



# Model A Club News

April 2011

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### President's Message

Well, Spring has finally made its way to North Texas. We can feel the weather getting warmer, and a little more daylight which sure does help.

March 17th started cruise nite at the DQ with Danny and Shirley hosting the event. A good turn out as always. The following Friday, March 25th, we met at Kemp Dairy Queen for cruise nite.

While we will doing our regular tours, parades, car shows the next couple of months, I am still hoping that some of our members can help with some ideas of a local drive with a breakfast or lunch maybe a

picnic lunch.

Bob Beck and myself have set up our tech session for the Mabank High School. Please check our website for information on upcoming activities.

On April 6<sup>th</sup> Nancy & Bill Wittner, Virginia and myself will be leaving for a 10 day driving tour in our Model A's on our way to Nashville, Tenn. and then down the Natchez Trace Trail to Natchez, Miss. We are looking forward to a good time.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next Meeting, April 5th.

Walter Hellebrand

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### Cedar Creek Model A Ford Club

Minutes of meeting  
March 1, 2011

President, Walter Hellebrand, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM in the meeting room at the Seven Points, Texas Dairy Queen. Walt led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were thirty-one members present and five Model A's driven to the meeting. Two guests were present; Johnny Green ('30 coupe) and Wes Wilson ('31 pickup) and daughter, Madeline.

We are pleased that Brooks Gremmels joined the club last week.  
(Continued on page 2)

*(March Minutes – continued from previous page)*

Walt welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for any additions or corrections to the previous minutes. Since none were offered, Bill Lee motioned to accept the minutes as written; Ola Powell seconded the motion.

Secretary/Treasurer, Bill Wittner presented the financial report for the period ending January 31, 2011. Total income for the month was \$99 and there were no expenses. Tool Fund balance was \$100 and the Tour Fund balance was \$80.

Sue's Sunshine report: Mary and Bob Harris returning from Florida in a couple of weeks. Della Powell completed radiation therapy and d for results in five weeks. Janelle Seaborne's aunt has been ill.

There are five member birthdays in March; Sandra Tregge, Dennis Pirania, Shorty Johnson, Jim Blakeney and Bill Wittner. A rousing rendition of Happy Birthday was sung to all.

Walt reminded the members that the Natchez Trace tour is happening April 9-13. Cars from twenty-eight states and two countries will be attending. The Texas Tour will be held in Conroe on June 16-19. Since both of the host hotels in Conroe are sold out (200 rooms), this will be a well-attended Texas Tour. Other hotel options still exist in Conroe if you wish to go.

Bill Wittner announced that the Model A Museum funding effort is continuing. As an option, members can purchase a 4"x8" engraved brick to be placed in the entrance walkway of the museum. The bricks have space for three lines of engraving and are made of hardened glass for long life. Cost per brick is \$150. See Bill for an order form.

Danny and Shirley announced that the first Cruise night at the DQ will be March 17, St. Patrick's day.

It was announced that the Southwest Swap meet normally held at the Ballpark in Arlington has been moved to Decatur this year to eliminate the increasing number of conflicts with events at the Ballpark. It will be held September 16-18 at the Wise County Sheriff's Posse Rodeo Grounds in Decatur.

If anyone wishes to sell cars or parts, let Bill Lee know and an ad can be put in the newsletter.

Walt reported on the tour to the Brookshires Museum in Tyler. Seven Model A's left Payne Springs and picked up two more along the way. It was a good tour. Wes Wilson, a guest on the tour, had some difficulty with his fan blade, ultimately losing the fan on the way back, but made it home OK. On the return home, all had lunch in Ben Wheeler where they met Brooks Gremmels. Brooks extended an invitation to his wild game preserve property where there are about 200,000 dogwood trees. A tour will be announced when the dogwoods are in bloom – notice for this tour may be short.

The Canton Swap Meet will be on March 11-12 and the Chicasha Swap Meet will be held March 17-18.

Ola Powell gave away six burlap bags (Toe sacks) to anyone who was interested.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

*(Minutes continued from previous page)*

Walt Hellebrand won the raffle with ticket number 115549.

There being no other business, Walt asked for a motion to adjourn. Joe Creecy so motioned and Ed Cliver provided the second. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55PM.

Bill Wittner  
Secretary/Treasurer

### **Sunshine Report – Sue Capps**

The Harris' are home--we missed you guys!

Did you know that OV Cliver delivers Meals on Wheels every Tuesday?  
Thanks for your service to others OV!

Shorty is doing very well. Ready for winter to be over..

Ola Powell is waiting for bone marrow test results.

Della Powell has completed her radiation following her surgery for breast cancer. However, Della's mother has just begun her chemo treatments for leukemia.

Jimmy Reynolds is continuing therapy and welcomes visitors.

Bill Capps is waiting test results.

### **2011 Texas Tour**

Registration is open and since the hotels are rapidly filling, you need to get the two forms filled out and in right away. They are in this newsletter, or you can get them at

<http://www.CedarCreekAs.org/Calendar/EventInfo/Registration.pdf>

<http://www.CedarCreekAs.org/Calendar/EventInfo/Events.pdf>

**I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman:**

**“Where is the self-help section?”**

**She said if she told me it would defeat the purpose.**

**If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?**

**Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?**

**Happy  
BIRTHDAY**

### Birthdays in April

Bob Harris	04/08
Walter Hellebrand	04/08
David Beck	04/25



**Happy Birthday**

### Coming Events

For more information visit: [www.CedarCreekAs.org](http://www.CedarCreekAs.org)

**APR 01-03, 2011 -- Greenville Swap Meet** - Held at the Hunt County Fair Grounds. Free admission,\$2 parking fee.

**APR 05, 2011 -- CCMAFC Meeting** - Held at the Dairy Queen in Seven Points, TX. Tire kickin' starts about 5:00 PM; meeting starts at 5:30 PM.

**APR 09-15, 2011 -- 2nd MAFCA National Tour -- Natchez Trace** - Drive the Natchez Trace from Nashville to Natchez, MS and return. No stops signs, no stop lights, no trucks. It is a 444 mile drive through beautiful scenery and American history. Registration forms and website are on page 22-25 of the Nov/Dec 2010 issue of the *Restorer*. For info on the Natchez Trace, go to [www.scenictrace.com](http://www.scenictrace.com) where you can download and print a visitors guide.

**APR 28-MAY 01, 2011 -- Pate Swap Meet** - Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth

**MAY 03, 2011 -- CCMAFC Meeting** - Held at the Dairy Queen in Seven Points, TX. Tire kickin' starts about 5:00 PM; meeting starts at 5:30 PM.

**MAY 07, 2011 -- Emory Founders Day Parade.**

**MAY 07, 2011 -- Cedar Creek Lake Car Show** - Car Show and Kiwanis Krawfish Boil. Mabank Pavilion. 8AM to 2PM

**MAY 08, 2011 -- Mothers Day**

**MAY 28, 2011 -- Ennis Polka Festival** - Parade starting at 10AM. This parade has the largest attendance of any parade you will see in this area.

# Popshop

Ken Parker

## Care and feeding of your distributor

As we get older we become more concerned about our tickers. We watch our diet – sometimes. We watch our cholesterol – sometimes. We watch our pressure – go up -especially when the A does not run like we want it to. Well folks, our Model A's are the same way and they have a ticker also. It's ticker is its distributor and if it does not get the right food and exercise and some preventive maintenance it quits ticking, just like you and me.

### NOTES ABOUT DISTRIBUTORS

These are just some random notes about the care and feeding of your distributor.

Make sure all connections are tight especially the coil and under the distributor top plate. While you are under the top plate of the distributor check for a frayed, ragged or cracked insulation wire. Loose connections loose voltage and/or short out.

Any broken insulation or bare wire is a problem waiting to happen. They should be replaced or repaired.



If you look carefully at the picture above you can see a broken end of the pigtail wire where it connects to the bottom of the points ---diaaster

waiting to happen..

The tolerances in the distributor shaft bushing should be 1 to 1.5 thousands. If you can feel and play at all in the shaft or cam it is tooooooo much. This is critical for consistent firing.

By the book the points should be set between .018 and .022. The variation was originally made to accommodate the wear in the original type of Model A points. As the point block that rides on the cam would wear the points would close up from the originals set of .022 to .018 or less. You A will run better if you keep the points set at the optimum .022. Whether you use original style or modern points grease the nib that rides the cam regularly. If you don't have "cam grease" use Vaseline. Don't use axle grease.



Another thing often overlooked is the gap between the rotor and the nibs inside the distributor body. The gap should be set at .025 and all four gaps should be the same. Measure each gap and file the nibs until you get .025 on all four. If you have over .025 carefully bend the metal tab on the rotor upward, then remeasure and refile if necessary. Inconsistent gaps will give you inconsistent fire at the spark plug. The gap here is as critical as the point gap.

*(Care and Feeding - continued)*

There should be NO play in the rotor when it is placed on the shaft. It should be tight. If you have some wobble or slack in the rotor the gap between the rotor and distributor body will vary as the rotor goes round and round and round. As in the paragraph above too much gap reduces voltage at the spark plug. Each plug should fire at the same voltage in order to get that tell tale “chugga-chugga-chugga” we expect from our A engines.

Voltage coming out of the coil should be 20,000 volts or more. OUCH!! When the coil wire is arched to a head stud there should be a 3/8 to 1/2 inch bright blue spark. Anything short of bright blue means you are short on voltage.

And that pesky little condenser... I highly recommend mounting a condenser anywhere but its original place – at the bottom of the distributor. Heat from the head and manifold kills condensers. Or at least always keep a spare in your pocket.

My fingers are getting tired of this keyboard, so its time to quit and go to the shop and do something useful.

Ken

## Popshop

Ken Parker

### Rear or Front Spring Disassembly and /or Assembly

An interesting homemade tool. I made this one after trying to find a safe way to disassemble a rear spring on the blue coupe several years ago.

The first picture is the tool clamped onto the rear spring. With the clamp in place and tight – finger tighten the nuts only – you are ready to remove the long center bolt that holds the spring leaves together. Most of the time the bolts are rusted into place and the head of the bolt or the nut on the bottom have to be cut off, then you can use a punch to drive out the rest of the bolt.



*(Spring Disassembly - continued)*



Second picture is the spring being un compressed. You slowly and carefully, a little at the time, release each of the nuts of the threaded rod one corner at the time.

Third picture is completely disassembled spring. Ready for blasting and “greasing” and reassembly.



The complete disassembly took about 30 minutes and is very safe.

For reassembly you reverse the process – except as you stack the un compressed leaves you put the long, hardened steel, bolt through the center hole. Caution this should be a grade 8 bolt and nut. The long bolt will keep the leaves centered as you begin the compression. Care must be taken to keep the ends of the leaves aligned as you compress.

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**48th Texas Tour**



Conroe • June 16-19, 2011

Hosted by Piney Wood A's

**CEDAR CREEK**



**MODEL A FORD CLUB**

COME JOIN THE FUN!



**Thought Provoking Statements:**



If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Why do they put Braille on the drive-through bank machines?