

The Ford Script

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No. 2



George and Janet Merkel hand over the reins of the Club concessions to Mark Kuklewicz after 22 years.



Dedicated to the restoration and preservation of Model A Fords

The Ford Script

Official publication of:
George Washington Chapter, Inc.
of the Model A Ford Club of America
and the Mount Vernon Region
of the Model A Restorers Club
3903 Old Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22030

Chapter meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at the American Legion Hall, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean, Virginia. Social meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and the business meeting starts at 7:45. Members and guests are invited and encouraged to drive their antique cars to the meetings.

Chapter members are encouraged to belong to both MAFCA and MARC national clubs. The chapter Web page on the Internet may be accessed by:

www.gwcmodeleda.org
Web Master: Tom Frazier

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Copy for THE FORD SCRIPT should be e-mailed to the Editor to arrive by the Sunday prior to the first Wednesday of the month to: billhsims@gmail.com

Next Script deadline: Sunday, February 27th

FROM THE QUAIL'S PERSPECTIVE



On behalf of the Board, a hearty thank you to George and Janet Merkel for their 22 years providing the Club concessions at the monthly membership meetings. During these 22 years, George and Janet only missed two meetings – once due to an ice storm and the other because of George's surgery. Their dedication is greatly appreciated. A huge thank you also to Harry White, who has been assisting George and Janet.

I am glad to report that Mark Kuklewicz has offered to "try his hand" at providing the concessions at our meetings. Please take time to thank Mark for taking on this important support role in our Club.

The January Board meeting was cancelled due to snow; however, Board members are hard at work planning programs and events, including the Sully car show.

Our first Club activity this year, Old Car and Train Day at the Clements' home, is scheduled for Sunday, February 20. Let's hope the weather cooperates so some members will be able to drive their Model As. Look for additional details in this newsletter. I hope to see many of you there with your families to enjoy this opportunity to drive our cars, view others' cars, take in Clem's enormous train collection and socialize with Club members.

A historical fact gleaned from The Cars That Henry Ford Built: On Christmas Eve 1893, Henry and Clara (his wife) conducted the first test of his gasoline engine in their kitchen sink. Clara dribbled gasoline into the intake valve by hand and Henry's job was to spin the flywheel. After the engine ran successfully for a minute or two, it was removed from the sink and Clara returned to her preparations for Christmas dinner.

Charlene Beckner

FROM THE EDITOR

Well, the electronic version of The Script is up and running despite the editor's first-issue screw-ups (with apologies to Marty French for identifying him as Mike French on the cover—Mike French being an old school buddy of mine long ago but whose name still rules in my subconscious, and the Beckners, whose name I misspelled numerous times—with an "h" instead of a "k"—for no apparent reason).

It has been decided that the newsletter should get to the membership midway between monthly general meetings so that no news the membership gets (if they attend the meetings) will be more than 2 weeks old. So the deadline for The Script will be moved up to the Sunday preceding the first Wednesday of the month. I will then put the issue together and get it to Woody by the first Wednesday of the month. He will print and mail the paper copies and email everyone else their issue soon after, but at least a week and a half to two weeks before the general meeting.

This will allow me to send out reminders of events occurring the 2 weekends prior to the general meeting. When I first started as editor, I would compile it, print it out and take it to the printer. After it was printed, it would be shipped to a couple of women who would address, seal and stamp the issues before then mailing it off. It was a time-consuming process and most folks got their newsletter either the day before or the day of the general meeting.

People came to rely on the timing of that system so much that whenever an issue was published a week earlier than planned, there would always a few who wouldn't check their calendars and show up for the general meeting a week early. So, fair warning, you can no longer count on The Script as a notification that the meeting is coming up next Wednesday. You'll have to go back to using your calendars again.

REPORT FROM THE SMOKE-FREE ROOM

The Board meeting for January was cancelled due to snow and ice.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO

'86 was already off to a great start. No less than 80 carburetors had been completely rebuilt at President Chuck Zierdt's home facilities by members. The work included sizing jets, flow testing them, blasting and painting to the correct finish, and on-the-spot cad plating! A great example of the outstanding results that come from the unselfish efforts and dedication of volunteer club members. Even a carburetor booklet was assembled and distributed. More such do-it-yourself get togethers were in the planning stage for upcoming months.



A delightful tale of the acquisition of a Model A phaeton was featured in the February Ford Script. Member Bob Tatum, assigned to Uruguay by the State Department, was impressed by the constant sightings of old cars in daily use there. So intrigued that he decided to seek out a Model A, as they were the ones most observed and most admired. A co-worker told him of a '31 phaeton a neighbor there owned. Bob pursued it, and found that the owner was an ailing 84-year-old man who, with his brother, had been the original owners! And there's more: it had received excellent care, showed 11,000 miles, and was under 3,000 dollars! The deal was struck, and Bob promised to return later so the former owner could have his picture taken with his old friend, the only car he had ever owned. Sadly, when the time came, the man had passed away.

A 'good-bye-for-now went out to Gerry DeWitt, who was off to the Big Easy for med school. The Minners boys, Todd and Brad, home from E school, attended the carb session and were particularly welcomed. Even 25 years ago we were thinking how important it was to keep the flame going.

The World Meet at Lake Geneva was coming up and it was suggested in jest that departure (for ordinary Model A's) should be moved up by three days. It seems that Dick Lebkicker, Del Puschart and Gifford Shirley had installed overdrives, and were otherwise destined to get there first!

Those Burma Shave jingles have proven to be popular and keep coming. So;

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TOUGHER THAN
A TWO-BIT STEAK?
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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New Members

Please join me in welcoming Stephanie and Michael Petty into the club. They live in Fairfax and own a 1931 S/W Town Sedan. Their address, phone numbers and email addresses were included in the recent roster update, so there is nothing to update.

Overdue Dues

I hope that not paying your George Washington Chapter dues is just an oversight and not an indication that you will not be renewing your membership. Dues for 2011 are \$20 if you have an email account and \$30 if you do not have an email account. Please send your dues check payable to GWC Inc. to Woody Williams, 20779 LaPlume Place, Ashburn, VA 20147 to insure that you will continue to receive your monthly ***Script*** and other club correspondence. If the club has not received your check by February 28th, your membership will be placed in an inactive status.

If you are unsure whether or not you have paid your dues, give Woody a call at 703-858-1192 to find out; and let him know if you are not planning on renewing your membership .

Again, thanks in advance for your attention to this matter.

Woody Williams

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ANTIQUÉ CARS NEEDED

On June 11, 2011 we will be hosting Roaring Rippon at the Rippon Lodge Historic Site in Woodbridge, VA, an event which will highlight the early 20th century history of the house and its owners. We are looking for antique car groups willing to bring their cars for the day to show the public. Other activities will include music, period games (including a mini tournament of vintage baseball played with 1865 rules), dancing, and much more. The event runs from 11am -4pm. If you are interested or would like to have more information please contact me at 703-499-9812 or via e-mail at rsuper@pwcgov.org.

Becky Super, Site Manager, Rippon Lodge Historic Site

SEEN AT JANUARY'S FLEA MARKET



The market filled with enthusiastic shoppers.



Gerry DeWitt, Luke Chaplin, Wayne Parker and friend

SEEN AT FLEA MARKET (Cont.)



Tom Terko clowning with George Merkel and Benny Leonard



Stan Johnson at Gretchen and Howard Minners' table

MY FUNNY VALENTINE

(Reprinted from "The 'A' Note," Jan.-Feb. 2007, Garden State Region)

I do truly think it was there at "first sight"
It took just one glance and the love bug did bite
I was in my mid-twenties when at first we did meet
I was hers from the start, a pawn at her feet

That first day I saw her in all of her glory
That was, I recall it, the start of "our story"
She was sitting outside by a shady oak tree
Looking finer than first prize in the lottery

She was striking, just lovely and sexy at that
I raised up my chin and tilted my hat
At first I was scared that things wouldn't go right
But she welcomed my advances which calmed down my fright

I snapped to attention all revved up and ready
My throat was all scratchy, my legs not quite steady
When all of a sudden there came such a clatter
I turned really quickly to see what was the matter

When out of the house my wife came a runnin'
Her fists were a flyin'—for me she was gunnin'
I said please sweet darling try hard not to hate her
She can't help her appeal and it's not like I date her

She's special to me, makes me feel like a young lad
She won't take your place, so please don't be mad
And she'll probably be here way long after you
My true love, my darling, my '31 Ford Coupe.



By Lisa Lewis

PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY

This month's program will deal with advertising for the Model A. Howard Minners will be our speaker. It has been said that Henry Ford did not believe in advertising. But he reportedly said that advertising was not so much to sell his Fords, but rather to tell people how to use and get the most out of their cars. ... Well, that seems like a bit of a "fine line." In point of fact, the advertising campaign for the Model A proved to be the most expensive ad program ever mounted up to that point in time. In the Spring of 1927, Ford had brought in several advertising agencies, and N. W. Ayer of Philadelphia eventually won the Ford contract. Starting in late November 1927, full page Model A Ford ads appeared in some 2,000 U.S. newspapers, and there was also New Ford advertising on the radio. Magazine ads in the U.S. did not appear until June 1928. Ford's passenger car ads ended in July 1931. However, Ford Model A and AA commercial vehicle ads only began in magazines in March 1930, but they continued into early 1932. Not surprisingly, there were some interesting and amusing advertising "bumps" along the way!

DADDY'S PREWAR EARLY V-8S.

He traded frequently as he was very hard on his cars. He drove daily doing his salesman's rounds plus always looking for a new place to sell a Page fence. Notice by the cars he traded in, that I don't have a complete set of records. Some time in 1934 after he bought the '34, he splurged and got a radio and then moved it to his 1935 car. He was quick to get a new car after the war.

Golly, what if one of his cars is still around... I cry for my first car (a '40 Merc Convertible sedan) which now sleeps in another man's garage; but what if one of Daddy's lives???

Clem

INVOICE

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June 15, 1934

Mr. Roy K. Clement,
24 Lupton Avenue,
Woodbury, New Jersey

1-1934, Model 40, Ford DeLuxe Phaeton #18-945669	\$655.00
Allowance on trade-in of 1931 Ford DeLuxe Roadster	178.50
	<u>\$476.50</u>
1 Kari Keen Trunk	45.00
Transfer of license	6.40
Filing bills of sale	1.00
	<u>\$528.90</u>

Total \$528.90



BREAKING NEWS ABOUT CHUCK MANN'S

On Monday morning, Feb. 7th, Betty McCormick reported, Chuck Manns is currently hospitalized at Fairfax Hospital for cardiac observation and testing. If you would like to give him a call, his phone number is 703-776-7369.



Clem Clement
Sunshine Chairman

**YOU ARE INVITED
TO OLD CAR AND TRAIN DAY**

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2011

12-5 PM

AT

THE CLEMENT HOME

12106 GARY HILL DR
FAIRFAX VA 22030

Bring your significant other, kids, parents, and any other train, antique or old car lovers to join in the fun and fellowship of antique trains and old cars.

Weather permitting, additional antique cars may join us. New additions to the antique train collection are on display and some trains are under power. Bring "show and tell" trains, if you like, and we'll try to run them. If you have trains to be repaired, this is a good time to drop them off.

A favorite appetizer, finger food or dessert brought for sharing would be gratefully appreciated.

DIRECTIONS: Take Route 66 West to Exit 55 (Fairfax County Route 7100) South to Braddock Road. Turn right toward Clifton/Centreville. Turn left at the first traffic light onto Colchester Road and go 2.2 miles. Cross Popes Head Road (Church on corner), turn left on Saddlehorn Drive (Through the brick entranceway into Colchester Hunt Village.) Second right is Gary Hill Drive. We are the first house on the left.

Alternate route: Take Braddock Road West off the 495 Beltway. Travel west about 15 miles, cross under Fairfax Parkway and turn left at the traffic light onto Colchester Road and continue as above.

See you on Train and Old Car Day!

Sandy and Clem Clement
Ph. (703) 830-5597 C (571)-239-1701
Email: clem.clement@cox.net

COMING EVENTS

Feb. 16 February GWC General Membership Meeting

Feb. 20 Train Day at the Clements' (see p. 10 for info)

March 25-26 Frederick, MD, The Sugarloaf Mountain Region, AACA (Antique Automobile Club of America) is sponsoring the 41st annual indoor/outdoor antique auto parts meet"

March 27 South Jersey Region AACA (formerly Cowtown) 40th Annual Swap Meet and Car Corral, Salem County Fairgrounds

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale

1930 FORD Model A, Coupe w/Rumble Seat. This older restored car has a 4cycl 200.5ci, 40hp engine, 3 speed, and is green and black. Body, tires, wheels, upholstery and undercarriage all in good condition. Photo's available via e-mail if requested. \$14,500 Phone numbers: H- 804-435-3320 Cell: 804-370-2952. Pictures will be forwarded via e-mail upon request..

1957 Chevrolet Bel Air Convertible. Has an 8 cycl, 283ci 4 barrel carb, engine. Automatic, 62877 on odometer, tropical turquoise/white top. Body and undercarriage are in very good condition. Tires, wheels, upholstery, and originality all in good condition. \$59,500 Call 804 435-3320 or cell 804 370-2952 . Photo's available via e-mail if requested.

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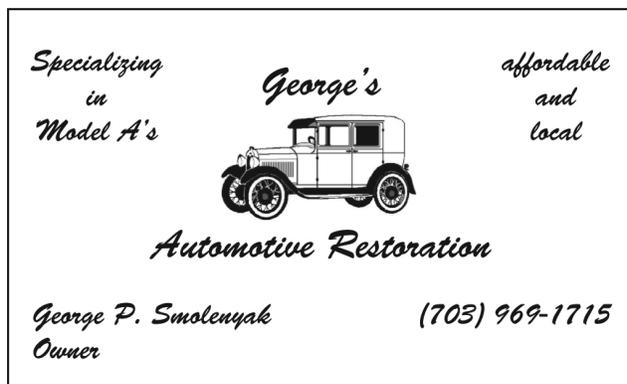
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