

# SULLIVAN TRAIL A's NEWS

Newsletter of the Sullivan Trail A's Model A Ford Club  
- Founded 2008 -



"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." - *Henry Ford* ● January 2026 – Volume 17 Issue 5

## Where Friends & Model A's Meet - Northern Tier, PA & Finger Lakes Region, NY



**PRESIDENT**  
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**VICE PRESIDENT**  
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**TREASURER**  
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Max Rohl  
**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
Jim Morris  
**WEBSITE LIAISON**  
Bill Wirz  
**WEBMASTER**  
Nathan Reimer



### Sullivan Trail A's Meetings:

- Monthly
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, Sept – May
- 7 PM
- United Methodist Church  
1034 W Broad St  
Horseheads, NY

### CONTACT

stas2831@outlook.com

Links:

[Sullivan Trail A's Web Site](#)



[Sullivan Trail A's Facebook](#)



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S GARAGE

Hello Everyone!

Happy New Year 2026!

We ended the year with our Holiday Party on December 13. It was quite a day. The food was excellent. We recognized new members with a special gift. We had a slideshow of all the events we held in 2025. Thank you, Beth Hendy, for putting the slide show together. Our Gift game was fun, I think everyone was satisfied with their gift. Thanks to everyone for playing the gift game. We had great door prizes and a 50/50 raffle - Thank you Steve Organ for arranging for the door prizes and 50/50. Most importantly, we had a lot of fun and fellowship with our Model A family. Thanks to those who helped set up and pack up after the party.



2026 is shaping up to be another great year for STA's. We have the Northeast Classic Car Museum visit scheduled for January 24 (weather permitting and we are driving modern). Many more events are scheduled for 2026 (see our events listing in this Newsletter).

Spring will be here before you know it. Now is the time to check out your car to make sure it is in condition to drive. You do not want to be stuck with an undriveable car when driving season arrives. We will have some warm days to do some checks. If you need help, please let me know and we can arrange for someone from the club to help you out.

Thank you for a great 2025! Let's work together to make 2026 even better for our club.

Aah-ooo-gah,

Bill



## MEETING MINUTES

## MINUTES

## No December Meeting, We Partied!



See pages 12 – 14 for party photos

## Editor's Note



## Newsletter Contributions Are Welcomed

The cover photos say, "We're going to the Museum again!" Louise Wirz and Julie Costie loved the Model T! Join STAs members on Saturday, January 24, 2026, for a repeat winter getaway to the Northeast Classic Car Museum in Norwich, NY. We had a terrific time two years ago exploring what the Museum offers all old-car enthusiasts—over 170 classic and vintage cars and 28 motorcycles on display across five connected, climate-controlled buildings. After the Museum visit, we enjoyed a tasty and filling lunch. This time, we'll enjoy eating at the Park Place Sports Bar and Grill in downtown Norwich in a dedicated dining room. This is a great way to welcome the New Year, see a fantastic collection of vehicles, and inspire excitement about upcoming Club adventures in warmer weather in 2026. Don't miss this special day! Jim

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 Questions? Please get in touch with the Editor at [stas2831@outlook.com](mailto:stas2831@outlook.com)



# STA'S MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2026!

If you've already sent them in - THANK YOU!



Make your \$10 check out to Sullivan Trail Model A Ford Club  
Pay at a meeting or send your check to:  
Mark Harth, 4860 Satterly Hill Rd, Burdett, NY 14818  
- Members who joined after June 1, 2025, are paid for 2026 -

Members in good standing receive Club email and Newsletter  
(and all other seriously terrific benefits of membership!)

## LOVE THOSE A'S

Some Photos Courtesy MAFCA, MARC, and America in the 1930s Facebook Pages



## STITCHES IN TIME

By Julie Costie



## Sears Then & Now: catalogs to online

The image on the right is from the Sears Roebuck "Spring and Summertime 1930" catalog. I imagine my 11-year-old mom viewed these pages when they were brand new. Sears, the mail-order giant, printed catalogs from 1888 to 1993, inspiring dreams with seemingly limitless possibilities.

Like so many children, my cousins and I spent cold winter holidays studying the pages wishing for toys and games. Although a few were offered by Sears at the time, I don't remember seeing fabric choices.

During those years, I visited local 'brick and mortar' stores with my mother, combining colors and studying shades and weaves by the windows in the natural light.

Now, fabric shopping has largely returned to mail-order options from online retailers. Huge fabric chains have failed, much to the dismay of home sewists. Gone are the days spent in my 'happy place'; unfurling bolts of cotton, rayon, and wool, judging the quality, the weight, and texture.

How I would love to place an order from this 1930 catalog! Even though many yards of this narrow fabric would be required, it is only pennies per yard, and postage is included.

*"I'd like Print # 5 in cotton Shantung and 1 yd of solid maize for a coordinating hat, please! Also, 5 yards of print # 1 in cotton Soiesette Pongee, thank you."*

Searching today, I found this similar fabric online, a bit wider, for \$6.95 a yard plus shipping:

<https://share.google/AchF9Cz6RKurwsnXH>

Nowadays, it's rare to find cotton or natural fibers available in dress-weight textiles; they have been mostly replaced by 60-inch-wide polyester.

Oh well, dream on!

### Bonus Content:

If you have an account with ancestry.com, you may search 97 years of Sears catalogs. Follow this link for this collection of catalogs:

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1670/>



## UPCOMING EVENTS



## Our Hobby On The GO!

Meetings are on the **SECOND TUESDAY** of every month except June, July, and August  
 Our annual picnic is in June

The STAs regular monthly in-person meeting is @ 7PM  
 First United Methodist Church 1034 W. Broad St., Horseheads, NY

### SULLIVAN TRAIL 2026 EVENTS

- **January 24, Sat, 2026**, at the Northeast Classic Car Museum in Norwich, NY. A winter excursion (weather permitting) to see over 200 antique and classic vehicles. STAs visited this museum in 2023, and we had a great time. Lunch at the Park Place Sports Bar and Grill in Norwich will follow. Meet at the Museum at 10 AM, lunch at 1 PM. More details will be in email sent soon by President Bill. See posters on pages 8 & 9, click here for info: [Museum](#) [Park Place and Menu](#)
- **March 28, 2026**, Fay's Sugar Shack Pancake Breakfast, most details are on page 10, more in future email.
- **May 2, Sat, 2026**, Safety Check, more information to follow.

[Link to Comprehensive Upcoming Events](#)

courtesy Kevin Yaggie: [Local Car Events](#)

### LOCAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL 2026/27/28 EVENTS

- **April 26, Sun, 2026**, Trexlertown, Pennsylvania. The Annual Steve Ryan Model A/AA Show and Swap Meet – hosted by the Lehigh Valley Model A Club and the Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company. 7723 Hamilton Blvd, a short drive from Routes 78 and 222. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. is rain or shine. No registration or admission fee. Paved parking lot for the show and swap meet. Stock or original Model A Ford and era equipment.
- **May 11 – 14, 2026**, MARC National Tour:  
*Explore the Finger Lakes* in New York
- **May 31, 2026 – June 7, 2026**, 2026 MAFCA National Convention – Pendleton, Oregon, [information here](#)
- **July 12 – Jul 16, 2026**, all-day, MARC National Meet in French Lick, IN. [information here](#)
- **September 17 – 20, 2026 – September 20, 2026**, 69th New England Model A Meet. The Worcester County Model A Club will host the Meet. The host hotel for the meet will be the Wellsworth Hotel in Southbridge, MA.
- **June 13 – June 18, 2027**, MAFCA National Tour. The Model A Ford Club of Colorado is pleased to announce that the 2027 MAFCA National Tour is coming to Colorful Colorado in the Summer of 2027! This will be a Hub-and-Spoke Tour out of Durango, Colorado. Six days of activities are planned and include a Welcome Party, 3 or 4 driving-tour days, a day to ride the Durango & Silverton Railroad, a day for car games, a Model A car display with a free ice cream social, a Hubley Derby, and a Farewell Banquet.
- **September 12 – 16, Tues – Sat, 2028, yes, 2028**, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Model A Ford @ the Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, Michigan.



THE SULLIVAN TRAIL A'S GO ON A 2026  
**ROAD TRIP!!**  
IN MODERN VEHICLES WE'LL TAKE A DAY TRIP PLANNED FOR:  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026  
WE'RE HEADED TO NORWICH, NY TO VISIT:  
**THE NORTHEAST CLASSIC CAR MUSEUM**  
WE'LL HAVE A GREAT LUNCH AND HEAD HOME



Julie Costie driving the  
Model T !!



**COME JOIN US!**

**OVER 200 CLASSIC CARS + HANDMADE MUSCLE + PRE-WAR COLLECTION  
POST-WAR COLLECTION + FABULOUS FRANKLINS + MADE IN NY  
+ VINTAGE MOTORCYCLES +**

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW ABOUT HOW TO GET THERE, WHERE & WHEN TO  
MEET, LUNCH DETAILS, ETC. MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!!

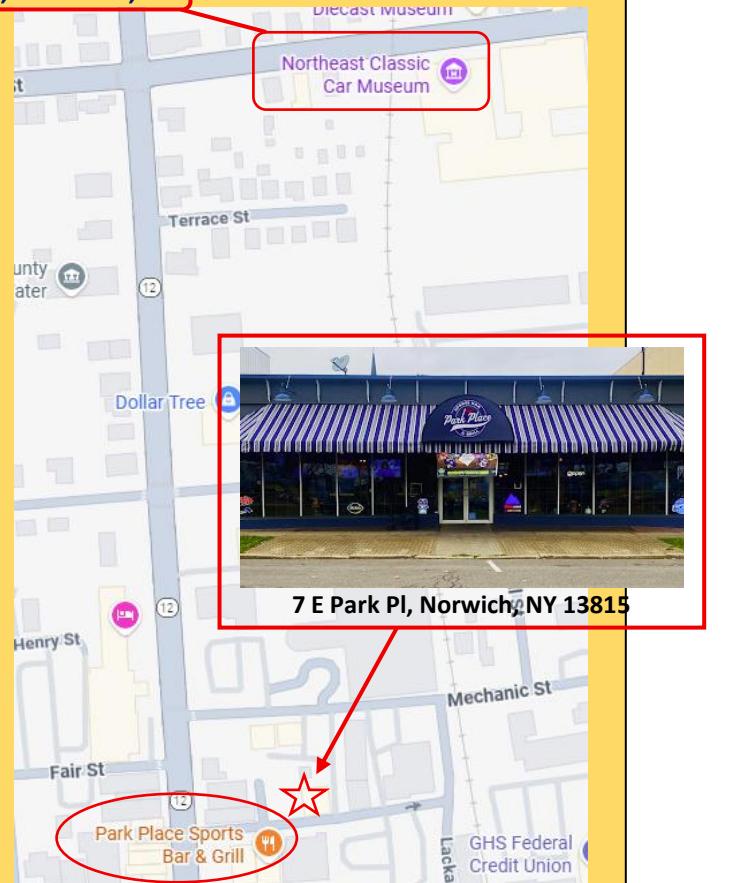


<https://classiccarthemuseum.org/>

See maps on the next page

# Northeast Classic Car Museum, Norwich, NY

24 Rexford Street, Norwich, NY



# Hello Spring!

## STAs Visits FAYS Sugar Shack!

Saturday March 28, 2026

Fays Maple Products - Columbia Crossroads PA

Arrival : 9:30 AM for Breakfast

Pancakes, Syrup, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Coffee, Milk, Cocoa  
Cost TBD

Maple Syrup-Making Demonstration Following  
Breakfast



## TECHNICAL TIPS



## Do You Have a Leaky Gas Gauge?

## Gas Gauge Repair

by Tom Endy 2021

There will come a time in the life of a surviving Model A when the gas gauge will need repair. The first order of business is to have the proper tools to get it apart. Model A suppliers carry them. Most repairs consist of replacing the float and the gaskets. The best choice for a float is one made of brass that modern fuels will not destroy. An excellent brass float is available from Reenlee H. Kotas of San Diego, 858-945-2018. Price in 2020 was \$6. Gaskets and brass slip rings can be obtained from Bratton's.

Gas gauge gaskets 13570 \$2.50 set

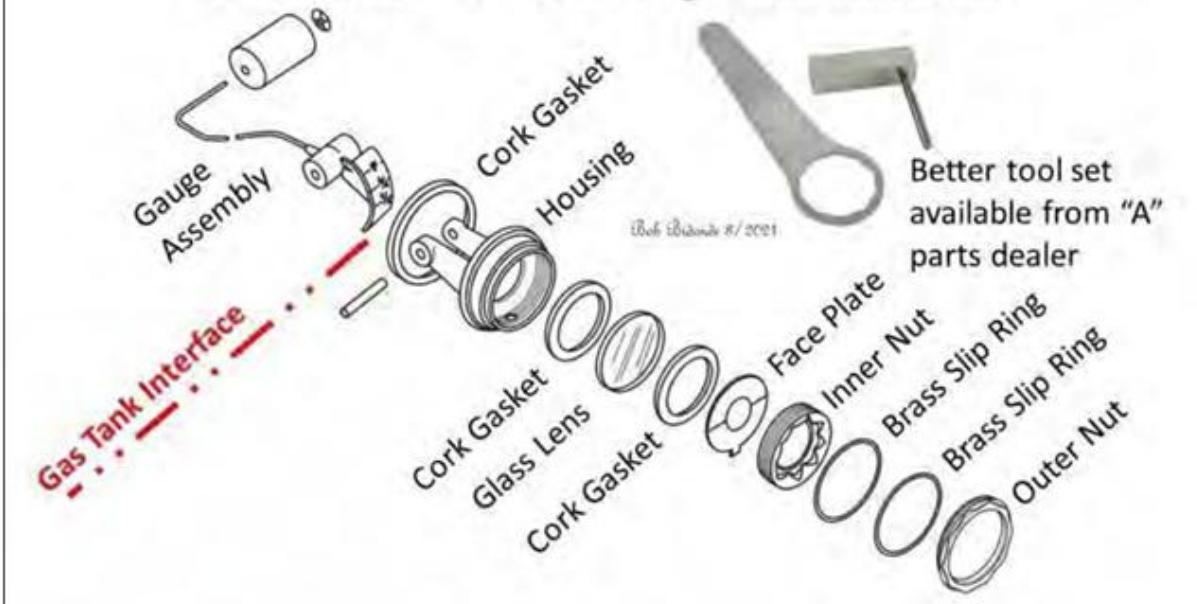
Brass slip rings 13571 \$1.15 each



The original Ford installation required only one brass slip ring. However, in the modern Model A kingdom it has been determined that at least two (or more) slip rings are required to prevent a fuel leak. With only one slip ring the outer nut will likely bottom on the threads before there is a crush on the gaskets. The drawing below shows two brass slip rings. It is also suggested that cork gaskets be used. Avoid the neoprene gaskets as modern fuels are likely to destroy them.



## Gas Tank – Gas Gauge Installation



Drawing by Bob Bidonde



Looking for a car, selling a car? Have parts, want parts? Have other 'stuff' you need or want to sell? Free advertising right here. Contact your Editor to place your ad in next month's Newsletter.

**Wanted:** a mild winter

**For Sale:** 1930 Model A engine with steel rolling engine stand. \$175 Jim M. More info: email or 607-351-9348

## YOUTH OUTREACH



## Give A Lift To The Kids!



MAFCA FACEBOOK - Morris Eddy Post  
 "This is why we do this. What a great laugh and smile. Says "Ahooga and drive Slow"  
 October 2025



MAFCA FACEBOOK – Joe Keys Post  
 "My daughter and out for a Sunday ride in the 29 A"  
 March 2025



MAFCA FACEBOOK – David Howard Post

"Training my grandbuddies right! We need a new generation of Model A and T lovers. I'm doing MY part." November 2024

## ODDS 'n ENDS



## From the "A" Era

Multiple makes of cars in for repair service. One Model A Roadster is in the garage, another is on a lift.  
1933



Luther's Automotive Service, 1212 W Slauson Ave, Los Angeles.



Same location several years ago

## ~ News From The Era ~

### FORD vs GM IN 1927

*A Defining Shift from "Good Car at A Low Price" to "New Style and Better Performance"*

In 1920, Ford produced two-thirds of all the motor cars made in the U.S., facing little competition from other automakers. In 1921, for example, Chevrolet produced 77,000 cars compared to Ford's 928,000 units sold that year. By 1926, this production had increased to 741,000, with Ford's sales peaking at 1,448,000; Chevrolet was gaining ground. Ford needed to sell cars more competitively. Ford began exploring styling and performance changes to boost sales. Edsel Ford convinced Henry to drop the T in favor of a new Ford. Henry agreed. In the first half of 1927, Ford produced only 400,000 Model Ts before halting production on May 27, 1927. The Rouge, which produced Model T parts and Fordson tractors, was reconfigured for manufacturing Model As in 1927, the first model change in 20 years. This garnered national attention, cost Ford about \$1 million a day, and drew media interest throughout most of 1927.

The 15 millionth Model T rolled off the Highland Park assembly line on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 1927. Henry and son Edsel drove the 15 millionth Model T out of the assembly plant, marking the last day of production for the T. The Model T, first introduced in October 1908, thus saw its demise after 19 years of production. Ford factories closed in early June, leading to 60,000 layoffs. Ford sold fewer than 500,000 cars in 1927, less than half of Chevrolet's sales. The new Ford would not debut for months.



**Highland Park Assembly Plant – May 26, 1927**

Henry Ford sent a telegram, under his son Edsel's name, to all 10,000 Ford dealers as the last T left the assembly line. This telegram announced that the company would replace it with an "entirely new Ford car." Along with this telegram, the dealers also received a letter, dated the previous day, from the company's sales manager, W.A. Ryan. His letter included a copy of the official announcement for newspapers about the new automobile, along with a warning to all dealers: **"UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES are details of the new Ford car to be given out to anyone. At the proper time, you will be fully advised of all our plans for the public showing of this new car."**

On May 26, 1927, United Press International published this headline with an accompanying article:

#### Ford offers vague story on new car

DETROIT -- A new model automobile designed by Henry Ford will be produced in the near future, according to an announcement by the company. "With the new Ford" Henry Ford said in the announcement, "we propose to continue in the light car field, which we have created on the same basis of quantity production on which we have always worked, giving high quality, low price and constant service.

"At present I can only say this about the new model -- it has speed style, flexibility and control in traffic. There is nothing quite like it in quality and price. The new car will cost more to manufacture but will be more economical to operate."

The general impression gained by the United Press from visits to the factory is that the new car will have four cylinders and a gear shift. This, however, is a matter of conjecture. It is understood that production will be started around July 1 or 15 which would put the car on the market late in the summer. Ford said that work had begun on the new model several years ago, but the sale of the Model T had continued at such a pace that there never seemed an opportunity to get the new car started.

"Business is so brisk," he said, "that while at first we feared it would be necessary to lay off approximately 70,000 men we have now scaled that down to less than 25,000 at a time."

Henry Ford designer of the car and Edsel Ford, president of the company both stated that within the next few weeks they will give a complete description of the new model.

The famous Model T Ford, which still leads the automobile industry after twenty years of manufacture will continue to be a substantial factor in Ford production, in view of the fact that about ten million cars of this model are still in use and will require replacement parts and service.

"The Model T Ford car was a pioneer," said Henry Ford today. "There was no conscious public need of motor cars when we first made it. There were few good roads. This car blazed the way for the motor industry and started the movement for good roads everywhere. It is still the pioneer car in many parts of the world which are just beginning to be motorized. But conditions in this country have so great changed that further refinement in motor car construction is now desirable and our new model is a recognition of this."

**NEW FORD CAR BEGINS  
FIGHT ON CHEVROLET**

*Financiers and Manufacturers See Industrial War Between the Ford Company and General Motors.*

**Dunkirk Evening Observer – May 27, 1927**

The American media began feverish coverage of the Ford mystery car upon Ford announcing the Model T's demise. The war was on, the Model A kept everyone in suspense, and tension across the country rose steadily.

# MOTOR WORLD GIANTS FIGHT FOR CONTROL

**FORD'S NEW MYSTERY CAR  
SEEN AS MOVE TO OUTGEN-  
ERAL GENERAL MOTORS.**

By THOMAS L. STOKES  
United Press Staff Correspondent.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., May 27.**—While owners of 20,000,000 automobiles in the United States are puzzling today over the new "mystery" Ford car, financiers and industrial leaders see in launching of the machine the latest strategy in the battle for supremacy between the two giants of the motor world, Henry Ford and General Motors Corporation, chiefly controlled by the Du Ponts.

San Antonio Evening News – Friday, May 27, 1927

## 'TWILL BE FORD BUT LOOK LIKE LINCOLN, MAYBE

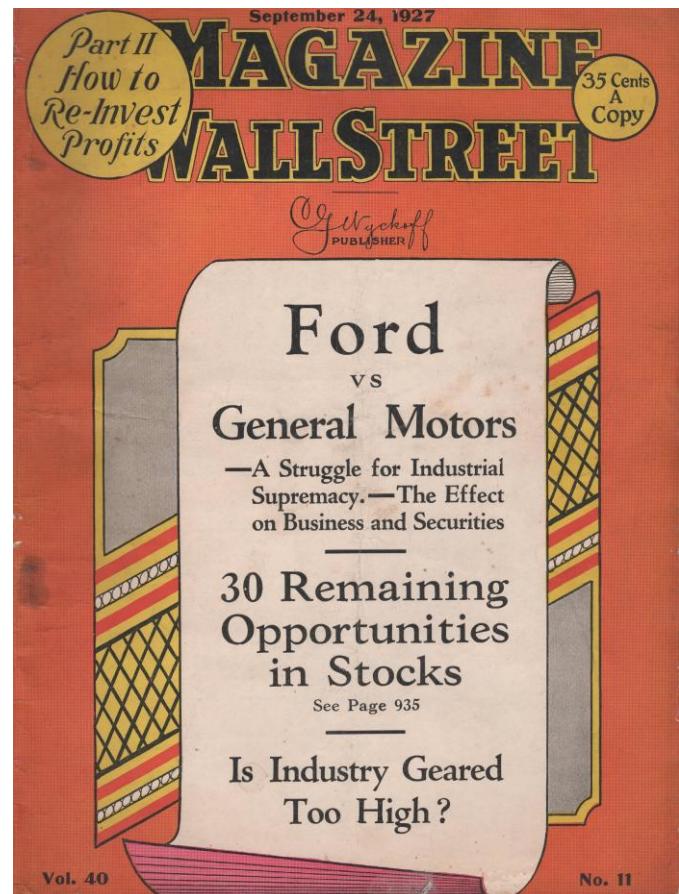
**NEW YORK, May 27.**—The new model Ford, it was reported without confirmation in Wall street today, will resemble in appearance the Lincoln automobile. The Fords, it was said, will have large polished radiators with artistic caps and the body lines will follow those of the Lincoln car on a smaller scale.

One of the new motors, it was reported, has been running at the rate of 63 miles an hour pulling a load of 14 horsepower since last Friday with only one short stop.

San Antonio Evening News – Friday, May 27, 1927

Between May and December 1927, the public speculated about the appearance of the new Ford following news of the 'New Mystery Car.' As Ford remained silent, tension increased. Media outlets fueled curiosity with stories like the September 14, 1927, issue of "Magazine Wall Street," which included an article titled:

**"AN EPIC INDUSTRIAL STRUGGLE AT HAND – Ford and General Motors Locked in Battle While Entire Automobile World Awaits Result with Anxiety."**



September 24, 1927

The article included a textbox summary about the wait for the unveiling and its effect on automobile manufacturing:

*"Within a few weeks, the new Ford car will be on the market. In the meantime, behind the scenes is unfolding an astonishing story of a vital struggle for industrial supremacy between the two leaders of the industry, with smaller manufacturers on the sidelines awaiting the result anxiously. The outcome, needless to say, will have an important bearing on the future prosperity of the industry and correlated industries – and on automobile securities generally."*

Previous issues of this Newsletter provided photos and news articles about the Model A's debut on December 2, 1927. These two pages provide a glimpse of events that preceded the debut. Also, some data presented here are from Magazine Wall Street. How fortunate we are to have the Model A in 2025 and beyond, to enjoy on the road with our Model A friends for many more adventures in and around town. Thank you, Henry and Edsel!

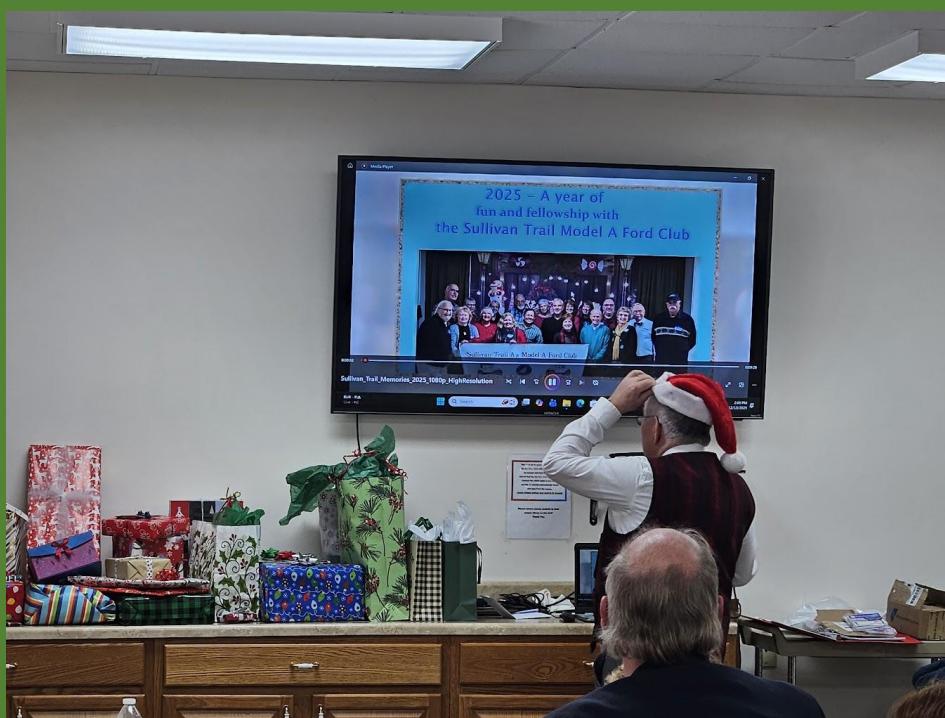
- Editor

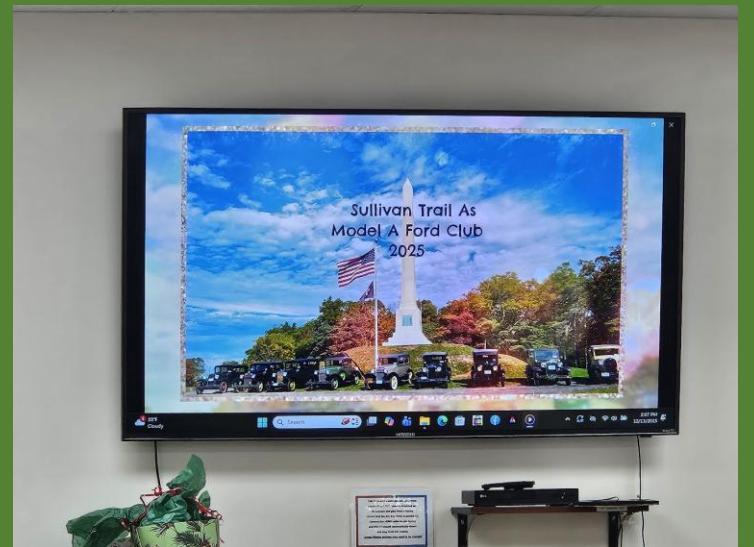
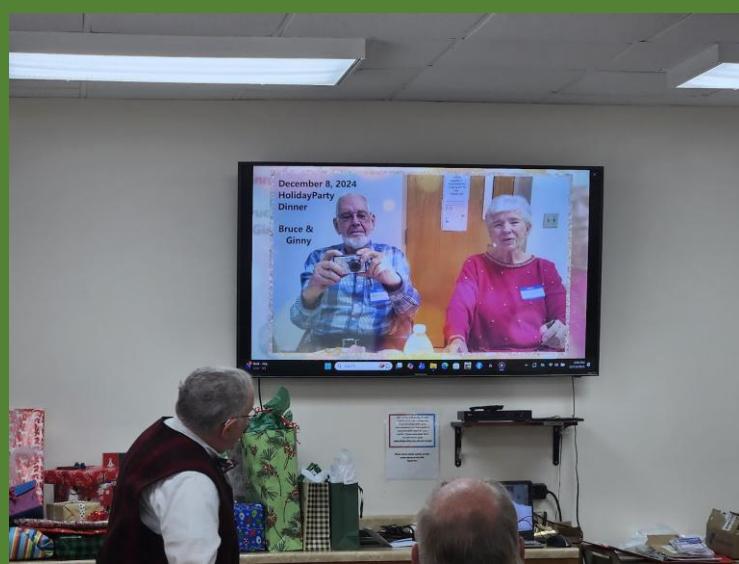
**IMAGES BEHIND US*****Holiday Party 12-13-25***

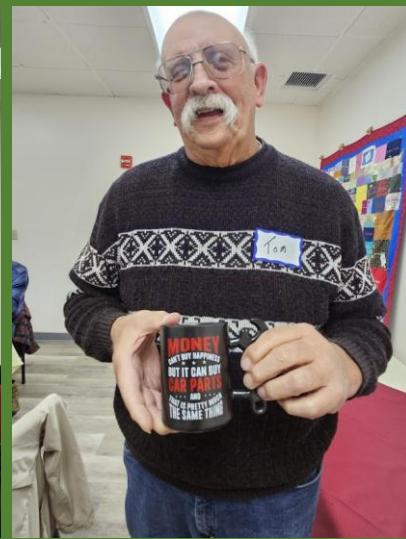
Meet-and-greet, 50/50 tickets sold by Steve, much chatting, great eats, intro by Bill, slideshow of 2025 activity review by Beth, gift exchange game with many laughs and groans, all with camaraderie, fun, and good cheer. Next: **2026!**







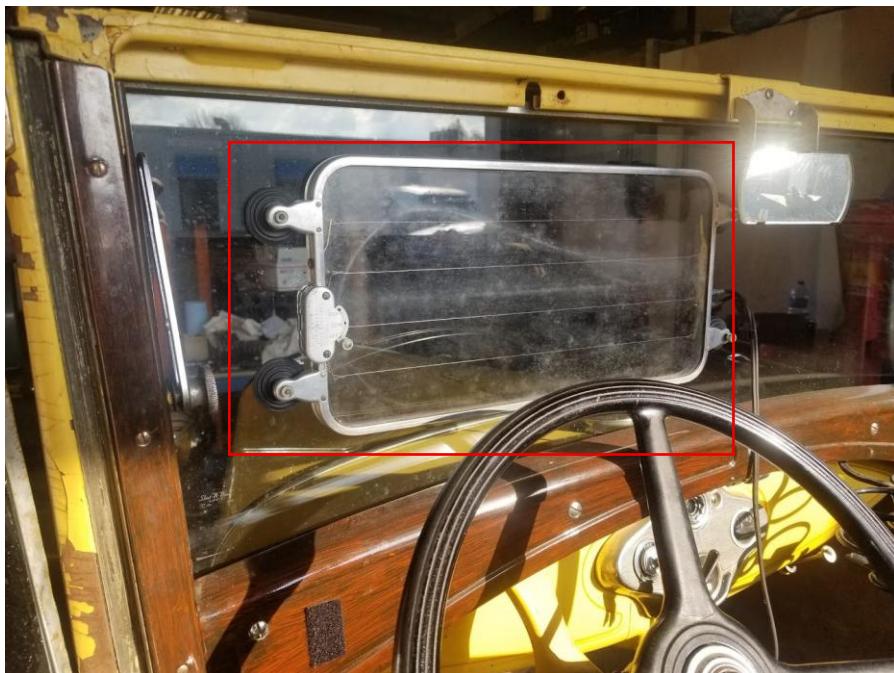
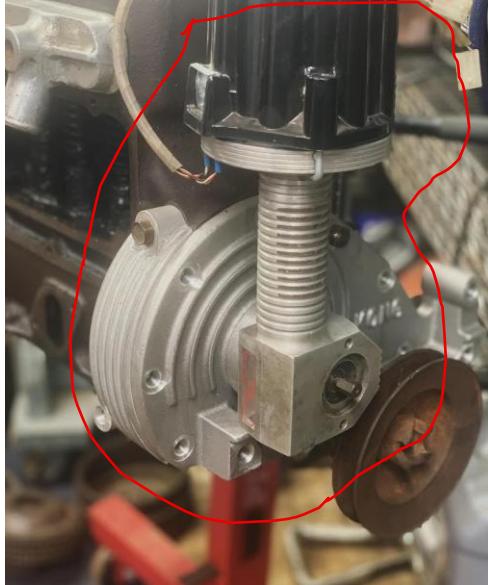




STAs is looking forward to 2026!

**BONUS PAGES****Bonus****MORE GOOD STUFF**

Do you know or have a good guess about the purpose or function of the components in red? Send your comments to me, and I'll include them in the February Newsletter along with mine! – Editor

**1.****2.****3.****4.****5.****6.****6.****7.****8.**



# Model A&W

*Where the food's as good as the root beer*

By Jim Morris

**Have you ever enjoyed a mug of root beer at an A&W restaurant?** I bet many of us from older generations (the Silent Generation, Baby Boomers, Gen X) have enjoyed numerous frosty, cold mugs of root beer served in their signature heavy glass mugs. They also served good food. I recall an A&W in Ithaca, NY, from the 1960s when I was in high school. After preseason soccer practice, a small group of us would drive from the practice field, sweaty, stinky, and very thirsty, to the A&W for some delicious, icy root beer. Those days are long gone, including the A&W building. Its site is now a Byrne Dairy.

Model As beckon us, and it isn't hard to give in, to have a seat and motor away. We take our special seats in nearly 100-year-old cars, and every scene, side road, and countless sightings of old barns, quaint eateries, and nature's beauty, heighten our senses because we're in our Model A. We see the passing scenes with Model A slowness, and our speed matters not... this is joy, not haste. So, in late October 2025, Julie and I were beckoned

to drive our sedan to Cortland, NY, to reexperience our root beer memories by having lunch at an A&W restaurant still open and busy on Route 13 southwest of downtown. It was a gorgeous day, and since the roads were the 'back way,' we saw loads of farms, valleys, hills, and harvested cornfields. We spotted the A&W sign and eagerly eased our way into an ordering lane under a long portico, shut the engine down, and smiled. After studying the menu board, we had our usual, "What do you want?" food chat. Then I pressed the call button, and a firm voice came on immediately: "May I take your order?"



8 different logos were used from 1922 – today



On our way in our "A" to Cortland on a perfect fall day



The best spot – under the portico and up front



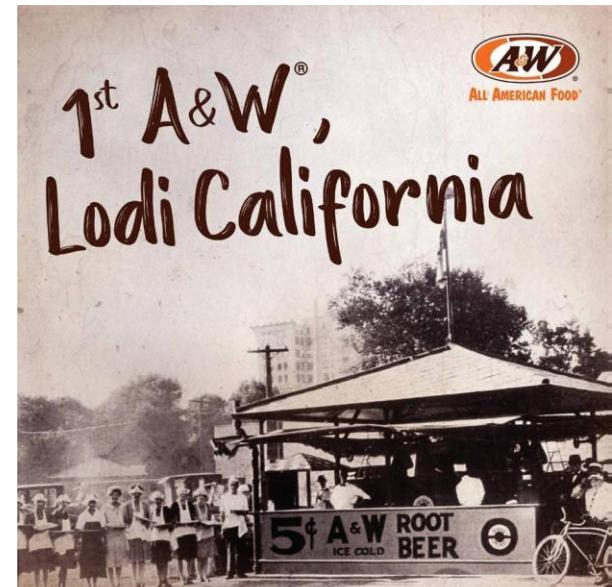
Menu board on a stand – "May I take your order?"

Let me share some history about A&W root beer so you understand how this bubbly, delightfully foamed drink originated, and include photographs to better tell the story of 'root beer adventures in a Model A.' Please turn the page!

Shortly after World War I, an enterprising young man named Roy W. Allen opened a roadside root beer stand in Lodi, California, in 1919. He decided to sell root beer and used a formula he purchased from a pharmacist to make it. He quickly expanded by opening stands in Stockton, California, and five more in nearby Sacramento, where "tray boys" (later "carhops") pioneered drive-in curbside service. In 1922, Allen partnered with his co-worker, Frank Wright, to create the **A&W** brand. Allen bought out Wright in 1924, secured a trademark, and began selling restaurant franchises in 1926, making it one of the first restaurant chains in the United States. Franchise owners could use the A&W name/logo and buy concentrated root beer syrup from Allen. There were no standard menus, consistent architecture, or uniform procedures, and some franchisees also sold food. Over time, however, uniformity was achieved. By 1933, there were 170 A&W franchises! Today, there are 7 in New York and 12 in Pennsylvania, totaling 460 nationwide. I bet your "A" stopped at A&Ws back in the day.



5¢ A&W ROOT BEER – Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin – 1941  
Chippewa Area History Center



c1920



Ice cold root beer is on the way – A&W, Holland, MI  
The Holland Sentinel – 1947

What a wonderful day Julie and I had. We drew some attention, leading to a few friendly chats with fellow patrons. The food was tasty (carryout, no window tray), and we made a unique **Model A&W** memory. We took back roads home and stopped at a farm market. There are always unplanned pull-overs, yay, that add a little spice to the "A" day. In 2026, we plan to have more Model A adventures in Henrietta. It's easy to settle into her pleated brown mohair seats and cruise slow roads with the joy that only comes from four cylinders, an ahooga horn, and slow-motoring in your Model A.



Fall Creek Farm – market is on the right outa sight



A&W logo evolution

# CORBREAD

Depression Era Recipes, a book by Patricia R. Wagner

2 eggs  
 ½ t. salt  
 2 c. milk  
 3 T. sugar  
 ¾ c. flour  
 4 t. baking powder

Yellow corn meal to form a batter

**Beat the eggs well. Add the salt milk and sugar. Stir in the flour and baking powder. Blend in enough cornmeal to form a soft batter. The exact amount of cornmeal cannot be given - usually about 2 c. will be fine. Bake in shallow, well-greased pans in a moderate oven about half an hour.**



## First aid in entertaining



FIRST aid in entertaining, nowadays, is a General Electric Refrigerator. If you have one, you can make those delicious, *different* salads and aspics and desserts. You can make them at your leisure—the same morning, or the day before, or whenever you wish. There's plenty of room to store them. There's the scientific cold to keep them fresh.

You will like the simplicity of the General Electric Refrigerator. It never needs oiling. It hasn't a drain-pipe or a belt or a fan. All its machinery is enclosed

in the hermetically sealed casing mounted on top of the cabinet. And there is a remarkably large shelf area because the chilling chamber is so compact. All the models are up on legs, so the floor under them can easily be cleaned.

General Electric's world-famed engineers and scientists worked for fifteen years to develop this supremely practical and

efficient refrigerator—to make it quiet, portable and economical to run.

Already it is giving flawless service in more than fifty thousand homes. Ask these users about the General Electric and make comparisons before you buy. There is a wide range of models and prices. Write us today for Booklet S-6B, which is completely descriptive.

**GENERAL ELECTRIC**  
**Refrigerator**

1928 advertisement

# MAFFI Minute

## December 2026



Happy Holiday Season, Model A'ers!

I 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](http://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 Grape Country A's. If you visit the "Cameras" tab on [maffi.org](http://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

### Model A Factory Photos

#### \* MAFFI's Photo Collection History \*

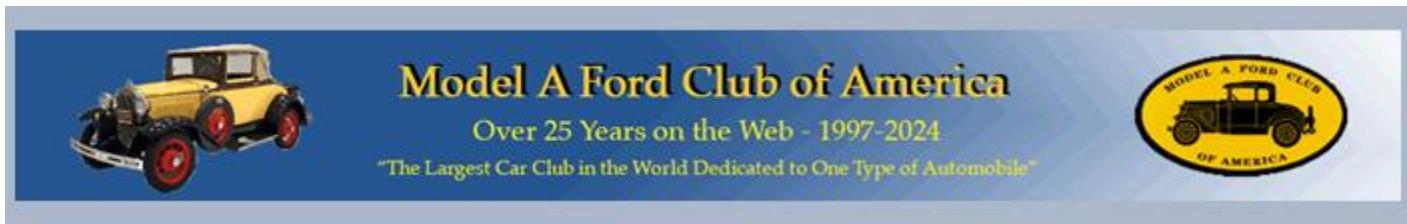
Bob Rentz of Albuquerque, NM, assembled a large and diverse collection of 333 original Model A Ford factory photos, all 8.5 x 11 inch size. These photographs represent an incredible wealth of documentation about how the Model A looked as it left the factory. Many of the photos are Ford publicity shots that eventually appeared in newspaper, magazine and sales literature. Other views portray close-up views of production model details. The educational and research potential for Model A restorers is outstanding. Bob generously donated all these photos to MAFFI.

In October 2005, at the Hershey AACA, MAFFI Trustee Howard Minners found and purchased an album with 61 original photos showing commercial Model A's. Howard loaned these photos to MAFFI to add to the collection so that they could be scanned and prints made available.

Additional photographs have been donated by Tim Johnstone and Tim Kelly. Ron Ehrenhofer and Stan Johnson have scanned the photos at a high resolution. The resulting digital files have been electronically stored which will allow rapid downloading and printing of high-quality copies.

The Foundation now offers copies for sale at all summer MARC and MAFCA national meets. The photos are of considerable assistance to restorers because they show details of the way the vehicles looked at the time they were delivered from the factory. MAFFI continues to seek to borrow and scan additional factory-era Model A Ford photos, both passenger and commercial.

[Factory Photos Information](#)



## President's Message – January 2026

As we start the New Year, I would like to wish all our members a healthy and prosperous 2026 and many smiles per mile touring in your Model A.

I am honored to serve as president for 2026 and look forward to working with our dedicated board. Our shared goal is to serve MAFCA to the best of our ability and continue to grow MAFCA by providing our members with first class services and benefits, while at the same time having fun with our Model A's.



Please join me in welcoming the newly elected members to the board for 2026/27: Doug Clayton (Publications/Public Relations Director), Trish Evans (Membership/Marketing Director), Paul Shinn (Technical Director), and Dennis Thompson (Treasurer). Continuing members include Happy Begg – Vice President, David Frazee – Secretary, Sherry Winkinhofer – Membership/Marketing, and Dave Krill – Advertising. The entire board is looking forward to working as a team to guide MAFCA through 2026 and the years beyond.

I would like to send a special thanks to Ed Tolman, Bill Truesdell and Jay McCord for their dedication and service to MAFCA. Your contributions have made a lasting impact.

My wife Nan and I just returned from the 2025 National Awards Banquet (NAB) in Mobile, Alabama. I would like to personally thank Allen Braddy and the rest of the Gulf Coast Model A Club who spent countless hours making sure the attendees had a wonderful time. The location of the hotel made it convenient to reach all the scheduled tours; the tour of the USS Alabama Battleship Park made for a memorable event. My wife Nan and I really enjoy attending NABs, and due to their size, they offer a great chance to socialize with the other members and enjoy new places. Plan to join us at the 2026 NAB in Cincinnati, OH.

I would like to remind you that the board is here to represent you and I encourage you to contact any one of us if you have any questions. I encourage all members to participate in future events, local or national, together we can make 2026 a fantastic year for MAFCA.



Doug Linden taking the President's oath of office  
Administered by former President Jay McCord



Doug with wife Nan at the Banquet

## The Model A Restorers Club, Inc.

### THE running BOARD REPORT

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

January 2026

**M**ARC's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that our completely restored website is alive at [ModelARestorersClub.org](http://ModelARestorersClub.org) ([modelarestorersclub.org](http://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.

**A**s 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.

**R**egions, 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](http://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*!

**C**ircle 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](http://modelarestorersclub.org). Plan to enter your Model "A" in the judging!





## Benefits in a car club include:

- ✓ New friends and fellowship
- ✓ Learning opportunities
- ✓ Activities like tours, car shows, picnics, breakfast runs, holiday parties, and tech outreach help
- ✓ Great magazines and newsletters
- ✓ Tire kicking
- ✓ National Club news and activities



## SULLIVAN TRAIL A'S:

## Sullivan Trail A's web site



## MODEL A RESTORER'S CLUB:

## [MARC web site](#)



## MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA:

## MAFCA web site



## MODEL A FORD FOUNDATION:

## MAFFI web site

## Edsel Ford

Edsel Ford showed more interest in flashier automobile styling than his father did. He indulged this tendency partly by purchasing the Lincoln Motor Company in 1922. His love for sports cars was evident in his personal vehicles: in 1930, Edsel bought the first MG car imported to the US. In 1932, he had an aluminum, boat-tailed speedster custom-designed by Ford's first designer, E. T. (Bob) Gregorie, featuring Ford's brand-new V8—a low-cost, eight-cylinder engine.

This equation shows how a dropped original Model A spark plug nut can gain 1000 mph of speed in a 1-foot fall, go out of sight, travel through a black hole, only to be found 2 years later quietly sitting on the car's frame rail.



## Pointing at ?



License plate shows 1928



## Where Friends & Model A's Meet - Northern Tier PA & Finger Lakes Region

### Sullivan Trail A's APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number: ... \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone number: ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone number: .... \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: ..... \_\_\_\_\_

If you're a member of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) and/or Model A Restorers Club (MARC):

MAFCA Membership Number: ... \_\_\_\_\_

MARC Membership Number: .... \_\_\_\_\_

Annual dues for Sullivan's Trail A's: \$10.00

The **Sullivan Trail A's** website offers more information about the Club (right-click, then click 'open hyperlink' for both):

[website](#)

Our **Facebook** page:

[Sullivan Trail A's Facebook page](#)

MAFCA AND MARC membership offers national "A" news, commentary, articles from technical to touring, photographs, classified ads, and more. **The Restorer** (MAFCA) and **The Model A News** (MARC) are terrific bi-monthly magazines included in the membership.

Do you own a Model A or A's? Would you like to tell us about it/them?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have special knowledge, expertise, or interests you'd like to share at this time?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sullivan Trail A's meets the second Tuesday, 7PM September – May, First United Methodist Church, 1034 West Broad St. Horseheads, NY. Bring your dues and membership application to one of our meetings or mail \$10 annual dues (please no cash, check made out to **Sullivan Trail Model A Ford Club**) and application to: **Mark Harth, 4860 Satterly Hill Rd, Burdett, NY 14818**

Dues paid: check \_\_\_\_\_ cash \_\_\_\_\_ rec'd by: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
5/08 Rev; 11/12/2020; 4/20/23