



Rumbleseat Review



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WICHITA A'S MODEL A FORD CLUB

Volume 41 Issue 4

P.O. Box 25, Wichita, KS

April 2026

April 2026

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May 2026

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June 2026

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March Refreshments Beverage & Ice
Ray Harshfield

Treats
Melanie Adams
Blake Waller
Barb Phye

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CLUB TOURS & MEETING SCHEDULE

April 2026



- 18..... "A" Return to Carlton..... Adams
- 27..... Club Meeting at Minisa Park 704 W. 13th..... 7:00PM

May 2026



- 1..... Newsletter Deadline...sheorr@sbcglobal.net..... Sheila Orr
- 1-3..... "A" Big Kansas Road Trip..... James
- 7..... Coffee & Donuts for Men..... Tom Ruggles
- 18..... Club Meeting at Minisa Park 704 W. 13th..... 7:00PM
- 22-25..... Memorial Day on Route 66..... White
- 29-31..... "A" Drive On Route 66..... James

June 2026



- 4..... Coffee & Donuts for Men..... Tom Ruggles
- 5..... Newsletter Deadline...sheorr@sbcglobal.net..... Sheila Orr
- 7..... "A" All Wheels Day Lake Afton.....
- 14..... "A" Ride on Jerry's Train..... Ottaway/Grabendike
- 20..... "A" Behind the Camera Look at KPTS Channel 8
- 22..... Club Meeting at Minisa Park 704 W. 13th..... 7:00PM

The Wichita A's meet on the 4th Monday of the month except December. We do not hold a meeting during the month of December. Other meeting changes will be published in the newsletter prior to the scheduled meeting. The meetings are held at Minisa Park, 704 W. 13th, Wichita, KS. Meeting time is 7:00 PM unless otherwise noted in the newsletter.

Wichita A's Model A Club Meeting– March 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE – President **Mike James** called the meeting to order and led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES (February 23)- **Gary Hileman** made a motion to accept the February 23 minutes. Motion was seconded and carried.

NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS – Mike welcomed our newest member, **Jorge Martinez**. Appreciation was expressed for the Anchor Fabrication tour that Jorge organized.

SUNSHINE REPORT – **Barb Phye** reported that **John Stone** was going home after having rehab. **Don Waller** is currently in rehab. **James Sharp** is recovering from his fractured arm. **Judi Sharp** is having knee surgery on April 13th.

TREASURER'S REPORT – **Claudia Ellerman** gave the treasurer's report.

BREAKDOWN REPORT – Both **Frank Chenoweth** and **Mike James** shared one of their breakdown stories. Let Mike know if you have a story to share. Breakdown stories are replacing the story of the month.

MARC & MAFCA REPORT -**Gina McNeal** asked that you let her know of your Model A miles traveled for the mileage program if you are participating in that. She also submitted information to the magazine on the Anchor Fabrication Tour.

WICHITA AREA CAR COUCIL – **Stuart McNeal** reported that he has not updated his car show notebook since our last meeting, but if you are interested in knowing what is coming up, let him know.

CORRESPONDENCE – Thank you notes were received from the Model A Ford Foundation for the donations they received from our club for a brick for **Ray and Rita Hoffmans** and for the past presidents of the Wichita Model A Club. The foundation donated a complimentary brick to honor the Wichita Model A Club because of our support. They appreciated our donations.

PAST TOUR/EVENTS – Report was given on the 2/28 tour led by **Jorge Martinez** to the fabrication company.

FUTURE TOURS – 3/28 **Frank Chenoweth** - Straight from the Horse's Mouth Tour. 4/18 **Gil and Melanie Adams**-Return to Carlton Tour. 5/1-5/3 **Mike and Kathy James** - BKRT to Humboldt/Chanute. 5/22-5/25 **Steve White** – Memorial Day on Route 66 Tour. 5/29-5/31 **Mike and Kathy James** – A Drive on Route 66.

MEN'S COFFEE – The next coffee at **Tom Ruggles** house is on Thursday, April 2, 8am-10am.

OLD BUSINESS – Mike shared that the board approved a debit card in Claudia's name and that he is looking for mentors for the new club members. If interested, let him know.

NEW BUSINESS – **CLUB VISIBILITY** - Mike stated that we need to increase the Model A Club's visibility. He suggested that we participate in the Cowtown Car Show. **Dakota Bennett** stated in his presentation that the car show will be on Saturday, May 9th from 10am-3pm. Early registration is \$20. **CAR PARTS** – Stuart shared that Randy Curtis had Model A parts and some engines, if interested, contact Stuart.

PROGRAM – Presentation by **Dakota Bennett** on Cowtown.

REFRESHMENTS: **Brenda Broadhead, Alan Orr, Terry Grabendike, Doris Jean Ludlow**. Note: Brenda has some openings on the treat listing. Please sign up.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by **Kathy James**, Secretary



The Mother Road": Coined by John Steinbeck in *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939) to describe Route 66 as the primary path for migrants leaving the Dust Bowl.

President's Message



Welcome to the month of April. Historically a significant event for Model A Ford enthusiasts as it was on April 14, 1931, that the Twenty Millionth Ford rolled off the production line at the Rouge plant. The car traveled across the United States going on tour to New York, the west coast and down south. Visiting Ford dealerships and state fairs the car was a popular attraction. As the years rolled on the car disappeared from popularity and was sold to an individual in Michigan and forgotten until 2000 when it was restored and used by Ford to promote its 100th anniversary in 2003.

So, the moral of this historical story; **don't wait to rediscover the Model A Ford in your life!** Our club has a number of upcoming tours and as the Model A Ford approaches one-hundred years old its popularity is increasing.

See you on the road. Ahooga !

Mike James, President

Editor's Notes

It is beautiful outside as I write this-just windy, but we have plenty of wind in Kansas! As you can tell, over the next few months, there will be many opportunities to get you're A out and go on a tour. Time to dust her off and travel.

Again, I would like to ask if anyone would be interested in writing an article for the Tech page. It does not have to be every month. Even once would help!

Thanks to all who responded to lend us a projector for the slides. I was amazed at how many members still have one. Thanks!!

Again, get out and enjoy the spring weather and the company of other Model A members!

Sheila Orr, Editor





MAY BIRTHDAYS

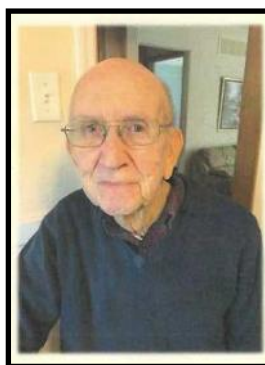
- 2 Julie Frazer
- 3 Jane Mclaughlin
- 4 Ron Eyres
- 8 Stuart McNeal
- 9 Mary Hilger
- 12 Eric Weninger
- 14 Greg Rau
- 15 Scott Guinty
- 22 Judy Hill
- 25 Gary Moore
- 26 Ron Little
- 28 Steve White
- 30 Judy Smith

Announcements

THANK YOU

We so much appreciated all of the club participation at Roger's memorial service.. The best part was seeing so many of the club members in attendance. The memories that were shared were a great tribute to Roger. The food, cards, and memorial donations were overwhelming. The Model A's were such a big part of his life and we appreciate you!

Sincerely , the **Graham** family



SYMPATHY

Our Sympathy goes out to the family of **Roger Graham. Roger and Bonita** were instrumental in starting the Wichita A's . Roger was a kind and thoughtful man and he will be missed by the members of the club.



MAFFI BRICK COLECTION
 We had \$45.00 in the headlight after purchasing another brick. Amount collected in the March meeting was \$125.00. Balance is now \$170.00

Denny Ellerman



2026 Refreshments



April	May	June
<p>Beverage Ray Harshfield</p> <p>Treats Melanie Adams Blake Waller Barb Phye</p>	<p>Beverage Marcia Kurtz</p> <p>Treats Claudia Ellerman Tom Cornwell Brenda Broadhead</p>	<p>Beverage Debbie Greiving</p> <p>Treats Blake Waller Jeannie speck Melanie Adams</p>

Newsletter Deadline

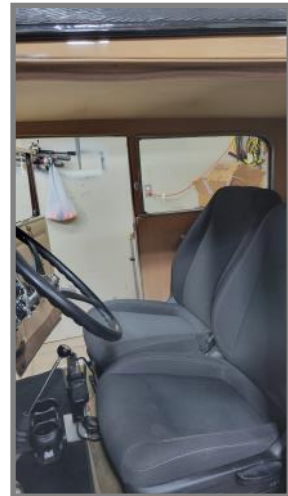
Friday, May 1, 2026
Sheila Orr
 sheorr@sbcglobal.net
 316-207-8878

FOR SALE

1930 Town Sedan-Complete engine rebuild in 2017, 935 mil-
age. All new brake linings and hardware in 2021. Two new
cast iron drums in 2022. CB radio, musical horn, extra touring
parts included.
Priced at \$14,500

Barry Plunkett

We had modern car seats installed in the "A". They are wonderful on trips when we have grand-kids or other passengers, the passenger seat doesn't fold open enough for them to get out of back seat. I will take \$400 for them. They drop in the existing seat holes. They have about 12" of front and back adjustment and the back tilt. Because they are cloth, they are cooler in summer and warmer in winter. Because of the adjustment range, I can work the clutch and brake better than with the standard seat. I can put them in the pick up and bring to Wichita if anyone is interested. This is about half what I paid for them, thanks, **Kerry & Wanda Steffens**
You can find the phone number in the Model A Roster.



Future Tours and Events

"A" Return to Carlton

If you are planning on touring to Carlton, it is April 18th. Meet at McDonalds at 53rd & Meridian at 8AM and leave at 8:30. Lunch will be provided by the club.

Coffee & Donuts

Coffee & Donuts for Men will be held Thursday, May 7th, from 8 AM to 10AM at **Tom Ruggles** garage, The program will be to include small/stationary engine display. Please call Tom at 316-if you would like to bring one.

Tom Ruggles





May 1-3, 2026

WHERE: Meet at Wendy's in Augusta, KS- 609 West 7th Avenue, Augusta

Depart time: 9:00 AM (**note: BRING LAWN CHAIRS**)

Tour Leads: **Kathy James** (Cel Ph. 316-)

Mike James (Cel. Ph. 316-)

Email:

Description: This is the kickoff Big Kansas road trip for 2026. Approximately 100 miles from Augusta we will enjoy a beautiful spring time drive to Humboldt, and its nearby neighbor Chanute. Humboldt's museum and signage around town displays their town's history that dates back to the Civil War. We will plan to visit a 19th century woodworking shop, the Whitetails & Wildlife Museum and participate in BKRT event. Although not a part of the BKRT event, we will be staying in Chanute (Chanute has the hotel). Chanute also has some interesting attractions to include: Martin & Osa Johnson Safari Museum, Historic Santa Fe Depot, Chanute Historical Museum, Howard's Toys for Big Boys and Chanute-Wright Brothers Memorial.

Cost: to be determined

Hotel: Super 8, 3502 S. Santa Fe, Chanute KS Ph. 620-431-7788 contact "Sam"

Model A rate: \$90.00 per night (includes a modest breakfast)

Sign Up call, text or email Kathy or Mike James (see above).

Rev Up for a Good Cause!

Join us for an unforgettable day at the Old Cowtown Museum for a Car Show Fundraiser! Cruise through a stunning display of classic cars, vintage trucks, and modern marvels, all while supporting a great cause.

WHEN: Saturday, **May 9th** 10:00 –3:00 PM

WHERE: Old Cowtown Museum 1865 Museum Blvd. Wichita, KS

COST: Early bird registration is \$20. Registration at the gate \$25

General admission rates apply for all attendees, and no advanced ticketing is needed.

Proceeds benefit museum programs, volunteer programs and preservation efforts.

Bring your friends, family, and your love for cars to support the rich history of Cowtown. Whether you're a car enthusiast or just looking for a fun day out, there's something for everyone!

Don't miss out on the ride of a lifetime—mark your calendars and cruise on over to the Old Cowtown Museum!

Line up for the car show begins at 8:00 AM in back parking lot west of the volunteer parking lot. Please look for the signs along Museum Blvd. There will be approximately 20-24 award categories in which a plaque will be given. There will be a food truck, funnel cake truck, and general Cowtown entertainment. There will be a 50/50 raffle, tshirts for sale as well as some other vendors.

Dakota Bennett https://www.aplos.com/aws/events/2026_cowtown_horsepower_showdown_car_show

Dallas Model A Club Route 66-May 22-25, 2026



The Dallas Model A Club is hosting a tour of Historical Route 66 to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of this road. We can join them as a club (plans at this time are tentative) This starts and ends over Memorial Day weekend. Tour speed will be 45 MPH with planned stops.

I have proposed three groups depending on interest from the club.

Group one will leave Great Bend, Kansas and drive to Medicine Lodge, KS.

Group two will leave Wichita, KS and meet group one in Medicine Lodge, KS on May 22.

Group three can leave Wichita and meet group one and two in Edmonton, OK on May 23rd.

There will be a \$20 fee per car. This will cover a tour book and fees for the Dallas Model A Club . All meals and hotels are to be paid by participating members.

If interested please contact **Steve White** at 620- or email at . Tell me if you are interested and which group you would be driving with.

Tulsa's Capital Cruise- Route 66

Making History on May 30, 2026

Tulsa is celebrating 100 years of Route 66 with *Capital Cruise*, a **GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS®** attempt for the *largest classic car parade ever*. From vintage muscle to family treasures on four wheels, thousands of stunning cars will cruise right through the heart of the *Capital of Route 66*. It's shaping up to be the biggest birthday bash the Mother Road has ever seen, with vendors, live music, and Route 66 festivities planned throughout the entire weekend.



Tour Leads: **Kathy James** – 316- and **Mike James** – 316- call or text
Email:

Date: May 29 – 31

Objective: 100 miles for the 100th birthday of Route 66. We will drive to Tulsa, Oklahoma, participate in the parade and then drive on Route 66 back to SE Kansas (Galena, Riverton & Baxter Springs).

NOTE: YOU must register for this event go to:
<https://www.visittulsa.com/parade>

NOTE: must have proof of insurance, car tag number, driver license available to register and credit card available for payment.

Coffee & Donuts –April 2, 2026

Coffee and Donuts at Tom Ruggles

As you recall last meeting I talked about my frame on the 1931 Coupe cracking. Tom suggested we use the repair as a topic at the April Coffee and Donuts at his shop. New member Jorge Martinez volunteered to weld it. It took approximately one and a half hours to finish the repair at Tom's workshop. I've owned this car for over 25 years and driven it on many long trips. Even though the frame had been welded before I bought it, the weld failed to properly seal the crack. The last trip was the adventure to Michigan last fall. On the second day out, I could not get the aft hood latch on the driver's side latched. I just assumed the hood had gotten out of alignment. The hood never fits particularly good. I decided to see if I could get it aligned better. When on the lift and at eye level it was quite easy to see the cracked frame.

I would like to thank Tom and Jorge for their assistance in repairing the frame.

Anyone who hasn't attended Coffee and Donuts has missed useful tips on restoring old vehicles and connecting with fellow car enthusiasts.

Frank Chenoweth



Figure 1 Crack when found!



Figure 2 Jorge, tom and frank Checking the hood gap when aligning the frame.



Figure 3 Jorge Preparing surface to weld. Observers in background.



Figure 4 final weld with faceplate

Past Tours & Events

STRAIGHT FROM "A" HORSES MOUTH

Straight from "A" Horses Mouth

The Wichita A's went to Cowskin Creek Clydesdale farm in Goddard on Saturday, March 28. The group included 55 people, 20 Model A cars, a Mustang, and several modern vehicles. Despite the cold, the horses were calm and the wagon ride pleasant. Farm manager Keith Mann shared information and drove the wagon. Afterwards, the group dined at Braums.

Tour Leader: **Frank Chenoweth**

Great tour Frank-It was very interesting!



Farm manager Keith Mann



Beautiful barn and stables!



Clydesdale Horses



A Fun Ride in the Wagon pulled by the Clydesdales!



Gathering in the barn before going to Braams for lunch! Fun time!!



MAFFI Minute

March 2026



Hope everyone is enjoying March Model A Madness! The 2026 Sweepstakes is LIVE. This is a great opportunity to give back to the museum through donations and win a chance to receive a 1930 Briggs Fordor Sedan that was donated to the museum by the Evergreen Chapter of MAFCA in 2014.

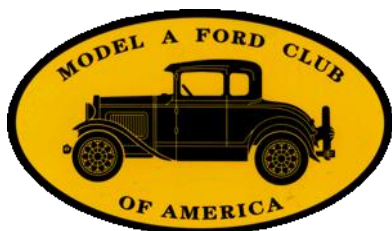
For more information and to purchase entries, please use the following QR code:



Keep on motoring!
John Grossheim
Trustee and Secretary of MAFFI



National Model A Clubs



The Wichita A's Model A Ford Club encourages members to join both National MARC and MAFCA Clubs.



MAFCA
250 S. Cypress St.
La Habra, CA 90631-5515
www.mafca.com
U.S. Membership Cost: \$50

For membership information you can check MAFCA and MARC web sites.

MARC
6721 Merriman
Garden City, MI 48315
<http://modelarestorers.org>
U.S. Membership Cost: \$50

Tech Tip

Walt's Old Time Tech Tip

Walt Jones, Tech Director

From old-timer Model A mechanic Jack Bahm Oakleaf 2021, shared by Rick Black

Don't Start Changing Parts !!!

Far too many Model A owners try to fix their car by simply exchanging parts until their car runs. This is a very long shot and you won't learn anything. If your car ran good last week or last month, or even last year, it's probably something simple that needs attention. People put a new carb on, new condenser, and even retune the engine. Those parts did not go bad by just sitting there a few months. The timing did not change. The condenser did not decide to go bad. If it ran rough when it was put to bed, then you might have other issues, but you have to find out where the problem is, and then fix that.

The easy things to check:

Dirty points: Just slide a business card or thick piece of paper through the point gap with the points closed a few times to get the dirt and dust off of them.

Fouled plugs: Pull out a plug and look at it. If it's black and fuzzy, clean it. Don't put new ones in just because the old ones are fouled. You should clean them fairly often anyway.

Is the carb getting fuel? Hit the starter while giving it a little choke, then stick your thumb into the carb near the choke butterfly and if it comes out wet, fuel is probably not the problem. Remember: 90% of all fuel problems are really ignition problems. Just an old saying. If you do pull out a dry thumb, then chase it down until the fuel is flowing.

Quick check of the electrical circuits: Honk your horn. If no Ahooga, then your fuse is probably blown or missing. Same thing with the lights. Try them. If that is OK, you do have power going into your system.

Take your simple test light (You better have one of these) and connect one end to ground and touch the other end to both terminals of the terminal box. Both should light your test light. If not, chase it down. The problem is the ammeter or its connections. Touch both terminals on the coil. With the key off, you should have power to both sides. If not, you are zeroing in on your problem. Somewhere between the ignition switch and the passenger side of the coil is touching ground. Turn the key on and open your points and block them open with a stick or piece of paper. You should have power at the movable point arm. If not, then your problem is between the driver's side of the coil and the point arm. Could be the ignition switch or a loose connection. If not, the circuit leading to the points is open. Power is not getting from the passenger side of the coil to the point arm. If the open circuit is within the distributor, things get a little more complicated, but you know where the problem is. If all is OK to this point, close the points. If the cam will not let the points close all the way and make contact, then rotate the engine until they do close. Put the car in third gear and roll the car a bit. This will ground the circuit all the way to the passenger side of the coil. You should not have power to the point arm or the passenger side of the coil. Remember, key on and points closed. Play with this with a wiring diagram in front of you to help you understand what is going on, or call someone and start asking questions. Ask a club member, and if there is no club near you, join one as an out-of-state member. Join Oakleaf Region. We all need someone we can call and help us with our cars. The Model A engine wants to start and run. Get things correct and let it run.

Some cruel things that can shut you down, these things stump the experts:

Intake air leak at the manifold-to-engine, or the carb-to-manifold. This happens when you are pretty sure you have fuel and spark. Spray a little starter fluid around these joints as you try to start it, or when it is idling rough. Make sure those four manifold nuts and the two carb screws are snugged up. Easy fix if this is the problem.

Corrosion between the Battery cable fitting and the wire, itself. This is a crimped joint and can fool you. It will light your test light or show continuity, but it can't handle heavy current.

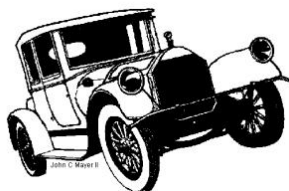
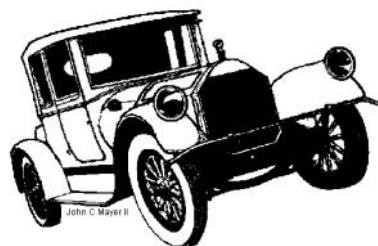
Ammeter: An ammeter can have an intermittent open circuit. Don't trust it to be good.

Fuse holder on top of the starter. These are put together with small aluminum rivets that can easily loosen up and cause an intermittent open circuit. Take it off and use an in-line fuse.

Circuit from the ignition switch to the distributor can be shorted to ground. If it is screwed in too far, it can become grounded or it can have a short in the end fitting that screws into the distributor. Very hard to find.

Internal short within the modern point set. A lot goes on keeping things from shorting on this small part. A lot of little pieces that keep things apart. Hard to find.

Inline fuel filter. Just be aware that some filters need some pressure to push the fuel through. Make sure it is free flowing.



ERA Fashion

Wedding Wear 1931



- A. This lovely example of the bride has a bodice that accentuates the bust, and is fitted through the waist, with flairs below the hips.



- B. With a deeper shade of blue this gown in lace for the maid of honor features puff sleeves and ruffles at the front that extend around the back in a charming line. A sash at the waist finishes the gown.
- C. The frock for the flower girl is of the same shade of blue with tiny ruffles along the neckline, armholes and hemline.
- D. The color of choice for this bride is blue. Diamond seaming enhances the gracious lines of this blue satin gown; the back panel forms a train.

LOCAL AND NATIONAL CALENDARS

2026 SWAP MEET & CAR SHOW SCHEDULE

April 23-25, 2026.....	Pate Swap Meet Texas Motor Speedway..Fort Worth, TX
May 9, 2026.....	Cowtown Horsepower Showdown Car Show Event-10AM to 3PM.....Wichita, KS



2026-2027 FUTURE REGIONAL & NATIONAL MODEL A MEETS

May 31-June 7, 2026.....	2026 National Convention hosted by Blue Mountain A's.....Pendleton, OR
May 11-14, 2026.....	2026 MARC National Tour.....Finger Lakes, NY
July 12-16, 2026.....	2026 MARC National Meet.....French Lick, IN
December 10-12, 2026....	National Award Banquet.....Cincinnati, OH
June 13-18, 2027.....	2027 MAFCA National Tour.....Durango, CO

ERIC WENINGER
OWNER

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332 Lulu
Wichita, KS 67211

Ed Giesen
Customer Service

Join the Wichita A's.
We meet on the 4th Monday of each
month except December

Minisa Park, 704 W. 13th Wichita,
KS at 7 PM

Mishelle Whitney

mishelle@loracompany.com

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Wichita, KS 67211

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[Wichita A's Model A Ford Club
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To download forms to join the Wichita
A's Model A Ford Club, MAFCA,
MARC or MAFFI .



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Wichita A's Model A Ford Club
P.O. Box 25
Wichita, KS 67201



Address Service Requested

Wichita A's Model A Ford Club Contacts

If you chose to email one of the following contacts, go to our web page at www.wichitaas.com and click on contacts and send your email from there. Include the person you want to email in your message

- President**, Mike James
..... (316)
- Vice President**, Stuart McNeal
..... (316)
- Secretary**, Kathy James
..... (316)
- Treasurer**, Claudia Ellerman
..... (316)
- Tour Chairman**, Don Grabendike
.....(316)
- Membership**, Linda Kibbe
..... (316)
- Newsletter Editor**, Sheila Orr
sheorr@sbcglobal.net..... (316)
- Webmaster**, Darren Schuster

The Rumbleseat Review is the official publication of the Wichita A's Model A Ford Club, Inc., a local chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America and the Model A Restorers Club. It's purpose is to keep members informed of past, present and future events, activities, and club news. In addition, this newsletter includes articles and other information to aid in the restoration and enjoyment of the Model A Ford automobile.

This publication is mailed or emailed to members, prospective members and editors of similar publications prior to monthly meetings. Meetings are usually the fourth Monday of the month. Members may publish antique car related ads only for free of charge which includes items wanted, items for sale, or items for trade. We invite members to submit articles containing technical Model A information and other interesting tidbits for publication in this newsletter. Items to be published must be submitted to the newsletter editor by deadline shown in the calendar. Wichita A's membership dues are \$25.00, per year (October to September30). MAFCA dues are \$50.00 per year and MARC dues are \$50.00 per year. A business card advertisement in this newsletter is \$25.00 per year.