

The AHOOGAH HORN

Volume 28 Issue 2

Watchung Valley Region of the Model "A" Restorers Club

February 2008

CONVERTING MY MODEL "A" FROM 6 TO 12 VOLTS

To start with, there was nothing wrong with the original 6 volt system. It started well, ran well and all of the



accessories worked fine. The problem was with the cell phone, GPS, and other assorted electrical goodies I wanted to use while touring in the Model "A."

I started by collecting the various things I needed to

make the conversion; a 12 volt battery, 12 volt alternator, 30 amp ammeter, all new 12 volt bulbs, dropping resistor for the ahoogah horn, flasher, pilot light for the flashers and a 12 volt ignition coil. It didn't seem like this much stuff when I first started to think about changing it over. After collecting all the required stuff, I first removed the 6 volt battery. The new battery was a shade longer and about 1/2 inch narrower than the 6 volt battery, so it fit right in. The terminals were, however, mounted closer to the outside edge, so the hold down had to be trimmed from around the terminals so it didn't short out the battery. While I was under the floor, I added a cable from the bolt where the ground strap went to the chassis to one of the bolts on the transmission to make sure the engine was well grounded to the frame.



The next item to be changed was the alternator. As I had already installed an alternator previously, the wiring and adapter brackets were already changed. With the new 12 volt alternator, the system is now negative ground; the 6 volt alternator



was set up as positive ground. This change required the ammeter to have the wires reversed or it would read in the wrong direction. As the new alternator has a higher

output than the old 6 volt one, the ammeter was changed to ±30Amps instead of ±20 Amps.



The next major item was to change was the starter from 6 volt to sort-of 12 volts. The field coils were replaced in the starter but the armature is the original one. It spins quite a bit faster than it did on 6 volts.

I was going to change to a more modern bendix, but with the heater hoses coming out of the water inlet on the side of the engine, I couldn't get the starter in without draining the coolant from the system. I just went back the original bendix assembly. That may be another project for another day.

Before hooking up the battery, I still had to put in a new 12 volt coil, with the + and - terminals reversed and change all the light bulbs and the flasher. The dropping resistor for the horn was mounted to the chassis where the front bolt goes to mount the tray on the left side of the engine. The resistance seems to be too high though, as the horn barely turns. I need to measure the current required to run the motor on 6 volts and calculate the value of the dropping resistor to give the motor 6 volts from the 12 volt system.



The heater motor still needs to be changed to 12 volts, but that should be easy to find in the junk yard. The only other items to be added are a couple of "cigarette lighter" power jacks mounted in the front seat riser so I can plug in all the goodies.



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.

SEMA Instrumental in Delivering Pro-Hobbyist EPA Autobody Paint Rule

New Regulation Protects Hobbyists and the Environment

After incorporating several recommendations from SEMA, including an exemption for hobbyists who paint their own vehicles, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a final rule to regulate paint-stripping, surface-coating and autobody-refinishing operations. The new regulation targets hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) that the agency believes may cause cancer or other health disorders.

“As this proposal was deliberated over the last two years, there was significant concerns that the regulation would have a drastic impact on the ability of individual hobbyists to purchase and use these types of paint,” said SAN Director Jason Tolleson. “Through discussions with the EPA, SEMA was able to convince regulators that a rule could be produced that would develop ‘best practices’ for business operations while exempting hobbyists who infrequently paint their personal vehicles.”

As a result, the regulation does not apply to paint stripping and surface coating performed by individuals as part of a hobby or for maintenance of their personal vehicles—so long as those activities do not exceed two motor vehicles (or the equivalent in pieces) per year. Additionally, the rule does not apply to painting done with an airbrush or hand-held, non-refillable aerosol cans.

The EPA rule establishes best practices (spray booth, spray gun cleaning, etc.) for minimizing HAP emissions during commercial surface-coating operations. All shops are effectively required to have a filtered spray booth or prep station and use high-volume low-pressure (HVLP) or equivalent spray equipment. Spray guns are required to be cleaned manually or with an enclosed spray-gun washer. The EPA believes many shops have already implemented these best practices.

Under the new rule, owners and operators are required to provide training for their painters on how to properly spray surface coatings and clean equipment. The EPA has established minimum criteria required for in-house

Upcoming Meetings!



Meetings: 8:00pm
Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home
303 Rock Ave
Green Brook, NJ

March 11 th	June 10 th	September 9 th	December 9 th
April 8 th	July 8 th	October 14 th	2009
May 13 th	August 12 th	November 11 th	January 13 th

training, and painters would be required to complete refresher training and be re-certified every five years.

Existing operations have up to three years to purchase equipment and complete the initial training of employees. As recommended by SEMA, the EPA will rely on self-certification for training programs. Nevertheless, companies subject to the rule must send the EPA a one-time notification form stating that they are in compliance with the rule or will be within the allotted three years. Companies will have two years to submit the notification form, which will contain contact information and a brief description of the operation: number of spray booths, average number of employed painters, etc. Companies will be required to maintain in-house records verifying painter training/certification, filter replacement, a plan to control paint-stripping chemicals, etc.

For more information about the rule, contact Jason Tolleson at jason@sema.org or by phone at 202/783-6007, ext. 39.

New EPA Autobody Painting Regulation:

- Exempts hobbyists who paint two cars or less per year.
- Business operations are required to have a spray booth, proper filters and spray gun cleaners.
- EPA now requires businesses to provide initial notification to the agency on their paint operations and requires training for all employees involved in painting activities.
- Businesses must maintain in-house records verifying compliance, filter replacement and plans to control hazardous air pollutants within the facility.

Watchung Valley Region of the Model “A” Restorers Club / 2008 Officers

Director:	Lou Della Vecchia	973-476-4619
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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 at 8:00pm

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
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Florham Park, NJ 07932-2234
973-966-2947

Email: AhoogahHorn@heavenlymud.net

Submissions must arrive by the 15th of the month to assure publication in the next issue.

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Minutes of the meeting

Due to the inclement weather, there was no February meeting.

Upcoming Events

MARC Membership Meeting, April 24-27 2008, Lionville, PA

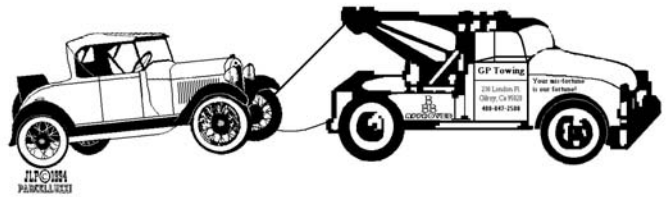
Secretary's Report

Check to see when your program is due. Thanks to all who brought in such priceless items for the auction. If anyone has an article, I'm sure we would all like to read it.

Programs:

March: Tom Petersen June: John Bedner
April: George Shoremount July: Dick Bettie
May: Dave Zuckerman August: Gene Bettie

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



The 2008 MARC Membership Meet will be hosted by the Active A's Region of southeastern Pennsylvania. The Active A's were the hosts of the 1997 and 2003 MARC Membership Meets. This time we are trying something different and taking you into the Lehigh Valley with optional tours. The host hotel will be the Inn at Chester Springs located in Lionville, Pennsylvania. Lionville is located between Philadelphia and Lancaster in rural Chester County, Pennsylvania. The host hotel is the same one we used in 1997 and 2003. The Inn at Chester Springs is undergoing a complete renovation and will be complete before our meet. All the rooms are being remodeled and updated and they want the MARC members to be impressed with what they have done. At the previous meets the food was a definite highlight and the hotel said they will not let us down and want it to be even better than before. The hotel web site is www.innatchestersprings.com. Reservations can be made by calling 610-363-1100 or 1-888-253-6119 and reserved under Model A Restorers Club. The rooms will be \$109 per night plus tax. We are continuing to add things to the meet so watch the Model A News and the Active A's web site, <http://clubs.hemmings.com/activeamarc/> for updates on events.

The Membership Meet will have all the usual activities including the welcome party, technical seminars, fashion seminar, door prizes, raffles, banquet, self guided tours, and swap meet. The self guided tours are different from the optional tours at the beginning of the week (see below). All meet events will be held in the host hotel. They have a very large facility to handle this event. We will have reserved parking for Model A's. We will even have a special gift for everyone who has their Ford Model A at the meet.



DRIVE YOUR "A"

We hope you will come early as we are planning some interesting tours to be run on Tuesday, April 22nd, Wednesday, April 23rd, and Thursday, April 24th. You will need to be preregistered for these tours as we need to advise our stops as to the number of visitors they will have. These tours are optional and organized for those who would like to come early and tour before the meet. Southeastern Pennsylvania has some beautiful countryside and we would like to showcase it with these tours. We hope you drive your Model A to this meet as this will be a special event.

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170 Crescent Road
Florham Park, NJ 07932-2234



Address Corrections Requested
Forwarding Service Requested

Next Meeting:
March 11th

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

Check out our web site at www.heavenlymud.net/AhoogahHornWeb