

# THE PLAIN DEALER

Official Publication of the Plain Ol' A's

Mailing address: Plain Ol' A's, P O Box 860782, Shawnee, KS 66286-0782

December 2023

The Club meets  
the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:00 p.m.  
Shawnee Masonic Lodge  
11109 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, Kansas

Next Meeting  
Monday  
January 22, 2024

[www.plainolas.com](http://www.plainolas.com)

## President's Message

It is December.

Well, you've done it. You have survived my tenure as club president. At the beginning, I wasn't so sure you would but, over time, I came to accept that this club would not fail or succeed because of me.

It was all you. You stayed engaged. Many of you stepped up to help. Some took on responsibility for planning and executing our many many events. I would list these successful events here but, in recent months, I have pledged to pursue brevity.

I must call out our club officers for their service and dedication. Please make a point of thanking them.

- Ed Jankowski - Vice President 2021-22
- Andy Dugan - Vice President 2023
- Bob Hess - Treasurer 2021-23
- Nancy Hess - Secretary 2021-23

Please welcome our newest elected officers for 2024. Their new ideas and energy are necessary for keeping this club vibrant.

- Andy Dugan - President
- Steve Woerdehoff - Vice President

In closing, thank all of you for your patience, and friendship. I'll still be around... and I will still need your patience and friendship.

Ahoooooga On!

- John Smeltzer, President

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 2023					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 ★	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 2024						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 ★	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## Time to Renew

It's time to renew your Club membership for 2024. Please fill out the registration form on the last page of this newsletter and mail it to Bob Hess. It's very important you fill out the renewal form so that the Club has your current contact information. Also, all club members are entitled to an electronic copy of the monthly newsletter, but the Club is also offering the option of receiving the newsletter by mail. Renewals should be mailed to Bob Hess at the address on the renewal form on the last page of the newsletter.

## 2023 Club Officers

President	John Smeltzer	913-638-7032	js5200ks@gmail.com
Vice President	Andy Dugan	(816) 548-7436	andug125@gmail.com
Treasurer	Bob Hess	816-668-3902	roberthess30@gmail.com
Secretary	Nancy Hess	816-679-9051	nancy12731@gmail.com
Director	Ed Jankowski	402-676-6951	emjank1626@gmail.com
Director	Ken Coleman	913-631-2752	kcoleman555@gmail.com
Director	Steve Woerdehoff	913-449-2229	steves_skiing@yahoo.com

## Committee Chairpersons - 2023

Calling	Ken Coleman	913-631-2752	kcoleman555@gmail.com
Ladies Night Out	Ken Coleman	913-631-2752	kcoleman555@gmail.com
Membership	Chuck Marcus	913-681-6079	cfnamarcus@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Joyce Tweedy	816-410-4613	jtweedy@swansonbernard.com
Restorer Articles	Ron and Theresa Guenther	913-682-2545	ronsaresto@yahoo.com
Seminars	Bob Hess	816-668-3902	roberthess30@gmail.com
Sunshine	Deborah Smeltzer	913-526-6977	deborah.smeltzer@gmail.com
Historian	OPEN		
Tour Codirector	Bill Hills	913-406-2085	bill.hills.sh@gmail.com
Car Show Coord.	Andy Dugan	816-548-7436	andug125@gmail.com
Christmas Party	Andy Dugan	816-548-7436	andug125@gmail.com
Memorial Day Picnic	Andy Dugan	816-548-7436	andug125@gmail.com
Refreshment Coord.	Fran Coleman	913-481-6658	fcole61@gmail.com
Webmaster	Joe Nicholas	913-710-3292	joseph.h.nicholas@gmail.com

## Newsletter Articles

Information for the newsletter should be sent to Joyce Tweedy. Her email address is [jtweedy@swansonbernard.com](mailto:jtweedy@swansonbernard.com), or snail mail, 4600 Madison, Ste. 600, Kansas City, MO 64112 or phone Joyce at 816-410-4613.

The deadline for submission of articles is the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## Plain Ol' A's Keychain

Yours **FREE** with every \$5 donation to the Model A Youth Scholarship Fund. - Contact John Smeltzer at a meeting, event or by email.



## Sunshine Report

As shared at the November meeting, both Bob Arnold and Vicky Mills are now home and on the mend. Please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they work on continue to heal and regain their strength.

Wishing everyone a very happy holiday season!  
Looking forward to seeing everyone in the New Year!

Deborah Smeltzer  
913-526-6977



## November 2023 Minutes

The Plain Ol' A's met on November 27, 2023 at the Masonic Hall. President John Smeltzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Guests and New Members-No guests or new members were at the meeting.

Minutes-The minutes were approved as published in The Plain Dealer.

Treasurer's Report-The treasurer's report was approved as read.

Sunshine Report-Vicky Mills will return home from the rehab center on Wednesday. Bob Arnold has been released from the hospital.

Ladies' Night Out-There is a sign-up sheet for 2024.

Seminars-No seminars are planned.

Tours-The following activities are being planned:

May A tour is being planned

June National meet

Car Shows-No car shows are currently planned.

Webmaster-Joe is working on the vendor list. He had forms at the meeting and will have a copy put in the newsletter.

Officer Elections -The following officers were elected for 2024:

President Andy Dugan

Vice-President Steve Woerdehoff

Secretary Nancy Hess

Treasurer Bob Hess

Christmas Party-The Christmas party will be held on December 3 at Embassy Suites.

Donations-The following donations were approved by the membership:

Joyce Tweedy \$600.00

Masonic Lodge \$400.00

Harvesters \$200.00

Youth Scholarship Fund \$288.00

Refreshments-Refreshments were provided by Ron and Theresa Guenther and Alan South.

- Nancy Hess, Secretary

## December 2023 Minutes

A short meeting was held on December 3, 2023, at the Christmas party at Embassy Suites. New President Andy Dugan called the meeting to order.

Award-Bill Hills gave Ron Guenther a t-shirt and candy bar.

Plaque-Andy Dugan presented John Smeltzer with a plaque for his service as president for 2021-2023.

Nancy Hess  
Secretary

## Treasurer's Report - November 2023

### Income

Dues	\$325.00
Dues with printed Newsletters	\$175.00
Christmas Party	\$613.00
Newsletter 1/4 page Ad	\$25.00
Raffle & Name Tag	\$39.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,177.00</b>

### Expenses

July, August, September Newsletters	\$76.77
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>-\$76.77</b>

There are additional items that have not cleared the bank and should show on the December Statement and Treasurer's Report.

Submitted by Bob Hess, Treasurer



### Refreshments

The paper plates, plastic silverware, napkins, tablecloths and cups are available at the Lodge. Please remember to check supplies at the preceding meeting.

If you cannot serve, please contact Fran Coleman as soon as you can. (913-481-6658; [fcole61@gmail.com](mailto:fcole61@gmail.com)). Thank you, everyone for helping!

Fran Coleman

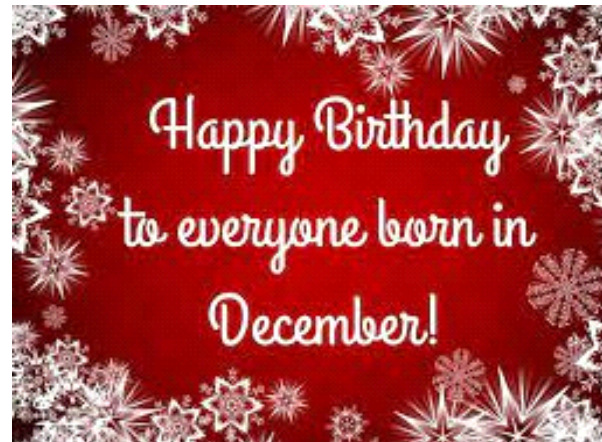
### Plain Ol' A's Refreshments

2024

Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>      Ross & Toni Warnell  
                         Dennis & Debbie Burks

Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>      Keith & Kathy Nesbitt  
                         John & Deborah Smeltzer

Mar. 25<sup>th</sup>      Bill & Deb Hills  
                         Ed & Millie Jankowski



December 28      Bob & Joann Arnold

December 2	Art Allen
December 7	Darrell Enloe
December 10	Mary Ann Jones
December 11	Don Lobner
December 12	Ken Coleman
December 12	Bill Hills
December 13	Lois Lobner
December 14	Sue Ryan
December 30	Mike Clayton
December 31	Bill Carter
December 31	Joanne Kahler



# Tours 2024

I am working on 2024 tour items. If you have suggestions of places to go Please let me know. Here is what I'm looking at so far;

January 12-21st is KC Restaurant Week. I'm working with Chuck Lewis from the HOA club to come up with a place to go. The restaurants have not listed their menus yet. As soon as we have a plan I will have an email sent out so you can contact me if you want to attend.

April/May - We are finally going to do the tour that Theresa Guenther had planned before Covid hit to the Orphan Train Museum. I am working with Theresa to come up with a date and schedule.

May - Model A Youth Month. I am working on a plan for us to do something with kids.

June - National Convention.

Deb and I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas , Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year!!!

Thanks,

Bill Hills  
bill.hills.sh@gmail.com  
913-406-2085

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2024 Calendar

- January
  - 12-21st KC Restaurant Week
  - 22 POA Meeting
- February
  - 26 POA Meting
- March
  - 17 Leavenworth St. Patrick's Day Parade
  - 25 POA Meeting
- April
  - 22 POA Meeting
- May
  - 27 POA Meeting and Picnic
- June
  - 23-29th 2024 MAFCA National Convention
  - 24 POA Meeting
- July
  - 4 Lenexa Parade
  - 22 POA Meeting



## The Night before Christmas



'Twas the night before Christmas, the clock struck eleven. Everyone else was in bed; they'd be up long before seven. Milk and cookies for Santa, carrots for the reindeer. Set out for the visitors they hoped would soon be here. I turned off the lights as I walked through the house, chuckling as I thought of the proverbial mouse.

I looked out the window into the bright starry night, and grumbled as I saw he'd forgotten the garage light. I put on my coat, boots, mittens and hat. You can bet in the morning he'd hear about that. I walked to the garage, and as I got near, some movement and a voice inside I could hear.

I crept to the window and scraped off the frost. Looked inside to see some elves and, of course, Santa Claus. Elves on the running board, trunk and spare, I stood still, couldn't move, didn't dare. I listened as he spoke to them, smiling as he did. He talked about the Model A, his car when he was a kid.

"This vehicle is a piece of the past, this standard Fordor car, it made the world a smaller place, so men could travel far. This car gave every man a chance to step beyond his home. To leave his land, his town, his state, and go and go where he would roam. It opened up the world to every man, this little Model A Ford. The average man could buy this car - he couldn't afford an L-29 Cord.

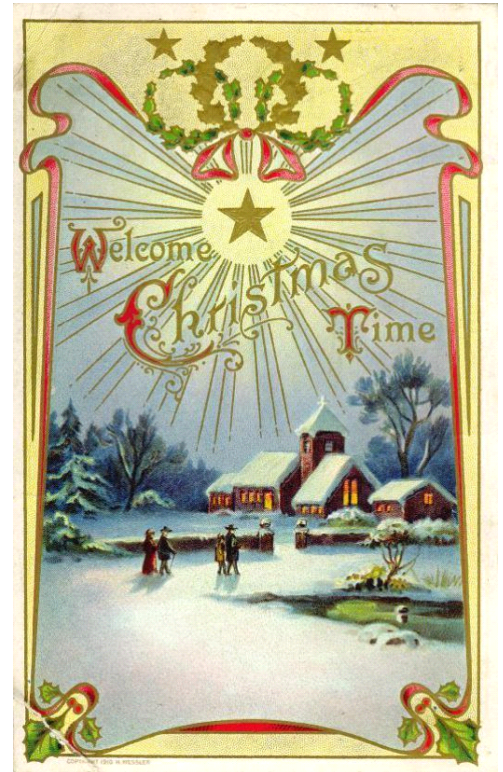
"This car you see here, this chicle and copra drab Model A. Is sixty-four years old, if it's even a day. It is cared for and loved by the family who lives here, who get pleasure and enjoyment with it, all through the year. It makes my heart glad and me, happy to see, that a simple thing can be a joy to a family."

He shined the motometer and patted the hood, then he commented, "Even the body is framed with wood." He gathered his elves and went to his sleigh, and went off of the roof, up, up, up and away. I walked back to the house and went up to bed, with the vision of Santa Claus still in my head.

I dreamed of Santa and elves all night. And woke the next morning to the sounds of delight. The children were up, down by the tree, looking at their stockings to see what they could see. The carrots, milk and cookies were gone, the pace was clean, Santa, his elves and reindeer had made the scene.

There was a note from Santa to all the family "Merry Christmas to all, and save a ride for me!" they all looked puzzled, wondering what did this man? As I smiled to myself, my eye had a gleam. I knew what he meant, that wonderful man. Model A Ford people have fun, as no one else can.

- The Running Board  
Northwestern Connecticut A's



## Jim's Tech Tips

### "Ignition Misfires"

We've all experienced it. When the engine is cold and first started up, the engine is running rough and you can tell not all 4 cylinders are firing. It usually clears up in under a minute. But later, when the engine is warm, you should not feel a miss when climbing a hill or accelerating into traffic. If the power is just not there, like you know it should be, where to look? It could be a carburetor problem, but don't overlook fouled spark plugs and problems in the distributor.

Check the point gap in the distributor. The cam follower wears as you drive and the point gap closes down, giving a weak spark. So check it and increase the gap back to 0.020" if needed. While you are there, look for burned points and clean them up or replace them; you might have a bad or weak condenser.

Look at the rotor. Make sure the black flat spring is touching the underside of the cap, and is not burned up. Wipe off any oil film on the rotor.

Look at the underside of the distributor cap. Inspect the graphite button on the underside. I have seen caps with the entire button broken off and missing.

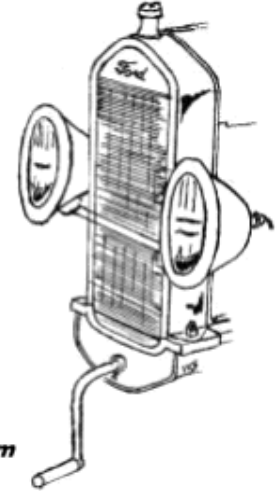
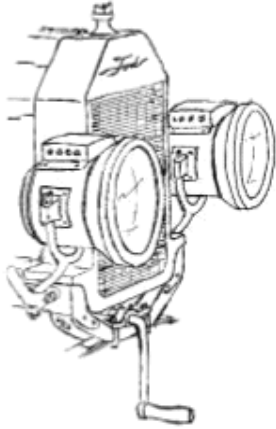
Look at the inside of the distributor body (the black plastic piece). Look for an oil and dirt film on the inside. Wipe it out with a clean cloth. Look for "carbon tracks" on the inside of the cap, where the spark is jumping down to ground on the metal housing. (See photo.) Replace if needed.



Until next time, *Have a Model A Day!*  
Jim

# Model T Ford Winter Clinic

**FREE \$5 Lang's  
Gift Card to first  
100 Paid Registrants  
On Saturday**



**January 19 & 20, 2024**

McPherson College - Templeton Hall  
305 N. Baer St.  
McPherson, Kansas

*Home of the McPherson College Automobile Restoration Program*

**Friday, January 19**

5:00 PM to 6:00 PM - Meet & Greet at Host Motel (*Hospitality Room closed during dinner*)  
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM - NOTE: Change of venue - "No Host" BBQ Buffet at The McPherson  
Museum, 1111 E. Kansas Ave., McPherson, KS (Museum is only open for us)

**Saturday, January 20**

7:30 AM - Doors open. \$10 Registration - payable at the door. Coffee & Donuts,  
Model Ts on Display, Tour McPherson College Auto Restoration facilities

**Morning Session**

Starting at 8:30 AM - Model T Ignition Systems - Larry Azevedo  
What to Take with You on a Long-Distance Tour - Mike Bender  
Noon to 1:00 PM - Lunch on your own - (Many restaurants nearby)

**Afternoon Session**

History & Restoration of an Original 300 cu.in. Ford Model T Racer - Rob Heyen  
McPherson College Student Presentation on his Long-Distance Travels in a Model T  
Ending approximately 3:00 PM

**Accommodations**

Host Motel - Hampton Inn McPherson  
200 Centennial Dr.  
McPherson, KS 67460  
(620) 480-2990

**Special Display Table  
on Saturday Featuring  
Aftermarket Ignition Display  
Bring your favorite to Share**

*Mention the "Model T Ford Club" to receive a discounted room rate.*

Other motels in close proximity: Holiday Inn Express; Fairfield Inn & Suites, Days Inn by Wyndham

**For further information contact: Chris Paulsen Ph. (316) 648-7887**

**Email: [cp7254@hotmail.com](mailto:cp7254@hotmail.com)**

Hosted by the Flatland T's of Kansas Chapter  
Of the Model T Ford Club of America







**Model A Ford Foundation, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 28**  
**Peotone, IL 60468-0028**



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**EDITOR**  
 Happy Begg, SC  
**WEB SITE**

**MAFFI Minute**

Holiday Greetings! We're fast approaching Thanksgiving and then roll right into our holiday celebrations shortly thereafter. MAFFI Trustees Jerry Dennany and Jerry Morrissey, along with their Grape Country Model A Club crew, have been out at the museum maintaining and fixing the museum's Model A's. They just finished removing and repairing an engine and a transmission in a 1929 Tudor. Next up for work is a 1928 Tudor.

Meanwhile, Executive Director, John Marshall, and his crew have just finished holiday decorating at the museum. The outdoor lighting display is magical and the indoor museum exhibits make for nostalgic memories. If you haven't visited the museum during the holiday season, it's worth putting on your bucket list! There are displays all across the 90 acre campus with a variety of family activities.

Fundraising for the Model A Museum expansion continues with the Grand Opening planned for 2025. As you and your club plan for holiday giving, consider donating to the Model A Museum, one of the best in the country --and a cause that keeps our cherished hobby growing and in the spotlight.

All contributors in a selected category will be recognized prominently in the new wing of our museum. Donations can be club chapters or individuals. In addition, clubs can give recurring donations by filling out a pledge card found at [maffi.org](http://maffi.org) (click on donations). For more information on donating, please contact: John Begg at 803-727-4392 -[President@maffi.org](mailto:President@maffi.org) or Jerry Morrissey at 269-615-3719 - [jertrudy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jertrudy@sbcglobal.net)

Supporter = \$500  
 Patron = \$1,000  
 Bronze = \$5,000  
 Silver = \$10,000  
 Gold = \$20,000  
 Platinum = \$50,000

**Donations should be mailed directly to**  
 Model A Ford Foundation, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 28  
 Peotone, IL 60468-0028

Happy Holiday Season,  
 Cindy Ellenbecker, MAFFI Board of Trustees, Secretary



is a 501 C3 organization. All Donations are deductible to the



## Bulletin Board

Place notices and advertise items for sale. No charge for members and other individuals selling their own items. The Club has voted to include ads from other local Model A Clubs. \*\*\*Items will run in three issues, unless renewed or canceled. Date of first insertion is in parenthesis.\*\*\*

Commercial Business ads are: business card size - \$25.00 per year; quarter page size - \$35.00 per year; and half page size - \$50.00 per year. Fees for commercial ads includes a free subscription to the Club's monthly newsletter, The Plain Dealer.

### For Sale:

All new parts were purchased from Snyder's Antique Auto Parts:

Block was bored to 80 thousands over standard  
new rings

new pistons (balance on digital analytical balance)

new stainless steel valve and two piece valve guides (valves and guides ground and fitted)

main bearing and rods poured with new babbit and line bored, pins fitted (Paul' rod and bearing) (Rods balanced on digital analytical balance)

new adjustable tappets

new head studs and nuts

new valve springs

Crank journals 10 thousands under (NAPA)

Block boiled, bored and surfaced (NAPA)

Block water jackets pressure tested SEPT '23 - no cracks

Included is an assembled short block with an engine pan without a head. All side panels, pipe and timing covers installed without gaskets

\$2800.00

Contact Ed Jankowski at 785-690 -7170 home or 402-676-6951 cell (10/23)

**For Sale:** '28 Sport Coupe - No Rust

Arabian Tan - Copra Drab Trim

Body Off Restorian

Motor/Frame Number - Match

Lobner, Overhaul

Tires - Low Miliage

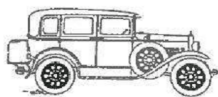
Wheels Powder Coat

\$15,000

Contact Jim Davidson - (913) 402-2077 (9/23)

THE MODEL "A" FORD CLUB OF AMERICA IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER TO TAKE OVER THE POSITION OF WEBMASTER. THIS PERSON MUST HAVE GENERAL KNOWLEDGE OF WEB INFRASTRUCTURE AS WELL AS A BACKGROUND IN HTML EDITING USING APPLICATIONS SUCH AS DREAMWEAVER. EXPERIENCE WITH PHP, CSS AND SQL AS WELL AS OTHER SCRIPTING LANGUAGES ALONG WITH SFTP WILL BE HELPFUL AS WELL. TRAINING WITH OUR CURRENT PLATFORM WILL BE PROVIDED BY OUR INTERIM WEBMASTER.

IF YOUR LOVE OF THE MODEL A EXTENDS INTO THE DIGITAL WORLD THEN WE COULD USE YOUR HELP. PLEASE CONTACT ME AT CHAPTERCOORDINATOR@MAFCA.COM OR DIRECTLY AT 405 812 8131 OR ANY CURRENT BOARD MEMBER IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING FOR THIS POSITION.

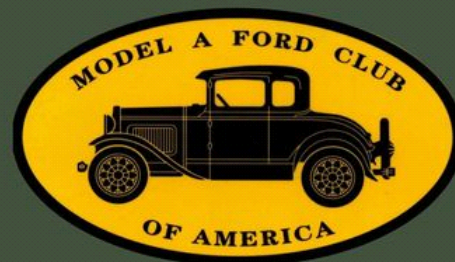


### "A" REPAIR SHOP

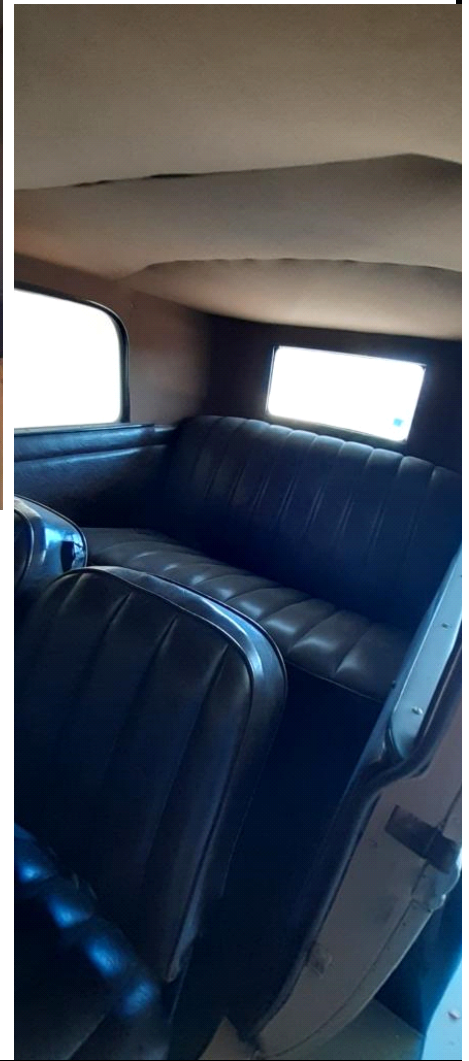
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TRADE**



## MAFCA Star Membership 2023 USA Application

### Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring MAFCA Member: \_\_\_\_\_

- Provide Digital Copy of *The Restorer* (email required): Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
  - Email: \_\_\_\_\_
- I give MAFCA permission to publish my name and contact information: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

### **Benefits of Membership in MAFCA**

- The Restorer Magazine, 6 issues per year and a digital edition.
- National Tours, Conventions, Nearly 300 Chapters Worldwide, Many Local Events and a National Office to support you.
- [www.mafca.com](http://www.mafca.com), our official website, Email newsletters, Flying Quail [flyingquail@yahoo.com](mailto:flyingquail@yahoo.com) and MAFCA on the Road [mafca\\_ontheroad@yahoo.com](mailto:mafca_ontheroad@yahoo.com)
- Social media availability through our Facebook Group, Model A Ford Club of America, Technical Questions answered [modelatechquestions@gmail.com](mailto:modelatechquestions@gmail.com),

Visit [MAFCA.com](http://MAFCA.com) to view merchandise store

### **Popular MAFCA Store Items Include:**

- *The Coupe Book, Tudor Book, The Victoria Book*
- *Mechanics handbook Vol. I, Vol II and the Trouble Shooting Guide by Les Andrews*
- *Model A Restoration Guidelines and Judging Standards*
- *Model A & AA Paint & Finish Guide and the New How to Restore Your Model A Vol 10*



Mail Application to:  
Model A Ford Club of America  
250 S. Cypress St.  
La Habra, CA 90631-5515





**PLAIN OL' A'S MODEL A FORD CLUB  
NEW AND RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Has any of the above information changed since the last Roster? \_\_\_\_\_

Model & Year of Model A's: \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in Touring? \_\_\_\_\_ Seminars? \_\_\_\_\_ Need Help with your Model A? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of MAFCA? \_\_\_\_\_ MARC? \_\_\_\_\_ How long have you owned a Model A? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal dues are \$25.00 per year (**DUE BY DECEMBER 31**) and include an email version of the newsletter.

\_\_\_\_\_ Include a hard copy of the newsletter in addition to the email version with my membership renewal for an additional annual charge of \$10.00.

\_\_\_\_\_ New Member (dues are \$13.00 plus \$1.00 for each month remaining in the year).

\_\_\_\_\_ New Members may include an optional .85 cents per month for a hard copy of the newsletter along with their free email copy.

\_\_\_\_\_ Would you be willing to serve refreshments at a membership meeting?

Birthdate(s) (MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary Date (MM/DD/YY) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this application and your check payable to Plain Ol' A's to:

**Bob Hess, Treasurer**

**12731 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO 64145**

**The Club newsletter, *The Plain Dealer*, is sent once a month via email**

**Please be sure to include your email address.**

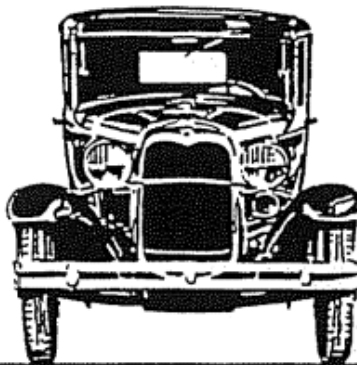
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST CLASS MAIL

4600 Madison, Suite 600  
Kansas City, MO 64112-3031



# SHADE TREE MECHANIC



**PLAIN OL' A'S**  
MODEL A FORD CLUB  
KANSAS