



Volume 57, Issue 2
 February 2026
 Joe Fox – Editor

Taillighter



Monthly Meeting Update

Regular MEETINGS (at the church) are scheduled this winter, weather permitting!

However... Some members like 'Dinner before the Meeting' like we've done before. So... if you like, meet us at 5:00 at BJ's Brewhouse (Monroe St. in front of J.C.Penneys) before the meeting on February 11th. Please call Joe Sillman (419) 902-0852 if you plan to join us!

Who Done It – Our February Outing

On February 28th, we will have a group outing to the Toledo Mystery Dinner Theater at the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel. Tickets are \$67 per person, incl. tax & tip. There is a charge to park. To sit together, tell them you are with the "Toledo Model A Club" when YOU make your reservations... by calling 866-496-0535 or on line at <https://www.thedinnerdetheatre.com/toledo>



PLEASE... contact Joe Sillman if you plan to go, or sign up at the February club meeting.

MARCH EVENT... A (late) WINTER GET-TOGETHER

Margaret & Jeff Adams have again offered to host a get-together at their home.

White Elephant Gift Exchange

March 21st, arrive around 3:00 p.m. or so, going until 8:00ish

This should allow more folks to participate!

Margaret plans to have hot sandwiches!

Everyone Bring: A snack/appetizer to share

Your own beverage.

A wrapped gift

[blue-boys, red-girls, green-either], suggested value \$15 - 20

Gift ideas... **FUNNY**, **Weird** or *Nice*, but above all... **INTERESTING!** then let the fun begin!

Jeff & Margaret live at... 8563 Dorr St, Toledo, OH 43617

As a courtesy, please contact Margaret (419) 346-9153 with your intent to attend.

Don't forget, there will be a brief mini-seminar after the February meeting.

Topic... Installing (riveting) and arcing brake linings.



Important Club Stuff

As reported in a separate notice to WLER Members, the Board met on December 14th to discuss the 2026 budget and other matters. Because the January meeting was canceled due to weather, **PLEASE try to attend the February 11th meeting** to discuss and vote on the budget.

In addition, these other topics will be discussed, and your input is indispensable!

- The Board recommends an increase in dues to \$20 annually, effective for the 2027 calendar year. **Discussion and approval of a dues increase will take place at the February 11th general meeting.**
- Consideration of a different meeting place for monthly meetings, possibly a member's home?
- A WLER website or Facebook page.
- How to retain members, and recruit new members.
- The 50/50 raffle will eliminate the second half drawing; proceeds will go to general fund.

Now... Check out the CALENDAR for some FUN events coming up soon!

2026 WLER Officers

Director	Joe Sillman
Activities Dir.	Margaret Adams
Secretary	Jeff Bohman
Treasurer	Jeff Adams
Trustee	Andy Sniegowski
Librarian	Bob Barker
Club Tools	John Slaninka
Editor	Joe Fox

Fully rebuilt Distributor, distributor bodies, headlight lenses, accelerator linkages, other parts all restored and ready to use or show!

Joe Fox, (419) 376-6626



CALENDAR

Club Events

Feb 11 – Meeting at the Church

Feb 28 – Mystery Dinner Theater

Mar 21 – White Elephant Party

Car Shows, Swap Meets, etc.

Feb 6-7 – Swap Meet, Kalamazoo (MI) Co. Expo Ctr.

Mar 22 – Eastside A's Swap, **new location** Packard Proving Grounds, Shelby Twp, MI

Apr 12 – Swap Meet, Monroe Co. Fair Grounds

May 17 (?) – Swap, Erie Co. FG, Sandusky, OH

MARC National Meets

'26 Nat'l Mt – **July 12-16** – French Lick, IN

'26 Nat'l Tour – **May 11-14** Finger Lakes, NY

Registration for **BOTH** Meets is now open...

Don't delay!

The **TAILLIGHTER** is the official publication of the Western Lake Erie Region M.A.R.C. This monthly newsletter is mailed to members to keep them informed of what has taken place and to keep them advised of future activities. Members are invited to submit articles of interest, and such materials must reach the editor by the published deadline to assure publication in that month's newsletter. Membership dues are \$15.00 per year for Western Lake Erie Region. MARC National membership, at \$50.00 per year, is **mandatory** to become a local member. For National membership see the MARC website at <https://model-a-ford.org>

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Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Grace Lutheran Church, 4441 Monroe St. (just east of Secor), Toledo, OH

From the Director's Chair:



Hello All,

I hope the notice of the January Meeting cancelation reached everyone. The normal 60-minute drive from the office to home was enough to convince me. The Level 2 Snow Emergency made me happy that we cancelled. Hope we have better luck and can hold the February Meeting.

We will have the brake lining seminar after the meeting this month. This is focusing on lining the shoes and fitting the shoes to the brake drum. Please share any seminar ideas or requests.

We have events scheduled for February and March. February is the Murder Mystery Dinner Theater in downtown Toledo. Please call them to make your reservation. If you tell them you are with the "Toledo Model A Club" they will try to seat us together.

In March, we are having a White Elephant exchange. Check out the details in this newsletter.

I am going to go to BJ's Brewhouse before the meeting. If you are interested in joining me at 5:00, send a text or call by Sunday, February 8th. I will call the restaurant and let them know about the group size. If you have an idea of someplace to go before a future meeting, please share it at the meeting.

Not much to say this month. Hope to see you at the meeting... *Joe Sillman*



From the Editor... Well I just got my on-line issue of the Jan/Feb *Model A News*. Great, as always! If you haven't checked out the advance issue on line, you're really missing out. Of course there is the early access to Classified Ads, in case you're looking to buy a car, parts or services. But what is really special this month is the Registration info for the **MARC National Meet in French Lick, IN!** This year we will have a 4-day event filled with many fun activities, and all at a fabulous venue! Check out the details in the current issue of the MAN, or... on-line at our website in the 'EVENTS' section. Either way, it will be a very fun trip! ... *Joe Fox*

On a Personal Note...



Bob Barker, Jennifer Knicely, Pam Fletcher,
Morgan Fox, Kevin Job, Don Stader,
Roger VanHouten, Jackie VanHouten

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
[no weddings in February]

Special tribute... Helen Hawk would have been **100 years young** on February 24th. Happy heavenly Birthday!

As we continue to offer thoughts and prayers for those who are experiencing various health concerns...

> Irene Buechele is recovering from recent surgery.

> It breaks my heart to share that our son David is now added to the 'Cancer List'. He will undergo surgery in the near future.

Please continue to pray for those suffering from physical, mental or emotional hardship.

And... let me and/or Linda Morford know of anyone who could use a little cheering up.

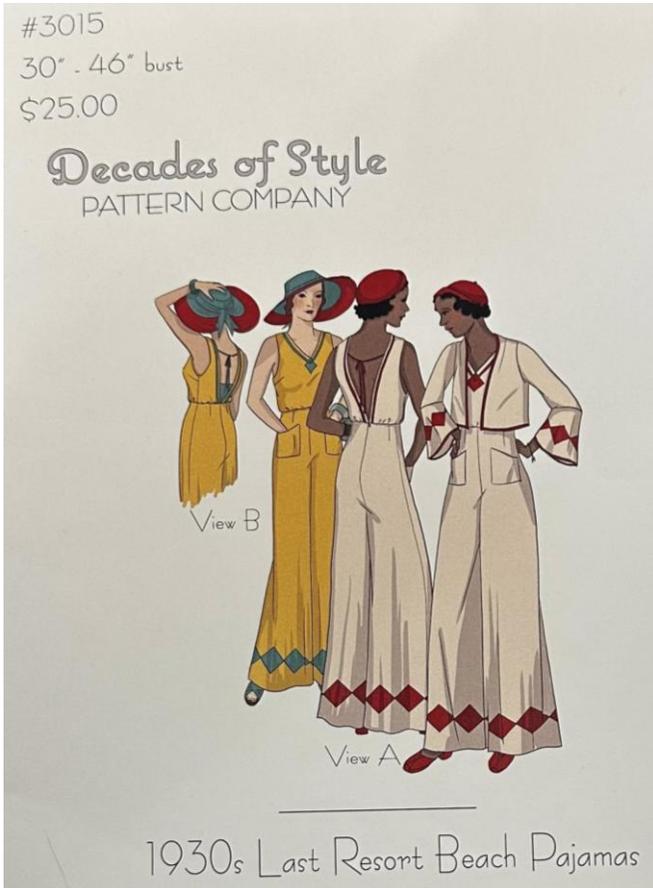
Era Fashions: Beach Pajamas

As posted in "Model A Era Fashions – MAFCA"

By Belinda Limbrock

Resort, beach pajamas 1930

[Just a teaser as we anticipate weather that we can actually enjoy these!]



Belinda just finished this outfit using this pattern and with material from the local Joann Fabrics before they closed. It was 1930s reproduction material. [I'm definitely going to miss that resource for 1930 reproduction material!] The instructions were easy to follow, but there were no instructions on installing the hidden zipper. So, make sure you save the directions that come with the zipper!

Fun Stuff... You really need to look closely to see what's going on here!
There are 2 complete AA engines & drivetrains, and it's NOT AI!



Two Fabulous MARC Events are planned for 2026. Plan to enjoy one or both! The Tour is filling up fast, and registration for the National in French Lick was just opened. It will fill up fast!

MARC NATIONAL TOUR
Hosted by Finger Lakes Region of MARC
Penn Yan, NY
EXPLORE FINGER LAKES
May 11 - May 14, 2026

TOURING!!

It's a Wonderful Life
THE SENECA LAKE Wine Trail

Birthplace of Women's Rights

Arts and Crafts

Corning Museum of Glass
Penn Yan
George Curtiss Museum
Watkins Glen Waterfalls

MARC National Tour Finger Lakes, NY 2026

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

THE 2026 MARC NATIONAL MEET
THE MAGNIFICENCE OF FRENCH LICK
"HISTORIC HOOSIER HOSPITALITY"

HOOSIER HILLS MODEL A CLUB
COLUMBUS INDIANA MODEL A CLUB

MODEL A RESTORES CLUB
NATIONAL MEET
JULY 12-16, 2026
French Lick, Indiana

HOSTED BY HOOSIER HILLS MODEL A CLUB & COLUMBUS INDIANA MODEL A CLUB

REGISTER TODAY BY CALLING THE HOTEL AT 844-241-6361 GIVE CODE: 0726MAR

MODEL A RESTORES CLUB 2026 NATIONAL MEET
JULY 12-16, 2026

If you've never been to a MARC National Meet, or maybe it's been a while, you owe it to yourself to give one a try. You do not need to take your Model A, just go and see what fun there is to enjoy! Sandy & I will be there! Call me for more info...

Fun Facts...

Thanks to Pat McLaughlin for sharing these.

91 MPH on frozen Lake St. Clair with a mechanic clinging to the side.

On January 12, 1904, Henry Ford set a world land speed record in his "999" racer while his mechanic, Ed "Spider" Huff, rode on the frame to manually control the throttle.

The goal?
A publicity stunt to prove the young Ford Motor Company could beat the world's best.

It worked. The record gave Ford the "fastest man alive" reputation he needed to attract high-level investors and national attention.

On January 8, 1933, the last **Ford Motor Company** Tri-Motor airplane was built by the Aircraft Division of Ford Motor Company. Designed by William B. Stout and known for its dependability, the Tri-Motor was the most popular airliner of the 1920s and early 1930s.

You can see examples of this iconic plane at the Heroes of the Sky exhibit at our partner, the **The Henry Ford**. #ThisDayInAutoHeritage



Youth Report

Here is what a family in Tennessee is doing to get the kids involved in the Model A hobby, and to keep the family history alive. Maybe there is a similar story right here in our local group. Any thoughts?

Restoring Grandfather's Tudor

Check out this beautiful Tudor. It has a long history with the Gremban family. The Model A belongs to the Jensen boy's grandfather Chris Gremban. It was purchased by his father when Chris was 14 and has been in the family for over 50 years! The last 30 years it has been sitting in a barn in Ohio. Recently, the Jensen's traveled to Ohio and trailered the Model A back to Tennessee. They have started the process of bringing the Tudor back to life. Owen Jensen, age 16 and Grant Jensen, age 14 are helping their Grandfather Chris with the restoration work. It is truly a family event!



[I use an IR thermometer, and this makes perfect sense, although I must confess that I've overlooked this important concept myself!]

Jim's Tech Tips (reprinted from "The Flying Quail", September, 2022)

"Infrared (IR) Thermometer Guns"

These little IR thermometer guns are amazing. I use mine to check coolant temperature at the outlet of the engine, look for cool spots on radiators, check tire sidewall temperatures, and to see if all of my brake drums are at about the same temperature after a hard brake (to confirm even braking action at each wheel).

If you are going to get a reliable, consistent, and reproducible reading with these guns, you need to understand a bit about how they work. When you aim the gun at something and press the button to read the temperature, the gun reports to you the average temperature of everything within its "Field of View".

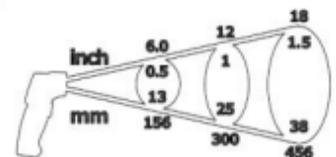
If you want to read the temperature with a spot circle diameter of 1/2" (a very handy size), you must hold the gun 6" from the object. I have seen some guys hold the gun several feet from a radiator hose and not understand why the reading is so low; their 3" diameter spot circle includes a lot of cool air on either side of the radiator hose. Get in the habit of holding the gun up close to the object for the best readings.

Some guns have a laser pointer built in that helps you see where the temperature readings are being taken. The laser does not read the temperature, it just helps you see where the reading is from. You have to visualize the spot circle size, depending on how far the gun is from the object.

I hope this helps you get more out of your IR thermometer. If you don't have one, they are handy to have around the shop and on the road. Until next time, Have a Model A Day!

Field of View

The meter's field of view is 12:1, meaning that if the meter is 12 inches from the target, the diameter of the object under test must be at least 1 inch. Other distances are shown in the diagram below. Make sure that the target is larger than the unit's spot size. The smaller the target, the closer you should be to it. When accuracy is critical, make sure the target is at least twice as large as the spot size.



**WESTERN LAKE ERIE REGION
MARC**

Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2026

The January meeting was canceled due to weather, therefore there are no meeting minutes.

See you in February (hopefully!).

MAFFI Newsletter Minute...



January 2026

Happy New Year, Model A'ers! As we roll into another year, we find ourselves one step closer to our beloved cars turning 100 years old, which is pretty incredible to think about. The Board met in January to begin planning for the year ahead, including early discussions around Model A Days, along with ideas for upcoming exhibit changes and continued growth of the museum.

While things may seem quieter during the winter months, the museum remains very active behind the scenes. Winter is an important time for maintenance, organization, and preparing exhibits and vehicles for the year ahead. The volunteers of the Grape Country Model A's have been instrumental in this work, generously donating their time and skills. Leader of Fleet Maintenance Dan Cargo and Museum Manager Jerry Dennany, in particular, continue to provide invaluable leadership and hands-on support throughout the off-season.

Keep on motoring!

*John Grossheim,
MAFFI Trustee/Secretary*

The Model A Restorers Club, Inc.

THE *running* BOARD REPORT

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

February 2026

Members, our MARC Board has launched our new website as part of our new social media strategy. You can access it by entering our new url: modelarestorersclub.org. The site contains many new features including a members only section that members can access by entering your membership number and zip code. Once signed in you can update Region information, add events, access issues of *Model A News*, technical information and much more! Some have also noticed that we now have two Facebook groups, Model A Restorers Club, our public group and Model "A" Restorers Club (note the quotes), our members group where more MARC information is posted. Check them out!

Also, speaking about our new social media strategy, your Board is excited to announce that the response thus far has been overwhelming. Many more views on our new website and TWICE as many new members joining than last year at this time. Keep watching for new member promotions and encourage your Region non MARC members to join!

Regions, we still need your help to add content to the website. You can now update your Region information directly, update officer contact information, report your Region activities including creating technical videos to share with all of our members, schedules of your upcoming events to help YOU attract new members and much, much more. Larry Shepard is still asking for names and contact information for your technical experts who are willing to help fellow members with assistance in keeping their Model A's in tip top operational condition. Please contact Larry through our Contact Us section of the website. We are also in the process of creating an updated member roster. Please send our office your member rosters and indicate those members willing to be added to the MARC member roster.

Certainly more members are planning to attend the upcoming Finger Lakes Tour and the National Meet in French Lick. We are still accepting registrations for the Finger Lakes Tour. Registration forms for French Lick will be published in the next issue of the *Model A News* which will be available on February 1st on our new MARC website. The Columbus Indiana Region is also creating an online option that will allow you to easily, accurately and securely register for French Lick from your phone or computer. No more writing, adding or wondering if your registration form will make it through the postal system! Major credit cards and PayPal will be accepted through the secure MARC website. Coming soon!



Quote of the Month...

“Nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral questions of our time: the need for man to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to oppression and violence.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please let our Activities Director, Margaret Adams know if you have an idea for a monthly event or restaurant to enjoy dinner prior to our regular meetings. Of course, you are encouraged to help plan these events... Margaret cannot (and should not) be expected to do it all! Her phone # is (419) 346-9153

Western Lake Erie Region MARC

(Application for Membership)

Names - Last _____

First _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ (alt) _____

Email _____

* MARC Membership # _____

His birthday _____ - Her Birthday _____

Anniversary _____

Model A's owned (1) _____

(2) _____

Dues for WLER are \$15.00/year. Please make checks payable to: Western Lake Erie Region MARC and send to:

Jeff Adams, 8563 Dorr St., Toledo, OH 43615

***Membership in MARC is a pre-requisite for membership in Western Lake Erie Region MARC**

MODEL "A" RESTORERS CLUB

PO Box 498, Howell, MI 48844

modelestorsclub@gmail.com

(734) 427-9050

Membership Dues (U.S.): Regular Mail - \$50



APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP

(Please print)

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I give permission to publish my phone # in future MARC Membership Rosters

Yes No Phone # _____

I give permission to publish my e-mail in future MARC Membership Rosters

Yes No e-mail _____

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:

() Visa () Master Card () Discover () Am. Exp.

EXP Date _____ CVV2 Code # _____

Includes 6 issues of the Model 'A' News. Members are also entitled to a free 40 word classified ad in each issue.

Western Lake Erie Region
Model A Restorers Club
511 N. King Rd.
Holland, OH 43528

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Next Meeting (at the church) – February 11th

