight models were often marketed specifically to women.

As trunks went out of style, suitcases took on not just practical but also cultural significance. By the 1920s, suitcases featured in books such as *The Hardy Boys* and such films as *The Woman in the Suitcase*, as a literary symbol for both mobility and mystery—perhaps filled with gold, photographs, or simply a stranger's possessions. During the Great Depression, farmers who worked fields away from home were called “suitcase farmers.”

Suitcases still had a way to go before achieving their present form, though. With the rapid expansion in automobile travel during the 1920s, and a more gradual expansion of air travel a couple decades later, suitcases found new applications but also new kinds of competition. A 1933 business report written to President Franklin Roosevelt by Hugh S. Johnson, an administrator in the National Recovery Administration, put it this way: “With the increase in the use of automobiles, it has become easy to utilize simple cardboard containers secured at little or no cost, in the back of the automobile in lieu of luggage.” Suitcases, in other words, had to get lighter and cheaper if they wanted to compete. The robust wood, steel, and heavy leather suit-



case gave way to cardboard and plastic models that emphasized “modern” materials and convenience.

Essentially all these developments came in the last half-century or so, particularly with the onset of mass aviation. Unlike transportation by automobile, which takes a traveler from door to door, a long flight can require half a mile of walking during check-in, layovers, and arrival. And while a ship's hold or luggage car could store large amounts of luggage regardless of shape, an airplane's stowage areas have specific proportions and size limits. The suitcase had to adapt.

Formerly luggage would be handled by porters and be loaded or unloaded at points convenient to the street, the large terminals of today, particularly air terminals, have increased the difficulty of baggage handling. Thus, it is often necessary for a passenger to handle his own baggage in an air, rail, or bus terminal. When the passenger does handle his own luggage, he is often required to walk very great distances. A wheeled trunk was patented in 1887, and a wheeled suitcase in 1945—those initial models simply didn't catch on. Aviation had only recently become truly widespread, though: in the two decades before the patent, flights had increased their passenger totals by ten times, from 17 million in 1949 to 172 million in 1969. That was also the year that set records for the most hijackings in a year, with an astonishing 82—a fact which contributed to increasingly strict baggage checks that funneled passengers through longer lines on the way to centralized security checkpoints.

Luggage design remains tightly linked to aviation. Carry-on luggage (which was transformed in 1987 with the wheeled “Rollaboard” bag and its now-ubiquitous collapsible handle) conforms to the dimensions of the airlines with the smallest storage area. When new weight restrictions for checked bags kicked in during the 2000s, practically every luggage manufacturer released new lightweight models to stay competitive. These suitcases tend to be vertical instead of horizontal, because of their wheels, and relatively stout and thick, because of airline restrictions on suitcase dimensions.

- Nancy Gonyea



I got myself a senior GPS. Not only does it tell me my destination,
it also tells me why I wanted to go there.

The Model A Restorers Club, Inc.

THE *running* BOARD REPORT

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

October 2025

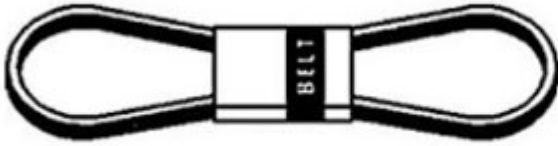
MARC your calendars for the 2026 MARC National Meet at the magnificent French Lick Resort, July 12-16. Venture on tours to the Red Skelton Museum, historic New Harmony, and Jasper Engine plant. Or try classic adventures such as French Lick scenic railway, Patoka Lake cruises, and Amish/German country tours. For an active experience, enjoy the resort's new pickleball courts, quick-play (75 minute) 9-hole golf 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!

All, 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.

Regions, 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.

Consider 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 to host Membership Meets—we do not have a host for 2027 yet and would be happy to assist with your questions and comments.





Fan Belt Tip

By Floyd Dupras, Sr.

Many of you are aware that a **Gates 700** fan belt will fit a Model A. However, more auto parts stores have discontinued handling Gates products and have switched to Dayco belts. The Dayco equivalent listed in their belt cross-reference chart is too small! The next size larger belt, **Dayco #22425**, will fit perfectly and should last longer since it is a heavy duty woven belt.

- Charter Oak A's

Bratton's Store Closing...

I wanted to reach out to the community at large and share some sad news. After almost 50 years in the business Bratton's Antique Auto Parts has decided to close their retail operations.

There were multiple factors involved in making this decision and I will take some time below to outline them.

1) We have lost the lease on our building at 1606 Back Acre Circle. The current owners of the building received an unsolicited offer on the building that was too good to pass up. The new owner's take possession of the property at the end of October. Bratton has tried to extend the lease with the new owner's but they need the property for their own business. They have offered us an option to lease back the building until December 31, 2025. Debbie and I have been looking for a property to move the business to for several months, but we have not been able to find a suitable property.

2) Since the end of COVID, we have seen a substantial decline in revenue and a massive increase in overhead expenses (insurance, taxes, utilities...). Both of these situations caused us to let all of our remaining employees go back in July of 2024. Debbie and I have been doing everything here with just the two of us since then. We have decided that we need to rebalance our lives 50-60 hours over 5-6 days a week working just does not allow any time to go out and enjoy our lives. If anything, we have all learned since COVID is that life is too short and we need to make the best of everyday.

3) With the reduction in staff, it is all Debbie and I can do to just keep basic parts in stock, and process the orders. Debbie and I just cannot give our customer the quality of service that Bratton's has been known for since the mid 1970's, and that is not how we want the business to be run.

4) By closing our retail operations, it will allow us the time and energy to focus on making the high quality parts that we have always provided to the hobby. The parts that Bratton's has made will continue to be made through a new company and will only be sold through our network of dealer's.

We have spent the past couple of months quietly shopping Bratton's around to various buyers who we felt had the capital needed to continue the production of the parts. Unfortunately, we have been unable to reach a suitable agreement with any potential buyers. We did this quietly because we did not want to cause any undue stress or panic to the hobby, or the other vendors selling Model A parts.

Going forward we will begin the liquidation process for the retail inventory. Starting in the next couple of days and weeks you will notice the following things.

1) As we sell out of parts we will no longer be re-ordering them, so what is on the shelf is what is on the shelf, and when the bin box is empty, it is empty.

2) We will begin to reduce the prices on our retail inventory. These reductions will be shown on our website and we will be offering across the board discounts on the prices listed on the website.

3) We ask that if you have a gift certificate stashed away that they be used by the end of October 2025. After that, they will no longer be valid.

4) We have removed all drop ship items from our website and catalog. This was done out of respect for our vendors. We do not want to cause any additional burden or stress on them, but offering their products at a much lower price than they are selling them at.

This decision has been months in the making, Debbie, and I feel it is the best for us as well as the hobby in general. Between the two of us, we have been in the business for over 55 years collectively. In those years, we have made many friends that we now consider as family. Debbie and I have many fond memories of our children running around the shop, and the journey's we took all over the country in our Model A. This business and the hobby in general has given us way more than we ever expected or deserved. We have been truly blessed by our time in the business. We offer our sincere thanks and gratitude to our customers and friends for the past 50 years of support.

Jeff Kichline

Bratton's Antique Auto Parts

Mrs. Merdle – Part LXX

All those 'little' things that Rootlieb forgot to mention in their speedster kit description.

Because the body is moved back to accommodate a longer hood, angles change.

The drag link is now too short; Because the steering box has now been moved about 3 ½ inches rearward (mentioned in the instructions), the drag link is about the same measurement too short. I fabricated a new link from an old tie rod, by cutting it off and threading the end for the link end.

The original 'pop out' ignition switch armored cable is now too short; I used an original armored cable, and attached a modern on/off ignition switch.

The original wiring harness is too short for the headlights; I made my own harness with longer wires leading to the front, and shorter wires leading to the rear.

The spark lever linkage is too short, and has awkward angles to fit; I moved the linkage back at the rear of the engine by adding a 1-inch spacer, and lengthened the rods. I also had to weld an extension for the gas pedal, and bend to suit.

The original choke rod will not fit; A modern choke style similar to the throttle cable on a push mower is needed, with a tie point at the rear motor mount.

No provision for a spare tire; I adapted a

conventional rear spare tire carrier to fit at the rear of the deck.

No provision for rear bumpers; I used a pair of rear bumper brackets, and cut a slot in the deck to clear.

Headlight bar is about 8 inches too short; I used a 28/29 headlight bar, cut it in two, and added a piece of rod cut from a tie rod (the same diameter as the headlight bar).

Gear shift hits the dashboard in reverse and second gear; I had to heat the gear shift lever at the bend and accent the bend a bit more to clear the dash.

Starter switch won't fit; I had to use a modern starter solenoid with a push button on the dash instead.

Radiator support rods won't fit; A longer pair had to be fabricated from the original pair and a piece of 5/16 brake rod.

No way was given to install dashboard; We spotwelded 'L' brackets onto the cowl, and drilled/tapped holes to mount with 10-24 bolts.

Till next time, this is another old kid.....& a 'probie'

Charlie Brown

Thanks Charlie for sharing your adventures with us!

While reading the *Harbor Light*, newsletter of the Harbor Area A's in California I stumbled across their editor's message from Dick Wyckoff and thought you might enjoy it.

I drive "Tootsie" to the store or for a quick look at a sunset, a local beach or just down the street to get a sandwich, people wave, honk their horns, drive along side and smile. The result is always the same... 'Love your car' or 'What year is it?', or 'How long you have had it?', or 'Did you buy it new?'

Do you get the same reaction when you drive your Model A? Share some of your pleasures driving your Model A!

A Route 66 road trip in a 1929 Ford Model A turned strangers into neighbors

by David Conwill, Hemmings.com

This year has been rough and sometimes it seems like everyone is constantly at each other's throats. Everything is canceled, and it's amazing how long six months can feel without any big events to look forward to and so much uncertainty in the air. That's probably why Ryan Thiebault's Route 66 trip in a 1929 Ford Model A Tudor captured everyone's imagination this summer.



Ryan is quick to point out that he's hardly the first person to do it. In fact, he's spoken with several veterans of similar trips who are quite baffled as to why everyone got so excited about his doing something that's been done before—and not just when both U.S. 66 and Model A Fords were standard parts of the American transportation network.

Even today, a trip in a Model A is a lot less daunting than, say, a 1929 Studebaker. Model A's are everywhere, as are the people that love them. If you stay in touch with that network of enthusiasts, it's almost like it was back in the '30s, when you could have your car repaired in virtually any town. Still, it's something that might overwhelm a lot of us to consider.

I sat down with Ryan at his house in Milford, New Hampshire, recently, while I was there to photograph the car he drove and his cosmetically unrestored 1929 Ford mail truck. One of the things I asked him, point blank, was what he had intended to do if one of the minor inconveniences that cropped up along the road had turned into major mechanical failure.

Turns out, he decided simply not to worry about it. In fact, the whole trip was fairly spur of the moment and not bogged down with a lot of planning or second guessing. He knew the car was reliable (in fact, it's currently his daily driver while his modern truck is in the shop for repairs) and he figured he could improvise the rest along the way.

Ryan knew (and subsequently demonstrated) he was capable of handling most mechanical issues that could crop up. If not, there were plenty of folks willing to help. Not only had friends from New Hampshire offered to come with trailers and bring him home, but people he met along the way were always willing to go above and beyond to help a friendly traveler in a neat old car. Better yet, the publicity that followed him as he made his trek gained him even more offers of assistance and hospitality no matter where he went.

In fact, calling this a Route 66 trip rather sells it short. Ryan drove first from Milford to Chicago, then navigated old 66 with a combination of maps, signs, and a phone app, and then drove north through California until he reached the old Oregon Trail—changing

routes at times due to the fires in the region. He then generally followed the route famously taken by so many settlers in canvas-topped wagons, but in reverse, finally deviating northward into Wisconsin, where he took the historic SS Badger car ferry from Manitowoc to Ludington, Michigan.

In Michigan, he visited both the Gilmore museum and The Henry Ford, two of the nation's great cultural resources. On his return to New Hampshire, he had covered more than 8,000 miles and seen a very different America from the one seen suffering every day on computer and television screens across the country.

If that doesn't make you want to hop in your old car and see the U.S.A., perhaps nothing will.

- Thanks Steve Schlott for sharing this story with the members!



What's this lady doing, adjusting the visor?

The following is from Suzy Curtis:

Me: (sobbing my heart out, eyes swollen, nose red)...I can't see you anymore... I am not going to let you hurt me like this again!

Trainer: It was a sit up. You did one sit up.

Volunteering is Opportunity

If you have a couple of hours each month to give to the club, we could use your assistance. We have openings for (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Oh, sorry, [insert name] was kind enough to continue as our [office] for another two years.

Trading Cards Any- one?

Is anyone interested in getting more trading cards?

I will be placing an order in the coming month if I receive enough requests.

Jeff Schlorff and ...?

MARK



★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Your Name
President
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Your Name
Vice President
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Your Name
Secretary
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Your Name
Treasurer
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Your Name
Board Member
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Your Name
Board Member



I learned why the screwdrivers have this specific shape...! How did I not know this for the last 40 years?



Join The Model A Ford Club of America

Name _____

Spouses' Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email: _____

Return this form and payment to:

MAFCA
250 South Cypress St.
La Habra, CA 90631-5515

~ Membership Benefits ~

The Restorer's magazine • Technical Support • Local Chapters • National Meets • Era Fashion Guidelines • "How to Restore" Series • Judging Standards and Restoration Guidelines

Dues per year are \$50

Make checks payable to:
MAFCA

For Credit Card Orders

Visa/MasterCard (circle one)

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____



Invitation to join Model "A" Restorers Club

P.O. Box 498

Howell, Michigan 48844

(734)427-9050 (Office)

(734)427-9054 (Fax)

Dues per year are \$50

Make checks payable to: Model "A" Restorers Club or (M.A.R.C)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Call office for Youth or Surviving Spouse Membership

For Credit Card Orders

Visa/MasterCard/Discover/ American Express (circle one)

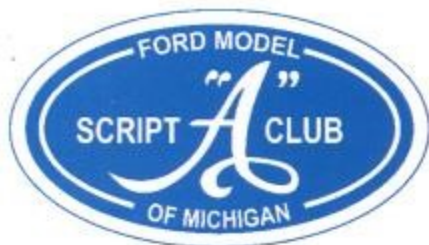
Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

CVV Code: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____



SCRIPT *A* CLUB

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Year - 2026 ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Name:			Spouse:		
Address:					
City:		State:	Zip Code:	Cell:	
Winter Address:			Email Address:		
City:		State:	Zip Code:	Winter Phone:	
His Birthday:		Her Birthday:		Anniversary:	
Car Year:	Body Style:	Ford Body Number:		Condition: (Restored or unrestored)	
Membership fee to Script "A" Club - Full Calendar year (includes e-mailed monthly newsletter)				\$10.00	
Script "A" Monthly Newsletter MAILED to your home (add \$40.00)					
TOTAL					

Membership is **REQUIRED** in at least one of the National Clubs:

(see websites below for payment options & information)

MARC: **model-a-ford.org** (yearly membership \$50)

MAFCA: **mafca.com** (yearly membership \$50) FREE first year for NEW members only

If accepted for membership in the Script "A" Club Ford Model "A" of Michigan, I agree to abide by the club constitution.

You must be a MARC or MAFCA member to be a Script "A" Club member.

MARC Membership Number: _____ or MAFCA Membership Number: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Questions? (586) 917-5983 call/text

Make checks payable to: "Script A Club" & mail to:

Connie Green

9207 Irish Rd.

Goodrich, MI 48438

For Office Use Only	Date Received:	Method:	Amount:
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TARIFFS

What does it mean for the Model A Ford community in Australia?

by Greg Rose



Well, we've all heard the news – Donald is going to be president again.

And with that is the threat of tariffs for any imported goods coming into America. He talks about China and tariffs of up to 60% on goods. Other countries will be impacted as well with tariffs up to 20%. What does that mean for us – all we want is affordable Model A Ford parts!

I've reached out to suppliers that we all use – Snyders, Henry's and Burtz blocks – read their replies below:

From Snyders

I understand your worry. I'm worried about the tariffs being imposed as well. I did ask the owner. And he assured me that his belief is that it will not affect our company harshly as we do not get most of our items from China. As far as what tariffs we may see being

imposed on other countries and what we get shipped in from them, we will have to see.

From John Lampl – Burtz Blocks

If the tariffs go into effect, yes, we will have to increase the cost unfortunately. I am hopeful they will not. Right now we just wait and see.

Henrys Model A Parts

Shaun from Henrys says that many of the parts they get are from Taiwan so tariffs may not be much of an issue, and if the AUS dollar goes up then the extra costs from tariffs would be negligible. Like everyone else, it's a waiting game at the moment.

It seems that no-one really knows what Donald will do, but during his first term as president, when tariffs were threatened to be imposed on Australian steel and aluminum

in 2017, the Turnbull and Morrison governments successfully argued against the imposition of tariffs, pointing to the large trade surplus the US enjoyed with Australia. Now if he was happy to impose tariffs on a country that is considered a friend (Australia), imagine what other countries must be thinking. I guess the only way to get cheaper parts is to put in your orders now – whoever you get them from, cause in a few months time they might not be so affordable.

Just a side note:

I'm not an economist, or someone with any training on tariffs, or world affairs, but can see that the classic car hobby, whatever make you drive could be affected by what Donald Trump does once he gets into office. Fingers crossed everyone!

Model A Ford Club of Victoria
Australia, Jan-Feb 2025



A message to thousands of women who have said,

*I've always longed to
drive a Roadster"*

DEEP in the heart of almost every woman who drives a car is a longing for a roadster . . . a trim and stylish car that she may call her very own.

That dream, long cherished, can now come true. For here, at an unusually low price, is a roadster that is the very answer to your hopes. So alert and reliable that it puts a new joy in motor-ing. So altogether smart and stylish that it merits an admiring turn of the head on every highway.

The Ford De Luxe Roadster is beautifully finished in a variety of colors. Blonde or brunette, there is a color to suit your particular taste and type—perhaps even to match your Fall ensemble.

The wide seat is done in genuine leather with deep comfortable cushion and back. Head lamps, radiator shell, cowl lights, cowl finish strip, hub caps, tail light and door handles are made of Rustless Steel. There's a roomy rumble

seat for those many occasions when you've three or four in the party.

The windshield folds flat and is made of Triplex polished plate safety glass—for your added protection in driving. Natural wood bows give added charm to the distinctive tan top.

See this beautiful De Luxe Roadster at the nearest Ford dealer's and arrange for a demonstration. In beauty, comfort, safety and performance, you will know it is a real bargain at \$475.



How does a vampire start a letter?
"Tomb it may concern".

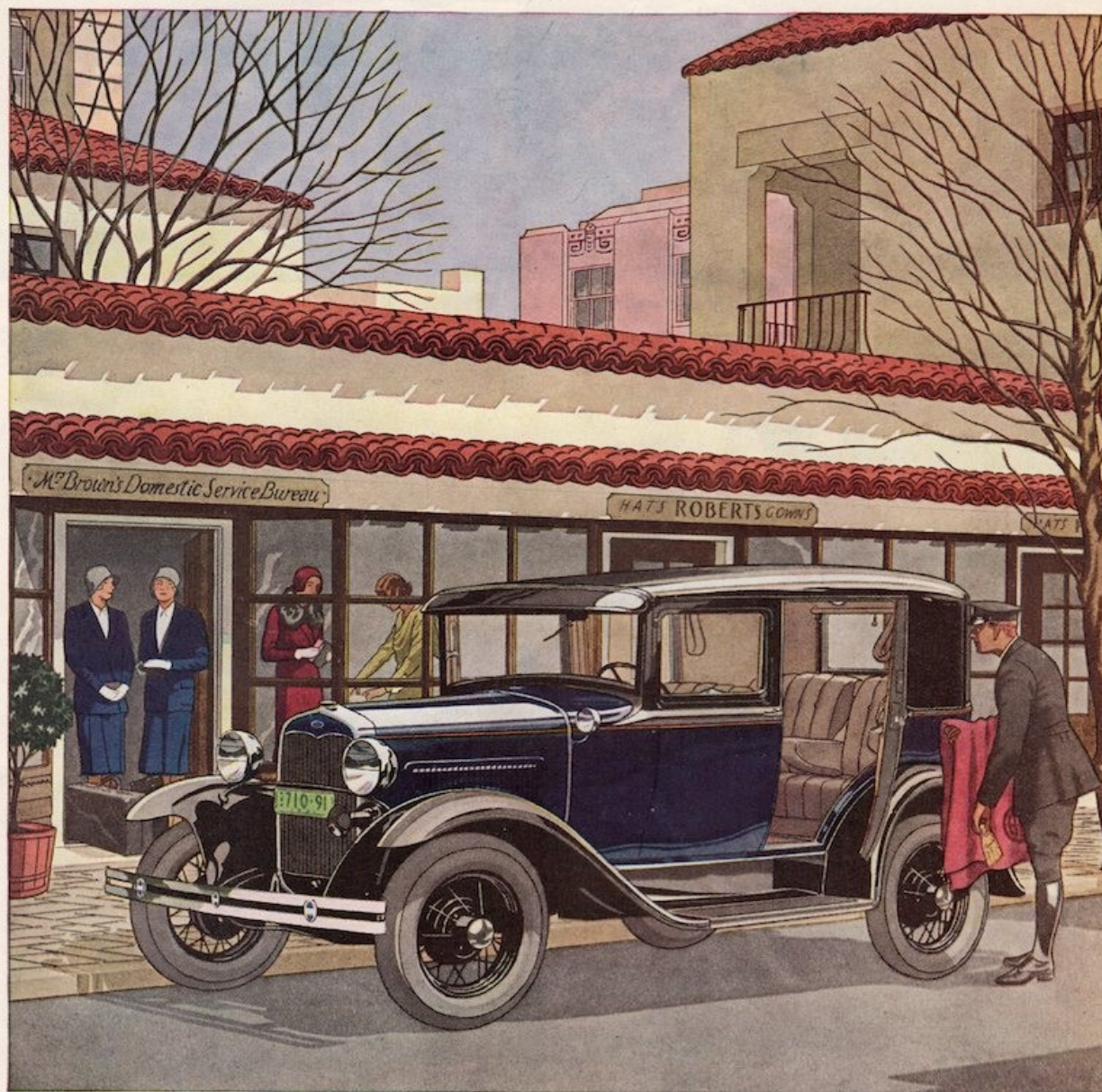
A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?" "Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her. "

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked **"NO REFILLS"**".



Arrive at 11:00 a.m. to be parked before the kids get there!

Call Rita Gould at 810-252-1379 if you have questions



NEW FORD DE LUXE SEDAN

The Beauty of Fine Upholstery

THE BEAUTY of fine upholstery gives charm and distinction to the interior of the new Ford De Luxe Sedan.

In this car, as in the Town Sedan and De Luxe Coupe, you may choose either a rich tan Bedford cord, or brown mohair. The Bedford cord has an all-worsted face and heavy woolen yarns under each cord. The soft, luxurious mohair will not crush easily and is long-wearing



because it is faced with genuine Angora mohair and fine wool worsted. In both types of upholstery, utility and beauty have been combined in unusual degree.

Great care is taken to maintain the quality of the fabrics used for the Ford cars. Laboratory tests for weight, the character of the cloth

and the grade of the yarns are constantly being made. There are also daily tests of the dyes, the count in the warp and woof, the percentage of wool, the thickness of the mohair pile, and rubbing tests equivalent to years of actual wear.

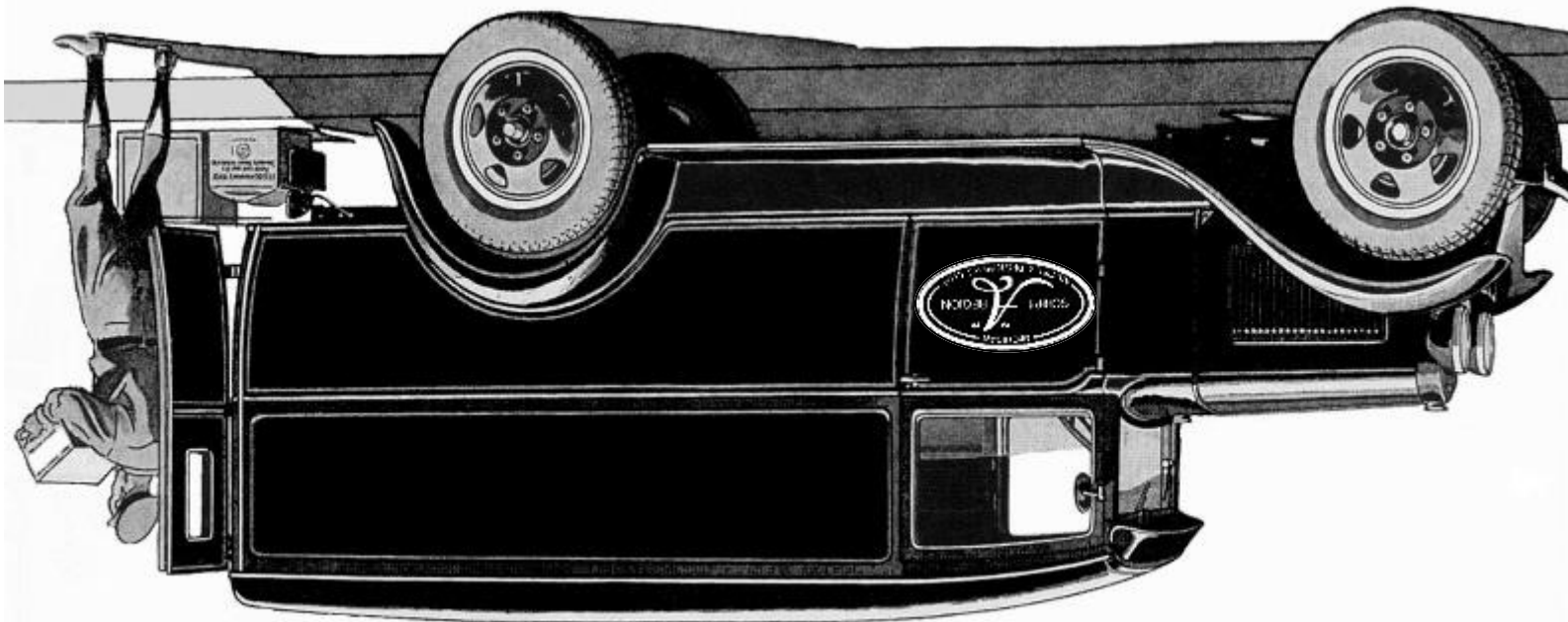
In every detail of trim and finish, as in mechanical performance, you will note the substantial worth that has been built into the Ford car. It has been made to endure.

from Suzy Curtis -



**They say every
piece of chocolate
you eat shortens your
life by two minutes.
I've done the math.
Seems I died in 1537.**

NOTE: Some material printed in this newsletter, including cartoons, diagrams and articles, may be borrowed from other publications. We wish to thank the other clubs for sharing their newsletters with us. We are also happy to share our articles for publication in other club's newsletters. Where known, sources of items used will be included with the item.



Mark Kendall, Editor
316 W. Belle Ave.
St. Charles, MI 48655



NEWS

Script  Club

