



## "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, 2011and 2013
OLD CARS WEEKLY GOLDEN QUILL AWARD 2004, 2010



### RIVER CITIES MODEL "A" FORD CLUB

Th is 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 Bob 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 Al Lugo Membership Director **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 2019-2020-2021

# From the President. MAY2021

Thank you to all the members that attended our dear friend Jim Langley funeral. The Club had a great attendance and I believe we were able to convey to Jim's family how much this great man meant to us.

Welcome again to David and Sharon Laney, and Jimmy Napier Sr. our newest club members. We are overly excited that they have already participated of several club activities. They are both working on their nice 1929 Model "A" pickup's.

Remember to all that can attend, that John Gilson, has asked if we can bring our Model "A"'s to the Warm Springs Nursing Home on May 5, 2021 from 2-3 PM Eastern. We already have 3 members and their cars to participate.

would like to encourage as many members as possible to participate in the East Alabama Old Car Club Show. They always have a great show, and they always create a class for our Model "A" s.



This month's club tour on May 22, 2021, will be to Bryan Chin's garage. Besides all the great memorabilia you will have a chance to see "The Last Model "A", the car made for Henry Ford II.

See you on the road,

Αl



Photo by Al Lugo

"Model As are lined up at Jim Langley's funeral."

"PARICIPATE,
DRIVE, HAVE FUN

## River Cities Model A Ford Club

The April meeting of the River Cities Model A Club was held April 15, 2021 at the China Buffet.

Members present were: President Al Lugo, Bob and Connie Penny, Mary Nell Singer, Tom and Sharon Ellis, Mark Smith, Brian Chin, Joe and June Spooner, Wayne Kennedy, Dick Noxon, Jimmy and Angie Napier, Bob Smith, Scott Singer and Steve Inabinet.

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and followed by the Blessing from Al Lugo.

We had a moment of silence in honor of Jim Langley that had passed away April 14, 2021.

Members proceeded to the buffet line.

President Al Lugo began meeting with the funeral arrangements for Jim Langley. The funeral was being held April 16,2021 at the Ft. Mitchell National Cemetery at 11:00

Eastern time. Customary Club donation to family's choice was the Columbus Hospice. No vote was required because it is in our by-laws. Some members were personally donating to the Model A Ford Foundation in Jim's memory.

Members under the weather: Larry Farrar was still waiting on his surgery.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's report: Dick Noxon gave the treasurer's report and approved by motion by Bob Smith and seconded by Wayner Kennedy.

Old Business: Bob Smith was thanked for directing the March tour - Great Roads.

six Model A's participated.

Club jackets that were turned in at Matts to have the 20th Anniversary embroider on them were ready for pick-up and Bob Penny brought them to the meeting. Notify Bob if you have not picked your jacket up.

Programs are still needed for July, September, October, and November meetings.

Contact John Robertson if you would like to do a program.

Still needed is a topic for the next Workshop which will be September 11, 2021.

New Business: Sherri and John Gilson Were asking for members to consider driving to the nursing home in Warm Springs May 5 2021 to show the residents their Model A's.

Club meeting for May will be held at the China Buffet.

Program: Member Brian Chin gave a great program on a trip he and his wife had made to Bowyer Town Historical Museum which is in Pennsylvania. It was enjoyed by everyone. Brian also invited members to tour his garage April 29th, May 22nd, or June 4th. He has a great collection of cars and other interesting items.

April Club Tour: We will meet April 17, 2021 if weather permits. Meet at the Phenix City Amphitheater at 8:00 AM Eastern Time. If you wish to eat breakfast, meet at Ruth Ann's at 7:00 AM.

May Tour will be our Paul Singer Memorial Tour where we will be going to Brain Chin's garage and see the last Model A Ford. This will be one May 22. Check newsletter for future tours and activities.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Motion by

Bob Smith and second by Mark Smith.

Submitted by

**Connie Penny** 

**Club Secretary** 

## IN MEMORY OF JIM LANGLEY

GOOD MORNING, MY NAME IS AL LUGO AND I AM THE PRESIDENT OF THE RIVER CITIES MODEL A FORD CLUB. SOME TIME AGO JIM ASKED ME IF I COULD SAY A FEW WORDS AT HIS FUNERAL.

WE GATHER HERE TODAY TO HONOR A VERY SPECIAL MAN, A VERY GOOD AND LOYAL FRIEND WHO WE ALL ADMIRED GREATLY. I HAD THE PLEASURE OF KNOWING JIM FOR MORE THEN 18 YEARS AS MEMBERS OF THE RIVER CITIES MODEL A FORD CLUB. WHEN I THINK OF JIM, I THINK OF SEVERAL WORDS TO DESCRIBE HIM: FAMILY MAN, AMERICAN HERO, LOYAL FRIEND, DEDICATED TO SERVICE, AND HISTORIAN.

FAMILY MAN: JIM CARED GREATLY ABOUT HIS FAMILY. HE WAS TOTALLY DEDICATED TO HIS BELOVED WIFE PAT, OF 43 YEARS. WHEN SHE GOT SICK, HE WAS CONSTANLY AT HER SIDE. AND WHILE HE STAYED ACTIVE IN OUR CLUB, HE MADE SURE WE ALL KNEW THAT SHE WOULD COME FIRST. HE ALWAYS SPOKE VERY HIGHLY OF JILL, JAY, HIS GRANDCHILDREN AND GREAT GRANDCHILDREN. HE WAS VERY PROUD OF THEM. WHEN HE KNEW I WAS SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME IN MY GARAGE, HE WOULD SOMETIMES CALL ME AT SEVEN AND SAY: TIME TO TURN THE LIGHTS OFF, GO HOME AND BE WITH YOUR FAMILY AND HE WOULD HANG UP BEFORE I SAID SOMETHING.

AMERICAN HERO: PERHAPS SOME OF YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW THAT JIM WAS AN AIR FORCE COMBAT VETERAN OF THE VIETNAM WAR, FLYING THE AWESOME B-52 BOMBER AND LATER SERVING

IN THE STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND, FLYING THE B-52 WITH ITS NUCLEAR PAYLOAD READY TO DEPLOY IT AT MOMENTS NOTICE. WHEN HE LEFT ACTIVE DUTY, HE JOINED THE AIR FORCE RESERVE AND FLEW C-141 BASED IN MONTGOMERY. PERHAPS JIM WAS MY AIRPLANE PILOT WHEN I MADE SOME OF MY PARACHUTE JUMPS AT AIRBORNE SCHOOL AT FORT BENNING.

LOYAL FRIEND: I BELIEVE JIM NEVER MET A STRANGER,
HE MADE FRIENDS EASILY, AND WHEN YOU BECAME HIS
FRIEND HE BECAME YOUR FRIEND FOR LIFE. ASK STAN, CHAD, BOBBY, BOB, JOE YORK, MYSELF
AND MANY OTHERS
HERE TODAY.

DEDICATED TO SERVICE; BESIDES HIS GREAT SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY IN THE AR FORCE HE WAS ALWAYS SERVING OTHERS IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. WHEN I FIRST MET JIM AT A CLUB ACTIVITY HE WAS GIVING US A GREAT PRESENTATION ON LICENSE PLATES. HE CONSTANTLY PRESENTED PROGRAMS AT OUR CLUB AND ALWAYS ADDED TO OUR CONVERSATIONS ON OUR BELOVED MODEL A. HE ROUTINELY CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES TO THE CLUB NEWSLETTER. HE IS THE ONLY MEMBER OF OUR 20 YEAR OLD CLUB TO HAVE SERVED AS ITS PRESIDENT FOR 4 DIFFERENT TERMS. HE SERVED ALSO THE CLUB IN MANY OTHER POSITIONS. WHEN I VISITED JIM THE LAST TIME, HE WAS AT THE HOSPITAL, INSTEAD OF RELAXING HE WAS PLANNING SOME OF OUR FUTURE MODEL A TOURS. IN FACT, TOMORROW WE ARE GOING ON A TOUR THAT JIM PLANNED.

HISTORIAN: JIM WAS A CONSUMATE FORD HISTORIAN, IF YOU HAD A QUESTION ABOUT FORD HISTORY, HE WOULD KNOW THE ANSWER OR CALL YOU BACK A FEW DAYS LATER AFTER HE RESEARCHED THE TOPIC. HE CONSTANTLY DID FORD RESEARCH AND PUT TOGETHER MANY VOLUMES ON FORD HISTORY, MANY OF WHICH ARE IN OUR CLUB LIBRARY TODAY. HE WAS A MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA NATIONAL JUDGE. JIM PUBLISHED THE ONLY BOOK ON THE CAR DEALERSHIPS IN COLUMBUS, AND HAD A SECOND BOOK READY TO PUBLISH ABOUT THE PONTIAC

MOTOR COMPANY. I AM SURE HE IS NOW IN HEAVEN TALKING TO HENRY FORD AND CHECKING ON SOME OF HIS QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY.

AS YOU CAN SEE JIM LIVED A FULL AND AMAZING LIFE. HE
LEAVES A LARGE VOID IN ALL THAT KNEW HIM, AND WE WILL ALL
MISS HIM GREATLY. TO HIS FAMILY, HIS MANY FRIENDS, IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THE GREAT
MEMORIES WILL GIVE YOU COMFORT. WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER AND CHERISH HIS
MEMORY. WE WILL NEVER FORGET YOU JIM.





# JOIN US?

BY AL Lugo

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 20, 2021-6:00PM (EASTERN)

Our next Club Meeting will be at Buffet City at 2401 10<sup>th</sup> Street, in Phenix City.

## COMING EVENTS

May	, 1	A 2TTANA	Plannina	Meetina	(Saturday	y: 9:00AM)
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May 1	Legacy Reserve Car Show (Old Town)
May 5	Warm Spring Nursing Home Visit
May 15	East Alabama Old Car Club Show
May 20	Club Meeting (Program: Mark Smith)
May 22	Club Paul Singer Memorial Tour

May 29-30 Scumbugs Car Show

June 5 MATTS & Planning Meeting (Saturday: 9:00AM)
June 12 Southeast Alabama Spring Swap Meet- USA Town

June 17 Club Meeting (Program: Al Lugo)

June 19 Club Tour

#### **CRUISE EVENINGS**

Every 1st Tuesday	Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway
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Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday

Jim Bob's (By Hobby Lobby)

Jason Deli (Close to Sears)

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

Country's on Broadway

Every 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday El Vaguero Mexican Restaurant (Stadium Drive)

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Opelika Home Depot Cruise In Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Phenix City Home Depot Cruise In Every 4th Saturday Steak and Shake (Bradley Park Drive)

Last Saturday of month Opelika Cruise In at the Tracks

Every Sunday AM IHOP Airport Thruway

#### **NATIONAL:**

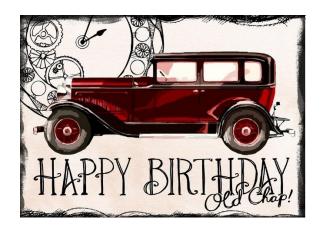
June 20-25 MAFCA National Tour- North Conway, New Hampshire

December 2-5 National Awards Banquet, Fort Worth, TX June 12-17, 2022 MAFCA National Convention, Kerrville, TX

## **ANNIVERSARIES**



May 4<sup>th</sup> Dexter & Kathleen Walden May 20<sup>th</sup> Tom & Laura Penny May 23<sup>rd</sup> William & Anna Quick May 25<sup>th</sup> Al & Lisbeth Lugo



May 1<sup>st</sup> Al Lugo May 4<sup>th</sup> Teresa Chin May 15<sup>th</sup> Pat Gamble May 18<sup>th</sup> Grover Barfield May 27<sup>th</sup> William Quick

## **River Cities Model A Ford Club Sponsors**

Advantage Hearing Aids 2326-B Warms Spring Rd Columbus, GA 31904 706 576-5555

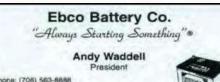
> Justin Jones Audiologist











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## **MODEL A TINKER TIME SHOP**

Information and photos by Al Lugo

"Members met at Bobby's shop on April 3, 2021."



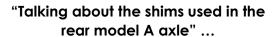
"Bobby showing some of the great component diagrams sold by MAFCA"....



"Chad showing one of the carburetors in his collection" ...



"Bobby giving a quiz: what is wrong with these wheels?" ...





"Chad showing an NOS Model A wiring harness "...



If you miss these great gathering's, you are missing a great opportunity to learn many things about our beloved Model "A"



Bill took his car to the 2021 Piedmont Volunteer recognition Drive Thru. The car was a great hit with everyone.

### Learning to drive country style By Vic Groah

In rural Oregon, a driver's license could be had on your 14th birthday if you lived in the country and there was no school bus route to your area. My circumstances fit both. Like most farm kids I had been plowing and disking for some time so driving a tractor was old hat. The rules of the road had to be learned but the state driver's manual told you all that stuff. Father had nooo patience to teach me to drive; mother would take some time but not much. I was pretty much on my own. I had a Cushman scooter that was purchased for a princely sum of \$20 that I drove to work. The police pretty much ignored us kids on our scooters. They knew we needed them to go to work on the farms. Somewhere father had come up with a 1944 Crosley panel truck. Yes, they did not build cars in 1944 but there were some military vehicles built and this one was made for navy use. It had a twocylinder Waukesha engine with 13 horsepower. It would putt along at a scalding 35 miles per hour and run, seemingly forever on a gallon of gas. Father let me use this mighty machine to self-teach driving. Mother would set up a pair of buckets about the length of a car and I would practice parallel parking. The panel had no rear windows or mirrors, so I had to learn to estimate the distance. With some practice

I got particularly good at parking and all the rest of the stuff was only common sense and knowing the driving rules. On practice drives in town the local small-town police looked the other way. I certainly was not speeding in the Crosley and had been seen in town for a couple of years on the Cushman. I borrowed mother's 1942 Chevrolet to take the state test and got a perfect score. The best was parking. I just whipped that Chevrolet into the space like a pro. Unlike with the Crosley I could see out back and it had mirrors. To my great sorrow when I passed the test father destroyed the sweet and exceedingly rare little panel truck. I was angry at that but was to find the next several of my own cars fell to the same fate. I bought a 1932 Chevrolet for \$5 to drive, it soon met father's cutting torch. If I were thought to be out of line for something he would destroy my car as a lesson to not mess up; lost five cars that way through my high school years. I must have been a slow learner. I received my license on my 14th birthday. I was promptly promoted to field boss in charge of a crew at the corporate farm where I worked and was issued a company pickup. By the age of 15 I was driving a company truck hauling hops. Those indeed were different times. VG

The Model A was the first Ford to use the standard set of driver controls with conventional clutch and brake pedals; throttle and gearshift. Previous Ford models used controls that had become uncommon to drivers of other makes. The Model A's fuel tank was in the cowl, between the engine compartment's fire wall and the dash panel. It had a visual fuel gauge, and the fuel flowed to the carburetor by gravity. In cooler climates, owners could purchase an aftermarket cast iron unit to place over the exhaust manifold to provide heat to the cab. A small door provided adjustment of the amount of hot air entering the cab. Model A was the first car to have safety glass in the windshield.

Given Henry's disdain for cosmetic vanity as applied to automobiles, he left the design of Model A's body work to a team led by Edsel.











