



# "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 Mark Smith
Secretary Connie Penny
Treasurer Richard Noxon
Benevolence Mary Nelle Singer

### OTHER POSITIONS:

**Newsletter Editor Bill Shirley Bob Smith Tour Director 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 2019-2020-2021

## From the President...



Congratulations to all that attended and won awards at the East Alabama Old Car Club Show. We had 5 Model "A" s and 3 more modern classics. Members won 7 top awards including best paint by our own Mark Smith.

The May meeting was attended by 23 members. More and more members are now coming out to Club activities and participating of Club activities. Thank you to Mark Smith for presenting a great program on the Crosley car. Mark even drove his Dad's Crosley "Hot Shot" to the meeting.

Had a great Paul Singer Memorial Tour II.
Led by our new Tour Director, Bob Smith.
We had 7 Model "A" s and many
members. We all had a chance to visit
Bryan Chin's great garage and his historic
"Last Model "A" As always the Chin family
were great host. We then had a great lunch
at "The Mason Jar" restaurant in Auburn.
Thank you, Bryan, for a great day and Bob
Smith for taking and bringing us back on
great Model "A" roads.

Please look at our proposal to update our Bylaws in another section of the Newsletter.

See all that you are missing if you have not attended a Club activity? Remember our anniversary motto "Participate, drive, have fun" Your car needs the exercise!

See you on the road,

ΑI



Photo by Victor Chin

"DURING PAUL SINGER MEMORIAL TOUR

II"

"PARICIPATE,
DRIVE, HAVE FUN"

### River Cities Model A Ford Club

The May meeting of the River Cities Model a club was held at the China Buffet on May 20, 2021. Member's present were Bob Smith, Mark Smith, Mary Nell Singer, Bob and Connie Penny, John Gilson, Al Lugo, Richard Noxon, Brian Chin, Joe and June Spooner, Joe Carter, Steve Inabit, Lee and Krystal Napier and their sons Connor and Christopher, Jimmy and Angie Napier, David and Sharon. Guest Mike Peterson and Rick Johnson.

President Al Lugo called the meeting to order:

After the Pledge of Allegiance and blessing from Joe Carter the members proceeded to the buffet.

Members under the weather were Larry Farrah, Ricky Robertson, and Mickey Timbes.

Mike Peterson invited the club to a Memorial weekend at the Naval Museum for Weekend of Vintage Volkswagens and Model A cars on the 28th and 29th of May.

Several members were interested in attending. The event is called Bugs on the Hooch.

Minutes: Having no corrections the minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter. Motion by Bob Smith and seconded by Mark Smith.

Treasurer's Report: Dick Noxon gave the treasurer's report, and it was approved as given.

John and Sharon are working on a future visit of club members to the Warm Springs Nursing home. The past visit was cancelled because of bad weather. A new date will be announced later.

Club members voted to have the June meeting at the China Buffet on June 17, 2021.

A proposal was made to change the name of the Presidents awards and Spark plug award to Jim Timbes Award and the Jim Langley Spark Club Award which will be given and chosen by the club president. Motion passed.

Program: Club member Mark Smith gave a terrific program on the Crosley Corporation, most of the members had heard of this automobile that was made in the 1939-1959. He showed a great slide show and drove his Crosley he owns. His 84-year-old father had owned one called the Hot Shot. Mark had found one in great shape and bought it for his father on his 84th birthday. Thanks Mark for a great program.

The Paul Singer Memorial Tour will be Saturday May 22. The members will meet at the Stadium in Phenix City at 8:30 and proceed to Brian Chin's home in Auburn Alabama to see his wonderful collections of cars and other items. May 29th and 30th Scumbug Car show at the Naval Museum.

June 5th MATTS will not meet at Bobby Penny's shop for the month June 5th. Bob will be out of town and Mark Smith will oversee the meeting. Mark will notify members where they will meet for breakfast. Look in the newsletter for other events.

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Connie Penny, Secretary

# JOIN US?

BY AL Lugo

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 17, 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**

June 5	MATTS & Planning Meeting- **CANCELLED**
June 12	Southeast Alabama Spring Swap Meet- USA Town
June 17	Club Meeting (Program: Al Lugo)
June 19	Club Breakfast Tour
July 3	MATTS & Planning Meeting (Saturday: 9:00AM)
July 15	Club Meeting (Program: Bryan Chin))
July 17	Club Breakfast Tour

#### CRUISE EVENINGS

·	
Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	Jim Bob's (By Hobby Lobby)
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	Jason Deli (Close to Sears)
Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	Country's on Broadway
Every 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	El Vaquero 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

# **ANNIVERSARIES**



June 15<sup>th</sup> Bryan & Teresa Chin June 16<sup>th</sup> Bill & Renate Shirley June 22<sup>nd</sup> Chris & Kathy LaClair

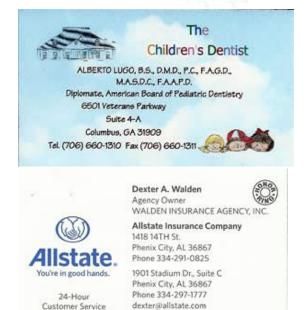


June 6<sup>th</sup> Anna Quick June 15<sup>th</sup> June Sponner June 25<sup>th</sup> Barbara Ruddick

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

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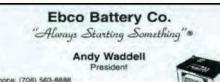
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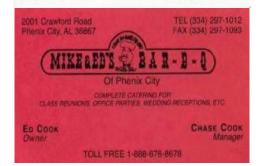
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# NOTICE: PROPOSED CHANGE TO CLUB BYLAWS

By: Al Lugo

During the May Club Meeting we announced our intentions to change our Club Bylaws. Our Bylaws were last updated August 20, 2020.

Our intention is to add Article X, with two Sections. The below is proposed:

## **ARTICLE X**

"At times, the Club President may want to award "The President Award" and or "The Spark Plug Award."

SECTION 1. The President Award:

"The President Award" will from now on be named "The Jim Timbes" President Award"

SECTION 2. The Spark Plug Award

"The Spark Plug Award" will from now on be named "The Jim Langley Spark Plug Award".

The above article and sections will be voted on during the June Meeting. Please send any comments you have to the Club President.



# **MODEL A TINKER TIME SHOP**

Information and photos by Al Lugo

"Members met at Bobby's shop on May 1, 2021" ...



"Bobby talking about some issues he had with a brake drum and how to correct it"....



"Studs correctly placed in drum"  $\dots$ 



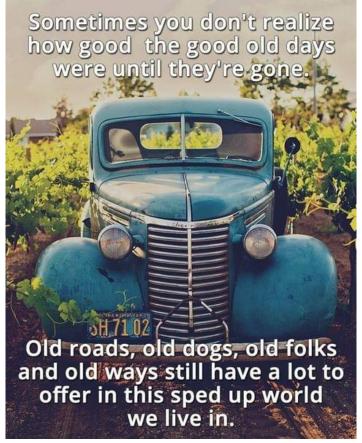
"One way you can correct the problem is by welding the studs as shown



"A homemade tool used to insert bearings into the drum"  $\dots$ 



"Booby shows the different components from the drum"...





May Tour, Our group of club cars at Bryan Chin's home to check out his collection of cars in Auburn Alabama

# Model A Mod



This ride is a classic beauty with a history. It is mostly a 1930 Ford Model A but it was modified with Ford TT truck axels in order to use it as a mail delivery truck back in the 30s in snowy Montana. That rubber is original Goodyear 11.25 x 24 pneumatic tractor tires. It is in beautiful condition with that perfect patina look. It still runs, although the owner will not take it faster than 10 mph because the front wheels start to wobble badly. Still, it is a very slick ride.

Here's a Ford Model T Flivver 'water buggy' with an optional high water kit, sold by Trilacoochee Ford in Green Swamp Florida, 1915.





Jacksonville Beach, 1932



### Learning To Drive by D.J. Freeman

I told you about my first car a \$5.00 '49 Ford Four Door when I was 14 years old. At that time, we had a 360-acre farm just west of Eugene Oregon. After the hay was cut, bailed and in the barn, we had several open fields. We had a stock, '46 flathead Ford pickup. I did not have a license to drive on the road, but there were those fallow fields that provided lots of room to drive. I took over one of the wide and long fields for my personal racetrack. I carved out a large oval track and won every fantasy race I ran. I learned to slide the rear wheels out in the turns and watch the dust fly. No matter how much I tore up the field, it had to be plowed and disced and planted before fall. One thing that gave me fits for a while was the road from the field to the house was a slight up hill and had some whoopty doos. Every time I hit one of the bumps and the front of the truck would rise, it would cause me to press the gas. I would raise my foot as quick as I could, and the truck would dive into the downside of the bump. That road almost shook me and the truck to death until I to learn to keep the gas steady going over the bumps. I did not have any money for gas, but I needed to keep my race car going. SO, I siphoned gas out of everything that had a gas tank. I siphoned the rototiller, the lawn mower, and every small engine on the farm. The big score was the Minneapolis Moline tractor. That old tractor had a large gas tank. I got to drive that tractor to wind row the hay in the field. It had an off-set engine, a hand lever clutch, and a square shaft on the PTO. Years later the family was sitting around telling stories about the farm and I told of my days as a race driver. My step-father said, "That explains why every time I tried to start something it was out of gas. Now it dawns on me, I should have been siphoning the family car and he would have just thought he was getting bad gas mileage. Hindsight. When I got my driver's license at 16 years old, we were living on our farm south of Roseburg Oregon. My step, father said I could drive the family cars if I paid the extra cost of the car insurance. Every 6 months I had to come up with \$18.00. After I gained a month or so of solo road experience, I felt it my responsibility to teach my sister (4 years younger than me) how to drive. There were 14 miles of back road, mostly gravel, from Roseburg to home. My sister (Jan) was in the Fiat 600 with me as we were heading home one day. This was the perfect time for her lesson so, I let her drive. As we were moving right along, Jan said, "That looks like Virgil (our step-father) behind us." In a panic I looked back and sure enough it was Virgil in the '56 Ford 2 door station wagon also headed home. I do not know if you have ever been in a Fiat 600, I will try to give you a feel for it. The front bucket seats are like lawn chairs without the arm rests. Your knees are almost against the dash, and with two people in the bucket seats, you are almost shoulder to shoulder. And sticking straight up between the bucket seats is the gearshift for the 4-speed transmission. Stepfather was gaining fast, and we had to think faster. Going into a wide sweeping gravel turn we switch seat. I raised up as much as I could, and Jan moved over the shifter and under me. I then made the return trip to the driver's seat. Stepfather caught up with us and I was driving. At home Stepfather said, "It was strange. When I first saw you up a head it looked like Jan was

driving but when I caught up to you, you were driving. (I wanted to say but I did not, To Quote Red Buttons, "Strange things are happening.") I just said, "Really? That is strange." Jan and I would have many more wild adventures in that Hot Fastback Italian sports car.