



The AHOOGAH HORN

Volume 24 Issue 7

Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club

July 2004

Independence Day Parades



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



Here is a letter describing the engine history in Bill Koeth's car:

February 28, 2000
Roger Kauffman
Model A News
24800 Michigan Avenue
Dearborn, MI 48124-1713
Dear Roger,

I believe I have an explanation for the unusual, non-Ford, motor number reported by Ronald Kuhlman in the January-February, 2000, Model A News. I bought my current Model A, a 1930 Murray Body Town Sedan, in June, 1946, in Whiting Indiana. Whiting is just over the Illinois state line (and the Chicago southern city line) in the northern corner of Indiana. When I bought it for daily use, new cars were practically unavailable due to built-up demand during the war years. (A new Ford cost the unheard-of price of \$1200 if you were lucky enough to bribe a dealer so you could get one.) When I bought it, the car had the quietest Model A engine I ever heard I soon found out why. The seller had put transmission fluid in the crankcase. After I replaced the ultra-viscous crankcase oil, I also found one of the reasons it had been put in the engine. There was a severe leak through the rear main bearing. On a trip, every time I stopped for gas. I left a puddle of oil on the ground when I pulled away from the pump. On a 900 -mile trip to Kentucky, the car consumed 5 gallons of crankcase oil!

I knew I had to do something about this, before driving the car to New York State and back on a vacation trip in the summer of 1947. However, I did not know where to get a replacement rear main bearing cap. Then someone told me about an outfit in Chicago (name long forgotten) where I could get a rebuilt short block for \$80 exchange. With the help of a couple of friends I managed to remove the engine from the car in the backyard of the apartment where I lived. I took the short block to the place in Chicago and got a so-called rebuilt in exchange. The rebuilt engine apparently had the original motor number ground off and replaced with a non-Ford number: SOS35235 (no star). I have no idea why they did this. I seem to recall they gave me some song and dance about it being necessary to put their own number on it if they rebuilt it. Since Kuhlman lives in Illinois, I am willing to bet that the engine he has in his car was rebuilt in the same place mine was (although mine does not have the suffix ILL). I got no bargain with this rebuilt block --they did a terrible job. Conrod bearings were not bored out concentric, so the piston travel was not equal. The crankshaft journals had been turned down, but not smoothed, so they wore out the Babbitt bearings. Inadequate clearance on the exhaust valve stems resulted in valve burning. Etc.

When I restored the car in the 1970's. I had to have the engine completely rebuilt again. Consequently, I urge Kuhlman to take his engine all apart and examine it carefully, unless he knows the history of the car. Of course, after all these years, it is quite possible that someone has fixed the sloppy work of that Chicago shop.

I hope this bit of ancient history is helpful. It is likely that some other cars in the Midwest have the same kind of funny numbers, since Kuhlman's and my numbers suggest that this outfit may have rebuilt thousands of Model A engines and altered the original motor numbers.

Sincerely,

Jim Bushnell

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

© Copyright 2004

Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club
All Rights Reserved

Upcoming Meetings



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

August 10 th	November 9 th	January 11 th
September 14 th	December 14 th	February 8 th
October 12 th	2005	March 8 th

Presentation

Due to his recent illness, Stu Baron couldn't make the July meeting. However, he did send a great video on the 'NEW' 1928 Model "A" Ford. It was made from a Ford 16mm promotional film and showed many of the advantages and new features of this marvelous vehicle.



Minutes of the meeting

Following Stu's video on the New 1928 Model "A" Ford, Bill handed out the upcoming events sheets and, after a short break, Lou opened the 291th meeting at 8:45 PM.

Upcoming Events

Das Awkscht Fesch, 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. Meet at the diner on Rt. 22 at 8:30. Call Lou for info 973-635-6239

Salute to Horse Power, 08/22/04, Lord Sterling Stable, 256 South Maple Avenue, Basking Ridge, NJ. Contact Phone: 908-766-5955.

Antique Car Show, 09/22/04, Allair State Park, Allaire Rd. Wall, NJ. Contact Phone: 732-919-3500.

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

The Independence Day parades on the cover (Plainfield 07/03/04 & Chatham 07/05/04) were attended by Stu, Dick, Teddy, Lou, Vince, Jack & Larry

Treasurer's Report



Larry reported an ending balance of the treasury to be \$2,270.77. A motion to accept was made by Bill and seconded by Vince.

Secretary's Report

Please let me know, if you have attended any shows or taken a trophy, so I can get it into the newsletter.

Shows

Stu got a first place trophy in the Millburn Show. Teddy got a trophy in Metuchen.

Old Business

The club picnic will be held at John Bedner's home on Sunday September 12th.

New Business

The club sends thanks to my wife, Barb, for walking the parade route numerous times while taking pictures of our cars.

Vince announced that the club is signed up to drive in the South Plainfield Labor Day Parade followed by a picnic and car show at the nursing home.

Bill thanked me, on behalf of the club, for the great new newsletter. I would like to thank all those members who have sent me pictures and articles to make my job easier.

Lou is looking for some members to give a short talk about our cars to the patients at the nursing home. This is something that was done in the past, but has not been done recently.

The club will have a business cards ad in the 50th Anniversary Issue of the Restorer magazine.

Bill talked about having his car at a radio club event and Jack said his coupe was used as the bridal car for his son's wedding.

Lou suggested the club have some "Car Games" in August.



Technical

Teddy asked about a problem someone he met was having. It seems the coil keeps burning out on the fellows car. Possible causes include: incorrect wiring, the generator overcharging or a shorted ignition switch.

Tom Fritz said he was looking for a trailer to use towing his car to the New England Meet. Lou will loan him his open trailer.

Programs:

Next month's program will be given by Dick Bettel.

August: Dick Bettel	November: Teddy Blatt
September: John Bedner	December: Hugo Brant
October: Gene Bettel	January: Debby Daye

The member giving the presentation is responsible for bringing the refreshments.

50/50

Tom Fritz had the winning ticket and won \$7



Adjournment

Lou adjourned the meeting at 10:00



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 AHOOGAHHORN@HEAVENLYMUD.NET

Next Meeting:

August 10th

8:00 p.m.

Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home

303 Rock Ave

Green Brook, NJ

August Meeting:

Dick Bettle

Das Awkscht Fesch

Address Corrections Requested
Forwarding Service Requested



Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club
170 Crescent Road
Florham Park, NJ 07932-2234

The Ahoogah Horn