



# THE RUNNING BOARD NEWS



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THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE A's

APRIL 2024

Golden Triangle A's

PO Box 22076

Beaumont, TX 77720

Facebook: Golden Triangle A's-MAFCA Club

## Next Monthly Meeting

**When: April 9, 2024**

**Time: 6:00 PM**

**Where: Habanero's Restaurant  
6685 Eastex Fwy.  
Beaumont, Texas**

The Golden Triangle A's have been serving the Southeast Texas Model A community since 1995. With regular meetings, tours and activities, it is our goal to unite all Model A Ford owners and help in restoring, maintaining and preserving these automobiles.

We strongly encourage all our members to join the Model A Ford Club of America.

### Officers:

President: Bob Johnson(409)781-3078

V. Pres.: Dennis Weyant (409)651-5165

Secretary: Debbie Weyant (409)651-2121

Treasurer: Paul Smith (409)673-6318

### Directors:

Wes Jones (409)722-0697

Wallace Harlow (409)720-7281

James Parsley (409)753-2523

Linda Patterson (409)728-1277

Tour Chair: Bob & Pam Johnson  
(409)781-3078

Newsletter: Sylvia Butler (409)720-7315

Restorer Reporter: Kevin Parsley (409)753-2523

Webpage/Facebook: Sylvia Butler (409)720-7315

- All leaders must be MAFCA members
- Website: gta-texas.com  
(Membership application is on the website)
- Facebook: Golden Triangle A's-MAFCA Club

## THE PREZ SEZ.....

Hello GTA members and welcome to April. The Texas Hill Country is in full bloom right now with beautiful bluebonnets and Indian paintbrushes. This past winter weather and timely spring rains have made these flowers a sight everyone should see. They look even better if you are touring in your Model A! Pam and I were so lucky to be part of 17 Model As that recently toured in the Hill Country in mid-March. We put 600 miles on the Blindback over four days of driving. The towns we visited and drove through included Luling, New Braunfels, Hunter, Blanco, Hye, Llano, Johnson City, Kingsland, Cartell, Round Mountain, Fischer, Stonewall, Willow City, and Buchanan Dam. The flowers were spectacular and you need to go see them!



The highlight of the Hill Country trip was having lunch on the banks of the Llano River from the back of authentic 1890's chuck wagons. Eleven chuck wagon teams prepared chicken fried steaks and all of the sides to include peach cobbler in Dutch ovens over wood burning fires. What a treat! Our 17 Model A's were on full display and got lots of attention!

This trip reminded us why we enjoy driving our Model A and the people who own them. They are the best! Sure there were some hiccups along the way and some cars went faster than others, but no one was left behind, stranded, or lost.

The Poor Boy Tour in Gonzales is the first week in April, and hopefully there will still be some flowers blooming. Don't forget to register for the Texas Tour in June. We have a large group going from our GTA club and will have a wonderful time.

Now go add some fresh gas and Marvel Mystery Oil to your gas tank and drive your Model A!  
Happy Motoring, Bob

PLEASE NOTE: Golden Triangle A's have a NEW P. O. Box number. It is : P. O. Box 22076, Beaumont, TX 77720

## 2024 Coming Attractions

### APRIL

5-7th—Poor Boy Tour

9th—GTA Meeting

### MAY

14th—GTA Meeting

18th—Dine & Drive Hosted by the Butlers



## THINGS OF INTEREST:

Page 3, Jim's Tech Tips-Preventing Problems with the Starter Switch Rod; Page 4, Calendar of Events, Coasters for Sale, May Dine & Drive, and Newsletter Quiz; Page 5, Are You Umbrella Blind;

**GOLDEN TRIANGLE MODEL A's MEETING MINUTES**  
**Baytown Seafood, Groves, Texas**  
**March 12, 2024**

Lynn Parker led us in prayer before our meal.

President Bob Johnson called the meeting to order and indicated we had expected guests, but they did not come this month. We celebrated Wallace Harlow's birthday with cupcakes.

The minutes from last month were approved. Secretary Debbie Weyant reported that the post office box had been closed by the USPS supposedly for not being current on rental payment, but no notice had ever been in the box. The new PO Box number is 22076.

The treasurer's report was approved. Treasurer Paul Smith reported that the CD was renewed at PNC Bank at a rate of 4.75%.

Paul Smith brought a mystery part, a backing plate for a bumper. Wes Jones' ticket was drawn and he identified the part.

Paul Smith's ticket was drawn for the 50/50 drawing.

In new business, Greg Riley from Houston might put together an event in April, but Bob didn't have any further information from Greg.

We might do a boat tour on the Neches this spring.

The Gulf Coast Tour is coming up in June. The Houston club has voted to withdraw from the tour.

There were several mentions of our club in the latest issue of The Restorer.

The next meeting will be April 9 at Habaneros.

Dorothy has a box of coasters to sell. They are \$12 for 8 coasters.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Weyant, Secretary



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Joyce Wesley—10th



NONE

**Jim's Tech Tips**  
*"Preventing Problems with the Starter Switch Rod"*

The Starter Switch Rod passes through the firewall and screws into the Starter Switch. You step on the head of the rod to start the car.

You will find that today's reproduction rods screw quite easily into and out of the switch. This can be nice when you are assembling things.

But I have found on more than just a few cars the engine vibration can cause the rod to unscrew itself and back out of the switch. You hit a bump and the rod drops down and makes contact with the post on the starter switch, where the battery cable connects. Yikes! That's a direct short to ground, with a LOT of amps behind it.



So you want to make the rod a bit harder to turn when installing it in the switch. Add a small drop of blue thread locker to the rod before you screw it in, or gently tap the threads a little with a hammer to deform them and make them harder to screw in and out.

Another simple solution, if you are not doing a car for Fine Point Judging (because it is not how the switch was originally done), is to add a 5/16" nut to the threaded end of the rod before screwing it into the switch. When you have the rod where you want it (desired button height inside the car, etc.) use that nut as a jam nut and lock the rod to the switch. It will not back out while driving, but you can easily undo it when you need to take it apart.

Whichever approach you choose, you will have more trouble-free miles if you get ahead of this potential problem. Until next time...

*Have a Model A Day!*

Jim Cannon

**Model A's take on Talladega!**



## GOLDEN TRIANGLE A's 2024 CALENDAR

If anyone would like to sign up for a Dine & Drive or have anything to add to the calendar, please contact Bob & Pam Johnson at 409-781-3078.

<b>JANUARY</b> 9th—GTA Meeting 20th—Dine & Drive Hosted by the Parsleys & Smiths	<b>FEBRUARY</b> 13th—GTA Meeting
<b>MARCH</b> 12th—GTA Meeting	<b>APRIL</b> 5-7th—Poor Boy Tour in Gonzales, TX 9th—GTA Meeting
<b>MAY</b> 14th—GTA Meeting 18th—Dine & Drive Hosted by the Butlers—Pompeiiian Villa (\$4 Admission Fee) & Wheelhouse for Lunch	<b>JUNE</b> 11th—GTA Meeting 13—16th—61st Texas Tour in Nacogdoches, TX 23—29th—National MAFCA Convention in Ruidoso, NM
<b>JULY</b> 9th—GTA Meeting TBD—Dine & Drive Hosted by the Parsleys—Blueberry Farm	<b>AUGUST</b> 13th—GTA Meeting
<b>SEPTEMBER</b> 10th—GTA Meeting 21st— International Ford Model A Day 20-22—Coldspring Tour Hosted by the Butlers (Book Sunday Houses with Linda Currie @ 936-661-1530)	<b>OCTOBER</b> 8th—GTA Meeting TBD—Gulf Coast Tour
<b>NOVEMBER</b> 12th—GTA Meeting	<b>DECEMBER</b> TBD—GTA Christmas Party 11-14—National Awards Banquet in Salt Lake City, Utah TBD—Dine & Drive Hosted by the Smiths—Shangri La Christmas

### FOR SALE

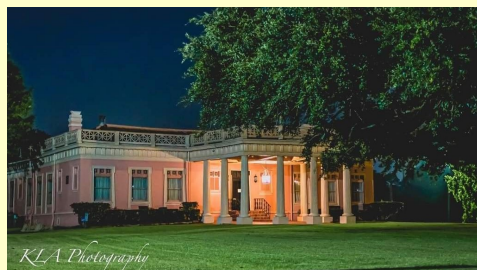
**Set of 12 Coasters with various pictures of Model A's (examples below). Several sets available at \$8.00 per set. Contact Dorothy Burk at 409-782-8230 for purchase or information.**



### MAY 18, 2024

#### Dine and Drive Hosted by the Butlers

Tour of the Pompeiiian Villa in Port Arthur and have lunch at the Wheelhouse Restaurant in Port Neches. The Villa has been recently renovated and is under the management of The Museum of the Gulf Coast.



There is a \$4 admission fee per person for the Villa Tour. More details will be published in the May Newsletter.

### NEWSLETTER QUIZ

1. How many miles did Bob & Pam put on their Blindback in mid March?
2. Who won the 50/50 drawing at the March meeting...without Kathy's help?
3. How many coasters are in a set and how much do they cost?
4. When is the May Dine & Drive?
5. What type of handle would a typical men's umbrella have?
6. Who has had trouble with their Starter Switch Rod?

## ARE YOU PREPARED FOR APRIL SHOWERS?

# Are You Umbrella Blind?

By Peggy Gill

As winter approaches, our thoughts often turn to inclement weather. To help keep us dry we find ourselves bundled up in galoshes, rain coats, and keeping at hand the ever present umbrella. In fact, the *Sears, Roebuck & Co. Catalog* for Fall/Winter 1929 has a variety to choose from, ranging in price from \$1.00 for a basic "quality umbrella" up to \$8.45 for an all silk parasol umbrella.

While the construction appears to be mostly the same, it appears the cost depends on the number of ribs in the frame (7, 10, or 16 ribs), the quality and type of fabric used, and the handle construction. The umbrellas range in size from 23 inches in diameter for the basic child's umbrella up to 40 inches. However, the average size for most mid-priced and higher quality umbrellas is right around 33 to 35 inches in diameter. Another determining cost factor is the construction or detail of the umbrella handle. It seems that the typical men's umbrella has the curved cane style handle, whereas the women's umbrellas sport everything from enameled wood or intricately carved crystal figurines, to

translucent "moon-glo" (I believe a type of plastic resin) with colored accents in enameled wood. Usually the tips and stub ends match the handle.

An umbrella is an umbrella, right? Any one will do for most of us. However, according to an article entitled, "Ready For Rain" by Marian Corey in the April 1931 *Delineator*, there are "a number of people walking around who are total umbrella blind."

In other words, they are carrying the wrong kind of umbrella to go with their outfit or the event they are attending. According to this article, there are "town umbrellas, dressy ones, country types, and sports types." What follows are the picture and description of umbrella types and their uses.

So, as the weather turns cool and wet this season, take the blinders off and go out in style!

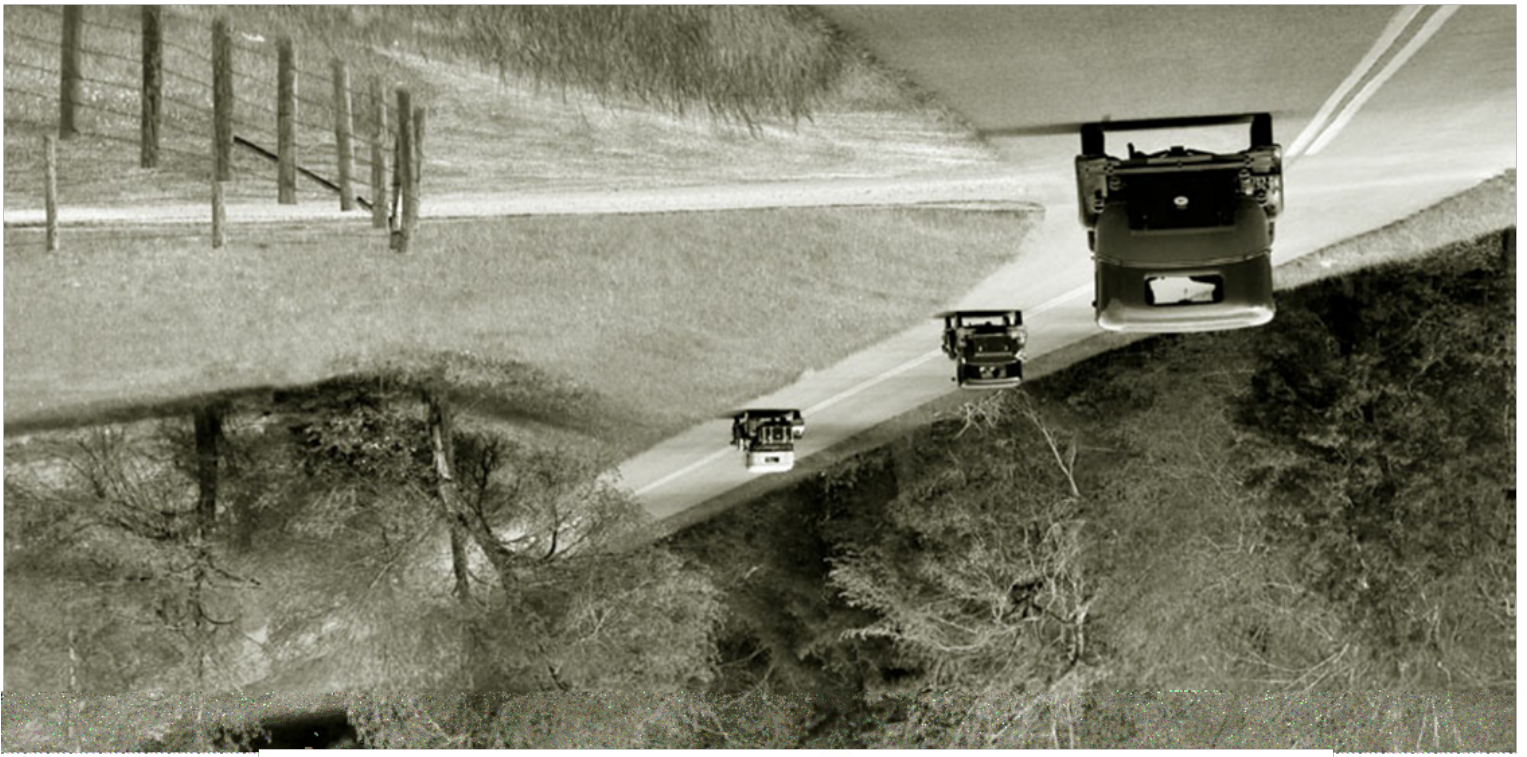


From left to right:

- A tweed-handled umbrella in a tweed case is the country umbrella and perfect with the tweed raincoat.
- This striped umbrella is dressy—something you would carry to an afternoon of bridge.
- The smartest sports umbrella is the slim, trim crook handle "rainstick."
- The eyelet handle, often called a "Top-hole".
- The short umbrella with a chromium ball handle is very "town-like" and would be perfect for that shopping trip into town.

Bottom:

- The "automobile umbrella" resides in a case that fastens by straps to the rug rail. It is a cotton umbrella with all its insides rust proof so it can be put away wet.



## Golden Triangle A's On Tour

Golden Triangle A's  
PO Box 21185  
Beaumont, TX 77720

