



Creston's

A-Frame

New Orleans Model A Club Newsletter

April 2025

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President: Paulo Casanova
1st Vice President: Brian T. Veade
2nd Vice President: Ray Schaub
Secretary: Brad Persons
Treasurer: Bobby Burwell
Sergeant-at-Arms: Caroline Schaub
Sunshine Lady / Welcome: Toni Schaub
Phone Committee: Ken Falanga
Parliamentarian: Jim Kepper
Newsletter: Roger Casanova
Webmaster / Communication / Banquet: John Troendle
Club Liaison / Judging: Ray Fuenzalida



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Coming Events:

Monthly Meeting: We will meet for our April meeting on Wednesday, April 23rd at Saltgrass Steakhouse on Veteran's Blvd. at six pm (1800) with the meeting beginning at 7:00 pm (1900). See you there. Prizes given!

May 3rd - All Club Car Picnic



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WEATHER WAS GREAT FOR OUR ANNUAL CRAWFISH BOIL





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Our crawfish boil turned into a car clinic



Our Model A clinic crew has done it again. Got another one running!





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Starting a Model A with a hand crank



*Always grip the crank with the thumb wrapped below with the fingers.
NEVER push the crank down the right side of the rotation!*

Starting a Model A with the hand crank was once as common as driving one. It seems hand cranking has become nearly a lost art over the decades. Following a few basic rules, hand cranking is perfectly safe and quite simple. The hand crank should be one of the most useful tools in your toolbox!

The following list outlines the procedures for starting your Model A with the hand crank. The specifics apply to a properly tuned engine. Some variations may be required and are discussed later.

1. Set the emergency brake and be sure the shifter is in neutral.
2. Retard the spark by raising the left (spark) lever to the top of it's quadrant.
3. Lower the throttle lever approximately three notches, or until the gas pedal lowers very slightly.
4. Adjust the mixture on the dash to the setting appropriate for the conditions.
5. With the ignition OFF, hold the choke out (fully closed). This will require either a helper, a pull cord from the lever on the carburetor to the front of the vehicle, or one of those modern undersized and sticky choke rod grommets.
6. Carefully position the crank in place engaging the ratchet with the crank left of center in the lower of the two possible positions. Grasp the crank as shown in the photo above, paying close attention to the thumb position below the handle. Pull the crank to the top briskly but carefully. Repeat with a second pull. At this point there should be gas running slightly from the carburetor to the floor.
7. Release the choke and turn ON the ignition.
8. One more pull of the crank and the engine should start. **NEVER push the crank down the right side of the rotation with the key on!**
9. Advance the spark lever about half way down the quadrant and adjust the throttle speed.



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Other considerations: Although there is no serious risk of injury when handling the crank as shown, it's startling when a kickback occurs. Most kickbacks occur when the choke is closed. The probability varies depending on the position of the crank ratchet relative to top dead center. Leaving the switch off during the choking step almost eliminates the chance of kickbacks.

With a low battery the engine will fire more quickly by hand than with the starter because the starter isn't starving the ignition system.

Variations: The car should start similar by hand as it does with the starter. For example, using the starter I always start my cold A's with the choke pulled for exactly two compression strokes or one turn of the crankshaft. At that point I release the choke and the engine fires. I NEVER hold the choke until it fires as suggested in the "Model 'A' Instruction Book".

If your car **REQUIRES** the choke to be held more than two compression strokes with the starter, you may need to adjust step #6 similarly.

Experiment with a good battery so if you have difficulty starting, you can use the starter to determine if the problem is too much or too little gas. Be conservative with the choke. It is much easier to repeat the process than to hand start a flooded engine. A flooded engine is guaranteed to provide more exercise than you desire!

If your hand crank binds when inserted through the starting crank bushing and into the crank ratchet, don't crank start your car. Too much bind will prevent the crank from releasing from the ratchet.

Article from "The Model A Barnyard"

Looking for other things to do with your Model A? Check Out

<http://www.customcruiser.net/calendarofevents.htm>

Pam Larter posts most of the cruise nights and car shows on her website above in the Metropolitan New Orleans Area. Also check the out Nola Model A's Facebook page for events members post. Share your interesting Model A Memories on our Facebook site. Link Below.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/neworleansas>



March 2025 NOLA Model A's Official Minutes

New Orleans A's - General Meeting: 3/26/25

Attendees: 22

Brought to order: 7:00pm

Model A's Cars Present: 1: Jerry

Location: Saltgrass Restaurant, Metairie, LA

Meeting led by: Paulo Casanova

Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer: Prayer by Danny Veade.

Guests: None.

Birthdays: Ray S & Brian Veade (who won a doorprize)

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the February meeting were previously distributed by email and made available in hard-copy format at this meeting; Caroline moved to accept the minutes and Brian Veade seconded, members approved.

Treasurer's Report: Bobby provided the Treasurer's Report; balance at 3/26/25 = \$7,192.50

Upcoming Events:

Sat 5/3 – All Club Picnic at Pontiff Playground. We need members to show up since our club is sponsoring the picnic. Volunteers come at 9am. Bring a dessert if possible.

Sat 3/29 – Divine Mercy Car Show is postponed to 4/12. But...

Sat 4/12 – Crawfish Boil at Paulo's house 11am. Please bring a chair, dessert and drinks. Meet at Kenner Rivertown park at 1030am to caravan to the event.

Sun 5/4 – Ray F. said the 1928 Tri-Motor plane will be at airport in Reserve, if cars want to attend. (event is 5/2-3-4)

Past Events:

Sun 3/23 – Spring Fiesta – 9 cars were present. Paulo's car stalled, and there were 2 minor "fender benders". Beautiful weather and a fun event. Some members went to Rivershack afterwards for lunch.

Video Shown: "10 Things To Do To Keep Your Car Trouble Free". John M. passed out a list of maintenance items that should be done.



Announcements:

Sat 6/14 – Northshore A's are going to Middendorf's Restaurant.

Sat 6/28 – Model A Swap Meet is in Pensacola. A flyer was passed around.

Door Prize numbers picked:

#20 Ray Fuenzalita; #1 Ray Shaub; #22 Linda Burwell.

50/50 Ticket Picked: #0940 Lynn won \$55.00

Move to Adjourn: at 7:50pm – Caroline moved, Ray seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brad Persons, Secretary