



Columbia Crier

A Publication of the Columbia Basin
Model A Club

Tri-Cities, Washington

Volume 56, Issue 1
January 2026

Inside Features:

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Meeting Location:

January 8, 9:00 a.m.
West Richland Golf Course
4000 Fallon Drive
West Richland, WA

<www.cbmac1.com>

"If it's a nice day, drive your A"



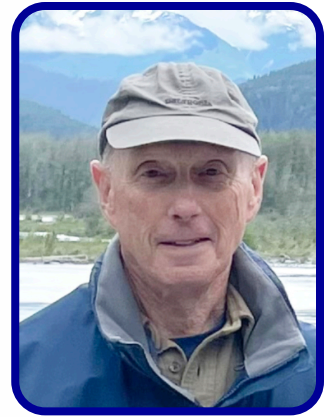
Bob Daily and his nephew, Eddie Bratvold, stopped at U-Pull-It Auto Parts in Finley, Washington...but couldn't find any parts for Bob's Model A Ford.



Leadership

President;	Jan Jackson	420-4361
Vice President:	Rick Budzeck	727-7390
Secretary:	Sharon Hauck	783-1444
Treasurer:	Bruce Clark	378-9260
Historian:	Tom Eldhardt	308-7039
Sunshine;	Janet Budzeck	943-2522
Editor:	Jan Jackson	420-4361
Webmaster:	Mark Forcum (503)	866-0747
NWRG Rep	Tom Eldhardt	308-7039
Restorer:	Robin Eldhardt	308-6370
Correspondence	Mara Jackson	420-4361

*Jan's
Gems*



Happy New Year!
2026 is going to be a busy year for our club and for the Northwest Regional Model A Group with the 2026 MAFCA National Convention

in Pendleton, Oregon. As I've stated before, our club is playing a pivotal role in this convention. We will be helping with the registration as a club and I am working with the national committee very closely. If you go to the national website, which by the way, was produced by Happy Begg; you'll find the schedule and early bird newsletters that may look familiar to you. Happy is the MAFCA VP and our liaison for the convention. She's been a big help!

January kicks off the new year with the addition of Rick Budzeck as our VP and coordinator for touring. Rick's charge isn't to come up with all of the tours, but to coordinate the tours that you, our membership, have earmarked for a potential tour. So, start thinking about where you'd like to tour, see and eat this coming year. If you have our 50th Year booklet you will find all of the tours we've ever taken and may gain some inspiration for planning your own tour.

Again, welcome to 2026, let's make it another banner year!

Jan Jackson

Meeting Schedule

January	Breakfast at the Golf Course
February	Valentines @ Jzyk's
March	Bruce & Shelley Clark
April	Mark & Teresa Forcum Clubhouse
May	Mary Fraser
June	Tom & Robin Eldhardt

Calendar of Events

Breakfast at the Golf Club	Jan 8th
Wine & Chocolate	Feb 12th

January

Birthdays

Beth Eldhardt	16th
Shelley Clark	20th
Mike Jzyk	21st
Mary Fraser	22nd

Anniversaries

Jan & Mara Jackson	31st
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Dues are Due

Dues are only \$20/family or \$10/individual again this year. Please mail your checks to Bruce Clark, our club treasurer, at 783 S. Pittsburgh Street, Kennewick, WA 99336. If you have any questions please call Bruce at (509) 378-9260.

Ladies Lunch

The ladies lunch will not be held in January. Please put some thought into where you'd like to meet in 2026. Also, does the first Tuesday of every month work for you? Let Mary know by January 16 at (509) 946-9850 or via email at mary.fraser222@gmail.com. After your input is received, Mary will share the comments with the ladies group. Thank you.

Christmas Brunch

Our annual Christmas Brunch and gift exchange was well attended and happened on December 13th. We ate breakfast followed by a quick meeting.

The highlight of the meeting was presenting John Trumbo with a plaque from MAFCA. It was the MAFCA President's Literary Award for an article John wrote titled, "When a Close Encounter with the Radiator Isn't the Fault of the Fan."

The election of officers took place and the slate of officers was approved by the club.

After the meeting a lively gift exchange ensued with Bev McGillicuddy holding ticket #1. Her gift was taken by Linda Jzyk so Bev selected another gift. At the end Bev was happy with her second gift and the exchange and meeting were over.

Thanks to everyone who attended, which was almost everyone in the club, and thanks to Teresa Forcum for setting up and coordinating the event.

Submitted by JanJackson

Top Photo: Jan is presenting John Trumbo with the MAFCA President's Literary Award.

Middle Photo: Rick Budzeck kicking off the gift exchange.

Bottom Photo: Bev McGillicuddy is first up during the gift exchange.



Lighted Model A Parade

It was a dark and dreary night when Eldhardt and Jacksons decorated their Model A's in an effort to spread joy to the Queensgate shoppers who don't own Model A Fords.

We met across from the Les Schwab store which is when I discovered we had a lighting malfunction. Two of our strands of lights had mysteriously quit working. I immediately went to work trying to mitigate the issues, but unfortunately didn't resolve any of the problems; in fact when I opened up one of the controllers a spring that held the battery fell out. No problem, we just started weaving our way through Queensgate, spreading joy and happiness, until we arrived at Bob's Burgers and Brews. Eldhardt invited their friends Jeff & Ruth Sorensen and William & Carol Valdez and Marshall & Sharon Hauck met us at Bob's. When I got back home I found that the other controller's pigtail had separated from the main string of lights. Did I throw the lights away? No way, I cut and soldered another spring into place and crimped the wires back together so next year I'm sure they'll work perfectly.

Submitted by Jan Jackson



Happy New Year!



What Causes That To Happen?

We think that our perfect Model A should be running smoothly and not rattle.

PROBLEM – CAR/TRUCK ROUGH RIDING – The vehicle rides fairly smoothly on paved roads, but seems to be riding rather roughly on bumpy roads or when you hit a bump or dip in the roadway. People are briskly bounced around and just steering the vehicle becomes a task.

NORMAL SETUP – There are two main parts of the suspension for a car/pickup truck. The lower section consists of the Front Axle & Spring Perches, the Rear Axle Housings & Spring Perches, and the four Wheels/Tires. The upper section consists of the Frame, Radiator, Engine, Transmission, Steering and Body.

The connection between these two sections is maintained by the Front and Rear Shackles. The Front Shackles are positioned between the Front Spring eyes and the Front Spring Perches. The Rear Shackles are positioned between the Rear Spring eyes and the Spring Perches that are welded to the Rear Axle Housings.

The Springs are under tension and the Spring eyes must be spread apart to install and remove the shackles from between the lower and upper sections. This allows the upper section to flex up and down when needed to smooth out the ride. When the Springs become weakened the Spring eyes will settle down close to the top of the Front Axle or the Rear Axle Housing and the ride will become rougher.

FIX – The Springs may need to be replaced with new Springs with the proper arch. Sometimes they can be re-arched by disassembling the Spring leaves, bending each leaf to the correct arch and then reassembling the Spring. When properly assembled the Spring eye should NOT touch either the Front Axle or the rear Axle Housing, and the upper section should be able to be moved up and down fairly easily to demonstrate its flexibility.

CAUTION: Taking the Springs apart and reassembling them is very DANGEROUS as the leaves are under a very high tension. The bolts used to hold the leaves together are sometimes already broken or badly corroded and the leaves are known to fly apart during disassembly.

Submitted by Tom Eldhardt



Knowing Your Model A True or False

Each month we endeavor to ask a few questions to see if you are aware of the parts on your Model A and just maybe how they work. I hope you find this month's questions and answers both interesting and thought provoking.

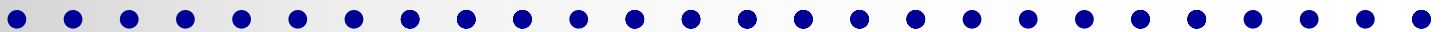
QUESTIONS

1. All of the forged tools supplied by Ford with each vehicle were either made by Ford or by Moore Drop Forging Co.
2. Each Wheel has 30 of 1/4" diameter welded in-place spokes that are ran from the outer dropped center rim to the inner hub housing. There are 15 long and 15 shorter spokes.
3. The outer rim of a Wheel is made by forming/bending a metal flat bar into a circle and welding the two ends together (butt welding).
4. Prior to June 1930 all wheel rims were dipped into a gloss Black enamel. Wheels after June 1930 could be factory ordered, as an accessory upgrade, in a color matching the pin striping, unless the vehicle already came with the rims painted as standard equipment.
5. Tires supplied from the Ford factory were either from Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. or from Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

ANSWERS

1. False – Forged tools for the Model A Ford were produced by: Moore Drop Forging Co., Barcalo Mfg. Co., Keystone, Michigan Steel Tube Products, McKaig-Hatch Inc., Manzel Forge and Herbrand.
2. False - Each Wheel has 30 of 1/4" diameter welded in-place spokes that are ran from the outer dropped center rim to the inner hub housing. There are 10 long and 20 shorter spokes.
3. True – The outer rim of a Wheel is made by forming/bending a metal flat bar into a circle and welding the two ends together (butt welding).
4. True – Prior to June 1930 all wheel rims were dipped into a gloss Black enamel. Wheels after June 1930 could be factory ordered, as an accessory upgrade, in a color matching the pin striping, unless the vehicle already came with the rims painted as standard equipment.
5. False – Tires came from Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., United States Rubber Co., B.F. Goodrich Co., Ajax, and from Fisk.

Submitted by Tom Eldhardt



The Iconic Snap-Brim Fedora Hat

The following article was written by Anne Neely-Beck, Era Fashions Committee Chair, Milledgeville, GA:

<https://mafca.com/the-iconic-snap-brim-fedora-hat/>

(Article obtained from the MAFCA website)



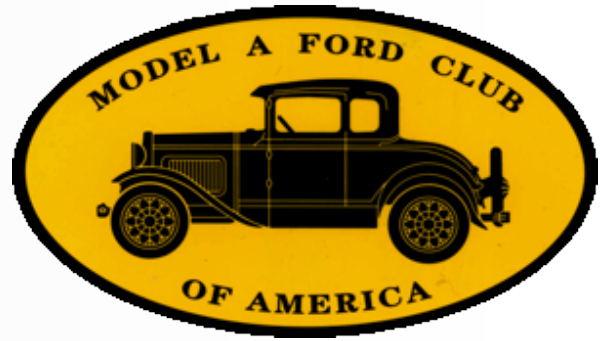
MAFCA News

I am pleased to report that at the last MAFCA board meeting petitions for two new chapters and one Special Interest Group (SIG) were approved. We are happy to welcome these three to MAFCA:

- Script A's Club Ford Model A of Michigan
- Crankin A's of Daytona
- Burtz Engine SIG

We look forward to having these new chapters/SIG as part of the MAFCA family. I would like to point out that I have also been approached by two other groups that are interested in becoming new chapters. This is encouraging news as it confirms that MAFCA and the hobby are continuing to grow, maybe not as fast as in the past, but still growing.

I would also remind chapters that I will be evaluating newsletters and websites for possible awards for 2025. However, to be considered you have to submit the newsletters or website address to me: chaptercoordinator@mafca.com



MAFCA Officers & Directors - 2026

- President – Doug Linden – president@mafca.com
- Vice President – Happy Begg – vp@mafca.com
- Treasurer – Dennis Thompson – treasurer@mafca.com
- Secretary – David Frazee – secretary@mafca.com
- Technical Director – Paul Shinn – tech@mafca.com
- Chapters – Sherry Winkinhofer – chaptercoordinator@mafca.com
- Publication & PR – Doug Clayton – publications@mafca.com
- Advertising – Dave Krill – advertising@mafca.com
- Membership & Marketing – Trisha Evans – membership@mafca.com

(Articles obtained from the MAFCA website)

MAFCA Youth *By Sherri Winkinhofer*

“Great news on the Youth Scene - The MAFCA Board of Directors has a new committee working on reviewing and updating MAFCA policy regarding a Youth Committee. This review was prompted by the request of a young person who approached the Board requesting to establish an official Youth Committee. As the existing policy was established prior to the popularity of the internet, it is in serious need of updating. Luckily, we have already had young volunteers step forward who are eager to share their ideas with the committee. The goal is to work with them to develop a policy that focuses on boosting youth engagement now and for future generations of Model A enthusiasts. If you are a young Model enthusiast, let us know your thoughts on what you might like to see discussed!”

(Article obtained from The Flying Quail newsletter)

Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2025

Meeting Minutes: The meeting was held at the CG Public House in Kennewick. Those attending were Joanne Bryan, Rick and Janet Budzeck, Bruce and Shelley Clark, Archie and Teresa Coleman, Bob and Tina Daily, Tom and Robin Eldhardt, Tommy and Beth Eldhardt, Mark and Teresa Forcum, Mary Fraser, Jan and Mara Jackson, Mike and Linda Jzyk, Lloyd and Jessica Keith, Bev McGillicuddy, Jim and Sharon Savidge, John Trumbo, Carol and William Valdez and Pat Welch.

Treasurer Report: Bruce gave the treasurer's report.

Correspondence: We received the annual MAFCA letter concerning our chapter registration renewal, liability insurance and free 1st year membership for 2026 form.

Sunshine Report: None.

Tours: There are no tours planned for next year as of now.

Old Business: There are five tours planned for the MAFCA National Convention in Pendleton, Oregon plus other self-guided tours that you can do on your own.

New Business: The officers elected for 2026 are Jan Jackson, President; Rick Budzeck, Vice President; Sharon Hauck, Secretary; and Treasurer, Bruce Clark. Other club members serving in club roles agreed to continue in the following ways: Janet Budzeck, Sunshine; Robin Eldhardt, Restorer; Tom Eldhardt, NWRG Rep and club Historian; Mark Forcum, Webmaster; Jan Jackson, Editor; and Mara Jackson, Correspondence;

John Trumbo received the MAFCA President's Literary Award for an article he wrote in the magazine about his radiator/fan problem.

Projects: Archie and Teresa are still looking for someone who can install the new top for their Model A Roadster. Bruce found the fly wheel housing that he got from Tom was cracked so he had to order one from Burtz Block Engine people. Lloyd has been working on his speedster.

Announcements: Jan thanked Teresa Forcum for making the arrangements for our Christmas party. The January 8, 2026, meeting will be at the West Richland Golf Course.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned and the club participated in the gift exchange.

Respectfully submitted by Robin Eldhardt

The purpose of the club shall be to serve as a medium of 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 in its original likeness. Membership in the Model A Ford Club of America is a requirement to joining the Columbia Basin Chapter. To join MAFCA, see the website at <https://www.mafca.com> and click on the "Join MAFCA" tab. The US yearly membership rate is \$50.00. Requirements for membership in the chapter shall not insist upon the actual possession of a Model A Ford, merely an interest in the objectives of the club and a desire to take an active part in club activities shall be the primary requirement for membership. (Excerpt from Columbia Basin Model A Club Bylaws dated February 2015.)

Columbia Basin Model A Club
707 S. 48th Ave.
West Richland, WA 99353

The Columbia Crier is a publication of the Columbia
Basin Model A Club. For questions or submittals to
the Columbia Crier contact Jan Jackson by email at:
janandmarara@spectrum.net or by phone:
(509) 420-4361.

