

# The Ford Script



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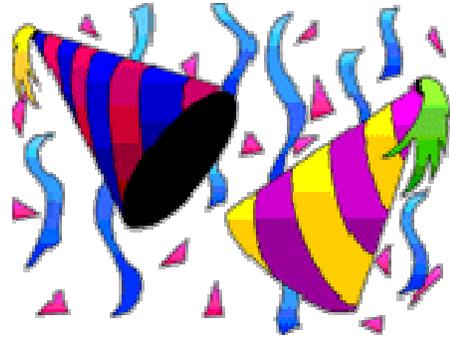


Possible adaptation in anticipation of the coming snow season  
(submitted by Luke Chaplin)



Dedicated to the restoration and preservation of Model A Fords for over 50 years

# 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  
6413 Kilkenny Lane  
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

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](http://www.gwcmodela.org)  
Web Master: Greg Shepherd

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Copy for THE FORD SCRIPT should be e-mailed to the Editor at: [billhsims@gmail.com](mailto:billhsims@gmail.com)

**Next deadline: Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



In my inaugural entry in the Script as Club president, I must admit that I am very optimistic. We are financially sound, scandal free (a novelty in the Washington DC vicinity), and poised to get back into our main interest – Henry's Model A Ford. Jim Gray and the 2017 board have energized many people and initiated many new ideas that serve as a robust legacy for us to build upon.

I have been working with Stan Johnson, VP and Program Chairman, to do our part to capture the interest of existing and new members by providing programs that are informational, inspiring and educational. I think our program slate this year looks strong. I call upon our members to recommend programs or to conduct a program based on the Model A or that era that might entertain fellow enthusiasts. See Stan Johnson's description of upcoming events further in this edition.

Our tour chairman, Jason Cunningham, has some tours and national capital parades on tap that should emulate and expand on what we did last year. John Leydon is planning a tour and picnic on President James Madison's estate, which should be enjoyable. By the way, if there is a tour that any member would like to sponsor or coordinate, merely advise any board member and we will do our best to support you. There are many scenic and historic venues in Maryland, DC and Virginia that warrant visiting. All we need is a smidgen of interest and a bit leadership to begin a tour. Tours can be one day in duration to multi-day events.

Our signature event, the Sully Historic Site Car Show will occur sooner than we realize, so we look forward to Bill Worsham's guiding hand on the 45<sup>th</sup> annual show. A remarkable accomplishment, by any measure.

I would like to urge members to assess their individual vehicular situation and see what assistance you might need to improve your Model A's reliability or safety. Assess the measures needed to get your car back on the road in top running condition (if it is not). Sometimes a small mechanical matter presents a seemingly unsurmountable obstacle. When this occurs, reach out to the club. We have assets, tools and an ability to overcome obstacles in amazing ways, sometimes by providing parts, advice, analysis or assistance. Let us know how we can help. Helping others is a major ingredient of why we exist.

I hope to share the road with you in your model A at the earliest opportunity! TQ

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

Another year at the helm .... I could use some anecdotal Model A stories—interesting breakdowns, how your A was acquired, interesting tours you went on—those sorts of things. Members always want to read about those events. Even if you don't feel confident of your writing, I can edit you to read like Ernest Hemingway. Give it a try! It goes without saying that technical and fashion articles are always welcome. Even book reports (see another of Milford Sprecher's in this issue). Historical articles would be welcome. We haven't run too many of those. And, finally, more owner-with-car photos that I can run on the cover in the slow months of winter. The Script runs on your input. The more, the better.

## **FROM THE SMOKE-FREE ROOM**

GWC Board of Directors Transition Meeting  
Wednesday, December 20, 2017



The December Board meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Jim Gray at PJ Skidoos restaurant in Fairfax, Virginia.

### **Attendance:**

Jason Cunningham, Jim and Kathie Gray, Stan and Roz Johnson, James and Sharon Kolody, Benny and Sharon Leonard, Jamie and Mary Lucas, Bruce and Loretta Metcalf, Jerry and Cindy Olexson, Tom and Liz Quigley, Mark and Christiane Routt, Greg and Laura Shepherd, Bill and Alice Sims, Milford and Shuyan Sprecher, Doug and Beverly Tomb, and Bill and Judy Worsham. A quorum was present.

Minutes of the November BOD meeting were approved and published in the December Script.

### **President's Report:**

President Jim Gray opened the meeting by stating that we would have a brief handover meeting, to allow for ongoing discussion during the evening.

- Jim recognized our incoming Club Secretary, Mark Routt and his wife Christiane. Mark then thanked the Board for having the opportunity to help the Club in his new position.
- Jim also recognized the incoming Club National Liaison, Jamie Lucas, and his wife Mary. Jamie responded that he looked forward to taking a more active role in the Club after many years as a member.
- Jim congratulated Tom Quigley for his election as Club President this next year, and wished him well. Tom addressed the meeting and thanked Jim for his hard work over the past two years as Club President, and for making a success of the many events and activities the Club has undertaken during that time. Tom also thanked Kathie Gray for her hard work as an integral part of the Gray Administration, and her help in making the many Club activities a success.
- Jim then thanked the outgoing Treasurer, Jerry Olexson, for his contribution to the Club over several years as Treasurer. Jerry thanked the Board for the opportunity to make a contribution to the Club. He stressed the need to work carefully to set up Club budgets going forward, and to work hard to stay within those budgets so that the Club stays on a solid financial footing in future years.
- Jim welcomed Sharon Kolody to the meeting, after her recent hip operation.
- Jim then highlighted the recent Club members who worked on member Dan Danielson's Model A Tudor. Jim, Clem, Benny, Bruce Metcalf, Dick Johns and Dan got his '28 running again. They replaced a cracked head, rebuilt the carb and distributor, and worked on the gas tank. It took several weeks, but it shows what can be accomplished when Club members help each other out.

## **FROM THE SMOKE FREE ROOM (Cont.)**

- Jim added that next on the docket is Jerry Olexson's car, which needs a new muffler and exhaust manifold.
- Jim next stressed the need for Club volunteers to help provide snacks and soft drinks over the next two months, while Mark Kuklewicz is unavailable. Several people offered to help.
- Finally, Jim mentioned that Jerry still needs input from some Board members for the 2018 Club budget.

### **Vice President**--James Kolody - Programs:

- James has been working with Stan to come up with ideas for next year's monthly meetings. Stan has already come up with several interesting programs and they will be announced in upcoming issues of the Script. Stay tuned.

### **Secretary's Report**--Doug Tomb:

- Doug thanked Mark for agreeing to help the Club in his new position as Club Secretary. Mark said he is looking forward to helping out.

### **Treasurer's Report**--Jerry Olexson:

- Jerry reported that all the Club bills are current.
- Doug said he was looking forward to helping the Club in this new position as Treasurer, one that he has had experience with in the past for other clubs, and in past work responsibilities.

## **Committee Reports**

President Gray asked for the following Committee Reports:

### **Annual Sully Meet Chairman**—Bill Worsham:

- Bill reported that the Sully Committee will hold its first Sully 2018 meeting in January. That will kick off the new year's Sully activity.

### **Activities Chairman**—Jason Cunningham:

- Jason said he is looking forward to the new year, and he already has several new and repeat tours scheduled for the Club. He also said he will depend on the membership to help carry the load for the Club picnics and other activities.

### **Membership Chairman / Webmaster**—Greg Shepherd:

- Greg highlighted that the design for the new Club logo is back from the artist.
- Club dues for 2018 are now due. They are \$20 per member/ family.

## FROM THE SMOKE-FREE ROOM (Cont.)

**Editor**—Bill Sims:

- Bill mentioned that the December Script came out well and is a large issue. It keeps growing from month to month. The January Script deadline will be January 3rd.

**National Club Liaison**—Stan Johnson – MARC, MAFCA and MAFFI:

- Stan thanked Jamie for his willingness to step into the National Liaison position, and looks forward to his taking on that role. Jamie said he was looking forward to helping out and learning first-hand what is going on in the national clubs, and sharing it with the membership.

**Property Manager**—Benny Leonard:

- Benny reported that he and Bruce are determined to have the Club Model A compressor ready, and at the next Sully. Extra help from the membership is needed. Stay tuned.

- Benny also reported that he will announce the Club Sully sign preparation day for some time in the Spring.

**Youth Development**—Tom Quigley

- Tom said he is looking forward to having James take on the role of Youth development.

- James said he is looking forward to bringing his perspective, and his experience as a teacher, to this important Club function.

## **Old Business**

Jim repeated that the draft of the logo for the Club has arrived. He and Greg are leading the charge on this, so stay tuned. The logo will also be used on the new Club shirts and hats.

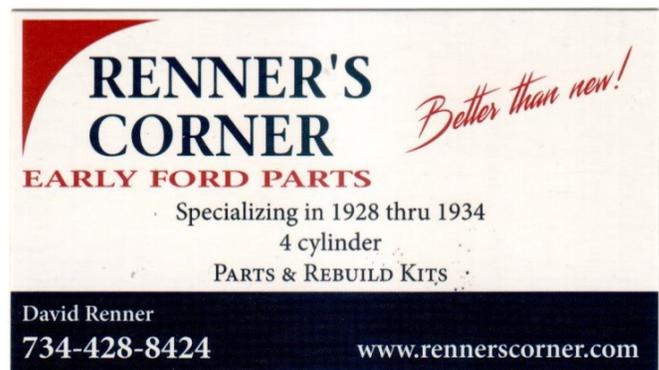
The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Doug Tomb,  
Secretary



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## THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO



Program Chairman Millard Springer announced his program ideas to the Board, and the plan included having Board members become more involved. Starting off, the forerunner program would be "Everything you always wanted to know about headlights," which Millard and Don Temple worked up together and would also present at the March National membership Meet in Annapolis.

President Andy Pogan said that January was the time for New Year's resolutions, which all too often were made with good intentions, but often were forgotten before the Super Bowl was played. Another word for resolutions is goals, and maybe if we think of our resolutions as goals, we can keep them alive throughout the year. This led into what are your Model A goals for the year? Emphasis was on setting a goal, and he cautioned to not let the goal go over your head, but what was important was to be sure to set a goal. "Let's move toward getting some of those long-neglected Model A's out into the sunlight in 1993!"

Tool chairman Wheeler Rodgers presented an impressive list of Club- owned tools and reminded us that members in good standing could borrow them to facilitate their maintenance or restoration chores. A tip was offered by Pat Roberge about how to prevent headlight sockets from grounding out when that final 1/8th turn is made to seat the bulb in the socket. The trick was to cut a piece of cardboard from a greeting card or file folder into a 1/2" strip, long enough to cover the interior surface of the socket with some overlap. With it inserted in the socket between the terminals and the socket wall, the errant terminal wouldn't contact the metal housing when the bulb was twisted home.

Our Ford Script received an award for Outstanding Service from MAFCA for an "exceptionally fine" newsletter in 1992 under the leadership of Editor Joe Krafft. Member participation is what makes the Script special, so why not try your hand at an article and help keep up the tradition in 1993 was suggested.

Activities Chairman George Merkel announced that coming up was Parts Overhaul Day at Walt Bratton's on the 23rd, for restoring carburetors, distributors, horns, generators, starters, steering, and windshield wipers. Walt's store was to be held open all day for members convenience. Next, though not a Club-sponsored activity but a welcome escape during the winter was the Denton flea market, slated for the 30th. On February 21<sup>st</sup>, a caravan would be formed to proceed to Clem's Train Day.

Dave Henderson



## **MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND INFORMATION**

### **SUNSHINE REPORT**

There is a new sheriff in town as Jim Gray has taken over the Sunshine role for the club moving forward. I believe Jim will be an excellent chairman that is in touch with most members and understands any privacy concerns. Please contact him with any information to be shared with the club. It's a great and easy way to get the word out about members having challenges.



### **WEBSITE REPORT**

Big updates to the website at this time of year as I post all of last year's Scripts for easy reference as well as update the Board of Directors and take my first shot at Events for 2018. Please keep me honest and report any corrections needed.



### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

We have had a good response on collecting dues for 2018. But we still have about 80 people outstanding. The cost is the same as previous years: \$20 for members with email and \$30 for those legacy members that receive the Script on paper.

**Pay Dues**

The membership application that can be used for renewal is below. Please print out and indicate in the application form any changes to your info (phone numbers, emails, addresses, etc....) when you mail the check in. Please make the check out to 'GWC Inc.' and send them to:

Greg Shepherd (GWC Membership Chair)  
3715 Brices Ford Ct  
Fairfax, VA 22033

Please get your dues in soon for 2018 to help me produce the hard copy roster.

The hard deadline is: **February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

### **George Washington Chapter Inc. Model 'A' Ford Club Application**

Names- First \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Last \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Model A's owned 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Please visit us at: [www.gwcmodeleda.org](http://www.gwcmodeleda.org)

Any questions can be directed to our membership chair Greg Shepherd at 703-476-6496  
Send check payable to the GWC and completed application to:

GWC – Membership Chair  
3715 Brices Ford Ct  
Fairfax, VA 22033



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT – 2017



Beginning in 2016 and gaining significant progress, particularly in 2017, the Board of Directors recognized the need to revitalize the membership involvement in the Club's on-going activities as well as establish new directions and pathways for the organization.

To that end the Board examined the activities, financial resources, and membership interest and set forth an aggressive program to utilize those resources for an active Club environment for all members.

It was determined that the Club's financial resources were being under-utilized. This resulted in establishing a flexible operating budget for 2017 with the aim of using more of the funds for Club membership participation in addition to maintaining a healthy Contribution Program with funds going to the Scholarship Program, the Model A Ford Foundation and Armed Forces Retirement Home.

A Year-End Financial Statement as of December 31, 2017, has been prepared for the Club membership.

A determination was made by the Board that a 2-year target cash reserve, at this time, enabled the Club to operate with a comfortable cash reserve to cover the Club's operating expenses. This was to be based upon the Club's revenue level. Today as of December 31, 2017, the Club's cash reserve in the bank is \$40,680, which is twice the amount of revenue collected in 2017. This amount would allow for any unexpected "Black Swans," thus enabling the Club to operate during any period of financial readjustment.

A ten-year summary of where the Club's funds have been directed is also presented in the interest of the membership to understand the financial stewardship maintained by the Board of Directors in managing the financial life line of the GWC Club. Since 2008 through 2017, the Club has sponsored a total of \$46,720 in contributions, while directing \$56,743 towards membership activities. This has been made possible by the dedicated membership participation.

I feel honored to have served the members of the GWC as a member of the Board of Directors for the past six years. Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year in 2018!

Jerry Olexson  
Treasurer

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## MAFFI NEWSLETTER MINUTE

New for the 2017 Model A Day at the Model A Museum was the offering of a lapel pin showing the featured vehicle, a 1931 AA Standrive Milk Truck owned by Roger and DeeDee Kauffman. Prior to Roger's passing, he was well known as the Technical Chairman for MARC and wrote the "Technical Questions" article for "Model 'A' News". DeeDee generously loaned this wonderful vehicle to the museum. To honor Roger and to start a new tradition, the pin was created. This pin is offered in a limited quantity and can be ordered for \$7 each (shipping included).



You can send your order to:

Suzan O'Neale  
477 Beaver Pond Way  
Mineral, VA 23117

Please specify the quantity and include a check payable to MAFFI. There will be a different pin in 2018, so watch out for it and come to the museum to purchase your limited edition pin. More information will follow.

Suzan O'Neale  
MAFFI Trustee

## CHANGES AT MAFCA

The Model A Ford Club of America, the national Model A club headquartered in California, has had some changes in leadership for the coming year. The new president, Doug Linden, of Massachusetts, replaces outgoing President Happy Begg of South Carolina. Also, MAFCA will also say good-bye to Jim Spawn, who is stepping down as editor of *The Restorer* for the past 17 years. The MAFCA board is hoping to appoint a new editor of *The Restorer* in the near future.

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## **MEETING PROGRAM PLANS FOR 2018**

Stan Johnson, VP/Programs

Even though it is a little too early to lay out a complete plan for the 2018 meeting programs, the first few meetings are nearly finalized. The board will meet on January 24 to approve ideas for a complete listing. First in the line of programs is the annual winter indoor swap meet to be held on January 17. A separate article appears elsewhere in this issue about that event.

In February Bill Shields and Luke Chaplin will combine efforts to talk about options for Model A headlights and running lights. Bill will report on his findings regarding LED headlights. Luke will talk about the original lighting and Halogen bulb lighting and show comparisons of electrical power demands, longevity, installation, and advantages/ disadvantages of each.

For the following months several topics are being worked on. The overall theme for the year is non-mechanical restoration topics, with history and an era fashion program squeezed in. The history topic is being worked on by my Milford Sprecher and is titled "The Model A and Prohibition". Prohibition was in effect during all the production years of the Model A, so this presentation should be 100 proof or better.

Tom Quigley is working on a program called Model A Restoration Tips and Tricks. This program will feature steering wheel restoration, the Instrument Panel, and perhaps other topics like riveting and wood graining, plus some audience participation with members offered the chance to present and demonstrate their own tip and trick.

Small Parts Day will take place in the early spring and there is the possibility that a program will be developed to prepare for that day. Sully preparations also may be needed in the May meeting. This is one of those years where Sully will occur before the June meeting.

Wheels and tires, upholstery, body metal repair, painting, gas tanks and a program on how to evaluate a Model A for purchase are among the topics being considered for the remainder of the year. Members can influence the choice by sending their preferred programs to me at [fordyhorses@aol.com](mailto:fordyhorses@aol.com).

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## FAIRFAX STATION SHOW, DECEMBER 2 & 3

This year marked the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reconstruction of the Fairfax Station in its present location. Two years after the reconstruction was finished, Past GWC President and Honorary Life Member Clem Clement and friend Chaplain Jim Warrington of the Train Collectors Association (TCA), along with Bill Bushmeier and Pete Volmer of the National Capital Trackers (NCT) put together what has now become an annual Christmas Train Show at the station. Several years after the show was established, Clem and others convinced the Fairfax Station BOD to invite vintage automobiles; and the rest, as they say, "is history". What history? The history of being the Fairfax Station's biggest attendance draw and financial injection for this non-profit historical organization year after year.

This year, as Clem busied himself as the chief "Loco Doctor", several members of the GWC were joined by several other vintage car owners in staging our now annual car show... which is good, because there is limited space inside the fence for cars. And don't drive a low riding car, because the terrain is not as flat as you most probably require.



On Saturday, Jim Baker (in his '31 Town Sedan) and I (in my '31 Coupe) were joined by Honorary Life Member Benny Leonard (in his '30 Coupe), and soon-to-be Honorary Life Member Paul Gauthier (in his '31 Fordor) Model A.

We were joined by local Model A owner Phil Foss

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## FAIRFAX STATION SHOW (Cont.)

and his modified (with a spare tire rack-mounted Spam-cooking apparatus) '30 Tudor. Phil promptly set up cooking Spam and taking pictures with his home-made bespoke "Stereopticon Slide" camera, while entralling us all with his broad knowledge of things photographic.

On Sunday, Jim Baker was back and joined by your erstwhile editor (and recent Honorary Life Member) Bill Sims in his new-to-him '31 Model A Fordor Sedan. Wayne and Jane Chadderton (of the NVRG) soon joined them in Jane's '53 Ford convertible. Local car enthusiast, Bill Bixby joined them to show off his '32 Ford hot rod.

I was in helping the Loco Doc with an "N" gauge locomotive repair when Jeff Mitulla (who ran the 2017 show for the station) announced that several Corvettes were joining the car show outside.

As I said, the ground surrounding the station is rather uneven – not a challenge for a Model A, but too much of a challenge for even the longest legged vintage Corvettes in the group of 7 that joined us for about an hour. So the 'Vettes parked alongside the road just outside the boundary fence of the station... second fiddle to Fords, yet again.

Clem reported he had 3 Loco doctors on Saturday who made 15 repairs; and 5 Loco doctors who made 12 repairs on Sunday.



Kay Gilbert, who was in charge of the financials this year, told me that it had been a very successful show; with over 1,000 paid visitors who got to see both old cars and a broad range of trains (some dating back to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century) running and being played with by boys and girls who have chosen not to age along with their bodies.

All-in-all, it was a wonderful show with great camaraderie, great toy trains, and a broad variety of great cars. And if you just happen to still have that train you got as a kid that is now inoperative, just bring it along in your Model A and leave that train with the Loco Doctor. You'll enjoy the show, and you'll soon have a running train packed with even more Christmas memories to share with your family.

Come join us next year – it'll be advertised in the *Script*, and will be held on Saturday, December 1 and Sunday December 2, 2018.

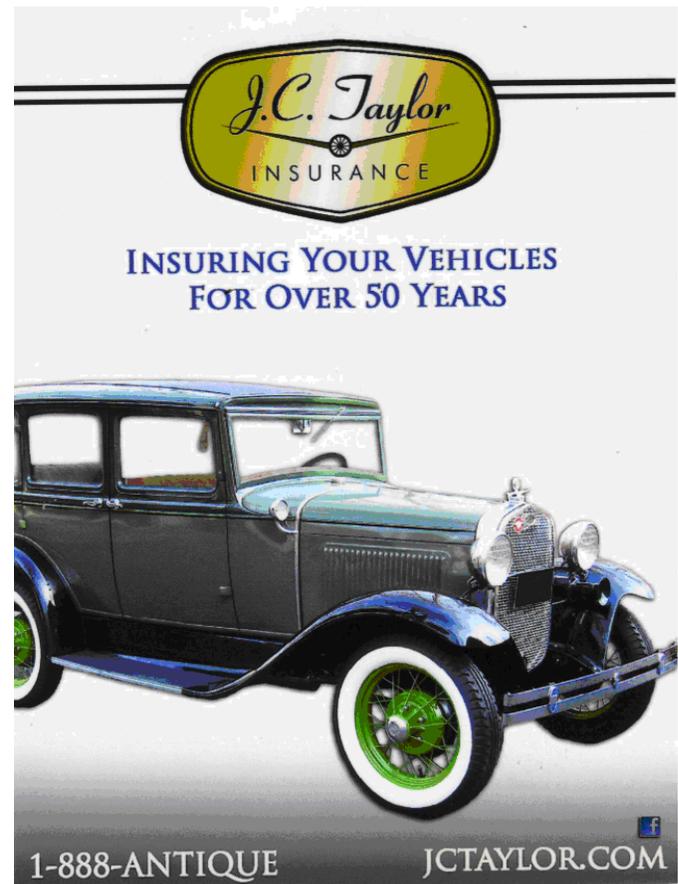
Jim Gray

## SAWN OF A GUN

I cranka da car,  
Bawt she won't run!  
Thees automobile  
She's a sawn of a Gun!  
Shesa stop in the middle  
Of da street upa town,  
I look in the carburetor,  
But shesa no drawn

I pusha da clutch.,  
Shaka de wheel,  
Rnacka da brake,  
Da horn I feel,  
I look in da tank,  
Wot I see \_\_\_ Yes!  
Sawn of a gun!  
She's outa da gas!

(Submitted by Jim Gray—  
author unknown)



The advertisement for J.C. Taylor Insurance features a vintage dark blue car with white-walled tires and a prominent front grille. At the top, the company logo is displayed in a yellow oval with the text "J.C. Taylor INSURANCE". Below the logo, the text "INSURING YOUR VEHICLES FOR OVER 50 YEARS" is written in blue. At the bottom, the phone number "1-888-ANTIQUE" and the website "JCTAYLOR.COM" are listed, along with a small Facebook icon.

## JANUARY INDOOR SWAP MEET



Keep the Christmas Spirit Alive! The Club's annual indoor swap meet will take place on Wednesday, January 17. A good swap meet needs members to bring in saleable items with attractive prices, and other members (often the same ones) to come with the eager and willing spirit of a holiday shopper. If we are to continue this annual tradition, we ask that all members look in their garage (and under their bed, etc.) for items that others may need. This is a chance to enjoy the Model A hobby and help complete other people's projects. Milford Sprecher brought a set of Model A headlights to the January swap meet several years ago. Those headlights are now in the Model A Ford

Museum for all to see, and learn about Henry Ford's famous durable stainless steel components. Milford donated those parts to the museum in the same spirit that others show when bringing items to the swap meet. See you there!

## **THE WRIGHT BROTHERS, BY DAVID MCCULLOUGH**

(A book review by Milford Sprecher)

While the subject is not Model A related, many Club members have experience flying and are interested in flight. Our recent tour to Kent Island underscored the interest of many in the history of flying.

The Wright Brothers were the first to accomplish extended manned flight. Many also know that the Wright Brothers' bicycle shop and their house were moved from Dayton to Greenfield Village. I was aware of their accomplishment, but wanted to learn more by reading David McCullough's recent book on the brothers.

I have long been a McCullough fan, from his narration of Ken Burns' The Civil War to his books on Truman and other historical features. I had the pleasure of meeting him some years ago as we were both going through security at the Reagan Building on Pennsylvania Ave in Washington, DC, too. He was quite gracious and pleasant to meet.

The Wright family was interesting. In addition to Wilbur and Orville, there were two older brothers and a sister Katherine. Katherine was the only one with a college education and she lived with her father and two brothers in the family house on Hawthorne St. in Dayton. Neither Wilbur nor Orville graduated from high school. Their mother died fairly early. Their father, Milton, was a bishop in the United Church of the Brethren and often traveled. On one trip in 1878, their father returned with a model of a helicopter, which sparked the boys' interest in flight. They played with the toy until it broke and then made a copy of it.

After high school, the brothers started a neighborhood newspaper and then went into the bicycle business. In addition to working as bicycle mechanics, they manufactured their own bicycle, the Van Cleve. Their success in this business allowed them to fund the research and development of their own gliders. While not well-schooled, but well educated on their own and with natural curiosity and ability, they were able to accomplish what none before them had been able to accomplish – manned flight.

The brothers kept to themselves and had few witnesses to their first successful flight. They did take photographs, so there was documentation of what they accomplished. It wasn't until a few years later that they became well known for their accomplishments.

An unsung participant in their research and development was Charles Taylor, whom they hired to run their bicycle business while they were working on their experiments. He became actively involved in the flights and designed and built the engines for their planes. Their sister Katherine was an active supporter, as well, and nursed Orville back to health after a crash.

Of local interest is that during a test flight at Fort Myers in Arlington, Orville crashed with an army officer who was a passenger. That officer, Thomas Selfridge, was the first passenger air fatality. I was aware of that accident and while reading the book, I was so involved in the reading and the success of the brothers that I was not looking forward to reading about that accident.

I highly recommend the book. It is filled with interesting facts about their efforts and experiences, here and abroad. Their first flyer is at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, as is a Van Cleve bicycle. There is a replica of the B flyer at the Udvar Hazy Center at Dulles Airport, but it is on loan and will leave soon. I hope to visit both museums to see their planes soon.

## **BROWN BAG EXTRAVAGANZA!**

The GWC held its “Brown Bag Extravaganza!” on Wednesday, December 13. The host of this year’s event was our Vice President and Programs Chairman, James Kolody. James got things off to a classy start with the presentation of a unique and extraordinarily well-crafted portable desk and lectern he designed and built of walnut and bird’s eye maple. The desk was dedicated to the memory of the late Honorary Life Member Joe Thoma, a linchpin in the growth and development of the GWC.



We were all very pleased to see, in our crowd of nearly 50 members, Sharon Kolody (seated with her walker) out on her first event following her recent hip surgery.

>>>>>>

**BROWN BAG (Cont.)**



Mary Lucas beamed when she opened her Jim Cross Blue Bird House... but did she keep it? NO! Maybe next year.

Phil McCormick led off “the parade of Tillotsons”. Five of these zinc-bodied beauties floated around that night. Some recipients were delighted, some a little less so.

Rumor has it that Benny

tried to scoop them all up... his motto: “A Tillotson to go, a Zenith to show”. Well, as my mother used to say, “authorities differ”!



Loretta Metcalf seemed a bit apprehensive as she began opening her prize, but was pleased with a Santa figure holding a small chalkboard where she could leave specific directions for Bruce when she was out. Bruce immediately opined that the writing would have to be so small that there would be no way he could read it... this is what we call a “win-win”.

And speaking of a win! Do you think Janet likes snowmen? It was great to see her and George, Jr. join in the fun. And the story I heard is that she got to keep that great snowman!



>>>>>>

## **BROWN BAG (Cont.)**



Jean Henderson approached her brown bag gift with cautious determination; while Luke received yet another of the evening's ubiquitous Tillotsons.

Funny thing, though... I don't remember seeing any Zeniths going around...

Everywhere I looked I saw big smiles and folks leaning forward in their seats... this is why we call our annual Brown Bag Gift Exchange our "Brown Bag Extravaganza!"

Jim Gray

## **ARE YOU DRIVING WITH A DIM SINGLE TAIL LIGHT?**

(Clem saw this on Facebook )

I drive my A in all weather, all seasons....but was unwilling to drive at night because of the single drum taillight that has a running/parking light about as bright as a bic lighter. (it's a 28 - left side only) I added a 'third eye' inside the rear window that is great for daytime stopping and turning but it did not help with being seen from the rear at night. Even added a large reflector to the edge of the trunk mount. That helped some but still had cars dipping their headlights from braking when they finally saw me.

**SOLVED THE PROBLEM!!!** Harbor Freight had, on sale for \$6.66, the HaulMaster 12-volt magnetic towing light kit. I grabbed a set and changed the 1157 bulbs out for 1154, making it a 6-volt kit. Wired the pigtail end of the trailer plug into my car's running, turning and stop lights, plugged in the lights and they worked. Took a little time to shorten the wire between the two lights, which was done internal of the housings, and wrap the wire in friction tape so that it is black, not yellow, green, white and brown. Now I have two huge lights magnetically attached to the sides of the trunk mount that can be unplugged, removed and stowed in the trunk. Safety and original appearance once I arrive.

I went ahead and found them at Harbor Freight...they have an LED version now for \$32 while the normal one is \$20.--Clem

<http://www.harborfreight.com/12-volt-magnetic-towing-light-kit-63100.html>

<http://www.harborfreight.com/12-volt-magnetic-led-towing-light-kit-63115.html>

## SPRING PICNIC TO OAK HILL – 20 MAY, 2018

Over the weekend of May 18-20 (*the weekend between Mother's Day and Memorial Day*), the Greater Baltimore Model 'A' Ford Club (GBMAFC) and the George Washington Chapter are hosting a joint picnic at the James Monroe Presidential Estate (*Oak Hill*) in Aldie, VA. (Aldie is at the intersection of US-50 and US-15). Members of both the Skyline and Old Dominion Clubs have been invited to join us.



The picnic itself will be on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> (11:00 to 4:00), but a number of the Baltimore members have expressed interest in coming down a day or two early to visit the Smithsonian's Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum at Dulles Airport, and the Winmill Carriage Museum at Morven Park in Leesburg (Open Saturdays 12-5:30), plus touring Virginia Horse Country and some shopping at the quaint village of Middleburg, about 6 miles west.

The picnic on Sunday can handle about 60 cars (Model 'A's only) and participants will be treated to open access to the formal gardens and a short lecture on the history of the estate as well as a tour of the mansion (preliminary designs for which were drawn for President Monroe by his friend Thomas Jefferson with additional features presented by Monroe's friend the Marquis de Lafayette). The 2,000-acre estate is the last remaining presidential home of the Revolutionary Era still in private hands and is not open to the public. This is a one-off by invitation of the owners, who have specifically requested the '*Model 'A's Only*' restriction.

The Baltimore and Washington clubs will handle structural and entertainment expenses of the day – bluegrass band, tents, tables, toilet facilities, parking attendants, signage, etc. A local caterer will provide the picnic, for which each participant will be assessed \$15 in advance. Club members will be asked to please bring lawn chairs. Of course, should Mother Nature hit us with a tropical storm or some such, and we have to cancel, the fee will be refunded ..... but please do your "*beautiful weather*" chants and dances .

Mid-May is the start of "wedding season" and horse shows in the Virginia countryside. If we delay we will soon be out of luck on room reservations for anyone who would like to spend the weekend close by. Accordingly, blocks totaling 50 rooms (1 king or 2 queens) have been set aside in Chantilly, around the corner from Udvar-Hazy. (Chantilly is about 20 minutes from Aldie). The hotels are:

First Choice: The *Wingate by Wyndham*, 3940 Centerview Drive, Chantilly (571) 203-0999. \$84 + tax (25 rooms - Complementary breakfast)

Second Choice: *Courtyard by Marriott*, 3935 Centerview Drive, Chantilly (703) 709-7100. \$89+ tax (25 rooms - No breakfast)

(The *Marriott* and the *Wingate* are in the same complex which includes several restaurants – LongHorn, Bob Evans and Santini's)

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## **SPRING PICNIC TO OAK HILL (Cont.)**

Also reserved is the 19<sup>th</sup> Century B&B in the village of Aldie (*Little River Inn*) which has 7 rooms, some with private baths, some without, with full breakfast (see: [www.aldie.com](http://www.aldie.com)). *Little River Inn*: (703) 327-6742. Cancellation policy: 7 days

**Note:** For prices approaching the stratosphere, the Middleburg-Aldie area also has several other charming inns and B&Bs to choose from (see *TripAdvisor*). Alas, some of the best, such as *The Briar Patch B&B*, are already booked solid for weddings.

Please **RSVP** to John Leydon < [jkleydon@gmail.com](mailto:jkleydon@gmail.com) > as soon as possible, but no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>, and send your \$15 per person contribution made out to “**GWC**” to J.K. Leydon, P.O. Box 146, Aldie, VA 20105-0146. For the roster and name-tags, please include the name of each attendee, e-mail address, cell phone number and the year and version of your Model ‘A’. (A form for this purpose has been e-mailed to each club). As soon as we reach 60 cars (60 completed forms with payment), we will begin a wait list for cancellations.

When you make your reservations for accommodations, please identify yourself as part of “**The Model ‘A’ Club**”. Reservations for the blocks of rooms set aside for us will be accepted through April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please book early, and if you have to cancel, cancellations at the *Wingate and Marriott* will be accepted up to 72 hours prior to scheduled arrival.

All accepters will be sent a map of Oak Hill showing driving directions to the grounds and picnic area. Also sent will be details for the group wishing to join a curated tour the Udvar-Hazy Museum on Saturday (5/19) which will gather and leave from the *Wingate* at 9:30 a.m.

Lastly and **IMPORTANT**: Once you have decided you would like to participate, please notify or cc: Jason Cunningham, who will be coordinating travel, side excursions, and tracking accommodations for those staying in Chantilly or out in the country.

**Once again: Model ‘A’s Only**

(Note: The form for your RSVP is on the last page of this newsletter after the Want Ads.)

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**COMING EVENTS**

**January**

January 10 – (Wednesday) CDC Breakfast at the Silver Diner in Fair Oaks.

**January 17 – (Wednesday) Monthly Meeting – Annual Club flea market. No general meeting.**

**February**

**February 14 - (Wednesday) CDC Breakfast at the Silver Diner in Fair Oaks.**

**February 21 – (Wednesday) Monthly General Meeting**

**March**

March 10 (Saturday) Chesapeake Region Antique Automobile Club Of America, 8 am - 3 pm, rain or shine. Antique Car, Truck, & cycle flea market. Antique vehicle car corral Indoors & Outdoors ... Rain or Shine Admission & parking free. Tom Young - 443-744-6338 - 6 - 9 pm

March 23 and 24 Registration is open for the 2018 Sugarloaf Mountain Region AACA , 2018 Parts Meet. Again in 2018, Maryland's largest and most outstanding antique auto parts swap meet will be held over two days inside the Carroll County Agriculture Center . The information and registration, go to <info@carrollcountyyagcenter.com or phone 301-674-5431. This year, for the first time, an early bird registration (not later than February 21, 2018) nets a savings in booth space.

 **PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

**Please make checks payable to: SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN REGION, AACA**

Mail To: **Jack Gallagher**  
6209 Redwing Court  
Bethesda, Maryland 20817

**Return Vendor Registration Deadline February 21, 2018**  
Questions: Call: 301-674-5431  
On-Site: See Registration Desk For Space Assignments

Vendor Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL MAKE & MODEL CARS, TRUCKS, & MOTORCYCLES ARE WELCOME AT OUR SHOW**

**ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED**

**VERY IMPORTANT - E-MAIL**

Quantity On or Before 02/21/2018	Quantity On or After 02/22/2018	Space Pricing	Total
		Indoor Spaces \$45 Before 02/21/2018 - \$50. After Both Days	
		Outdoor Spaces \$60 Before 02/21/2018 - \$65. After Both Days	
		Car Corral Space \$45 Before 02/21/2018 - \$50. After Both Days	
		Rentals: Per Chair \$2.00 Before 02/21/2018 - \$4.00 After Both Days	
		Per Table \$5.00 Before 02/21/2018 - \$10.00 After Both Days	
<b>Total Due</b>			
<b>SORRY – NO REFUNDS AND NO RV-HOOK-UP</b>			
<b>THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT</b>			

## WANT ADS

### For Sale

1947 Crosley Coupe An attention grabber wherever it goes, this rare machine runs and drives well and includes a wealth of hard-to-find spares. Mostly original car with recent 8-volt battery upgrade, voltage regulator, modern starter Bendix, rebuilt carburetor, water pump and synthetic oil change. Solid body with presentable baby blue paint and interior. Clean and clear title. Please inquire regarding possible transport and NOS 1947 Virginia license plates. Asking \$3900. Contact George P. Smolenyak at 703-969-1715 or [gsmolenyak@aol.com](mailto:gsmolenyak@aol.com)



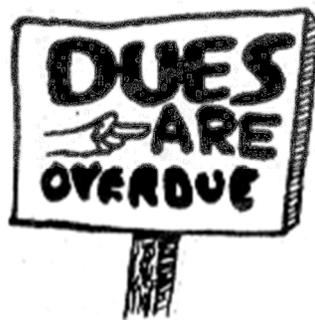
1931 Model A Pickup Recent frame-off restoration (15 test miles since restoration, tire mfg. decal still visible on tire treads), NO RUS, professional paint job by paint/body man with years of Model A experience who used only top of the line paint. (See the GWC website for a long list of improvements and safety modifications.) Located in Glen Allen, VA. Asking \$21,500. Contact Denny Mills at 804-306-8681 or [pennydenny.mills@gmail.com](mailto:pennydenny.mills@gmail.com)



### Storage Available

Vehicle storage currently available at my Dulles, Va, location. Building is clean, well-lit and secure. Price is negotiable depending on term and amenities. Please contact me at the number below...Thank you! George P. Smolenyak, [703-969-1715](tel:703-969-1715) or [gsmolenyak@aol.com](mailto:gsmolenyak@aol.com)

The George Washington Chapter Inc., Model A Club of America and the Mount Vernon Region of the Model A Restorers Club does not endorse or any way approve or disapprove the use of any person or enterprise that advertises or in any way is linked to the club web site or publication (e.g., the Script).



# RSVP for Oak Hill Picnic on May 20<sup>th</sup>

(participation limited to the first 60 cars whose occupants return this form)

I/we plan to attend the Oak Hill Model 'A' Picnic on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> (11:00 - 4:00)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of attendees x \$15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my/our check payable to **GWC** (George Washington Chapter).  
(Refundable if event needs to cancel for weather or any other unavoidable reason)

I/We will be driving a \_\_\_\_\_ Model 'A' Ford \_\_\_\_\_  
(Year) (Body Style)

I/We **DO DO NOT** (CIRCLE ONE) plan to join the group leaving the *Wingate* in Chantilly at 9:30 Saturday morning (5/19) for the Smithsonian's Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum.

At the moment I/we plan to book into the following hotel for the night(s) indicated:

1) Hotel or B&B for the night(s) of: **FRI SAT SUN** (May 18, 19, 20). Circle whichever night(s) apply.

**OR**

2) I/We have not yet decided on accommodations, but will notify our club Activities Director when we do.

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail form and check made out to '**GWC**' to:

J. K. Leydon  
P. O. Box 146  
Aldie, VA 20105-0146