

THE KLAXON



March 2019



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11 & 12

Trexlertown Show

Brake Tool

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.

Club Officers

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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/

Up Coming Events

3/7 Monthly Meeting at Daley's Service Center

4/4 Monthly Meeting at Daley's Service Center

Happy Birthdays for March!

If we missed your birthday please let the editor know



President's Message



I had the privilege to be asked by Jack Fritsch to join him down at his historic warehouse in North Philly. What an adventure I had that day. I saw things that I thought I would never see, and saw a few things that I wish I had never seen! (Just kiddin' Jack) What struck me about Jack and his collection of all

sorts of equipment, car parts and "you name it," is the fact that he was willing to let someone else into his memories. That takes a lot of courage. Jack told me how his warehouse used to be a place where he had a thriving business and he has many fond memories of those days long ago. Amidst the clutter, I could envision what Jack was telling me, I could tell it made him happy to reminisce about "the good old days."

What's my point? My point is that this "club" is more than just a club. I consider our club as a "brotherhood." Yes, we all have the same common interests in Model A's and old cars, but it goes so much deeper than that. Someone in the club is ill, he is called, members inquire about how he's doing. Someone in the club loses a loved one, we rally to their side, even show-up at the funeral with our Model A's. I've been a participant or member in unions, different organizations and clubs, but our unique bond with this "brotherhood" is unparalleled. I compare it to the closeness I felt with my fellow squadron mates, when I was flying for the USAF. I'm glad, very glad, that I found this "brotherhood". Okay, enough of the mussy stuff onto business.

At this month's meeting I'll report on the upcoming banquet, which will be on May 5th (Cinco de Mayo) at the Irish Rover Station House, just like last year. Let's hope the weather cooperates, and we can show-off our cars. Another order of business will be the issue of life memberships. I do not have all the details but hopefully, Jim Maier and some of you senior members can chime-in on how to handle this issue. With the extra help from Jim and Paul Christensen we should have this year's roster soon - thanks Jim & Paul for all the work you do.

See you all on March 7th.

- Mike St George (El Presidente - just got back from Mexico)

Club News from Billy Long

Joe Weldon asked club members to meet at his house on 2/2 at 8:45am to convoy to the memorial service for Joe Staehly at St. Genevieve Catholic Church. Billy Long, Don Fortune, Dave Sadowl, Robert Russell, Don Mannherz, John Schlacter and Dave Creelman went. It was a short ride on the turnpike to the church in Flourtown.

It was nice to be there for the Staehly family. We all went up and said our prayers.

Once we left the church, Dave Creelman mentioned a nice diner on Rt. 309 to eat at. He said that even I can go in dear!!! I said õOh boy!ö We ate good. We left around 11:45 and went home.

Billy Long

Delaware Valley Model A Ford Club 2019 Yearly Calendar of Events

January	July
3 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's	2 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's
	 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. 6 - Pennypack Woods Parade ~ Billy Long POC
February	August
7 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's	1 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's
March	September
7 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's	5 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
	? - International Model A Ford Day Picnic
April	October
4 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's	3 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
	9-12 – Hershey AACA Meet
May	November
2 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's	7 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's
5 - Club Banquet - Irish Rover 12 - 4	
18 – Trexlertown Model A Show 28 – Bensalem / Croydon Parades	16 – Bristol Township Parade. Kicks off at noon at the elementary school on Haines road, Levittown.
June	December
6 - Club Meeting - 7:30pm Daley's	5 – Club Meeting – 7:30pm Daley's

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

1 - Holy Nativity Strawberry Fest in Rockledge

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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

SWAP MEET March 24, 2019 8 AM - 3 PM

Sunday March 24, 2019. South Jersey Region AACA 48th Annual Swap Meet and Car Corral at Salem County Fairgrounds, 735 Harding Hwy US Route 40, Woodstown, NJ 08098. 5 miles west of Woodstown or mile west of Cowtown. 8 AM 3 PM. Spaces, \$35.00 in advance or \$50.00 day of show. For further information contact Chuck Gibson at 609-221-5435.

Sponsor: South Jersey Region, AACA

Location:

Salem County Fairgrounds, 735 Harding Hwy, US Rt. 40 Woodstown, NJ, 08098

Cost: NO CHARGE FOR SHOPPERS

To Register: call Gary Green at 856-575-5547 or call Chuck Gibson at 609-221-5435

Indoor/Outdoor Swap Meet and Car Corral March 31, 2019 8am - 6pm

Indoor/Outdoor swap meet and car corral for auto related items only at the Classic Auto Mall in Morgantown Pa. on Sunday March 31st, doors open at 8am till 6pm. Over 120 indoor swap meet spots are 12ftx15ft at \$15.00 each, pre-registered, \$25.00 each, day of show. Unlimited number of outdoor swap meet spots which are a block of 4 parking spaces for \$15.00 each pre-registered, day of show, \$25.00. Outdoor car corral spaces are one parking spot at \$10.00 each, no parts in car corral. Over 400 indoor Car Corral spaces are already all sold out. Indoor swap meet vendors must set up Saturday afternoon 12-7pm. Outdoor set up 6am Sunday. No spectator admission during Saturday set up or until 8am Sunday. Contact for space availability or text to 610-430-8432.

Location: 6180 Morgantown Rd Morgantown, PA, 19543

Spring Carlisle April 24 to April 28, 2019

Spring Carlisle is massive Our 150 acre Facility in Carlisle, Pennsylvania plays host to or in excess of 100,000 collector and classic automotive enthusiast from all over the world. This early Spring Event is supported by the best of Powerhouse Manufacturers, remanufactured and used parts vendors in the country. In addition, vintage collectibles, advertising, gas and oil and variety of hidden, high valued hard to find treasures of the unexpected brings out an abundance of the strongest collectors, dealers, auction houses and pickers in the country. Also, be a part of the auction excitement on Thursday, Friday AND NOW Saturday of Spring Carlisle at the neighboring Carlisle Expo Center from April 25-27 for the ever-popular collector car auction. This auction sees over 500 cars cross the block.

Location: 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd, Carlisle PA 17013 Carlisle, PA, 17013

Cost: Visit Website

To Register: call Carlisle Events at 717-243-7855

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February 7th Meeting Minutes

President Mike St. George in California. V.P. Zach filling in.

Old News

Joseph Staehly passed away.

New Business

Banquet will be Sunday May 5th. Noon to 4pm. Irish Rover Station House, Langhorne.

July meeting moved to Tues 2nd. Parades on 4th.

Dues are due. Forms are available.

Jack Fritsch - Presented Joe Weldon with a picture of a Model A mail truck. Given for all of the things that he does for the club. See picture

50/50 \$38.00 won by Zach. Prize to Dave C.



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During our last meeting: Jack Fritsch presenting Joe Weldon with an award for all of the things that he has done for our club.



In Memory

In Loving Celebration of Joseph F. Staehly

January 7, 1937 - January 22, 2019



Joseph F. Staehly, 82 formerly of Liberty NC, Warminster and Rockledge PA passed away on January 22, 2019. Loving father of three children, Joe was born in Phila. PA on January 7, 1937 to Harry and Margaret (Greim) Staehly. He was a Veteran of the Korean War and retired as a Tool and Die Maker from the Budd Company in 1992. He was a volunteer for meals on wheels and long time member of the Delaware Valley Model õAö Ford Club who enjoyed socializing with friends and driving his 1931 Ford Station Wagon. He was a devoted husband to the late Eleanor Staehly (Brodbeck) married in 1958, who departed this life on March 31, 2003. Besides his wife Eleanor, Joe was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Charles.

He is survived by his children Donna Marie Taylor (Glenn), Joseph F. Staehly, II (Lee) and Charles H. Staehly (Sheryl). Grandfather of Christopher (Sara), Andrew (Sara), Joseph, Hunter, Rex Sarah and Jessica.

In Memory of Thomas Patron

1947 - 2018



Thomas Patron passed away Monday, November 19, 2018 at St. Peters University Hospital in New Brunswick.

He was 71 years of age.

Born in New Brunswick, Thomas grew up in Spotswood, and had lived in Monroe Twp. since 1986. Tom was self-employed in the construction industry.

He was predeceased by his parents, Stephen and Dorothy Patron.

Thomas leaves his loving family; his brother Stephen Patron and his wife Kristen, his sisters Deanna Czuba, Linda Patron, Patti Anderson, Nancy Myers and her husband Howie, and Dottie Redding and her husband Al, as well as many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Thomas's memory to a charity of your choice.



Lehigh Valley Model "A" Club Presents

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Model A/AA Show & Swap

Saturday, May 18, 2019



9 am to 3 pm

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An associated car club is not required for show. RSVP your swap space or your club for the day: 484.548.0632 or lymodelaclub@gmail.com

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Make Your Own Improved Brake Adjustment Tool

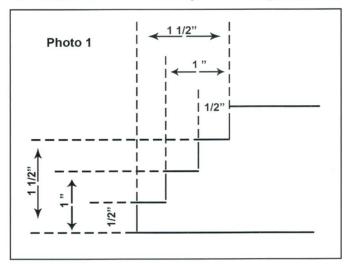
by Jerry Anderson, North Penn Model A Ford Club

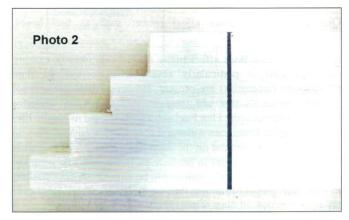
Model A owners are familiar with the Model A brake adjustment tool. This tool is wedged between the base of the front seat cushion frame and the brake pedal, thereby applying constant pressure to the brake pedal. This consistent pressure holds the brake pedal in the proper position, thus ensuring the proper adjustment of the service brakes. The specifications to which the Model A service brakes are properly adjusted may be found on page 202 of the January 1928 issue of the Ford Service Bulletins.

For those that do not have a set of *Ford Service Bulletins* at hand, the instructions may be summarized as follows: at the innermost "step", all four wheels should turn freely, with no drag from the brakes; at the second "step", the front wheels should remain free, while the rear wheels drag; at the third "step", the front brakes should drag and the rear brakes should be tight; and, at the last step, the front brakes should be tight, while the rear brakes should be locked.

The result is that you have braking power that is derived 40% from the front brakes and 60% from the rear brakes. Note, however, that Ford put these instructions out at a time when virtually all driving was done on gravel roads. Under today's driving conditions, in which one seldom drives on gravel roads, many Model A owners reverse these adjustments so that their adjusted brakes provide braking power that is derived 60% from the front brakes and 40% from the rear brakes. The final adjustments are the choice of the Model A owner.

For those who may not be familiar with the simple version of this tool, one measures the distance from the base of the front seat cushion frame to the bottom edge of the brake pedal, making





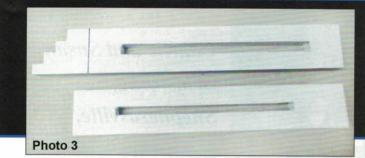
certain to measure in a straight horizontal line. Add 2 1/2 inches to that measurement. Then, cut a piece of 3/4 by 2 inch hardwood to that total length. Place the wood between the base of the front seat cushion frame and the bottom of the brake pedal and draw a vertical reference line where the top of the wood intersects with the bottom of the brake pedal. One then has to make a series of cuts on one end of the piece of hardwood, beginning 1 inch from the reference line. A diagram of the proposed cuts is provided in **photo** # 1, while the resulting "stair step" configuration and the reference line are shown in **photo** # 2.

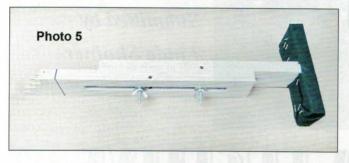
While this tool is quite useful, it has some limitations which can be easily overcome. First, as it is based upon the measurements that are specific to one Model A, its' use is limited to either that specific automobile or one with the exact same measurements. Second, as the end of the tool which is in contact with the base of the front seat cushion frame is quite small in area, it tends to slip out of line rather easily when under pressure. And, in doing so, it can mar the fabric on the base of the seat cushion frame.

By making your own improved version of the Model A service brake adjustment tool, you can overcome these limitations. As a footnote, a quick reading of these instructions may give one the impression that making this improved tool is an overly complex process. However, if the directions are followed on a step-by-step basis, it is, in fact, a relatively simple process.

First, cut a piece of 3/4 inch hardwood into a piece 2 inches wide by 14 inches in length. Cut a second piece of the same 3/4 inch hardwood into a piece 2 inches wide by 12 inches long. And, cut a third piece of the same 3/4 inch hardwood into a piece 2 inches wide by 6 inches long.

On the longest piece of hardwood, cut a series of 1/2 inch "stair steps" as shown in photos # 1 and 2. And, add in the reference line





Next, using either a table saw or a router, make a cut 3/8 inch wide, down the center line of the 14 inch and 12 inch long pieces of wood. On the 14 inch piece of wood, start about 2 inches from the innermost "stair step" and continue the cut up to about 1 inch from the other end. On the 12 inch piece of wood, start the cut approximately 2 inches from one end and continue up to about 1 inch from the other end. Note that the lengths of these cuts do not have to be extremely precise.

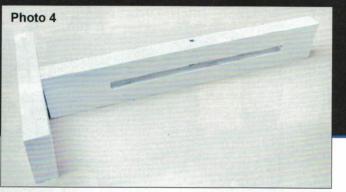
The results should look like what is shown in **photo # 3.** If you have made an adjustment to the seat position on your Model A, moving the seat cushion frame back, adjust the length of both the longer piece of wood and the corresponding center line cut accordingly.

The next step is to draw a line across the width of the 2 inch wide by 6 inch long piece of wood. Draw the line at the midpoint of the 6 inch length. Drill and countersink two 1/8 inch holes on this line. This piece of wood is then attached, using two # 10 X 1 1/2 wood screws, to the end of the 12 inch piece of wood, forming a "T" as shown in **photo** # 4. This "T" increases the area of the tool placed against the base of the front seat cushion frame, making the tool much more stable when in use.

While it is unnecessary, you may choose to paint the three wood pieces once you have completed attaching the "T". If you choose to paint the tool, remember to redo the aforementioned reference line. Please refer back to photo # 2.

Once the paint is dry, cover the "T" with some type of cloth and either staple or tack it into place. I used a leftover piece of felt, but any durable cloth will suffice. The purpose of this is to eliminate the possibility of that the tool will mar your upholstery.

To complete the brake adjustment tool, align the two longer pieces of wood and insert two 1/4 X 2 inch bolts. Use two flat washers on each bolt, one on each side of the wood pieces. Use



one 1/4 inch wing nut on each bolt. Note that the ends of both the 14 inch and 12 inch pieces of wood where you have left about 2 inches of the center line uncut are exposed, while the ends with only about 1 inch left uncut are overlapping. Please refer to photo # 5.

To adjust your service brake using your new tool, loosen the wing nuts sufficiently to allow yourself to adjust the length of the tool. Place the "T" end of the tool against the base of the frame of the seat cushion base and, holding it as level as possible, adjust the length to the point where the bottom of the brake pedal is at the reference line. Tighten the wing nuts to lock the tool at this length. From this point on, you can simply follow the instructions provided for the "old", non-adjustable tool.

As these instructions for adjusting the service brakes have been made available in a number of other sources, they will not be repeated here. You now have a service brake adjustment tool which can be utilized to adjust the service brakes on virtually any Model A, regardless of the seat position.





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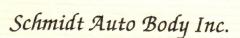


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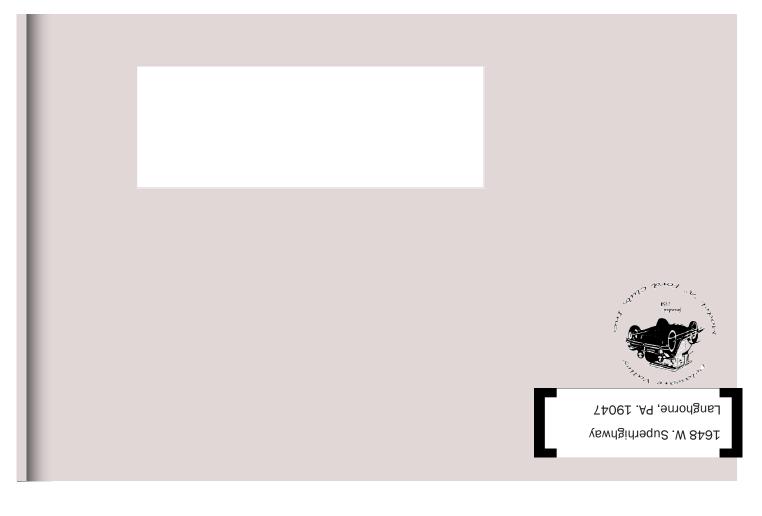


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Tom and Elaine Bowman's 1929 Model A Ford Tudor