



Quail Tales



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LITTLE RHODY MODEL A CLUB

October 2026

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President's Message:

We had a great time at the New England Meet. It was held at the Wellsworth Hotel in Southbridge MA. We had an excellent club turnout of 10 cars and 23 attendees. The hotel was a good venue with the route to get there a pleasant scenic ride.

Congratulations to Ken Trudel who received first place in the 28-29 closed class, and to Mark Henion, who received second place in the 28-29 open class. There were 140 Model A's at the meet, a lot of beautiful hardware. Who would have thought that so many Model A's would still be on the road after nearly a century.

Our next meeting will be on October 18th, and it will be our annual potluck dinner. Please contact Marie Penta (401-486-4524) if you will be attending and wish to contribute a food item. She is coordinating the event, and will suggest what you could bring, so that we don't have multiples of the same item. Thank you Marie for all of your help!

Enjoy the Fall foliage! It is such a beautiful time of year to get in those last Model A rides for the season. Thanks to Dean Travis and the tour committee for a wonderful job of putting together all the tours this year. They have generated a lot of interest in the club.

Stay healthy and be safe,

Dawn



Connect with Little Rhody Online!

Club Website: <https://littlerhodymodelaclub.com>

Club Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2484753575034399/>

Meeting Location:

Cornerstone of Faith
United Methodist Church
1081 Main St.
Coventry, RI 02816

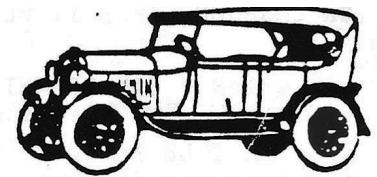
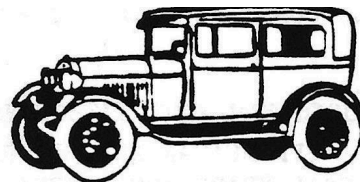
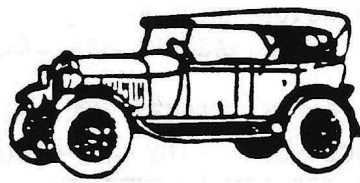
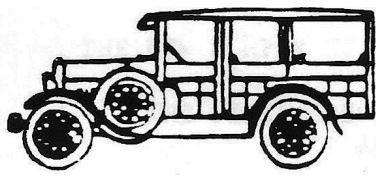
Model A Ford Club of America



Model A Restorers Club

Next Meeting:

October 18th
@ 2PM



2026 Meeting Calendar

January 11th:	Meeting @ 2PM
February 8th:	Meeting @ 2PM
March 8th:	Meeting @ 2PM
April 25th:	Dust-Off Tour @ 11AM
May 17th:	Meeting @ 2PM
June 14th:	Meeting @ 2PM
July 12th:	Picnic @ 1PM
August:	No Meeting
September 13th:	Meeting @ 2PM
October 18th:	Potluck Supper @ 2PM
November 8th:	Canned Goods Donation & Brown Bag Auction @ 2PM
December 5th:	Christmas Party

Note that these dates are subject to change. If you are on the roster, you should expect to receive an email, text, or call with more details. If you have any questions, contact John and Dawn Mennucci.

Message from the Tour Planning Committee

Our goal is to plan a minimum of eight tours consisting of both educational and entertainment value. Our committee has started to meet to start the process of tour planning for 2027.

Want to contribute? Call Dean @ 401-573-3276

Refreshments

The October meeting will have a Potluck supper. Marie Penta will be organizing the event.



IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please make sure we have your current contact information on file. We send out communications between the newsletter mailings by email. and phone calls to those not internet connected. So stay in the loop and don't miss any impromptu planning by keeping your club up to date on your contact info.

Technical Program / Educational Committee:

Our goal is to provide information on the maintenance and repair of your Model A so you can comfortably go *from the garage, to the street*. We pick subjects based on member input. We feel that working on a particular members problem as a group can be both educational and entertaining while also bringing another car into our touring fleet. It's a win win.

Little Rhody Tours & Events 2026

October Meeting Oct 18th, 2026 Pot Luck Supper @ 2 pm

Tour #14 Sunday, Nov 1, 2026 *

Wright's Chicken Farm All Clubs!, 84 Inman Rd, Harrisville, RI 02830
Travis, Allsop, Trudel, Swaider Gresko, Dean

November Meeting Nov 8th, 2026 Canned Goods Donation & Brown Bag Auction @ 2pm

December Meeting Dec 5th, 2026 Christmas Party Richard's Pub @ 12 – 4:30pm

Christmas Party Saturday, Dec 5, 2026 @ 12 – 4:30pm *

Richard's Pub, Route 2, East Greenwich, RI 02818

~Touring Report~

Touring Committee Report

Hello Members,

On our 2026 Touring Calendar was our September 17th-20th New England Meet Tour to Southbridge, Massachusetts. This year's New England Meet was hosted by the Worcester County Model A Club. This was the first New England Meet hosted by this club and as you can see by the pictures it was very well attended. The meet had 157 registrations with 140 Model A's in attendance, 11 were from our own Little Rhody Model A Club! We had 10 who toured as a group together for this event. Special THANKS to Dennis Allsop who led the tour and to Ken Trudel for suggesting a stop at the Vanilla Bean Café along the way. As some of you already know, these meets are for driving your Model As. And drive them we did. We arrived on Thursday, checked in at registration and checked in at the hotel and began our planning for an unguided tour on Friday morning. That tour led by Mark Henion took us to Sturbridge village where we enjoyed walking around the village, talking to display presenters and some even took a horse drawn wagon ride. Special THANKS to Mark and his co-pilot Mike for taking the lead. After a few hours, a decision was made to find some ice cream. The GPS said only a few miles away. So off we went again with Mark in the lead. Model As and ice cream are always a perfect fit and this day was no different. After some delicious ice cream, we headed back to the hotel to prepare for the Friday night welcome dinner.



Friday night's dinner was very good and I was hungry. The entertainment was first of a son telling a wonderful story of the adventures of his Mom with his Grandfather and Grandmother travelling around the country in 1927 in a 1927 Ford Model T. What an adventure and well documented. Fascinating! Followed by a comedian who closed out the night. We awoke Saturday morning to the line up for the Grand Tour. 140 Model As running and ready to pile out of the hotel parking lot in a single file fashion. Pretty cool to see. Everyone was super excited to get underway. The tour was roughly 45 miles of country roads full of hills and valleys to challenge even the most seasoned Model A driver, ending at a private residence with room for all of us to relax and enjoy a boxed lunch and see a private car collection. We all took the time to vote for our favorite Model As though the peer judging. Little Rhody took two awards. Mark Henion, a second in the 28-29 open car class and Ken Trudel taking first in the 28-29 closed car class. Congratulations to you both!



Photo by Ellen Pelosi Costello, Worcester County Model A Club

We headed back to the hotel to prepare for the Saturday night banquet. Another great meal, and live entertainment along with discussions about next year's 2027 New England Meet being held in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Did I mention Era Fashion? We'll talk more about this at the next Club meeting. The next morning brought us the breakfast buffet, awards announcements, raffle winners etc. What a great way to say

*Dean
Touring Chair*



~~~~~

## New England Meet Attendees

John and Dawn Mennucci  
Dean and Kelly Travis  
Steve and Annie Swiader  
Michael Marcello  
Harry Cahoon  
Ed Allsop

Ken and Carol Trudel  
Russell and Marilyn Dean  
John and Jim Gardner  
Mark Henion  
Dennis Allsop  
Tim Strickland

## Additional Saturday Attendees

Tom Cash and Marie Penta    Al and Sandy Bowder    Tom Angel and Ruth Strach

## **Little Rhody Membership Meeting**

There was no Little Rhody membership meeting in September due to inclement weather

### **-- Birthdays and Anniversaries --**



#### **Birthdays in September:**

Karen Breene, Stephan Mack

#### **Anniversaries in September:**

Dean and Kelly Travis,  
Russell and Marilyn Dean,  
Mark and Kim Henion



## Technical Program Committee Report

Members,

**October** will be a discussion on steering box rebuild. Now that all the parts are available. Let's dig in.

**November** will be a discussion on head lights. LEDs vs Original bulbs. Let's hear your opinion.

**Do you want to host a Little Rhody Model A Club workshop event at your home? Have a project on your car/truck that is too big for you to handle yourself? Let us know.**

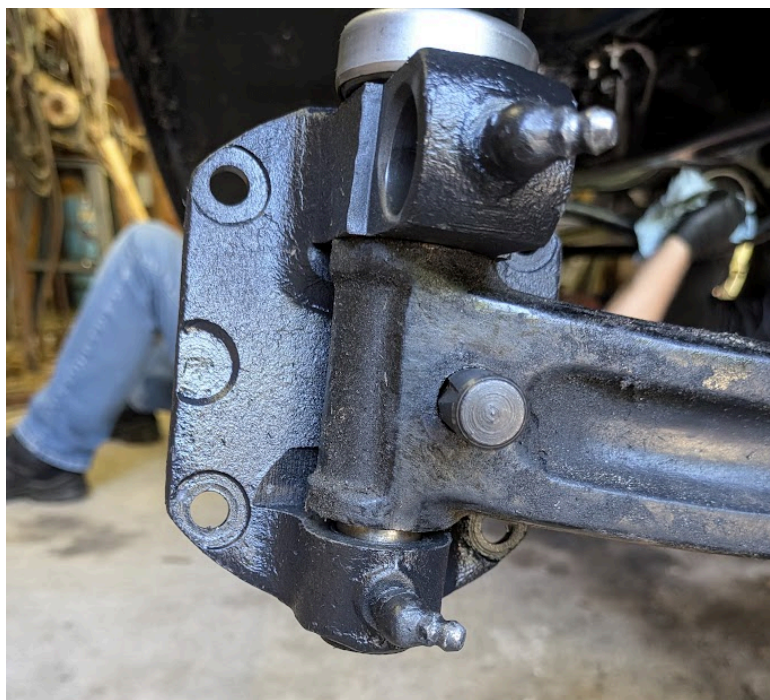
Our Club Projects! Member Mike Marcello's Project, engine install, transmission rebuild, king pins, and torque tube rebuild, not necessarily in that order.



Installing the rebuilt torque tube!



Adding the flywheel, clutch, and pressure plate to the engine



Installing the rebuilt king pins



Finishing up the transmission rebuild

These are fun events and educational too. Let us know you want to participate.

*Dean Travis  
Dennis Allsop  
Program Committee Chairs*

## Historian Committee Corner

Each month, I will post a picture from a past event, at times it will be a vehicle and at times it will be a person, place, or a thing. All tied to a past Little Rhody event. Let's take a look back to memories of the past. Let's see if you can name a few of the details of each photo.

Last Month's picture was from the Little Rhody Model A Club 50th Anniversary slide show presentation. Date is 1998.

This month's picture:



*Provided by Ray Pagliarini Jr.*

## Club Leadership Message

Would you like to serve on a committee or serve as a part of our leadership? Little Rhody Model A Club needs you! Let your nominating committee know you're interested in helping to keep our beloved Model A Club well and thriving!

# *~~ Era Fashion Committee Report ~~*

## Introduction to Era Fashion

Era Fashions are a fun way to “dress up” your involvement in the Model A hobby.

When we speak of fashions there are two camps of interest:

1. **FUN FASHIONS** are what we choose to wear as we go out and about in our cars and to events with our club. This is probably how most of us are introduced to the fashions of the Model A era. With Fun Fashions we dress stylistically of the period. We are more concerned with comfort and ease of wear and care of these clothing choices, not whether our outfit is “exactly” correct. You might start with one item as simple as a hat, and eventually add one more item, and then another. Most of our members who enjoy fashions fall into this category.
2. **FASHION JUDGING**, on the other hand, is a bit more involved. If you choose to go through the rigors of judging, you will want to have researched and studied the fine details of the era, from the top of your head down to the bottom of your shoes. Words often associated with the experience in the judging room are strict, knit-picky, and exact. But what many folks don’t realize is that as an entrant you are in competition with yourself and how well you have researched the era to put an outfit together. The goal in the judging room is to look exactly as though you have traveled through time from the Model A era.

## Hubley Model A Racing Committee Report

### MAFCA Hubley Racing — Rules and Format

MAFCA’s Hubley racing is a gravity-style “Derby” event using stock 1:20-scale metal Model A Ford kits from Hubley, Gabriel, or Scale Model, with strict “no-mod” rules and age-based classes

#### What It Is

The Hubley Derby is a participant-friendly race popular in local and regional MAFCA meets. It uses die-cast metal Model A kits, similar to a Pinewood Derby, but with the seven original Model A body styles: Sedan, Station Wagon, Coupe, Roadster, Roadster Pickup, Victoria, and Phaeton

#### Track & Setup

- Length: 40 ft
- Width: 2–3 lanes (some events allow up to 4)
- End: Soft bumper (pillow or similar)
- Start: Manual or automatic gate; timing lights optional

#### Car Rules

- Must be stock Hubley, Gabriel, or Scale Model kits with original tires, wheels, and axle screws
- No modifications allowed
- Steering may be fixed or free-rolling (competitor’s choice)
- Max weight: 1 lb 5 oz (Station Wagon limit)
- Added weight must be secured; dry lubricants (e.g., graphite) allowed

## Classes

- Class 1: Ages 3–9
- Class 2: Ages 10–13
- Class 3: Ages 14–17
- Class 4: Ages 18+

## Race Format

- Check-in: Cars inspected; competitors may be called to the track during their run
- Racing: Cars from each class race against each other in random order; champions of each class are determined
- Final: Class champions race each other for the overall Hubley Champion
- Awards: Trophies for each class winner and overall champion; certificates for all participants

## Notes

- All handling is by race officials; participants do not touch cars during competition
- Local meet committees may have minor variations; always check the specific event's rules before registering

Tip: Hubley racing is a family-friendly, hands-on event where building the car is part of the fun, and it's a great way to introduce younger members to MAFCA

For full details, see the official MAFCA Hubley Rules page: <https://mafca.com/hubley-rules/>

## ~ ~ ~ *Vintage Vehicles* ~ ~ ~

### "Clothing Drive for the War Effort"



Judging by the gas ration sticker and bald tires, he's helping with the war effort. This fellow has a load of donated fabric for a nearby drop-off center. His '29 Roadster is up for the job. It's a nice one at that; flying Quail, cowl lights, open-end pinstripe, wind wings and a radiator badge. He's got a bit of a load of cloth, the back end is looking low! Coming out of the Depression they used to say "Use it up - wear it out - make it do - or do without". This Chap is doing his part!

*C/O Mark Henion Photo Collection*

## Little Rhody Tech Tips

**Battery Current:** Batteries require a smooth clear, clean pathway or metallic circuit to travel on. Battery cables must be large enough and perfectly connected. A dirty contact will reduce the battery strength tremendously, or perhaps kill it altogether.

**Positive Pole:** The positive pole of the Model A battery is to ground. That means that the positive pole should be grounded. Always ground the battery in order to prevent short circuiting. This also prevents static leaks.

**Better Mileage:** Better gasoline mileage will result by turning the adjusting rod (choke) to the right as far as possible without affecting the operation of the engine, especially on long trips. Turning the choke (adjusting rod) too much to the left, counterclockwise, results in a "rich" mixture. Driving with too rich a mixture causes excessive carbon and overheating, and a waste of fuel.

**Engine Oil:** The oil in the Model A engine is circulated at the rate of 10 quarts per minute.

**Running Hot:** Whenever the temperature gauge indicates that the engine is "running hot", it is a danger signal which should be investigated as promptly as possible. If it is necessary to continue driving to reach a service station, drive there slowly.

## Buy/ Sell/ Trade

~~ Buy/Trade ~~

Wanted - 30-31 Roadster cowl - Contact Dean Travis 401-573-3276 11/24

Wanted - Top Half Model A Ford Holley Carb - 1927-1928 Contact Russell Dean 401-301-8306 5/25

Wanted - 21" '28-'29 Rims - Contact Russell Dean 401-301-8306 7/25

~~ For Sale ~~

For Sale - Contact Robert Doucette @ 401-821-1384

- 2 Rear Fenders for a 1928-29 Sedan. Fiberglass: \$150.00 11/25

For Sale - Contact Mike Marcello @ 401-340-0239 or [mikemarcello40@gmail.com](mailto:mikemarcello40@gmail.com)

- 6 volt generator w/ new bearings. Can be used as a core or to fix and use: \$60
- Late '31 exhaust manifold. Serviceable condition: \$40 11/25

For Sale - Contact Harry Cohoon @ [trainingguy2016@gmail.com](mailto:trainingguy2016@gmail.com)

- Used Model A exhaust pipe/muffler in box. Rear bracket included. Good condition: \$100 10/26

# MERCHANDISE CORNER

Official Little Rhody Model A Club Shirts

## **Yellow Tee Shirts**

\$15.00 (S,M,L,XL,XXL)

## **Polo Shirts**

\$25.00 (S,M,L,XL,XXL)

Colors: Black or Yellow shirt with logo

If you want your name on it, add \$5.00 for the name opposite the logo.

PICK UP at meetings only. NO shipping Included. CASH Payments Only!

## **ORDER FORM**

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

Yellow Tee Qty: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Black Polo Qty: \_\_\_\_\_ Sizes: \_\_\_\_\_ Add Names? \_\_\_\_\_

Yellow Polo Qty: \_\_\_\_\_ Sizes: \_\_\_\_\_ Add Names? \_\_\_\_\_

The Little Rhody Model A Club is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of Model A Fords.

- Little Rhody Model A Club **highly recommends** memberships in the organizations below
- Membership in MARC or MAFCA is **required** if you take your Model A on any club tours



Model A Ford Club of America  
(MAFCA)

Dues are \$50 per year

Includes a subscription to The Restorer magazine

For more information, visit  
<https://mafca.com/membership/>



Model A Restorers Club  
(MARC)

Dues are \$50 per year

Includes a subscription to the Model A News magazine

For more information, visit  
<https://model-a-ford.org/about-marc/>

Model A Ford Foundation (MAFFI)

Dues are \$35 per year

Membership includes access to the Gilmore Car Museum campus

For more information, visit  
<https://maffi.org/WSContent/Membership>

Membership/Dues

\$22 a year (includes husband & wife)

- You will become a lifetime member at age 80 or older and have 5 years of previous membership
- Renewal Membership/Dues Due by January 1st
- Pay Dues at November meeting for following year, or mail your Dues to club treasurer

Qualifications for membership may include:

- Actual possession of a Model A Ford
- An interest in the objectives of the club
- A desire to take an active part in club activities

If you are interested in becoming a member, contact the Membership Chairperson

**NEW MEMBERS:**

A name badge with the picture of your vehicle will be made for you by John Mennucci. If you do not have a picture of your vehicle, a badge with a picture of a similar vehicle will be made.

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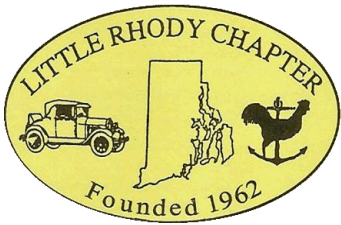
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**Little Rhody Model A Club**  
**Model A Ford Club of America**  
**Model A Restorer's Club**

**Little Rhody Model A Club**  
**Rhode Island Chapter**  
**Membership Application**

Please make checks payable to the Little Rhody Model A Club.  
Send checks to Tom J. Cash, P.O. Box 111, Chepachet, RI 02814  
Don't forget to send this form with the check!

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBER CONTACT INFO:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address(es) \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdays: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

**ANTIQUE CARS OWNED:**

Make \_\_\_\_\_ Body Style: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Make \_\_\_\_\_ Body Style: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**CLUB MEETINGS:** Our club meets once per month at 2:00 pm. The meeting place in the Cornerstone of Faith United Methodist Church, 1081 Main Street, Coventry, RI 02816. The meeting is held the second Sunday of each month BUT there are some exceptions to the rule which are published in the club newsletter, Quail Tales.

**DUES:** Yearly, \$22.00 per couple (or for a single membership)

**PUBLICATIONS:** Each Month a "Quail Tales" containing meeting minutes, tech tips, recipes, fashions, etc. is emailed to the membership. There is a web site and a web log (blog) of club activities. Addresses for the sites are in the Quail Tales. The club also has a library of books, Restorer magazines, videos, and more to borrow. Some videos have hands-on approaches demonstrated related to maintenance and repair of Model A cars and trucks.

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:** INSURANCE DISCOUNTS      FREE CLASSIFIEDS      USED PARTS  
RESTORATION EXPERIENCE      NEW PARTS      NEW FRIENDS

10/2025