



# THE RUNNING BOARD NEWS



[www.gta-texas.com](http://www.gta-texas.com)

**THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE A's**

**FEBRUARY 2025**

PO Box 22076, Beaumont, TX 77720

Facebook: Golden Triangle A's-MAFCA Club

## Next Monthly Meeting

**February 11, 2025**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Baytown Seafood**  
**4830 Twin City Hwy**  
**Groves, Texas**



## February Events

**8th—Breakfast @ Romero's Grill**  
**in Nederland @ 9:00 A.M. (See Page 7)**

**11TH—GTA Meeting**  
**Members or encouraged to wear red & white,**  
**Valentine hats, or Era Fashions to the meeting.**

## 2025—CELEBRATING 30 YEARS AS A MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA (See Page 3)

The Golden Triangle A's have been serving the Southeast Texas Model A community since January 10, 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.



## THE PREZ SEZ.....

Hello GTA Members and Happy Valentine's Day to everyone!

I hope everyone got to enjoy the recent snowfall we had in Southeast Texas. It was six inches deep at my house and the lows were in the mid-teens. Very unusual for our area; however, Pam and I got out in it for a few hours and had lots of fun with the homemade sled I made the night before the snowfall.

Talking about homemade engineering and using your available resources—have you seen the television series called Cuban Chrome? It is an older eight-part series that aired on the History Channel. The Cuban's automotive and car world stopped in 1958. As us older folks remember, Fidel Castro and his rebels overthrew the government, became Communists, and we ended up with the "Cuban Missile Crisis." Thank goodness no missiles were ever launched, and we did not go to war with Cuba. The US president enacted a trade embargo against Cuba, and all their American made automobiles are primarily from the 1950s and late 1940s. The Cuban Chrome series is about how Cubans go to extreme measures to keep their brightly painted old American made cars on the road. Several in the series are restoring their cars to become a member of a local car club that would enable them to get a taxi driver's license and make more money for their families. The average doctor in Cuba makes \$40 to \$50 per month plus food and housing. The average taxi driver with a 1950s American-made car makes about \$20 a day. Some doctors retire early and become taxi drivers!

The show is very interesting and everyone should watch it. The Cuban people have very little, but are highly educated and love their country. The people are able to solve problems, use their ingenuity, and go to great lengths to keep those 65 to 75 year old cars on the road. They don't have regular parts stores like O'Reilly's, and you can't order parts from Snyders like we can. Boy, are we lucky to be able to get parts and supplies for our Ford Model A's.

The January meeting at Elsa's Greek Restaurant in Beaumont was so much fun. The service, ambiance, food, and prices were excellent. Thank you Dennis for finding another location for our monthly meetings. In February, our club is meeting at Baytown Seafood in Groves, and that should have a good turnout on the 11th. On Saturday, February 8th, I have invited our club members to meet at Romero's Mexican Restaurant in Nederland for breakfast at 9 a.m. If you don't have plans that morning, come join us for breakfast tacos and huevos rancheros.

Well after all this cold weather and snow, be sure to check the air pressure on your tires before you drive your Model A. Now go turn on that air compressor.

Happy Motoring, Bob

## Officers:

President: Bob Johnson (409)781-3078  
 V. Pres.: Dennis Weyant (409)651-5165  
 Secretary: Karen Parsley (409) 651-7878  
 Treasurer: Paul Smith (409)673-6318

Tour Chair: Bob & Pam Johnson (409)781-3078  
 Restorer Reporter: Linda Patterson (409) 728-1277  
 Newsletter/Website/Facebook: Sylvia Butler (409)720-7315

## Directors:

Wes Jones (409)722-0697  
 Wallace Harlow (409)720-7281  
 James Parsley (409)753-2523  
 Linda Patterson (409)728-1277



- All leaders must be MAFCA members
- Membership application is on the website @ [www.gta-texas.com](http://www.gta-texas.com)

*"Never lose hope. Hope is a rope that swings you through life." Let February be a time of hope and optimism.*

**GOLDEN TRIANGLE MODEL A's MEETING MINUTES**  
**Elsa's Greek Grill, Beaumont Texas**  
**January 14, 2025**

**James Parsley** led us in prayer.

**Bob Johnson** called the meeting to order and led us in the pledge to the flag.

No guests attended our meeting this month. However, we did have some distinguished guests: **Paul and Cathy Dominguez**, who are some of the founding members of our club which started in January 1995.

**Secretary's Report:** The Christmas party was our December meeting – no minutes for December.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report was approved as given. **Paul Smith** went over our income and expenses for the years 2023 and 2024.

**Newsletter Quiz:** Several people answered what was wrong with the picture in the newsletter. It showed an oil leak and the dust cover not being on the outside of the fly wheel housing. It was on the inside.

**Mystery Part:** **Paul Smith** brought the part. **Dorothy Burk's** ticket was drawn. She asked **T.J. Parker** for help. It was a brass slip ring gasket for the fuel gauge.

**50/50 Drawing:** **Martha Schroeder's** ticket was drawn.

**Tech Session:** None scheduled for now.

**Bob Johnson** talked about the Christmas Party and thanked the **Parker's** for hosting. Everyone had a great time and who knew that a work light could be such a great gift.

The breakfast hosted by **Paul and Kathy Smith** was a great success at the Cracker Barrel. Service was not so good but the fellowship was great.

January 25, 2025 – Baptist Hospital La Soiree' would like to display our cars at the Beaumont Civic Center for their fundraiser. You need to park your car by noon and pick it up after the event starts.

February 8, 2025 – Romero's Grill in Nederland, TX, Dine and Drive 9AM. Meet for breakfast then drive around old town and by the river.

February 11, 2025 – Monthly meeting. Dress up if you like for your sweetheart – Wear red and white, Fashion era or whatever you choose.

**Sylvia Butler** spoke about the history of our club: First meeting was on January 10, 1995 and MAFCA charter on April 28, 1995. **Paul Dominguez** spoke of all the good people involved in the club throughout the years, lots of characters and activities.

Be thinking of this year's calendar to add your dine and drive events

**Tours:** **Bob Johnson** discussed the following tours:

**Poor Boy Tour – March 28-30, Schulenburg, TX**

**Texas Tour – June 12-15, Giddings, TX**



Next meeting will be on February 11, 2025 – Baytown Seafood in Groves, TX

Respectfully submitted by: **Karen Parsley - Secretary**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Dorothy Richey—19th



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Dennis & Audrey Turner —2nd

# THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE A'S CELEBRATE 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY !

THE VERY FIRST CLUB MEETING WAS HELD ON JANUARY 10, 1995, AND MAFCA ISSUED A CHARTER TO THE CLUB ON APRIL 28, 1995.

## This is How Our Club Began

(This information was courtesy of Bessie Smith Hawthorne)

A group of Model A enthusiasts in the Golden Triangle Area (most of whom were members of MAFCA) met at the home of Jay and Sandy Allen in Beaumont on January 10, 1995, to organize a local chapter of the Model A Ford Club.

The meeting agenda for that day, elected officers for 1995, a summary of the meeting, and a list of the founding members follows:

### MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA

JANUARY 10, 1995

#### MEETING

#### AGENDA

Introduction

Discussion of By-Laws  
(Dues, Meeting Time/Schedule, Type of Organization)

Selection of Officers

Refreshment Break

General Discussion

Starting Time: 7:00 PM

Scheduled Ending Time: 8:30 PM

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#### ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 1995

President	Melvin Smith	736-1967
Vice President	Curtis May	755-3062
Secretary/Editor	Jay Allen	899-4973
Treasurer	Sandy Allen	899-4973

#### FOUNDING MEMBERS

Sandy and Jay Allen	Monroe Johnson
W.A. (Pete) Baker	Janice and Curtis May
Laura and J.R. Booker	Ken Parker
Cathy and Paul Dominguez	Reta and Dan Parrish
William (Bill) Gill	Melvin Smith
Jeff and Samuel (Sam) Hattman	Arthur Ray Tamplin
David S. Howell	Darleen and Fred Thompson
Joyce and Carey Wesley	

## 30 YEARS LATER...

JANUARY 11, 2025

Cracker Barrel, Beaumont, TX

Some Current Members had breakfast together to celebrate the founding of the club 30 years ago!



Left: We were so happy to have two Founding Club Members, Cathy & Paul Dominguez, at our January Meeting.



JANUARY 14, 2025

Members attending the first meeting of 2025!  
Celebrating our 30th year!



## WHAT WINDSHIELD WIPER DO I NEED FOR MY MODEL A?



**COMMERCIAL  
HAND WIPER**

There are three types of windshield wipers used on Model A Fords. Hand wipers, a carryover from the 26/27 Model T made by Ford and Trico, were standard on all open vehicles until October 1928 and on commercial vehicles until April 1930. The operating arms on each were of different length—6 3/8 and 5 5/8 inches respectively. There were lots of other hand wipers used on other cars so measure first before you buy.

Electric wipers were standard equipment on all closed models from the beginning of production in October 1927 and on all models at the beginning 1929. These were supplied by Owen-Dyneto Corporation through November 1928 with Heinze Electric Company beginning to supply wipers in December 1928 and E. A. Labs beginning to supply wipers in April 1929. Closed cars used an appropriate electric wiper while open cars specifically used O-D electric wipers. Electric wipers were eliminated by June 1930. All of these wipers were made with pot metal (zinc housing) and were prone to breakage over time. Finding an intact electric wiper is often difficult and finding an operating wiper even more so. They can be quite costly as a result. Some efforts have been made to recast the baseplates on these wipers due to breakage of the ears or mounting base but they are a hard to find item. Many of the covers and gears have survived especially those made of steel or brass (Heinze and EA). Original hardware is difficult to find but some aftermarket items can be found that are good. Before you go looking, know what you need for your specific vehicle. For example, Heinze provided 3 models - HA-TC1 (chrome plated), HA-C1 and HA-C2 (black enamel covers).

**OD-C1A**



**HA-C2**

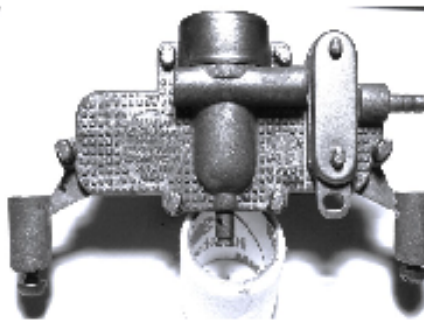


By mid-1930, Trico became the supplier of all vacuum wipers for Model A Fords. All Ford wipers had a front cover secured by two small round screws. Trico wipers made for Ford had waffle pattern tops or plain tops attached to the body with special flat-sided screws. The most common wipers were the TR-C1A (black) and TR-C1B (chrome) used on most closed cars except those which needed a different configuration for proper mounting. Fordors (160-A, -B, -C), Passenger busses and Standrive (315-A and 330-A), Cabriolet (-C), Convertible Sedan (400-A) and Victoria (190-A) used a TR-C2A (black) and TR-C2-B (chrome) which had a long drive shaft so as to facilitate mounting inside the vehicle, had a waffle top and had no mounting ears. Open cab models used TR-01A (black) or TR-01B (chrome) or TR-01C (black) depending upon the configurational requirements. Trico supplied replacement wipers well past the Model A Era. The replacement number was printed on the cover. These replacements are functionally the same, however, they do not have the cover plate affixed to the body with screws. This deficiency can be overcome by drilling two holes through the cover, drilling and tapping the support posts on the body and affixing the cover with a pair of 4-36 round head screws.

The most important thing when you go shopping is to know exactly what you need. If you are unsure, take a picture of the item in the *Model A Restoration Guidelines and Judging Standards*.



**TR-C1A**



Tom Jeanes, of Pollock Pines, California, is a member of the Hangtown A's. He serves on the Judging Standards Committee and as the magazine's Technical Editor.





*WITH THE COLD TEMPERATURES, A LADY COULD USE A NEW COAT FOR VALENTINE'S DAY!*

# Fashionably Speaking

By Fern Davis

## Coats For The Winter Mode - 1928-1929

Daytime coats for fall and winter had more fur trim than the spring and summer coats, and, of course, full fur coats were worn more in the fall and winter months. The hems were all straight, most covered the dress hem, but not always, as we see in one of our illustrations. Also, notice the odd hat style on this model. Our ads here show the common styles. Belts at the hip or one button at the hip were the popular styles. Most advertised 100% virgin wool, which states, ignores such annoying things as dust, wrinkles, and moisture. The fur collars often framed the face.

Our full fur coat shown is of summer ermine. The narrow ribbon-like scarf knots at the neck, leaving the long ends trailing. The coat on the right is of "Nutria," which is Otter skin or Cuypu, an aquatic rodent. An unusual touch is provided by an encrusted broadcloth band forming pockets and a narrow belt at the hips. There were many styles of fur coats, too many to show here, but how the coat fastens is largely the key which tells us if the coat is of our era. Evening wraps are the exception. Most of these had no fasteners, as they were really held together by hand. A few had a button or scarf at the neck or a snap, especially the fur or velvet evening capes.





## GOLDEN TRIANGLE A's 2025 CALENDAR

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

**Saturday Dine and Drives:** Dining may be breakfast or lunch. Details and time allowed for the events are set by host. It is best if the host gives members information for the Dine and Drive at a meeting prior to the event so it can be added to the club calendar. Eating at favorite restaurants, antiquing, trade days, festivals, car shows, visiting museums or gardens, and attending other local community events are all ideas for Dine & Drives.

<b>JANUARY</b> 11th—Dine (NO Drive) @ Cracker Barrel in Bmt. @ 9:00 A.M. 14th—GTA Meeting	<b>FEBRUARY</b> 8th—Dine & Drive - Breakfast @ Romero's Grill @ 9:00 A.M. 11th—GTA Meeting
<b>MARCH</b> 11th—GTA Meeting 28-30th—Piney Wood Club Poor Boy Tour in Schulenburg, TX (You need to be a member of the Piney Wood Club to attend)	<b>APRIL</b> 8th—GTA Meeting 28TH—Club Chartered in 1995—30 Year Anniversary
<b>MAY</b> 13th—GTA Meeting	<b>JUNE</b> 10th—GTA Meeting 12-15th—62nd Texas Tour in Giddings, TX 15-22nd - 2025 National Tour in Waynesboro, Virginia
<b>JULY</b> 8th—GTA Meeting	<b>AUGUST</b> 12th—GTA Meeting
<b>SEPTEMBER</b> 9th—GTA Meeting 13th—International Model A Ford Day	<b>OCTOBER</b> 14th—GTA Meeting
<b>NOVEMBER</b> 11th—GTA Meeting	<b>DECEMBER</b> 3-6th —2025 MAFCA National Awards Banquet in Mobile, AL TBD—GTA Christmas Party

### **January 25, 2025** **Baptist Hospital's La Soiree 2025 at the Beaumont Civic Center**

The Golden Triangle A's were invited to display Model A's for the event. On a cold January day, seven members took four of their Model A's to the event. Of course, there is always a "dine" included!  
(Thanks Bob for the pictures)



In 1923, a photograph captured Henry Ford and Thomas Edison, Ford in cowboy attire, and Edison seated in a car. These iconic American inventors shared a close friendship that spanned their professional lives. Ford's initial connection with Edison stemmed from his role as chief engineer at the Edison Lighting Company. During his spare hours outside work commitments, Ford dedicated himself to constructing his inaugural automobile. This passion project eventually burgeoned into his own automotive enterprise, later becoming one of the foremost successful car manufacturers in the United States.



## CHAPTER LOAN PROGRAM

### Tools

Distributor Puller  
Steering Wheel Puller  
Wheel Hub Puller  
Brake Lining Tool  
Ratchet Nut Wrench  
Brake Centering Tool  
Rear Spring Spreader  
Front Spring Spreader  
Door Hinge Pin Remover  
Gas Gauge Tool  
Timing Tool  
Frame Spreader

\*To borrow Tools contact

Bob Johnson at 409-781-3078

### Books & Videos

Model A Paint Guide  
Rebuilding Steering  
Rebuilding Shocks  
Yokohama A's  
2008 World Meet  
48<sup>th</sup> Texas Tour #1  
48<sup>th</sup> Texas Tour #2  
2011 Gulf Coast Tour  
Tech Session, Engine Install

\*To borrow books & videos, contact  
Dennis Weyant 409-651-5165



Members are encouraged to take advantage of our loan program but do so at your own risk.  
If unsure of the proper and safe operation of a tool be sure to get help before using them.  
Return all tools and videos, in clean and in proper working order.

### Golden Triangle Model A Club Dues

**Annual Fees: Make Checks Payable to: *Golden Triangle Model A Ford Club***

**\*New Member \$20.00 or postmarked after Dec 31 (pro-rated) \*Returning Member paid or postmarked on or before Dec. 31-\$20 \*Returning Member paid or postmarked after Dec. 31-\$25.00**

GIVE or MAILTO: PAUL SMITH  
1162 Tom Easley Road  
Kountze, TX 77625

**Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA)** Join on line at MAFCA.COM ~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 payable to Model A Ford Club of America

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Permission to publish my telephone number in future Membership Rosters? Yes: \_\_\_ No: \_\_\_

Return this Form and Payment to MAFCA 250 South Cypress • La Habra, CA 90631-5515 ~ 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

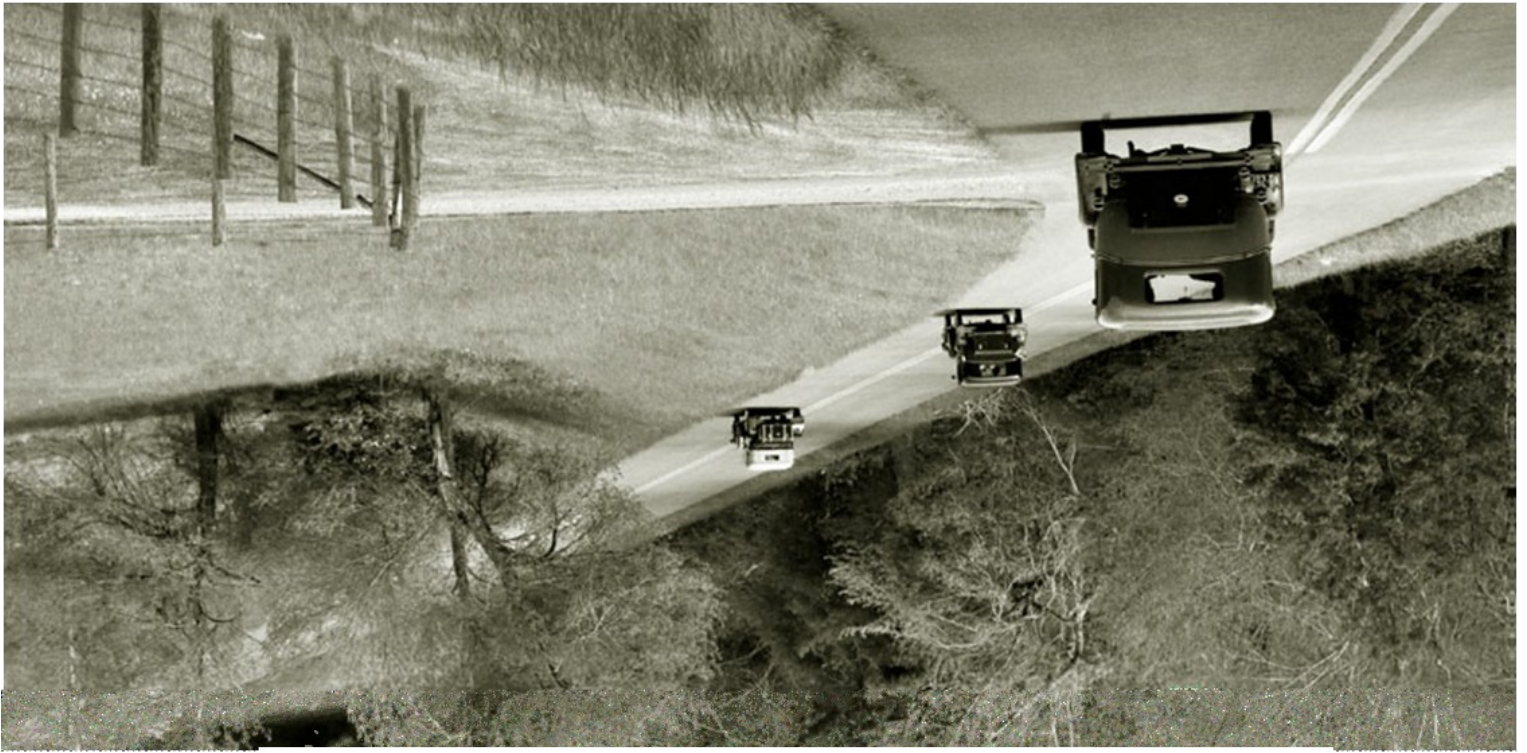
### **Dine & Drive February 8, 2025**

Everyone should meet at Romero's Grill, 112 11th St. Nederland, at 9:00 A.M. for breakfast. (Romero's is by the railroad tracks at the corner of 11th & Nederland Ave.) After breakfast, we will drive around Nederland & Port Neches. (Possibly Boston Ave. in Nederland and Sarah Jane Road in Port Neches.)

### NEWSLETTER QUIZ

1. When was our club chartered by MAFCA?
2. Who was the 1st president of our club?
3. What are the 3 types of windshield wipers used on “A's”?
4. Would you see fur collars on ladies coats year round?
5. Did Henry Ford work for Thomas Edison? What did he do and what was the name of the company?
6. How many Model A's were on display at La Soiree?
7. How much does a Cuban taxi driver make a day?





## Golden Triangle A's On Tour

Golden Triangle A's  
PO Box 22076  
Beaumont, TX 77720

