



Quail Tales



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LITTLE RHODY MODEL A CLUB

September 2026

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President's Message:

I hope everyone is well and enjoying the Summer, even though it has been very warm and humid.

The tours have been well attended and successful. Thanks to everyone who has attended, the club needs involved members for continued health.

We are looking forward to the New England Meet, we haven't attended one in a few years due to illness. It should be a lot of fun, and an easy ride, as it's close by. Looks like we have a lot of members attending.

Our next meeting is on September 13th at 2PM. See you all there. We have quite a few activities planned for the upcoming meetings. There is the pot luck dinner, brown bag auction, and of course, the Christmas party with Toys for Tots. There is the canned goods donation at the November meeting as well.

Take care, stay well and see you in September.

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

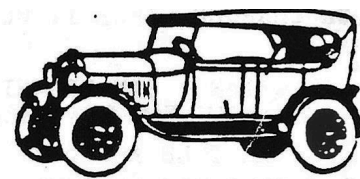
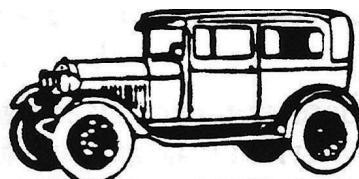
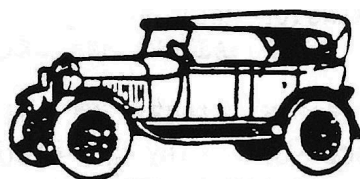
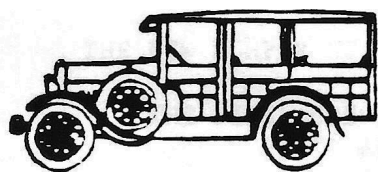
Model A Ford Club of America



Model A Restorers Club

Next Meeting:

September
13th @ 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

Dawn Mennucci and Denise Marcello will be providing refreshments for the September meeting



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

Tour #11 Sept 5, 2026 11am

Historic Dame Farm and Orchards Apple Picking Tour, 91B Brown Ave, Johnston RI

Hosted by Bill Grenga

Cookout during the event. Head count needed!

Travis, Allsop, Trudel, Gresko, Henion, Dean, Swaider

September Meeting Sept 13th, 2026 @ 2pm

Tour #12 Sept 17th – Sept 20, 2026 *

New England Meet / Worcester Club Massachusetts

Wellsworth Hotel – Host Hotel

14 Mechanic Street Southbridge, MA 01550

Travis, Allsop, Swenson, Swiader, Trudel, Mennucci, Dean, Marcello, Angell, Gardiner, Strickland, Cash, Henion

Tour #13 Saturday, Oct 3, 2026 *

Nine Men's Misery Tour, 1464 Diamond Hill Road Cumberland, RI 02864

Travis, Allsop, Trudel, Swaider, Gresko, Swenson, Dean

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 Committee Report

On our 2026 Touring Calendar was the August 8th Tour to The Babcock-Smith House. What a great tour. Nice weather and a nice ride down Route 3 to meet up with our Connecticut members. Many thanks to Debbie and Jeff Barnes for this tour idea. The museum guides Maureen and Harry Bjorkland really knew their stuff and we all enjoyed learning about the history of the granite industry of Westerly Rhode Island. My family worked in the Smith granite quarries back in the early 1900's so this tour was of great interest to me. A late lunch was had at Guytanno's restaurant which I would highly recommend. The food was awesome! Again, Many thanks to Debbie and Jeff Barnes for a spectacular day.

[illegible]

Tour #9 Saturday, August 15th, 2026 Clara Browning Tour, Wakefield RI



Below are the letters I received from both the family of Clara Browning and a letter from the Scallop Shell Facility. It goes without saying how much the residents of Scallop Shell appreciate our club for spending time with them. They were all smiles. I've gained a friendship with quite a few of the residents and staff over the past couple of years. They all look forward to us visiting them yearly. Special THANKS to Clara for spearheading this idea several years ago as Clara wanted the Little Rhody Experience to be enjoyed by all of the residents of Scallop Shell. Many thanks to all of you who took the time to make this happen. This is what Little Rhody is all about.

Hi Dean,

I would like to extend a thank you to the club members who came to the nursing home last week. I'm so grateful to everyone who gave their time to give a special day to not only my mom, but all of the residents at Scallop Shell.

When I went to see my mom this week the staff and residents were still talking about what a great day it was and how beautiful the cars were. The weather couldn't have been more perfect too. They can't wait until next year.

My mom is excited to wear her official Little Rhody Model A Club t-shirt. She told me that she wants to show it off to all of her friends.

Sincerely, Kathy Sherman (Clara's Daughter)

~~~~~

Hi Dean

*I just wanted to reach out and say thank you for a wonderful time on Saturday. The residents haven't stopped talking about it. We look forward to doing it again next year !*

*Melinda Lussier  
Activities Director  
Advinia Care Scallop Shell*

~~~~~

**Tour #10 Saturday, August 22nd, 2026 CANCELLED RAIN!
Fantastic Umbrella Factory
4820 Old Post Rd, Charlestown RI**

NEXT TOURS ON THE CALENDAR!

**Tour #11 Saturday, September 5th, 2026 11am
Historic Dane Farm and Orchards Apple Picking Tour
91B Brown Ave, Johnston RI
Cookout during the event. Head count needed ASAP!**

I will be sending out the tour directions and meeting places before each event!

Any questions? Contact me. dean@travistechnologies.com or (401) 573-3276 Cell / Txt

Do you want to host a Little Rhody Model A Club Touring event? A Dust Off or a summer cookout? Our 2027 tour planning has begun!

Dean
Touring Committee Chair

Technical Program Report

Members,

August was a vacation month. No meeting, No program, but plenty of touring

The September program is steering box rebuilds. Now that all the parts are available. Let's dig in.

The October program is 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.

Dean Travis

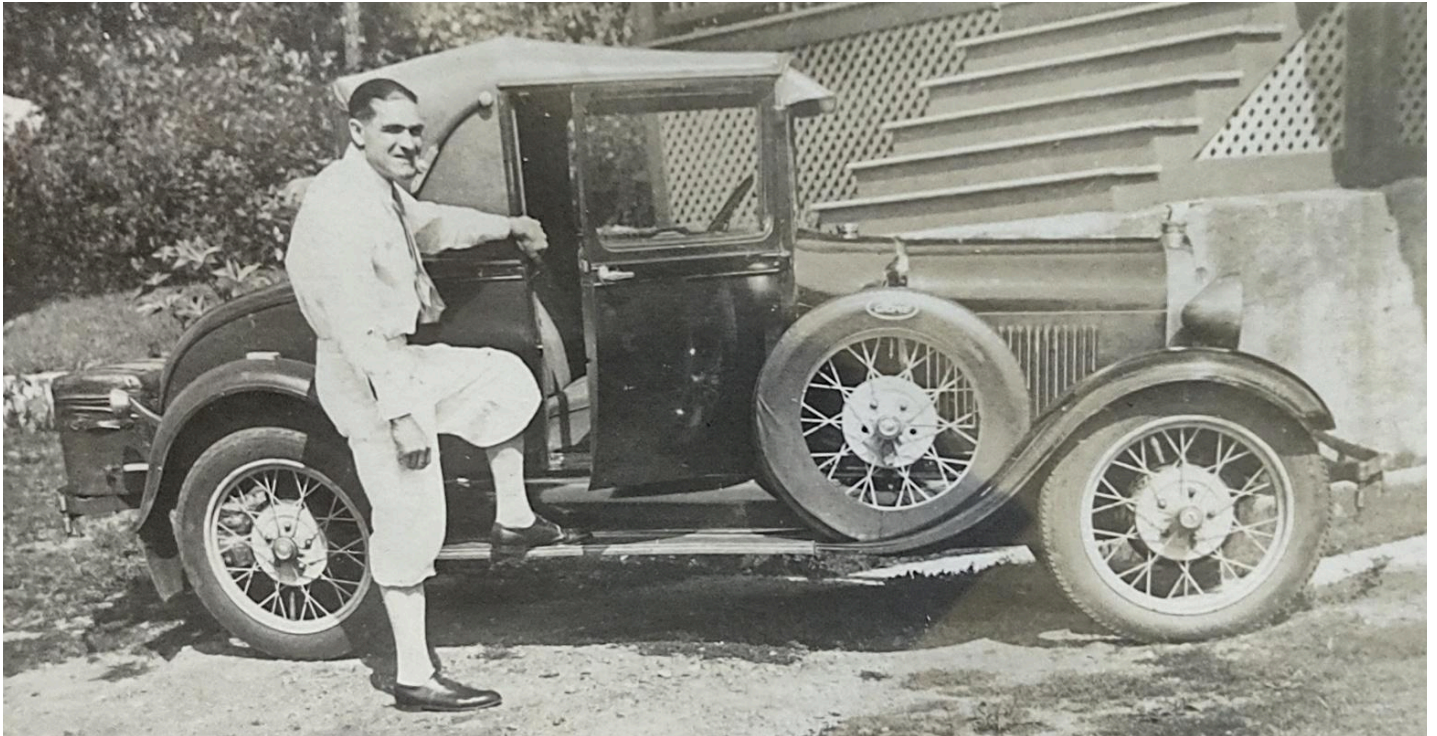
Dennis Allsop

Program Committee Chairs

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!

~ ~ ~ *Vintage Vehicles* ~ ~ ~



“Aunt Ruth and Uncle Ray's 29' Sport Coupe”

These photos are of my Dad's aunt and uncle, taken in Waterbury CT., in 1932-ish. The Sport Coupe's plate number, V-1226, has many extras; rear mud flaps, extra tail light, extended rear bumper brackets and a leather trunk. To finish out the look there's the spare tire cover, Quail radiator cap, and painted wheels. I'm not sure, but, these could be photos of "the new car, in front of the new house"! Though I never met Uncle Ray, I have many fond memories of Aunt Ruth and her home!

C/O Mark Henion Photo Collection

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 of Sam and Clara Browning's 1930 Briggs Town Sedan (Sam pictured).

This month's picture:



From the Little Rhody Model A Club 50th Anniversary slide show presentation. The date is from 1998.

Dean Travis

2026 New England Meet

The 69th Annual New England "Miles of Smiles" Meet is scheduled for the weekend of September 17–20, 2026, at the Wellsworth Hotel in Southbridge, Massachusetts. Hosted by the Worcester County Model A Club, this event features various social activities, including a Friday dinner with a guest speaker and comedian, a Saturday "Grand Tour" through scenic back roads, evening dinner with live music, and a Sunday morning awards breakfast buffet. The Saturday Grand Tour includes a tour of a private car collection and peer judging of the attendee's cars.

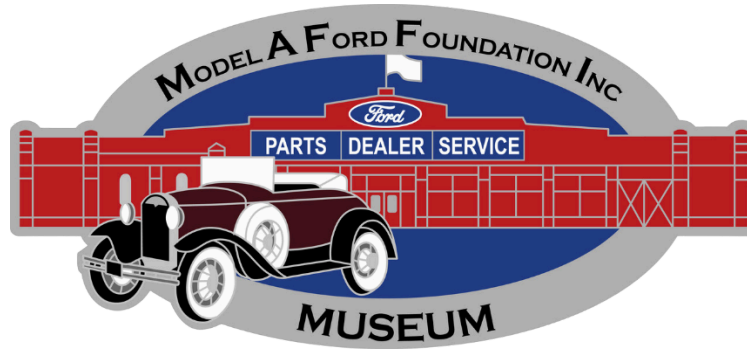
Registration is \$70.

For those interested in learning more about the New England meet being held in September, please visit <https://wcnemeet.com/69thAnnualNewEnglandMeet.pdf> or call Alex Dietz at 401-339-4876 to register.



Model A Ford Foundation (MAFFI) News

The below information was originally released by MAFFI on August 6th, 2026



Hope everyone has had a great summer! Model A Days are quickly approaching. If you have not been, Model A Days is a great time to come see the museum, and experience all that the Gilmore has to offer!

Model A Days runs September 18th and 19th at the Model A Museum at the Gilmore Car Museum's Campus in Hickory Corners, Michigan. We will be featuring the Secrets of Speed Society with Model A Speedsters and seminars on Saturday! Plus, the largest Model A swapmeet and plenty of time to catch up with friends!

Please make sure you check out the sweepstakes this year for the fantastic 1930 Fordor Sedan, and the other flash sale items!

Keep on motoring!

John Grossheim

Trustee and Secretary of MAFFI

Little Rhody Tech Tips

Spark Retarded: Never allow the engine to run for any length of time with the spark retarded because this creates a great amount of carbon to be deposited on the walls of the cylinders, combustion chambers, pistons, spark plugs, etc. The engine will not be developing its maximum power and will overheat.

Engine Noise: Noise in the Engine will be heard as "backfire" or "knocks". The spark could be too advanced, you could have a poor mixture of gasoline, a clogged muffler or improper timing, to name only a few.

Tight Fan Belt: Over tight adjustment of the fan belt wears the belt down and causes early failure of shafts and bearings in the fan, water pump and generator.

Fan Fit: The fan should fit tight on the hub. Any play at this point would cause the fan blade to vibrate and eventually break.

Flickering Headlamps: If both headlamps flicker, look for a loose connection or intermittent ground. If flickering is due to a loose connection, amperage reading should be less than normal while they are flickering. If flickering is due to an intermittent ground, the amperage reading should be greater than normal while the lights are flickering.

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

Wanted - Top and/or top irons for 1929 Roadster Pick Up 5/26

Contact Tom Gormley t27sedan@aol.com

~~ 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

- 6 volt generator w/ new bearings. Can be used as a core or to fix and use: \$70
- Late '31 exhaust manifold. Serviceable condition: \$40 11/25

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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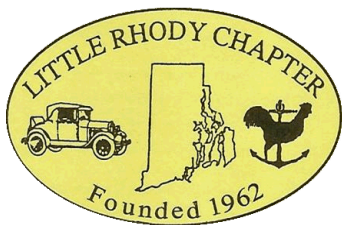
332 Georgetown Rd Strasburg PA 17579
ora@schwalms.com www.schwalms.com

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email: mike@mikes-afordable.com - www.mikes-afordable.com
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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