

PINE TREE CHATTER

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**

January 2026

Volume 18, Issue 1

1

WWW.MAINEMODELAFORDCLUB.COM

UPCOMING EVENTS 2026

PRESIDENT

John Brissette

john.brissette@icloud.com
603-491-2580

January 10, 2026 -
Regular meeting at the
church in Kennebunk

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

April 24, 2026 Annual
Dust Off in
Sanborntonville, NH

May 29-31, 2026 -
Tebo's Barn Vintage
Car Tour see page 17
for details.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Doc Hannaford

rhannaford@maine.rr.com

SECRETARY

Nate Howell

natethowell@gmail.com

TREASURER

Chris Howell

howellchris70@gmail.com

ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE

Carl Sneirson

603-534-1933

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Frank Kennedy

wirewheels31@gmail.com



DRIVER'S SEAT

Happy New Year! I hope you and your families had a safe and joyful holiday season and wish you a healthy and happy 2026. Thanks to all who attended our annual Christmas party at the Oak Street Bistro in Alfred.

We had a good turnout, the restaurant even had to add an additional table to accommodate all of us. There were lots of smiles to go around and pleasant conversations, not always about Model As. As the saying goes, “the cars bring us together but we stay for the people.”

One of our nicest club traditions is naming the Outstanding Member of the Year at the Christmas party. Since the election is by secret ballot, it is always a surprise for the recipient as well as the rest of the membership. Our Outstanding Member for 2025 is Barbara Brown! Barbara supported the club in so many ways throughout the year. She was largely responsible for the breakfasts at club meetings during the winter and attended just about all the club events. She just didn't attend them, usually she contributed in ways that added to our enjoyment of those events. While she wasn't very vocal, her efforts were noticed and appreciated. Congratulations Barbara on this well deserved recognition!



**JOHN BRISSETTE
PRESIDENT**

About a week before the party I got a call from Doug Linden of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA). Doug is currently the president of MAFCA but last year he was the Chapter Coordinator. He called to tell me that at the recent Board of Directors Meeting, Frank Kennedy was recognized for his efforts as our newsletter editor with a “2025 Newsletter of Merit” award. Doug mailed me a certificate to present to Frank at the party; it arrived just the day before! The citation reads “Frank Kennedy is hereby presented this Award for Extraordinary Achievement in the publication of this superior newsletter.” Congratulations Frank! I think all of us in the Pine Tree Club heatedly agree with the MAFCA board.

I am going to round out this Driver’s Seat column with some thoughts I’ve been saving for a couple of months. When we drive more than a few hours, Linda and I share driving duties. When not driving I’m content to have a conversation or watch the scenery go by but Linda likes to catch up on reading magazines. Such was the case on a trip to Connecticut last fall. She was reading the June/July issue of The AARP magazine (if you get it, it is the one with Rod Stewart on the cover). She read me a short piece by the humorist Dave Berry entitled “You Can’t Dance with a Smartphone.” It got me thinking about the New England Model A meets. The article starts out, “... I’ve noticed one difference between my generation and Gen Zers that makes me sad for them, because I think they’re missing out on one of the great joys in life: dancing.” He goes on writing about wedding receptions he has been to: “Once the traditional first dance has been dispensed with, the band or DJ starts playing music intended to lure people onto the dance floor....

For a few moments the floor is empty. Then one brave pioneer couple will make their way out there...often it consists of me and my wife. Soon we're joined by other older couples. Before long the dance floor is full and almost everyone on it is either receiving, or will soon be receiving, Social Security benefits. That is a great description of what happens on Friday and Saturday nights at New England meets! Not everybody that goes to the meets is a "senior citizen," but the vast majority of the dancers are. In the article Berry names several dances from his youth (that would be the 1960s by my recollection of the dances) but concludes: "...most likely, we're doing some random, mutant, free-form mixture of all these and other dances from the distant past. Call it the Boomer Gyration.

We're not all graceful; we don't always look pretty out there. Some of us look ridiculous. But we don't care what we look like: We're having fun." That is certainly true of the dancing at New England meets! Linda is a good dancer. When she was a child her parents hosted parties that always included music and dancing so she learned at an early age. I didn't learn to dance until high school. I'm sure I look pretty goofy out there now but Linda doesn't mind and I think she probably makes us look good as a couple. From our club Christine MacKenzie and Mike Brauch are also regulars on the dance floor. They are younger so maybe they are the exception that proves the rule.

But Dave Berry's observation holds pretty true—younger folks "... will occasionally glance up from their phones and look at us dancers with an expression of wonderment. But it's not an admiring wonderment. It's more like, I wonder what in the world those old people think they're doing." As he wrote: "We're having fun."

So, let's plan on having some fun in 2026, whether on a dance floor or just driving our Model As!



Take care and drive safely.

John

Old Business

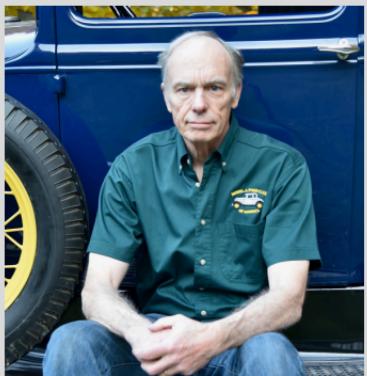
- No meeting took place last month as we were at the Christmas party.

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.



BACK SEAT DRIVER



**FRANK KENNEDY
EDITOR**

* I believe we all had a nice time at the Christmas party last month. It was nice to see familiar faces. Let's do it more often. I introduced my license plate lotto game to the gang. Once we got the hang of it, it was fun. The big winners were Beau and Nate who left with a third guy - Moe Money.

* Check out page 14-15 for pictures of the Christmas party. * Carl will be doing his *Show and Tell* this coming Saturday. Come and learn something about your A. See deets on page 20.

Happy New Year to all!

Mike's "A" Ford-able Parts

Mike Butcher

124 Model A Drive, Maysville, GA 30558
email: mike@mikes-affordable.com - www.mikes-affordable.com
Fax: 706 652 2492 - Phone: 706 652 3866
1 888 TRY MIKE (879 6453)



Specialising in 1928 - 1931 Model A Ford Parts

I always wondered if vegetarians can eat animal crackers.

Sharing Tools

The Pine Tree Model A Ford Club is looking to create a Model A tool network, where members can find and use tools to repair/restore their Model A's.

The idea is to catalog specialty tools that are available for short term use as agreed between the tool owner and a member in need.

The club hopes to compile a list of tools and tool owners that are willing to share.

Do you have any Model A tools you are willing to share?

I am seeking the following information: the tool(s) that you will allow to be borrowed, your name, address, phone number, and email and information about the tool you want to share. Once I have a list of tools and owners we can create a list of tools and owners to share throughout the club.

Please email or text information to rkkilroy@gmail.com.

Phone 207-491-1068

Thank you for your interest

Rod Koehn



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



OUTSTANDING MEMBER OF THE YEAR

As John said earlier, Barbara has supported the club over the years and in many ways. The club realized those efforts and wanted to thank her.



Mike and Christine celebrating the New Year



Christine still celebrating at Midnight





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



(back)

The Pine Tree Model A Ford Club annual dues of \$20 are due. If you have not paid, please mail dues to:

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



TAM'S MODEL "A" PARTS
42 TEMPLE STREET
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

Tel: (508) 835-9292
(800) A-PARTS-1
Fax: (508) 835-9199

www.modelaparts.com
email: tamsforda@aol.com

The Model A Restorers Club, Inc.

THE running BOARD REPORT

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

January 2026

MARC's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that our completely restored website is alive at ModelARestorersClub.org (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.

As 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.

Regions, 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, 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*!

Circle 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 are available to download at modelarestorersclub.org. Plan to enter your Model "A" in the judging!





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
Nedick, ME. 03902
pam.trafton1@gmail.com**

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2025





Here are some vintage ads. I am curious if we need the lock device as no kid today knows how to start an A or shift the gears once they started it.

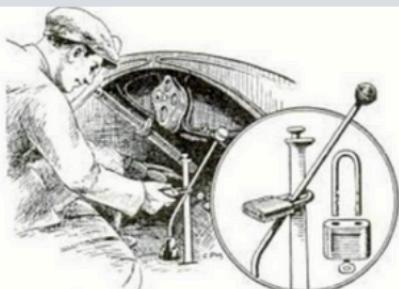


A specially designed Ford accessory that has already gained national popularity! One of the very few products that dealers can merchandise with the new Ford...an extra profit on almost every car sale. Hubbard Ventilating-Eaves give a smart appearance and make possible a new riding comfort that eliminates all disagreeable drafts. Quality in keeping with the outstanding smartness of the new Ford Car.

Hubbard Ventilating-Eaves are made of the very best materials with solid construction throughout. They are furnished in either solid or transparent colored glass to harmonize with Ford color schemes and to serve as protection against the sun rays or bright lights. Once installed they become a permanent, built-in, ornamental and practical device for greater driving comfort. One size fits doors of the Tudor Sedan, and all coupes.

WRITE TODAY!—A request will bring full information on this outstanding accessory. Don't neglect this opportunity to render a profitable service.

Made by
HUBBARD
PRODUCTS CO.
KOKOMO, INDIANA

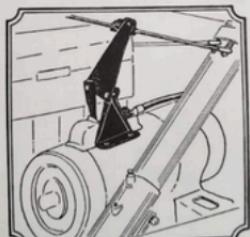


Easy Method of Locking Gear-Shift and Brake Lever on Model-A Ford

Gear-Shift Lever Locked in Neutral

Owners of model-A Fords can lock the transmission in neutral by lifting the gear-shift lever out of its socket and swinging it across the brake lever, which is pulled back to braking position. A padlock of the type shown in the detail is then slipped around the gear-shift and brake levers.

An advertisement for Quaker State Motor Oil. It features a black and white photograph of a Ford Model A car driving on a road. To the left, a sign reads "QUAKER STATE MOTOR OIL". To the right, a sign reads "The Oil for Your New FORD". Below the car, the text says "Your New Ford Should Have This Oil....". At the bottom, it says "LEADING FORD DEALERS ENDORSE QUAKER STATE QUALITIES".



Installed in 10 Minutes—Using Ford Switch
July, 1930

A little automotive history



In 1913, Gulf Refining Co. opened the nation's first drive-up gasoline service station in Pittsburgh, Pa. Although invitations were sent to all automobile owners in the neighborhood, opening-day sales on Dec. 1 amounted to just 30 gallons, at 27 cents each. By the first Saturday, however, the word had spread: Gulf sold over 350 gallons that day. This first drive-up station changed the concept of gasoline marketing and established a style of station operation for years to come. The station was the first to offer free crankcase service, free air and water, and free installation of tires and tubes when purchased there; and it made its employee restrooms available to motorists. A marker noting the station's historic significance was recently placed at the site where the station once stood.

Thanks to Harbor Area Model A Club



Thanks to The Jefferson Motorcar Gazette

CLASSIFIEDS

For sale-Model A truck bed, sandblasted and primed ready for paint, small bed includes wood, slats and hardware to attach to frame \$2,000.00 Carl 1-603-534-1933



Rider Education Class

In the early part of the 20th Century, this class in Brooklyn High School, taught the students the proper way to safely get aboard a moving trolley car. The training cart is pushed along by students at the back of the wheeled machine, while other students learn the correct way to grab the railing and the proper placement of the outside leg on the running board.

At the time, it was stated categorically that this mode of transportation was "the best form of local transportation ever devised by the hand of man."

Thanks to the Utah Valley Model A Club

John and Carl would like to remind all that after our Saturday meeting, we will be going for lunch locally.

Please join us.

Tiny Tip ... Cold Weather and Batteries

When adding water to a battery in cold weather, the engine should be run at a charging speed for at least 5 minutes after the water has been added. This will ensure that the water mixes with the electrolyte. (As seen in the 'Script A News')

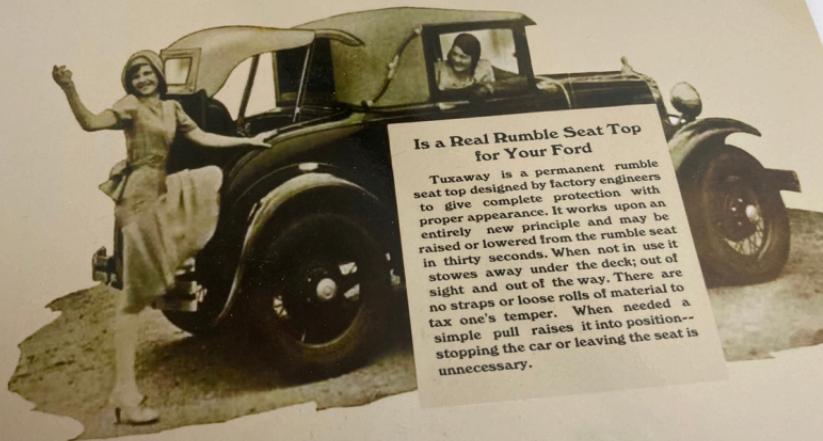


MAFCA AWARD

At the Christmas party, yours truly received a nice surprise. John announced that I had won the 2025 Newsletter of Merit award from MAFCA. That was nice. I do enjoy putting each issue together every month for the gang. Feel free to send me articles and pictures that you want me to share.



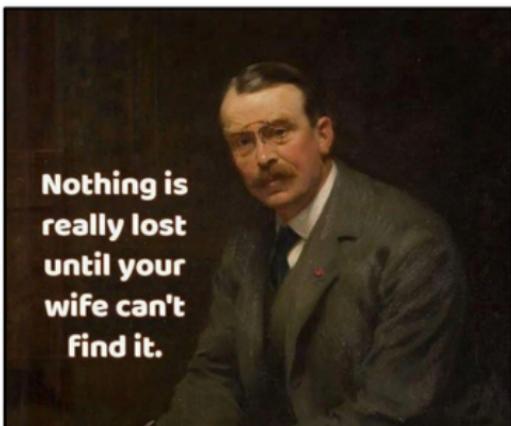
Here Boys!



Is a Real Rumble Seat Top for Your Ford

Tuxaway is a permanent rumble seat top designed by factory engineers to give complete protection with proper appearance. It works upon an entirely new principle and may be raised or lowered from the rumble seat in thirty seconds. When not in use it stows away under the deck; out of sight and out of the way. There are no straps or loose rolls of material to tax one's temper. When needed a simple pull raises it into position—stopping the car or leaving the seat is unnecessary.

Our boy Carl will be educating us on Tuxaway, a removable top for your rumble seat at the next meeting. Of course, he has one to bring. He will also talk about troubleshooting a Model A that does not start.



MAFFI Minute

December 2025



Happy Holiday Season, Model A'ers! 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.

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 the Grape Country A's. If you visit the "Cameras" tab on 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

HAPPY NEW YEAR

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH NEW



**THE PINE TREE A'S WISH
ALL OF YOU A GREAT YEAR
AND HAPPY TRAILS.**