



# Nickle 'A' News

[www.nickelaregion.com](http://www.nickelaregion.com)

November 2023



The Nickle "A" Region of Wisconsin is dedicated to the restoration, driving, and preservation of the Model "A" Ford Automobile from 1928-1931



Nickle A is also a member of MARC: Model A Restorers Club

Board of Directors  
Director: Roy Farley  
[director@nicklearegion.com](mailto:director@nicklearegion.com)  
Ph/text: 920-224-5261

Vice Director: Bill Lindsley  
[vicedirector@nicklearegion.com](mailto:vicedirector@nicklearegion.com)  
ph/text: 920-639-1135

Secretary: Julie Farley  
[secretary@nicklearegion.com](mailto:secretary@nicklearegion.com)  
Phone: 920-676-2686

Treasurer: Fred Pennings  
[treasurer@nicklearegion.com](mailto:treasurer@nicklearegion.com)  
Phone: 920-450-1930

## Message from the Director, Roy Farley



Well, we did have fun this last month, despite not having a meeting didn't we? Between Road America and our Hartford Museum road trip, we put some miles on our Model A's! And then the pop up tour on Oct. 21.

But, the year is winding down and we have some things to get on our checklists to make certain we do.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Make certain you come to the November meeting to vote for next year's officers. We will take nominations from the floor OR if you're too shy to speak in front of a crowd, tell Cindy Ellenbecker, Bob Hegner, or Phyllis Moss the names you'd like to bring forward for officers.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ And we also will be voting for Member of the Year at the November meeting; think about who has done the most for the club this year.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Sit down while you're thinking about it and get that \$20 check for the 2024 dues written out so Fred Pennings doesn't have to chase you. He said it's getting harder to run after you folks!
4. \_\_\_\_\_ And while you're writing checks, get your check for the Christmas party off to my wife, Julie Farley. Our Christmas party has always been the highlight of the year with the largest number of Nickle A attendees of any other event, so you don't want to miss it!
5. \_\_\_\_\_ As long as the pen is out, get that mileage turned into Bill Lindsley (see this newsletter for the form you need to fill out)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Thank our veterans for their service when you see them.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Lastly, our club does share some financial resources at year's end, so if there are any club members who are struggling financially, please let any of the officers know if you are aware of a situation, so we can make contact.

November is a month where we traditionally give thanks; we all have much to be thankful for; the Nickle A Model A Club provides so much enjoyment and camaraderie for us! I am thankful to be a part of this great group. How about you?

As Ever, Roy



Club Volunteer  
Positions  
Editor: Cindy  
Ellenbecker  
[bhavenfiberarts@yahoo.com](mailto:bhavenfiberarts@yahoo.com)  
ph/text: 920-286-0971

Webmaster/Historian:  
Jim Watermolen  
[webmaster@nicklearegion.com](mailto:webmaster@nicklearegion.com)  
Ph/text: 920-412-1235

ToolKeeper: Tom  
Schmidt  
[tomschmidt@centurytel.net](mailto:tomschmidt@centurytel.net)  
ph/text: 920-450-7770

Donna's Sunshine  
Reporter: Jim  
Hameister  
Phone: 920-740-9110

Librarian: Mary Lou  
Hegner  
Phone: 920-460-4594

Chaplain: Fred  
Pennings  
[Fpennings30@gmail.com](mailto:Fpennings30@gmail.com)  
Ph.text: 920-450-1930

### **Upcoming Nickle A Meeting**

**November Meeting**  
Hosted by Jim & Lisa  
Watermolen.  
Wednesday, Nov. 15,  
6p.m., Freedom  
Town Hall, W2004  
County Hwy S,  
Freedom, WI  
54131

## NICKLE A REGION 2023 FALL TOUR



At 9a.m. on October 7 with nine Model A's and a handful of modern iron, we started our Nickle A Region Fall Tour to the Wisconsin Automotive Museum in Hartford, WI. By 6p.m., my arrival time home, we averaged 200 miles round trip. Enroute we experienced miles upon miles of beautiful fall colors and the rolling hills of the region. The only apparent malfunction was when I had to stop and let some gas out of my gas tank due to the outstanding gas mileage I was experiencing. Sorry, that's a lie. Actually, I had to stop to tighten my radiator cap that had "jiggled" loose.

Upon arriving in Hartford, we made a stop at the local CULVER's and enjoyed a variety of their menu selections. Although the restaurant was at near capacity we were in and out in no time at all. Off to the museum.



## **Event Calendar**

### **Nickle A Christmas Party**

Date- Sunday,  
December 10th

Place- Van Abel's of  
Hollandtown  
8108 County Road D  
Kaukauna, WI 54130

Arrival time 11:00am  
Dinner at 12:30p

Cost- \$10 club  
member  
\$20 non-club member  
no-refunds

Payment Deadline-  
November 27th

Make checks payable  
to Julie Farley  
2731 State Highway  
57 Deere, WI 54115

There will be Door  
prizes, 50/50 raffle  
and Raffle baskets, if  
you would like to  
donate a basket to  
raffle off, it would be  
greatly appreciated  
and so fun. And we're  
going to play  
PLINKO!!!

**July 15-18, 2024**  
**MARC National Meet**  
**Asheville, NC**  
**(save the date)**  
**For more information,**  
**call Paul Ganninger**  
**314-852-5591 or**  
**Email**  
**MARCMET2024@**  
**gmail.com**

The museum features the KISSEL car, 25 of them, which of course were built in the Hartford factory from 1906-1931. They were displayed in all stages of repair from original, partially restored, to absolutely gorgeous.

Also, to be enjoyed were a wide variety of other makes and models and automotive artifacts. One that was a unique standout was one of nine Model A Pickups that had a GE refrigeration unit installed in the bed. I guess the first refrigeration truck. The museum also pays tribute to the Southeastern Wisconsin Short track Racing Organization. Its Hall of Fame is located in the museum.

As coincidence would have it our own Jim, The Pilgrim, Hameister, recognized in one of the pictures a race car enthusiast, Mike Randerson from Freedom, WI.



Mike was a classmate of Jim and Donna, back in the day. Mike was a race car chassis builder and had many, many of his creations race at Wisconsin International Raceway.

All in all, it was a fun day. Lots of chit chat, stories told. What are your plans for winter!!!!

Written by Fred Pennings

Photos compliments of Roy Farley



**CLASSIFIEDS**  
**Nickle A Club ads**



**FOR SALE :** Model A Truck Named "Bumble Bee" \$7,500  
Upgrades include 4 speed overdrive trans. 16" wheels with hydraulic brakes.  
Contact Dick Ziegert 920-725-7810, [E-mail polka635@yahoo.com](mailto:polka635@yahoo.com)

**FOR SALE:** 1929 Tudor Sedan Very good condition. Has not been used for a number of years, but it is stored inside and does run. It is located on County Road H between Readfield and Fremont. The body is a light brown color. Price is \$10,000.00 Contact owner Jim Paalman at 920-585-3693 or Don Paalman at 920-540-0193.

**FOR SALE:** 1931 Model A Fordor Town Sedan S/W. I inherited this car a couple of years ago from my dad, and it was a daily driver for him. Older restoration. Clear title. Runs good. Asking \$14,500 For more information, email [Kstroupe65@gmail.com](mailto:Kstroupe65@gmail.com) Stoupe car has many pictures available. Car is an eye catching red!



## Road America Ready

The group assembled at the Pennings household to caravan from Kaukauna to Elkhart Lake to take a few laps on the Road America track!

**Some of our members (Welch, Raeder, Farley families) posing at the racetrack in Elkhart Lake)**

**Below: panoramic view of the Model A's at Road America**



## IOLA Update

We recently received our compensation check for the 1,248 hours we spent supporting the Iola Car Show(ICS). The show was a huge success and saw 120 organizations volunteer for a total of 22,584 hours. Total payout to the organizations was \$276,000.

At the post show briefing it was emphasized this show would not at all be possible without all the volunteer help. Even though it was one of the biggest



**Wisconsin Region  
MARC (Madison area  
club)**

Wanted: Model A  
Headlight reflectors.  
Switching to LED, so  
they don't need to be  
perfect, but would want  
them presentable. Tony,  
(920) 478-4541.

For Sale: 1926 Model T  
coupe. Driveable &  
complete, new tires and  
engine, orig. block  
included. Call for  
details. Paul, (920)  
342-0367.

For Sale: 1931 Model A  
Ford Mail Truck (one of  
500). Garaged near  
Madison, WI, this  
authentic mail truck has  
had some excellent,  
older restoration on the  
body and looks good.  
Asking price is \$25k. but  
highly motivated seller,  
so don't hesitate to  
check it out and make  
us any offer. We'd like  
to move this before the  
snow flies. History and  
pictures  
at <https://www.concklin.net/model-a-mail-truck/>.

For Sale: Complete  
Model B diamond block  
motor & transmission.  
Does turn over, but  
haven't seen it run.  
Includes the starter,  
generator, water pump,  
manifolds, carburetor,  
fuel pump, distributor &  
radiator. All mounted on  
a wheeled engine stand  
which is also included.  
Must be picked up in  
Verona, WI. \$1,200,  
OBO - cash only. Jim,  
(608) 235-2364.

shows there was minimal, almost non-existent, complaints or problems that had to be dealt with by the support teams.

My thoughts, WAY TO GO A-TEAM!!!!

We continue to volunteer there on Wednesdays with a launching point at George Bresnahan's shortly before 8am and returning back to George's at approximately 4p.m. if you'd like to join in the fun!

Also, the lola Car Show is looking for car/truck license plates for a children's birdhouse project for the 2024 show. Any outdated plates will do. Bring your old plates to a meeting, the Christmas party, or mail them to me. Call if you have questions. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Submitted by Fred Pennings

## Nickle A Model A Holiday Party

Date- Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

Place- Van Abel's of Hollandtown  
8108 County Road D  
Kaukauna, WI 54130

Arrival time 11:00am  
Dinner at 12:30p

Cost- \$10 club member  
\$20 non-club member  
no-refunds

Deadline- November 27th  
Make checks payable to Julie Farley  
2731 State Highway 57 DePere, WI 54115

There will be Door prizes, 50/50 raffle and Raffle baskets, if you would like to donate a basket to raffle off, it would be greatly appreciated and so fun. And we're going to play PLINKO!!!



## It's that time again to report your annual mileage!

You MUST use the form below and you MUST mail the form to Bill Lindsley, 1015 Springfield Dive, De Pere, WI 54115 no later than December 1, 2023. Mileage reported after that time will not be recorded. Our local club does awards for mileage and MARC National also does mileage awards at milestone increments.

(However, in order to be eligible for MARC National awards, you have to be a member of MARC National. The MARC dues are \$50.00 per year and to be in the national mileage program is only an additional \$1.00 . You must fill out the national form and mail this form to Bill as well IF you haven't registered and paid the national \$1.00 at an

For Sale: 1931 Model A rolling chassis. Includes front fenders, coupe type rear fenders, front splash apron, hood, side splash aprons, running boards, headlight bar & headlights, correct horn, steering column & late '31 firewall. Also a Model A engine with a 1931 number & Model A transmission. The engine & transmission not installed in the chassis & are partially disassembled, engine mounted on an engine stand which is also included. Must be picked up in Verona, WI. \$2,000, cash only. Jim, (608) 235-2364.

**Wheeling A's Wisconsin Chapter ads**

FOR SALE: Two NEW Firestone 475/500/19 WSW tires \$450, One 19 Inch Model A wheel \$35, 1930 Model A grill shell driver quality, has the usual split at the bottom. Does have Ford emblem and crank hole cover \$65. Call Dave 262-662-2273

FOR SALE: Beautifully restored 31 Model A, with rumble seat and trunk. Includes cover and wheel dollies for storage. \$22,500 located in MI. Call Bev Rockrohr, 269-244-5200 (see photo below)



FOR SALE: 1931 Model A Pickup truck ¾ ton. Restored 3 years

earlier time. The form is available on MARC's website.) This newsletter article is a reminder if you haven't sent your mileage in AND if you are new to tracking, it's a help to know how to get started.

This is from our local by-laws:

A major intent of the Nickle A Club is to make use of the Model "A" Ford. The club will award a plaque each year to the members who drive a minimum of 1,000 miles with their car according to the following guidelines:

1. Mileage for the year recorded from the odometer and mailed. Newly acquired, completed or previously unregistered Model "A"s may be registered with the vice-director at any time during the year
2. Members driving more than one Model "A" may turn in all mileage which will be totaled.
3. Awards are to consist of a plaque engraved with the mileage driven and the year of the award. The plaques will be blue in color with the exception of the highest mileage driven by a member for the year, which will be red.

Name	Vehicle I.D.	Year	Body Style	Odometer reading as of Jan. 1, 2023	Odometer reading as of Dec 1, 2023	Miles driven in 2023	MARC National I. D. #

Sign attesting to the mileage as stated and the date. Thank you, Bill Lindsley

**Sunshine Report** submitted by Jim Hameister (Keep these folks in your prayers.)

**Pat Campbell** has 2 sessions of chemo done and just started the 3<sup>rd</sup>. He will know whether the treatment is working in 5 months.

**David Slattebo** thanked the club for the card. He said it appears the stem cell transplant was a success and the long-term prognosis is good.

**Mark Bresnahan** has been on Hospice for several weeks.

**Bonnie Tortelli** broke her pelvis, but it is healing by itself. She is slowly becoming more ambulatory.

**Ellen Hegner** is finished with her radiation and is seeing a specialist about her thyroid meds. She has also been put on Hospice.

**Tom Steinfeldt** had open heart surgery (4 by-passes). He had a blood clot and A-Fib, but is at home now on medication to get rid of the blood clot.

ago. Runs and drives great. All new glass, interior, tires and paint. Excellent condition \$15,000 OBO Located in Palmyra Call Frank 262-903-3884



**FOR SALE:** 28-29 Model A Tudor Body, has suspended pedals, hydraulic clutch and master cylinder mounted on firewall. Metal roof, gas tank was cut to mount dash cluster. Body is in pretty good shape. \$3,500., 28-29 Model A Cowl & Gas tank \$400., 28-29 Model A Gas Tank, no visible holes. \$150. Call Mike 414-491-3191

### Central WI Chapter ads Wisconsin Rapids

**FOR SALE:** 1930 A' 4 door, \$15,000 or OBO Daniel Matson 608-548-2913, N9797 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Necedah, WI.

**FOR SALE:** K. R. Wilson Model A main bearing tools. Includes base plate for combination machine, pouring frame with 2 dams, false cam, boring frame and rear main facing tool. \$900 Brendan Doughty 715-886-5051

## **November Anniversaries**

Jerry/Mary Braasch  
Mike/Cindy Ehmen  
Lloyd/Lois Gauerke  
Ron/Linda Green  
Barney/Audrey Schmitz

## **Let's welcome Justin, Nicki, and Gavin Opperman!**

Justin, Nicki, and Gavin found out about The Nickle A Club on Facebook. Some of you got to meet Justin and Gavin at Road America, and Gene Hegner has already made a mechanic house call to the Oppermans! The Opperman's have owned a 1930 Model A Briggs Fordor Deluxe Sedan for four years now and recently acquired a 1930 Model A Deluxe Coupe. The lure of the Model A for Justin was the availability of parts.



Justin comes by his love of vintage vehicles as part of his childhood. He grew up in Gresham, Wisconsin and spent many an hour at with his Grandpa who had and still has an impressive collection of pre-war cars. Grandpa owned the first yellow cab ever---a 1921 Chicago Yellow Cab. He sold it to Bill Harrah who sold it to the Henry Ford Museum where it is on display today. So vintage cars are in the bloodline!

Justin is a member of the Carpenter's Union and works as a Civil Foreman for Miron Construction. Right now, he's involved in an 8-year project to decommission the Point Beach Nuclear Plant. (As a side note, when Justin found out that our President Roy Farley was the Food Service Manager at Ascension, Justin shared that he was part of the team that built the Marketplace! At that time, Justin worked for Boldt Construction.)



## November Birthdays

Kathy Bresnahan  
Bob Dailey  
John Etter  
Ken Hegner  
Karen Holtan  
Mary Meverden  
Jean Reichwald  
Kitty Roitt  
Scott Stevens  
Gary Vosters



And then there's our veterans, who we need to thank everyday, not just November 11!



**Thank you to these 28 Nickle A Model A club Veterans for their service:**

Randy Burhop  
Bob Dailey  
Neil Damsheuser

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Nicki works at Ascension/Appleton Medical Center as a nurse. Gavin is a freshman at Chilton High School, but quite an accomplished athlete already. He's on the varsity team for Cross Country and Track and has already set records for Chilton High School!

The Opperman's moved to Chilton a couple years ago for "the house"! It is their dream to restore a Victorian home and they searched around Wisconsin for the ideal home and found it in Chilton! The home is on Main Street in Chilton, so the city gets to enjoy having the home restored to its former glory too. The home was in foreclosure when the Opperman's bought it and Justin said it was in rough shape. Justin has replaced wainscoting, wood trim, crown moulding, and has had the leaded glass windows restored as well. And that's just the short list of all the work done to date. This winter's project includes redoing the kitchen and getting cabinets built back into the kitchen.

Both Justin and Nicki love antiques. They frequently travel to New Orleans because they love the area but also because the antique shopping there is famous. Justin showed me two cast iron Victorian chandeliers hanging in their home that they purchased in New Orleans. They are impressive chandeliers as is the rest of the Gothic antique furniture in the home! I felt like I should have paid admission to view all the beauty.

And the story of the Opperman's would not be complete without their four Labrador retrievers: Bell, Gus, Leo, and Norman. Norman is a black lab; the other three are yellow labs, and they are all ever so friendly and adore attention! Justin jokes that the labs are Nicki's "babies".

Justin's next car purchase, he hopes, will be a brass vehicle! Horseless carriage in front of a restored Victorian home here we come!! So, if you have any leads, let him know!

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### **Some numbers from this year's Wisconsin Model A Reunion** held in July

There were 45 families this year, that brought 41 Model A's.

Those families were made up of 85 adults and 26 kids. The auction brought in \$864 (down because of it being cancelled early due to heavy storm).

Ticket sales for the Basket Raffle was \$896 and the Sunday Raffle was \$433.

To help better plan next year's event, we are looking for feedback on this year's event. What did you enjoy? What would you change? Sorry, changing the weather for next year is above our pay grade.

Reply back to this email [wirapidsmodela@gmail.com](mailto:wirapidsmodela@gmail.com), give us your feedback. Even if you did not go, let us know why.

Tony Sillman, Webmaster, [Wisconsin Rapids Model A Reunion](#)



Mike Ehman  
John Etter  
Richard Fink  
Lloyd Gauerke  
Jim Hameister  
Ralph Hayden  
Bob Hegner  
Mike Hoks  
Steve Jatzczak  
Bill Lindsley  
Chuck Lukas  
Randy McCarry  
Jim Meyers  
John Nowak  
Fred Pennings  
Les Ponto  
Jeremy Reichwald  
Ray Schmoeker  
Dave Slattebo  
Tom Schmidt  
Paul Stephany  
Gene Steinfeldt  
Tom Steinfeldt  
Gary Tortelli  
Dennis Voss



### **Editor's Note:**

**November is the month to give thanks,** not only to our Veteran's ----but to Nickle A club members who continually go above and beyond. Please take a moment to thank them and make the tasks they take on

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**2024 Model A Reunion Planning Meeting** The Planning Meeting for the 2024 Wisconsin Model A Reunion will be held at 11:30 a.m. on October 28th, 2023, at the Nekimi Town Hall.

This meeting brings members from each of the four clubs together to plan for an exciting weekend in July. The Town Hall is located at the intersection of Highway 26 and County N, south of Oshkosh, and west of the intersection of Interstate 41 and State Highway 26.

If you have ideas and suggestions for next year's Reunion, and cannot attend this meeting, please contact someone in your local club who is able to or e-mail the Reunion's web site at [wirapidsmodela@gmail.com](mailto:wirapidsmodela@gmail.com). As a reminder, the 2024 Reunion dates have been tentatively set as July 26th, 27th, and 28th.

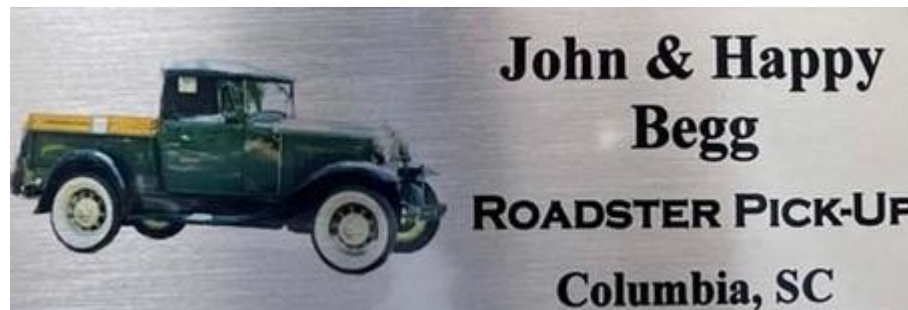
## **MAFFI (Model A Ford Foundation Inc) Minute**

Your former MAFFI Minute contact, Mike DuBreuil has retired ---a well-earned retirement, I might add. Your monthly MAFFI updates will come from me, Cindy Ellenbecker, each month in the future, and I look forward to serving you.

Fund raising for the Model A Ford Foundation Inc. Museum Expansion is in full swing! It's *happy* news that we've outgrown our current facility and *exciting* news that the plan is to double the size of the current museum so that more cars and era vignettes can be displayed, more interactive displays can be set up, and a working repair shop can be used for fleet maintenance and educational purposes. The Gilmore Auto Museum sees 120,000 guests a year with visits year around! So, an expansion is a welcome "addition" any way you look at it!

We certainly welcome and encourage club donations, but individuals can be a part of the history of the museum too in the expansion efforts with the My 'A' program. A display inside the new addition will feature individuals who have donated \$200 with a

- 4.5 " x 2" plaque with YOUR name
- And YOUR car's color picture
- And YOUR city and state



The sample above shows what the plaque will look like. The display will be arranged by Model Year (1928-1931). Contact information for getting your

willingly a bit easier by complying with timelines and offering your help moving forward.

1. Jim and Lisa Watermolen, who always step up and host a meeting when no host can be found!

2. Fred Pennings, who spends untold hours chasing people down to pay their dues so he doesn't have to take them off the roster. Members, let's surprise him this year and ALL pay our dues before the end of December. Would you like to be making phone calls to people to ask them to pay their dues?

3. Roy and Julie Farley, Jim and Lisa Watermolen, and Fred and Joan Pennings for continuing to orchestrate the annual Christmas party. Each year they ask if someone else would like to take it over and since no one comes forward, they cheerily do all the work one more year.

It's folks like this who keep this club together! Let's show them some appreciation with a big THANK YOU!

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name and car on the wall: Val Maron, PH 847-951-5858 or email [TheMyAProgram@gmail.com](mailto:TheMyAProgram@gmail.com)

Club chapters wishing to donate can contact John Begg at 803-727-4392 or [President@maffi.org](mailto:President@maffi.org)

Isn't it exciting to be a part of our hobby's growth and history?

Cindy Ellenbecker, MAFFI Board of Trustees- Secretary

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**It's time to pay your 2024 dues. Fred Pennings needs the \$20 no later than December 1 to keep you on our roster and to keep the newsletter rolling in 😊**

**Also, please complete the form below each year so we can keep our records accurate. Thank you!**

**New or Renewing Membership Application - Please fill out annually -records update**

NAME: (for name tag) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/PARTNER: (for name tag) \_\_\_\_\_

MODEL A (s) year/type \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Her birthday \_\_\_\_\_ His birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary Date \_\_\_\_\_

Military: Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Years Served \_\_\_\_\_

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Checks payable to Nickle A Model A Club (\$20.00) and mail them to:  
Fred Pennings, 2201 Kavanaugh Rd., Kaukauna, WI 54130

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