

# 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

February 2021

The Club meets  
the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:30 p.m.  
Shawnee Masonic Lodge

Next Meeting  
Monday  
February 22, 2021

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

11109 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, Kansas

## President's Message

February is here! The month of Groundhog Day...whoopee.

Maybe it is the effect of dashed Super Bowl dreams on my attitude, but Punxsutawney Phil is a pessimist and should be cancelled. He did what he always does and "called for 6 more weeks of winter blah, blah blah." I suspect this is likely some big marketing ploy by mitten manufacturers to squeeze out a few more sales.

Besides, how much insight can a rodent in Pennsylvania have on weather conditions nearly 1000 miles away? Firstly, dogs are much smarter than groundhogs...and some people. Just ask anyone. Have groundhogs evolved to a point where people invite them into their homes, feed them, provide healthcare and pick up their excrement? Dogs have. Gary Lezak, also smarter than a groundhog, has engaged many local dogs to forecast the weather for more than 25 years. Gary would not have lasted long as an acclaimed meteorologist if these dogs were not accurate. And they are right here in KC ... "Paws on the ground!"

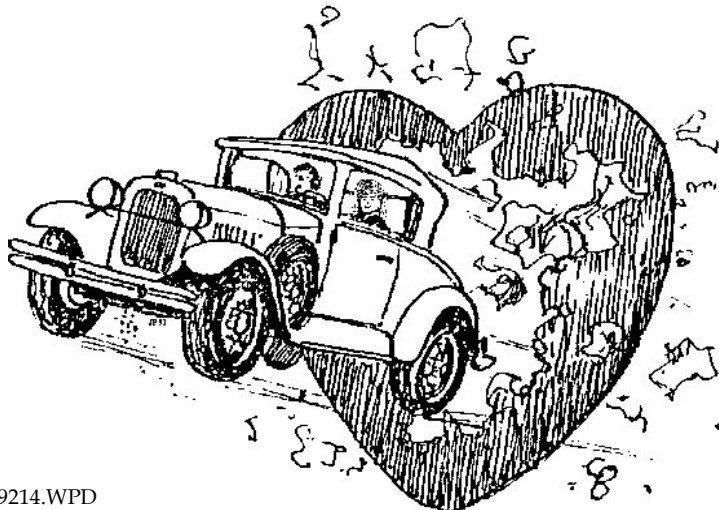
The takeaway is this. Optimism! Keep your eyes on the calendar for upcoming club events and get your cars ready. The weather is going to be fine a lot sooner than expected and driving around in your model A will be a great way to enjoy it. Seeing you rattling along might even make folks smile. I know that I will.

Finally, if you must celebrate "Ground Hog" Day, do it with sausage or bratwurst. Either is much nicer than mittens.

- John Smeltzer, President

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 2021						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 ★ NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	9	10	11	12	13
14 ♡	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 ★	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 2021						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 ⌚ DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS	8 ★ NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	9	10 🍀	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 🍀	18	19	20 🍀
21	22 🍀	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## 2021 Club Officers

President	John Smeltzer	913-638-7032	js5200ks@gmail.com
Vice President	Ed Jankowski	402-676-6951	emjank1626@gmail.com
Treasurer	Bob Hess	816-668-3902	rhess@kc.rr.com
Secretary	Nancy Hess	816-679-9051	nancy12731@kc.rr.com
Director	Justin Read	816-547-8608	onsitetechn@mac.com
Director	Ken Coleman	913-631-2752	kcoleman555@gmail.com
Director	Theresa Guenther	913-682-2545	ronsaresto@yahoo.com

## Committee Chairpersons - 2021

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	rhess@kc.rr.com
Sunshine	Deborah Smeltzer	913-638-7032	deborah.smeltzer@gmail.com
Historian	OPEN		
Tour Codirector	Bill Hills	913-406-2085	bill.hills.sh@gmail.com
Car Show Coord.	Justin Read	816-547-8608	onsitetechn@mac.com
Christmas Party	Ed Jankowski	402-676-6951	emjank1626@gmail.com
Memorial Day Picnic	Ed Jankowski	402-676-6951	emjank1626@gmail.com
Refreshment Coord.	Fran Coleman	913-481-6658	fcole61@gmail.com
Webmaster	Joe Nicholas	913-710-3292	joseph.h.nicholas@gmail.com

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**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.

**MAFCA**

MAFCA, the Model A Ford Club of America, encourages national membership. There is a membership form in the back of the newsletter for anyone who is interested.

**Facebook**

Plain Ol' A's is now on Facebook: Search For "Plain Ol' A's" and request to join the Private Group. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2581927338560371> There are pictures posted from the Fall Foliage Tour and the HyVee Car Show, along with some previous events.



*Copied from the Club's Facebook Page*

## January 2021 Minutes

The Plain Ol' A's met on January 25, 2021, at the Masonic Hall. President John Smeltzer called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Guests and New Members-No guests or new members were present.

Minutes-The minutes were approved as published in The Plain Dealer, with one correction. Only members who have no E-mail will have the newsletter mailed to them.

Treasurer's Report-Bob Hess gave the treasurer's report. The balance is \$15,791.30.

Sunshine Report-JB and Anne Hodgdon, Bruce Mills, and Delbert Aye have been ill.

Ladies' Night Out-There will be no ladies' night out until further notice.

Tours-Bill Hills will try to have a tour the third Saturday of every month during warmer months. If weather permits, we may have a tour in March. The following activities are being planned:

- April 10 Tune-up day
- April 24 Tour to Feline Conservation

Restorer Articles-Ron and Theresa Guenther will send club reports to the Restorer.

### Car Shows:

Shawnee Town-March 10, May 10, June 16, July 31, September 12, October 13

HyVee-October 30

Historian-The club needs a new historian.

Membership-Chuck Marcus, our membership chairman, was not at the meeting.

Picnic-The club will look into possibilities for a picnic, such as a possible location and box lunches.

Webmaster-Joe Nicholas will be our new webmaster.

Regional Meet-The regional meet will be held at the Embassy Suites. The dates are not yet certain.

Newsletter-The newsletter will be mailed only to members who do not have e-mail. Bob will refund \$5.00 to members who sent it for a mailed copy.

Roster-A printed copy of the roster when completed will be mailed to all members.

Technical Sessions-Short technical sessions will be held at the end of some of the meetings. The topic will be announced in the newsletter.

Driving Sessions-Theresa Guenther will plan a lady drives a Model A driving session.

Refreshments-There were no refreshments. We will not have refreshments until further notice.

Nancy Hess  
Secretary

## Treasurer's Report - January 2021

Beginning Balance 12/31/2020		\$15,791.30
Checking Balance	\$2,622.79	
Income		
Dues	350.00	
Renewal Ads	50.00	
TOTAL INCOME		+ 400.00
Expenses		
January Newsletter	5.32	
Auto-Owners Insurance	266.00	
MAFFI	100.00	
Masonic Lodge #54	300.00	
MAFCA	75.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES		- 746.32
Money Market Account		
Beginning Balance	\$12,433.15	
Interest Payment	1.06	
Total Money Market Balance		\$12,434.21
Ending Balance 1/31/2021		\$15,446.04

Submitted by Bob Hess, Treasurer

## Memorial Day Picnic

This year the Plain Ol' A's will hold their annual club picnic on Memorial Day, May 31, 2021 at the Miller Park pavilion in DeSoto Kansas. The pavilion has been reserved from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Due to the covid virus the present plan is for those attending to bring their own box lunch. The Harps grocery in DeSoto will be open on Memorial day and has a deli that serves hot food. Any changes to this and detailed directions to the park and grocery will be presented in the Plain Dealer in the future. For those of you who have attended Dean weller's birthday parties in the past this is the pavilion where they were held.

- Ed Kankowski

## Tech Talks

Beginning with the February 2021 meeting there will be brief 15 minute tech talks regarding some of the very basic maintenance required to have a well running Model A.

The February presentation will discuss the proper adjustment of the carburetor float, the fit of the carburetor throttle shaft and adjustments of idle and mixture.

- Ed Jankowski

### Tours - 2021

With the COVID virus still going on my first responsibility is to keep our members healthy and safe so we will be following the state, county, and local mandates of wearing masks and social distancing by holding outdoor events and picnics as we did in 2020. We will not be holding our January breakfast or doing indoor gatherings such as going to Union Station. All of our events will be subject to change if the mandated restrictions do not allow them.

Here is what I'm planning for 2021 until it is safe for us to make changes that will allow us to do indoor events and have lunch in a restaurant. We will try to have a Saturday tour and picnic each month starting in April. If the weather permits we may try to have a driving tour at the end of March just to get the cars out of the garage.

Here is what is planned for March and April:

- March-10 History on Tap-Land of Opportunity: 1920's Counterculture & Politics of Labor in the Heartland - 7 PM - Old Shawnee Town
- March 17 Leavenworth St. Patrick's Day Parade- Line up will be at 11:00 at 4th Street and Choctan Street (Marten Chevrolet)
- March 20 Blow the Dust Off Tour- We will meet at the Walmart on the west side of Olathe at 1:00 for a short tour for ice cream- weather permitting- more info to come.
- April 10 Tune Up Day- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
- April 10 POA Board Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
- April 24 Tour to Louisburg, KS to The Cedar Cove Feline Conservation with a picnic at the Veterans Park in Spring Hill

If you have ideas for tours or places for us you can contact me by phone or text at 913-406-2085 or email at [bill.hills.sh@gmail.com](mailto:bill.hills.sh@gmail.com).

Happy Model A motoring,

Bill Hills

### Delbert Aye

It is with great sadness that we share that long time member, Delbert Aye, passed away on January 29, 2021. For those that did not have an opportunity to meet Delbert, Delbert and Billie were friends to anyone they met. Delbert was also a superb mechanic and always willing to help anyone who had a problem with their car. Delbert and Billie were very active with the club for many years until health issues interfered. He and Billie joined in on many club trips and tours over the years and, in 1988, drove to the Arctic Circle with a group in their Model A Coupe. Below is a picture of the group at the 115 mile mark on the Dalton Highway. Delbert was a dear friend and will surely be missed.

Delbert's obituary may be found at <https://www.quisenberryfh.com/obituary/delbert-aye> and a celebration of Delbert's life will be held in May. Condolences may be sent to Billie at: 19851 219th Street, Tonganoxie, KS 66086.



George & Marceil Lauppe, Billie & Delbert Aye (deceased), Delbert & Glenna (deceased) Felts, Gene Wentworth (deceased) and Dave Ryan.

Deborah Smeltzer, Sunshine Chair

## Plain Ol' A's Calendar 2021

<b>January 9</b>	POA Board Meeting
<b>January 25</b>	POA Meeting- 7:30 pm- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>February 22</b>	POA Meeting- 7:30 pm- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>March 10</b>	History on Tap-Land of Opportunity: 1920's Counterculture & Politics of Labor in the Heartland - 7 PM - Old Shawnee Town
<b>March 17</b>	Leavenworth St. Patrick's Day Parade- Line up will be at 11:00 at 4th Street and Choctan Street (Marten Chevrolet)
<b>March 20</b>	Blow the Dust Off Tour- We will meet at the Walmart on the west side of Olathe at 1:00 for a short tour for ice cream- weather permitting- more info to come.
<b>March 22</b>	POA Meeting- 7:30 pm- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>April 10</b>	Tune Up Day- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>April 10</b>	POA Board Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>April 24</b>	Tour to Louisburg, KS to The Cedar Cove Feline Conservation with a picnic at the Veterans Park in Spring Hill
<b>April 26</b>	POA Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>May 10</b>	History on Tap- Before the Roar: America in the Wake of World War I, 7:00 p.m., Old Shawnee Town
<b>May 31</b>	POA Picnic/ Ice Cream Tour- TBD
<b>June 16</b>	Fried Chicken Dinner, Ice Cream & Model A's- 5:30 pm-7:00 pm, Old Shawnee Town
<b>June 20-25</b>	MAFCA National Tour
<b>June 28</b>	POA Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>July 4</b>	Lenexa 4th of July Parade- TBD
<b>July 10</b>	Board Meeting
<b>July 26-</b>	POA Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>July 31</b>	Car Demo: Old Shawnee Town 1929's Automobiles- 10:00 am-12:00 pm
<b>August 23</b>	POA Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>September 12</b>	Wheels & Dreams Car, Truck & Bike Show- 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
<b>September 27</b>	POA Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>October 13</b>	History on Tap- Immigration: Through a Modern Lens- 7 PM Old Shawnee Town
<b>October 25</b>	POA Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>October 30</b>	HyVee Car Show - 10:00 am
<b>November 22</b>	POA Meeting- Masonic Lodge, Shawnee
<b>December</b>	POA Christmas Party- TBD

## President's Secret Service Names

In honor of President's Day, a little bit of Presidential Trivia.

The United States Secret Service uses code names for U.S. presidents, first ladies, and other prominent persons and locations. The use of such names was originally for security purposes and dates to a time when sensitive electronic communications were not routinely encrypted; today, the names simply serve for purposes of brevity, clarity, and tradition. The Secret Service does not choose these names, however. The White House Communications Agency maintains a list that candidates choose from, often choosing ones that resonate with them personally.

Harry S. Truman Bess Truman	General or Supervise Sunnyside	Ronald Reagan Nancy Reagan	Rawhide Rainbow
Dwight Eisenhower Mamie Eisenhower	Scorecard or Providence Springtime	George H. W. Bush Barbara Bush	Timberwolf Snowbank or Tranquility
John F. Kennedy Jackie Kennedy	Lancer Lace	Bill Clinton Hilary Clinton	Eagle Evergreen
Lyndon Johnson Lady Bird Johnson	Volunteer Victoria	George W. Bush Laura Bush	Tumbler Tempo
Richard Nixon Pat Nixon	Searchlight Starlight	Barack Obama Michelle Obama	Renegade Renaissance
Gerald Ford Betty Ford	Passkey Pinafore	Donald Trump Melania Trump	Mogul Muse
Jimmy Carter Rosalynn Carter	Lockmaster or Deacons Lotus Petal or Dancer	Joe Biden Jill Biden	Celtic Capri

## Tiny Tips

### POP-OUT SWITCH LUBRICATION

Original pop-out switches grow sticky with age due to gum and electrolysis. Before junking the switch or waiting until the key breaks off, try this solution: Turn the key until switch pops out. Under the first "F" in the word "Off" drill a 1/16" hole carefully through the brass shell. Now the cylinder can be loosened with WD-40 using the plastic tube.



## Jim's Tech Tip by Jim Cannon

### Towing Your Model A on a Trailer



There will be times when you need to transport your Model A on a trailer. Here's a tip on trailer loading to help you tow safely.

When the car is loaded on the trailer, the tongue weight of the trailer on the trailer hitch (on the back of your car or truck) should be between 10-15% of the total weight of the combined "trailer+Model A". If you load the trailer with less than 10% of the weight on the hitch, the trailer will sway as the speed increases, which is very dangerous. Over 15% can put too much unnecessary load on the back of your tow vehicle, which can take weight off of your front wheels (needed for steering and braking) – which is also not good.

How do you know the weight of your "trailer+Model A"? I took my car on the trailer to my local feed store where they have a scale. Many truck stops also have scales. I parked the loaded trailer on the scale, disconnected my truck, and moved the truck off the scale. They charge a small fee to give you the weight. Once I had that total weight, it was easy to calculate 10% and 15% of that. For example, if your "trailer+Model A" is 4,200 pounds, your Target Tongue Weight is 420 to 630 pounds, call it 525.

Once you know the Target Tongue Weight that you are shooting for, how do you know what the actual tongue weight is when you put the Model A on the trailer? You can figure it out with a ruler or tape measure. Go to a building supply store (like Home Depot) with your tow vehicle and no trailer. Measure and record the distance between the bottom of the trailer hitch and the ground. Now start loading 80# bags of dry concrete mix into your car trunk or truck bed until you have loaded your Target Tongue Weight. (I had a helpful young guy at HD load them in for me.) The exact load is not critical, but it must be above your 10% number. Now measure and record the distance between the bottom of the trailer hitch and the ground again. Once you have those 2 numbers, you can ask the helpful lad at the store to unload all those bags and put them back! Thankfully, you only have to do this exercise one time.

With these 2 measurements, before and after the load was added, you can quickly figure out the change in height above the ground when you have your Target Tongue Weight on the back of your tow vehicle. This CHANGE in the height of your trailer hitch is the HITCH DROP that you need to get when you load your Model A on the trailer. Before attaching the trailer to your tow vehicle in the future, measure the height of the trailer hitch above the ground. Now attach the trailer and load your Model A on it. Pull the Model A forward on the trailer until your trailer hitch has dropped by your Target Hitch Drop. You can roll the Model A forward and backward a bit on the trailer to get the amount of drop that you are shooting for. Now tie the Model A down in this position on the trailer and be confident that you have enough, but not too much, tongue weight on your trailer hitch.

I have marked on my trailer the best spot to load a Model A to get the target tongue weight and hitch drop. When I put them on the mark, the tongue weight is correct.

For more tips on safe towing, check out the following web site: <https://www.curtmfg.com/towing-safety>

Let's be careful out there, and Have a Model A Day!

Jim Cannon



# 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 information, contact Jim Bernard, Jr. at 816-410-4610.

\*\*\*\*\*

## For Sale at Grandpa's Garage, DeSoto

I have sold 15 cars, but still have 14 cars for sale.

ALL CAR PARTS PRICE REDUCED

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913-585-3326 Cell  
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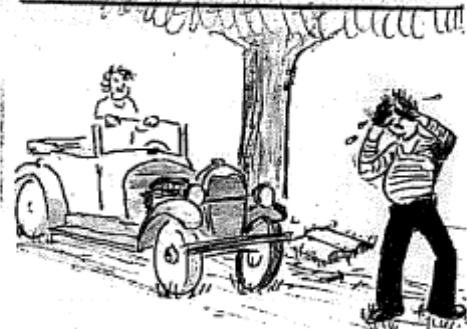
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UNDER THE SPREADING CHESTNUT TREE  
THE SHADE TREE MECHANIC STANDS  
WITH A WORRIED LOOK UPON HIS FACE  
AND VERY GREASY HANDS



I'VE WORKED ON THIS THING ALL DAY  
I'VE HAD THIS ALL APART  
I'VE DONE EVERY THING I KNOW TO DO  
AND THE DUMB THING STILL WON'T START



THEN A LITTLE NEIGHBOR GIRL CAME OUT TO PLAY  
AND LOOKED UPON THE DASH  
SIR, I THINK I SEE YOUR PROBLEM  
YOU'RE ONLY OUT OF GAS

Dean

## If you haven't yet

Many MAFCA members have already renewed for 2021 - thank you to all who've done so!

Membership brings many benefits as we all know, and our dues are the main source of the income that enables them. If you haven't yet renewed your membership, this is the time to make that happen! And thank you.



Renew your 2021 membership today

Call 866-379-3619 or visit

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



### Videos Available to Our Members

Most available on VCR  
 and some on DVD  
 Roadside Troubleshooting  
 (new)  
 Jewelry of the Model A Era (new)  
 How To Stop On a Dime  
 Gennin Along  
 Carbs & Carbos  
 Flasher (turn signals)  
 Timing the Ignition  
 Tillotson Carburetors  
 Dial D for Distributor  
 Electrical Seminar '87 Hargrave

**Other Model A Titles**  
 Kansas City (Movie)  
 2000 Hillclimb Weston  
 Yokahama Model A  
 Picacho Peak Hill Climb 2000  
 The New Ford Model A  
 Ford Motor Co. 1928  
 1995 Great North American Race  
 Mid American Regional  
 Mafca Regional meet 89  
 Mafca Regional Meet 87  
 OLD Cars, Creston 35 ford,  
 87 reg, Atch Flyin

**Other Cars**  
 1935-36 Fords  
 1932 V8  
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 See Ken Coleman 913-631-2752



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New Membership

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Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_
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State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_
Country \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_
Permission to publish my telephone number in future Membership Rosters? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Membership Benefits ~
The Restorer magazine • Technical Support • Local Chapters • National Meets • Era Fashion Guidelines • "How To Restore" Series • Judging Standards and Restoration Guidelines

Dues per year are
U.S. Membership - \$50
Canada/Mexico Membership - \$60
International Membership - \$70
Make checks or money orders payable to
MAFCA
U.S. Funds Only

Gift Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_
Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_
City \_\_\_\_\_
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_
Country \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_
Permission to publish my telephone number in future Membership Rosters? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

For Credit Card Orders ~ Visa / MasterCard (circle one)
Card Number: [ ]
Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_ Membership Only \_\_\_\_\_ Membership + Initiation Package

Return this form and payment to:
MAFCA
250 South Cypress Street • La Habra, CA 90631-5515

Source: MAFCA Website

Revised November 1, 2017

Optional Initiation Package
For New Members Only
1 - Back Issue of The Restorer
1 - MAFCA Lapel Pin
1 - MAFCA Decal
1 - Name Badge
Only \$10 extra



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? \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal (dues are \$25.00 per year and DUE BY DECEMBER 31)

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

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.

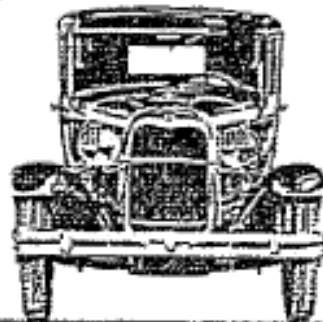
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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KANSAS CITY, MO 64112-3031



SHADE TREE MECHANIC



PLAIN OL' A'S

MODEL A FORD CLUB  
KANSAS