



the TRAVELER



Volume 22-6

June 2025

P.O. Box 812, Cantonment, FL 32533

The Gulf Coast Model A Club Picnic June 14, 2025

10 am - 2 pm

GARRETT PARK Pavilion

18080 Pennsylvania St, Robertsdale, AL

The Club is providing fried chicken!
Sign up to bring the wonderful side
dishes and yummy desserts.

Email what you will be bringing to
Martha (waltnern@aol.com),
Charlotte (realracegrill@gmail.com)
or Allan (alnbraddy@yahoo.com)





THE TRAVELER

Our Club



| GCMAC Officers | Name | Phone | Email |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| President | Allen Braddy | 678-499-3370 | alnbraddy@yahoo.com |
| Vice President | Martha Fuller | 251-602-1931 | waltmern@aol.com |
| Secretary | Kathy McNamara | 251-421-6012 | mrhobbs456@aol.com |
| Treasurer | Becky Baisden | 850-384-5717 | beckyb0814@att.net |
| Newsletter Editor | Charlotte Dahlenburg | 256-783-2261 | realracegril1@gmail.com |
| National Rep | Allen Braddy | 678-499-3370 | alnbraddy@yahoo.com |
| Webmaster | Becky Baisden | 850-384-5717 | beckyb0814@att.net |
| Event Coordinator | Allen Braddy | 678-499-3370 | alnbraddy@yahoo.com |

June Birthdays

2 Ray Harper
7 Darrin Dahlenburg
19 Mike Weeks



Anniversaries

2 Steve & Betty Tubbs
6 Tom & Jane Frazier
7 Bill & Kitty Ross
20 Robert and Michelle Collins
20 Terry & Nancy Pampel
25 Rene' & Charlie Marques



Message from ...

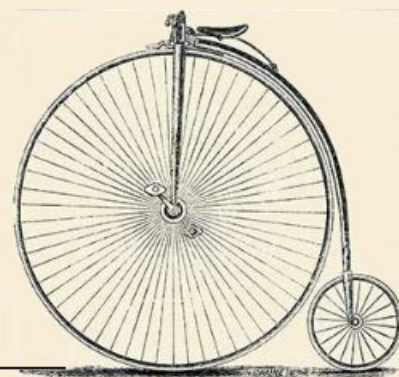
Hi all, hope everyone is doing well. This month is going to be a little busy for the club. We have the club breakfast the first Saturday, club picnic/ business meeting on the 14th, and we'll finish out with a Swap Meet on the 28th. If you're wanting to get a space to sell your goods, notify me ASAP. I hope everyone gets a chance to be involved and enjoys how the club is getting out and being active. I want to let everyone know that the September meeting at Baldwin Heritage Museum we are going to update our club photo, so we ask everyone to bring their Model A to this meeting.

We also are needing volunteers for the MAFCA's National Awards Banquet in December. We are looking for donations for the raffle room/silent auction room.

And I'll finish here with a plea that if you're needing help with your Model A, let someone know. We have a lot of talented individuals with knowledge to get you going. Trust me on this, I've been the recipient of plenty of help within my time in this club.

Thank you,

Allen



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Club Happenings

Pensacola Breakfast



On May 3rd, the Model A Club held its monthly breakfast at Golden Corral in Pensacola, and we were pleased to have 10 members in attendance. These gatherings are held the first Saturday of every month and are open to all Model A enthusiasts across Lower Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. With such a large area to cover, these meetups are a great opportunity to stay connected, share knowledge, and enjoy great company.



2025 Club Dues

Club dues are \$25 per year for individuals or families.

We encourage membership in the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA), a national organization that promotes the restoration of the Model A and publishes a great magazine, The Restorer, six times a year.

Send a check to: GCMAC, P. O. Box 812, Cantonment, FL 32533



'56 Bel Air Roars to Life

It's not a Model A, not even a Ford however; after 2 years of working on and off my 56 Chevrolet Belair it now has a Blue Point 383a stroker and brakes are now 4 wheel power disc. Hallelujah it's finished - Ricky Stokes



Email
Submissions to
realracegrill1
@gmail.com

Classifieds

Submission
date is the
20th of each
month



For Sale

1931 Model A Coupe
Not original motor.
Includes extra signal
light kit, right side tail
light and cowl lights
George Moore Jr
•850-375-7748
•gmoore72
@gmail.com



For Sale

1931 Ford Model A Pickup

\$20,500

New tires, stone guard and new
battery pictures on request.
Other item for sale, front axle,
rear axle, frame, starters and
generators, and other items.

Contact Larry Nelson
251-323-8050



LOOK FOR

1931 Ford Model A
engine that is
running and ready
to place in car.
Send price and
location.

Carl Whaley
850-377-5464,
mncewhaley@
bellsouth.net

Have parts or a car you
want to sell? Need a
certain part for your
restoration? Submit
your ad and we'll run
it in the newsletter for
approximately 3 months.
Email your ad with
photos to Charlotte at
realracegrill1@gmail.com

Email to
Joe Allen Braddy
alnbraddy
@yahoo.com

Entertainment

Submission
date is the
20th of each
month

Car Shows, Events, Cruise Ins & More

Model A Facebook:

Private, by invitation only, Facebook group, "Today's Model A." This is for members-only group. Interested in joining the group, contact Scott.

Club Activities:

Monthly

Club Breakfast in Pensacola

June 7 8:30 am

Golden Corral 2260 Langley Ave, Pensacola

June

14 11am-2pm

GCMAC Picnic and Meeting

Garrett Park. 18080 Pennsylvania St, Robertsdale

28 8am-3pm

GCMAC Swap Meet

2206 La Vista Ave, Pensacola, FL

September

20 11am

GCMAC Quarterly Meeting

Baldwin County Heritage Museum, 25521 US-98 Elberta

December

3-6 National Awards

Banquet Hosted by GCMAC

in Mobile. Must Preregister for events and be a member of MAFCA to participate. Non MAFCA members can volunteer to help with various jobs to make the event happen.

MAFCA Activities:

June

11-14

67th Annual Car Show and Swap Meet on Petit Jean Mountain

(2025 Feature Car Model A) Morrilton, Arkansas

12 62nd Texas Tour – Giddings, Texas

12-25

2025 National Tour – Virginia

August

15

Model A Ford Swap Meet Thompson GA

September

13 All day

INTERNATIONAL MODEL A

FORD DAY – Worldwide

Sept.22-Oct. 13, 2025

Route 66 Tour – United States

October

31-Nov 2

2025 Florida Model A Day at the Barberville Pioneer Settlement, Barberville, Florida

December

3-6

2025 MAFCA National Awards Banquet – Mobile, Alabama

May

May 31- June 7

2026 MAFCA National Convention – Pendleton, Oregon

Regional Activities:

June

7 Drive In Movie Night & Car Show, 10-4pm.

Family Ministries Center, 9955 County Rd. 37 & Hwy. 181, Fairhope, AL. Drive In Movie Night 8-10pm Info liveoutside2021@gmail.com Move: Cars

20-21 Mobile Bay Street Rod Nationals, The Grounds Mobile, AL

28 Mike's American Muscle Cars Drive-In 8-10pm. FMC Fairhope 9955 Co Rd 34, Fairhope. 6pm. Move: Star Wars

August

23 Emerald Coast Powerfest Automotive and Audio Show, 10-3pm. Escambia County Equestrian Center, 7750 Mobile Hwy, Pensacola, FL.

30 8th OWA Labor Day Car & Motorcycle Show, 8-4pm. OWA Park & Resort, 1501 S. OWA Blvd., Foley, AL

September

13-14 7th Annual Sparks in the Park Car, Truck and Bike Show, Mullet Festival Grounds Niceville, FL

27 Abba Shrine Swap Meet & Grand Bay Country Cruisers Car Show, 7-3pm. Abba Shrine Center, 7701 Hitt Rd., Mobile, AL





Era Fashions

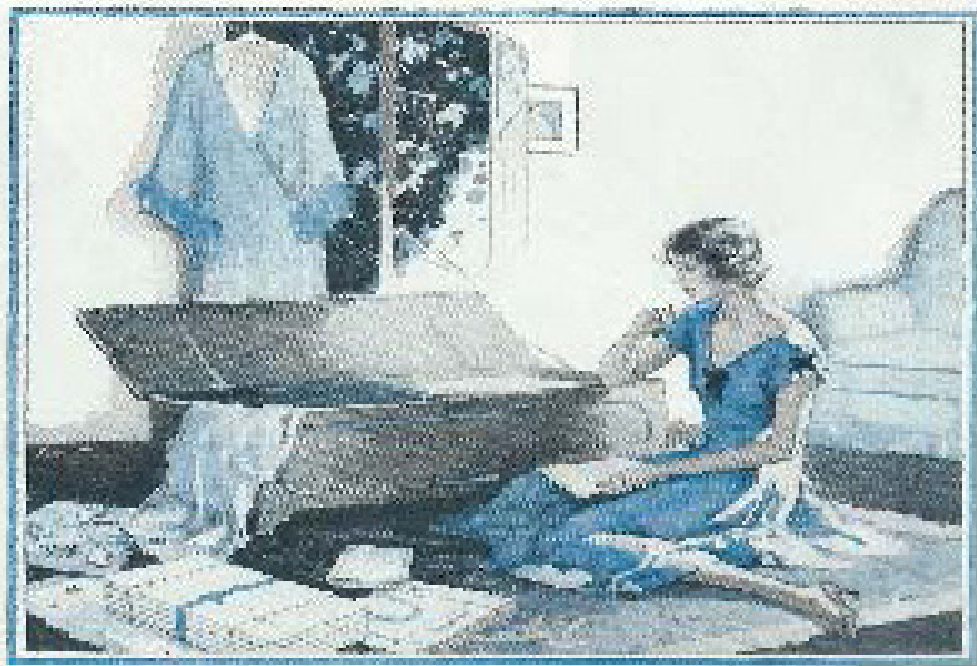


June Brides

By Harriet McNeill

With the June wedding season approaching, here is what a bride needs before the wedding, as suggested in McCall's, 1931.

For each bed, four sheets, six pillowcases, one pair blankets, one comforter. Also, one dozen bath towels, eighteen face towels, eight guest towels, one dozen wash cloths, two bath mats, one dozen dish towels, six glass towels, table cloths, tea cloths or place mats, large or medium size napkins, tea napkins, bureau covers, doilies, dusters, etc. The custom was that if the girl could afford it, she was to bring into the marriage enough of the household linens to start the running of a new house or apartment. She could have had embroidered sheets to dozens and dozens of table napkins, but the bride could also



start comfortably with items from the above list.

Personally, for clothing, especially underthings, the bride was to have enough to last at least six months to a year. She needed not less than: four sets of underwear, four nightgowns, six pairs of stockings, three good pairs of shoes (two day and one evening), one kimono/negligee and slippers, twelve handkerchiefs, two morning dresses. Also a good suitcase was needed and maybe a trunk for going away AND enough loose cash in her purse so she did not have to ask for money on the very first day of the wedding trip.

Gifts were always sent to the bride, and if they arrived after she left for her honeymoon, they were opened by her mother and recorded in the "bride book" so the gifts could be

acknowledged promptly upon her return.

The wedding dress and bridesmaids' dresses were to be simple and youthful unless the wedding was in the evening, then they would be conservative evening dresses. I thought it interesting that if you were married in your going away dress, you would only have a maid of honor who would wear a street dress and hat.

The most practical thing was consideration of expenses. The bride's family and the groom's family were responsible for certain expenses just as they are today. One note-----there was no mention of a rehearsal or rehearsal dinner.

The word for the day was:

Don't start your life's greatest venture with nerves and body below par.



Tech Tips

Brake Light Switch!

By Tom Endy,
Westminster, CA

The Model A Ford has somewhat of a peculiar wiring system design. Power for the headlights, taillights, cowl lights, and brake lights is obtained from the connection at the cutout switch on the generator and routed to a buss connection inside the light bail at the bottom of the steering column.

The light switch on the steering column directs power to the headlights, taillights, and cowl lights, but not to the brake lights. A wire runs direct from the power buss inside the light bail to the external brake light switch.

There is really no purpose for the brake light circuit to be involved with the light bail. Should there be a short circuit in the light bail, the power lead to it can be disconnected temporarily from the cutout switch connection to accommodate operating the car without lights during daylight. Unfortunately it also disconnects the brake light switch, which makes it unsafe to drive the car.

It would have been prudent if Ford had run a wire direct from the starter switch (or the

fuse) to the brake light switch. With this arrangement the power lead to the light bail could be removed from the cutout switch on the generator without affecting the brake light circuit.

It is easy enough to modify the brake light circuit to isolate it from the light bail. Locate the wire on the brake light switch that comes from the light bail. Disconnect it at the brake light switch and fold it back and wrap insulating tape around it. Connect a new wire where the wire at the brake light switch was removed and run it direct to battery power. The most logical place to make the connection is at the starter switch. If a fuse modification is installed connect it there.

This wiring modification now eliminates the light bail from the stop light circuit. Should a short circuit occur in the light

bail, it can be disconnected from power at the cutout switch connection and the car can be driven during daylight hours with the brake lights functional.

Foreign made reproduction brake light switches are notorious for being of very poor quality and for shorting out. A good quality 1930-1931 brake light switch can be obtained from A&L Parts Specialties located at Canton Center, CT. The switch, which is a copy of the original, is a quality item manufactured by A&L. The switch includes brass bushings at each end of the operating shaft.

A&L Parts Specialties
P.O. Box 201
Canton Center, CT 06019-0301
860-693-0112
anle@aol.com
Switch part number A-13480B

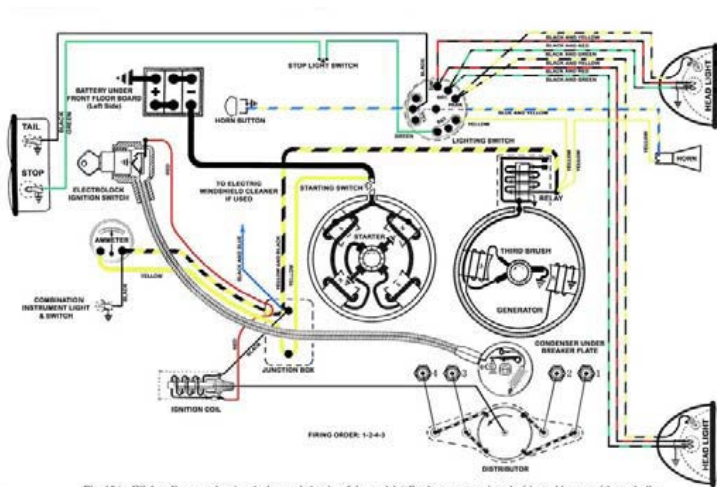


Fig. 18A. Wiring diagram showing the internal circuits of the model A Ford cars not equipped with coil lamps, with two bulbs in each headlamp.
 When starting to trace one of the several electrical circuits, begin with the positive (+) terminal of the battery or generator. The battery is the source of supply when the engine is not running, or generator is running very slowly. When the generator speed is increased to the point where its voltage becomes greater than the battery voltage, the relay points close and then the generator is the source of electrical current supply and also charges the battery. See *Dodge's Automobile Encyclopedia*, pages 332, 448 and 427 explaining the principle of operation of the current cut-out (relay), how to trace circuits, etc.



Era Photos



World's Swiftest Sprinter Works Out at Georgetown University

4-20-26 - Charles Paddock, holder of many speed records, is shown working out at Georgetown University in a race with Karl Wildermuth, stat sprinter of Georgetown University. Paddock is visiting the Capital in the interest of sport.



– Photographer Bill Shrout



When Henry Ford and Thomas Edison Went Camping in the Great Smoky Mountains

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Henry Ford didn't just revolutionize the automobile industry...he also revolutionized camping trips! A lover of nature, Ford and some of his famous friends took a series of high profile road trips between 1914 and 1924 to some of the nation's most scenic areas. Along the way, Ford showed the world how fun it could be to pack up the car and head into the great

outdoors. Visit My Smokies did a little research to bring you an account of the time Henry Ford and Thomas Edison went camping in the Great Smoky Mountains.

The Vagabonds: America's First Supergroup

For his camping trips, Ford put together an all-star team made up of some of America's greatest minds. Calling themselves the "Vagabonds", the posse consisted of:

- Henry Ford: the founder of Ford Motor Company

and the visionary who brought the Model T to the masses.

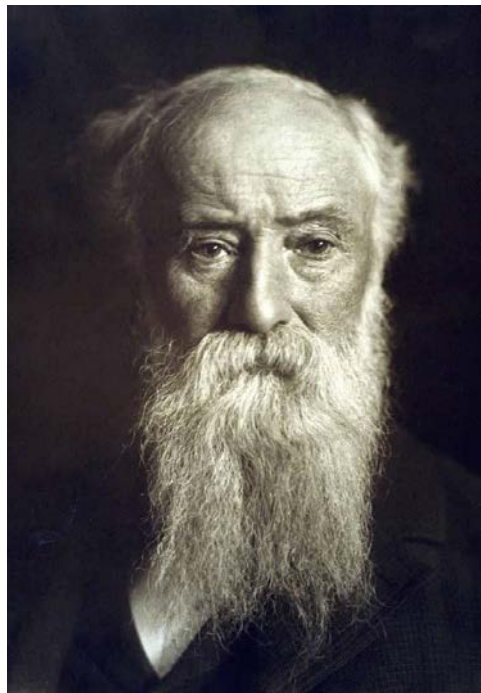
- Thomas Edison: the brilliant inventor who developed the motion picture camera, the phonograph, and the long-lasting electric light bulb.
- Harvey Firestone: the founder of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, one of the earliest global manufacturers of automobile tires.



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John Burroughs

- John Burroughs: a naturalist and nature essayist who was active in the conservation movement.

The Vagabonds' first outing occurred in 1914, when Ford and Burroughs visited Edison for a tour of the Florida Everglades. The next year, Ford and Edison invited Harvey Firestone to join them on a vacation in California. In 1918, all four men set out for their most ambitious expedition to date: an epic camping trip from Pennsylvania to Tennessee, by way of the Great Smoky Mountains.

Thomas Edison Should Have Invented a GPS

Before the Vagabonds could go camping in the Great Smoky Mountains, they had to drive there first! With an average speed of 18 mph, and dozens of

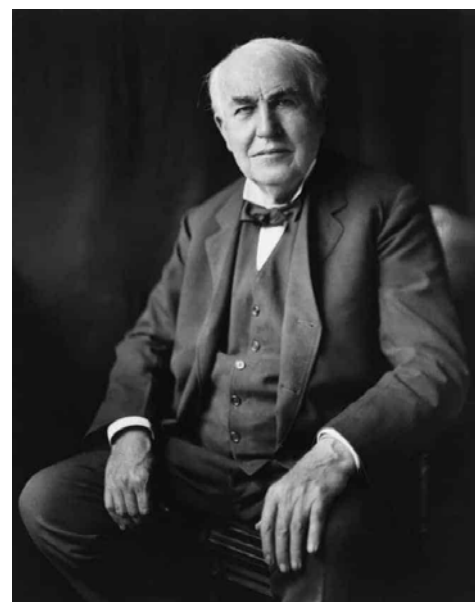
cars trailing them, the famous foursome weren't exactly whizzing down the Autobahn. Thomas Edison was in charge of plotting out the road trip, and it sounds like he could have benefited from Google Maps. Mocking Edison's navigational skills, Harvey Firestone wrote, "We never know where we are going, and I suspect that he does not either".

To be fair to Edison, driving in 1918 was a lot different than it is today. Paved roads were few and far between, there were no interstate highways, and every so often, drivers would encounter handwritten road signs with dire warnings like "DRIVE SLOW – DANGEROUS AS THE DEVIL". Armed with only a compass and a collection of atlases, Edison made due with the tools at his disposal.

On the other hand, Edison reportedly had a penchant for choosing back roads and avoiding big towns. The Vagabonds did run into some trouble when a broken fan pierced the radiator of one of the cars. Fortunately, the world's foremost expert on automobiles was there to help! Henry Ford rolled up his sleeves and repaired the car himself, which undoubtedly enthralled the group of onlookers.

Camping, Millionaire Style

When you're Henry Ford and Thomas Edison, you simply don't go camping in the Great Smoky Mountains like normal people. In fact, the Vagabonds could be considered pioneers of "glamping" – a trendy type



Thomas Edison

of glamorous camping that has become popular in recent years.

For starters, each man slept in his own tent with his name etched on the outside. Apparently, Edison couldn't bear to be without his beloved electricity for an extended period, so he brought his own mobile electric generator to power the campsite. Joining the Vagabonds on their journey was a servant staff who followed their employer in a fleet of Ford cars that sometimes numbered at 50. During one camping trip, there was a specially designated kitchen car that John Burroughs dubbed a "Waldorf-Astoria on



wheels". Meals were served to the Vagabonds by waiters in formal wear inside of a large dining tent with room for 20 guests.

Despite their ultra-luxurious accommodations, the men did enjoy some traditional outdoor activities. A font of knowledge regarding everything to do with nature, Burroughs taught his companions how to identify flowers and make bird calls. Always competitive, Ford challenged the Vagabonds to races and contests, such as tree chopping competitions. Even though Edison's generator provided ample light, the men enjoyed a traditional campfire and wide ranging conversations

about everything from poetry to classical music.

Inspiring a New Generation of Campers

Naturally, the Vagabonds' camping expeditions attracted a lot of attention – not that Ford and Firestone were complaining. As newspapers printed headlines like "Genius to Sleep Under Stars" and "Millions of Dollars Worth of Brains off on a Vacation", the captains of industry got plenty of free publicity for their cars and tires. Ford even brought his own film crew on the camping trips to create a series of newsreels that were shown in theaters across the country.

You can see one of these short silent films on YouTube.

John Burroughs passed away in 1921, and after a 1924 vacation with President Coolidge in Vermont, the remaining Vagabonds decided to hang up their tents for good. The attention the famous men attracted on their adventures was getting to be too much; Firestone described it as a "traveling circus". Nevertheless, the Vagabonds could take pride in the fact that their newsreels and newspaper headlines helped inspire an entire generation of Americans to go on road trips and enjoy nature.

The Model A Ford Club of America MAFCA

Serving Model A Ford owners since 1955



Our award winning magazine
"The Restorer"

MAFCA is dedicated to the restoration, preservation and enjoyment of the Ford Model A and AA cars and trucks, as manufactured from 1928 through 1931. We are an active, family-friendly organization whose members share a passion for these historic vehicles, plus other aspects of life in that era, such as fashions.

MAFCA is a not-for-profit corporation with members and local affiliated chapters all over the globe. This makes us the largest car club in the world dedicated to one make of automobile. We hope you enjoy looking through our site, and we invite you to join us! Membership in Model A Ford Club of America is encouraged. MAFCA Dues are \$50.00 and should be mailed to: MAFCA Headquarters, 250 South Cypress, LaHabra, CA 90631-5586 For more info visit: <https://www.mafca.com/>



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Gulf Coast Model A Club SWAP MEET

Saturday June 28 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Join fellow enthusiasts to buy sell & trade at the home of
Model A Ford Vintage Parts
2206 La Vista Ave Pensacola FL 32504

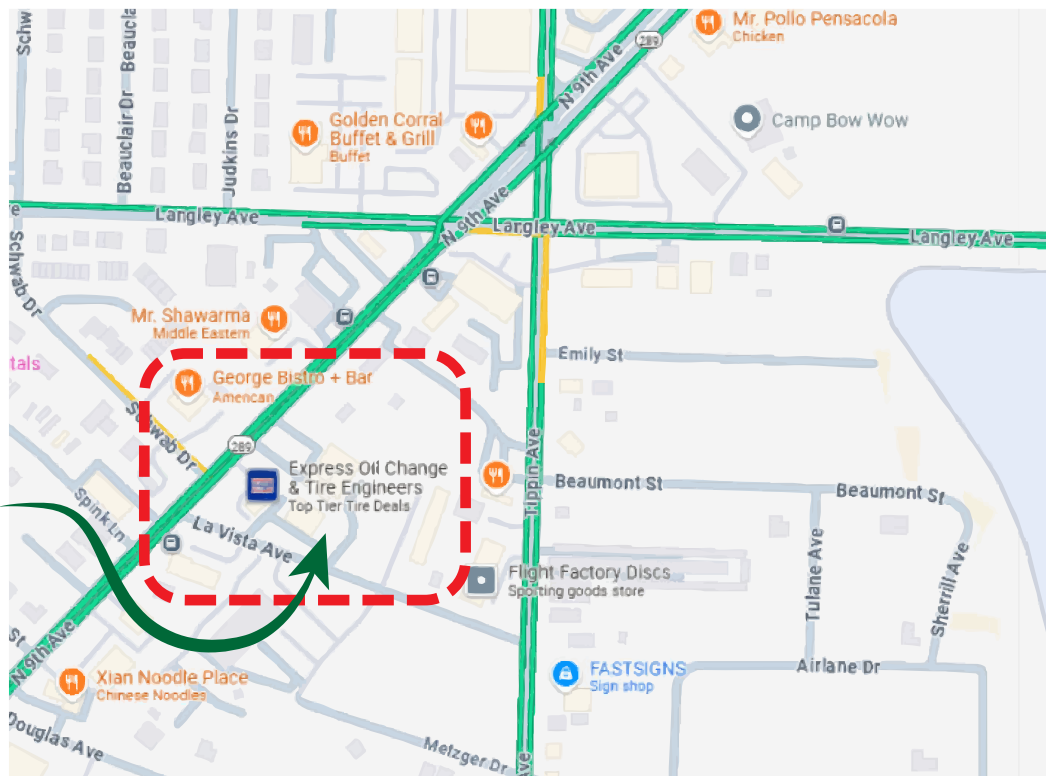
For more information contact:

Ricky Stokes
850-712-4486
crstokes21@gmail.com

Allen Braddy
678-499-3370
alnbraddy@yahoo.com

Event Site
Model A Ford Vintage Parts
2206 La Vista Ave
Pensacola FL 32504

Concessions Available:
Hot dogs
Hamburger
Chips & Cold drinks



Vendor Registration \$25

Due by 04/30/2025 * Make checks payable to Gulf Coast Model A Club

Email to alnbraddy@yahoo.com or mail to 2206 La Vista Ave Pensacola FL 32504

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Signature _____