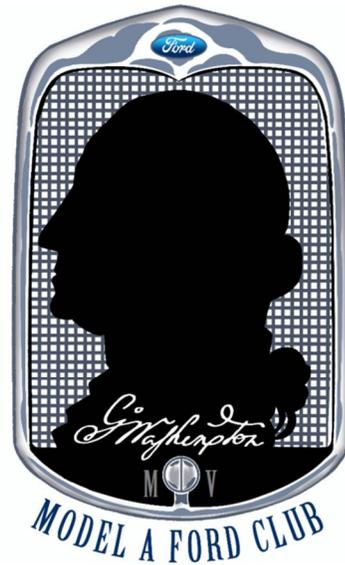


The Ford Script



Vol. XLI

January 2020

No. 1



Scene along the canal in Georgetown



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 George Washington Region
of the Model A Restorers Club
GWC Model A Club
Post Office Box 971
McLean, VA 22101

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 and the Model A Ford Museum (MAFFI). The chapter Web page on the Internet may be accessed by:

www.gwcmodela.org
Web Master: Greg Shepherd

Board of Directors

President	Doug Tomb	703-241-4152	douglas.tomb@verizon.net
VP & Program Chairman	Luke Chaplin	301-865-5753	lukechaplin@comcast.net
Activities Chairman	(vacant)		
Editor	Bill Sims	301-891-3616	billhsims@gmail.com
Asst. Editor	Bruce Metcalf	540-955-8312	kesedeme@aol.com
Secretary	Gerry Olexson	703-538-4054	ggjjoo@cox.net
Membership Chairman	Greg Shepherd	703-476-6496	shepman@gmail.com
Treasurer	Paul Bjarnason	703-627-1324	paul.bjarnason@gmail.com
Assistant Treasurer	Milford Sprecher	301-563-3021	milford.sprecher@gmail.com
Annual Meet Chairman Emeritus	Bill Worsham	703-250-5474	billworsham@aol.com
Annual Meet Chairman	John Dougherty	703-971-8033	doughert@cox.net
Tool Chairman	Benny Leonard	703-278-2994	ben5@cox.net
Youth Development	James Kolody	703-795-9301	grubsworms1@gmail.com
National Liaison	Milford Sprecher	301-563-3021	milford.sprecher@gmail.com

Appointed Positions

Concessions Chairman	(vacant)		
Club Librarian	Jay Melton	703-237-6953	jmelton58@verizon.net
Historian/Archivist	Tom Quigley	703-912-4293	tjqigley6@gmail.com
Sunshine Chairman	Jim Gray	703-250-1991	jrg240z@cox.net
Technical Advisor	Tom Terko	301-949-7329	tterko@verizon.net

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

Next deadline: Monday, February 3rd

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Wow, it is 2020 already. A Happy New Year to you all!

I am very optimistic for this upcoming year. The Club is financially sound, and ready to continue our focus on the Model A Ford. Your efforts as a Club and the 2019 Board have built a firm foundation, and we just need your energy and new ideas to build upon for the year ahead.

We welcomed a return Board member this year—Jerry Olexson, Secretary. A Thank You to Jerry for stepping forward to take an active role in guiding the Club. Milford Sprecher has agreed to take on the extra responsibility of GWC National Liaison this year. He will be reporting all of the goings on at the National level, so you can have the chance to participate.

I want to thank Jason Cunningham for his years as GWC Activity Chairman. We have had many Club events that Jason helped to make happen. We appreciate his efforts. Jason has stayed on as Parade Chairman for 2020, and we look forward to the Cherry Blossom, Memorial Day, and Fourth of July parades down in DC.

I also want to thank Jaime Lucas for helping the Club as GWC National Liaison this past year. Knowing what the national clubs are doing is a benefit for our membership.

For those of you on the fence, we still need an Activities Chairman for 2020. Don't worry, the main effort will be coordinating our Annual Club Picnic. If you want to plan a Club outing too, all the better.

Luke Chaplin is working hard to capture the interest of existing and new members by providing programs that are interesting, inspiring and educational. Luke is developing a program slate that is very strong, but he needs member input. I ask the membership to recommend programs, or to conduct a program yourself, that will entertain your fellow enthusiasts. If you have ideas or questions, contact Luke.

If there is a tour that a member would like to sponsor or coordinate, the Club will support you in that effort too. Tours can be one day, or a multi-day event. Check on the MARC and MAFCA National Club tours planned for this year as well.

Our main event of the year, **The Sully Car Show**, is coming up fast. John Dougherty, 2020 Annual Meet Chairman, and the Board, are already hard at work on it. This is the principal focus of our Club, and all members are requested to participate. This is your event, so get involved and continue to make it a success. Contact John and offer to help where needed. Many hands make easy work.

Finally, I hope that all members will take the time to assess their individual Model A and see what it may need to improve its reliability and safety. If you have questions, or need help doing some repairs, that is what the Club is here for. Bring those questions to the Monthly Meeting. Contact Greg Shepherd who will add your request to his regular Club email announcements. If you need a tool for your repairs, contact Benny Leonard, Tools Chairman and Repair Squad coordinator. Tools to lend from the Club Tools inventory is one of the big benefits of Club membership.

I am looking forward to many fun drives in my own Model A this year, and I look forward to your joining us in the fun.

Doug Tomb.

This month's cover photo: Sent to Bill Sims by a Park Ranger in gratitude for his participation with his Model A in many "Life and Death on the C&O Canal" performances put on by the Park Service around Halloween. No info on when it was taken. "Life and Death ..." no longer is done.

FROM THE EDITOR

Another year in the books. I'm putting in a plea for more folks to step up and submit articles or report on Club events. If you read Jim Gray's coverage of the Christmas Party, you may get the sense that he's tired of being the lone reporter and article writer. This month I'm running an article Stan Johnson wrote last year. So what you submit doesn't have to be "timely," just something you think Club members might enjoy reading about.

I was reading the latest Restorer and came across our Club doings in the club news section. Bruce does a great job writing and submitting those blurbs. I think the members really appreciate them.

In other news, for the second consecutive January I get to announce the arrival of yet another grandchild—Remy William Sims—born on Dec. 30th. He's in Denver, so we won't get to see him as much as our first, who lives in Baltimore. But we're going to fly out there next week and check him out. (Plus, in April we'll be getting another Baltimore baby—when it rains, it pours!)

Bill Sims

FROM THE SMOKE-FREE ROOM

Board Meeting January 4, 2020



Call to Order. The transition meeting of the Board was called to order at about 7:00 pm by President Doug Tomb, at Mylo's Grill in McLean, Virginia, and adjourned at about 7:30 pm.

Attendance. A quorum was present for the Board meeting but no votes were taken. The members who attended were from the 2019 and the 2020 Board: Jason Cunningham, Bill Sims, Milford Sprecher, Doug Tomb, Paul Bjarnason, James Kolody, Benny Leonard, John Dougherty, Luke Chaplin, Greg Shepherd, Bruce Metcalf and Gerry Olexson. Jim Gray and Jamie Lucas were not present.

Minutes of Prior Meeting – Minutes of the prior Board meeting were published in *The Script*.

Board Meeting Agenda – President Tomb started the Board meeting stating our agenda would be limited to introduction of the new Board members and recognition of the e-mail approval by the Board for the cost of the transition Board dinner, which approximates \$700. Since the last meeting of the Board, no other votes were taken, including at the transition Board meeting.

Board Members for 2020 – President Tomb welcomed Gerry Olexson onto the Board as Secretary (and Paul Bjarnason's retirement from the Secretary position) and announced that Milford Sprecher would serve as the Club's national liaison in addition to staying on as Assistant Treasurer. Jason Cunningham has stepped down and no replacement has been found, so the position of Activities Chairman remains unfilled. Also, John Dougherty announced that Paul Bjarnason had agreed to serve as his assistant for the Sully Show.

Other matters – No other Board actions were taken.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Bjarnason, 2019 Secretary
Gerard Olexson, 2020 Secretary

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER 25 YEARS AGO (1995)

In the Script, President Jim Cartmill wrote that he hoped everyone had a safe time ringing in the New Year and that he was sure all had made at least one resolution concerning their Model A. He said he resolved to start doing more work on his car in 1995, and that it certainly wouldn't be hard to beat his record for 1994 - -saying "some work is better than none at all".



He thanked Lloyd and Sandy Hoffman for the work they did setting up the Christmas party. John Kandl got kudos too for making the center pieces for the tables, which everyone enjoyed. Walt Bratton was given thanks for donating gift certificates for the drawing, Mary Duncan for sweaters she embroidered and thanks too to his wife Carol, who helped with the stained-glass sun catchers.

At the party John Howell was presented with a certificate of appreciation for his financial advice and auditing, helping to ensure that the Club remained financially secure. Andy Pogan was given the Carl Patrick Memorial Award for continuing service to the membership. He also volunteered to monitor the two organizations lobbying Federal legislation dealing with "clunkers" and to report back to the board periodically.

At the Board meeting, Kirsten Gottschalk, visiting from Denmark, told about the club there, and said the principal difference was that her club owned its own meeting house. Kirsten is better known today as Mrs. Brad Minners. Do Model A's have a way of drawing people together or what.... And does anyone (you gotta be an old timer) remember the dead-ended discussions in our chapter about getting our own place?

MAFCA bestowed a runner-up award for our Script. Editor Bill modestly said it won because he was just trying to live up to the standards of his predecessors.

Howard Minners wrote a long informative article about Model A rims. Did you know there were three different manufacturers? That all wheels were painted black until July 1930? That there are 30 1/4" diameter steel spokes in each wheel, 20 short ones and 10 long, with a tensile strength of 4,000 pounds? That they were different from other wire wheels of the era because the spokes were electrically welded to both the hub and the rim? And that while they all look alike, there are 4 variations in the spacing of spokes? And some thought it was just an ordinary wheel!

Dave Henderson

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND INFORMATION

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 updating the Board of Directors and take my first shot at events for 2020. Please keep me honest and report any corrections needed.



Membership Report

We had one new member join... help me welcome Jeff and Donna Stubin, update your rosters with their information:

Stubin, Jeffrey & Donna
1201 Hawling Pl. SW
Leesburg, VA 20175
donnastubin@hotmail.com
703-777-3033 (h)

Also...into our Final Stretch for 2020 dues! We have had a good response on collecting dues for 2020. But we still have about 40 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.



You can send your money via PayPal by using Shepman@gmail.com for PayPal and make sure to pick Friends and Family as part of the process. Venmo is a new option, use @Greg-Shepherd-92

For the more traditional route, 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 to:**

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

The hard deadline is: **February 29th, 2020**

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.gwcmodela.org

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE MODEL A FORD FOUNDATION!

2020 will be a memorable year for the Model A Museum as we celebrate our 10- year anniversary. Our Museum has undergone many changes during its existence and all of them for the better. This is due to the continued enthusiasm for the Model A hobby and most of all, your continued support to keep us up and running. We are also fortunate to be a part of the Gilmore Museum Complex.

If you are making your plans for this coming year, please consider a trip to the Model A Museum for **Model A Day, September 19, 2020**. Our theme will be “First Responders of the Model A Era!” We are excited about our theme and are currently searching for service vehicles that fit our theme to be on display such as fire trucks, police cars, ambulances, and more. If you know of one or have one that you would like to showcase, please contact us.

Please renew your membership to MAFFI if you haven’t already done it. It so easy now on our website, www.maffi.org.

Thank you for your continued support of MAFFI through your membership and donations.

Marsha Quesnel
MAFFI Trustee
clubcontact@maffi.org

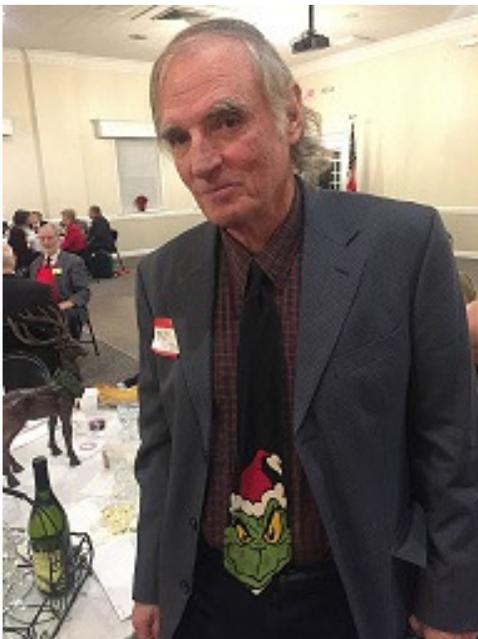


GWC CHRISTMAS PARTY – DECEMBER 7, 2019

This year's Christmas party was like many others ... but with two great exceptions. As the evening was drawing to a close, James Kolody reported on an incredible bit of wonderful news: our friend and club member Jim Ryan has just undergone a successful kidney transplant.



Backing up from this magic moment and to the beginning of the evening, we were all pleased to see Barb Edwards as she checked us in at the door. And what a wonderful job Edna Cross, Jason Cunningham, and Jason's friend Loriel Dutton had done getting things ready and laying out the plan of events. And even with a broken foot, Kathie seemed to be in a festive mood.



After a fine meal of steak, pork or turkey entrees, we got down to the business of door prizes. I've heard the distribution method described as a silent auction, a blind auction and a few other names, but basically you take half your ticket and put it in a decorated can in front of the item you're interested in. Then tickets are drawn to ensure you don't get those items.

It didn't seem to dim the good times, except, perhaps, for those of our resident Grinch Editor... **who needs more of you to write for this**

newsletter!!!



Laura and Greg seemed to have a good time...

>>>>>>

GWC CHRISTMAS PARTY (Cont.)

So did the Gauthiers, the Jaegers, the Bjarnasons and the McCormicks.



The second big piece of good news for the night was all about James Kolody. James was honored for his selfless sharing of his Model A skills with the Carl Patrick Award.



Mary Lucas was also all smiles after winning the coveted Jim Cross cedar bird feeder,

We said goodbye to the old board...



...and welcomed the new board. From the left, John Dougherty will replace me as Annual Meet Chairman; Jerry Olexson (not pictured) will assume the role of Secretary; Paul Bjarnason will return as Treasurer; Bill "The Grinch" Sims will return as Editor; Bruce Metcalf will return as Assistant Editor; Greg Shepherd will return as Membership Chairman and Webmaster; Milford Sprecher will return as Assistant Treasurer and will assume the role of National Club Liaison; James Kolody will return as Youth Chairman; and Doug Tomb will return as President.

>>>>>>



GWC CHRISTMAS PARTY (Cont.)

We got a good Sunshine reports on Clem – whose closely monitored exercise regimen is helping him regain energy after his recent heart procedure.

We also got a good Sunshine report on Carol Terko's recovery from her recent surgery to correct a hiatal hernia.

Both Kathie and Laura Shepherd are just about recovered from their respective broken foot accidents.

We missed Benny & Sharon Leonard since Benny didn't want to share his bronchitis.

But the very best news of all was the great gift of life for Jim Ryan. We all wish you a full and speedy recovery.

We hope you all had as great a time as it looked like you did, and please join us again next year... it's the first Saturday in December... December 5, 2020.

Jim Gray

(Editor's note: Jim, being his usual modest self, declined to include himself in the above article. At the dinner, he was presented with an award in recognition of his outstanding work on Sully the past few years after Bill Worsham decided to pare down his activities and hand over the grunt work to someone younger and with more energy and enthusiasm. Jim stepped in and kept the Sully show running like clockwork and also added an innovation or two to spice things up. The Club appreciated his efforts and thanks him for a job well done.)

A promotional graphic for Goodyear's 50th anniversary. On the left is a gold laurel wreath containing the text "Celebrating 50th Year ANNIVERSARY 1969 - 2019". To the right is the "GOOD YEAR" logo in gold, with a winged foot logo. Below that is the "KELSEY TIRE, INC." logo in a stylized font. At the bottom right, the website "www.kelseytire.com" and "EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR" are listed.

SCENES FROM THE CHRISTMAS PARTY



Loriel Dutton, Beverly Tomb, Edna Cross, Shuyan Sprecher, Deborah Dougherty



Bill Worsham and Jean Henderson



Jim is holding up a yellow sign (no doubt taken from Edna) with a quote from the comic strip "Cathy". It says: "I want a man who does to my body what chocolate does to my brain."

THOSE OLD MODEL A FORDS ONLY HAVE A FEW YEARS LEFT



Who are these guys on K Street in a 1929 Model A Roadster, with the windshield tilted up, in front of the Taft House Inn?

The Internet tells us that there was once a group of dedicated Model A enthusiasts in the Washington, DC, area long before the George Washington Club first drove the banks of the Potomac. It was May of 1942. At least one Model A owner was attending George Washington University Pictures were taken at 1603 K St. by photographer John Farrell. All these years later, the Shorpy.com website republished the photos for our enjoyment.
[https://www.shorpy.com/node/24787?size= original#caption](https://www.shorpy.com/node/24787?size=original#caption)



Did they know they were parking in front of the former home of President, and later Supreme Court justice, William Howard Taft during the first decade of the 20th Century when he was

>>>>>>

THOSE OLD MODEL A FORDS (Cont.)

Secretary of War? His past ownership is memorialized by the name of the restaurant then in the building, the Taft House Inn. Today, this area of K Street north of the White House little resembles its prior self. The former Taft House and adjacent buildings seen on the previous page are long gone to “progress.”

There is a second photo of the car and the surrounding group taken by photographer John Farrell. The photos on Shorpy.com are high definition and it is fun to read the inscriptions on the car and the business signs on the building. It is also fun to look at the people up close and wonder about who they were and how the growing World War impacted their lives.



The title of the photo says it's a student's car in front of University Club on K Street NW. It is ironic that they considered this Model A Ford an old car in 1942, when it was only 13 or 14 years old. Automobile style and technology had certainly changed a lot in those years. Lots of cars from 2006 and 2007 (and much older!) are still on the road and don't stand out as being old.

If 1603 is indeed the address, then all of this has been replaced with modern buildings, and there's a Kia parked in their spot.



Stan Johnson

BROWN BAG EXTRAVAGANZA!

Our 2019 Brown Bag Extravaganza was held on December 18, 2019. What a show. You would be sure we were all soaking in Christmas eggnog.



As Doug lays out the rules, 40 or so of us wait ... you have to remember how many times that thing you wanted had been stolen. You can only be sure of keeping it once it's been stolen 2 times. Third times the charm!

Gil was

confused at first. Then he flipped the container over. "Cotter pins?! I drove all this way for COTTER PINS?!" Actually, that was a pretty good score, Gil; you can actually use them and they won't collect dust!



Benny thought he'd won the lottery; Christmas cheer in a bottle... never mind that Santa on his sweater is getting ready to chug a beer.



Many decorations and tools were being selected and swapped around the room, and anticipation was growing to see who might choose the Cross cedar creation of the night.

Soon it was Edna's turn.

"You know, Jim's been making these things for YEARS and I still don't have one... I know what I'm going to take..."

That's IT!

Edna informed us that she would be keeping that bird house!

George Merkel got that great bat house, so she was planning on keeping that blue bird house. So Merry Christmas to Edna!

Did she keep it? Was there much more tom-foolery to be had? Did we have great weather and an even greater time?

>>>>>>



BROWN BAG EXTRAVAGANZA! (Cont.)

Come join us next year for the 2020 Brown Bag Extravaganza. Nothing beats being there for enjoying the show.

Jim Gray



SCENES FROM THE BROWN BAG EXCHANGE



COMING EVENTS

January

January 15 (Wednesday) – Semi-annual flea market. No general meeting.

February

February 12 (Wednesday) CDC Breakfast at the Silver Diner in Fair Oaks.

February 19 – (Wednesday) Monthly General Meeting

WANT ADS

For Sale

1931 Maryland plates. I was in the Washington Chapter in the 1980's with friends from Annapolis, Del Puschart and Guy Pearl. 1989 I moved to North Carolina and I took my restored 1931 Maryland plates off my Roadster. I thought that one of my sons might move back and could use them but that is not going to happen. If anyone in the Club needs a set, please get in touch with me, Hap Todd, at 704-500-6898.





Board wives and date at the board transition dinner:

Back row (l to r): Loretta Metcalf, Alice Sims, Deborah Dougherty,
Margaret Bjarnason, Loriel Dutton

Front row (l to r): Sharon Kolody, Beverly Tomb, Cindy Olexson,
Sharon Leonard, Laura Shepherd

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