



## Bootstrap Directions

It's an old Model A dilemma: How to get the most stopping power out of Model A mechanical brakes. The newest solution comes from "down under." New Zealand Ford tuner, Ted "Flathead" Spain has created a new "Energizer" system to center the brake shoes in the drum and to ensure they apply pressure evenly. It is similar to the system Ford adopted in 1938. Internet chatter (Fordbarn.com and Ahooga.com) insists that the Energizer System works – with as much as 90% improvement on a brake test machine.

The fun came when Frank Nemechek began installing the Kiwi stop aid. He found Ted's instruction to be horribly convoluted – frustratingly so. "Nemo," as Frank is known on the Model A chatrooms, reworked the instructions in a more conventional "tab-A-in-slot-A" format. He rewrote Flathead Ted's directions as Step One. Step Two. Step Three. Even so, Frank was not very satisfied with the results – and his brakes still did not work!

Then Model A News reviewed the energizer system and gave it a glowing recommendation. Frank contacted the editors to see if they could give him some pointers. Oops. Model A News had not actually installed the system. Yet. So far, they had just visited Flathead Ted's website, but they did intend to install the comp kit they'd received on a car. Frank offered them a copy of his rewritten directions to simplify their efforts. Of course the experts accepted!

Ted must have gotten lots of complaints, because soon thereafter he announced (again by way of the internet) that improved installation instructions were available. Frank was quick to ask for a copy, which the New Zealander promptly furnished. To Frank's amazement, the "new and improved" instructions were written in PLAIN ENGLISH and enumerated. In fact, the "new" version was Frank's very own rewrite!

## Visit MARC's Website

Model A facts can be found at our Club's website ... including these "advertised benefits" of the new Ford engine.

- ▶ Just four cylinders; simplest type of automobile engine construction.
- ▶ Simplicity of design means low cost of upkeep; there are fewer moving parts to wear out.
- ▶ Fewer parts insure greater reliability of operation.
- ▶ Fewer parts mean lower costs when replacements become necessary.
- ▶ This type of automobile engine develops most power per pound of engine weight.
- ▶ Maximum horsepower for size and weight means better performance – rapid acceleration and high top speed.
- ▶ Compact engine facilitates uniform flow of gas to cylinders, minimizes extent of heat-losing surfaces, and thus reduces fuel costs.
- ▶ Four cylinder engine requiring less engine space permits a shorter wheelbase without reducing body size.
- ▶ Simple to park.
- ▶ Short, rigid crankshaft makes for a smoother running engine at high speeds.

[www.modelaford.org](http://www.modelaford.org):  
**It's a benefit of membership!**

**The January meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on the 19th in the conference Room on the lower level of the Park National Bank, 404 West Main Street in Geneva.**



## Williamsburg '07

The 2007 MARC National Meet is only 900 miles away from the Fox Valley by interstate highways. It is probably a tad further on Model A roads. But the drive is do-able. On the road just 12 hours per day and averaging a measly 30 mph, a whole covey of Henry's Ladies could get to the Colonial Mecca in just three days flat.

Of course, to keep that pace, we'd have to do some radical pre-trip planning. And you should start your maintenance efforts now.

Jack Anderson is planning that far ahead. His has already installed a freshly rebuild engine in the Slant Window he is reading for the trip. He's serious about making it to the Nationals this year ... and he's looking for a few more A-ble members to tag along.



## Calendar

### DUES IS DUE !

- 19-JAN-07 CLUB MEETING
- 18-FEB-07 KANE COUNTY SWAP
- 16-FEB-07 CLUB MEETING
- 13-15-APRIL-07 MARC MEMBER MEET
- 18-22-JUNE-07 MARC NATIONAL MEET

## Fox Valley Region Officers

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