



SPARK 'N THROTTLE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE HOUSTON MODEL 'A' RESTORERS CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2025
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ISSUE 9

President's Message, September: 2025

As summer winds down, we're grateful for the memories made and the camaraderie shared. A big thank-you to everyone who joined us for another delightful Ice Cream Social! Kent deserves a round of applause for coordinating with the wonderful folks at Another Time Soda Fountain Café. Between the nostalgic ambiance and the generous scoops, we left with full bellies and even fuller hearts.

We were treated to a visual feast at our August meeting, thanks to James Bartlett's captivating presentation. The Auburns, Cords, and Duesenbergs he showcased were nothing short of stunning—each one a testament to timeless design and craftsmanship. Of course, we couldn't help but think: they're almost as pretty as our beloved A's.

Despite the sweltering stretch, we made it through the dog days of summer without a hitch. As we approach the peak of hurricane season, let's keep our disaster plans sharp and our emergency kits stocked. A little preparation goes a long way in keeping our community safe and resilient.

Stay tuned for more information about our annual Christmas Party this December.

Stay cool, stay safe, and stay connected. Keri

SUNSHINE CHAIRPERSON

Our Sunshine person is **Pat Perkins**. Please call, text, or e-mail her first if you have any news of illness or hospitalization. pinkler54@yahoo.com 713-825-4941

INTERNATIONAL MODEL A DAY

International Model A Day is a special occasion for Model A Ford enthusiasts to celebrate their passion for these classic cars. On Saturday, September 13, 2025, participants are encouraged to drive their Model A vehicles and share their experiences with fellow enthusiasts around the globe.

THANKSGIVING TOUR TO COLLEGE STATION

November 27, 28, 29

Hotel: Residence Inn: 979-268-2200

720 University Drive East, College Station.

Tell them you are with the Houston A's \$109.00/night Plenty of parking for trailers.
More information at our meeting.

VP Corner—Patsy Pollard

Our September Tech Program will be presented by Wayne York on "Coolants for Model A's." Wayne has done programs for us before, and they are always good, so you don't want to miss! Don't forget our annual auction will be next month. Start getting your items ready.

Our Pate apparel has been delivered. If you were not at our meeting where it was passed out but will be at the next meeting or outing, please let me know so that I can bring your item. Text or call 832-687-6796.



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AUGUST 23rd ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN ROSENBURG, TX

Text and Pictures provided by Patsy Pollard and David Bolton

Everyone had a wonderful time at our annual Ice Cream Social in Rosenberg, TX. We had 40 members there; some we haven't seen in a long time, and it was great to be able to visit with them. Everyone drove their modern cars but one, since it was so hot. We met at the Another Time Soda Fountain in Rosenberg for lunch and had ice cream for dessert.

Members enjoyed a great time to socialize and chat over lunch and ice cream. The weather was great but pretty hot so the ice cream was a great way to cool off in the August heat. It was a great outing to finish off the summer. A big thanks to Kent Dehart for making all the arrangements.



AUGUST 23rd ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN ROSENBURG, TX



AUGUST 23rd ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN ROSENBURG, TX



TECH TIP

The Alternator

by Tom Endy 2022

The automotive alternator came into being in the early 1960's, before that automobile electric power was produced by a generator. The early generators used on the Model A Ford did not have a regulator, the output was at a fixed constant rate that could be initially adjusted. In the old days people traveling across country during the day would turn on their headlights to absorb the excessive current so as not to overcharge the battery. The later generators had a regulator that mounted on the firewall and with a series of magnetic relays regulated the output of the generator so it would not overcharge the battery.

The alternator was developed after the automotive industry had changed from 6-volts to 12-volts, therefore all alternators were originally a 12-volt device and were a negative ground. Alternators produce AC power instead of DC power and require a rectifier circuit to convert the output power to DC. Along with the rectifier circuit there is a regulator circuit that is built into the alternator. Most Model A suppliers today provide alternators that are 12-volt negative ground and a 6-volt positive ground alternator to accommodate Model A's with an original 6-volt electrical system.

Many people in the Model A kingdom have an aversion to an alternator. The argument is they do not look authentic. I don't understand this thinking, the alternator on my Model A is under the hood and nobody ever sees it. An alternator was always one of the first thing I installed on any Model A I acquired.



The alternator regulator circuit is always monitoring the battery and if it requires charging it sends current to charge it. When the battery is fully charged the regulator stops sending current. The ammeter in a Model A will tell you if the battery is being charged by the alternator. When the car is started up power stored in the battery is depleted by the starter turning the engine over. For the first few miles the ammeter will show an amount of current flowing to the battery to charge it back up. When the battery reaches full charge the alternator stops sending current to the battery and the ammeter needle returns to zero and remains there. If you turn on some electrical device, such as the headlights, the regulator circuit senses it and sends additional current to the headlights. You may see an initial flicker of the ammeter needle, but it will remain on zero because the battery does not require charging.

If the ammeter needle does not return to zero after a few miles there could be several reasons. 1. The battery may be reaching the end of its serviceable life and not able to achieve a full charge. 2. The battery may be low on water. 3. There may be a corroded battery connection. The connection of the ground strap to the frame is the most notorious. It is out of sight and out of mind. It should be periodically thoroughly cleaned.

There is one negative aspect to using an alternator on a Model A. The design of Henry's electrical system is such that the alternator is always connected to the battery. The alternator contains six diodes that make up the rectifier circuit. The property of a diode allows current to flow in one direction, but not in the other. However the "other" allows a little current to sneak past and if you don't drive the car often the sneak can slowly deplete the battery. After a few weeks you could easily find the battery dead, and batteries that sit around less than fully charged don't last as long as those fully charged. It is prudent with any Model A to remove the fuse on the top of the starter when finished driving the car for the day. This way the electrical circuit, including the alternator, is disconnected from the battery. It will also prevent an electrical fire caused by a short circuit in the wiring that the fuse will not protect if the flow of current is below the rated value of the fuse.



**Houston Model 'A' Club's
2025 Christmas Party
Reservation Form**

Date: December 6, 2025 (Saturday)

Time: 12:00 to 3:00 PM (Meal Served At 12:30 PM)

Place: BraeBurn Country Club Free Valet Parking (if you want)
8101 Bissonnet
Houston, TX 77074

Dress: Christmas Attire

Come join your Houston Model 'A' friends for our annual Christmas celebration. If you haven't already marked your calendars for this important event, please do so and send in your reservation form now.



Cost: \$25.00 per club member
\$30.00 per guest

Entrees (Grilled Chicken, Red Snapper, Sirloin Steak)

**Please take a moment & fill in the following information
List the names and entrée for all attendees**

Name	Fee	Entree
_____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	_____
TOTAL	\$ _____	_____

Please mail your reservation form & check made payable to the Houston Model 'A' Club to Doug Busker to ARRIVE no later than December 1.

Doug Busker
906 Pine Breeze
Friendswood, TX 77546
Res: (281) 648-6026



WIN A 1928 FORD MODEL A TUDOR



Get your chance to own a piece of history! By participating in our classic car raffle, you not only stand a chance to win a meticulously maintained 1928 Ford Model A Tudor but also directly support The 1940 Air Terminal Museum. Every raffle ticket sold helps us raise operating funds essential for preserving Houston's rich aviation heritage.

The 1928 Ford Model A Tudor is a classic from the late 1920s. Our raffle car can seat up to 5 people and has been well maintained and kept in a garage all of its life. The car has been given a fresh service with new belts, gaskets and hoses. Seats are configured so that almost any driver can get in and drive away!

It features a powerful 40-horsepower engine and symbolized the spirit of the Roaring Twenties, offering a thrilling driving experience and freedom on the open road. Today, it remains a cherished icon of automotive history.

Limited tickets: \$50 for each raffle ticket. **Only 2,500 tickets are available.** **Start date:** December 21, 2024

End date: Sales will conclude at noon CDT on **December 19, 2025**, or when all tickets are sold, whichever comes first.

Announcement of the winner: The lucky winner will be revealed at the Wings and Wheels event on **December 20, 2025**. If all tickets sell out beforehand, we may announce the winner at an earlier event.

To buy tickets visit there web site at: www.1940airterminal.org

WIN A 1928 FORD MODEL A TUDOR



MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 19, 2025 GREATER HOUSTON MODEL A CLUB MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Keri Johnston.

Warren Pollard led the club in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The July minutes were approved following a motion from Warren Pollard and seconded by Dale Seaman.

Warren Pollard gave the July Treasurer's Report, which was approved following a motion from Bob Pond and seconded by Ken Piper.

Committee Reports:

Membership: There was one new member at the meeting, Dee Johnson. Our guests were James & Eileen Bartlett.

Sunshine: Pat Pekins announced birthdays and anniversaries. She gave an update on Doug & Minta Busker, and said to be sure and sign their card. Bob Pond gave an update on Willie Sanders.

Apparel: Patsy Pollard reminded everyone that she has Pate apparel. Please let her know if you will be at a meeting or outing so that she can bring your item there.

Library: Bill Dorsey said he has nothing new, but be sure and let him know if you need an item.

Web Page: Kent Dehart said he had nothing new to report.

Pate: Paul Yeoman reported that Robert Wheelless has negotiated with hotels near Pate Swap Meet for prices. There are links on the Pate website. Paul reported the next meeting will be in September. We should get our Pate check then.

Tours: Kent Dehart gave an update on our Ice Cream Social this Saturday in Rosenberg. Warren & Patsy Pollard gave information about our Thanksgiving Tour. Be sure and make your hotel reservation. They said it will be good!

Newsletter: David Bolton told everyone he needs everyone to get articles and information to him early for the next newsletter. He asked everyone to please let him know if your car or item for sale in the newsletter has sold so that he can remove the add.

Business and Announcements:

Dale Seaman told everyone that he found some hat snapbacks to fix the back of his hat. He has extras if anyone needs some.

The 50/50 was won by Richard Washburn.

Our tech program was presented by James Bartlett. It was on the Indiana "Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg Meet." It was a very good presentation on his own experiences with lots of slides from a previous trip.

The meeting was adjourned following a motion by Warren Pollard which was seconded by Dale Seaman.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patsy Pollard for Danielle Sharp

GREATER HOUSTON MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB

Officers

President - Keri Johnson, 510-299-6743

Vice-President - Patsy Pollard, 832-687-6796

Secretary - Danielle Sharp, 832-541-9248

Treasurer - Warren Pollard, 281-787-1785

Board Members

First Year Directors:

Les Broyles, 281-361-2016

Paul Escallier, 760-382-2235

Anthony Marino, 832-607-8528

Second Year Directors:

Sam Romeo, 713-562-1885

Mike Arms, 832-392-2106

Fred Schiefer, 979-202-8598

Past President: Warren Pollard, 281-787-1785

Chairpersons:

Apparel - Patsy Pollard, 832-687-6796

Christmas Party - Doug & Minta Busker,
(Co Chairs), 281-648-6026

Lenore Oswald (Ladies Door Prizes), 979-549-2271

Doug Busker (Men's Door Prizes), 979-922-9455

Membership/Roster/Club Records - Bob Pond,
281-615-4770

Newsletter - David & Leah Ann Bolton,
281-299-6664

Pate Director - Paul Yeoman, 618-567-3129

Pate Registration - Patsy Pollard, 832-687-6796

Pate Assistant - Kent Dehart, 832-244-5535

Pate Assistant - Willie Sanders, 361-648-9450

Photos - Bob Pond, 281-615-4770

Programs - Patsy Pollard, 832-687-6796

Publicity - Bob Pond, 281-615-4770

Registered Agent – Patsy Pollard, 832-687-6796

Sunshine - Pat Perkins, 713-825-4941

Technical Library - Bill Dorsey, 281-814-5596

Tour Coordinators – Kent Dehart, 832-244-5535

Webmaster - Kent Dehart, 832-244-5535



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1: Walter Burns, 4: Sue Capps, 5: Mary Jane Barker,
6: Preston Miculka, 8: Lula Carpenter, 10: John Ba-
jzatt, 11: Dale Seaman, 11: Michael Crandall, 11:
Shirley DeCoster, 12: John Bolton, 13: Elizabeth
Fink, 13: Frank Thornton, 14: Mary Dehart, 15: Kurt
Evans, 16: Cay Echols, 16: Julie Bolton,
18: Patsy Supak, 19: Carole Wright, 21: Linda
McRee, 21: Tammy Sigler, 23: Becky Robinette, 25:
Anthony Marino, 26: Amy Larison, 26: Michel
Bechtel, 27: Carolyn Peirsol, 27: Mike Arms, 27:
Robert Hensz, 28: Alexandra Smith

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

3: Lisa & Tom Harris, 4: Leona & Patrick Moore, 8:
Sherry & John Hughes, 12: Sue & Bill Capps, 20:
Rena & Jack Sartin, 23: Sandra & Ravi Tanwar, 26:
Tabatha & Jason Pond, 30: Debbie & John Gamble



GREATER HOUSTON MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB (continued)

Club's website: www.HoustonModelAFordClub.com

Facebook page => Houston Model A Ford Club

Club Photos => Access through link on website

Greater Houston Model A Club's Library

The listings with short descriptions of the books, event activities, and DVDs in the GHMARC Library have been updated and are posted on the GHMARC website. Please contact our **Technical Librarian, Bill Dorsey, (281-814-5596)**, he will help you find the information you are seeking, and will make arrangements to get the needed information to you. There is a small deposit for checking out books and DVDs which will be refunded upon their return.

HELP WANTED

I am looking for someone to get my 1931 Sedan running. It needs the carburetor installed (Perkin's special rebuilt), timing (points & condenser), & generator. . .(I have these items) . It will need to start up using a jon boat gas tank until gas tank is cleaned and usable. Thanks, **John Bajzatt 281-486-9366**

Model A's For Sale

1931 Ford Model A Tudor Sedan

\$13,000

Contract

Bill Jones: 281-683-8269 or Dian Jones: 832-890-7872

1931 Ford Model A Victoria

Very good condition/paint \$15,000 or best offer

For more information call Ann Roller at 832-865-6366



MARC and MAFCA National Clubs

MARC Model A Restorers Club

**6721 Merriman
Garden City, MI 48124
734-427-9050
www.modelaford.org**

Model A Ford Club of America

**250 South Cypress Street
La Habra, CA 90631-5515
562-697-2712, 562-697-2737 Fax: 562-690-7452
www.MAFCA.com**



Spark 'N Throttle

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Restorers Club.

Editors:

Leah Ann & David Bolton
281-299-6664

SUNSHINE REPORT

When you have health issues,
Please contact our Sunshine
Chairperson

Pat Perkins
281-557-4080

Prayers for the following:

Dian Jones
Paul Escallier
Bubba Johnson
Annette West
Willy Sanders
Bill McRee
Frances Sample
Doug Busker

Spark 'N Throttle
3042 County Rd 536A
Alvin, TX 77511

Stamp

MODEL 'A' EVENT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER, 2025	Model A Days: SATURDAY Date, Time and Place to be determined at meeting
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025	Club Meeting TUESDAY 7:00 pm Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Road
OCTOBER 21, 2025	Club Meeting TUESDAY 7:00 pm Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Road
OCTOBER, 2025	Monthly Outing: SATURDAY Date, Time and Place to be determined
NOVEMBER 18, 2025	Club Meeting TUESDAY 7:00 pm Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Road
NOVEMBER 27-29, 2025	Thanksgiving Tour FRIDAY-SUNDAY College Station, TX
DECEMBER 6, 2025	Christmas Party SATURDAY 12:00-3:00PM BraeBurn County Club See pg: 6

Please send articles, photos and classified ads by the first of each month to: email: GreaterHoustonMARC@yahoo.com