

The Ford Script

Vol. XXXI I

March 2011

No. 3



Sewall Tyler and John Leydon in front of "Hortense" on her maiden drive to Train Day



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.gwcmodela.org

Web Master: Tom Frazier

President	Charlene Beckner	703-791-3795	gbeckner@verizon.net
Vice President & Program Chairman	Jack Melnick	703-536-8119	john.melnick@melnickandmelnick.com
Activities Chairman	Edna Cross	703-777-8561	edna.cross@prudentialcarruthers.com
Editor	Bill Sims	301-891-3616	billhsims@gmail.com
Asst. Editor	Doug Tomb	703-241-4152	douglas.tomb@verizon.net
Secretary	Chuck Kunstbeck	703-938-6653	ckunstbeck@verizon.net
Membership Chairman	Woody Williams	703-858-1192	vamodela@verizon.net
Treasurer	Gil Beckner	703-791-3795	gbeckner@verizon.net
Assistant Treasurer	Tom Frazier	301-963-7056	tfrazier7056@comcast.net
Annual Meet Chairman	Bill Worsham	703-250-5474	billworsham@aol.com
Tool Chairman	Benny Leonard	703-278-2994	ben5@cox.net
Youth Development	Paul Gauthier	703-323-0009	gokie@cox.net
National Liaison	Howard Minners	301-530-1441	minndax@aol.com
Repair Advisor	Tom Terko	301-949-7329	tterko@verizon.net

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, April 3rd

FROM THE QUAIL'S PERSPECTIVE



If you were unable to attend the February meeting, you missed an excellent presentation about Model A Ford advertising by Howard Minners. Howard presented many historical facts, as well as entertaining and related stories about Ford's approach to advertising the "new" Ford Model A. The evening was topped off with Howard playing the piano accompanying Model A Ford ads that may have been seen in a movie theater during that time period.

I am pleased to announce that Tom Quigley has accepted the Club position of Historian/ Archivist. We thank Clem Clement for collecting and maintaining important Club history items for the past 12 years.

Train and Old Car Day at the Clements' was, once again, a wonderful activity for Club members. There were many attendees, 12 antique cars, and lots of delicious food. Clem reported that at one time his garage floor was covered with happy, little people playing with trains.

At the February Board meeting, Board members discussed this year's general meeting programs, Sully Car Show staff vacancies, MARC and MAFCA upcoming events. I also asked all Board members to begin thinking about the goals and objectives we need to set for the Club for the upcoming year.

Our next Club activity will be Small Parts Day at the Merkels' on April 2. The details are included later in this *Script*.

As a final thought, I would like to encourage all Club members to join one or more of the national Model A organizations:

MAFCA (Model A Ford Club of America); <http://www.mafca.com/>
MARC (Model A Restorers Club); <http://www.modelarestorers.org/main/>
MAFFI (Model A Ford Foundation, Inc.) <http://www.maffi.org/index.htm>

These organizations are dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the Model A Ford and their magazines contain useful information for those in the hobby.

Charlene Beckner

FROM THE EDITOR

At long last, I finally have my car back. It's spent the last 6 months in George Smolenyak's garage getting a complete makeover. George delivered it to me in the parking lot of a nearby high school near the Beltway so that I could immediately test drive it to Clem's for Train Day. After some initial backfiring, it cleared itself out and ran like a champ to Clem's and back problem free. It felt good to be back on the road again and my A really loves the open highway at top speed. My brakes are in top-notch shape after many years wear and tear and the car runs smooth as silk. Thank you, George!

Putting the electronic newsletter together gets easier every month. I've been looking at other clubs' newsletters to get ideas for sprucing things up. Some use more paste-ups; some use more color or snazzy boxes around articles. I'll have to play around with things to see what works.

Meanwhile, the planning continues apace for our round-the-country camping tour. Launch date is Memorial Day. Even though it'll only be half as long as planned, it looks like we'll still catch the high-lights—Zion, Sequoia, Yosemite, Arches, Canyonlands. And the kids. Gotta catch the kids in Denver.

FROM THE SMOKE-FREE ROOM



GWC Board Meeting was held at Fairfax Main Library in Fairfax on February 23 at 6:50 p.m. Present were: Charlene Beckner, President; Jack Melnick, Vice President and Program Chairman; Script Editor, Bill Sims; Asst Editor, Doug Tomb; Woody Williams, Membership Chairman; Gil Beckner, Treasurer; Tom Frazier, Asst Treasurer & Web Master; Bill Worsham, Annual Meet Chairman; Benny Leonard, Tool Chairman; and Howard Minners, National Liaison.

Charlene – Tom Quigley has volunteered as club Historian/Archivist. This announcement was followed by a discussion on how the club got its names.

Jack – Next meeting will be a film on early automobiles narrated by Groucho Marx.

April Meeting will be a presentation by Doug Tomb on his Steam car. The May meeting program will be about judging standards. No specific plan for the June meeting. It is planned to inquire about a presentation by Roger Kauffman then or later in the year when he comes east. The board voted unanimously to provide Roger \$500 toward his expenses. Jack solicited ideas for future programs.

Gil – Presented the Treasurer's report to date. For the past three years the club has experienced steady improvement in our financial worth. The 2011 insurance is paid. The club will mark its 50th anniversary on May 11, 2013. Our financial soundness brought a suggestion by Howard to look at a celebration marking this event.

Woody – One last effort will be made to collect unpaid dues. There was discussion on who holds the club's CDs, VHS tapes, etc. It's believed to be Paul Gauthier.

Bill W. – The Sully fliers are at the printer and are expected to be available by the next general meeting. We still need a Trophy chair and a Publicity chair.

Bill S – *Script* input deadline is this coming Sunday, February 27th.

Howard – MARC membership meet is March 24th thru 27th in St. Augustine. This generated a discussion on insurance coverage.

Benny – The missing part for the wheel straightener has been found.

Tom – Queried when to start putting *The Script* on the web site. Consensus was three months after publication.

New Business:

1. Charlene requested that each board member provide objectives/goals for the year.
2. On May 7th, the Kiwanis club of Arlington is hosting a breakfast at the Knights of Columbus. Jack invited people to drive their Model T or Model A.
3. Driving awards should be available to present at the March general meeting.
4. Charlene mentioned the Club has received several event invites to include: Antique Car Show at Stratford Hall Coaching on May 8, Car Show at Rippon Lodge Historic Site on June 11 and Ashton Heights 90th Anniversary House Tour on May 15.
5. Woody is planning to lead a tour near the end of summer or early fall. The likely destination will be Orange, VA. No tours planned; just an ice cream social at the motel.

Next board meeting will be at Fairfax library on March 23rd at 6:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Tom Frazier
Acting Secretary

THE GWC 25 YEARS AGO

Advice to club members was to get their reservations in ASAP for the MARC-MAFCA meet at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. We were gearing up ... planning, overhauling parts, seeking and heeding advice.

Chuck Zierdt, in his Presidential Note in *The Script*, dwelled on how successful the headlight reflector polishing session had been at Walt Bratton's. Walt had arranged for a bulk shipment of pre-polished reflectors to get them "Uvira'ed" at a great price. Numerous members benefitted. Chuck dwelled also on holding overhaul sessions to restore generators, starters, distributors, transmissions, and, not to leave out something related to a favorite club topic—food, manifold cooking!



Of timely interest was an article on spares, supplies and parts to carry, in a *Script* article by Bill Reeder that had appeared in a national publication. Recommendations for both everyday driving and for long trips detailed all the things good to have along.

The Script "Meet the Member" column, recently initiated, introduced John Dingle, as if any introduction were needed. John had served in every board position, had been President, co-headed our national meet, and had edited *The Script*. A retired Naval aviator, John became disabled and had in his backyard a dismantled '31 coupe he had planned to restore. The situation nurtured a great idea, restoration of John's car by club members, piece-by-piece, with parts allocated to many volunteers. As the March '86 *Script* said, more on this later.

Bill Cooper found an article in an old magazine on a mileage test for Model A's. Level road at 20 mph, 26 mpg. At 50, 16.3. In traffic, 15.8. How much faith could one place in these figures? Turns out the carb on the test car was a Tillotson.

Wolf Drewes told a story of a Model A fender appearing during an excavation using high pressure water jets, and how it became apparent that the whole car might be in there. He contacted the Ford museum for advice in extracting it, and the message back was, "Put her in low; she'll pull out".

Dave Henderson

BRATTON'S ANTIQUE AUTO PARTS



1606 BACK ACRE CIRCLE
MOUNT AIRY, MD 21771

Order: **1-800-255-1929**

FREE 194-page illustrated Model A parts catalog, containing 3,200 Model A parts with full descriptions and picture of each.

Supplying Quality by using over 90% U.S. parts

SEEN AT THE CLEMENTS' TRAIN DAY



President Charlene Beckner with Clarice Shaw



Jim Gray showing off his portable Victrola

SEEN AT THE CLEMENTS' TRAIN DAY (Cont.)



The Clement Cabriolet and the Grays' Deluxe Coupe



The fine weather led to much outdoor socializing

BENNY ISSUES A CHALLENGE

At the club meeting on February 16, Stan Johnson showed off the new Museum Supporter hat pin. It is about the size of the annual Sully sells for \$5. However, the pin is given as a keepsake to more to the fund to build the Benny Leonard stood up down and issued a challenge challenged members to do as he was about to do, buy one of the pins on the spot. Three members responded within the next few minutes, but Benny kept the challenge open to members to match his donation to help make the museum a reality.



February 16, Stan Johnson Supporter hat pin. It is about the size of the annual Sully sells for \$5. However, the pin is given as a keepsake to more to the fund to build the Benny Leonard stood up down and issued a challenge challenged members to do as he was about to do, buy one of the pins on the spot. Three members responded within the next few minutes, but Benny kept the challenge open to members to match his donation to help make the museum a reality.

The museum fund has climbed up from \$400,000 to \$600,000 since last June. The 1930 Tudor donated by local club member Jason Dryer has brought in over \$25,000 from people all across the country. But at least \$900,000 is needed to construct a 120,000 square foot building, a size that is the optimum for a Model A Museum. So, like Model A'ers everywhere, GW club members are being challenged to make a tax-deductible donation so that ground can be broken in 2011.

Ex-President Tom Quigley has agreed to be the Museum Liaison representative now that Charlene has taken over the reins from him. People who would like to meet Benny's challenge and make a donation of \$100 or more, should contact Tom Quigley at Aowner@cox.net or by calling 703 912-4293.

MARCH PROGRAM

Jack Melnik will present the March program, a film entitled "Merrily We Roll Along: The Early Days of the Automobile," narrated by Groucho Marx. This film is about the impact the automobile had on America during the transition from horse and buggy to the horseless carriage, roughly between 1900 and World War I. There are many scenes of old cars.

The moral upheaval the automobile caused is brought out in the film. The automobile was especially a threat to the way of life of the farmer. Laws that were impossible to obey were passed, like when a car passed a house, the driver had to get out of the car.

Come for an evening of cinematic entertainment.

Jack Melnick

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of February 25, 2011:

Money In: 4,092.00



Money Out: \$1,601.21

Check Book: \$8,897.96

Gil Beckner
Treasurer

THE STEERING COMMITTEE - 2011 SULLY MEET

ANNUAL MEET CHAIRMAN	Bill Worsham	billworsham@aol.com	(703) 250-5474
SHOW CAR REGISTRATION	Bill Benedict	carolabenedict@aol.com	(703) 430-2441
FLEA MARKET (Vender liaison) (Field set up)	Karen Bush	klfbush@hotmail.com	(703) 757-1884
CAR CORRAL	Paul Gauthier	gokie@aol.com	(703) 323-0009
CONCESSIONS/SNO CONES	Andy Jaeger	elanjaeger@aol.com	(703) 490-4846
OLD CAR PARKING	Hunter Fanney	hunterf@verizon.net	(301) 253-0057
JUDGING CHAIRMAN	Tom Terko	tterko@verizon.net	(301) 949-7329
TROPHIES	George Smolenyak	gsmolenyak@aol.com	(703) 969-1715
PUBLICITY	Chairman Needed		
SPECIAL DISPLAYS	Chairman Needed		
INFORMATION BOOTH	Benny Leonard	ben5@cox.net	(703) 278-2994
FRONT GATE	Dan & Donna Lyon	maneline@comcast.net	(301) 330-5564
HELP WHERE NEEDED	Fred Klein		(703) 593-1600
	Woody Williams	vamodela@verizon.net	(703) 858-1192

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Please welcome Mahlon (Tony) Hawker to the club. Tony joined at the last meeting and is looking to purchase a Model A. He has a 1927 C-cab TT (farm survivor) and a 1956 M35A1. Please add Tony's information to your rosters.

Mahlon (Tony) Hawker
8009 Cardiff
Lorton, VA 22079
703-339-5645 (Machine)
703-309-7280 (Cell)
tonyhawker@verizon.net



Club Name Tags

If you would like to order club name tags, contact Woody Williams at 703-858-1192 or vamodela@verizon.net. They are \$10 each.

Club Dues

If you are reading this you have paid your dues – thanks to everyone who paid. All members who did not pay their dues have been moved to an inactive status within the database and are now not receiving their *Ford Script* by either email or US mail.

Supplement 3 of the Judging Standards

Supplement 3 of the Judging Standards have been ordered and should be available at the May general meeting.

MARC DRIVING AWARDS FOR 2010

The 2010 mileage report is noted below.

Jim Cartmill	31 Tudor	22,999
Clem Clement	30 Cabriolet	11,050
Joe Curatola	31 Tudor	4,399
Dick Fraser	30 Coupe	23,081
Dick Fraser	29 Fordor	13,618
Paul Gauthier	30 Tudor	5,809
Paul Gauthier	30 Delux Fordor	3,607
Andy Jaeger	31 Pick Up	9,163
Andy Jaeger	30 Town Sedan	4,977
Chuck Kunstbeck	31 Delux Coupe	8,713
Benny Leonard	30 Tudor	10,789
Phil McCormick	30 Tudor	3,995
Tom Quigley	30 Roadster	11,225
Bill Sims	31 Town Sedan	11,593
Millard Springer	31 Cabriolet	16,078

Based on these mileages we have two awards pending for 2009: Millard Springer is now over the 15,000 mile mark and Chuck Kunstbeck is over 5,000 miles. Chuck just got his 2,000 mile award last year!

The program is sponsored and administered by MARC and one of the requirements of the program is membership in that organization. All mileage accumulated throughout the year counts toward the program. However, mileage accumulated during years you are not a member of MARC does not count toward an award. Bob Baker, the MARC Driving Awards Chairman, uses the published MARC roster to determine membership. If a Club member drops their membership in MARC I do not carry them in the program though I do maintain their previous data. Should they rejoin MARC their mileage begins accumulating from their total the last year they were a member of MARC.

Cricket, Carol and I are looking forward to the 2011 driving year and our Club's annual Sully Car Show. If you're planning on being at Sully and participating in Club events this year, why not make your miles count by joining in the MARC Driving Awards program. To join you must, as mentioned, be a member of

MARC and pay a one-time registration fee of \$1.00 per car. Your car must be of original manufacture (1927-1931), be titled as a Model "A", and be authentic in that it should have an original type four cylinder engine (1927-1934) and have an original body style for year of manufacture. Awards begin at the 2,000 mile point, followed by 5,000 miles and every 5,000 miles thereafter. Come join the fun and make all those miles this year count. Contact Jim Cartmill by phone at home (540-743-5510) or by email (cartmill@embarqmail.com), to receive a registration form and information sheet. You can also find information about the program on the MARC Web Site.

Jim Cartmill

He married Grace

With scratchy face

He only

Got one

Day of Grace

Burma Shave

SMALL PARTS DAY COMING APRIL 2ND

Small Parts Day has been a springtime tradition for many years in the George Washington Model A Club. It consists of club members bringing one or two Model A parts that are in need of repair to a member's garage. At the garage, expertise and many tools are available to help you restore these parts to like-new status.

This year, Small Parts Day will once again be held at the home of George and Janet Merkel, 9306 Merkel Farm Road, Bowie, Md., from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 2nd. In order to gauge the number attending, members who plan to attend Small Parts Day should either sign up at the March meeting or contact George or Janet directly at 301-262-6587 or via email at gmjm64@verizon.net. Even if you don't sign up ahead of time, you can still come on April 2. Coffee and donuts will be provided by the club in the morning, as will lunch too.

Members should plan to bring their own small tools; however, equipment will be on hand to do final cleaning and paint parts, as well as tools to aid in mechanical restoration tasks. The cleaner the parts are when they arrive, the faster the rebuilding effort will be. Sand blasting is available for those that need it.

New repair parts needed to rebuild each item will have to be determined in advance. Members can also order parts ahead of time for delivery to their homes before the small parts day meeting.

Attendance is not limited to members rebuilding a component part; anyone is welcome to come and watch and learn. Directions to the Merckels' are as follows:

From Route 3/301: Turn onto Route 450 West. At Race Track Road, turn right. Go past the race track and head up the hill.

***Turn into Patuxent Riding subdivision. At the stop sign, turn right onto Arabian Lane. Stay on this road. This road will become a dirt road, which is now Merkel Farm Road. Our house is the first house on the left.

Route 495, Woodrow Wilson Bridge: Exit off Beltway onto Route 50 East. From Route 50, exit onto Route 197 North. Stay on Rt. 197, crossing over Route 450. At Old Chapel Road, turn right. There is a Sunoco Gas Station where you will turn. Follow Old Chapel to Race Track Road. Turn left onto Race Track Road. Follow direction from above marked with ***.

Route 495, American Legion Bridge: Stay on Route 495 until you get to the Balt/Wash Pkwy. Take the Baltimore exit onto the Parkway. Go several miles and take the Powder Mill Road exit. Turn right onto Powder Mill Road. Stay on that until it ends at Route 197. Turn right onto Route 197. After passing Bowie State University, and at the next light, turn left onto Race Track Road. At the fork in the road, bear to the right (there's a child care center at the fork). Turn left into Patuxent Riding subdivision. Follow directions from above marked with ***.

Contact numbers for George and Janet are:
phone - (301) 262-6587; email - gmjm64@verizon.net.

COMING EVENTS

March 16 GWC General Meeting (See p. 8 for program information.)

March 25-26 Sugarloaf Mountain Region AACA Indoor/ Outdoor antique auto parts meet, Frederick, Md., Fairgrounds (I-270 north to I-70 east, Fairgrounds exit).

March 24-27 MARC National Membership Meet at St. Augustine, FL

April 2 Small Parts Day at the Merkels. (See p. 11 for details.)

April 9 Cherry Blossom Parade in downtown DC. Sign up at the March meeting.

April 9-15 2011 MAFCA National Tour, Natchez Trace Trail

April 27-May 1 The Spring Carlisle Collector Car Swap Meet and Corral. More than 82 acres filled with anything and everything automotive related; more than 2,000 vehicles of all makes, models and prices for sale in the car corral. For information <http://www.carsatcarlisle.com/ce/events/spring-carlisle/>

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale

Mary Bolinger, sister to the late Clubber John Kandl, is selling his Model A parts and other goods from his estate: Model A wheels @ \$35 each, spark plugs, radiators, a winged hood ornament; many, many other Model A parts as well as a piano, organ, etc., etc. Cars for sale include the Willys-Knight, the fire engine and the 1946 Dodge wrecker. She spends Wednesday and Sunday afternoons down at John's estate in Bealeton. If interested, contact Mary before visiting at 703-492-7066.

Wanted

1931 Virginia license plates and headlight lenses. Dave jrdshen@verizon.net, 703 938 8954.

PHOTO CREDITS FOR THIS ISSUE

Cover—unknown

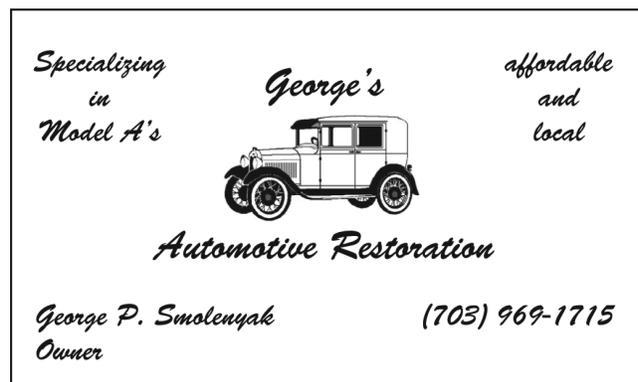
p. 6 (top and bottom)—Gil Beckner

p. 7 (top)—John Leydon

p.7 (bottom)—Clem Clement



"HAVE AN 'A' DAY" *Mike's*
Michael Butcher
1-888-879-6453
email: mike@mikes-afordable.com
www.mikes-afordable.com
Specialising in 1928 - 1931 Model A Ford Parts



Specializing in Model A's *George's* *affordable and local*
Automotive Restoration
George P. Smolenyak *(703) 969-1715*
Owner

MERKELS AWARDED FOR 22 YEARS SERVICE AS THE CLUB CONCESSIONAIRES



Charlene Beckner presents Janet and George Merkel with a gift certificate to Carrabba's Italian Restaurant

J.C. TAYLOR
Antique Auto Insurance

**Drive Through Time...
With Peace of Mind**

For over fifty years, J.C. Taylor Antique Auto Insurance has been protecting collector cars and their owners. When you insure with us, you can Drive Through Time With Peace of Mind.



www.JCTaylor.com
1.888.ANTIQUE
(1.888.268.1783)

Snyder's

ANTIQUE AUTO PARTS

12925 Woodworth Rd. New Springfield, OH 44443

The World's Largest Selection of 1909-31 Ford Parts

FREE Fully Illustrated Catalog
\$10.00 outside the U.S., Canada, & Mexico

*Servicing the Hobby
For Over 50 Years!*

Toll Free Ordering (888) 262-5712 or FAX (888) 262-5713

For technical info (330) 549-5313 or FAX (330) 549-2211

Order On-Line @ www.snydersantiqueauto.com