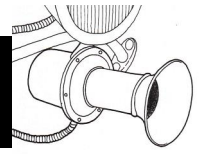
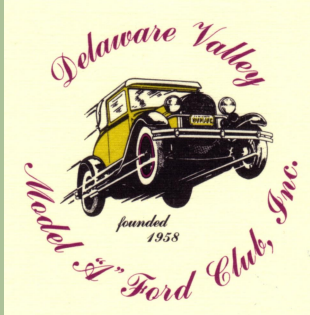




# THE KLAXON



July 2018



## Inside this Month:

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And much more in this

The Newsletter of the

**Delaware Valley Model A Ford Club, Inc.**

**Founded in 1958**



Tom and Elaine Bowman's 1929 Model A Tudor

**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](mailto:M2116x6@comcast.net).**

### Club Officers

President – David Miller	215-745-7247
Vice Pres – Zach Demusz	267-423-1147
Secretary – Don Fortune	215-698-1256
Treasurer – Don O'Hara	215-338-6368
Editor - Jim Maier	267-918-2078
Nat'l Director – Mike Etling	610-505-4504
Activities/Parades – Ted Etling	215-802-8622

**<http://www.dvmafc.org/>**

## President's Message



We were fairly busy this June. On the 9th we were invited to participate in an antique boat and car show in Riverside N.J. We had at least 10 cars and the event made \$200 for the club. It was a great day for almost everyone there. I was bitten by a dog but the show went on! When I say the show went on it really did. There was entertainment there and several of our members performed with the musicians. As far as I know, there were no offers made for them at future events so don't quit your day jobs fellows. This made me think. Do any of our members even have a job? Mike did a stellar job with his rendition of Mack-the-knife. He was asked to do another but unfortunately he did not know any other songs but Happy Birthday so he just did the one song. Our thanks go out to Joe Chamberlain for his efforts in making this event possible and successful.

On June 23rd we had the Strawberry Festival in Rockledge. This was a rain date and of course it rained again. Jim Skully and T.H. Creelman took home trophies. Old T.H. is on a roll with his enviable trophy winning streak. I on the other hand went home trophy less.

On the 24th some of the members joined up with the Tø for a little ride in Jersey. We made an ice cream stop and a pleasant time was had by all.

Don't forget the parades on July 4th and on the 7th. The club makes \$750 on these parades so please support them. I hope everyone had a nice June and I will see you in July.

Dave Miller

## Up Coming Events

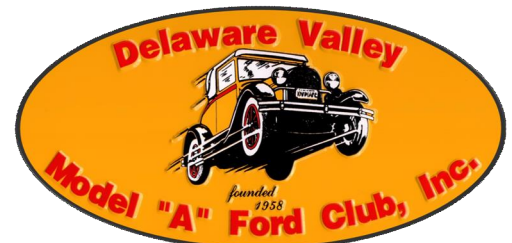
7/5/18 Monthly Meeting at Daley's Service Center

8/2/18 Monthly Meeting at Daley's Service Center

## Happy Birthdays for July 2018!

If we missed your birthday please let the editor know

Joe Staehly	1
Bill Anderson Jr.	10
Joyce Leichliter	10
Tina Lorenz	16
Jim Clarkson	17
Dr. John Siliquini	19
John Daley	21
Judy Maier	27
Betty Fortune	29



# Delaware Valley Model A Ford Club 2018 Yearly Calendar of Events

## January

4 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

## February

1 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

## March

1 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

## April

5 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

22 – Trexlertown Model A Show

## May

3 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

28 – Bensalem / Croydon Parades

## June

7 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

2 - Holy Nativity Strawberry Fest in Rockledge

## July

4 – Lawncrest Parade – 8:30 Form up on Rising Sun Avenue above Knorr St.

4 – Cheltenham Parade – 11:00 Form up on Ashmead Road at Front Street.

5 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

7 - Pennypack Woods Parade ~ Billy Long POC

## August

2 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

25 - Susquehanna Valley Region Luncheon

## September

6 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

15 - International Model A Ford Day.

?? – Club Banquet.

## October

4 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

3 – 6 – Hershey AACA Meet

## November

1 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

17 – Bristol Township Parade

## December

6 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley’s

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

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# UPCOMING LOCAL AUTO RELATED EVENTS

## From Hemmings Motor News and other sources

See enclosed club event listing for our club events

### **High Octane South Jersey Cars & Coffee**

**July 07, 2018 8:30 to 11:00**

Be a part of South Jerseys' Largest and most exciting Cars & Coffee community. All makes, all models, always welcome...

**Sponsor:** High Octane South Jersey

**When:** July 07, 2018 8:30 to 11:00

**Location:** 550 Fellowship RD Mount Laurel, NJ, 08057

**Cost:** Free to all mankind

**To Register:** call Chris Scafario at 609-289-2893

### **Run With The Angels Car Show**

**July 08, 2018 9:00 AM - 3:30 pm**

Held on the grounds of the Moravian Tile works in Doylestown PA. Street Rods, Muscle Cars, Antiques, Trucks. Grand Prize \$1000. Trophies, door prizes, vendors, flea market.

**When:** July 08, 2018 9:00 AM - 3:30 pm

**Location:** 130 Swamp Rd, Rte 313 Doylestown, PA, 18901

**Cost:** Preregistration before July 1st, \$15.00 day of show \$20.00

**To Register:** call Al Tursi at 267-893-9796

### **Merchantville Classic Car Show**

**July 14, 2018 11am to 4pm**

South Jersey's most beloved classic car show returns on Saturday July 14th, 2018 from 11-4pm. There will be live music, a DJ, great food, beer garden, vendors, kids zone, and more The show is open to all cars built up to 1980 and Corvettes of all years. Multiple classes and trophies will be awarded along with window decals for all participants. Please visit the website at [www.merchantvillecarshow.com](http://www.merchantvillecarshow.com). If you are interested in being a sponsor, vendor, participant or volunteer, please call. The Merchantville Classic Car Show is a non-profit event with proceeds benefiting local programs and charities.

**Location:** Downtown Merchantville, NJ, 08109

**Cost:** Spectators free. Car show participants \$20 in advance / \$30 day of show

**To Register:** call Eric at 609-346-2846

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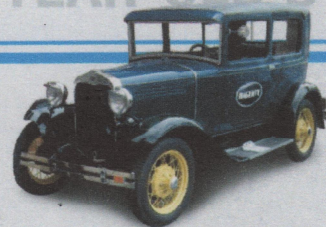
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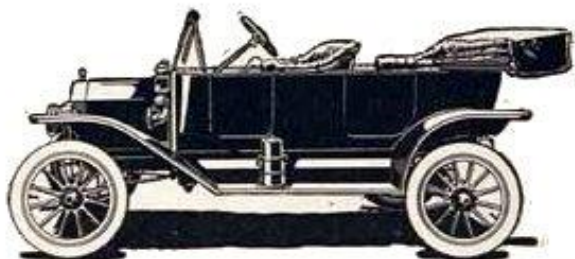
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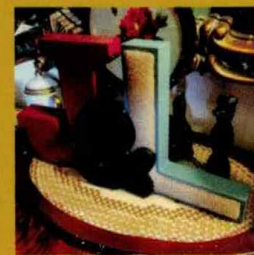
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**Have a good topic for an article? Why not jot it down and send it to the editorial staff for publication? Feel free to send it via snail mail, email, carrier pigeon or telegram.**

**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.**



**MINUTES**  
**June 7th, 2018 General Meeting**

Presidentô Dave Miller

No financial report.

2 Visitors tonight.

100th Anniversary of Airmail event - Rain delay. Red Lion & Haldeman.

Strawberry Fest. Saturday 6/23 9am.

Sat 6/9 - Antique Boat Show 10 - 4 pm. Riverside Marina. 10 Cars needed. \$200.00 to club.

John Daley's parade report given by Dave.

**New Business:**

8/25 visit to Susquehanna Valley Region Anniversary Luncheon. Noon lunch. Bring cars.

Interest in another trip to American Treasures Museum in Oaks, PA. ????

Future: Valley Forge Tour with Bob Miller leading.

Dave Sadowl questioned the yearly roster.

Bill Grun was honored. 98th Birthday!

Father's Day Car Show at Irish Rover.

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FROM THE SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY REGION

MODEL "A" RESTORERS CLUB

August 25, 2018

**Arrive about Noon - Lunch at 2:00**



TO: Members of other regions, especially those of you who were originally members of the Chesapeake Bay Region in the 1950s & 1960s, you are invited to attend our Anniversary Luncheon at John Wright Restaurant in Wrightsville, PA **1955 to 2018**

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ATTIRE**



**PERIOD  
ATTIRE**

All are encouraged to drive their Model "A" vehicles. There will be a special parking area for our cars. Each will be responsible for buying their own lunch!

You can check the luncheon menu here: <https://jwrpa.com/lunch-menu/>

## WHY US? A Little bit of History

Many of the members of your region may remember the **Chesapeake Bay Region** that was formed in 1955 and became the **Susquehanna Valley Region** in 1966. This was one of the very early Regions of MARC. It's membership covered the area from the Delaware River to Gettysburg, PA and from Quantico, VA in the South to Hazelton, PA in the North. Our early meets included trips to William's Grove, Gene Renningers Market in Lancaster, Clair Amspacher Garage in Glen Rock, Christmas parties at Zinn's Diner, a joint meet with the Penn-Ohio Region at Seven Springs, PA and a Summer meet at Bedford Springs. Many of our "far away" members drove their Model "A" to these events. **Let's Do It Again!**

## Contact

Bill Fitzpatrick - - - [wjfitznyc@msn.com](mailto:wjfitznyc@msn.com)

TEXT or Cell - - -717-755-3141



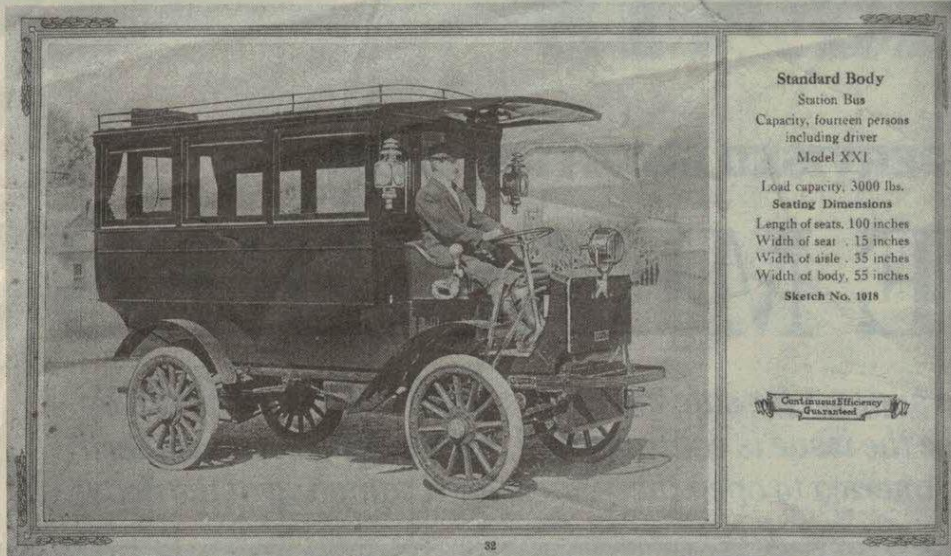
**A vintage Ford postcard**



**Above: A former Philadelphia auto salvage yard.**

**Below: The final product of the above salvage yard. Images from Vintage Philadelphia Facebook page.**





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From the Autocar Co. commercial catalog, circa 1911. Vehicle production under the name Autocar started at an Ardmore factory on Lancaster Pike at the turn of the century. HSP

## Ardmore's home of auto innovation

### Patrick Glennon

is a communications officer at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

**N**ow through Feb. 4, this year's Philadelphia Auto Show will showcase the ingenuity and engineering brilliance of auto manufacturers from around the world. Though the Delaware Valley's influence on the car industry may be minimal today, one area company had an enormous impact on the development of U.S. car manufacturing throughout the first half of the 20th century.

The Pittsburgh Motor Vehicle Co. set up shop in 1897, producing what were popularly known at the time as "horseless carriages." Under the leadership of brothers Lewis and John Clark, the company moved across the Keystone State in 1899, beginning production under the name Autocar at the turn of the century at a factory on Lancaster Pike in Ardmore.

During the first decades of the 20th century, automobiles lacked a mass market and primarily functioned as luxury items for the rich. Despite the nascent car industry's relatively thin profit margins, Autocar had a strong start in Lower Merion building its Type J automobiles, which became quite popular among Southeastern Pennsylvania's elite. George S. Gerhard — a cofounder of Bryn Mawr Hospital and regional luminary — purchased one of the first Model J cars to leave the shop.

While car ownership may have been the purview of the wealthy,

middle- and working-class communities still enjoyed the mechanical wonder of automobiles as spectators of competitive races, many of which were sponsored by car manufacturers. Autocar put forth a number of victorious drivers in the region's car racing scene, including Joe Brown, who won a 1907 race in



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by 55 miles.

Over the next decade, Autocar established a reputation for reliability under Lewis Clark, who served as both president and head engineer. Autocar's unique spark plug — which featured insulation made out of porcelain — became one of the industry's first standardized components, and the company introduced the first-ever shaft-driven truck in 1901. The Smithsonian maintains one of these groundbreaking models in its collection.

The car industry shrank significantly during the 1910s. Small shops producing limited yearly runs shuttered as the industry's first bubble burst open. Remarkably, Ardmore's Autocar survived this economic retraction, even as major manufacturers like Ford expanded and began producing mass-market vehicles.

Autocar's success likely stemmed from its specialization; the company became the first in the United States to exclusively manufacture trucks designed for commercial purposes. Retailers including Wanamaker's and Strawbridge's valued the dependability of Autocar's trucks. Sunoco used them to carefully transport its combustible product.

As the decades passed, Autocar persevered. Along with other companies in the industry, Autocar contributed to the war effort in the 1940s, producing a variety of vehicles including armored half-trucks for the Navy and Army. Then serving as supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in Europe, Dwight D. Eisenhower penned a letter to the company extolling its work: "It was the job of motor transport to deliver the goods, and American wheels and axles never let us down."

In 1953, the White Motor Co. purchased Autocar, which had enjoyed more than a half-century of success and innovation as an independent manufacturer. As a subsidiary, Autocar continued to produce vehicles in Southeastern Pennsylvania until 1980. Volvo owned the company from 1981 until 2001, when Autocar once again became an independent business that exists to this day as a specialty truck manufacturer based in Indiana.

The company's vintage models remain popular attractions at car shows around the country.

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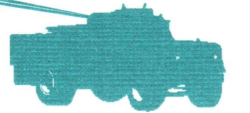
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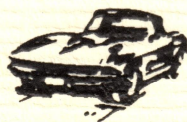
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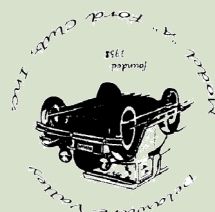
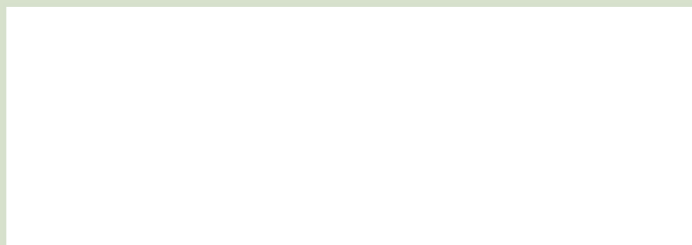


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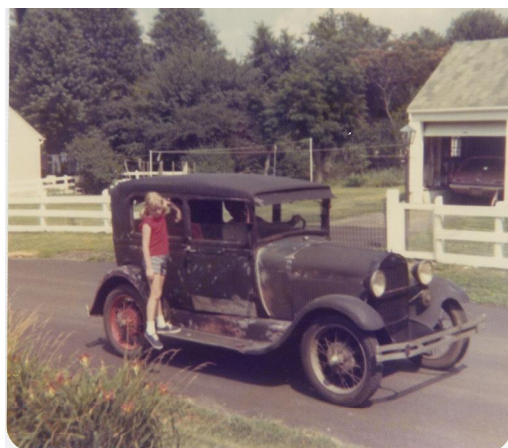
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## PARTING SHOT



**Bill Maier's 1928 Tudor shortly after he got it running in 1977. Bill is shown driving, Nancy Maier riding on the running board.**