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THE RUNNING BOARD NEWS

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE A's



OCTOBER 2026

750 Countrywood Circle, Sour Lake, TX 77659

Facebook: Golden Triangle A's-MAFCA Club

Next Monthly Meeting

October 13, 2026

6:00 PM

China Star

4260 Dowlen Road

Beaumont, Texas



October Events

13th—GTA Meeting

22-25th - Autumn Trails Tour, Winnsboro, TX

29th—Last Thursday with the Prez @ 11:00 A.M.

Schooner Restaurant, 1507 Hwy 69, Nederland, TX

2026—CELEBRATING 31 YEARS AS A MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA

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 Model A folks! Did you know that in October of 1930 Henry Ford was in Cologne, Germany breaking ground along the Rhine River for a new manufacturing facility. He wanted to expand his European production beyond the existing plant in Berlin. Construction proceeded quickly and that factory opened to build vehicles like our Model A in May 1931. Production of the Model A was short lived in the Cologne plant and was replaced with the Model B vehicles in March of 1932. The English and German Model As only had 28 horsepower compared to our 40 horsepower in America. As a result, they were not popular due to their heavy weight bodies and lack of fuel efficiency. Thank goodness we got the 40 horsepower vehicles here in the states. Anything less than that would restrict our driving to cruising in local neighborhoods only.

International Model A day on Saturday, September 19th, was a tremendous success for our club. We had 15 members meet at the Spindletop Museum on the campus of Lamar University. Then six Model A's drove to downtown Beaumont for a beautiful photo opportunity in front of the 1931-built Art Deco Jefferson County Courthouse. That was really great to park our cars and trucks in front of the Model A era building without crowds or traffic to contend with. Our next stop was next door at the Port of Beaumont board room. We were royally treated to several small gifts, snacks, drinks, and a short film describing events, expansion, and purposes of the port. Pat Anderson, Board Member of the Port, made arrangements for our club to have a private tour of the port facility. Sade Chick, who is in charge of Port Corporate Affairs, greeted everyone and was our narrator during the bus tour. I think everyone from our club that day was impressed with how large and important this port is to Beaumont, Texas and our national security. We ended our day by driving to Riverside Grill in the historic district for a delicious lunch. It was a perfect Model A Day! We had 12 members and four Model A's meet for lunch at the Wheelhouse Restaurant in Pt. Neches for our last Thursday with the Prez event. After a very good lunch and watching boats and ships navigate the Neches River, Ronnie Butler took us on a slow winding road trip in our Model A s. Another fun day with fellow GTA members. October and November are excellent months to drive an A. Look over your calendar and let's put together some more driving events. The October GTA meeting will be at the China Star Restaurant on Dowlen Road on the 13th. Be sure to attend that meeting because we need to finalize our Christmas party plans and start talking about new officers for the club in 2027. If you have driven your A lately, chances are you have lovebugs on the grill and windshield for their late season hatch. Now, go clean those bugs off your car before they damage the paint. 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: Sylvia Butler (409)720-7315

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

● GTA Membership application is on the website @ www.gta-texas.com



Happy Fall, Y'all! Leaves are falling, autumn is calling!

*GOLDEN TRIANGLE MODEL A's MEETING MINUTES
Carmela's Mexican Restaurant, Port Arthur, Texas
September 8, 2026*

Lynne Parker led us in prayer.

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

Guests: Daniel Johnson and Raymond Knight, Sr were our guests at this meeting.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's report was approved as shown in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was approved as given.

Newsletter Quiz: Several people answered and discussed the questions in the newsletter.

Mystery Part: Paul Smith brought the part. Kathy Smith's ticket was drawn. She asked TJ Parker for help. It was an exhaust gland ring.

50/50 Drawing: Dorothy Burk's ticket was drawn.

Tech Session: None scheduled.

Bob Johnson discussed the Lunches with the Prez are having a good turnout. The next one is September 24 at The Wheel House in Port Neches, TX.

The license plate toppers are in process.

International Model A Day is September 19. We will meet at 9am - Spindletop Museum. If you participate and drive your A you will get a Model A Day patch.

Tours and Events:

September 19 – International Model A Day

October 22-25 – Autumn Trails Tour, Winnsboro, TX

Next meeting will be on October 13– China Star, Beaumont TX

Respectfully submitted by: Karen Parsley - Secretary



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Carl Price - 1st

Trent Speichinger - 20th

Karen Parsley -25th

Lynne Parker - 27th

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

None



INTERNATIONAL MODEL A DAY - SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

Thirteen members driving 6 Model A's met at Spindletop Museum on Lamar University Campus. Everyone on the tour received an 2026 International Model A Day Patch. Leaving the museum, we drove to the 1931 Art Deco Jefferson County Courthouse for pictures and then on to the Port of Beaumont for a private tour of the facility. In the Port Board Room, we watched a slide presentation before boarding a van to tour the Port. After some work on Ronnie's truck, we drove to the Riverside Grille for lunch. Thanks to Karen for some of these pictures.



Went for a ride last night. Had some engine trouble.



GOLDEN TRIANGLE A's 2026 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.

JULY 4th - Calder Place Parade 9:00 A.M. 14th - GTA Meeting 30th - Last Thursday with the Prez-Hamburger Depot 11:00 A.M. 1920 Nederland Ave, Nederland, TX	AUGUST 11th - GTA Meeting 27th - Last Thursday with the Prez-Novrozsky's 11:00 A.M. 3016 FM 365, Nederland, TX
SEPTEMBER 8th - GTA Meeting 18-19th - 15th Annual Model A Days, Hickory Corners, MI 24th - Last Thursday with the Prez-Neches River Wheelhouse 11:00 A.M. 720 Lee Ave, Port Neches, TX	OCTOBER 13th - GTA Meeting 22-25th - Autumn Trails Tour, Winnsboro, TX 29th - Last Thursday with the Prez-Schooner Restaurant 11:00 A.M. 1507 US Hwy 69, Nederland, TX
NOVEMBER 10th - GTA Meeting 26th - Thanksgiving	DECEMBER TBD - Christmas Party 11-12th - MAFCA National Awards Banquet, Cincinnati, Ohio

Fourteen members enjoyed "Lunch with the Prez" at Novrozsky's on August 27. Bob was the only member to drive his Model A.



Twelve members driving 4 Model A's enjoyed "Lunch with the Prez" at Neches River Wheelhouse on September 24th. There was a good bit of river traffic! After lunch, we drove down Sarah Jane Road and back to Port Neches.



*Jim's Tech Tip
on Assembling the Starter Switch*

You may find yourself wanting to disassemble your starter switch (once you have removed it from the starter) for cleaning and general refurbishment, and then having to put it back together. Today's tip is on how to reassemble it for years of trouble-free service.

There are two thin nuts on the switch post where the battery connects. Take both of those nuts totally off to disassemble the switch. Pay attention to how the insulating washers go in there as you tap down on the threaded stud that the nuts were on. Tap down, the big flat strip should come out. Pay attention to how the "pusher" is installed with the insulated piece between the hole in the flat metal strip and the metal tube.



When reassembling, as you install the post with insulators in the body, and you are tightening up the first nut on the post to lock it into the body, place the tip of a very small screwdriver into the switch between the flat metal strip and the insulator inside the switch body **SO THAT WHEN YOU TIGHTEN THE FIRST NUT, THE FLAT METAL PIECE INSIDE DOES NOT JAM AGAINST THE INSULATOR INSIDE THE SWITCH BODY.**

This is really important. When you attach the second nut, to hold the battery cable on, you **DON'T** want that stud turning, you don't want that flat piece of metal swinging over and jamming inside against the insulator. So get the first nut good and tight, and do it with a small screwdriver holding the flat metal piece in place when you tighten.

Then pay attention when later installing the battery cable (the second nut) that you don't torque it so hard as to turn the stud and jam the flat metal strip into the side.

It's that simple.

Have a Model A Day! Jim

Hallowe'en, Masquerade, and Fancy-Dress Costumes of the Model A Era

By Laurie Elliott, Santa Clara Valley Chapter

"The costume's the thing that strikes terror to the heart and gives zest to the party, so make it original," claimed *Fashion Service Magazine*, October, 1927.

Masquerade and fancy-dress parties, as they're known in Europe, have been around for centuries. Hallowe'en, as it was spelled then, has a very round-about history and became part of popular culture in the United States by the early 20th Century, according to Wikipedia. As you can see by the colorized example from the same issue of *Fashion Service*, at right, these costumes might fit into all three categories of costume parties.

Hallowe'en parties for adults or children became very popular in the 1920's, possibly to corral the wild hooliganism that had occurred in earlier decades. Magazines such as *Delineator*, *Needlecraft*, *Liberty*,



and *Pictorial Review* offered suggestions for costumes, decorations, menus and party entertainment. Specialty publications such as Dennison's *Bogie Book* did the same but with much more detail. Fortune telling, as well as a meal followed by

a Bridge tournament, inventive skits, and traditional games such as bobbing for apples were put forward. Possibly, not all wild hooliganism was corralled as shown on this cover of *Liberty Magazine*, October 29, 1927. Too bad we cannot clearly see his costume!



Costumes to Buy Ready Made

Masquerade Suits		Quality Cloth Suits	
		Mexican	Jiggs Suit
		The most popular suit made. Real snappy. Dark blue hat, jacket, pants with imitation gold fringe, yellow sash.	Black coat and trousers, red vest, fancy tie, white spats and black hat with white band. Irish mask.
		49N4534	49N4541
		\$2.39	\$2.39
			Maggie, Jiggs' Wife
			Jaunty hat with feather, striking brown dress with gaudy ruffled trimming. Good material. Irish mask.
			49N4540
			\$2.39

"Jiggs" was a popular comic strip at the time. Notice the costumes of Jiggs and Jiggs' Wife come with "Irish" masks.

From Sears, Roebuck and Co. Fall/Winter 1928-1929 catalog.

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
48th Texas Tour #1
48th 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 MAIL TO: 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

Newsletter Quiz

1. How many Model A's were on the September 19th Model A Day Tour?
2. What were Hallowe'en Parties also called in Europe?
3. What game might be played at a Hallowe'en party?
4. What must you take off the switch post to disassemble the starter switch?
5. Where is the October 29th "Last Thursday with the Prez" lunch?
6. Where was Henry Ford in October 1930?

Don't forget to return you MAFCA 2026 Board of Directors Ballot by October 15, 2026 so your vote can be counted!

The ballot was sent by mail recently along with a MAFCA membership renewal card.



Golden Triangle A's On Tour

Golden Triangle A's
750 Countrywood Circle
Sour Lake, TX 77659

