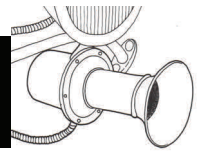




# THE KLAXON



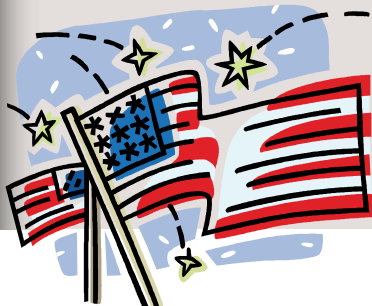
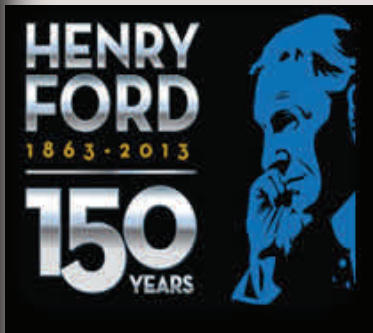
July 2013



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The Newsletter of the

## Delaware Valley Model A Ford Club, Inc.

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 Steve Organ. 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: [Sorgan@themaxwellgroup.org](mailto:Sorgan@themaxwellgroup.org).

### Club Officers

President - Jim Maier	267-918-2078
Vice President - Ted Kulesza	215-901-4305
Secretary - Don Fortune	215-698-1256
Treasurer - Don O'Hara	215-338-6368
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## THE KLAXON

Page 2

## President's Message



### Greetings:

Please remember that due to the July meeting date falling on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, our meeting date has been moved to July 11<sup>th</sup>.

That was a very nice turnout of cars at the Memorial Day Parade. Thank you to all who attended. And a thank you to Donna and John Daley for the food and refreshments afterwards!

Our 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades are coming up. Are your cars ready? Be sure to check the cooling system before these parades. Also make sure that you carry a fire extinguisher in your car.

If your car has not been featured in our Member's Spotlight in the newsletter, please write a few words about it and send a picture to Steve Organ. There are certainly more vehicles that have not been covered.

This issue has an interesting article on the fuel mileage of a Model "A" Ford. It's surprising that these cars are getting double the fuel mileage of my everyday vehicle. They aren't exactly aerodynamic however it must be the gearing, low rolling resistance from small tires and generally lower speeds that they are driven that contribute to the impressive fuel mileage.

See you on the 11<sup>th</sup>!

*Jim*

Visit our web site at  
[www.dvmafc.org](http://www.dvmafc.org)

## Up Coming Events

7/11/2013 Monthly Meeting at  
Daley's Service Center

**NOTE DATE CHANGE DUE TO JULY  
4th HOLIDAY**

See Insert for More Up-Coming  
Events

**Happy Birthday for July  
2013**

If we missed your birthday please  
let the editor know

Joe Staehly	1
Christian Swager	8
Shirley Sadowl	8
John Siliquini	19
Joyce Leichliter	10
Bill Anderson	10
Jay Fissel	16
Tina Lopez	17
Betty Brzoza	17
John Daley	21
Pat Smith	27
Betty Fortune	29

Thanks to the member's that supported our Memorial Day Parades: Jack Fritsch and Roxanne, Steve Organ, Ted and Jeanne Kulesza, Ted Etling, Steve Davidson, Don Fortune, Pete Slusser and Ruth Pecarsky, John and Kathy Korhonen, Willie Long and his Nephew, Bob Kehan, Dave Miller, Dave Sadowl, Bob and Joan Russell, Don and Carol Mannherz, Rich Winans, Paul Pettet and Margie Gray, Al Kubis, Lin Bethman, Joe Staehly and Anne Harvey, Bill Miller, Dave Creelman, John Sheaffer and Tom and Carol Boles. Sorry if we missed anyone.

**Grand Opening of World's Largest Model A Museum**

The Grand Opening Celebration of the all-new Model A Ford Museum—the world’s largest public museum dedicated to the Model A—took place Saturday, May 18, 2013 in Hickory Corners, MI. Fashioned after a 1928 Ford dealership, the new museum is located in southwest Michigan on the campus of the renowned Gilmore Car Museum – America’s Signature Collection.



“The Model A is a car that all can relate to,” explains Michael Spezia, executive director of the Gilmore Car Museum. “It was an affordable and very popular automobile that has been owned and enjoyed by millions of people,” Spezia continued. “We are proud and honored to welcome the Model A Ford

Museum to our historic campus.”

Nearly 5 million Model A Fords were manufactured between 1928 - 1931 and marked the second commercial triumph for Henry Ford after the Model T. In fact, during that time period more people owned a vehicle produced by the Ford Motor Company than any other maker worldwide.

In late 1927 when Henry Ford announced the first all-new Ford in two decades would soon be available, he was greeted with such tremendous public enthusiasm that 400,000 Model A Fords sold “sight unseen” before the car was even unveiled.

“The legendary Model A Ford has become an icon of Americana,” says Stan Johnson, president of the Model A Ford Foundation, Inc. (MAFFI). “And the museum will preserve the car and the era.”

Johnson states representatives from Ford Motor Company, including Corporate Historian Robert Kreipke, will take part in the Grand Opening ceremonies. They’ll be joined by representatives of various national and regional Model A Ford clubs, as well as hundreds of Model A Fords from around the country at the event.



(Continued on Page 5)

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(Continued from Page 3)



The Model A Ford Foundation, Inc. (MAFFI) was able to raise over \$1 million dollars for the building project and completed the 12,000 sq. ft. museum in just under a year.

Among the nearly 30 vehicles, cut-away engines and various memorabilia in the new museum, exhibit highlights include:

Thomas Edison's Model A. This was the very first Model A Ford completed, was driven off the assembly line by Henry Ford on October 21, 1927 and presented to inventor Thomas Edison. Here it will be exhibited for the first time in decades to the general public. In 1943, Edison's widow donated the car to the Henry Ford Museum, which has graciously loaned it to the Model A Ford Museum.

A rare 1930 Model A school bus. This vehicle originally served the El Monte, California school district. It was rescued and restored by a Model A club in Placerville, CA and shipped to the museum in time for its opening.

Authentic and unusual Model A Trucks. From an original United State Postal delivery truck to a unique dual powered-axle truck that was used in building the Hoover Dam and a tow truck that could be ordered with stylish sides and chrome side rails.

Original 1920s and 30s clothing. These period garments range from styles worn by school children, housewives, and workers, to a prized wedding dress.

Complete parts and service department. More like a time capsule, this display sports many brand new parts remaining in their original packaging or unopened crates from 80 years ago. The gas pumps located in front of the dealership still boasts only 18.5 cents a gallon!

"The Model A is a consistent favorite among car collectors and is also one of the most recognized autos of all time," states Jay Follis of the Gilmore Car Museum. "For many it represents the antique car hobby itself."

The new Model A Museum Grand Opening will take place Saturday, May 18, 2013 from 9am – 6pm, at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, MI.

A ribbon cutting ceremony takes place at 11am, with special guests and keynote speakers. Visitors can also enjoy historic lectures, presentations and tours and live music throughout the day.

This special event is open to the public with admission to the Gilmore Car Museum and campus only \$5 each—less than half normal price. Those arriving in a Model A Ford will be given special parking near the Model A Museum and free admission to the entire Gilmore Car Museum campus. To learn more about the Model A Ford Foundation, Inc. and its new museum please visit <http://www.maffi.org/>.

The Gilmore Car Museum - America's Signature Collection is situated on a 90-acre historic campus near Kalamazoo, MI, midway between Detroit and Chicago. For more information, please visit <http://www.gilmorecarmuseum.org/> or call (269) 671-5089

# MODEL A FORD GAS MILEAGE

by Peter Winnewisser

**W**ow much mileage does your car get? We've all heard and voiced the question. It's probably heard most often by owners of brand new cars or very old ones. Throw this question at a group of Model A Ford buffs and there will be little agreement. Claims about the Model A's miles per gallon range from the low teens to the high twenties or better. And, as the following testimonies from Ford owners show, it wasn't all that different when the Model A Ford was new.

- In 1930, Louisville, Kentucky police officials reported that after 2 years of service, their five Model A roadsters averaged 174,276 miles and 21 miles to the gallon of gasoline.

- A 100-hour endurance run in a Model A deluxe sedan was the main feature of a "Trade at Home Week" sponsored by the Sanford, North Carolina, Merchants' Association in 1930.

The driver was handicapped to the steering column and drove the car 1,055 miles during the 100 hours. The car halted, motor turning, only when gas was taken on or the driver fed. No oil was added. The miles per gallon was 21.9.

- In Japan, two Model As, a phaeton and a Tudor, made a nonstop 397-mile trial run in 1928. After the speed test, officials evaluated the cars for economy in gas consumption. The phaeton showed 31 miles to the gallon and the Tudor made 24 miles.

- After a 2-week vacation trip from Denver, Colorado to Long Beach, California in 1930, three sisters, Mabel, Rhoda and Emma Sloc, proclaimed themselves "Ford boosters. Best, last and always." Their 1929 Model A coupe ran flawlessly and averaged 20.75 miles per gallon.

- In 1930, a Washington, North Carolina, Ford dealer used the public's fascination with gas mileage to his



advantage. In letters and advertisements, the Payne Motor Company challenged Model A owners to take a mileage test and offered \$10 in gold to the owner whose Ford made the greatest number of miles per gallon of gasoline.

Each of the 112 owners who responded paid \$1.00 to have his car's carburetor, points, timing, spark plugs, brakes, battery and tires checked and adjusted as necessary on promise that the money would be refunded if the car failed to get 22 miles to the gallon during the test.

The test involved installing a Zenith Ford carburetor tester, which was accurate to the fraction of a tenth of a mile. The owner, accompanied by a

dealer rep, then drove the car for 10 or 15 minutes after which the actual mileage was established.

The average miles per gallon of gasoline registered by the cars was 24 plus. The highest mileage and \$10 in gold winner was a Tudor which made 30 miles per gallon. This car had been driven 13,489 miles prior to the test. The excellent mileage delivered by the Fords proved to be an advertising and publicity bonanza for the dealer.

• An Oneida, N.Y. man wrote to Ford expressing his pleasure and pride in owning a 1928 Model A. Part of the reason for his satisfaction was the car's average of 18.6 miles to the gallon after 2500 miles, much of which was driven at speeds from 50 to 60 mph.



1928 Ford Tudor sedan. (Ford Archives photo.)





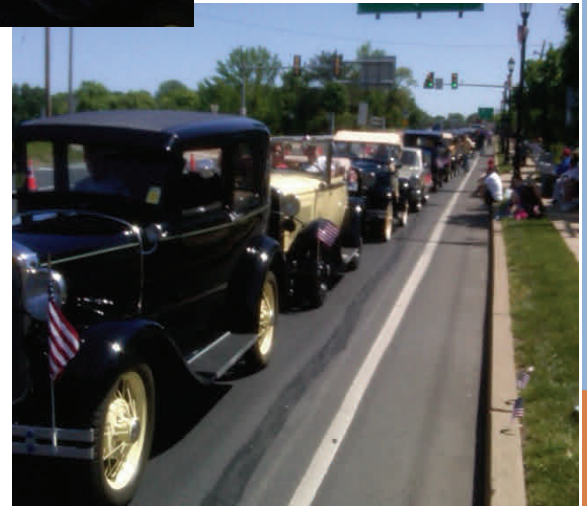
# Memorial Day Parade—Daley's Garage 2013



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# Wheelin'

On Saturday, June 1st we had 10 members attend the Church of the Nativity Car Show in Rockledge. The following members attended: Joe Staehly and Anne Harvey, Bob Kehan, Jack Fritsch and Roxanne, Kenny May, Ted Etling, Billy Long, Steve Organ, Joe Weldon, Ted Kulesza and Al Kubis all brought their cars. The following members also came over to support us: John and Olympia Schlacter, Don Fortune and Billy Long's Nephew.



Kenny May won 1st place, Ted Kulesza 2nd Place and Ted Etling 3rd place in the Antique Division—A clean sweep for the club.



the

Joe Weldon's 1931 truck won 1st place in the Truck Division

Steve Organ and Lisa Derrickson's 1914 Model T won the Rector's Award

Congratulations to all!!





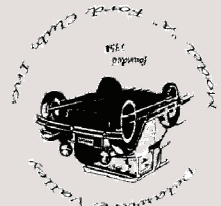
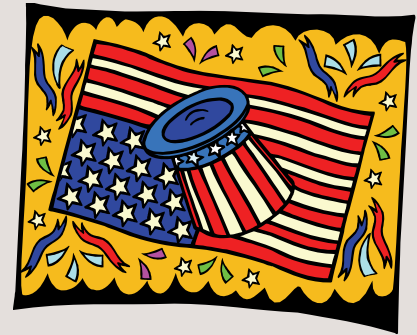
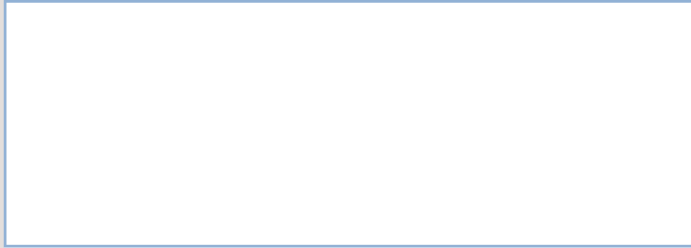
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## Member's Spotlight



**Margie Gray and  
Paul Pettet's  
1931 Slant Window Sedan**

My A was a gift from my father , who lives in Canton IL.

All I do is clean and do some maintenance on her. The best thing I like is driving her and people ask what is that or what year is that or I hear I like your car!

Another thing people ask is if they can take a picture. I love my A. What a way to get noticed driving a Ford Model A.

Paul and Margie are new to the club. Please take a few minutes to stop and see their car at a meeting or an event and welcome them into our club.

Their car is a great addition to the club. WELCOME!

