

The Spare Tire

Palmetto A's of South Carolina

PO Box 8717

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

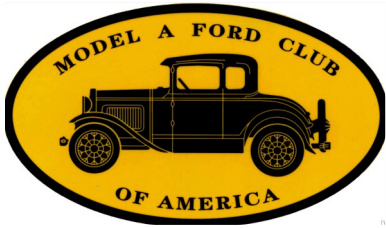
Model A Ford Club of America Chapter

Model A Restorers Club Region

Model A Ford Foundation, Inc.

Website: www.palmettoas.net

Facebook: [Palmetto A's of SC](https://www.facebook.com/PalmettoA'sofSC)



DUES!

If you have not paid your dues, you are now into the grace period. January 15 is the last day before you are removed from the roster! Please return the renewal form, along with your check to the Palmetto A's PO box address!

January Birthdays

Alinia Smith - 4th

Karen Lewter - 9th

Tom Mack - 13th

Treasurer's Report, December 2024

We continue to maintain a balance in line with the club budget as set and approved by the Board of Directors. All bills and receipts are processed promptly. The checkbook is balanced monthly with no discrepancies.

Our Mystery Tour will take place beginning the morning of January 18 and will conclude late afternoon (before dark) on January 19. We won't be going to the mountains or the beach, and we will be staying in South Carolina. The weather cannot be guaranteed, so be prepared for sunshine, rain, and/or cold.

Your lodging cost will be \$155.68 and breakfast is included. Presently, I am holding 9 rooms. If you know of anyone else that would like to participate in the tour, please let me know. Please send your check to me by January 3. This is a refundable rate until January 16. My address is 1811 Salem Church Road Irmo, SC 29063.

Happy Begg

Sunshine Report

Please keep the following folks in your thoughts and prayers: Susan Buff, John Cockerill and Margaret Smith.

Remember: call, write or send a card to someone who needs encouragement. We are "FAMILY" and it helps to be thought of and prayed about.

If you have any Sunshine concerns, please call or email the newsletter editor to add the name to our Sunshine Report.

Board of Directors

President* - [John Cockerill](#) (803)446-3837

Vice President* - [Bruce Edge](#) (803)206-4207

Secretary* - [Debbie Areheart](#) (803)960-6497

Treasurer* - [Dick Fraser](#) (803)622-7582

Newsletter Editor* - [Twila Cockerill](#) (803)446-5803

Membership Director - [Cheryl Austin](#) (803)351-5687

Past President - [Happy Begg](#) (803)622-0048

National Director* - [Wayne and Debbie Areheart](#) (803)960-0927

Members At Large - [Tom Mack](#) (803)351-3695

[Dan Ward](#) - (864)415-5496

*Denotes Officer of the Club

Committee Chairs

Tour Director - [Cheryl and Danny Austin](#) (803)351-5687

Technical Director [Wayne Areheart](#) (803)960-0927

Librarian - [Davin Smith](#) (803)822-4141

Sunshine - We need a volunteer!

Palmetto A's Annual Picnic - Committee

Swap Meet - Committee

Christmas Party - Committee

Fundraising - [Dick Fraser](#)

Community Outreach - [John Begg](#)

Webmaster - [Happy Begg](#)

Website: [www.palmettoas.net](#)

"A" Note from the President.....

For the month of December we had two outings. December 7th we returned to show our A's at "The Ruins" in Statesburg. Our folks enjoyed the day seeing various displays and partaking in different refreshments. On December 14th we headed to Fort Lawn for our Christmas lunch at the Wagon Wheel restaurant. Eleven members in five A's and three moderns enjoyed the day.

January 18th / 19th we start the New Year with our "Mystery Tour." Checks to reserve your room for the overnight trip (\$155.68) must be sent to Happy Begg by January 3rd. Address is 1811 Salem Church Rd. Irmo, SC.

We will meet on the 18th at the Lizard's Thicket downtown on Elmwood at 9 AM for breakfast and those participating in the tour will leave from there.

For all trips, make sure your cars are fueled up and don't forget your walkie talkies! Looking forward to a great way to start 2025 in our Model A's!!! Let's keep those members on our prayer list in our thoughts. We hope to see them rejoin us soon! Remember as always, if your "A" is in the "repair or restore shop," you can still be part of the fellowship in your "modern."

So let's dust'um off, gas'em up, and let's go "Model A'ing!"

John Cockerill



Down the Road

Is there a destination to which you would like to drive your Model A? Is there a lunch spot to which you would like to drive your Model A? Call or email Cheryl and Danny Austin at 803-351-5687, daustin002@sc.rr.com. They are looking for your ideas and input!

Palmetto A's Schedule for 2024

2025

January 18 - 19 - Annual Mystery Tour (see details on page 2!) We will meet at 9 am at Lizard's Thicket, 818 Elmwood Avenue, for breakfast and those taking the mystery tour will leave from the restaurant.

February 15 - Palmetto A's annual budget meeting and Chicken Bog lunch at the Austin's.

**PLEASE NOTE: DATES AND PLACES
ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!**

Other Events of Interest

2025

April 3-5 - Charlotte Auto Fair Spring Meet

April 11 - 12 Old 96 19th Annual Swap Meet

June 15-22 - [MAFCA National Tour, Waynesboro, VA](#) Hosts: Dallas Chapter

June 16 - 20 MARC National Meet, Gettysburg PA

September 4-6 - Charlotte Auto Fair Fall Meet

October 7-10 - Hershey Swap Meet & Car Show

2026

May 31 - June 7 - [MAFCA National Convention in Pendleton, OR](#)



Jim Cannon’s Tech Tips

Difficult Steering?

Many Model A owners find their car hard to steer at low speeds. After checking that the steering gear box has oil, tires are inflated to 35 psi, and the front axle is properly greased, the most likely cause is defective or improperly shimmed spindle bolt (kingpin) thrust bearings. To confirm, use a floor jack to lift some weight off the front wheels—if steering effort reduces significantly, the bearings are the issue.

To fix it, remove everything from the spindles to access and remove the kingpins. Follow directions from Les Andrews' Red Book (page 1-209). Clean and replace any worn thrust bearings, packing them with grease before reinstallation. Test fit the spindle with the kingpin fully locked, adding shims until there's minimal vertical movement without jamming. Reassemble, ensuring proper placement of the felt seal and metal washer. Finally, reassemble the spindle, brakes, and other components, grease all fittings, and enjoy the improved steering on your next drive.



Courtesy of MAFCA and Jim Cannon

FOR SALE CAR TRAILER \$3,800

OPEN CAR TRAILER, DOUBLE AXEL, DOVETAIL STEEL BED, ELECTRIC BRAKES, 8K CAPACITY. SWAY PLATE & 2 INCH HITCH PROVIDED, ALONG WITH TAG AND TITLE. FRONT AND REAR TIE DOWNS WITH RATCHET STRAPS. FRONT END HAS WELDED HITCH PLATFORM FOR 10K WINCH. 5 TIRES , ALL IN GOOD SHAPE. RAMPS ARE STORED AND PULLED FROM UNDER REAR OF TRAILER BED. STORY POLES ON REAR AID IN BACKING UP.

TOTAL LENGTH: 22’ 4”

TOTAL BED LENGTH: 16’ 2”

TOTAL BED WIDTH, INCLUDING FENDERS: 8’ 6”

TEXT YOUR NAME, NUMBER AND THE WORD “TRAILER” TO WES @ 803-331-0918 AND HE WILL RETURN CALL YOUR CALL.

YOUR MODEL A MUSEUM EXPANSION IS MOVING ALONG FAST!!

WE'RE EXPANDING



OUR EXPANSION OF THE MUSEUM IS MOVING AT AN INCREDIBLE PACE. THE MODEL A MUSEUM AT THE GILMORE WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED FROM JANUARY 1ST, THRU JANUARY 31ST, AND RE-OPEN FEBRUARY 1ST 2025 FOR ESSENTIAL RENOVATIONS AIMED AT ENHANCING THE GUEST EXPERIENCE.



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



MAFFI Minute, December 2024

The Model A Museum will be closed from January 1 through 26, 2025 for expansion demolition and the Gilmore’s renovations. The first half of the month, the wall between the current Model A museum and the expansion is coming down so exhibits and vehicles have to be moved. The 2nd half of the month, the Gilmore grounds will be closed because Gilmore is redoing flooring. Everything should be back open beginning January 27, 2025.

Cindy Ellenbecker
MAFFI Secretary

A Note from thr MAFFI President

Dear Model “A” Owners and Hobbyists,
Thank you for your continued support of The Model A Ford Foundation Museum, located on the grounds of The Gilmore Car Museum. Through your membership and donations, we have been able to establish a world class museum exhibiting displays of vehicles, era fashions and memorabilia associated with the Ford Model A.
The Model A Ford Foundation is in the process of expanding our museum another 8,400 square feet. This expansion will allow several more vignettes, a Learning Center Garage, and restrooms to be added for your enjoyment. The Foundation’s income primarily comes from annual membership dues, the selling of museum items such as bricks, proceeds from our annual Model “A” Days and from club and individual donations. We ask that you consider giving an additional gift to help us support The Museum. Your gifts allow us to continue supporting our hobby with one of the best museums anywhere in the world.
All of us associated with the Model A Ford Foundation wish you and yours well this Holiday Season. Thank you again for your generous donations.

Best Regards,
John Begg, President



Did You Know???

MAFCA has a video section on their website. Categories include: MAFCA Events, Technical, Historical, Member, Chapter, Fashion, and Miscellaneous. Check it out!

<https://www.mafca.com/videos.html>

MAFCA also has a YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3twKfHco40ySFBYpKzfj3A>

MAFCA STAR PROGRAM

The MAFCA Star Program is designed to reward our members who enlist new members for the club. It applies to all New Members, both free and paid. We are hoping that this small token will stimulate existing members to bring new members to the club. The 2025 Free MAFCA membership form in our [Members Only area](#) has been changed to identify the sponsoring **member** instead of chapter. When an application is received by the MAFCA office, a MAFCA Star decal will be sent to the sponsoring member. -- Jay McCord, Membership Director

Model A Ford Technical Questions

Paul Shinn has gathered a group to help answer your technical questions about Model A’s. The group includes MAFCA’s current tech director and several past tech directors. You can email your questions and concerns to: ModelATechQuestions@gmail.com
Who knows, you may even see your question answered in *The Restorer*!

NEED HELP WITH YOUR MODEL A?

IS YOUR PROBLEM SOMETHING THAT COULD BE ADDRESSED BY THE CLUB “TECH TEAM?” WAYNE AREHEART AND THE “TECH TEAM” ARE LOOKING FOR SMALL JOBS THAT WOULD PROVIDE A “LEARNING” TECH SITUATION FOR THE CLUB. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT WAYNE at dareheart@sc.rr.com or JOHN COCKERILL AT johntwilac@yahoo.com.

Frozen Speedo Drive Gear

by Tom Endy December 2023

When in the Course of human events it sometimes becomes necessary for a bunch of old Model A guys to resort to drastic measures to get a Model A rear end apart. This was the situation when the BLT Guys organization was in the process of installing a Mitchell overdrive in a 1930 Model A Tudor. The rear end had been removed from the car and the next task was to remove the torque tube. The speedo module had been removed from the front of the torque tube and the snap ring was removed from the front of the drive shaft. The next step was to easily slide the speedo drive gear off the end of the drive shaft....*we thought!* It would not budge and repeated prying and hammering would not budge it. Until the speedo drive gear was removed there was no way the torque tube could be slid off. It then becomes necessary for one people, the BLT Guys, to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with the Model A kingdom, and to assume the judging standards do not apply, and drastic methods would have to be used. So we declared our independence from MAFCA and sawed the front of the torque tube and drive shaft off. With the torque tube off we found the speedo drive gear was frozen solid to the drive shaft.



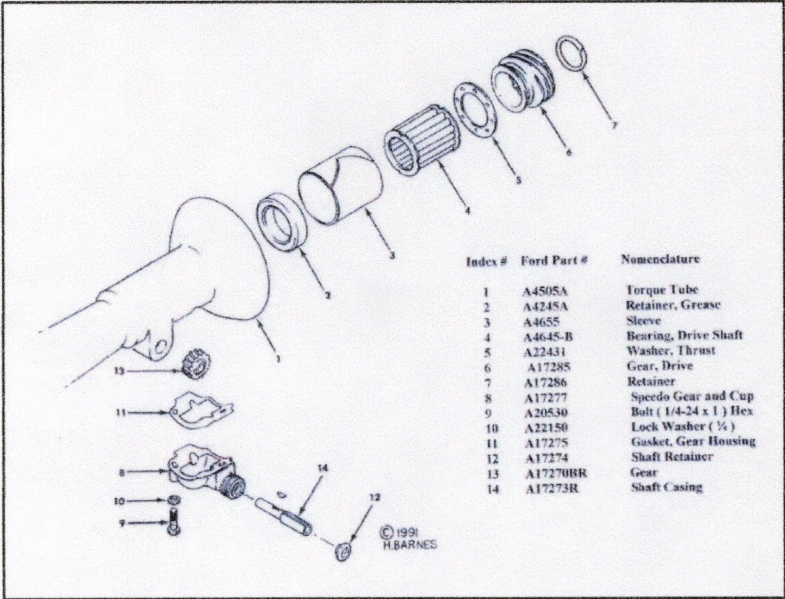
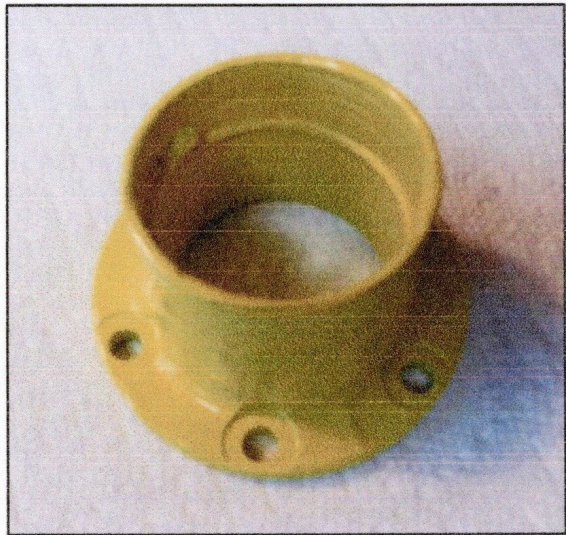
The front of the torque tube was sawed off



The speedo gear frozen solid to the drive shaft

The speedo drive gear is the second item from the right (item #6) in the drawing, it should easily slide off the end of the drive shaft once the snap ring is removed and the speedo cup (#8) blow the torque tube is removed.

The flange end of the torque tube was salvaged and used to make a puller-inner tool for installing Mitchell overdrives.



Santa Anita A's Member, Tom Endy, past editor of the Victoria Association Newsletter (The Bustle) for the has created the 20+ years of the work. Some of the articles and documents have been featured in the MAFCA Restorer Magazine, other club's websites, and some are not published anywhere but here: santaanitaas.org/tom-Endy's-tech-articles/. Enjoy, utilize, and learn!

Happy New Year!

The Spare Tire

Due date for submissions
for next month's issue
is the 20th of this month.



CLICK HERE FOR MAFFI APPLICATION

<https://www.maffi.org/WSContent/Download/membershipapp2022.pdf>



[CLICK HERE FOR MAFCA
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION](#)



[CLICK HERE FOR MARC](#)

A World Magazine

A MAFCA Publication

Have you downloaded the most recent edition of A World Magazine? Click on the link, download the magazine and print! This is a great magazine with fun for all ages!

<http://www.mafca.com/downloads/Youth/A-World.pdf>

The Palmetto A's is a not for profit organization with chapter affiliations with MAFCA and MARC. The organization is dedicated to the preservation and the restoration of the Model A Ford automobile and supports membership in the national organizations dedicated to the same purpose. Palmetto A's is one of the oldest Model A Clubs in the nation, having been active for over 63 years. Monthly meetings are generally held the third Saturday of the month, time and location announced in *The Spare Tire*, the club's monthly newsletter. Palmetto A's membership dues are \$25 per year.

Members are encouraged to join the following national clubs:

Model A Ford Club of America.

Annual dues are \$50 and include a subscription to *The Restorer Magazine* from MAFCA, 250 South Cypress St., La Habra, CA 90631 and

Model 'A' Restorers Club

Annual dues are \$50 and include a subscription to the *Model 'A' News Magazine* from MARC, 6721 Merriman Road, Garden City, MI 48135

Benefits of National Club Memberships

Membership in MAFCA includes the following:

A one year subscription to The Restorer, our award- winning bi-monthly magazine including free classified ads.

The right to register and participate in all National and Regional MAFCA meets

Voting privileges in National elections of officers and by-laws revisions

Free classified advertising on the MAFCA web site and posting of photo of your car in the Photo Album section

Technical advice to help restore your Model A and keep it in top shape

National MARC Membership Includes:

Six issues each calendar year of our award- winning, international, bi-monthly Model 'A' News magazine.

Includes detailed technical and Era fashion articles, Model A historical articles, coverage of National Meets and Region News, classified ads, and vendor ads - a great source of information for parts and services.

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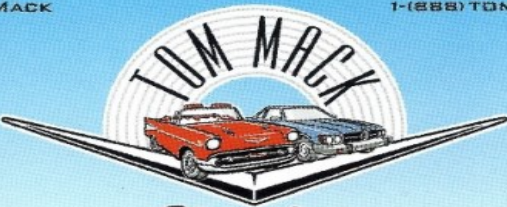
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