

# THE 4-BANGER

## VOICE OF THE NAPER A's

THE 4-BANGER VOLUME 8, ISSUE 3 ★ FALL, 2021

**AFFILIATED WITH THE MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA**



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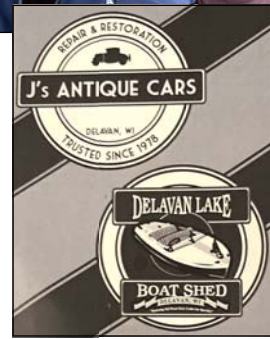
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A gent visited his lawyer to make a will. He wanted his Model A to be buried with him. "How come?" asked the attorney. "Well," the man explained, "I never got into a hole she couldn't get me out of!" the man replied.  
— From Ron Olsen

# Naper A's Fall Happenings...



First up on our August 28th Garage Tour was a stop to visit Nick Mazzarella's place and see his masterful metal work on the '31 "Slant" and view demonstrations of power flushing the engine. Event coordinator Ron Olsen also displayed his new "basement" storage floor pockets in the '31 Tudor. See full coverage of the final Garage Tour stop on Page 3....



Why are Gene and his nephew Zack enjoying themselves so much? Why, they're on the road in Gene's Tudor, headed for Delavan on October 15<sup>th</sup> to visit J's Antique Cars & Boat Shed! See the full story on Page 7....

The 1928 Model "J" Harley-Davidson start-up on Page 3 was another highlight of touring Tim Wiggins' fine collection on our Garage Tour.



Meanwhile, the new Terry Burtz Model A engine is debuting in club circles around the world, as our friends in Australia report on Page 4 inside.



Many Thanks to Alan & Diane Petrik for another wonderful post Garage Tour barbecue luncheon!

Lucky Naper A's member Dan Manola hitched a ride with Tim Wiggins in his priceless 1904 Ford Model A Ford when the Naper A's 2021 Garage Tour visited his place in Aurora. The car started right up and Tim reports that it gets exercised on a regular basis. See more photos on Page 3....



New Model A engines as recently received in Western Australia! See full story on Page 4....



GENE'S CAR. FOLLOWING NEW ALTERNATOR INSTALLATION



# THE ELLWOOD HOUSE MUSEUM TOUR



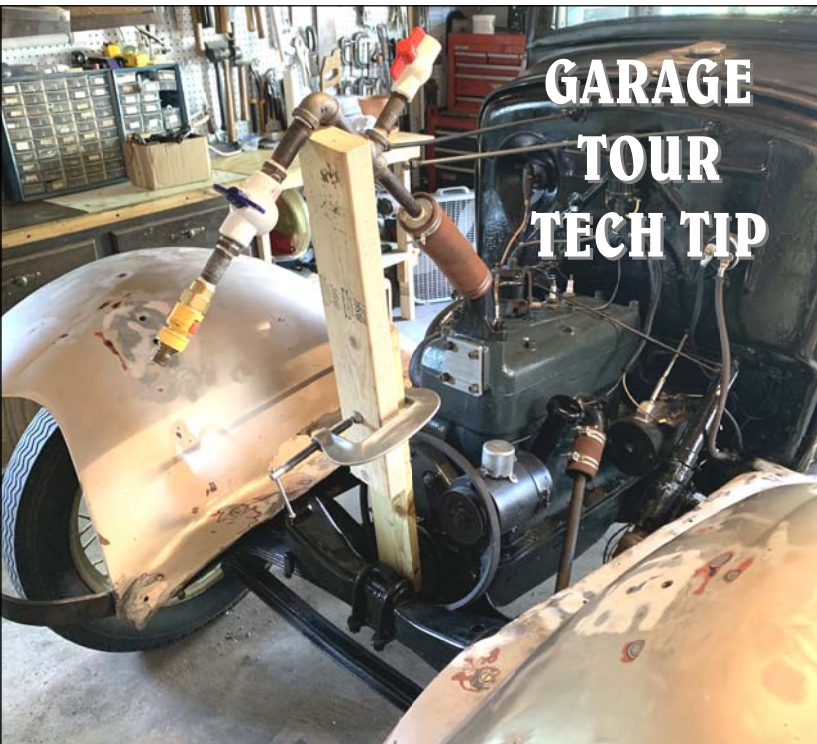
October 2, 2021



Story & Photos By GENE EGERT

We left at 8:30 AM on our two-hour jaunt to Dekalb. There were Bill with Ed riding along, Lindy, Tom, and myself in the road crew. The ride

was great, following all Model A-friendly country roads. Upon arrival, we were greeted by a very knowledgeable guide for a private tour. She was an early employee who had met some of the original Ellwood family members.



Ron Olsen perfected this setup for engine power flushing, as demonstrated on Nick's '31 "Slant" at our first stop on the 8/28/21 Naper A's Garage Tour. Note the drainage outlet at lower right and combination of valves and fittings.

Back in the day, this historic house had indoor plumbing, starting its long life with gas lighting then switched to one of the few houses with electricity. When the original owners died, the youngest son and his wife moved in, totally remodeling the house to suit their needs. When the son died, his wife lived on there, finally leaving the house to the city as a museum. The city is presently rehabbing the house.

We stopped at the Hinckley Cafe for an excellent lunch on the way back. While eating, a long-time member, Rick Enck, stopped in to catch up on old times and show us his hot rod Model A roadster. All in all, a great day and we missed all the rain. This is one tour nobody should miss and ladies will really enjoy it, so next year we will have another tour when the entire house opens up for visitors!



# THE WIGGINS COLLECTION

The August 28<sup>th</sup> Garage Tour was a great success, thanks to organizing and planning by Ron Olsen. It began with a visit to Nick Mazzarella's garage for updates on his '31 Slant projects, and a cooling system flush demonstration on Nick's car.

Ron also displayed his '30 "basement" project, revealing all the goods and tools that could be stuffed into two new out-of-sight sub-floor compartments that he built into the back seat floor of his Tudor.

Then our entourage moved on to Tim Wiggins garage for a private look at his collection of rare Model A's and other motoring collectibles.

Perhaps the rarest Model A of all, Tim's 1904 "first series" Model A, started easily with a twist of the crank, then settled down to a lusty two-cylinder "chuff-chuff-chuff" for a brisk drive around the block, with lucky Naper A's member Danny Manola aboard as Tim's passenger. What a thrill to see the jaunty little runabout take off in a cloud of drive-way dust, purring all the way!

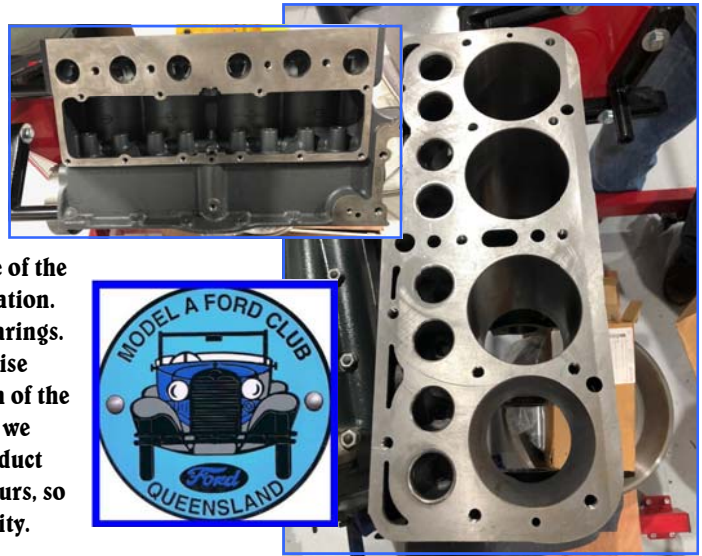
It was all a museum-quality experience...the 1929 Town Car, the 1931 A-400, the 1931 Station Wagon, the 1931 Cabriolet, the 1930 Packard Roadster, and the early 1930 Briggs Town Sedan showing only 27,000 original miles. All very rare!





# CHIP OFF THE OLD CHINA BLOCK?

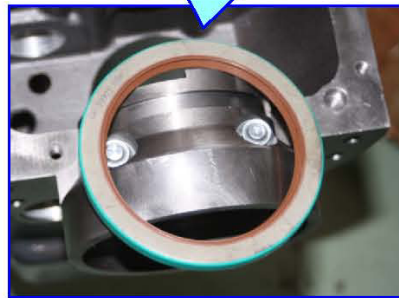
Paul Herbert reports that his Model A shop in Virginia has obtained one of the Chinese Model A blocks forthcoming from Terry Burtz's California operation. Note it has five main bearings and cam bearings, featuring all insert bearings. That shop is cautiously receptive, but concerned about consistently precise specifications, overall quality of machining, and the possible disruption of the supply chain due to US-China relations. Paul took the top pictures and we thanks the Queensland, Australia, Model A Club for this roundup of product features. Their supply chain to China is, of course, much shorter than ours, so they have already received supplies of the engine-building kits in quantity. Terry Burtz is not offering complete long or short blocks.



Oil Filter Assy. With fittings



New Rear Seal



Alloy Timing Gear



New 5 bearing crankshaft

High Pressure Oil Pump



New Lightened Flywheel to suit V8 Clutch Assy.

Pistons (EGGE Thin Ring, Made In USA) All Balanced, Matched Rods (All Within .5 Grams)



IMPROVED B 330 MODEL A-B CAM







**SEPTEMBER 25, 2021**

**Warren Tavern ☐ Warrenville, Illinois**



**Photos By DIANE PETRIK**



**S**unny skies, good food, and a nice turnout of Model A friends highlighted the 2021 Model A Car Show & Picnic, which was held at the Warren Tavern on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**C**hef Gene once again worked his Picnic magic on the Weber grill and we enjoyed ample sides and desserts brought along by members.

**T**ours of the City Museum next door following lunch revealed much about Warrenville's colorful history.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED...

# TIME TO TALK TURKEY!



## 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER

November 14, 2021 At 12:00 PM

\$26.<sup>00</sup> Per Person - Cash Bar Available

\$16.<sup>00</sup> Children ages 4-11, Free For Kids 3 & Under

**HOST: THE ILLINOIS REGION MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB**

Elburn Lions Community Park  500 Filmore Street  Elburn, IL 60119

Send your Name, Phone Number, E-Mail Address, Check Payable to Illinois Region MARC/MAFCA, and Club Affiliation to: ILLINOIS REGION MARC/MAFCA, c/o Melinda Pritchett, 40W051 Sunflower Lane, Elgin, IL 60124 (630/842-7065)

*RSVP BY NOVEMBER 1, 2021, Call Melinda at 630/842-7065 or E-Mail her at melindaborck@yahoo.com  
A PRIZE WILL BE AWARDED TO THE CLUB WITH THE MOST ANTIQUE CARS DRIVEN!*

### Jim's Technical Tip

by Jim Cannon, Courtesy of MAFCA

There are several places on a Model A where you are installing something that is attached with multiple screws. For example, here are a few:

- Instrument Panel
- Floor Boards
- Side Valve Cover
- Oil pan
- Window trim



When installing such parts, start each screw with a few threads. Leave them all pretty loose to start. Then move the piece around, as needed, to finesse each subsequent screw

into the next threaded hole. The last ones are often the hardest to get aligned. I use an awl in the hole where the screw will be going to adjust the piece to get the holes to line up.

Get all of the screws started, and then go around and tighten them all up in several passes. Have the screw head just touching the piece at first, then make them all snug, then make them all fully tightened. Start by tightening screws in the middle and work your way outward to the ends, alternating left then right as you go through each each of your tightening passes.

## EVOLUTION OF THE BLUE OVAL

Courtesy of the Model A Ford Club of Queensland, Australia



1903



1909



1912



1912



1927



1957



1976



2003

# Naper A's 'On To Wisconsin!'

Story & Photos By Paul Herbert

**L**ed by Alan Petrik, eleven Naper A's in eight cars (one modern) participated in a tour to J's Antique Cars and Model A Shop up in Delavan, Wisconsin, on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. We made the 130-mile round trip with zero problems.

**A**lan issued detailed, clear route maps and we all exchanged cell phone numbers. Almost immediately, however, we encountered the first of two detours not in place during our recon the week before. With great agility, we re-routed and moved on.

**J**'s repairs and restores antique cars, especially the Model A, but his other main business is maintenance and storage of pleasure boats on Lake Delavan. They also restore and sell classic wooden power boats. Although they were very busy storing client boats for the winter, they gave us complete access to their show room, car and boat shops, and storage facilities. Jamie, the owner, was a terrific host.

**O**ne of the highlights was the "parts trailer." Jamie had filled a flatbed trailer with Model A parts and placed it in the parking lot. We spent

several minutes picking through it and learning from experts like Lindy how to judge condition. About half of our participants purchased parts at very reasonable prices.

**A**nother important aspect of the trip were the passengers. Three of our cars boarded a passenger, including Gene's nephew Zach. Of course, passengers are always welcome! Club members should feel free to ride shotgun as passengers and we should especially encourage young folks to come along and learn about our hobby. Passengers can help navigate, keep the driver company, and enhance the overall safety of the tour.

**T**he trip home through beautiful countryside, clear weather and nice back roads led us to a great lunch at Papa G's in Huntley and home ahead of a threatening rain shower. Thanks to Alan for his work and leadership!

## J's Antique Cars & Model A Shop

5495 State Rd 50

Delavan, WI 53115

Tel: [\(262\) 728-5438](tel:(262)728-5438)

[www.jantiquecars.com](http://www.jantiquecars.com)



Alan issues new instructions at Detour 1.



Like bears to honey, Naper A's pick through the parts trailer.

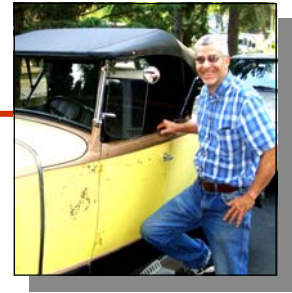


Our happy crew: left to right, Steve Paul, Ron Olsen, Gene Eckert, Zack, Paul Herbert, Bill Johnson, Tom Eklund, Lindy Williams, Ken Jagodzinski, Bob Fields, Alan Petrik.



## A Word From Gene Egert

## THE PREZ SAYS...



**H**ello, fellow Model A people! Hope all is well with your health and that you remain Covid free....

**T**he club is now back to hosting our monthly meetings at the Warren Tavern on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. There have been great turnouts and plenty of discussion about past and present tours and technical ideas. I'm still looking for tech sessions topics and tour destinations, so cough up!

**W**e've had several tours since the last edition of our 4-Banger... the Naperville Fathers Day Car Show in downtown Naperville, the

Union RR Car Show, the Sycamore Steam Show (on Aug 13 with 8 cars going!), and the Garage tour headed up by Ron Olsen to mention a few.

**T**he Model A Picnic & Car Show was held at the Warren Tavern, with hamburgers, brats and sides and plenty of treats. The Elwood House Museum Tour to DeKalb enjoyed four cars going, with Lindy, Gene, Tom, Bill, and myself on board. The Delavan, Wisconsin, Tour to J's Antique Car and Boats Garage was great fun, with Tom, Gene, Lindy, Bill, Bob, Steve, Allan and Ron trailing in his modern car.

**T**he officers decided to try having the Christmas party closer to home in Warrenville on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 for breakfast cocktails and a hearty Brunch to follow. We will be at the Courtyard Banquet Hall on Route 59 and trying out an earlier time of day so everyone can get home before dark.

**N**ew officers were voted on at the last meeting, with the usual

suspects being returned to office: Gene

Egert (President), Tom Ekland (Vice President), Nick Mazzarella (Secretary), and Lindy Williams (Treasurer). Here we go again!

**T**hree more points in closing. Let's not forget our Fall maintenance on the Model A's. Most importantly, check your antifreeze level or drain engine. And let's keep those articles coming in to Rich for the 4-Banger, as it's a great way to stay in touch between meetings and to attract new members. Finally, we cannot keep the club going without the help of all pitching in to build membership. Bring a friend to our meetings, and we'll find a Model A for him (or her)!

**A**s a club, we really must figure out how to attract interest and involvement from a new generation of Model A'ers! We need them for more than future Social Security....

## USED CAR LOT



## 1931 ROADSTER

## Contact Information:

1931 Ford Model A – Good condition –  
Everything original \$25,000

Steve Dellis  
630-851-4066

[yiasou43@gmail.com](mailto:yiasou43@gmail.com)

Sandi McGinnis  
Beller Museum

275 Rocbaar  
Romeoville, IL 60446

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NEW EXTENDED  
USE  
PLATES

By JOHN EMMERING

For those of you driving with Antique Expanded Use License Plates, a new bill extends the unlimited use period. The Unlimited usage was formerly from April 1 to October 31. It is now March 1 to November 30, a two month extension. Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker signed into law HB2548 authorizing all "Antique Expanded Use" vehicles to be driven without limitation for two additional months each year. Expanded-use Antique Vehicles are defined as being more than 25 years old or a bonafide replica. They were previously limited to traveling to and from auto shows, exhibitions, service stations and demonstrations during the colder months (November 1 through March 31) but could be driven without limitation during the warmer months (April 1 through October 31). Now vehicles with "EA" plates can be driven without limitation from March 1 through November 30. The law went into effect on August 20, 2021.