



Vol. 43 No. 3 • April 2025 • MAFCA • Autumn Trails Chapter

Dash Lite

The Autumn Trails Model A Ford Club Newsletter • Winnsboro, Texas

From Club President Tex Willis

Greetings and Salutations fellow Masters of Model A Mechanics and Damsels of Fashion and Design!

Spring is here! I hope you have been getting out in your Model A's! If you let them sit all Winter, it shouldn't take a whole lot to get them running. Some fresh gas, charge the battery and try it. If it doesn't start, you may need to take the carburetor apart and clean it up, as gas sitting in the carburetor can dry up and leave a little residue.



I have been getting a lot of projects done while I can. I have a lot to get done before my hernia surgery [REDACTED] then I'll be recovering for three weeks. Plus, if I do this stuff now, it won't be so hot later!

We gained two new members at the March meeting, Chuck and Denise Pounds. They are from Paris Texas! Welcome to the club!

We'll have our next meeting at Oak Ridge Marina on April 13. We'll start showing up and eating at 1:00 and hold the meeting afterwards. I hope to see you there!

Keep your grease fittings lubed, air in your tires, and by all means, remember to turn your gas valve on before you pull out of the gas station!

-Tex Willis



Autumn Trails Model A Club Minutes of the March 9, 2025 Meeting

Venue Oak Ridge Marina

Call to Order was at 1:41 pm. There were 13 members and two visitors present and President Tex Willis was presiding. We were all welcomed to Oak Ridge including the two guests [and now members] Chuck and Denise Pounds, from Paris Texas. Denise and Chuck told us about how they had acquired their A, a replica of John-Boy Walton's car from *The Waltons* television series

President:	Tex Willis
Vice President:	Gary Gray
Treasurer:	Vicki Clark
Secretary:	Rebekah Yeager
Webmaster:	ChanaGail Willis
Newsletter:	John B. Yeager III
	AutumnTrailsMAC@outlook.com
	autumntrailsmodelafordclub.com

Birthdays and Anniversaries Birthday greeting were given this month to Mike Poe, Carol Black and Bobby Willis. The Hardings will be celebrating their 41st wedding anniversary this month

Sunshine Report [REDACTED] will be having double hernia surgery and [REDACTED] will also be having hernia surgery [REDACTED]

Treasurer's Report Vicki Clark reported that we have [REDACTED] in the account. The club sent a [REDACTED] donation to the Winnsboro Center for the Arts in honor of member Bill Abernathy, who recently passed away

Door Prizes No one had driven their A so there was no \$10 award. \$5 each was awarded to [REDACTED]

Old Business

- There was no outstanding old business to clear up

New Business

- Tex Willis shared information about the Tractors, Trucks and Fun event that will be held in Kilgore from 10am to 2 pm on May 17th. Club members are invited to drive their Models A's and participate in the event. A detailed flyer will be included with the newsletter



- John Yeager reported on the work of the scholarship committee. He has reached out to all the Wood County schools and has heard back from the counselors of Alba-Golden, Winnsboro and Yantis schools so far
- Tex asked which members would be planning to attend the State Tour this year. He raised the idea of doing a short tour for non-attenders. There was no consensus reached and we can re-visit this idea again.
- Tex reported that it looks like a movie has been selected for our International Model A Day event in September at the Historic Select Theater in Mineola
- The location for next month's meeting will be Oak Ridge Marina. We decided that we will plan to show up and "eat around one" with the meeting to follow

Meeting adjourned The meeting was closed by general consensus at 2:07 pm

Rebekah Yeager
Secretary



6th Annual
TRACTORS,
TRUCKS &
FUN!



Saturday, May 17, 10am – 2pm
Downtown Kilgore

Autumn Trails Model A Club members are invited to drive their cars and participate in the event!



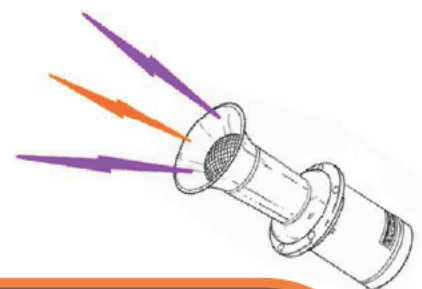
April

BIRTHDAYS

- Steve MacLaird
- Jana Icenhower
- Lon Neighbors

ANNIVERSARIES

- Parrishes

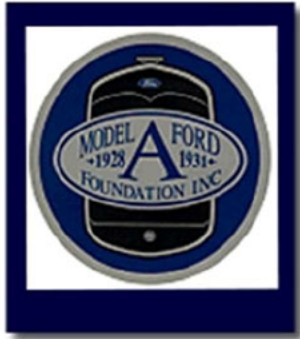


Area availability of Ethanol-Free gas

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Duko Oil Co. | 950 E Lennon Dr, Emory |
| Kim’s Convenience | 1020 E Lennon Dr, Emory |
| Beckat Oil & Fuel | 115 W Front St, Mineola |
| Murphy USA (Walmart) | 131 NE Loop 564, Mineola |
| Young Oil (Chevron) | 116 N Newsom, Mineola |
| Jackson Oil Company | 310 W 15 th St, Mount Pleasant |
| The Minnow Bucket | 3035 Hwy 154, Quitman |
| Lake Quitman Marina | 1450 CR 1416, Quitman |
| Fisherman’s 1 Stop | 7933 W FM 515, Quitman |
| Murphy USA (Walmart) | 1760 S Broadway, Sulphur Springs |
| Winkle Oil Co. | 301 W Carnegie St, Winnsboro |

Ethanol: In modern cars, it’s fine. But in your Model A, it’s terrible.

Howard Eckstein, *The Restorer*



**MAFFI
LIAISON
NEWSLETTER**
March 2025
*Contributed by
John Icenhower*



Through the generous donation of Gary and Laurie Mills, their 1928 Ford Model A 4-Door Phaeton will be used in this year's sweepstakes. Their request was that the proceeds be used to fund the expansion of the Ford Model A Museum on the grounds of the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan.

The 1928 Ford Model A 4-Door Phaeton highlights:

- Like a traditional phaeton this open car has no side windows, providing an open-air driving experience
- Unlike a Ford Model A roadster, the Phaeton has four doors, allowing passengers access to the back seat
- With an open design, the Phaeton was not as commonly purchased as other Model A body styles

Entering in the sweepstakes not only benefits the Model A Ford Museum, you are entered to win this amazing car! To enter, cut and paste this address: <https://www.tapkat.org/model-a-ford-foundation-inc/eE6e35?promo=MAFFIWS20> (or go to the Model A Ford Foundation Inc. website, click on Expansion and then click on Sweepstakes).

The Model A Ford Foundation, Inc. (MAFFI) seeks to preserve Model A Fords and related artifacts and memorabilia, encourage research, and educate present and future generations about the Model A Ford and its era.

Every year a special Model A Day celebration is held on the third weekend of September. You are encouraged to attend the two-day Model A only event, because all funds collected at the Gilmore Museum's gate that day are given to MAFFI to support the foundation and the Model A Ford Museum.

By entering this Sweepstakes, you are becoming a part of a broader plan to help the Model A Museum expand.

You may also support the Model A Museum through Membership in MAFFI, and all donations and bequests are welcome and much appreciated.

Cindy Ellenbecker, MAFFI Trustee/Secretary



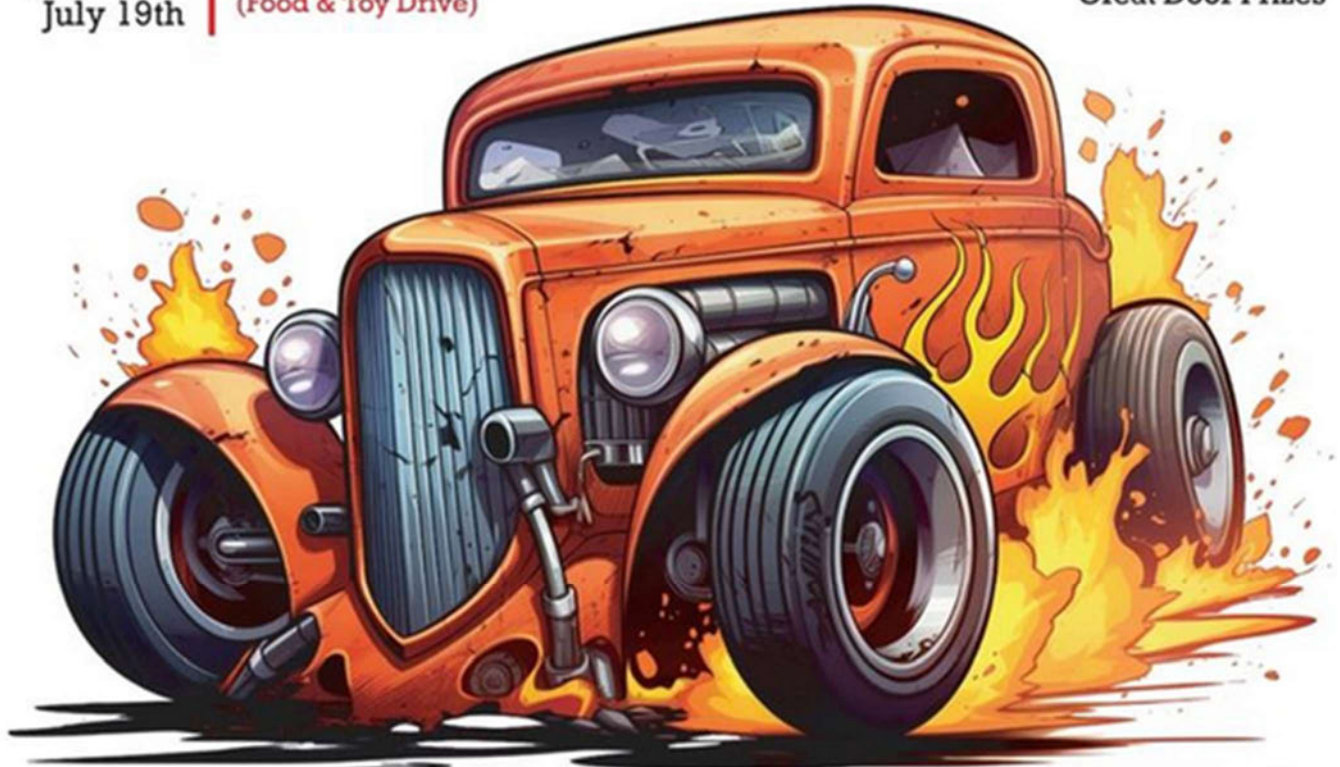
DATES

March 15th	August 16th
April 19th	September 20th
May 17th	October 18th
June 21st	November 15th
July 19th	(Food & Toy Drive)

FREE
 Breakfast Snacks &
 Coffee

 50/50 Drawing

 Great Door Prizes



CLASSICS & COFFEE 2025

Mark your calendar for the 3rd Saturday morning each month beginning in March for the **FREE** "no registration" Classics & Coffee Cruise-in at the Courthouse Square in Quitman, Texas from 8:00-10:30 am.

Rain will cancel the event, check our website: lakecountryclassicscarclub.com our Facebook page or call 805-340-6520, 903-312-3499 or 910-478-8723 for updates

Inspiration from a Classic TV Show Lives On in a Model A ***Feature story and photos by Denise Pounds***

The Waltons and the Road to Our John-Boy Car

As a child of the late '60s and early '70s, like many American families, we were greatly influenced by a Depression-era family who made a weekly appearance on our television. Whether it was Thursday or Sunday evening, our family would gather around the TV to watch our favorite show—*The Waltons*.



Growing up in rural West Texas, our values and understanding of family roles were often shaped by what we saw on the screen. As the oldest child, I naturally identified with John-Boy Walton. Like him, I sometimes felt like a “mother hen,” looking out for my younger siblings and navigating the responsibilities that come with being the eldest. *The Waltons* wasn't just entertainment; it was a guide on hospitality, love, friendship, faith, and even life's harder lessons—loss, disagreements, poverty, caring for the abandoned, alcoholism, and disappointment.

That show left a lasting impact on me, and little did I know that decades later, it would connect me to a very special car—one that would bring a piece of *The Waltons* into my own life.

The Journey to Owning John-Boy's Car

Once Chuck and I were married and started a family, *The Waltons* never strayed far from our hearts. Every Christmas Eve, we would gather around to watch our old VHS copy of *The Homecoming: A Christmas Story*, the pilot movie that started it all. As the series went into



syndication, we enjoyed watching episodes on demand and even built a backup DVD collection. Now, our grandkids have joined in as avid Waltons fans—a great legacy to pass on!

When Facebook came along, I connected with fellow Waltons enthusiasts across the country and discovered a fan club and cast reunions. In March 2016, Chuck and I had the incredible opportunity to visit the Waltons Mountain

Museum in Schuyler, Virginia—the real hometown of the show’s creator, Earl Hamner Jr. It was a bittersweet day, as we received news that very morning that Earl had passed away. That moment will stay with me forever.

A year later, in March 2017, we attended a Waltons reunion and Earl Hamner’s Celebration of Life event. Not only did we meet many of the cast members, but we also had the honor of creating a memorial bench in Earl’s memory, which now resides in the Pony Cart Room at the Waltons Mountain Museum. During that visit, we first heard whispers of a special project—a Waltons-themed bed and breakfast.



John & Olivia’s B&B - A Dream Come to Life

The idea soon became reality when Carole Johnson built John & Olivia's B&B Inn directly across from the museum, meticulously recreating the look and feel of the Walton family home. From the furnishings to the layout—even a replica of John-Boy’s car parked out front—every detail was designed to transport visitors into the world of *The Waltons*.



Chuck, ever the craftsman, was eager to contribute to the B&B’s authenticity. He built a beautiful front porch swing, an iconic feature seen in so many beloved scenes from the show. Over the years, I was able to enjoy a couple of special girls’ weekends there with my daughters, making more cherished memories in this Waltons-themed haven.

Then, during my last visit in October 2024, I received unexpected news—Carole was closing the B&B. As we talked, she casually asked if I knew anyone who might be interested in the car. I tried to contain my excitement, but I’m sure my face gave away the fact that I needed to make a call back home ASAP!

Bringing John-Boy’s Car Home

At first, I conceded that acquiring the car was just a dream—probably not something we could make happen. But after a second conversation with Carole, I was reminded that prayer works! She wanted the car to go to someone who would appreciate its history and keep it true to its Waltons roots, rather than transforming it into a rat rod. With an offer we couldn’t refuse, the deal was set.

In November 2024, John-Boy’s replica car made its journey from Schuyler to Powderly, Texas. Upon arrival, it went straight to the mechanic’s shop for much-needed engine repairs. Three months, a newly rebuilt motor, and several under-the-hood fixes later—“Sprocket” was finally home!



Sharing the Nostalgia



Sprocket’s first official outing will be at the Missouri Cherry Blossom Festival at the end of April, where many Waltons cast members, including our beloved Richard Thomas (John-Boy himself), will be in attendance for a weekend of fun and nostalgia.

Moving forward, we hope to take the Model A to local car shows and maybe even a parade or two. More than anything, we want to bring a little piece of *The Waltons* to life—reminding people of a simpler time, when family, love, and values were the heart of everyday life. And who knows? Maybe we’ll even inspire a new generation of Waltons fans along the way.



Top 20 Pop Songs of 1930

playback.fm

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Walk Right In <i>Cannon’s Jug Stompers</i> 19. When It’s Springtime in the Rockies <i>Ben Selvin</i> 18. Sitting on Top of the World <i>Mississippi Sheiks</i> 17. St. Louis Blues <i>Louis Armstrong</i> 16. If I Could Be With You One Hour Tonight
<i>McKinney’s Cotton Pickers</i> 15. When It’s Springtime in the Rockies <i>Hilo Hawaiian Orchestra</i> 14. Blue Yodel No. 9 (Standin’ on the Corner)
<i>Jimmie Rodgers</i> 13. Happy Days Are Here Again <i>Benny Meroff & His Orchestra</i> 12. You’re Driving Me Crazy! (What Did I Do?) <i>Guy Lombardo</i> 11. Little White Lies <i>Fred Waring & the Pennsylvanians</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Dancing With Tears in My Eyes <i>Nat Shilkret</i> 9. Chant of the Jungle <i>Roy Ingraham</i> 8. On the Sunny Side of the Street <i>Ted Lewis & his Orchestra</i> 7. Stein Song (University of Maine) <i>Rudy Vallee & his Connecticut Yankees</i> 6. Three Little Words <i>Duke Ellington</i> 5. Body & Soul <i>Paul Whiteman</i> 4. The Peanut Vendor <i>Don Azpiazu & his Havana Casino</i> 3. Ten Cents a Dance <i>Ruth Etting</i> 2. Puttin’ on the Ritz <i>Harry Richman</i> 1. Happy Days Are Here Again <i>Ben Selvin</i> |
|--|--|
- Listen to these songs and more at playback.fm*



Ken's Binder

Clutch Pedal Free Play

It is easy to forget to check the clutch pedal clearance (or free play) now and then, but you really do need to check it. I press down gently on the pedal with just a couple of fingers, to judge how far down the pedal goes before you are pressing the throwout bearing against the clutch "fingers." If you do not have an inch of movement, follow these instructions. *A little extra free play will not hurt anything.*

Clutch Pedal Clearance

The correct clearance or play for the clutch pedal is approximately one inch. That is when the clutch pedal is depressed there should be about one inch movement in the pedal before it starts to disengage the clutch.

As the clutch facings wear, this clearance or movement gradually grows less. Consequently, it should occasionally be checked. Under no circumstances should the car be driven without clearance or play in the clutch pedal.

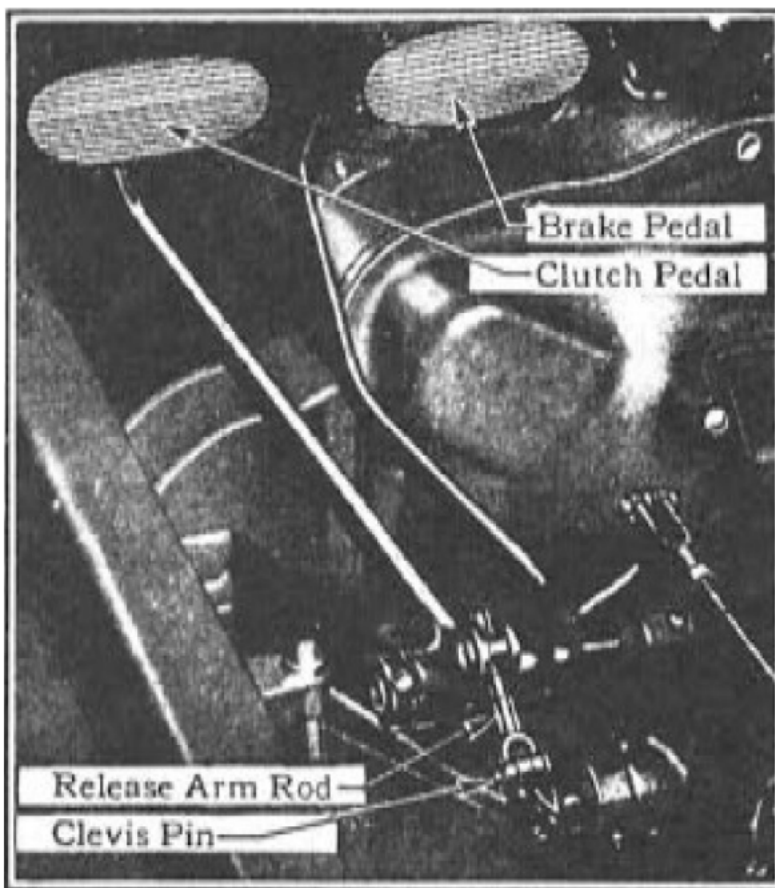
Adjusting Clutch Pedal Clearance

The adjustment is easily made by removing the clevis pin (see picture) and turning the release arm rod. Screwing the rod *in* decreases the clutch pedal play. Screwing the rod *out* increases the play. After making the adjustment, be sure to replace the clevis pin and cotter key.

Forgetting to keep an inch or so of clutch pedal free play can lead to premature throwout bearing failure, because the bearing is spinning all the time where the pedal is pressing it into the clutch. We don't want that! So maybe check it every time you change the oil and adjust as required.

Have a Model A Day!

Jim Cannon
Tiny Tech Tips



Calendar of Events

Autumn Trails A's Club Activities in Italics **All events subject to change**

2025

- **April 13** *Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting* (Oak Ridge, 1 pm lunch, followed by meeting)
 - April 19 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
 - *May 11 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
 - May 17 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
 - May 17 6th Annual Tractors Trucks & Fun, 10am-2pm, Downtown Kilgore
 - *June 8 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
 - June 12-15 62nd Texas Tour (Hosted by Lone Star MAFC, Giddings)
 - June 15-22 2025 MAFCA National Tour (Hosted by Dallas MAFC, Virginia)
 - June 21 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
 - *July 13 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
 - July 19 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
 - *August 10 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
 - August 16 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
 - September 13 International Model A Ford Day
 - *September 13 Movie at Select Theater (followed by Ice Cream at Grandma Cleda's)*
 - *September 14 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
 - September 20 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
 - *October 12 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
 - October 18 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
 - *October 24-26 Autumn Trails Swap Meet*
 - *October 24 Autumn Trails Stew*
 - *October 25 Autumn Trails Antique Car Parade (ft. Model A's)*
 - *October 25 Autumn Trails BBQ*
 - *October 26 Autumn Trails Sunday Tour*
 - *November 9 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
 - November 15 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
 - *December Autumn Trails Christmas Party (Venue & Date TBD)*
- 2026
- *January 11 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
 - *February 8 Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*



Dash Lite welcomes all input to include corrections, letters, Model A "Tips and Tricks," original articles and classified ads (pictures accepted)
Send all correspondence to AutumnTrailsMAC@outlook.com



Join us for a laid-back and lovely time in rural central Texas. Explore the patchwork of cultures and communities that make our state great.

Registration opens in January 2025

Lodging

Reservations available beginning November 1, 2024

Say "Model A Texas Tour" when you call.

Best Western

2161 E. Hempstead
Giddings, Tx 78942
(979) 542-5000

or

Super 8

4002 E. Austin
Giddings, Tx 78942
(979) 542-9666

or

Executive Inn

3556 E. Austin
Giddings, Tx 78942
(979) 542-5791

Highlights

Ice Cream Social
Hubley Derby
Fashion Walk
Grand Tour
Self-guided Tours
Raffle

Buy your raffle tickets online now!

H & H Restored Longblock Touring Engine

\$20/ticket or \$100 for six



Visit www.lonestarmaf.club and click on the 62nd TEXAS TOUR link to register