

Fox Tales

Fox Valley Region Model A Restorers Club

October 2010



International Model "A" Day

The 1900's shaped abundant numbers of automobile manufacturers who fashioned hundreds of thousands of cars but few have survived the

test of time like the Model "A" Ford. Literally, many thousands of these cars survive today. In the 30's they were new and shiny providing economical, trustworthy transportation. In the 40's, the war years, now not as shiny and new, they took men and women to work on the nation's railroads and in America's factories. Then came the 50's and the Model "A" was getting tired...it had worked hard; it had lost the shine, it was no longer perfect; it was no longer desirable. The 60's found a new need for this enduring little automobile and owning one, in any condition, became a hobby. The decline of the Model "A" reversed itself and over the next 50 years, rusty, worn and weary symbols of generations past were, once again, transformed into important members of the family.

To honor this symbol of the past, International Model "A" Day was established in 2008 and the Fox Valley Region has eagerly participated each year. 2010 was to be no exception and a trip to Starved Rock State Park was planned. The day started at Big Rock, Illinois where five couples met for breakfast in time for a 9:30 departure. Just as the big hand hit 30, Keith & Judy Rogers in a '31 Coupe pulled onto US-30 followed by Bruce & Jan Winslow in their '29 Roadster Pick-Up, Bob & Joan Bieszrt with a '29 Tudor, Frank Nemechek and friend Bonnie in his '30 Sport Coupe all followed by Bob and Carol McMahon driving the event chase car. With less than a mile logged, we encountered several of nature's wonders. Among them, dark skies, thunder, heavy rain, and lightning that made the last fireworks finale at the July 4th county fairgrounds look modest. Had we been driving lesser cars, one may have given pause but we were driving Model "A's", there was no reason to stop. In time, the sky cleared, the rain subsided and we were making our first stop at Paw Paw, IL, all without incident. The next leg of the journey would take us to Starved Rock where we would meet with members of the Salt Creek Region and have lunch at the Starved Rock Lodge. After a lengthy stop and leisurely lunch we said our good-bys and continued our drive, this time following US-71 along the Illinois River to Ottawa where we would meet with members of the Joliet Region and Naper A's (MAFCA). The combined thirteen cars, now assembled, presented an excellent photo opportunity as they lay in wait on the banks of the Illinois River. For the Fox Valley Region, there remained only the return trip home and Bruce and Jan would take the lead for this part of the tour. Once again, Fox Valley was on the road but as we neared home the caravan became shorter, one by one, until there were none. International Model "A" Day had come to an end and the Model "A" had performed flawlessly eighty years after first taking to the road.



5th annual

Cantigny Car Show

It only took eight members in four cars to win two trophies at the 5th annual Cantigny Car Show. Taking one of only 15 "Top Original" awards, were John & Annie Cali for their 1930 Model "A" Tudor. Somewhat unusual for a Model "A" Club, the second award and one of only 10 went to Michael & Martha Belica in the "Top Imports" class for their 1987 Ferrari, Tostarussa - they left the Model "A" at home. All in all, not a bad day for Fox Valley.



'30 Tudor takes Top Original



Top Import goes to Ferrari



Hanging Out at Cantigny

COMING UP

- Oct 9 & 10 Overnight Trip, Baraboo, Wi. Call Joan or Judy for Details
- Oct 23 Fall Tour, Oregon Depart John Cali's 9:00 AM Sharp
- Oct 24 Fox Valley Anniversary Dinner - Niko's Lodge 41W379 Rt.64, Wasco, IL 60183 3:00PM
- Nov 7 Turkey Roast, Kaneland High School Noon Seating
- Nov 10 Ladies Luncheon - Acquaviva Winery 47W614 Rt. 38, Meredith Rd. Maple Park



OSCAR'S "A" GETS A NEW ROOF

Restoration update next month. Oscar discusses progress on fifteen year resto (see July 2010 Fox Tales).

PAGE THREE, WHAT IS IT?

Members who have opted for Web delivery of Fox Tales now enjoy Page Three, a third page rich with pictures and comment. Want to change? Send your request to the editor at krogers41@sbcglobal.net and your next issue will be sent to your email address.

EARLY START



Noel De Lessio will be tackling many of the mysteries of the Model "A" electrical system at our October meeting. This will be an informative session and one that you won't want to miss. To allow Noel more time on the soapbox, the meeting will start at 6:30 rather than the usual 7:00 pm.

Bonnet Jewelry

PONTIAC ASSEMBLY WAS A GENERAL MOTORS ASSEMBLY PLANT LOCATED IN PONTIAC, MICHIGAN AND SERVED AS THE MAIN FACILITY FOR PONTIAC MOTOR DIVISION SINCE BUILT IN 1927. YOU WERE CORRECT IF YOU GUESSED A '27 PONTIAC.



A NEW FOUR-SPEED JETAWAY HYDRA-MATIC MAY HAVE INSPIRED THIS MONTH'S AUTO JEWELRY. FOUR FORWARD SPEEDS WITH A FLUID HOOKED UP AND A NEW "PARK" POSITION ON THE QUADRANT MADE THIS CAR A HOT ITEM...CAN YOU NAME IT?

Fox Valley Regional Officers

Bruce Winslow
Frank Nemecek
Charlie Lenz
Phred Hollister
Bob McMahon

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Director



The October meeting will be held at 6:30 PM, October 15, 2010 at Batavia Boat Club 800 N. River St., Batavia, IL 60510

John & Annie Cali will bring the snacks.

Keith Rogers - Newsletter Fabricator

Harry Klimek - Web Master

Judy Rogers & Joan Bieszart - Activities