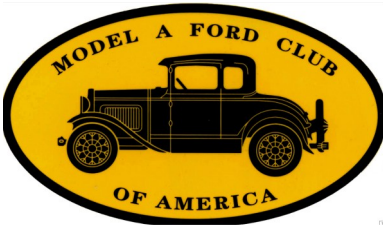


The Spare Tire

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/PalmettoAsSC)



IN MEMORIUM

William Wesley Porterfield, Jr.
April 12, 1947 - September 19, 2025



NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!

With the publication of the December issue of *The Spare Tire*, this newsletter will be suspended until someone new steps up as newsletter editor.

Starting in January, all Palmetto A's club information will come in your email. Monthly meeting/tours info will be found on our website and reminders will continue to be sent out as emails.



October 25, 2025
Grits and Groceries
Happy Cow Creamery



Happy Halloween!





October Birthdays
Mike Lewter - 2nd
Ann Kay - 13th
John Cockerill - 15th

Anniversaries
Bruce & Donna Edge - 1st
John & Happy Begg - 4th
Chuck & Ann Lyons - 18th

“A” Note from the President...

September is the time of year we celebrate International Model A Day. The Palmetto A’s met with the Shade Tree A’s, The Aiken A’s and The Low County A’s as we gathered together for lunch at the Crossroads Café in Orangeburg. Approximately 30 Model A’s were driven. It was great to visit with our friends from other clubs.

October 25th (4th weekend) we’re repeating a fun trip to two sites we haven’t been to in a while. We’ll start at the Walmart in Irmo at 8:00 AM. and head north to have brunch at Grits & Groceries. From there we’ll visit Happy Cow Creamery for ice cream and other goodies before heading for home. Be fueled up and don’t forget the walkie talkies. We continue to look forward to these fun outings with our Model A family.

For those that might be interested in becoming a Palmetto A's Board member for the upcoming year 2026, a reminder that, per our by-laws, all elected board members must be members of both MAFCA & MARC National Clubs. If interested, please contact President John Cockerill at johnwilac@yahoo.com or any of the other current board members, no later than Friday 10 October 2025.

We continue morn and remember the passing of our friend and fellow “Model A’er”, Wes Porterfield. Let’s keep his family and 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

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

Sunshine Report

Please keep the following folks in your thoughts and prayers: John Cockerill, Mack & Mary Day and Margaret Smith and the family of Wes Porterfield

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.

Treasurer’s Report, September, 2025

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.

The old ones are still the best: old jeans, old boots, old friends, old movies, old songs and old times!



Almost forgot this is
the whole point

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, cherylaustin40@gmail.com . They are looking for your ideas and input!

Palmetto A's Schedule for 2025

- October 25** - Grits and Groceries for brunch and Happy Cow Creamery afterwards. We will meet at 8:00am at Walmart, 1180 Dutch Fork Rd in Irmo.
- November 15** - Tour to Lake City with lunch at Slabs Wood Fired BBQ Restaurant.
- December 13** - Christmas lunch at Wagon Wheel Restaurant in Fort Lawn

PLEASE NOTE: DATES AND PLACES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

Other Events of Interest

- October 4** - St James Car Show, 9am to 1pm, St James Lutheran Church, 1358 South Lake Dr Lexington. Car entry fee: \$20. Food available.
- October 7-10** - Hershey Swap Meet & Car Show
- December 3-6** - [MAFCA National Awards Banquet in Mobile, Alabama](#). Hosted by Gulf Coast Model A Club.
- 2026**
- May 2026** - 2026 MARC National Tour, Finger Lakes, New York
- May 31 - June 7** - [MAFCA National Convention in Pendleton, OR](#)



2025 MAFCA NATIONAL AWARDS BANQUET







In Mobile, we will celebrate our 2025 National Award Winners and meet the 2026 Board of Directors.

- Enjoy seminars by Sherry Winkinhofer and Paul Shinn
- Hear the history of Alabama's roadways
- Tour the beautifully lit Gardens of Bellingrath, all decked out for Christmas
- Visit the USS Alabama and enjoy lunch under the planes
- Explore Mobile's history by Trolley

Join us in
Mobile, Alabama

December 3 - 6

Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel

Click on link below for the
Registration form
<https://tinyurl.com/2025-MAFCA-NAB>

Info Video - <https://youtu.be/uGqvKedfWTs>



HOTEL OF THE YEAR
RENAISSANCE



Palmetto A’s Board Meeting – September 25, 2025

President John Cockerill called the meeting to order at Cracker Barrel on Thursday, September 25. Attending were Wayne & Debbie Areheart, Danny & Cheryl Austin, John & Happy Begg, John & Twila Cockerill, Bruce Edge, Dick Fraser and Dan Ward.

Dick gave the Treasurer’s report. John Begg asked thoughts on putting a portion of our dollars on hand into a CD. After some discussion, John B. was asked to check into this and report back.

Twila gave Happy the names of two businesses that no longer advertise in *The Spare Tire*. Happy will update this info on the website.

Twila announced that several Clubs no longer have newsletters. Unless someone volunteers to take over this responsibility, our last newsletter will be December 2025.

At present, we have 30 members and 4 lifetime members for a total of 34 memberships.

Cheryl gave info on the tours planned for the remainder of 2025. Due to several members not able to participate on October 18, our trip to Grits & Groceries and Happy Cow Creamery will be moved to October 25.

Other tours, with times and meeting places, will be published in *The Spare Tire*.

Several ideas for overnight tours were discussed, as well as the possibility for 4 of these tours during 2026.

Danny volunteered to purchase new tires for the Club trailer and be reimbursed by the club. He & Wayne will service the axles.

Much discussion was had about offering members the option to pay/renew their Club membership dues through Pay Pal. Happy has developed a form to share with Cheryl. Twila made a motion to start using the on-line option in October. This was approved.

The proposal to amend Club by-laws to eliminate the option for a printed newsletter for new members joining in the future will be posted in the December 2025 newsletter. It will be voted on at the February 2026 business meeting.

John C. will send an email to members today asking that anyone interested in becoming a Palmetto A’s Board member for 2026 let him know.

All banking issues were resolved so that any Board members that need to make deposits, etc. can do so.

Happy will need to draft a proposal for the 2026 budget to be presented to the membership at our February meeting.

Plans were made for distributing 3 \$25 gift certificates.

A \$50 memorial for Wes Porterfield will be sent to the MAFFI Museum.

Wayne told those present about the St. James Lutheran Church Car Show to be held on Saturday, October 4.

Danny mentioned that the 100th anniversary of the Model A will be celebrated in September 2028. He suggested that it would be nice for a group of us to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Debbie Areheart, Secretary



Area clubs gathered for International Model A Day

MAFFI MINUTE , September 15, 2025

Model A Hobbyists,

The air is just “electric” at the Model A Museum in Gilmore! You can feel the energy of Model A Days: the biggest and best yet! The Thursday evening ribbon cutting is sold out! The Friday evening dinner is sold out, and the Delta Hotel (host hotel) is sold out, but there are other hotel options in the area.

Also, your time to enter the Sweepstakes for the 1928 Phaeton is running out; you need to enter by October 19, 2025. Like a traditional phaeton, this open car has no side windows, providing an open-air driving experience. Unlike a Ford Model A roadster, the Phaeton has four doors, allowing passengers access to the back seat. With an open design, the Phaeton was not as commonly purchased as other Model A body styles, so wouldn’t it be fun to win this car? Go to the Model A Ford Foundation Inc. page and click on Expansion and then Sweepstakes to be routed to enter.

And lastly, my term on the board as a Trustee is up and John Grossheim, a young Model A Trustee, will be taking over as the Secretary for the MAFFI Board. He’s from Ohio and his enthusiasm bubbles over for this hobby. I know you will look forward to his MAFFI Minute each month!

Cindy Ellenbecker
Trustee/Secretary



You haven’t really lived until you’ve had to push a car with a dead battery. Jump in, throw it in 1st gear, and pop the clutch like a pro! Old-school struggles... unforgettable memories

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.

Two Helpful Tools

by Tom Endy 2022

A Model A runs better when the battery polarity to the coil is correct. Back in the old days the polarity was detected with a lead pencil. It was great sport for high school auto shop teachers to demonstrate to the class how it was done, then hand the pencil to the class clown and have him try it. Today there is a device available that will tell the polarity a lot easier and with little chance of an electric shock. It plugs into the top of the distributor, start the engine and one of two LEDs will be lit indicating correct or incorrect polarity. If the polarity is incorrect it is a simple matter of swapping the two coil primary wires around. Bratton's sells the device, part number 17140, \$27.95. I purchased one a number of years ago and at a club function we checked about 20 Model A's and found about half had the polarity reversed and the owners were not even aware of it.

The other handy device indicates the health of the ignition system. What is desired is a strong healthy spark. This device plugs into the top of the distributor the same as the other device. Start the engine and move the slider inside the device down and observe the spark leaping across the gap. You should be able to move the slider all the way down to the bottom with the engine continuing to run and with a long spark. Bratton's sells the device, part number 17150, \$19.95. If you think you are not getting spark to the top of the distributor an easy test is to move the slider down about 1/16 of an inch and hit the starter with the ignition turned on and if you are getting spark you will be able to see it jumping the gap.

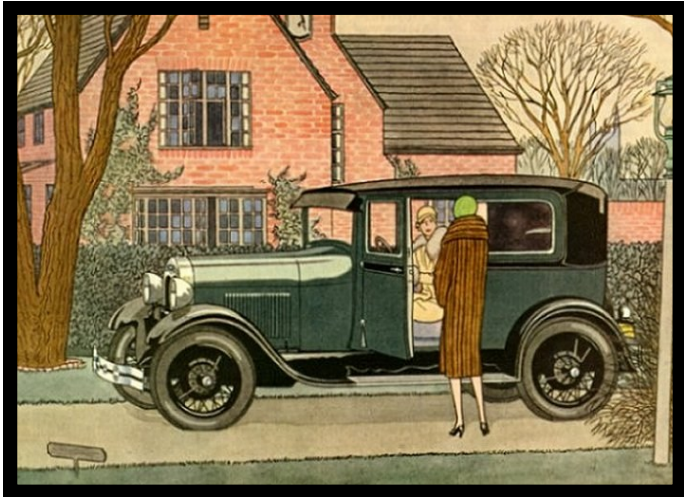
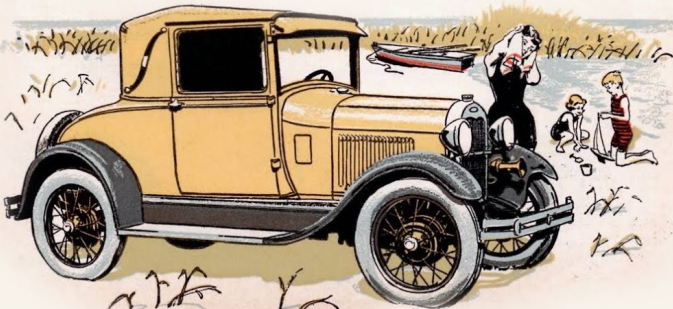
A wooden stick is supplied with the device to move the slider. Don't try to do it with anything metal.

These are both good tools to have in your traveling tool bag under the seat. A trouble light and a by-pass cable are also good things to have along.



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!

The New Ford Model A From The Assembly Line To The Customer



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 65 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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Just a reminder!!

The club has a library of Model A Technical DVDs for your use. Contact John Cockerill at 803-446-3837 (cell) or at johntwilac@yahoo.com.



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The Palmetto A's Model A Club , of MAFCA and MARC does not endorse or in any way approve or disapprove the use of any person or enterprise that advertises in *The Spare Tire* newsletter.