

PINE TREE CHATTER



OCTOBER 2025

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 10

WWW.MAINEMODELAFORDCLUB.COM

UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

October - Brackett's
Orchard Fall Tour

October 7 - October
10, Eastern Fall Meet
- Hershey, PA.

No Meeting in October

December - Annual
Christmas party - TBD

Meetings held on the
2nd Saturday of the
month at the
Kennebunk Baptist
Church, 77 Main St,
Kennebunk, ME

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DRIVER'S SEAT

I missed the September meeting because Linda and I were at the 68th Annual New England Model A Meet in Boxborough, Massachusetts. The New England meets have become almost “can’t miss” events for us. We enjoy exploring locations we might not otherwise visit and spending a



**JOHN BRISSETTE
PRESIDENT**

long weekend with fellow hobbyists from around the region. So far we have driven a Model A to all the New England meets we’ve attended, although trailering is always an option. Planning a route along back roads, then following that route is an integral and fun part of the adventure for us.

This year the meet was hosted by the Minuteman Model A Ford Club with the theme, “A Scenic Drive in ’25”. They did a fantastic job! There were a total of 156 registrations, or about 280 people. They represented 17 clubs from the New England states, New York and New Jersey. The meet also attracted folks from as far away as Virginia and Pennsylvania. The Grand Tour on Saturday included 120 Model A’s representing almost every body style. The tour really was a scenic drive around the Wachusett Reservoir, one of the oldest reservoirs developed as a source for public drinking water in the country. The tour ended in Lancaster, Massachusetts at Kimball’s Grill and Ice Cream where peer judging took place.

Several cars belonging to Pine Tree members won awards in their classes. Mike Brauch’s 1930 Town Sedan won first place in the 1930 closed class. The car was his father’s and Mike has lovingly restored it. Don Urbanik’s 1931 Coupe won second place in the 1931 Closed class (the 1930-31 Closed class is always the largest so this year it was split).

Christine MacKenzie's 1930 Deluxe Roadster won third in the 1930-31 Open class. A number of cars belonging to "Friends of the Pine Tree Club" also garnered awards. Luis Leite's 1929 Town Car (yes, Town Car, not Town Sedan) won first place in the 1928-29 closed car class. Newton Wells' 1928 Phaeton won first in the 1928-29 Open class. Mike Brauch restored that car a few years ago. Newt is a professional DJ and provided the entertainment on Friday night. He had lots of folks on the dance floor!

Speaking of entertainment, Saturday night featured an early Beatles cover band that was excellent. Other traditional aspects of the New England meet were also excellent, including the raffle room, Hubley races, and self-guided tours for those who arrive early. Many of us went to the Minute Man National Historical Park, which includes the route between Lexington and Concord and Old North Bridge, where the American Revolution began 250 years ago. Next year the New England Meet will be hosted by the Worcester County Model A Club, September 17-20 at the historic Wellsworth Hotel in Southbridge, Massachusetts. It is not too early to book your hotel room, we have!



NATE HOWELL
SECRETARY

Pine Tree Model A's Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2025

Call to Order

- Doc Hannaford will be sitting in for club president Doc Hannaford, as John Brissette and others are off at the New England Meet.
- Doc delivered a brief introduction.

New Business

- Several possible locations for the annual Christmas party:
 - Salmon Hills, Hollis
 - Bistro, Alfred
 - Run of the Mill, Biddeford
- We should consider a committee to continue planning.

- Bracketts Orchard Tour

- Doc called to check in on a possible tour date, but didn't get any further.
- The tour should occur before the next meeting.

- Post-Meeting Lunch

- Several members went out to lunch after the last meeting and plan to do so again.
Should this be a routine?

Touring

- Members noted that it is difficult to meet for tours with everyone living so far apart.
 - Satellite tours could be good for local people.
- It was noted that short tours tend to be easier and more desirable.
- We should consider organizations that we could help and share history such as the summer camp.
- Gil and Barbara's local Trunk or Treat in Raymond gets over 800 students a year.
They would greatly appreciate help for that event.
 - Fall Clinic
 - Could cover winterization techniques.
 - Could be combined with a tour.

- It was mentioned that we should consider making an inventory of specialty repair tools such as pullers and reamers. These tools are expensive and typically only needed once for an individual car. Some documentation of who has these tools has existed in the past.

Secretary's Report/Treasurer's Report

- Motion made by Pam to accept as posted, seconded by Ernie.

Adjournment

- Motion made by Doc to adjourn, seconded by Ernie.

Successful Model 'A' clubs have one common ingredient. They have members that will plan events and volunteer to assist in running the organization.

It's a necessary ingredient.

For all your Model "A" needs:

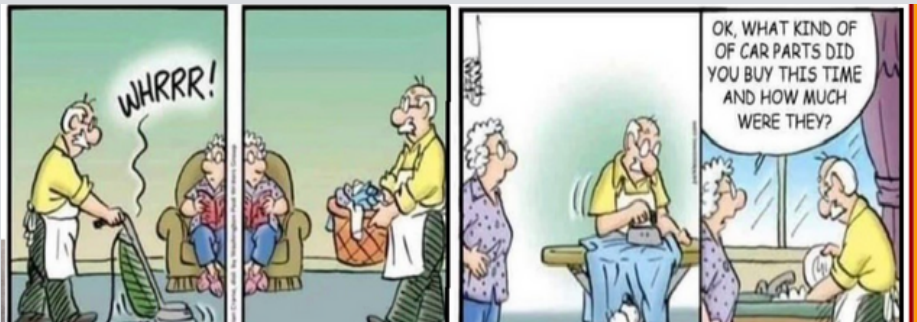


Mike Brauch
802-272-4502 Richmond, Maine
Repair, Service, Maintenance and Restoration

Mike has original "A" parts for sale



At the November meeting, ballots for the Outstanding Member for 2025 will be collected. If you are not going to be there, let either Doc or John B know who you want to vote for. We need your votes by November 10. **Remember, NO** meeting in October.



Specializing in Ford
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Ryan Thibeault
Owner

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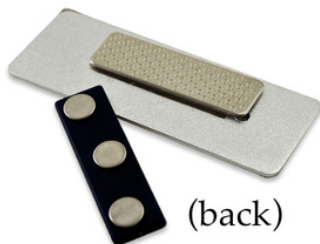
First - Last name

Name tags are aluminum
with magnetic backing.

1-1/4"H x 3"W

\$7.00

Contact Christine if you'd like one; 207-725-9499



**The Pine Tree Model A Ford Club
annual dues of \$20 are due.
Please mail dues to:**



Pine Tree Model A Ford Club
Chris Howell,
48 Old Farm Road,
Cumberland, ME 04021



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PRESENTING THE FLAPPER OF THE MONTH AND HER BOYFRIEND



Don Urbanik and Kristin Edwards

**Don - What town were you born in? When did you move to
Maine?**

I was born in New London, CT and Kristin was born in Glenridge,
NJ. I was raised in Salem, CT and Kristin was raised in
Rowayton, CT. We moved to Maine in 2019

Don - When did you meet? Any interesting story to go with it?

Both of our spouses had passed away. Kristin was a Customer
Service Rep. at the local bank. I asked her if she would like to
go for a ride in my Model A and we went to the Land & Sea
event at the Mystic Seaport in Mystic, CT. And here we are 14
years later.

Don - When did you get into Model A's?

I was never a big car guy when I was young. I learned to drive on the family car - a 1940 Ford sedan. I drove the family car when I could get it while I was in High School. I went in the Air Force right after graduation, so I didn't get my own car until 4 years later when I was 22. But for some unknown reason, I always wanted a Model A. In the mid 1980's a fellow at work wanted to sell his Model A. It was a basket case, and I guess he ran out of time, money, and ambition.

My boss at work had a Model A and he convinced me to buy it. It sat in my garage until I retired in the late 90's. With family, work, money, etc. I didn't do much with it except for small, benchwork items. When I retired, I decided I wasn't going to live forever so I had to either restore it or sell it. I decided to restore it and it took about 6 years. I put it on the road after a complete restoration in 2003 and drove it to the MARC National Meet in Dearborn, MI. That was my goal to complete the restoration since 2003 was the 100th anniversary of Ford Motor Company. My dad went with me - he was 92. It is a 1931 Deluxe Coupe and currently has over 32,000 miles since restoration.

Kristin - Any car related stories.

I would like a Woody Station Wagon with a surfboard on top. I am now taking Model A Driving Lessons 101.

Don - In previous lives what did you do for work?

I went back to school after the Air Force and became a licensed aircraft mechanic. Worked in commercial aviation and then full time with Army National Guard as an aircraft mechanic and then became a government quality assurance inspector.

Kristin - Same question

I worked in a local bank in operations as data entry operator for 9 years. Then worked in retail banking as customer service rep and assistant manager for 39 years.

Don/Kristin How many years have you been in our club?

We moved to Maine from CT in late 2019 and joined Pine Tree A's.

Together, we have enjoyed many New England Meets, day trips, and overnight trips throughout New England with the Model A.

Editor's Note: I wonder what the big draw was when Kristin went to the Land & Sea event with Don? Was it a date with Don or a ride in the Model A?



Don and Kristin at the 2024 New England Model A Meet.
Not in front of their Coupe.

BACK SEAT DRIVER



**FRANK KENNEDY
EDITOR**

Just got back from the NE Model A Meet in Massachusetts. The weather was fine for the four days, the company was great and most importantly, we had no breakdowns. I took a few pictures... see page 14. *There will be no club meeting on October 11. The church has an event planned for that day.

Mike's "A" Ford-able Parts
Mike Butcher 

124 Model A Drive, Maysville, GA 30558
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Specialising in 1928 - 1931 Model A Ford Parts

Sleeping comes so naturally to me, I could do it with my eyes closed.

TIME MACHINE



Thanks to the Sept. 2025 The Distributor



What happens when Old Car Guys get sent to a nursing home ...



68TH ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND MODEL A MEET

Still coming off the high from the New England Meet in Boxborough, Massachusetts. The Brissettes found a nice easy route for the five A's and Luis' trailer to follow. Christine and Mike drove 470 miles round trip. Kathie and I drove 300 miles over the four days. Don Urbanik and Kristin Edwards came down with us.



Carl and Ronin brought their '29 Pickup.

For more photos go to... <https://frank-kennedy.smugmug.com/Annual-New-England-Model-A-Meets/68th-Annual-New-England-Model-A-Meet-September-2025>





68TH ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND MODEL A MEET

Mike's daughter met us at the meet. Jack, Jo and Beau trailered their Fordor.



68TH ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND MODEL A MEET



**I SUSPECT MOST
OF THE
ATTENDEES HAD
"A" GREAT TIME!**





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Please detach and retain bottom portion for your records.

Thanks for Supporting our club.

Check # _____ Amount -- \$ _____ Date: _____

To sign up - please contact
Carl Sneirson at 603-534-1933

Jim's Tech Tip by Jim Cannon, MAFCA

Check Your Oil Filler Pipe and Cap



Many Model A owners experience excessive oil leaks when driving their car, often out the rear main seal. One simple thing that can cause this is a restriction in the oil filler pipe. Take the cap off and look down the pipe with a good light. You should only see a series of little metal baffles, half-moon in shape, inside the filler pipe. If you find where someone has covered the pipe with a sock, or stuffed a piece of cloth down in the filler pipe to stop oil from coming out the filler when driving, this will put pressure inside the crankcase and force oil out the rear main seal while you drive. Easy to fix: get that stuff out of there!

While you have it off, also inspect the inside of the oil filler cap. It, too, needs to be clear inside. No pieces of steel wool, pot scrubber, or old sock in the cap! Look for evidence of someone accidentally pushing the oil filler cap on too far. When you do, you bend the little tabs inside the cap and mash it all the way down on the pipe. This blocks the engine's ability to vent the crankcase, builds up pressure, and causes a bad leak out the rear main seal.

I hope this little tip helps you stop that oil leak while driving. Have a Model A Day!

Jim

Ignition Coil trouble shooting

First, what is an ignition coil? Your Ford A ignition coil is part of the ignition system. The ignition coil "converts" the voltage in the system from the 6 volts on your battery to approximately 24,000 volts. When you turn the ignition key, the ignition coil sends 24,000 volts of high voltage to the distributor which in turn sends it to the spark plugs which create a spark that ignites compressed gasoline vapor in the combustion chamber and, if your distributor is properly adjusted, starts the engine.

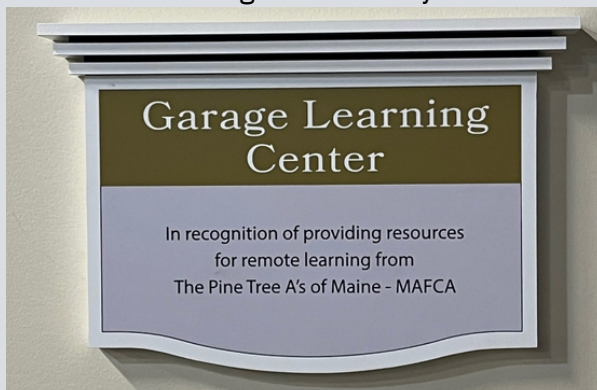
If your engine is having trouble starting, or is running poorly, a bad ignition coil is a possible cause of the problem.

How do you test your ignition coil? With the ignition off, you can use a "multitester" and its ohms function to check the resistance across the coil terminals. (poles) Connect a test lead on your multi-tester to each of the terminals and read the resistance. On a 6V coil, you should read between 1.43 and 1.58 ohms of resistance. If you read zero resistance, you have a short in the coil and it is not working. If you read infinite resistance, there is a break in the windings and the coil is not working and needs to be replaced. Replace with a new approved unit. Take a new ignition coil with you when you are on a long trip, because if the ignition coil breaks on the trip, it won't help to have a new one on a shelf at home in your garage.

Thanks to Vamdrup Ford A Club

MAFFI UPDATE

A few months ago our membership voted to approve a major donation of \$20,000 to the MAFFI Museum for construction of a learning center garage with a four post lift as an interactive display for performing work on the Model A. Pine Tree A's would have exclusive sponsorship of this project. The garage is now finished and was available for viewing at MAFFI days.



Here are two photos, one of the plaque recognizing Pine Tree's donation and the other one showing the supersized TV which is part of the equipment purchased with the donation. You can't see the audio system that is also part of the package. The museum made a special note during the ribbon cutting that the learning center audio/visual was provided by the Pine Tree club.

Shannon King from the Pine Tree A's was in the audience and was recognized and thanked by all.





Pine Tree Model A Ford Club



Membership Application

The purpose of our club is to serve as a medium for exchange of ideas, information, and parts, for admirers of the Model A Ford and to aid them in their efforts to restore and preserve the car into its original likeness.

Name:	
Spouse's Name:	
Street Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
email:	
Land Line:	Cell:
Optional Info:	
Classic Car Make, Model, Year & Body Style:	
MAFCA Member #:	Exp Date:
MARC Member #:	Exp Date:
Will you be attending any Regional or National events this year? If so, where:	
<i>By joining the Pine Tree Model A Ford Club, I agree to the Club's by-laws and by-laws of the Model A Ford Club of America.</i>	
Signature:	Date:

For New members. Please mail this form and dues to:

**Pine Tree Model A Ford
Club % Pamela Trafton
P.O. Box 206 Cape
Neddick, ME. 03902
pam.trafton1@gmail.com**

CLASSIFIEDS



1929 Ford Model A Cowl in excellent condition. \$950

Bill - 781-665-2024



Antique haul cart box with a very nice patina. Would make a great addition for a Model A cut down tractor. Very solid wood and all the iron supports and hinges are there which is very unusual. \$850 - Bill 781-665-2024

Very solid wood and all the iron supports and hinges are there which is very unusual. \$850 - Bill 781-665-2024



CLASSIFIEDS



1929 Ford roadster. Restoration by a school teacher and his Dad. \$12,500 dollars delivered within reason. Jump in and go and then save it for your children's or grandchildren's wedding. What a nice heirloom this could create for your family. Call Carl 1-603-534-1933



1933 Ford Roadster, recent \$14,000 paint job,
Carl 1-603-534-1933

The "Pine Tree Model A Club" accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of any statements, the fairness of any prices, or the quality of any goods or services mentioned in the "Pine Tree Model A Newsletter."

Comments are welcomed and encouraged and should be addressed to

Gil Brown, President, Pine Tree Model A's, at browngil.barb@gmail.com
207-655-7221



Pine Tree A's has spared no expense to enhance your ability to have our monthly meetings come to your home.

Please feel free to share the following zoom link with other club members with computers. <https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/85459652642> The link will be accessible by the group for any meetings moving forward. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If anyone knows of someone who feels stuck in a rut or who needs a pick-me-up,

please Contact Sandy Harris
sandrash@maine.rr.com

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.

