



Vol. 42 No. 7 • August 2024 • MAFCA • Autumn Trails Chapter

# Dash Lite

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

*From Club Vice President Tex Willis*

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

Summer is in full swing! I missed the July meeting as I was Lifeguarding at Camp Bandina, down in Texas Hill Country. I enjoyed four weeks there with upper 80° to mid-90° weather and 30% humidity. When I got back home last week, I felt like I needed a machete to cut through the 82% humidity!

Chana and I have moved, everything put in storage, and are living in an RV on the new property until we close August 19th!



Aside from regular meetings or pop-up workshops, we have International Model A Day coming up Saturday, September 14th. I have spoken with George Jones about watching another Model A era movie at the Historic Lake Country Playhouse in Mineola again this year. I will go drop off a \$300 deposit to reserve it. At the meeting we can discuss noon meal options, and I'll see what the Tyler club is thinking about for that.

Autumn Trails is coming up, so clear off your calendars for Thursday, October 24th to set up the flea market! I'll see you all at the meeting August 11th at Lake Fork Marina! If I am running late, y'all better not eat up all of the fried okra!

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  
Vice President



## Autumn Trails Model A Club Minutes of the July 14, 2024 Meeting

**Venue** Oak Ridge Marina

**Call to Order** was at 1:35 pm. There were eight members and one guest present. All members were welcomed by Gary Gray who presided over the meeting

**Birthdays and Anniversaries** Birthday greetings were given this month to Kay Barber, Ken Parker, Debbie Gray and Lanny Buck who all have birthdays; there were no anniversaries this month

President:	Errol Barber
Vice President:	Tex Willis
Treasurer:	Vicki Clark
Secretary:	Rebekah Yeager
Webmaster:	Chana Gail Willis
Newsletter:	John B. Yeager III
Illustrator:	Amy Yeager

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[autumntrailsmodelafordclub.com](http://autumntrailsmodelafordclub.com)

**Sunshine Report** There was no formal Sunshine report – Vicki Clark was recovering from covid and Gary reported that he had seen Neal recently and that he is still getting out and about

**Treasurer's Report** Rebekah Yeager reported on behalf of Vicki Clark that we have [REDACTED] in the account

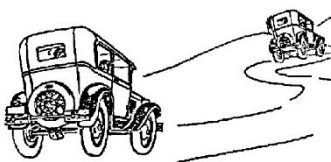
**Door Prizes** [REDACTED] to Gary Gray and [REDACTED] each to Bob Varner and Jana Icenhower

### Old Business

- Vicki is mailing out the packets for Autumn Trails everything is ready to go
- Vicki will be paying the annual fees for our new storage facility in Winnsboro before the end of the month when they are due
- The workshop day had taken place at Ken Parker's the previous day and had been a success. The engine had been taken completely apart down to the blocks and a number of interesting things had been discovered. Everyone in attendance had had a good time

### New Business

- *Scholarship Committee* The scholarship committee had met and they had discussed, and found a recipient for this year's scholarship. After our previous meeting where we had discussed the idea of supporting someone entering a technical school, this year's awardee met the bill. Jackson Rice is a recent graduate of Van High School who will be attending Texas State Technical College in Waco to study to become an aviation mechanic. This is very much a hands-on course with specialist tools required for each semester and the scholarship from us will be going towards purchasing the necessary tools for the program. The program lasts 2 ½ years followed by an FAA test. A motion to approve the



award was made by Jana Icenhower, seconded by Rebekah Yeager and unanimously approved by all present

- Jackson was then presented to us. It was intended to have him present at the August meeting, however due to a conflict this was not possible and the committee wanted us to have the opportunity to meet and get to know this young man. Jackson then told us about himself and the very many engine-related activities that he has been involved with since his interest in engines and mechanics was piqued at an early age when he first got a dirt bike

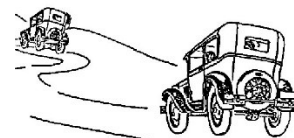


*Ken Parker, Gary Gray and Jackson Rice*

- Ken had been asked to investigate a tour and we have a new tour to report about! The tour will take place on Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup> with a hope for slightly cooler weather. The tour will begin with a breakfast meetup at Whataburger in Mineola. Following that we will depart and travel five miles down Highway 80 to FM 1253 (the Jamestown Road)—there is a flat area perfect for parking. This will be the secondary meeting point for those who do not wish to hit Whataburger in Mineola. Cedar Creek has been invited and this will probably be where they join those of us coming from the north. At this point we will be meeting up with a professional Texas History Guide who will be sharing his knowledge as we tour along the Old Dallas to Shreveport Road. Apparently, it is still possible to see where the wagon wheels left their ruts in places. We will stop at the Salt Palace in Grand Saline so that anyone who needs it can have a bathroom break and then we will complete the tour at the Lumber Yard in Edgewood for lunch. More details about the meetup times and expected tour length will be reported closer to the time. In the meantime, save the date!

**Motion to adjourn** was proposed by John Icenhower and this was seconded by Ben Hunzinger and approved by all. The meeting closed at 1:57 pm

Submitted by:  
Rebekah Yeager, Secretary







**MAFFI  
LIAISON  
NEWSLETTER**

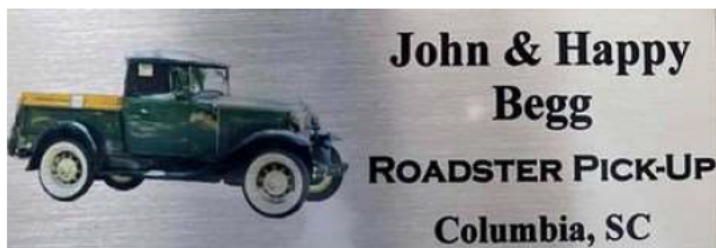
July 2024

*Contributed by  
John Icenhower*

Well, the MARC National Meet in Asheville will be over by the time you read this, and I'm hoping the MAFCA folks who were unable to have their meet because of wild fires got to join in the MARC meet. And, I'm really hoping you ALL get to Hickory Corners, Michigan –September 20 and 21 for Model A Days.

This year will be like no other . . . the commercial bus that so many have worked on and supported with donations is scheduled to be unveiled on September 20! And if that isn't enough excitement, the addition to the museum should be underway. We are literally just waiting for the proper permits to break ground!

We'll have all the usual fun in addition to the bus and expansion to view: the "first" start, museum cars, personal Model A's, Model A gifts, seminars, music, swap meet items, and more! Did you get your "my A" plaque for the museum expansion yet (contact Val Maron at 847-951-5858 or email at [TheMyAProgram@gmail.com](mailto:TheMyAProgram@gmail.com)), so that



you and your car can have your name on the wall as part of the fabulous museum? Is your wardrobe updated with attire from Model A T-shirts (go to [MAFFI.org](http://MAFFI.org) and click on "store"), and did you get your

Sweepstakes ticket yet ([MAFFI.org](http://MAFFI.org)), so you have a chance at a historic Model A? So many ways to support your museum . . .

There are less than 60 days until we all gather 'round to celebrate Model A Days! I can't wait!

Cindy Ellenbecker, MAFFI Trustee/Secretary



## DATES

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



### FREE

Breakfast Snacks &  
Coffee

50/50 Drawing

Great Door Prizes

# CLASSICS & COFFEE 2024

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

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



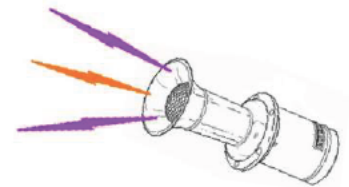
## August

### BIRTHDAYS

- Bob Gray
- Ellen Menconi

### ANNIVERSARIES

- Icenhowers



### *Area availability of Ethanol-Free gas*

NEW

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 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 <sup>th</sup> 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*



## A Junkyard Dream (PART II)

by Ben Hunziker

*Last month's scribbling ended with the discovery of an abandoned Model A junkyard on CR 1762—in danger of soon being taken to the crusher for scrap metal as a high-tension electrical line was being forced across an elderly farmer's land.*

*In the heart of a forgotten junkyard nestled deep in East Texas where time had turned old cars into desirable relics and nature had begun to reclaim its territory a remarkable rescue mission was about to unfold...*

"I'm Winslow, what's your name young feller?" called out the weathered farmer seated on the porch in front of the junkyard, a sleeping hound dog at his side.

"Neb," I answered, "I'm admiring your Model A's."

"If you move 'em to a good home you can have 'em," he replied, "They'll soon be off to the crusher."

"I know the perfect place where they'll be appreciated, and possibly restored!"

"You'd better get to it young man. The bulldozers arrive next week! They'll be shoving them all off into that back pasture, then hauling 'em off to the scrapyard."

"Nirvana," I subvocalized, contemplating a rescue and pulling out my cellphone. I hit speed-dial, calling Whispering Wrench. Quickly I explained the situation. After assuring Winslow that I could get the A's to safety, I turned and surveyed the sea of beautiful patina.

Outside the open door of his shop Wrench put away his cellphone and pushed

aside the carcass of a windmill he was restoring. He gathered chains, straps and cables, placing them on the flatbed of his new Ford F-450. Minutes later exhaust bubbled from the powerful diesel engine as Wrench exited his gate on to FM 1799...

Arriving in a billow of dust, his modern titan bore little resemblance to its grounded 'A' parentage left to rust under the harsh East Texas sun. After waving at Winslow, Wrench and I walked amongst the rows of Model A's partly hidden by tall grass and tangled foliage, contemplating rescue plans as we carefully navigated through the labyrinth of oxidized metal and encroaching vegetation. Minds abuzz with excitement we approached the row of Phaetons. Suddenly a copperhead slithered out

towards us from beneath the closest car! Reacting quickly, Wrench grabbed a nearby shovel and swatted it away!

"If there's one there'll be more," he said, looking closely at a high pile of adjacent vegetation. Pushing stickers aside we exposed a tin covered shed hidden by interwoven brambles. Doing our best to avoid thorns we squiggled our way inside.

There lay a treasure trove of

complete A engines on shelves covered by decades of dust!! Mud daubers and wasps circled and dive bombed us as we peered through the half-darkness at shelves piled high with stacks of carburetors, distributors, transmissions, differentials, steering wheels!!

It was a Eureka moment; here were many of the missing pieces needed to breathe life back into so many old Fords!

(...to be continued)



## Autumn Trails Model A Club

# WORKSHOP



On July 13, a small contingent of the club met at Ken “Pop” Parker’s house and garage, and after coffee, muffins and a donut or two, proceeded to disassemble a Model A engine. We were joined by the Autumn Trails’ 2024 Scholarship recipient, Jackson Rice.

The workshop was interactive and fun. Under Pop’s watchful gaze, we broke the engine down to its individual parts—valves, springs, pistons, etc. We discussed poured babbits vs. inserts and why it is important to change the oil in the Model A every 1,000 miles. Along with Pop and Jackson were Gary Gray, Pete Menconi, Bob Varner and John Yeager.











*Ken "Pop" Parker, Gary Gray, Jackson Rice and John Yeager*

## *Model A Parts – A Very Large Estate Sale*

Hi all, Steve Koehn here from the Lone Star MAFC. I am sending this note on behalf of John Garrett who is helping a friend of his organize a sale to dispose of a large barn full of Model A and other parts left behind by her late husband. Please share this with your friends.

The parts are located in the Cameron, Texas area. John is going to hold a sale on **August 25th**. Contact John for detailed information and directions for the sale. There will be no pre-sales... there are engines, fenders, gas tanks, transmissions, and the list goes on and on !!!!!!!

**If someone is interested in purchasing the whole lot for resale, there are \$\$\$ to be made. John would entertain an offer for everything. Based on what I have seen, it would require two to three trips with a large trailer to get all of the items. Contact John to discuss: [john.garrett@earthlink.net](mailto:john.garrett@earthlink.net) 512-656-5033.** Regards, Steve Koehn

## Calendar of Events

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

2024

- *August 11* **Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting** (Oak Ridge, 1 pm lunch, followed by meeting)
- August 17 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
- *September 8* **Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting**
- September 14 International Model A Day (MAFCA) (ATMAC outing at Select Theater/Mineola)
- **September 21** **ATMAC Old Dallas Road Tour** (Meet at Whataburger Mineola, time TBD)
- Sept. 21-22 Model A Days (MAFFI), Hickory Corners, MI
- September 21 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
- *October 13* **Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting**
- October 19 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
- *October 24* **Autumn Trails Weekend Setup**
- *October 25-27* **Autumn Trails Swap Meet**
- *October 25* **Autumn Trails Stew**
- *October 26* **Autumn Trails Antique Car Parade (ft. Model As)**
- *October 26* **Autumn Trails Saturday Tour**
- *October 26* **Autumn Trails BBQ/Banquet**
- *October 27* **Autumn Trails Sunday Tour**
- *November 10* **Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting**
- November 16 Classics and Coffee Cruise-in, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
- *December 8* **Autumn Trails A's Christmas Party**
- December 11-14 National Awards Banquet, Salt Lake City, Utah



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](mailto:AutumnTrailsMAC@outlook.com)