

The AHOOGAH HORN

Volume 24 Issue 6

Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club

June 2004

Scotch Plains/Fanwood Memorial Day Parade



Vince DeLisi



Bill Koeth



Dick Bettler

Larry Littman



Teddy Blatt

Lou Della Vecchia



Reminder: You can get your copy of The Ahoogah Horn in color by e-mail

The Ahoogah Horn is a publication of the Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club, a non-profit organization established in 1980, and is dedicated to expanding and maintaining interest in the Model "A" Ford.

The Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club is an affiliate of the Model "A" Restorers Club. Membership in the club is open to all. Ownership of a Model "A" Ford is not a condition of membership.

Car of the Month



My Early Model "A" Ford by Jack Martin

A little back-ground leading to the ground up restoration. In 1980, I was an automobile technician employed by W .J. Clark Volvo in North Plainfield and the owner of a 1931 rumble seat coupe. I was a member of MAFCA of NJ. There I met Roger Carroll who, at the time had a Model "A" Parts business in his home in Watchung. It was a great source for me in maintaining my coupe.

In 1982 I decided to part with my coupe for a larger car. Roger introduced me to Paul Warren of Far Hills who had a 1928 Tudor for sale that he had disassembled years before. Paul and I came to an agreement on a price and I purchased the car.

In September of 1982, Paul delivered my "Basket Case" - a completely stripped body and chassis - plus his pickup truck loaded with boxes of spare parts, all of which needed to be restored. One box contained all new stainless steel hardware to assemble the car. The only thing that was missing was the speedometer which Paul reimbursed me for once I bought a new one.

Thanks to Roger Carroll for leading me to the car and later his gift of a 1928 Parts Manual which contained lists of all the hardware, where it is used, right down to the correct cotter pins.

Three major setbacks occurred during the reassembly:

1. During the chassis assembly there became a question

about how the emergency brake equalizer levers were to be assembled. These were shown to some MAFCA members at a monthly meeting. No one seemed to recognize them or how they fit together or how they were fitted to the frame. Some one suggested I look in the Model "A" Service Bulletins, and on page 59 was a full page illustration of the complete early brake system which enabled me to complete the chore.

2. Next I had bolted the body to the chassis when I discovered the rear bumper brackets should have been installed before the body was lowered onto the chassis. After raising the body, this was accomplished.

3. Included with the car was a new LeBaron Bonney interior upholstery kit. Problem: As I was attempting to install the headliner I discovered the tacking stripes did not match the roof bows. I visited LeBaron Bonney and was informed the kit was for a 1929 model. They sold me the correct headliner and work progressed until I attempted to install the other panels which I had to alter to fit. After checking the Model "A" Judging Standards I had to have LeBaron Bonney apply matching trim welt to the door and quarter panel upholstery. The interior was completed.

The first event the car participated in was the July 4th parade in Fairfield, NJ. At the 1984 MAFCA Christmas Party, I was awarded the 1984 Restoration of the Year Award Plaque. During the judging at the 1985 New England meet in Connecticut, the car took First Place in the 1928-29 Closed Car class. The next big challenge was the two and one half day trip to the July 1986 MARC/MAFCA World Meet in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. That little car crossed New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois to arrive at Lake Geneva - without problems. The next longest trip was in June 1987 to the MARC National Meet at Virginia Beach VA.

I believe I sold the car to Larry Young of Upper Black Eddy, PA in the fall of 1987. I have seen the car at other National, New England, and local meets up until the present time. It is looking good and running strong. Larry still owns the car and tours regularly.

The restoration was a great challenge and experience - to see this old machine come to life. If I were 30 years younger, I would enjoy doing it again.

Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club / 2004 Officers

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Director: | Lou Della Vecchia | 973-635-6239 |
| Vice President: | Bill Koeth | 732-752-6780 |
| Treasurer: | Larry Littman | 908-276-8346 |
| Secretary / Editor: | Dick Bettle | 973-966-2947 |
| Membership: | John Bedner | 732-388-0894 |

Club meetings are held on the **second Tuesday**
Of every month

Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home
303 Rock Ave
Green Brook, NJ

The Ahoogah Horn is the official newsletter of the Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club. It is published monthly and is provided to officers and editors of other car clubs upon request. The Ahoogah Horn solicits articles and other contributions of material from members and other sources, and welcomes other club newsletters to reprint its articles, giving credit to both the author and the publication. News concerning club activities, membership and other information may be sent typed or PC form to the following address:

Dick Bettle, Editor
170 Crescent Road
Florham Park, NJ 07932-2234
973-966-2947

Email: AhoogahHorn@heavenlymud.net

Submissions must arrive by the 1st of the month to assure publication in the next issue

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Upcoming Meetings

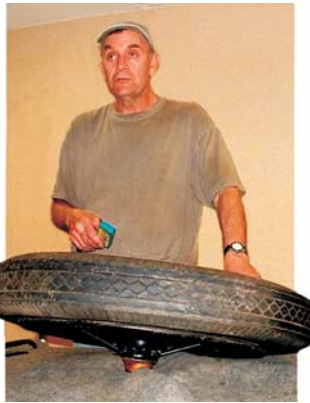
Meetings: 8:00 p.m.
Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home
303 Rock Ave
Green Brook, NJ



July 13th October 12th
August 10th November 9th
September 14th December 14th

2005
January 11th
February 8th

Tom Arnold showed what he carries in his Model "A", such as, a fire extinguisher, eye wash, flashing triangle, first aid kit, tubeless repair kit, flares and safety glasses. This was followed by a demonstration on how to change a flat tire. The items needed for this include a tire iron, rubber mallet, sledge hammer, WD40, duct tape and a patch kit. An interesting program. Thanks Tom.



Minutes of the meeting

Following Tom Arnold's presentation on Fixing a flat tire and what to carry for emergencies in your Model "A" and a short break, Lou opened the 290th meeting at 8:45 PM.

Upcoming Events

Das Awkscht Fescht, 08/07/04, Macungie Memorial Park, Main Street, Macungie, PA . You must register by 07/01/04. Contact Phone: 610-967-2317 . The Club will be going on Saturday August 7, 2004.

New England Model A Ford Meet, 09/24/04 to 09/26/04, Sea Crest Resort, Falmouth, MA. Contact Phone: Debra Bergevine 508-528-2840

Parades

North Plainfield July 3rd call Vince
Chatham July 5th
Florham Park July 5th



Treasurer's Report

Larry reported an ending balance of the treasury to be \$2,261.77. A motion to accept was made by Dick and seconded by Art.

Secretary's Report

Please let me know, the month before, what your presentation will be so I can get it into the newsletter.

Shows

Tom & Debby got a third place trophy in the Millburn Show. Dick got a peoples choice trophy at the Florham Park Cruise night.

Old Business

A discussion on whether presentations should be mandatory was held. The consensus was that they should be, although no one knew how to enforce the rule. The preference was to not use club tapes.

New Business

The club is planning to have a picnic on September 12th. Possible locations are John's, Lou's or Dick's house.



Technical

Hugo reported his ammeter gets hot. Possible reasons are a loose connection on the back, or maybe, the generator is set to high.

Lou talked about his wiring problems on the fordor. They started with a loose nut on the horn instead of behind the wheel (Sorry Lou!).

Tom Fritz asked about having his brake shoes arced. Lou said he had the necessary machine.

We learned how to use a garbage bag as a lubricant when mounting tires.

Programs:

Next month's program will be given by Stu Baron.

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| July: Stu Baron | October: Gene Bettle |
| August: John Bedner | November: Teddy Blatt |
| September: Dick Bettle | December: Hugo Brant |

As a reminder:

The member giving the month's presentation is responsible for bringing the refreshments.

50/50

Tom Arnold drew the winning ticket and won \$10



Adjournment

Lou adjourned the meeting at 9:46



Tom Petersen's **1953 Buick Hardtop** is for sale... \$20,000.00. Call Tom at 973-543-2924.

Lou is looking for a **windshield wiper motor** for his '31 roadster. Call Lou at 973-635-6239

A DS WILL RUN UNTIL YOU CALL TO CANCEL.
SEND TYPED OR CLEARLY WRITTEN COPY TO:
DICK BETTLE

170 CRESCENT ROAD, FLORHAM PARK, NJ 07932-2234
YOU CAN ALSO E-MAIL ME AT A.HOOGAHORN@HEAVENLYMUD.NET

Next Meeting:

July 13th

8:00 p.m.

Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home

303 Rock Ave

Green Brook, NJ

July Meeting:

Stu Baron

Address Corrections Requested
Forwarding Service Requested



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Florham Park, NJ 07932-2234

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