



"The River Cities Running Board"



RIVER CITIES MODEL "A" FORD CLUB

<http://www.rivercitiesrunningboard.com>

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MAFCA AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER, 2002-2009, 2011 and 2013

OLD CARS WEEKLY GOLDEN QUILL AWARD 2004, 2010



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RIVER CITIES MODEL "A" FORD CLUB

This newsletter is the official publication of the River Cities Model A Ford Club, a chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America. It is mailed monthly to all members in good standing. Dues are \$25.00 per year per family. Membership in the MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA is a requirement for membership in the River Cities Model A Ford Club.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Al Lugo
Vice President	Mark Smith
Secretary	Connie Penny
Treasurer	Richard Noxon
Benevolence	Mary Nelle Singer

OTHER POSITIONS:

Newsletter Editor	Bill Shirley
Tour Director	Jim Langley
Publicity Director	Pat Gamble
Program Director	John Robertson
Club Liaison	Joe Spooner
Membership Director	Al Lugo
Awards Director	Richard Noxon
Historian Director	Lisa Farrar
MATTS Team Leader	Bobby Penny

The River Cities Model "A" Ford Club permanent address is: P.O. Box 342, Columbus, GA 31902

All mail should be sent to the River Cities Model A Ford Club address above. Matters concerning the newsletter should be sent to the editor to insure timely publication.

FOUNDING MEMBERS:

*Jim Timbes	Bob Smith	Bobby Penny
Mildred Timbes	Al Lugo	*Robert Jackson
*Dan Palmer	Lawrence Farrar	*Bettie Jackson
Dan Diener	Bill Buck	(*Deceased)

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Jim Timbes NOV 2000-DEC 2001	Bob Smith DEC 2001-2003
Mildred Timbes DEC 2003-2004	Jim Langley DEC 2004-2006
Joe Spooner DEC 2006-2008	Jim Langley DEC 2008-2009
Jim Timbes DEC 2009-2010	Al Lugo DEC 2010-2012
Paul Singer Dec 2012-2014	Joe Spooner DEC 2014-2015
Jim Langley Dec 2015-2017	Sharon Webb Dec 2017-2018
Jim Langley Dec 2018-2019	Al Lugo Dec 2019-2020

From the President...

September 2020

Our August meeting was attended by 15 members. Slowly but surely more members are coming out to meet in fellowship. I am looking forward to Covid-19 going away and all members feeling safe to attend the planned club activities.

We have secured reservations for our Club Meeting for the next two months at T-Bones Steak House & Grill while we wait for our regular meeting place at Woodmen to open again.

The Bylaws change was voted on at the August Club Meeting. By now you should have received a copy by email. If you do not have email you will receive it in the regular mail.

We were sorry to cancel the August tour when we were faced with having rain in the forecast. As always, the decision was made with the best weather information we had at the time. That Saturday we had overcast skies all day, but never a drop of rain. This time the weather forecast won, and we lost. We all know how hard Jim Langley works to plan our tours and we were sorry to cancel the tour.



Stay tuned for our next Club Workshop at “Al’s Garage” the date will be announced soon.

See you on the road soon,

Al

Henry Ford quote provided by Joe Spooner:

Once when Ford was talking about church he said:

“It always does a man good to step inside a church. Even if there isn’t any service, just to step inside will do him good. No one could help getting a benefit merely by being in a place where so many good thoughts have been experienced”

“PARICIPATE,

DRIVE, HAVE FUN”

“Celebrating the 20th Year of the Founding of Our Club”

River Cities Model A Ford Club

The August meeting of the River Cities Model A Club was held August 20, 2020 at the T-Bones Restaurant in Phenix City, Alabama.

Members present were: President Al Lugo, Bob Smith, Leroy Napier and his son Connor, Mary Nell Singer, Mickey Timbes, Tom and Sharon Ellis, John and Rickie Robertson, Bob and Connie Penny, Richard Noxon, Jim Langley and Mark Smith.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer by Jim Langley.

Minutes: there were no corrections to the minutes and a motion by John Robertson and second by Rickie Robertson minutes were approved as read in the newsletter.

Treasurer Report: Richard Noxon gave the Treasurers report and it was approved by a motion from Tom Ellis and second by Mickey Timbes report was approved as given.

Old Business: It was decided if the Woodman of the World building was not available, we would meet at T-Bones restaurant on our September 17th meeting.

Burger King is not available for planning meetings so it will be held at the MATT meeting September 5th at Bob Penny's shop and will begin at 8:00 A.M.

A thank you note from Gloria Willett and the Wynnton Methodist Church was read concerning \$75.00 Contribution for Louis Willett.

T-Shirts and sweatshirts are on hold until more members start attending meetings.

A proposal and vote were taken for change in by-law concerning charitable contributions of \$75.00 made for members in good standing chosen by their survivors.

Dues are Due on January 1-last day of January.

All proposals were discussed and voted yes on.

It was voted on and approved that Mary Anne Lester and Gloria Willett will be awarded a lifetime membership to the River Cities Model A Club.

New Business: Nominating Committee will be formed at the September meeting. Nominations will be presented at the October meeting, Election at the November meeting and installation at the December meeting.

We discussed upcoming tours. The tour for August 22 was cancelled because of weather.

Future tours will be listed in the newsletter.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Connie Penny

Club secretary

JOIN US!

BY AL Lugo

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 17, 2020-6:00PM (EASTERN)

Our next Club Meeting will be at T-Bones Steakhouse & Grill, on Highway 80, in Phenix City.

COMING EVENTS

September 5	MATTS & Planning Meeting (Saturday))
September 17	Club Meeting
September 19	Club Tour (To be determined)
October 3	MATTS & Planning Meeting (Saturday)
October 15	Club Meeting
October 17	Club Tour (To be determined)

CRUISE EVENINGS

Every 1 st Tuesday	Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway
Every 2 nd Tuesday	Jim Bob's (By Hobby Lobby)
Every 3 rd Tuesday	Jason Deli (Close to Sears)
Every 4 th Tuesday	Country's on Broadway
Every 5 th Tuesday	El Vaquero Mexican Restaurant (Stadium Drive)
Every 2 nd Saturday	Opelika Home Depot Cruise In
Every 3 rd Saturday	Phenix City Home Depot Cruise In
Every 4 th Saturday	Steak and Shake (Bradley Park Drive)
Last Saturday of month	Opelika Cruise In at the Tracks
Every Sunday AM	IHOP Airport Thruway

NATIONAL:

June 21-26	MAFCA National Convention (CANCELLED)
December 3-6	National Awards Banquet, Fort Worth, TX (CANCELLED)

ANNIVERSARIES



September 19th Howard and Barbara Ruddick



**September 16th Leroy Napier
September 19th Mickey Timbes
September 24th Louise Morris**

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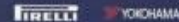
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MODEL A TINKER TIME SHOP

Information by Al Lugo; Photos by Mark Smith & Al Lugo

Members met at Bobby's shop on August 1, 2020...



"Bobby talks about a tool used to remove a rear hub he recently purchased" He also reminded us to always check and torque our log nuts in our Model A's ...



“Mark Smith talking about how he recently cleaned his gas tank in his newest Model “A” purchase”, a 31 Pickup without removing it, using “Rust 911”. His results were incredible...



“Richard talked about some of the problems he had with the starter switch in his 1928 Sports Coupe”



"More members' drove their Model "A"'s to MATTS"



"During the planning portion of the MATTS gathering Jim Langley spoke about the upcoming tours"



“Bobby talks about fixing the connections on the Amp Meter, and finding the Horn short on his newest Model A purchase, a 1930 Model “A” Tudor”



“Bobby’s” newest Model “A” purchase has a “fender eyebrow” an exceedingly rare finding

“Hope you join us for the September MATTS on September 5, 2020”



A short History of the Model-A Ford

The year was 1926. Henry Ford's "Tin Lizzie" was getting old. It had been produced since Oct. 1st, 1908. There had been very few major changes to the car even though it did look quite different. With his son Edsel pushing to move past the Model T and design and build a "new ford" the order was finally given on July 20th, 1926 to start work on a new ford, the "Model A", although that name had not been picked yet!.

Henry made the last of the Model T's on May 26th, 1927. It was car No. 15,000,000. It is said Henry spent \$100,000,000 (Yes, 100 Million Dollars!) on the new car design and for retooling of the Rouge plant to build the new Model A. Quite a sum in the 1920's! The car contained over 6800 parts whereas the Model T only contained about 5000.

Model A No. 1 rolled off the production_line on Oct. 20th, 1927 but the public didn't see the car until Dec. 2nd, 1927. Unlike the Model T, the new Ford came in seven body styles and an amazing four colors!

The Engine was an L-head 4-cylinder, 'cast bloc' type. It had a 3-7/8" X 4-1/4" bore and stroke with a displacement of 200.5 cubic inches. SAE horsepower of 24.03 with brake horsepower rated at 40 at 2200 rpm. Typical gas mileage was between 20 and 30 mpg using a Zenith one-barrel carburetor. It's 103.5" wheelbase rode on 4.50 x 21" tires with a gear ratio of 3.77:1. The transmission was a 3-speed sliding gear unit with 1 speed reverse. The Model A had 4-wheel mechanical brakes and Houdaille, double action hydraulic shock absorbers with semi-elliptic front and rear transverse springs. Top Speed was around 65 mph. Standard equipment on all Models included a Starter, Five Steel Spoke Wheels, Dash light, Mirror, Windshield Wiper, Gasoline Gauge, Rear and Stop Light, Speedometer, Tools and Pressure Grease Gun Lubrication.

The "Model A" Tool kit included with each car had the following items: Adjustable wrench, 2 open end wrenches, 2 tire irons, jack, pliers, screwdriver, tire pump, grease gun, combination spark plug wrench and head bolt wrench and Instruction book which all fit into Snap Pouch.

As for price. The new Model A Tudor Sedan sold for \$495.00 with the Fordor bringing \$570.00 F.O.B. Detroit. For \$385.00 you could get a Roadster and \$395.00 would get you a beautiful Phaeton. At \$495.00, the new Ford Coupe was nice but for \$550.00 the Sport Coupe with a standard Rumble Seat was a hot seller.

Henry Ford Quote: "Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs."

THE LITERARY DIGEST AUGUST 16, 1930

Tests for Decrepit Autos

EVERY State should have laws requiring a periodic inspection for all automobiles, and a certificate of their fitness before license plates are issued or renewed. This is the recommendation of a report presented to the National Conference on Highway Safety at a recent meeting. Says *Science News-Letter*, a Science Service publication (Washington):

“Stressing the need for a periodic health examination for cars, the report states that in the course of special investigations defective brakes were found in about one car out of four. Defective lights were found in from 13 to 25 per cent. of the cars. Steering gears, horns, windshield wipers, and other accessories which figure in driving safety, were found to be out of order in other cars.

“Since so many individuals will not keep their cars fit, the report recommends that every State should have an adequate highway patrol force whose members are trained to recognize the symptoms of mechanical defects.”



DRIVING WITH MISS KATIE:

The Art of the Wave is what I have been thinking about lately. How does that relate to Model A's? Well, I will share with you some of my thoughts. Since the world has been shut down, Mr. Ed and I have been taking Model A rides every weekend. Some 200 plus miles and some just 30 miles or so. We have found lots of new (new to us) country roads. We have gone with friends but mostly we have gone alone. We get up early, hop in an A and find some place to have a country breakfast or buy some fresh vegetables or just ride. What I have noticed on all these adventures is people waving. Granted anyone I know that sees me in my 1999 Toyota 4Runner going through town will wave at me, but everyone I pass on the street does not wave at me in my Toyota. But get on a country road in a Model A and you cannot keep people from waving. If they are mowing the yard, they may even stop to stare as they wave. If they are on the front porch, they may yell into the house for the rest of the family to come look. I was just thinking last weekend as every car passed us and waved, they also were smiling at those crazy old people in that old car. I just love the reaction of everyone to our cars. I enjoy stopping at the gas station and fielding hundreds of questions. You know, you have heard them too, "what kinda of gas mileage do you get," "what kind of engine are you running?" "how fast will that thang go?" It is really funny that the same questions are always asked and I have gotten really good with the answers. I can even now tell them about the engine, crank, cam, head and carburetor. Still the best part for me is the wave. The little kids waving like crazy, the senior adults clapping and waving, the young motorcycle riders waving with the thumbs up and the families driving by and all of them looking out the windows and waving. I like to think that in some way the sheer joy I get from being in the Model A is somehow transferred to those we pass. I know that we are all weary of the way things are going and the way so much of the activities of our hobby have been canceled but I want to encourage you to at least get out in your area and see if you can experience the Art of the Wave like we have done. It is good for the soul.

Katie