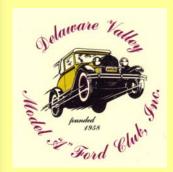
THE KLAXON



April 2016



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issue.....

The Newsletter of the

Delaware Valley Model A Ford Club, Inc. Founded in 1958

Who are we:

The Klaxon is the monthly newsletter of the Delaware Valley Model "A" Ford Club, Inc. and is circulated to all club members and other interested clubs. The club meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm at Daley's Service Center, 2749 Bristol Pike, Bensalem, PA 19020.

If you wish to contribute articles for publication in the Klaxon please do so by submitting them to the editor Jim Maier. Other pertinent information can be obtained from the officers.

Technical and historical questions are encouraged and we'll do our best to get the answers. Questions can be submitted via E-Mail at: M2116x6@comcast.net.

Club Officers

President - Ted Kulesza	215-901-4305
Vice President - Joe Chamberlain	215-385-4989
Secretary - Don Fortune	215-698-1256
Treasurer - Don O'Hara	215-338-6368
Editor - Jim Maier	267-918-2078
National Director - Mike Etling	610-505-4504
Activities/Parades - Ted Etling	215-802-8622

http://www.dvmafc.org/

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THE KLAXON

President's Message



Greetings:

I hope that everyone has turned their clocks up, and lost an hour of sleep like me!! Spring is here an I am looking forward to getting our " A " out in the nice weather. Let's put together a couple of

Tours for this summer and have some fun !!. This coming meeting we will have our model A parts, tools and auto related items up for auction so don't forget to bring them; and if time allows we will finish up the DVD on Henry Ford. Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

All the best,

Editor's Message

Ted

4/23/2016 Hellertown Show
Happy Birthdays for

April 2016!

Up Coming Events
4/7/2016 Monthly Meeting at Daley's

Service Center

Jack Fritsch	4
Marcy Jones	14
Lorrie Smith	18
Peg LaForgia	19
Jim Maier	19
Barbara Joan Russell	20

Hello everyone:

With Spring here the show list is growing. We have Hellertown Model A Ford Show, Spring Englishtown and Carlisle and

many more smaller shows. The saying goes....So many shows, so little time.

The editorial staff is still looking for "then and now" photos of your Model "A" Fords for the newsletter. Submissions can be via email, snail mail, carrier pigeon or in person. Original photos can be scanned and returned.

Get your extra parts ready for our auction at our next meeting. Tech sessions are requested for future meetings. Does anyone have a topic that they would volunteer for? If so, please let Ted know so that we can schedule it.

See you on the 7th! Jim





UPCOMING LOCAL AUTO RELATED EVENTS

From Hemmings Motor News and other sources

See enclosed club event listing for our club events

Antique Car & Parts Auction Event

April 09, 2016 9 am - 4 pm

Auctioning many Model A Ford cars, WW2 Jeep, '32 Ford V8, 63' Falcon Conv. to name just a few, & THOUSANDS of car parts for Model A, T, Ford V8, and other makes. Auction Preview: Friday, April 8th, 2016, 9am-4pm, or by appointment, contact us

Model A, T, Ford V8 and other old car parts, Many in box lots, and auctioned off individually.

List of car part highlights: Roadster tops (2), phaeton & roadster top mechanisms, "in the box new" Le-Baron Bonney "A" roadster seats/upholstery. Many Model A doors, fenders & running boards, aprons, bumpers, lights: head-cowl-stop-fog-spot, horns, coils, carburetors, generators & starters, water pumps, "A" brass sparkplugs, wheels, Model A & T drums, tires, tractors, engines and blocks, transmissions, chassis, frames and complete cars.

Location:

Wamsleys Texaco Garage, 52 Harding Hwy Rt 40 Upper Pittsgrove NJ, 08318

Cost: no charge for admission, see auction terms

To Register: call Lee Fox at 609-970-5163

Hellertown Model A Show & Swap Meet

Saturday April 23, 2016 9am to 3pm

Hosted by: Hellertown Historic Society & Lehigh Valley Model A Club

No car or entrance fee. Vendor spaces \$10.00 donation requested.

Grist Mill Park on West Walnut Street Hellertown, PA

Contact: Nelson Chegezy 610-867-4395 or email: nsc0646@verizon.net

Spring Carlisle

Apr 20-24, 2016

Carlisle Fairgrounds

Adult Admission: Daily Wed.- Sat. \$10 / Sun \$7 / Event Pass \$30

Gate Times: Wed.-Sat. 7am-6pm, Sun. 7am-3pm Auctions Dates: Thursday & Friday, 3-10pm

Spring Carlisle, a collector and classic car swap meet, car corral and auction is held each April in America's Automotive Hometown, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Delaware Valley Model A Ford Club 2016 Yearly Calendar of Events

January	July
7 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's	4 – Lawncrest Parade – 8:30 Form up 4 – Cheltenham Parade – 11:00 Form up TBD – Pennypack Parade 7 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
February	August
4 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's	4 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
March	September
3 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's	1 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
	10 - International Model A Ford Day
	TBD – Club Banquet
April	October
7 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's	6 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
23 – Hellertown Model A Show	5 – 8 – Hershey AACA Meet
May	No area with a w
	NAVEMBET
•	November 3 Club Meeting 7:30nm Delev's
5 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's	3 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
•	
5 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's	3 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
5 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's 23 – Bensalem / Croydon Parades	3 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's TBD – Bristol Township Parade

Please advise the editorial staff of any additional events, as well as any changes.

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MICHAEL T. ETLING 610-505-4504 Saturday, April 23, 2016 • 9 am to 3 pm

Hellertown Show & Swap In conjunction with Saucon Valley History Day

Hosted by: Hellertown Historical Society & Lehigh Valley Model A Ford Club

ALL "A" Fords Welcomed











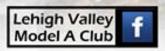


- NO Car or Entrance Fee
 Local PA History
- Technical Sessions
 Swap Meet
 Concessions
 - Mill Tours
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Grist Mill Park GPS Users: 150 West Walnut St, Hellertown, PA 18055. Located on West Walnut Street right off Route 412 (Main Street), Hellertown, PA

RSVP your "A" space or club: Nelson Chegezy, 610.867.4395 or nsc0646@verizon.net







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Registration, Indemnity & Tour forms

Club Contact & Hotel Information

Activity List and Highlight Sketches

Early entry is worth doing (it saves you \$\$\$\$). Registration postmarked no later than July 1st is just \$52 (per car). After that, it's \$75 (no registrations after August 1st). But even more important, in order to make this event as enjoyable as possible, we are limiting participation to 250 cars. So late registrants may miss seeing the beauty in our little corner of the world and the many Tours we've planned to show it off!

Please note: Cancellations prior to August 1st are subject to a \$20.00 fee. Sorry, no refunds of Registration fees will be granted after August 1st.



We look forward to seeing you!

Please Note:

The complete info packet for this invite is 15 pages, too many to print here. It is available on our website at www.dvmafc.org or contact the editor for a copy.

TIMING LEVER OPERATION

(or Divide by Five)

By Al Blatter, Highland, Michigan

The one thing we all heard as we prepared for our first Model "A" driving attempt was a commandment something like, "RETARD the spark before you try to start the engine." When we had enough Model "A" driving experience to feel somewhat relaxed, sooner or later we forgot to retard the spark. The Model "A" immediately provided us with a lesson that is never forgotten. Unfortunately, after the first commandment about starting, the next timing lever instructions became somewhat vague and depended on who was instructing. Most Model "A" drivers have found that when driving down the road at a steady speed, setting the timing at full advance or full retard does not feel right. Somewhere between these two extremes is better, but where? In the following I want to suggest a method that seems to work well, is simple and has some technical basis to support it.

The Model "A" steering column sleeve upper end has an indented quadrant with twelve indentations that result in twelve possible positions for the timing lever. If we call the full retard position as Notch #1, then the full advance position is Notch #12. The notches should be distinct enough so that you can feel them as you move the lever and be able to count them. It is necessary that you know what notch the lever is in by feel only. Now, let's assume you are cruising down the road at a steady speed in third gear.

Divide by Five Rule: The timing lever should be in the notch number which is the speedometer reading divided by five.

Notch # =
$$\frac{MPH}{5}$$

Thus, if the cruising speed is 35 MPH, the timing lever should be in Notch #7. Or if the speed is 50 MPH, Notch #10 would be right. Or, if you are cruising the Drive-In at 15 MPH, Notch #3 should impress the locals. This is an easy rule to remember and only requires that you know what notch the timing lever is in. When you change to a new cruise speed, you should move the lever to the new notch position required. If you forget what notch the lever is in, simply move the lever to Notch #12 or Notch #1, whichever is closer, and recount to the notch given by the Divide by Five Rule.

This simple timing rule is based on the fact that the combustion process is not instantaneous and that the spark timing must be proportionately advanced as engine speed increases. You may find on a long steep hill that a few notches toward retard may feel smoother. If pinging or spark knock occurs, retard the timing as necessary to eliminate the knock.

This timing adjustment method requires that some mechanical conditions of the ignition timing controls be checked and

corrected to factory recommendations. The speedometer should be reasonably truthful also. The following three steps should be taken:

- 1. Adjust the timing lever output arm so that the distributor plate arm moves the full width of the slot in the distributor body when the timing lever moves through its full range. See page 480 of the *Service Bulletins*. It may be necessary to adjust the length of the control rod that connects the distributor and the steering column.
- 2. Adjust the spark timing so that full retard is at Top Dead Center. Follow the instructions on page 346 of the Service Bulletins.
- 3. Set the spark plug gaps to .035 in. minimum. A gap of .046 in. is better. See page 454 of the Service Bulletins.

The timing lever operation described above is easy for steady cruising speeds but when accelerating in first and second gear, you don't have enough hands to steer, shift and adjust the timing. The Model "A" transmission ratio is oneto-one in third gear. It is very close to two-to-one in second gear and three-to-one in first gear. In other words, the engine runs three times faster in first gear than in third gear at the same car speed. Therefore, if you plan to shift out of first at 15 MPH, set the timing lever lever in Notch #9. This is calculated easily since 15 divided by 5, times 3 (for first gear) equals Notch #9. Similarly, if you plan to shift out of second at 25 MPH, Notch #10 is calculated. This is 25 divided by 5, times 2 which equals Notch #10. In practice I suggest you set the lever in Notch #9 and accelerate through first and second gears, then with the car in third gear, readjust the timing lever to the notch that corresponds to the cruise speed you establish. As the late Murray Fahnestock said in one of his books, "The experienced Model "A" driver will be constantly readjusting the spark timing lever to match the prevailing driving conditions."

It is interesting to conjecture, why the Ford engineers selected twelve notches in the first place. Is it possible that somebody already thought of the Divide by Five Rule a long time ago? Try it, I think you will like it.

Editor's Note: Al Blatter is a member of both the Oak Leaf Region and the Livingston "A" Region and has been involved with Model "A's" since 1946. In the January-February 1983 issue of the Model "A" News he showed us how to test the Zenith carburetor jets with a simple test fixture using water as the test fluid. He retired in January 1991 and spends his time driving his 1931 Tudor, restoring carburetors and giving tech talks at various Model "A" clubs.

MAKE THAT HORN BLOW!

By Bill Artzberger, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

I have been driving my 1929 Model "A" Tudor for six years. It was restored from the frame up. This included an inspection, cleaning, lubricating and painting of the HORN. After all, how can you show off your Model "A" without blowing its famous horn?

A lot of attention was given to the horn and it was pretested over and over again using a battery and some test leads to complete the electrical circuit. It blew magnificently! I was certain it would work well when the car was completed.

Just as many other Model "A" owners have discovered, their horns only blow when the horns want to! It was embarrassing. It would seldom blow in parades and never when the grandchildren said, "Blow the horn, Grandfather!"

Oh, yes, it would blow if I pressed the button just right and in a certain way or position. And it always blew after I added a new button switch under the dash on the steering column.

Six years of horn frustration was enough!

It was obvious that the problem was somewhere in the contacts in the steering column. The probable reason that this area was not previously investigated is that it takes time and effort to lower the steering column enough to pull the entire horn rod from the steering column. (This is not necessary if you have an "A" with a removable top.)

At first, I wondered how I would be able to remove the wire from inside of the horn rod. Soon, it was apparent that it had a solder joint on the bottom end of the rod.

Using a 100 watt Weller soldering gun, the solder joint was carefully undone...with care not to melt or otherwise damage the plastic insulator. Further, a small brass cap (washer) was discovered within the insulator. This small brass cap has a hole in it. It is soldered to the horn wire and the solder makes the contact with the center of the headlight switch. This could be a cause of a horn not blowing in some cases.

However, I was satisfied, after a careful inspection, that this was not the reason that my horn would not blow.

After withdrawing the entire length of wire, I noticed there was a factory crimp made at the point where the wire was connected to the horn contact pin. Both the wire insulation and the contact pin looked burned (black).

This was the culprit. After some 55 years, a high resistance connection developed at this point. A tug with a pair of long nose pliers separated the wire from the contact pin.

A thorough cleaning of both the brass contact pin and the copper wire was made using phosphoric acid (Metal-Prep). Household vinegar should also do the job. The wire and the pin were carefully scraped until the metal was bare. Using rosin-core solder, the new connection was made.

The underside of the horn button was cleaned with steel wool. Before re-assembling the horn button, I built up the horn button contact with a new "glob" of solder so the button had to be pushed only one-half as far as previously.

Everything was re-assembled in the reverse order of taking it apart. A new "glob" of rosin-core solder was added to the lower end of the wire to help make a tighter connection at the inner section of the head light switch.

After making the battery connection and checking to see that everything was normally in place, the "moment of truth" arrived. Would the horn blow...or not?

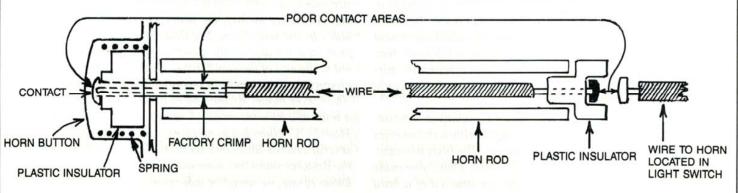
Gingerly, I pressed the button. Hallelujah! It blew. and blew every time I pressed the button. I tried it 10 times, 15 times, 20 times.

My wife and grandchildren came running into my garage thinking I had gone berserk. I had each of them try it. It blew every time, just as ol' Henry planned it.

The horn has worked perfectly for over a month. And each time I try it, I wonder how anything so simple could have caused me so much frustration for six years!

HORN BUTTON END

LIGHT SWITCH END



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Model "A" Engine Production After March 1932

Mid-March 1932	_	4,846,340
End of Dec. 1932	_	4,858,980
March 6, 1933	_	4,858,981
Records 1933 to end	1934 —	Lost
End of 1935	_	4,865,384
End of 1936	_	4,867,715
End of 1937	_	4,870,083
End of 1938	_	4,872,754
End of 1939	_	4,872,799
End of 1940	_	4,872,843
To Nov. 1941	_	4,872,864
Jan. 31, 1944	_	4,872,865

Have a good topic for an article? Why not jot it down and send it to the editorial staff for publication? Feel free to send it via snail mail, email, carrier pigeon or telegram.

We are also looking for members to do short tech talks at our meetings on various topics related to Model A Fords. If you are interested, please contact one of our officers to schedule a time.

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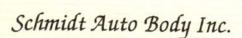


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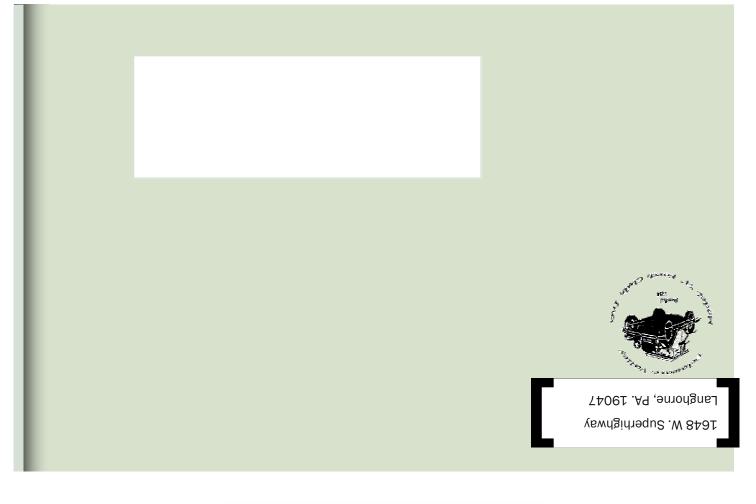


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Hellertown Model A Show last year