

CHATTER

Official Publication of the Calumet Region Model A Restorers Club



“Model A Days” 2025



October 2025





CHATTER



Volume 66 Issue 10

John Hoffman-Editor

President

Michael Sluis

Vice President

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Carol Healy

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Karen Kats

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Art LeMere

Region Correspondent

John Hoffman

Safety-MAFFI

John Marshall

Mileage

Jerry LeMere

Lady's Raffle

Diane Zuidema

Property

Art LeMere

Historian

Art LeMere

Technical

Wally Healy

Mike's Message



Hi Everyone,

Carol and I would like to thank you for coming to Game Night. We really like hosting events and especially having the company. Food was great and the friendship is invaluable. Thank you for coming and also your help in supplying great food.

Model A Days was great. The weather was very cooperative and lots of new things. I am going to let John Marshall tell you all about it. He worked hard and deserves the talk.

We will see everyone when we come back from Hershey so remember the Model A meeting is being moved to October 13th, 7pm. See you all then.

Take care of yourself, *Mike*



Treasurer's Report

By Carol Healy



Beginning Balance September 8, 2025 **\$3,015.16**

Income

50/50 raffle September \$38.00

Total Income \$38.00

Expenses

Banquet deposit \$200.00

Brick for Art Steinberg \$100.00

Total Expenses \$300.00

Ending Balance October 6, 2025 **\$2,753.16**

"The general purpose of the **Calumet Region Model "A" Restorer's Club** shall be to encourage its members to acquire, preserve, restore, exhibit and make use of the Ford Model "A" automobile, model years 1928 through 1931, and all things pertaining to the Ford Model "A", and to promote the introduction of ideas and fellowship among M.A.R.C. members." You need not own a Model "A" Ford!

Business Meeting September 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. Officers present were Mike Sluis, John Hoffman and Carol Healy. Karen Kats was not present.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES

The minutes of the August 4th meeting were read by Marge Vetterick in Karen Kats absence. A motion to approve was made by Diane Zuidema, seconded by Marsha LeMere. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Carol Healy read the Treasurer's report. There were no expenses or income this month. Balance as of September 8, 2025 is \$3015.16. A motion to approve was made by Wally Healy, seconded by Carol Sluis. Motion approved

VICE PRESIDENT/EDITORS REPORT

John Hoffman reported the next break-fast fun will be on Saturday September 27th at 9 a.m. at Peppermill Restaurant, 9137 Wolf Rd in Mokena.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mike Sluis reported National Model A Day is Saturday, September 13th. Get out and drive your Model A.

CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Pete Kats is in therapy three times a week and it is going well. We are happy for both Pete and Karen. There were no badge fines.

HISTORIAN REPORT

Art LeMere read the Chatter from the

year 2011. President was Eric Niefeldt, Vice President was Carol Healy, Secretary Karen Kats and Treasurer was Ann Steinberg. January combined Holiday Social and planning meeting. In March 65 people enjoyed our souper bowl and membership meet was in Florida. August was our club picnic, mystery tour and Quad meet hosted by the Joliet region. October was our Hillbilly hayride. November was awards banquet. December was our Christmas party, light tour and Holiday social.

MAFFI

John Marshall reminded everyone Model A days are coming soon.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A brick for the museum will be purchased for Art Steinberg. Game night will be held on Sun, September 29th at 4 p.m. at the Sluis home. BBQ .please bring a dish. Awards banquet is set for November 2nd, at Scrementi's in Steger at noon. Carol Healy said the Christmas concert at Olivett will be Dec. 6th, more information to follow.

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made at 7:25 by John Marshall, seconded by Carol Sluis. Motion approved

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Vetterick

Club Events & Tours 2025

October

7th-10th - Hershey
Swap Meet

13th - Business Meeting

19th - Hillbilly Hayride

25th - Breakfast Run

November

2nd - Award Banquet

3rd - Business Meeting

15th - Breakfast Run

December

1st - Business Meeting /
Pizza Party

14th - Christmas Social,
3:00pm

20th - Breakfast Run

Breakfast Run

9:00am October 25th

Mayberry Junction

390 N. Locust Street

Manteno, IL

Refreshments

October...Diane Zuidema

November...Carol Sluis

December....Pizza Party



October 13



October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Happy Birthday Elaine Hoffman
	6	7 AACA Hersey Fall Meet	8 AACA Hersey Fall Meet	9 AACA Hersey Fall Meet	10 AACA Hersey Fall Meet	11
12	13 Business Meeting	14	15	16	17 Happy Birthday John Marshall	18
19 Hillbilly Hayride	20	21		23	24	25 Breakfast Run
26	27	28		30		

HILLBILLY HAYRIDE

12 Noon, Sunday, October 19, 2025

Time again to partake of some good grub and tell lies around the bonfire! Bring a dish to share to the Hillbilly Hayride.

John & Pat Marshall, Hosts

Please **RSVP (708) 258-0685**

Bring your chairs

Dress country style and bring your Model A to what may be our last outing for the year of 2025



Calumet Region Banquet November 2nd at 12:00pm Scrementi's Restaurant

3760 Chicago Road

Steger, Illinois

**\$35 per person. Payable at the
October Business Meeting**

**Price includes family style dinner and
soft drinks. A cash bar will be available.**

**Sign up sheet at the October Business
Meeting.**

Timely Aids *for* Autoists

AS a substitute for a tire pump, I carry in my car eighteen feet of tubing, fitted with a petcock near one end and snap-on valve stem connectors at each end. When a tire develops a slow leak, I simply use the hose to transfer air from my spare and the other tires to the soft one. The borrowed air builds up enough pressure to get me to a garage.





SAVE THE DATE!!!!

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



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



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MEET CHAIRMAN REX HINKLE 812-360-3336 OR REX.HINKLE@COOKGROUP.COM

“Model A Days” New Expansion Opening





Expansion Volunteers			
Randy Czubko - Construction Manager			
Happy Begg	Ron Ehrenhofer	John Marshall	Mike Sluis
John Begg	Chuck Emrick	Jerry Morrissey	Norm Smith
Mark Bower	Paul Franklin	Trudy Morrissey	Andy Stockinger
Dan Cargo	Wally Healy	Carl Propst	Jim Stockinger
Kathy Cargo	John Hoffman	Larry Shepard	Tad Ulrich
Ken Cargo	Lou Ironside	Greg Shepherd	Larry Wallace
Jerry Dennany	Mark Maron	Paul Shinn	Jarrod Williams
Ken Ehrenhofer	Val Maron	Don Siegler	John Williams



FROM THE BENCH

BY CHRIS WICKERSHAM

The Best Operating Temperature for Your Model A Ford

Years ago, most Model A owners did not give much thought to the temperature of their engine just as long as the radiator did not boil over. Henry did not include a temperature gauge in the Model A so unless an accessory temperature gauge had been installed, the only way the driver knew if the engine was running too hot was the appearance of steam from the radiator cap or water on the windshield when the radiator started to boil over.

Today a lot of owners have installed a temperature gauge that allows easy monitoring of the engine temperature. This is especially important for those who use their cars for long distance touring.

A temperature gauge is also very useful for knowing if your Model A is running too cold. On a cold day, especially when using a heavy duty radiator, the engine may not come up to a good operating temperature. Now, you may ask "What is the problem with the engine running too cold? As long as the radiator is not boiling over, that should be good enough." Model A engines run best if the coolant temperature is between approximately 160 and 180 degrees. The carburetor can be run a little leaner which promotes more complete combustion and a cleaner more efficient engine. It is also very important, the oil will get completely warmed up so the accumulated moisture within the engine will be evaporated. Allowing moisture to accumulate inside the engine will promote the formation of sludge and cause corrosion.

Along with a temperature gauge, a thermostat is strongly recommended. Good quality 160 deg. thermostats are available from most parts suppliers. Now, some people say that the addition of a thermostat will make the engine overheat. This is not true. If there is a problem with your Model A running too hot, adding a thermostat will not make the problem worse. The problem is with the cooling system itself and not because a thermostat had been installed.



Temperature gauge with "short sweep" dial



Thermostat for installation in the upper radiator hose

A thermostat will help maintain a more even coolant temperature, especially on a cool day. When going uphill, the engine has to work harder and the coolant temperature will increase. When going downhill with little load on the engine, the coolant temperature will go down. A thermostat in the system will help even out these changes in the coolant temperature.

You will find that installing a 160 degree thermostat and a good temperature gauge will allow your Model A engine to warm up quicker after a cold start and operate more efficiently. A good quality temperature gauge will allow you to monitor the temperature of the coolant.

Happy motoring in your Model A.



Water outlet with "boss" for installing water temperature sensor

Tech Tip

The best temperature gauge to use

A good quality mechanical gauge is preferred for your Model A. Mechanical gauges are more accurate and have better resolution than most electric gauges. Temperature gauges with a full 270 Deg. sweep of the dial offer a longer scale which makes it a lot easier to see the actual gauge reading. Some gauges have such a short scale you cannot tell if the temperature has changed by just a little or a lot.

Thermo gauges in the radiator cap (Moto-Meters or Thermo Quails) are not of much use. To operate correctly, the sensing bulb must be in the coolant, not just positioned above it. Most of the time, when these devices indicate the engine is running hot it is too late as the coolant is already boiling.

Knowing the temperature of your engine is a good thing. If you do not already have one, install a temperature gauge in your Model A.



Mechanical temperature gauge with a 270 degree "sweep" dial

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.



13 Haunting Facts About Halloween

1. The holiday goes back two thousand years.

Halloween started out as a pre-Christian Celtic Festival. It was called Samhain, which means "Summers End". Samhain was held around the first of November. It marked the last day of the Harvest.

It also celebrated the crossing over of spirits to another world. People in Ireland, U.K. and France would ward off ghosts. They historically lit sacrificial bonfires and wore costumes.

2. Trick or Treat has existed since medieval times.

In Scotland and Ireland, it was known as "guising". Young people dressed up and asked for food or money. Today the tradition has morphed into children asking for candy.

3. Halloween rituals used to involve finding a husband.

During the 18th century, ladies would follow Halloween traditions. These would supposedly help them find a romantic match. Rituals include throwing an apple over their shoulder.

4. Immigrants helped popularize the holiday in the U.S.

The Irish fled their country in the 1840s because of the Potato Famine. They brought the Halloween traditions with them to the United States. By the 1920s the holiday started gaining traction.

5. In the U.S. Halloween is the second largest commercial holiday following Christmas.

Consumers spent approximately 9 billion dollars on Halloween in 2019. The Irish also brought us Jack-O-Lanterns. Legend has it that Irishman "Stinky Jack" fooled the devil. Therefore, he wasn't allowed in either Heaven or Hell. Instead, he spent his days roaming the earth carrying a lantern. He went by the name of "Jack-O-Lantern".

6. Illinois produces more pumpkins than any other state.

The state has over 15,000 acres dedicated to gourd

growing. These farms grow over 500 million pounds of pumpkins annually.

7. Candy Corn originally had another name.

It used to be called "chicken feed". The Goelitz Confectionary Company sold boxes of it. They first put a chicken on the front of the box. It was supposedly meant to honor its agricultural roots. The recipe has barely changed since the 1880s. It is rated as the worst Halloween candies.

8. New York City throws the biggest Halloween Parade.

It draws over two-million spectators and thousands of participants.

9. Skittles are the top-selling Halloween candy.

The bite-sized candies outrank M&Ms, Snickers, and Reese's Peanut Butter Cups. Candy corn also made the top ten list.

10. Finding a spider on Halloween is considered good luck.

It is believed that if you find a spider on Halloween, it means that a loved one is watching you.

11. Wearing certain types of costumes in certain states is illegal.

In Alabama, wearing a nun or priest costume on Halloween is illegal. In Dublin, Georgia, wearing any kind of mask that covers the face is also illegal.

12. Matthias Willemjins of Belgium holds the current record for growing the largest pumpkin weighing a whopping 2,624 lbs.

13. The owl is a popular Halloween image.

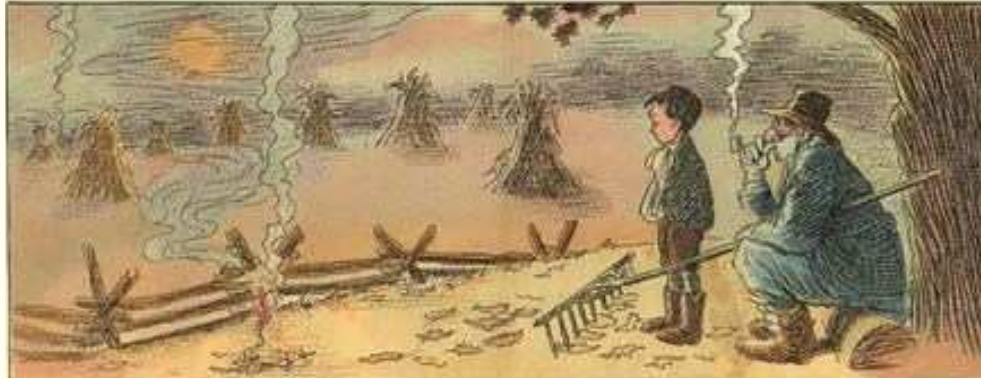
October is known as Owl Month and is associated with Halloween due to their nocturnal nature.

Have a Haunted Halloween!!



INJUN SUMMER

Yep, sonny this is sure enough Injun summer. Don't know what this is, I reckon, do you? Well, that's when all the homesick Injuns come back to play. You know, a long time ago, long before afore your granddaddy was born even, there used to be heaps of Injuns around here—thousands—millions, I reckon, far as that's concerned. Reg'lar sure 'nough Injuns—none o' yer cigar store Injuns, not much. They wuz all around here—right here where you're standing. Don't be skeered—haint't none around here now, leastways no live ones. They been gone this many a year. They all went away and died, so they ain't no more left.



But every year, 'long about now, they all come back, leastways their sperrits do. They're here now. You can see 'em off across the fields. Look real hard. See that kind o' hazy, misty look yonder? Well, them's Injuns—Injun sperrits marchin' along an' 'dancin'' in the sunlight. That's what makes that kind o' haze that's everywhere—it's jest the sperrits of the Injuns come back. They're all around us now. See off yonder; see them tepees? They kind o' look like corn shocks from here, but them's Injun tents, sure as you're a foot high. See 'em now? Sure. I knowed you could. Smell that smokey sort o' smell in the air, That's campfires a-burnin' and their pipes a-goin'. Lots o' people say it's just leaves burnin', but it ain't. It's campfires. an' th' Injuns are hoppin' 'round 'em t' beat old Harry.



You jest come out here tonight when the moon is hangin' over the hill yonder an' the harvest fields is all swimming' in th' moonlight, an' you can see Injuns and tepees jest as plain as kin be. You can , eh? I knowed you would after a while. Jever notice how the leaves turn red 'bout this time o'year? That' jest another sign o' redskins. That's when an old Injun sperrit gits tired 'dancin'' an' goes up an' squats on a leaf t' rest. Why, I hear 'em rustling' an' whisperin' an' creppin' round among the leaves all the time; an' ever' once 'n a while a leaf gives way under some fat old Injun ghost and comes floatin' down to the ground. See—here's one now. See how red it is? That's the war paint rubbed off'n Injun Ghost, sure's you're born. Purty soon all the Injuns'll go marchin' away again, back to the happy huntin' ground, but next year you'll see 'em troopin' back—th' sky jest hazy with campfires smolderin' away like they are now.

The Chicago Tribune front page cartoonist, John T. McCutcheon, ran this cartoon on September 30, 1907. It was again reprinted in 1912 and every year there after, till it's last Tribune reprinting on October 25, 1992. A victory for the cancel culture and a loss for those of us who grew up in the Chicago area and nostalgically saw it every Autumn. Another touchstone of our past gone.

CALL ME
OLD FASHIONED
BUT I'M GLAD
MY MOTHER
WAS A
WOMAN



"Thus, the Yardbirds begat Cream, Spencer Davis Group begat Traffic, Cream and Traffic begat Blind Faith, and Blind Faith begat Derek and the Dominos and Ginger Baker's Air Force ..."



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! [MADs is over... see photo's elsewhere in this issue... Joe]

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 MAFFI.org and click on Expansion and then Sweepstakes to be routed to enter.



And lastly, my term on the board as 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

“Nothing can be made except by makers,
nothing can be managed except by managers.
Money cannot make anything and money
cannot manage anything.” Henry Ford

Members Moments

Happy Birthday

Elaine Hoffman October 4th

John Marshall October 17th

Thinking about.....

Please remember our friends who are struggling with health problems.

Blonde On Blonde Crime

A blond was speeding 70 MPH in a 35 mile per hour zone when a local police officer pulled her over and walked up to the car. The officer who stopped the dumb blond also happened to be a blond and she asked for the blonde's driver's license.

The blond driver searched frantically in her purse for a while and finally asked the blond cop, "What does a driver's license look like?"

Irritated, the blond cop said, "Hey dummy, it's got your photo on it!"

The blond driver frantically searched her purse again and found a small, rectangular mirror at the bottom. She held it up to her face and saw herself and said, "Aha! This must be my driver's license!" and handed it to the blond cop.

The blond cop looked in the mirror, handed it back to the driver and said, "You're free to go. If I had known you were a cop too, we could have avoided all of this crap."

*****Annual Mileage Record*****

Don't forget to give your end of year mileage to Jerry LeMere. Any Mileage awards earned will be given out after the Membership Meet in April.

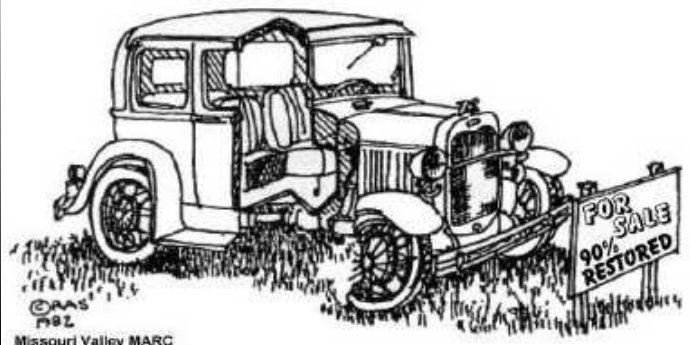
MODEL "A" TINY TIP

**Daylight Savings Time ends
November 2, 2025**



**Don't Forget to Retard Your
Distributor!!**

**I NEVER CALLED YOU
STUPID, BUT WHEN I
ASKED YOU TO SPELL
"ORANGE" AND YOU
ASKED ME THE FRUIT
OR COLOR IT KINDA
CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD.**





After a Summer of cancelled club events and even the annual picnic was called off. Three intrepid Model A's gassed up in Dyer Indiana and boogied down Route 30 en-route to Kalamazoo. A perfect day for Model A touring. The drought was finally broken. We are usually a four car caravan for the trip to "Model A Days" but Pete and Karen couldn't come this year. God's speed on your recovery Pete. We miss you folks.

The trip to Kalamazoo was without any mechanical problems, but the return to home, Mike & Carol Sluis were not so lucky. Crossing from Michigan to Indiana on Rte.12, they stopped for fuel. What they got was bad gas. Further down the road his coupe started sputtering. It got so bad he changed the carburetor with his spare and limped home before his Model A almost stalled. It's a win when don't call a tow truck and your ride gets you home.

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Model A Restorer's Club Registration

6721 Merriman, Garden City, Michigan 48135

<https://model-a-ford.org/>

Membership Dues: Regular Mail U.S. \$50

Canada \$60, International \$70 for the calendar year

Includes 6 issues of *Model A News* over a calendar year, U.S. funds only



Name (Print) _____ Spouse's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ email _____

OK to list phone number in club roster? (yes or no)

Ok to list email in club roster? (yes or no)

Circle one: Check / Visa / MasterCard / Discover / card number _____

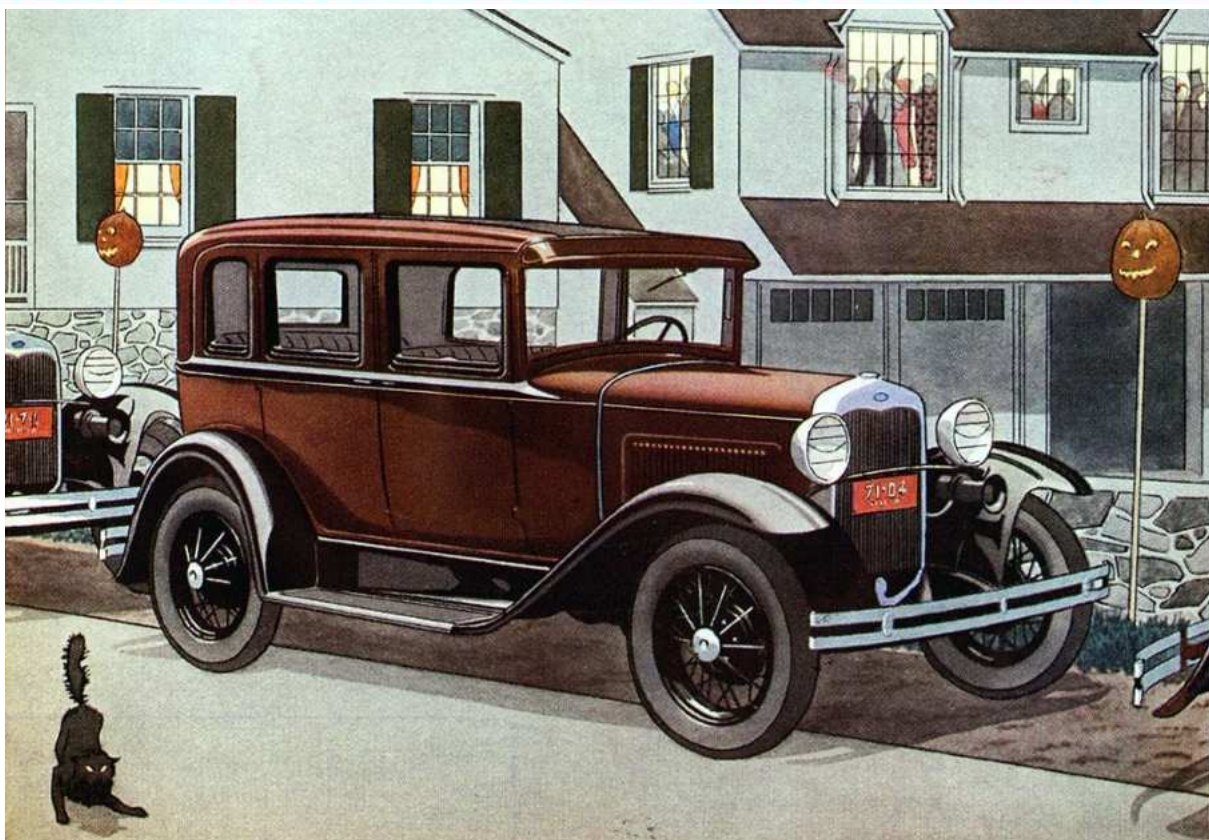
EXP date _____ 3 digit code on back of credit card _____

Signature _____

MARC Membership is required for Region membership

The Chatter

CALUMET REGION, MODEL 'A' RESTORER'S CLUB



The Calumet Region of the Model "A" Restorer's Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the Model "A" Ford automobile. Yearly dues for National membership are \$50.00 and Region membership is \$30.00 to publish "The Chatter" and to cover operating expenses. Want-ads are published free to members only in "The Chatter". Normally, business meetings are held on the first Monday of every month at the **Chicago High School for Agriculture Sciences, Library, 3857 W. 111th Street, Chicago, IL.** at 7:00 PM sharp. Business meeting date may be subject to change.