



## *From the Heart*

January 2026 First Edition of the HOFMARC Newsletter

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**Minutes** of the December meeting: Minutes for the December 6, 2025 meeting of the Heart of Florida Model A Restorers Club held at the Mallory Hill Country Club in The Villages.

Called to order by Vice President Bob Haight

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. This meeting was a Memorial Remembrance for Richard Unsworth, President, and Frank Lynch, Activities Director, both of whom had recently passed away. Several of our members made some gracious remarks. Their efforts on behalf of our Model A club were acknowledged and appreciated, and they will be missed.
3. Chuck Ufkes announced that he and Gloria will be holding an open house to celebrate Gloria's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. This will take place on December 13, 2025 at their home. More details will follow.
4. Bob Haight announced that the club's 1926 officers will be Bob McMahon, President, Peter DeBisschop, Vice-President, Elaine Ring Secretary, and Bob Haight, Treasurer.
5. Activities Director Keith Meyers announced the following club events for December:
  - a. December 10: Henry's Lunch Bunch, 11 AM at the Glenview Country Club in the Villages.
  - b. December 20: Henry's Breakfast Bunch, 9:30 AM at LilBits Café on CR 101 off of 466.
6. Mauri Bartley announced that there will be a Celebration of Life for Richard Unsworth at Water Oaks. This will be held on January 2. More details will follow.

7. Treasurer Debbie Pelley reported a balance of \$3,447.45. She noted that the Club's share of the Christmas party meal will come from that.
8. Four door prizes were awarded by a drawing: A \$25 gift card to the Mallory Hill Country Club restaurant, two \$25 gift cards, and a Model A gift from Mike Brauch.
9. The meeting was adjourned.

Bob McMahon, Secretary

***Our Dear Friends Richard Unsworth and Frank Lynch***







Thanks go to Deb Pellec who has served as our club treasurer for the last several years. Besides keeping the books, Deb has been the keeper of our membership list. She has collected our dues. She given us our red and blue tickets for each meeting for our door prize and 50/50. We owe her a debt of gratitude. Thank you, Debbie!



**Reminder:** 2026 dues of \$20.00 should be sent to 2026 treasurer Bob Haight at 634 Hartley Place, The Villages FL 32162

**Reminder:** Our next meeting is Saturday January 3, 2026 at Riccardo's Restaurant, 11783 SE US Hwy 441, Belleview, FL 34420. 11:30 AM. **RSVP Required** to [tractorbob41@gmail.com](mailto:tractorbob41@gmail.com) by December 31, 2025.

**A Word about RSVPs:** when an event announcement requests an RSVP, it is important that you reply if you are planning to attend. Many restaurants, museums, organizations, etc. require a headcount.

Restaurants in particular can not handle 45 when Keith Myers, our activity coordinator, has projected 30. There are times when you sign up and cannot make it at the last minute. That is understandable. The opposite is much harder to accommodate. Thanks for your cooperation.

**HOFMARC History of your A series:** Thank you to Don and Debbie Pelly for sharing their Model A history. Editor's note: I would like to hear yours.

*Our Model A Journey*

*By Don and Debbie Pelley*

*Our first Model A was a 1930 red pickup truck that was advertised in the local newspaper. Don purchased it in 1993 and we promptly joined the Worcester County Model A Club in central Massachusetts. We attended some meetings, went on several tours (including ice cream runs), and found that the truck was not the most comfortable vehicle for traveling lots of miles.*

*In 1995 we traded the truck and upgraded to a 1931 Deluxe Roadster. We enjoyed that roadster and went on several lengthy tours with it throughout New England. The Worcester County Model A Club attended the New England Meet as a group every year, traveling to Maine, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey, as well as several sites*

*in eastern and western Massachusetts. We also went on 5-7-day tours with the club to Maine, northern New England and up-state New York. The roadster was a reliable, comfortable riding car. We fit our luggage and coolers for the longer trips by removing the rumble seat cushions and squeezing things in there.*

*In 2004, Don heard about a 1931 Station Wagon that had been stored in a garage since the 1980's from someone he worked with. The car had been restored in the 1970's and used for parades and special occasions. It had developed some issues, so the owner just garaged it in Maryland. We sold the roadster, bought the Station Wagon and brought it home to Massachusetts. We quickly realized why it had been garaged – the engine was having major issues.*

*We changed it out twice with engines that were said to be “good” before finally having one professionally rebuilt and broken in. The Station Wagon also needed work on the exterior wood, since it had sat in an unheated garage for 20+ years. The wood was sanded, stained and covered with 3 coats of varnish.*

*Then we were off and running, touring with the Worcester County club and joining the New Hampshire Lakes Region Model A Club when it was formed in 2014. Our Station Wagon does not have the traditional seating with the front bench seat, two jump seats and the back bench seat all the way back against the tailgate. Instead, ours just has the front bench seat and the rear bench seat that is just part way back in the vehicle, leaving a storage area behind it.*

*After we moved to Leesburg and joined HOFMARC, Don put radial tires and the new wheels on the Station Wagon and the ride improved significantly. In recent years, with Mike's help, we replaced the engine again and put in a new radiator and wiring harness. And, every 4-5 years, it's time to refresh the varnish with a coat or two. The Station Wagon is named “Termites Temptation” for a reason!*





**Your Officers and Directors Ask:** What would you like to see? This is your club. Please let us know your thoughts. Would you like more day tours? More short overnights? More tech sessions? More civic events? We would appreciate your ideas.

**Need a bit of Model A help?** Do not forget that we have a tools to share list. Bill Brum is the keeper of that list. There are also a number of people who are more than willing to help you with your Model A projects. Bob McMahon will put you in touch with those who have shown a willingness to help.

**Tech Tip:** When you do your maintenance, do not forget to oil the distributor. Henry put a small brass sleeve at the base of the distributor.

Its surface is serrated so it is easy to grasp. Gently pull it to open the sleeve. A drop or two of oil in the hole will oil the shaft.

If you have installed the cam set screw with the hole drilled through the center, put a drop of oil through that hole. Just one. Too much could foul the points. Doing this frequently will preserve the upper and lower bushings and the shaft. Do not forget a dab of lubricant, say Vasoline, on the cam while you are at it.



**Happy Birthday to Gloria Ufkes:** Model A club members were invited to Chuck and Gloria's home to celebrate.

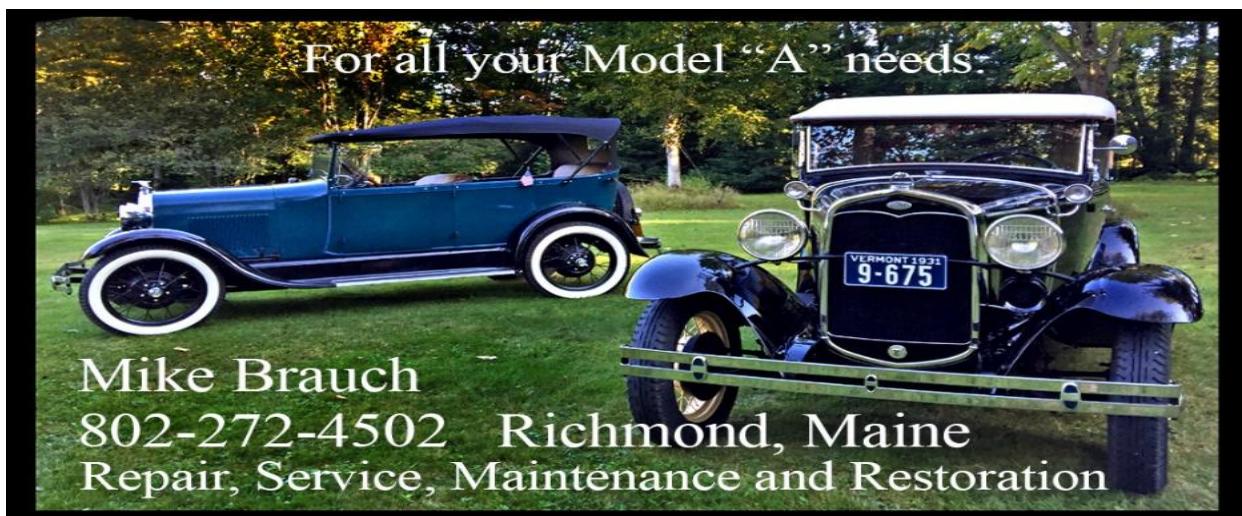


Members of the club are invited to a Celebration of Life for Richard.

Richard Unsworth November 23, 1947 – November 27, 2025.

- The memorial celebration will take place on January 2, 2026, from 3-6 PM at the Water Oak Satellite Clubhouse in Lady Lake, FL.
- 816 East Norman Street, Lady Lake, FL 32159
- Attendees are encouraged to bring a small side dish or dessert to share, alongside a light buffet provided at the event.
- Guests should confirm their attendance by contacting Mauri via email ([MauriBartley@gmail.com](mailto:MauriBartley@gmail.com)) or text (401-524-0365).

**Classifieds:** By way of the Orlando club: *John Brautcheck, tel 352-483-0733. Lives in Mt Dora and does not do email. He has a AR 28 Roadster Pickup and a 30 Roadster plus lots of parts for sale. The A's have not run for several years.* 352 483-0733



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## 1929 Model A Ford Pickup truck

Christine has her father's 1930 Model A Ford Deluxe Roadster which she drives and maintains herself. Each month she showcases Model A's that cross her path.

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**HOFMARC Membership:** Membership in HOFMARC is based on an interest in the 1928 through 1931 Ford Model “A” vehicles, including “AA” trucks. Ownership in a Ford Model “A” vehicle is encouraged but not required. We are an affiliate of both Model “A” Restorers Club (MARC) and Model “A” Ford Club of America (MAFCA).

Membership in one of these national organizations is required in the By Laws for HOFMARC Membership. Members must be approved by the HOFMARC Board of Directors. An Application for Membership must be completed, including signature and date each year. Membership is annual, January through December. Dues are \$20.00 annually, prorated for partial year membership. Potential members may attend one meeting at the invitation of a member in good standing. Non-payment of dues will result in discontinuance of privileges after the last calendar day of February of the current year. Our newsletter is shared with other Model A organizations and clubs. Classifieds: HOFMARC is not responsible for the content, accuracy, etc., or any part of any resulting inquiry, interaction, or transaction.

## 2026 Officers & Volunteers:

President Bob McMahon

VP Peter DeBisschop

Treasurer Bob Haight

Secretary Elaine Ring

Newsletter Peter DeBisschop

Activities Keith Meyers

Website Mauri Anne Bartley

Hospitality Coordinator Bob Patterson

Historian Elaine Ring

Photographer Bill Brum

Tour Coordinator Bill Brum

Tech advisors Mike Brauch Karl Weinert Bill Brum

Board members Keith Myers Bob Patterson Bill Brum