

RIVER CITIES MODEL "A" FORD CLUB

http://www.rivercitiesrunningboard.com

VOL 24 ISSUE 4 ESTABLISHED IN 2000 April 2024



Wishing you "A" Happy Spring

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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 e-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 Bryan Chin
Vice President Mark Smith
Secretary Connie Penny

Treasurer Richard Noxon/Joe Carter

Benevolence Mary Singer

Other Positions:

Newsletter Editor David Powell Bob Smith Tour Director Publicity Director Mark Smith Program Director John Robertson Club Liaison Joe Spooner **Membership Director** Al Lugo **Awards Director** William Jeter **Historian Director** Lisa Farrar **Bobby Penny MATTS Team Leader**

The River Cities Model "A" Ford Club's 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. <u>Matters concerning</u> 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:

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The April Drive Train, Ramblings from Your President:



We have now passed the last freeze date of 2024. Most of us have planted our vegetable and flower gardens for the year. With Spring comes the rain, and our First Model A outing to Roosevelt State Park Vietnam Veterans Day Event was cancelled because of heavy rain. Club Members Mark Smith, David Powell, Lee Napier, William Jeter and others will be heading to the Barrett-Jackson West Palm Beach Auction in April. We must get them to report on the status of the car market and reveal their

secrets of the joyous occasions and memories that were made when they return.

I know that members of our club have recently contemplated various repairs, swap outs and modifications of their cars. Coming up the first Saturday in May (May 5th) is the event that will address your parts needs. The Central Alabama Model A Ford Club will hold its annual Model A Swap Meet. This swap meet is always a great outing where you can pick up needed Model A parts for very inexpensive prices. I have heard of Model A transmission and clutch swaps of dual disc units of 1928 cars with later 1931 Model A's. Several members of our club are wanting to replace their Model A generators with 6V and 12V alternators. Probably the most common modification that many Model Aer's are doing is replacing old tungsten filament lights with LED upgrades, especially changing out those brake lights. This change out greatly improves the brightness of the lights, but also reduces the current draw needed to operate the lights. I am told Model A vendors from North Alabama and South Alabama will attend this year.

Please remember that in May, our sister club (East Alabama Old Car Club) will have their 50th Anniversary Car Show. This year is planned to be very different with a large vendor swap meet, car show for modern vehicles (year 2000 and newer) and traditional car show for vintage vehicles (year 1999 and older). As always there will be a trophy class just for Model A vehicles.

Enjoy driving that Model A !!!!!!!!!!!! Make the Memories !!!!!!!!!!!

Bryan A. Chin
President River Cities Model A Ford Club

From the Editor



As our President shared in his column, Spring is here and with it the classic car season, and while there have been a couple of sputters (pun intended!) with car shows and club outings, I'm fully confident great times are coming. Whether it's you alone, or in a small or large group, be sure to capture memories for sharing in the newsletter and on our website with those that could not be there to make memories in person.

Thanks to those that have shared content, but much more is needed and I know there's a wealth of items out there in our ranks. Contributions on topics of interest are welcome and much appreciated, whether they are technical, historical, or general items of interest. Anything you think would be good to share with others, please send it to editor@rivercitiesrunningboard.com or share it in person at events and I will see how to work it into upcoming newsletters.

I have continued to include the new items and features that were added to previous months newsletters and continue to look for things to add each month. Keeping with the belief that one of the great features of our Model A's is that they are "time machines", taking us back to another place and time in history, I am including a glimpse into what fashion was in the era of the "A". I have also begun including technical articles, and these can come from the wealth of knowledge we have in our own ranks of members, some from national MAFCA, and members of other chapters.

"Dave Powell" Newsletter Editor

River Cities Model A Ford Club Meeting Minutes March 21st, 2024

The March meeting of the River Cities Model A club was held March 21, 2024 at the Woodmen of the world facility. The members present were Mark, Laura, and Becca Smith, Bryan Chin, Al Lugo, Bob Smith, Connie and Bobby Penny, Keith Dixon, William Jeter, David and Leigh Ann Powell, Mary Nell Singer, Joe Spooner, John Robertson, Richard Nixon and Skipper Barfield.

President Bryan Chin welcomed all members. There were no visitors at this meeting, but members/family members that we had not seen in a while were greeted. Members stood for the pledge of allegiance and blessing from Al Lugo and then all proceeded to the buffet line.

President Bryan Chin read a letter from previous member, Sharon Webb, thanking the club for the card that was sent.

President Chin Read over March birthdays and anniversaries.

*Note from the Editor, the birthdays and anniversaries can be found in the Newsletter both in email and on the website.

President Chin then went over the coming events and car shows for the month of March and April. It was discussed that Saturday March 23rd would be a tour to Pine Mountain; members are to meet at the entrance of Coca Lake subdivision and continue to the Roosevelt State Park. There will be a Vietnam history and military vehicle day celebration. After viewing all the cars and tracks and mountain, the club members were to proceed to the old country store near Callaway Gardens for lunch. The previous tour was canceled due to bad weather on that Saturday that we would have gone to Pine Mountain. Please check your newsletter for April events. The tour on April 13th we are to join the central A's and the northern AMA clubs to go to Gordie Sherman's place for the legendary lunch fish fry; registration must be paid for and mailed in before April 5th. After the fish fry, the two clubs will continue on to Alexander City to visit the Welborn muscle car museum. If you need a registration form for the fish fry, please contact Al Lugo.

Having no old or new business to discuss, Mark Smith presented a very interesting program on Clydesdale horses. The program was enjoyed by all, and we learned that Mark and his family own two Clydesdale horses and are both expecting foals. This is some exciting news for the Smith family. Have no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Connie Penny Club Secretary

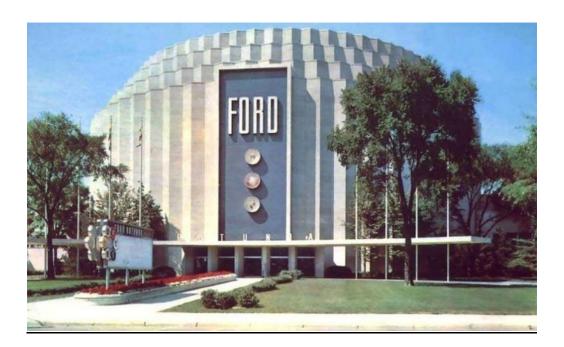
DID YOU KNOW?

By AL LUGO

*We are pleased to include another re-print of a "Did You Know" article from Al Lugo.

The Ford Motor Company has one of the richest histories of any Automobile Company. This was possible because of the preservation of documents, photos, and short films. It is my purpose in the coming months to bring you significant facts of Ford history presented in short "bullets". Please join me in honoring our rich Ford Motor Company History.

THE FORD ROTUNDA



- The Ford Rotunda was built in 1934 for the World Fair in Chicago. It was also referred to as the Ford Pavilion and was built as the Century of Progress exhibition. It housed installations depicting man's development in transportation. This exhibits was seen by more than 12 million visitors.
- The building was 900 feet long with a 12 story glass rotunda at its center. Since the emphasis was on the automobile, part of the tour of the Rotunda took place in automatically operated Ford Convertibles that rode in a special roadway. Many of the exhibits were designed by Walt Disney.
- After the World's fair it was moved to Dearborne and re-opened in 1935 as a visitor's gateway for people coming for a tour of the Rouge Factory. Inside of the Rotunda you could find murals showing the Rouge assembly line.

- At one point, it was the fifth most popular tourist destination in the U.S. in the mid-twentieth century.
 To give you an idea of its popularity this structure received more visits in the 1950s than did the stature of liberty.
- Some of the Rides or exhibits included the Magic Skyway which took guests seated in convertibles for a ride through plastic tunnels around the outside of the Rotunda.
- Also included the City of Tomorrow which was a futuristic city. Another exhibit was the Hall of Science
 which highlighted the Philco and Ford research projects. The Ford World was a 20 foot diameter
 rotating globe that highlighted the Ford Motor Company's operations around the world. The Drama of
 Transportation was a collection of vehicles arranged in chronologically order starting with an Egyptian
 chariot, horse drawn carriages and then the latest automobiles of the day.
- During World War II due to gas rationing the Rotunda was closed to the public serving as office space for the Army Air Corps. There was a theatre inside the Rotunda that was used to entertain the soldiers.
 In 1946 Henry Ford II met with ten young Army officers that were later known as the Whiz Kids.
- On June 16,1953 the Rotunda was reopened to the public as part of Ford's 50th Anniversary celebration. It included 50 huge birthday candles mounted along the rim of the Rotunda.
- Since the Rotunda was so popular it was used by Ford Motor Company to introduced new Ford Models to include photographs. They also held special events at this great facility.
- In 1953 the annual Christmas Fantasy was held for the first time. It included a 37 foot tall Christmas tree. It also included a great Santa's workshop and a life size nativity scene that was considered to be one of the largest and finest in the U.S.
- One of the vehicles introduced at the Rotunda was the 1958 Ford Edsel and the 1958 Ford Continental.
- The Ford Rotunda was destroyed on Friday, November 9, 1962, due to a fire. Shortly after 1PM a fire began on the roof of the Rotunda. The fire started when workers were waterproofing the building in preparation for the year's Winter Spectacular.
- Total damage was over 15 million dollars, the equivalent to more than 115 million dollars today. Also
 destroyed in the fire each of the 1963 Ford models which were on display. Also destroyed were several
 dream cars and 250 thousand dollars of Christmas decorations.
- Saved during the fire were the Ford Archives which survived due to a special carbon dioxide fire
 protection system. A year later these archives were donated to the Edison Institute known today as
 The Henry Ford museum.

• Recently the Early Ford V-8 Foundation and Museum restored the Rotunda sign. They are also currently planning a free standing structure as part of their Museum in the shape of the Ford Rotunda. The early Ford V-8 museum can be found in Auburn, Indiana.



Visitors to Rotunda during the 1934 World Fair in Chicago...



Ford Models for 1940 displayed in Ford Rotunda in 1939...



The Ford World exhibit...



The Christmas tree and doll display at the 1955 Christmas Fantasy...



Visitors view dolls from the Ford Motor Company Girls Club Doll Dressing contest in 1958...



The 1958 Edsel introduction at the Rotunda...



Ford Rotunda is destroyed by fire – November 9, 1962.

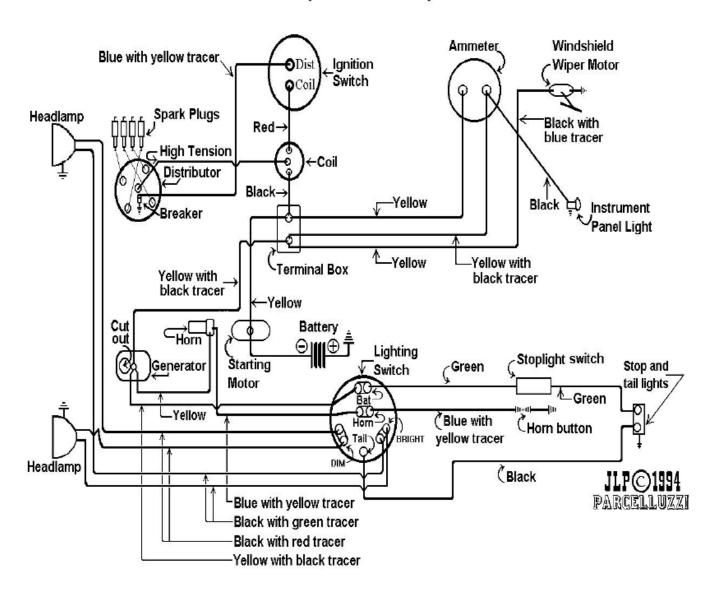
Monthly Model "A" Technical Articles

We as car enthusiasts enjoy reading technical articles and expectedly, technical articles about the Model A Ford have been a mainstay of the MAFCA and Model A publications for years. As part of our monthly chapter newsletter, selections from the technical archives will be included from time to time and will hopefully be both informative, and at times entertaining. This month's inclusions are wiring diagrams from MAFCA and are for early 1928 models, and 1929 – 1931 models both with, and without cowl lights.

Fird Model A

Wiring Diagram

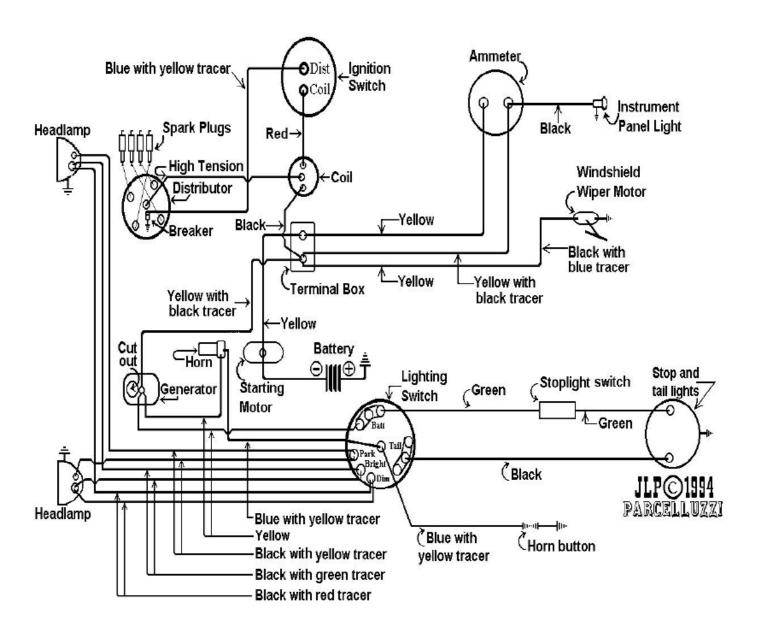
Early 1928 Models Only



Fird Model A

Wiring Diagram

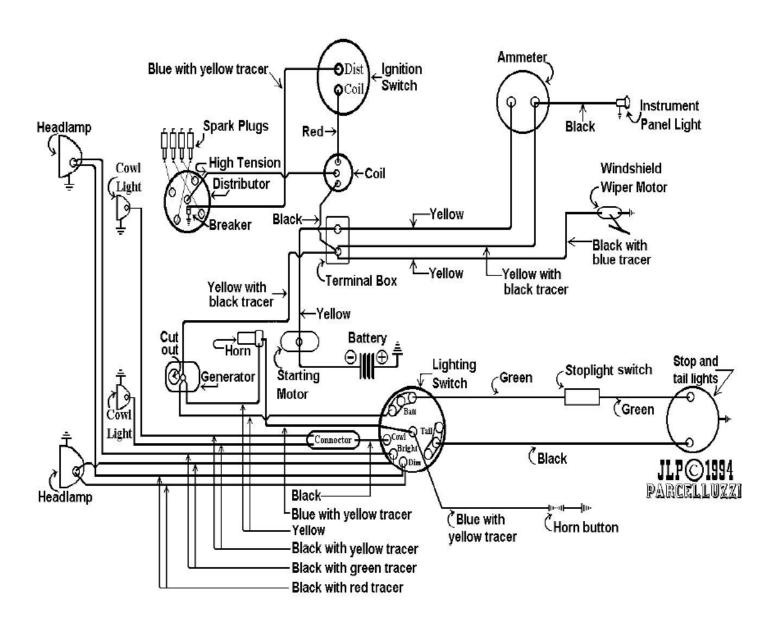
1929 - 1931 Without Cowl Lights



Fird Model A

Wiring Diagram

1929 - 1931 With Cowl Lights



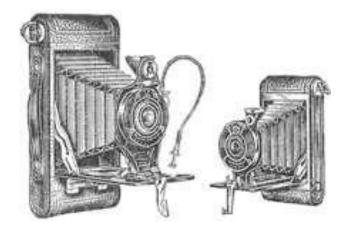
Fashion & Accessories from the Model A Era

The accessories for this month's newsletter again are ones I found in an article published by Judy Smith in September of 2009. I read her article and wanted to share a few items that were popular from the late 1920's and early 1930's and wanted to share my thoughts above the items, in addition to Judy's comments on the items themselves; curious what you may think too.

Sharing an appreciation for the technology of photography of the Model A era, the first selections are cameras of the time.

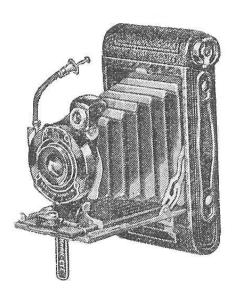
The cameras on the top right are Hawkeye Cameras made by Eastman Kodak. The cameras are covered with fine grain black imitation leather. The smaller camera is a folding camera.

These two were in Sears SS 1928.



The Hawkeye Camera (center left) is from Sears SS 1931 and there was very little change.

There was a folding camera in this year's catalog also.

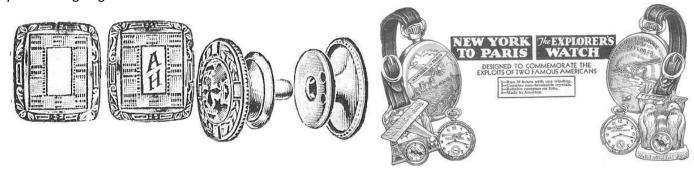


This is the well known Brownie Camera. It was simple to operate and had two shutter speeds, instantaneous and time. Made by Eastman-Kodak.

This style was advertised in all 4 years from 1928 to 1931.



Next are fashion items with cufflinks, pocket watches and finally belt buckles and belts. Who wouldn't want to look stylish when going out on the town in their new Model A?!



Cufflinks above on the left are green gold hinge style and on the right are snap on turn style. Solid gold front and white gold filled. I thought the pocket watches above were very unusual, designed to commemorate the exploits of two famous Americans.

The design was patented by Sears.

- 1. They would run for 30 hours with 1 winding.
- 2. Genuine un-breakable crystals.
- 3. Reliable compass on fobs.
- 4. Made in America.

Belt buckles and belts:

All four styles came with belts ranging in size from 1" to 1 3/8" wide. Belts came in black or tan.

The buckles were either silver or green gold filled.

The styles all had a place for initials.









Member Minute

Send anything you have to share with other members of the club to editor@rivercitiesrunningboard.com, or share it in person at events and I will see how to work it into upcoming newsletters. Contributions on topics of interest are welcome and much appreciated, whether they are humorous, technical, historical, or general items of interest.



April Events

2024

JOIN US FOR THESE APRIL EVENTS!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway	3	4	5	6 MATTS & Planning Meeting 9:00 a.m.
7	8	9 Culvers in Phenix City	10	11	12	13 Club Tour: Fish Fry & Wellborn Museum with Central A's
14	15	Jason's Deli	17	18 Club Meeting 6:00 p.m. Program: Bryan Chin	19	Phenix City Home Depot Cruise In
21	22	El Carrizo Mexican Restaurant	24	25	26	27 Steak and Shake Cruise In
28	29	30 Metro Diner				

May Events

2024

START PLANNING FOR THESE MAY EVENTS!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	Central Alabama Swap Meet, Montgomery, AL
5	6	7 Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway	8	9	10	Opelika Home Depot Cruise In
12	13	14 Culvers in Phenix City	15	16 Club Meeting- Program: David Powell	17	Paul Singer Tour to East Alabama Old Car Club Car Show
19	20	Jason's Deli	22	23	24	25 Scumbugs VW Car Show at Naval Museum
26	27	28 El Carrizo Mexican Restaurant	29	30	31	

JOIN US!

By Al Lugo

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 18, 2024 - 6:00 PM (Eastern)
Our next Club Meeting will be at Woodmen Life Lodge on Hwy 80, in Phenix City.

COMING EVENTS

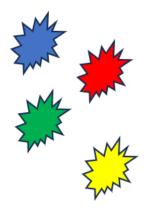
April 4-6	Moultrie Swap Meet
April 6	MATTS & Planning Meeting (Saturday: 9:00 AM)
April 13	Club Tour: Fish Fry & Wellborn Museum with Central A's
April 13	Jordan Car Show, Hollywood Connection
April 18	Club Meeting: Program Bryan Chin
May 4	Central Alabama Swap Meet, Montgomery, Alabama
May 16	Club Meeting- Program: Dave Powell
May 18	Paul Singer Tour to East Alabama Old Car Club Car Show
May 25	Scumbugs VW Car Show at Naval Museum
	CRUISE EVENINGS

Every 1st Tuesday	Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway
Every 2nd Tuesday	Culvers in Phenix City
Every 3rd Tuesday	Jason's Deli (Close to the old Sears)
Every 4th Tuesday	El Carrizo Mexican Restaurant (Near BMW)
Every 5th Tuesday	Metro Diner (The Landings)
Every 2nd Saturday	Opelika Home Depot Cruise In
Every 3rd 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 on Veterans Parkway North

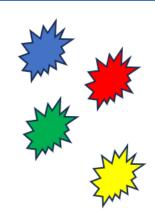
NATIONAL:

April 4-7	MARC Membership Meet – Joliet, Illinois
May 21-23	MARC National Tour – Berlin, Ohio
June 23-29	MAFCA National Convention – Ruidoso, New Mexico
July 15-18	MARC National Meet – Asheville, North Carolina

April

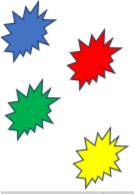


Birthdays & Anniversaries This Month

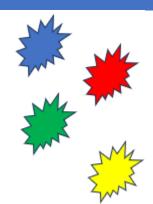


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Mappy Anniversary Leroy & Krystal Napier	13
14	15	Connie Penny	17	18	19 Scott Conkel	20
21	22	23	24 Mark Smith	25	Sharon Webb	27 Joe Spooner
28	29	30				

May



Birthdays & Anniversaries Next Month



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Al Lugo	2	3	Teresa Chin Teresa Chin Cappy Canturerury Dexter & Kathleen Walden
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Grover Barfield
19	Zonninersary Tom & Laura Penny William & Savannah Jeter	21	22	23 Happy Anniversary William & Anna Quick	24	25 Nappy Anniversary Al & Lizbeth Lugo
26	27 William Quick	28	29	30	31	

Club Members Birthdays

April 16th – Connie Penny

April 19th – Scott Conkel

April 24th – Mark Smith

April 26th – Sharon Webb

April 27th – Joe Spooner

Club Members Anniversaries

April 12th – Leroy & Krystal Napier





MODEL A TINKER TIME SHOP

Information and photos by Al Lugo "Members met at Bobby's shop on March 2nd, 2024"



"Bobby talking about uses of rain water in the Model A"...



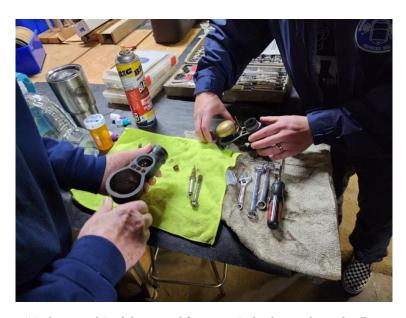
"Bobby talked about uses of eye drop bottles and had some to give out" ...



"Scott played for the group the song he wrote for Al" \dots



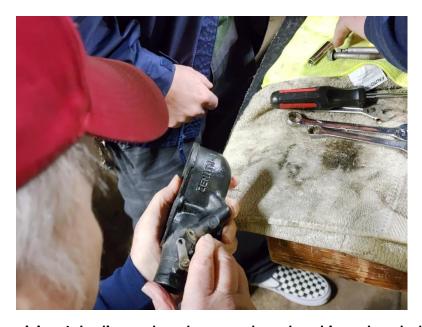
"Jeter's carburetor" ...



"Jeter and Bobby working on Jeter's carburetor"...



"Bobby shows Jeter all the places to blow air in his carburetor" \dots



"Joe giving Jeter tips on how to properly restore his carburetor" ...

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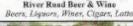
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Plug Gap	01011112001100111111111111	0.27032
Tire Pressure	ž	35 lbs
Gas Tank		10 gal.
Cooling Syst	em	3 gal.
Oil Capacity.		5 qts.
	nce	
Rod Journal.		1.500
Main Bearing	js	1.825
Bore		3 7/8"
	L	
Horsepower	(SAE Rating)	24.03
	Ratio	
	rque	
	on L.H. Side of Blo	
Main Torque		80-100 FL Ib.
	olt - Pos. Ground	
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