



Vol. 42 No. 6 • July 2024 • MAFCA • Autumn Trails Chapter

Dash Lite

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

From Club Vice President Tex Willis

*61st Texas Model A Ford Tour/Nacogdoches, Texas
June 13-16, 2024*

We had 126 registrations, 259 people and over 75 Model A's at this year's Texas tour.

Autumn Trails MAC was represented by:

Tex & Chana Willis

Bruce & Kathy Witwer

Dan & Pam Parrish

Hugh & Mary Speer

John & Jana Icenhower

Lanny, Brenda & Cassie Buck

Nate, Micah, Morgan & Eli Rominger

Scarecrow Willis



Some came for part. Most came for all!





Thursday was registration and self-guided tours. At 3:30 Karen Whitseley ran the “Lady Drives An A” program. Tex and Scarecrow rode with some ladies for the check ride so they could get their “Lady Drives An A” patch. The ladies are supposed to have their own Model A’s, but Tex offered up his 29 pickup and Scarecrow offered his 30

Roadster to ensure that every lady that signed up could drive and receive their patch. Karen made sure that Tex didn’t have to do a check ride with Chana Gail! Two of our own, Chana Gail Willis and Morgan Rominger (16 years old!) received their patch!



The welcome dinner was held in the huge conference room at the Fredonia Hotel. Jim Talkington (Dallas Club) portrayed Gil Y’Barbo, a Spanish Trader that took settlers and settled in Nacogdoches. Tex portrayed Father Antonio Magill DeJesus, a Spanish Missionary that established the mission prior to Gil bringing settlers. Chana Gail



portrayed a Caddo Indian who was here prior to Father Magill. After the history of the founding of Nacogdoches, Chana Gail got up and talked about Sam Houston’s history and involvement in and around Nacogdoches.



Friday was breakfast, lunch and supper on your own. Fashion judging was held in the ballroom behind the stage. There was no traditional car judging this year, but it was an Evaluation instead. Lanny, Brenda and Cassie Buck entered their 1929 Phaeton and received the Bronze Award! For folks not into fashions, there were more self-guided tours (or

cooling off in the hotel swimming pool). Nacogdoches is a very interesting city with a lot of history as it was the first city founded in Tejas!

Friday evening was an ice cream social with every kind of topping you could think of!



Mmmmmmm good! Afterwards the Hubley races were on, with some good (and a lot of not-so-good) jokes in between the races while the administrators reset the track. Tex Willis may have told some of the jokes. Tex says you just throw them jokes out like a shotgun blast. Yeah, some bomb, but some hit the target!

Saturday morning was the Grand Tour. Groups of 12 to 15 cars left out at 15-minute intervals to drive through the beautiful piney woods to make





a huge 85-mile or so loop. We stopped at Caddo Mounds State Historic Site, Mission Tejas State Park, then had lunch at Ratcliff Lake.

Tex and Nate shuffled cars on trailers and helped with repairs at the repair tent for the rest of the day. At 5:00, Tex represented our Autumn Trails Club at the president's meeting.

The Farewell and Awards banquet was top-notch. Tex and Scarecrow put on a Groucho and Harpo Marx skit. Raffle prizes were handed out and a good time was had by all.

Please consider marking your calendars for June 12-15, 2025 and make the 62nd Annual Texas Tour, hosted by the Lone Star Model A Ford Club in Giddings!





Pictures from the 61st Texas Tour were graciously provided by Tex Willis, John & Jana Icenhower and Bruce Witwer

Autumn Trails Model A Club Minutes of the June 9, 2024 Meeting

Venue Oak Ridge Marina, Quitman

Call to Order was at 1:26 pm. There were 13 members present. All were welcomed by VP Tex Willis

Birthdays and Anniversaries Greetings were given to Elaine Poe, John B. Yeager III, and Gary Gray who all have birthdays in June. Congratulations to the Witwers and the Bucks who are celebrating their 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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Sunshine Report No specific sunshine news to report. However, Tex is dealing with an ongoing pinched nerve

Treasurer’s Report Vicki Clark reported that we have ██████████ in the bank

Door Prizes Jana Icenhower and John B. Yeager III both ██████████ No Model A was driven so there was no ██████████ door prize

Old Business

- Tex remind everyone and that he and the Parrishes would be heading to the Texas Tour at the end of the week
- Vicki reported that she had been looking at potential replacement tents for the Autumn Trails weekend and has found a good one that will fulfill our requirements. In order to make sure that it lasts for a long time we will plan to take it down at the end of the Thursday set-up day as it is not really necessary to have it up on Friday and Saturday. She is planning to purchase it before October



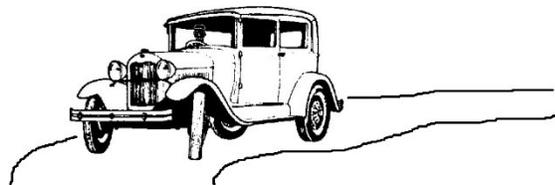
- The Club is reminded that the Autumn Trails weekend will run from Thursday, October 24th (banquet and flea market setup) through Sunday, October 27th (Sunday Tour and teardown)

New Business

- The Scholarship Committee (Gary Gray, Ken Parker and John Yeager) will be meeting to discuss and formulate a plan as far as scholarships are concerned, and will report back at the next meeting. They hope to have everything in place and ready to go before Christmas. The possibility of widening the number of schools included was discussed as was if there were any local vocational/tech schools.
- Ken requested club membership help on the engine for the Model A he is currently working on. It was decided that there will therefore be a workshop at Ken's garage on Saturday July 13th starting at 8:00 am
- Tex reported that he and Chana Gail have moved and are currently living in an RV on their new land. This resulted in him having to move things into storage for the time being. This had made him think about all the Club's belongings and their various locations and he suggested that the club could benefit from having a single location where all our stuff was stored. He was impressed with the facilities and the fact that they did not charge full rates for a partial month either. The general consensus amongst the members in attendance was that consolidating all our storage areas was a good idea. Dan Parrish proposed that the club pay for a 5 x 10 storage room at [REDACTED] annually. The motion was seconded by John and passed. Vicki will get the rental set up
- Dan reported that after the tour following the May meeting that he would like to see another tour organized soon. There was some discussion about potential locations and the Old Shreveport to Dallas road was suggested as a less busy route with historical significance and it will be investigated to determine a good route preferably with a food stop
- Dan also reported that a friend of his who can no longer drive his 1931 Slant Town car with overdrive and AC is looking to sell it for \$27,000
- We look forward to seeing you all again next Month at the Oak Ridge Marina for our second Sunday meeting on July 14th, 2024

Motion to Adjourn Ken Parker made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Dan Parish and the meeting ended at 2:05 pm

Submitted by:
Rebekah Yeager, Secretary



Correction: The minutes in the June, 2024 Dash Lite were erroneously dated April 14, 2024. The correct date was May 12, 2024.



**MAFFI
LIAISON
NEWSLETTER**

June 2024

*Contributed by
John Icenhower*

Model A Enthusiasts:

Don't you cherish these days when we can go cruisin' in our precious Model A's? Are you decked out in Model A gear? If not, that's an easily remedied problem. Just go to the MAFFI website collection (maffi.org –click on "store") and choose one---or some! It's a "fashionable" way to support your hobby!!

As of June 20, we're only 92 days away from Model A Days at the Gilmore Auto Museum! The Model A Days' Planning Committee is nearly ready for the big event. We're excited and we hope you make plans to join us. While you're on that website getting your Model A gear, click on the link for Model A Days and get registered for your hotel and Model A Days: Friday, September 20 and Saturday, September 21. You don't want to miss the unveiling of the "bus," do you?

The Gilmore Auto Museum has been in construction mode these last few months so there are a lot of changes at the museum (picnic spots, food and beverage facilities, and more restrooms). We're excited to have so much to offer you this year at Model A Days! Motor on in to Hickory Corners in September!!

Cindy Ellenbecker,
MAFFI Trustee/Secretary

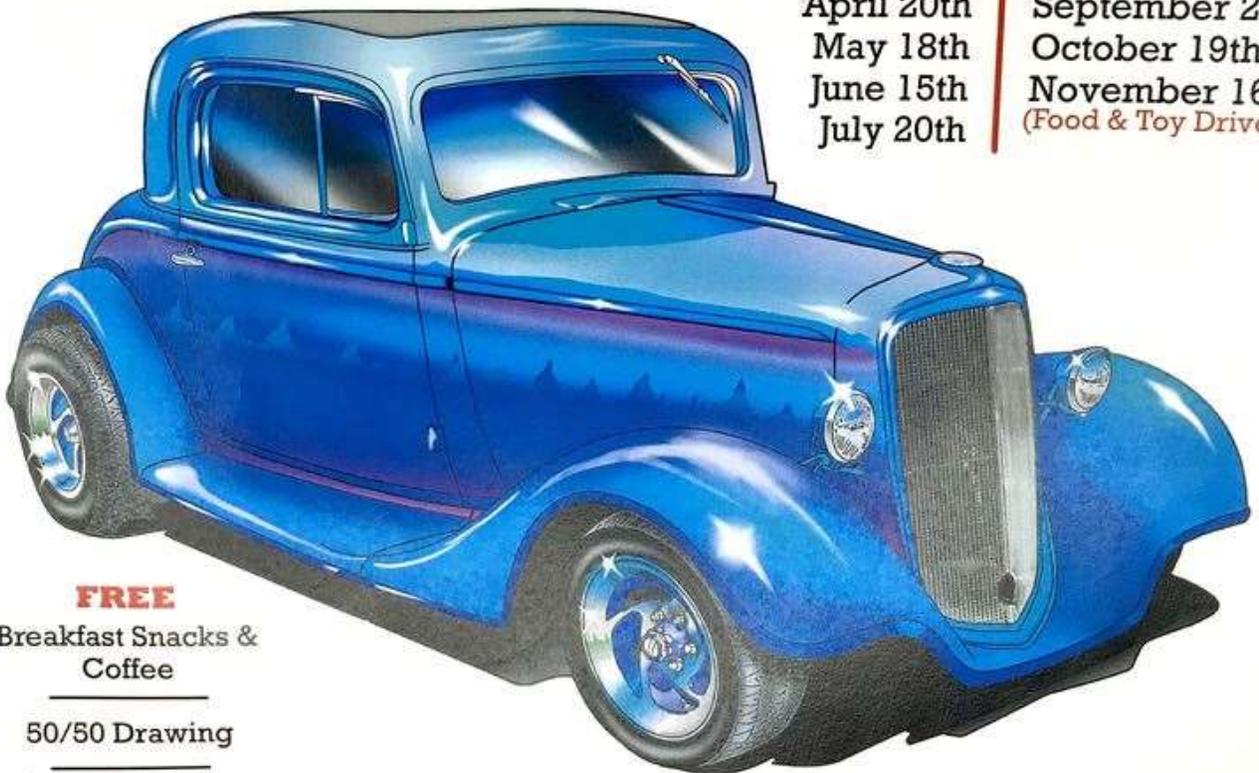


Visit <https://www.maffi.org/WSCContent/Bus.html> for more info



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.

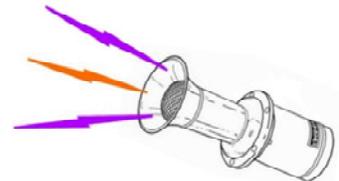
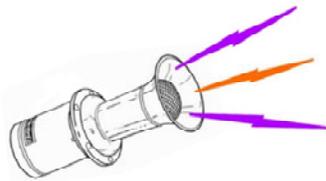
Rain will cancel the event, check our website: lakecountryclassicscarclub.com our Facebook page or call 805-340-6520, 903-312-3499 or 910-478-8723 for updates



July

BIRTHDAYS

- Kay Barber
- Ken Parker
- Debbie Gray
- Lanny Buck



Sunshine Report

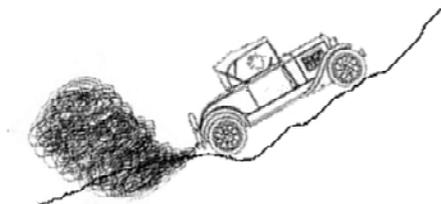
by Chana Gail Willis



Tex is getting physically therapy for a pinched nerve in his neck and shoulder.

None others that I know of.

Chana Gail Willis
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chanagailwillis@gmail.com



A Junkyard Dream

by Ben Hunziker

In the heart of East Texas, not far from Winnsboro, where the sweltering sun beats down on the dusty gravel county roads, lies an abandoned junkyard, a forgotten treasure trove of automotive history. Amongst the tall grass and rusted metal, vintage cars from the late 20's and early 30's lay scattered, relics of a bygone era; their patina a beacon for backroad travelers...

June 3, 2024

Having resolved my A's rattles and squeaks last month, I decided to journey some backroads and enjoy a peaceful afternoon. Carolyn donned her hat to hold back the wind. Destination unknown. Although temps were high, my tilted open windshield provided a steady stream of air through my open cab. Just past the Zion Hill Church I turned south on CR 1762, watching the beautiful scenery while driving gracefully through the S-turns. Looking to the left I was surprised by the sight of an overgrown junkyard! The sight was mesmerizing a collection frozen in time. An A-400! A '31 wide-bed pickup with a factory metal



roof! Rows of Phaetons, 4-doors, a Huckster! Strips of rusting corrugated sheet metal formed isles and corridors.

I turned off on a sandy driveway leading towards a nearby farmhouse. Cautiously I approached on foot, calling out a "hello" to the weathered farmer sitting on the porch. His hound dog gave a tired woof.



"Hey there young feller," he called out. "You lost?"

I explained that I was passing by and noticed the rows of Model A's. He grimaced.

"That new power line is going to cut right through my property and I can't stop them. They called it eminent domain," he complained. "And all this will be soon heading to the crusher!"

Possibly to be continued...

Ken's Binder

Jim's Tech Tips

Make and Carry a Temporary Gas Gauge

Every now and then you will come across a car or truck with an inoperable gas gauge. For example, the float sinks. You don't want to go driving around without knowing how much fuel you have in the tank.

Here are some basic instructions that you can use to make a temporary gas gauge, to use until the gauge is repaired. It's not a bad idea to carry it with you, to use on your car or to help someone traveling with you. Take a simple paint stirring stick, like they give away at a paint store, and measure up from the end to mark the place indicating a Full tank. From there, you can use a ruler to estimate the $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ levels. Score a line in the wood at these 4 places, and then darken each line with a black marker.

The gas tank changed design between 1928-29 and 1930-31. The '28-29 tank holds about 10 gallons, and the larger '30-31 tank holds about 11. That means that the distance to Full is slightly different between the two tanks.

I score and mark one side of the paint stirrer with the '28-29 height to Full at $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches (measuring from the bottom of the stick), and then mark off the quarters from there. Then I do the same on the other side of the stick using the 1930-31 height to Full at $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Label each side. Now you have a stick that can be used on any year Model A.



To use it, remove the gas cap (and the screen in the filler neck, if the car has one) and just dip the stick straight down until you touch the bottom of the gas tank. Now lift it out and see where the wet gas level is on the gauge. It will be approximate, but close enough to drive with some confidence, knowing you will have enough fuel.

I hope you never get stuck with an inoperative gas gauge, but if you do, now you can be prepared with this temporary stick gauge.

Have a Model A Day!

Jim Cannon

Calendar of Events

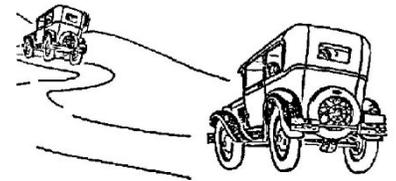
Autumn Trails A's Club Activities in Italics **All events subject to change**

2024

- July 13 *Workshop (Pop's Garage, 8:00 am, Van)*
- July 14 *Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting* (Oak Ridge, 1 pm lunch, followed by meeting)
- July 20 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
- August 11 *Autumn Trails A's Club 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)
- September 21 *Model A Day (ATMAC outing at Select Theater/Mineola)*
- 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

2025

- January 12 *Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
- February 9 *Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
- March 9 *Autumn Trails A's Club Meeting*
- March 15 Classics and Coffee Cruise-In, 8-10:30 am, Quitman
- April 13 *Autumn Trails A's Club 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
- 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)



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