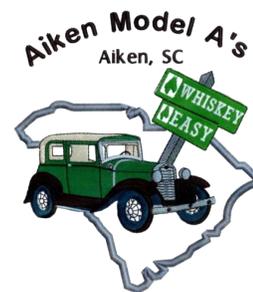


# AIKEN MODEL A'S NEWSLETTER



Aiken Model A's Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America

January 2018



## Welcome, 2018!

It's hard to believe 2017 is over. Where *did* the time go?

Reminiscing on the many fun things the AMA's did and accomplished this past year helps to put that ol' ticking clock in perspective. Take a moment to look on our website's [activities pages](#), to review 2017.

## Happy New Year

If you can't get to the website just now, there is a brief "photo-recap" of 2017 AMA's events on pages 7-9 of this newsletter.

One thing those photos can't capture is the exciting growth of our young club. We grew from 24 to 32 "member-families" between December 2016 and December 2017!

Our most recent new members are Richard and

Susan Buff of Lexington. We are so glad you have joined our merry group and a big WELCOME to you both!

From tours to displays, and ice cream socials to parades last year, what might you find the Aiken Model A's doing in 2018? Come join us and see!!

Happy New Year, to one and all!



## In This Issue

- December Activities
- Notes from the Shop
- Photo Recap of 2017 Events
- News from the Nationals
- Service Hints from Les Andrews
- Era Fashions
- For Sale and Wanted
- Calendar of AMA's Events



## December's Parades

by Pat Roberts

With nearly a dozen cars in each parade, our Club was well represented! In the GVW (Valley) parade, Charles and Bobbie Hilton and their "A" ('30 Coupe) made their debut. Vance Coulthard had been to the Aiken craft show



Lined up for the Graniteville parade.

'24 license plate, a steering wheel, an AMA banner and a plaid cap. Ted and Becky Roberts joined the group, as well as Hannah Crosby (and her 10-month old 'puppy'), who took a group picture at the conclusion of the parade. The weather was great; the attendance substantial.

In one instance in this



Our group at the 12/02/17 parade.

"A", and his parents joined him there. Bryan Roberts, Tom/Pat's Aiken grandson was driving the Woody—along with his brand-new fiancé, Haley.

Thanks, AMA members Ken, Vance, Bill and Liz, Walker, Hannah and friends, Rachel and Anna, Brian and friend, Roy and Gloria, Charles and



Preparations prior to the start of the Aiken parade on 12/03/17.

that morning and chose some elegant decorations for his car. AMA member Ed Mann cheerfully led the group, walking the whole way with a

parade, a small girl darted out into the road to get some candy, bent over, and when she did, she disappeared from the driver's view. Her mom came out to 'rescue' her, but she could have been a statistic—so easy to happen. That's why we agree wholeheartedly with Aiken's 'no candy' rule.

The Roberts' grandson-in-law Kyle came all the way from Columbia just to join us in this parade. He just likes to drive an

Bobbie, Ed, Tom and Pat and Eric and Dotti...(and guests) for coming to one or both of these parades. A great turnout and happy way to welcome the holidays.



Consummate entertainer and AMA's member, Ed Mann, marched with his antique car parts collection.



Robert's Coupe, driven by their grandson at the Aiken Jaycee's Christmas parade.

## December's Party

On December 5<sup>th</sup> twenty-nine members of the Aiken Model A's met for a holiday dinner in the Dogwood Room at Houndslake Country Club. There was a wide variety of items on the menu at reasonable prices, and an excellent salad bar. Thank you to Walker for finding us a new holiday venue.

As has become our custom, each table's centerpiece was made and brought by a different member, giving a varied and Christmassy air to the dinner. Thank you to the ladies who provided the centerpieces. A fun time was enjoyed by all.



**ABOVE:** Fred and Patti Clark at our Christmas party. In the foreground is Patti's creative centerpiece, complete with a miniature version of Fred's Coupe!



Members enjoy fellowship at the annual Christmas party.

## December's Shuttle Night

Our annual Model A shuttle service for Sage Valley Golf Club's "Currier and Ives night," is always a fun event. This year we had the largest turnout of AMA's members and Model A's, ever. Our



As dusk sets in at the Sage Valley Golf Club, Model A's are lined up and ready to shuttle golf members to the party at the club house.

services were much appreciated and our cars have come to be a highlight of the evening for many of the golf club's members.

Thank you to AMA's member and Sage Valley Golf Club employee, Larry Lamb, for arranging this annual event that has become so popular.

## December's Essex

Several club members have noticed and kept an eye on a unique antique for sale in Aiken. It has been discussed at Cars and Coffee, and even photographed as an appreciated curiosity.



A 1923 Essex Sedan is decked out with decorations for Christmas.

Who knew the "Aiken Essex" would turn up as a full-scale, life-sized decoration at the Sage Valley shuttle night?

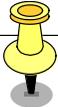
AMA's members at the shuttle night event were grouped and photographed with this interesting old car. I hope we get a copy of that photo!

## Meeting Minutes

### Aiken Model A's (AMA's)

We held our annual Christmas dinner on December 5th, in place of our regular monthly meeting. As such, there are no meeting minutes for December.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric Shogren, secretary



## GREENWOOD SWAP MEET

### 12th Annual All Model A and Model T Parts Swap Meet

**April 20-21, 2018**

(set up date April 19)

Friday 8:00 - until

Saturday 8:00 - 3:00

314 Old Mount Moriah Road

Greenwood, SC 29646

On Rt. 221 Between Rt. 25 and  
Rt.225

Vendors welcome

Spaces; pre-registered \$25

At the gate \$30

Admission per adult, \$2

Car corral - \$10 for both days

Lunch available from 11:00-2:00  
both days

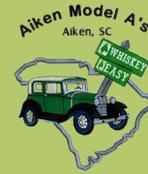
Door prizes and 50/50 drawing  
daily

Information:

swreynolds@centurylink.net

Warren Reynolds 864-980-7937

Jeff Burkes 864-229-4211



### AMA's Officers Fiscal Year 2017-2018

President - Ken Bernacchi

Vice President -  
Rachel d'Entremont

Treasurer - Woody Malone

Secretary - Eric Shogren

Director at Large -  
Dotti Shogren

### Club Helpers

Webmaster - Pat Roberts

Membership Coordinator -  
Pat Roberts

Parade Coordinator -  
Tom Roberts

Program Coordinator -  
Greg Jones

50/50 - Misty Hooker

Nat'l Rep - Bill Cox

Newsletter Editor -  
Dotti Shogren

Event and Communications  
Coordinator -  
Dotti Shogren

### WEBSITE:

[www.aikenAs.org](http://www.aikenAs.org)

### CONTACT US:

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

### MEETINGS:

The 1835 Room  
Cumberland Village  
3335 Wise Creek Lane  
Aiken, SC  
Monthly, First Tues. 7 P.M.  
Guests Welcome

# Notes from the Shop

## A Dangerous Fix

by Eric Shogren

Back in the day, people made do with what they had. Anyone who has worked on a Model A has seen creative solutions from shade tree mechanics. The photo, right, shows one such fix. The picture is of two front brake operating pins. I pulled the one on the left out of a Model A I was working on, and the one on the right is a new one. The one on the left had been cut down and brazed back together.

The function of this pin is to push the operating wedge between the two front brake shoes when pressure is applied to the brake pedal. Essentially, all your braking force is transferred by this operating pin.

As you can see in the picture, the old pin has bent over time. A fix like this should work, but it introduces a weak point in the pin. It was probably only a matter of time before this pin broke.

Because all the braking force is transferred along the length of the pin, if this had been on my car, it would be just my luck that it would break during a panic stop while applying maximum braking force.

Back in the day, replacement operating pins may have been hard to come by, but today they are \$2 to \$3 each and easy to swap out. So if you find something like this in your car, do the right thing and replace the part. You don't want to be doing the "Fred Flintstone" when you find out you have no front brakes!



## Poor Steering – Some Solutions & Improvements

by Eric Shogren

There are four ball joints associated with the Model A steering system. *One* on the Pitman arm extending down from the steering box, *two* on the driver's side spindle arm, and *one* on the passenger side spindle arm. The condition of the ball joints in a Model A can greatly effect the driver's ability to safely steer the car.



On a recent front axle rebuild, I was able to reduce the play in the steering wheel from 5 inches down to 2 inches by replacing the spindle arms and the Pitman arm ball joints.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

The photo shows two ball joints. On the left side of the photo, is a worn ball joint of a likely 87 year old Pitman arm. On the right is the ball joint of a new Pitman arm.

A Pitman arm ball joint is supposed to be 1-inch in diameter, but as you can see in the photo, the one on the left is more oval. It is actually 7/8" verses the standard 1 inch diameter, as seen on the new Pitman arm.

A tie rod, between the spindle arms, has end caps that can be tightened to somewhat compensate for wear on the balls, but only a little bit. Remember, if the end caps are tightened, it will change the front end alignment.

For around \$100 (plus tax and shipping) old *spindle* arms can be exchanged at Bratton's or Mike's A-Fordable's with a pair of rebuilt spindle arms. Most places will not rebuild *Pitman* arms, but a replacement costs about \$35.

If you have the skills, you could purchase replacement balls for about \$4 each. But, this requires cutting off the old ball, drilling out the arm for the shank of the new ball joint, and welding the new ball joint in. Remember, this is welding on cast iron, which is tricky. If a

repaired ball joint snaps off, you could lose all steering...not a good thing while rolling down the road!

When replacing the spindle arms and Pitman arm, the end caps and springs should also be replaced. As of 2017, an original style set of end caps and springs will cost around \$20. A set with Teflon seats, about \$36, plus tax and shipping. Mike's also sells a set of end caps and springs with bronze impregnated Teflon seats for about \$67. The Teflon seats makes it easier to steer and extends the life of the ball joints (a steel ball joint against Teflon instead of a steel ball against steel seats).

Another thing that can be done to improve steering is to install a shortened Pitman arm. In the photo (right) you can see the difference in length between an original Pitman arm and a shorter, new manufacture one. A shorter Pitman arm increases the mechanical advantage of the steering system, making it much easier to turn the wheel. This improvement is especially noticeable when having to park and un-park.

When I first got into the Model A hobby it

was popular to have a welding shop cut down your old Pitman arm. A section would be cut out of the middle and the two ends welded together. Again, this involved welding cast iron. The heat of welding changes the properties of cast iron, and weakens it.

So a safer option is purchasing the new manufacture, shorter Pitman arms for around \$37, plus tax and shipping. This shorter Pitman arm is a forged piece and not one that has been cut down and welded.

These steering improvements and repairs, along with new king pins and bushings, goes a long way to improving steering and eliminating the dreaded "death wobble."



# Photo Recap of the AMA's 2017 Activities and Events



01.28.17 Dinner  
at the Sage Valley Hunting Lodge



02.25.17 Tech Session at Greg Jones' Garage



03.04.17 Tech Session at Roberts' Garage



04.01.17 Ice Cream Social at the  
Hills at Cumberland



03.11.17 Shriner's Yard Sale



04.29.17 ACTS Car Show



05.06.17 Johnston Parade



Car Display at Cumberland Village's Memorial Day and the Aiken Memorial Day Parade May 26 & 27, 2017



06.17.17 Five clubs met for lunch in Blackville



08.05.17 Amble Around Aiken Tour



08.19.17 Old Ninety-Six club visits Aiken for Cars and Coffee



09.30.17 September Picnic



10.16.17 Fuel Economy Tour and International Model A Day with the STA's



10.14.17 Tech Session at Guben's Garage



11.04.17 Redcliffe Plantation/Boyd Pond picnic



11.11.17 Car display at the Aiken Rotary breakfast for "End Polio Now" campaign



12.02.17 Graniteville Christmas Parade



12.03.17 Aiken Jaycee's Christmas Parade

## News from MAFCA



To get to the MAFCA home page, [click here](#).

To read the latest MAFCA Board Meeting highlights, [click here](#).

To read the latest from the MAFCA President, [click here](#).

To join the Model A Ford Club of America, [click here](#). Renewals, [click here](#).

### NEW MAFCA DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED

**December 2** - At tonight's National Awards banquet in Oklahoma City, the new MAFCA directors for 2018 were announced:

President: Doug Linden, Vice President: David White, Secretary: Kay Lee, Treasurer: Alex Janke, Membership: Jay McCord, Advertising: Dan Foulk, Chapter Coordinator: Garth Shreading, Publications: Doug Clayton, and Technical Director: Jim Cannon.



Directions for viewing the [Restorer](#) magazine online may be found by clicking [here](#):

Or, copy and paste this address into your web browser; <http://www.mafca.com/documents/Viewing%20eRestorer.pdf>

### REMINDER

**If you are a member of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) and have not yet paid your 2018 membership dues, they were due 12/31/17. Please submit payment ASAP! [CLICK HERE!!](#)**

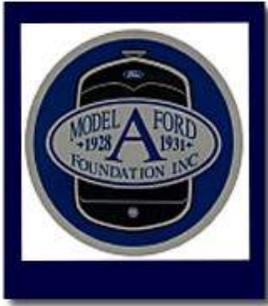
**The [Restorer](#) magazine subscription comes with being a member of MAFCA.**

**MAFCA new member applications: [Click here!](#)**

**The Aiken Model A's (AMA's) are a Chapter of MAFCA. Your AMA's club membership dues are due in the month of June.**



Can you identify the mystery lady?



## News from MAFFI

To get to the MAFFI home page  
[click here.](#)

To join Model A Ford Foundation, Inc.,  
[click here.](#)



## MAFFI Newsletter Minute

New for the 2017 Model A Day at the Model A Museum was the offering of a lapel pin showing the featured vehicle, a 1931 AA Standrive Milk Truck owned by Roger and DeeDee Kauffman. Prior to Roger's passing he was well known as the Technical Chairman for MARC and wrote the "Technical Questions" article for "Model 'A' News". DeeDee generously loaned this wonderful vehicle to the museum. To honor Roger and to start a new tradition, the pin was created. This pin is offered in a limited quantity and can be ordered for \$7 each (shipping included)

You can send your order to:

Suzan O'Neale

477 Beaver Pond Way

Mineral, VA 23117

Please specifying the quantity and include a check payable to MAFFI.

There will be a different pin in 2018, so watch out for it and come to the museum to purchase your limited edition pin. More information will follow.

Suzan O'Neale

MAFFI Trustee



## News from the Model A Restorers Club

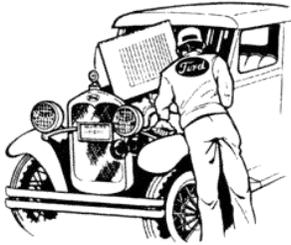


To get to the Model A Restorer's Club home page, [click here.](#)

To join or renew your membership in MARC, [click here.](#)

April 12 - 15 Membership Meet Granville, Ohio

June 24 - July 1 Come a Dancin' n Branson in 2018



# Service Hints

Les Andrews - Technical Director

## On The Road Diagnostic

At one time or another, most of us have experienced someone in "Breakdown Lane" when touring. Most causes of failure can be found quickly if approached systematically. Other than obvious engine noises, most failures occurring on the road are caused by loss of voltage in the ignition circuit. The following is a quick diagnostic check of the ignition circuit, using a voltmeter. An inexpensive volt/ohm meter (\$20.00 or less) is an essential troubleshooting instrument and should be a part of your tool kit

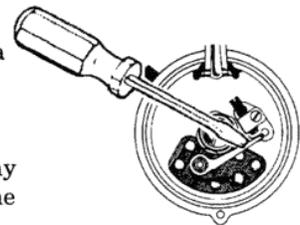
### Testing Ignition Circuit

1. Hand crank engine until points close.
2. Remove high tension wire from distributor cap. Place tip of high tension wire 1/4" from a cylinder head nut (or any exposed metal).



3. Turn ignition switch ON.

Push the point arm open and closed with the tip of a screwdriver while looking for an arc from the high tension wire. Do not short the screwdriver against any other metal, other than the point contact arm. A good regular occurring arc from the high tension wire to ground indicates a good ignition circuit. No arc or weak erratic arc from the high tension wire indicates a failure in the ignition circuit. Check fuel flow and carburetion if ignition tests good.



### No Spark From High Tension Wire.

4. Open the points and check for 6 volts at the tip of the points.



**Voltage at Point Arm Tests Good (6 volts)**

Test Coil Primary and Secondary circuit. Replace coil if necessary.

### No Voltage At Points

5. Check for 6 volts at coil red wire terminal.

**Voltage at Coil Terminal Test Good (6 volts)**

**FAILURE**  
Bad ignition switch and cable, or faulty distributor lower plate, or shorted condenser.

### No Voltage At Coil Terminal

6. Check for 6 volts at wing nuts on terminal box.

**Voltage at Wing Nuts Test Good (6 volts)**

**FAILURE**  
Check for loose connections at coil.

### No Voltage At Terminal Box Wing Nuts

### FAILURE

Loose or corroded terminal connections at the starter switch, terminal box posts, or ammeter. Test battery for full charge.



1.7 Ohms Primary



6.7K to 10K Ohms Secondary

## Collars, Cuffs, Sleeves and Belts

By Lois Przywitowski

The season is changing, and once again last year's wardrobe is in good condition but could be improved by an update. So, as a fashionable, but budget minded woman of the Model A era, what can you do? As always, the fashion industry has a solution for you, it's not a new idea, but it still works wonders with your wardrobe. You can purchase, or make, new collars, cuffs, sleeves, or belts for that perfect update.



The collar and cuff set on the left side of this picture is said to be "the most desirable style of the season." It is made of white linen, trimmed with lace and sells for 49 cents.

The second collar and cuff set is made of semi stiff white cotton with lace edging. This lovely collar sells for 39 cents.

*The Charles William Stores, Inc., Fall and Winter, 1928-29*



This belt, collar, and cuff set, shown in the April 1929 issue of *Woman's World* is featured as one of "the newest ideas for accessories which are easily and quickly made." The entire set, with its subtle simplicity, is made from felt.

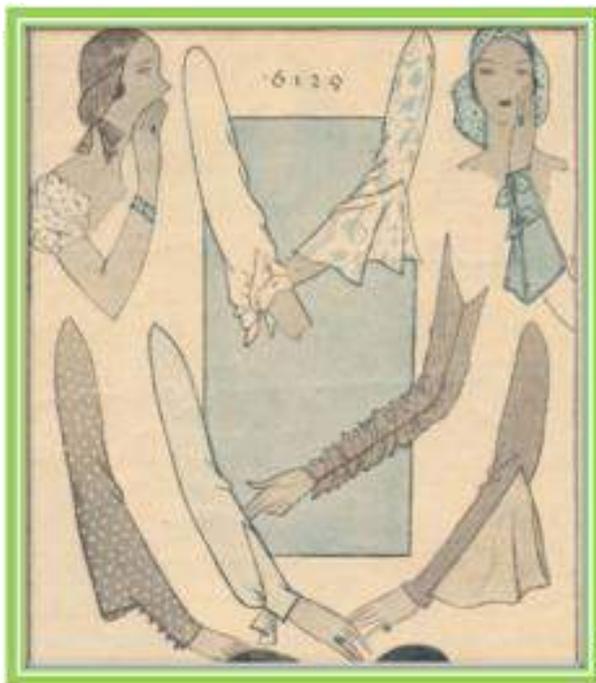
*Woman's World, April 1929*

In the June 1930 *McCall Style News*, it was noted that “the mode has definitely gone feminine, these softening and flattering accessories play a very important part in the chic ensemble.”



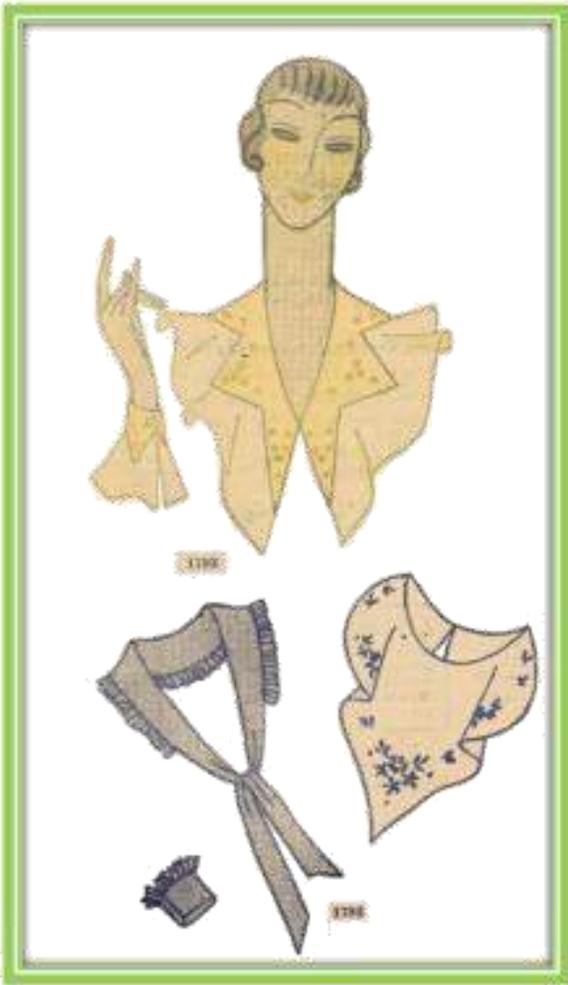
The collar pattern shown here was available in small, medium and large sizes. The recommended fabrics were chiffon, pique or lingerie lawn. They were sure to add femininity and grace to the right frock with their flowing lines.

*McCall Style News*, June 1930



This sleeve pattern came in 6 sizes. Note the short puff sleeve in the upper left corner. The pattern description notes that “with the advent of the short sleeve many a frock may be remodeled attractively and made to serve another season.”

*McCall Style News*, June 1930



This smart collar and cuff pattern came in one size. The recommended fabrics were organdie, flat crepe or satin; some with hand embroidery, others had picoted edges or were finely pleated.

The pattern included blue transfers and sold for 35 cents.

*McCall Style News, June 1930*

The preceding article was reprinted with permission of [www.mafca.com](http://www.mafca.com)  
[https://mafca.com/downloads/Fashions/Articles/CollarsCuffsSleeves\\_2013-05.pdf](https://mafca.com/downloads/Fashions/Articles/CollarsCuffsSleeves_2013-05.pdf)

Just for fun.....More photos of the 1923 Essex



Photos by Ed Mann



## FOR SALE and WANTED

**WANTED:** Body parts for a Model A Roadster Pickup. It can be any year 1928-31. If I can find some of the major body components such as cab I will give it a go. Merry Christmas to all the members, Tom Gormley/Connecticut [t27sedan@aol.com](mailto:t27sedan@aol.com)



### **1929 Roadster**

- Miles UNK
  - Older restoration
  - Great overall condition
  - Great driver
  - New Distributor 2016
  - Some stains on convertible top
- Asking \$25,500.

Mark Piekarski Hilton Head, SC c- 603-566-6789



### **1927 Ford Model TT Truck**

New Warford transmission installed last year and it will run about 35 mph. We have the high speed ring gear and worm gear for the rear axle that have not been installed but will be included with the truck. The truck has a beautiful red oak bed and red oak trim and floor in the cab. Beautiful C cab. It's a really nice truck. We have just decided that it isn't for us. We are asking \$16,000 for it which is the amount we have in it.

Richard and Susan Buff [randsbuff@gmail.com](mailto:randsbuff@gmail.com)

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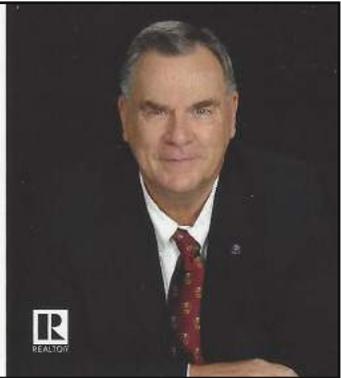
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## EVENTS CALENDAR

JANUARY 2	MONTHLY AMA'S CLUB MEETING CUMBERLAND VILLAGE
JANUARY 6	FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST MASONIC LODGE 8:30 A.M.
FEBRUARY 3	FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST MASONIC LODGE 8:30 A.M.
FEBRUARY 6	MONTHLY AMA'S CLUB MEETING CUMBERLAND VILLAGE
MARCH 6	MONTHLY AMA'S CLUB MEETING CUMBERLAND VILLAGE
MARCH 24	PICNIC IN THE PARK LEXINGTON



## ABOUT THE AIKEN MODEL A'S

The Aiken Model A's (AMA's) is a chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA). We are a not-for-profit corporation, dedicated to the preservation and the restoration of the Model A Ford automobile. Owning a Model A Ford is not required for membership. An application for membership in the Aiken Model A's is available at [www.aikenAs.org](http://www.aikenAs.org). AMA's annual dues are \$50, with no dues for *new* members for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

For information about the Aiken Model A's, visit our web page, noted above, or contact Membership Coordinator, Pat Roberts at (803) 649-0054, or e-mail [aikenmodelAs@gmail.com](mailto:aikenmodelAs@gmail.com).

To further the Model A Ford hobby, AMA's members are encouraged to consider memberships in the hobby's national organizations, MAFCA, (Model A Ford Club of America), MARC (Model A Restorer's Club) and MAFFI (Model A Ford Foundation, Inc.) For information on these organizations go to [www.mafca.com](http://www.mafca.com) and [www.model-a-ford.org](http://www.model-a-ford.org) and [www.maffi.org](http://www.maffi.org).

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**AIKEN MODEL A'S**  
**PO Box 992**  
**AIKEN, SC 29802**

### Meetings

The 1835 Room at Cumberland Village,  
3335 Wise Creek Lane Aiken, SC  
Monthly, First Tues., 7 P.M.  
GUESTS WELCOME!

### Cars and Coffee

Join the AMA's 10 - 11 a.m. on Saturdays at Auten's (behind KFC) on Pine Log Road, Aiken for fun and fellowship, car-talk and comradery.  
GUESTS WELCOME!

**Canyonlands National Tour**  
October 7-11, 2019

This just in.  
The Model A Ford Club of America is heading to Kanab, Utah in the heart of Red Rock Country. You can visit 6 of America's favorite National Parks in one trip all while driving your Model A Ford.  
**Are you going?**



Take some time and visit

- Grand Canyon\*
- Zion\*
- Bryce\*
- Arches
- CanyonLands
- Capital Reef
- National Parks

\* Part of official tour

To sign up for the digital Early Bird Newsletter, send request to [Canyonlands2019@yahoo.com](mailto:Canyonlands2019@yahoo.com)

