



"The River Cities Running Board"



RIVER CITIES MODEL "A" FORD CLUB

<http://www.rivercitiesrunningboard.com>

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VOL 11 ISSUE 11 ESTABLISHED IN 2000 NOVEMBER 2011
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MAFCA AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER, 2002-2009
OLD CARS WEEKLY GOLDEN QUILL AWARD 2004, 2010



Inside this issue; The Presidents Corner, Brake workshop article and pictures, Spring Harbor article and picture, an article from Hemmings Motor News by Jim Howe plus the continued story of the birth of the Model A an Article from the Literary Digest, July 12th 1930 and who is this person?

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 \$20.00 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
Vice President
Secretary & Benevolence
Treasurer

Al Lugo
Paul Singer
Sharon Web
Bettie Jackson

OTHER POSITIONS:

Editor
Tour Director
Publicity
Program Director
Club Liaison
Membership Director
Awards Director
Historian
Scholarship Chairperson
Car Show Director
Mechanical Director

Bill Shirley
VACANT
Mickey Timbes
John Robertson
Jim Langley
Jim Miller
Howard Ruddick
Mary Nelle Singer
Connie Penny
Bobby Penny
Bob Jackson

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
Mickey 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
Mickey Timbes- DEC 2003-2004 Jim Langley- DEC 2004 -2006
Joe Spooner- DEC 2006-2008 Jim Langley- DEC 2008- 2009
Jim Timbes- DEC 2009-2010

The President's Corner..



We again had a great Workshop on October 15. The subject was "adjusting the brakes on the Model "A" according to Henry". The workshop was conducted in my garage and I take this opportunity to once more thank Joe Spooner for giving a great In-depth presentation on how the Model "A" brakes work and how to adjust them. Joe had great visual aids that helped all of us learn how to work and adjust the brakes.

Thank you also to Paul Singer for giving us a great program on "The Cooling System in the Model "A" during our last meeting. If you Are missing our meetings and workshops you are missing a great opportunity to understand your Model "A" and how to keep it on the road.

On October 22, six members visited Spring Harbor Nursing home with six Model "A" s and as always brought great joy to the residents that came out to re-live their past. We again have an opportunity to visit another Nursing home, the Parkwood Nursing Home, on October 28, 2011.

Nominations for the 2012 Club Officers were presented at the October Meeting and voting will take place during the November meeting with officers installed during the December Annual Business meeting and Christmas party. Nominated were:

Al Lugo- President
Paul Singer- Vice President
Sharon Webb- Secretary
Treasurer- (still open)

Thank you to Mickey Timbes for accepting to Chair the Christmas planning Committee. We all know that she will plan some great activities for our very special meeting.

We wish to express our deepest sympathy to Bob Smith and family in the recent passing of his cousin.

See you at the meeting,

AL

**"BEFORE EVERYTHING
ELSE, GETTING READY
IS THE SECRET TO
SUCCESS."**

Henry Ford

(Quote Provided by Joe Spooner)

NEXT MEETING: November 17, 2011-6:00PM (EASTERN) Our next meeting will be at Woodmen of the World Lodge, on Highway 80, in Phenix City.

November 4	Board Meeting
November 5	Steeplechase tour
November 16-20	Moultrie Swap Meet
November 17	Club Meeting
December 3	Christmas in the Park Parade in Cusseta, GA
December 9	Board Meeting
December 10	TriCity Christmas Parade
December 15	Club Meeting and Christmas Party

NATIONAL:

Nov 30- Dec 4, 2011 MAFCA National Awards Banquet

CRUISE EVENINGS

Every 1 st Tuesday	Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thru Way
Every 2 nd Tuesday	El Carrizo on Whittlesey Blvd.
Every 3 rd Tuesday	Jason Deli
Every 4 th Tuesday	Fudruckers
Every 2 nd Saturday	Opelika Home Depot
Every 4 th Saturday	Steak and Shake (Bradley Park Drive)

Model A Trivia

History of the Model A (continued)

Within a year, Ford relented and the research and development that had unofficially been moving toward a new model suddenly became official. Ever the pragmatic engineer, Ford decided that if he were going to build a new model, it should have a long life in the marketplace. With this in mind, he decided to zoom past Chevrolet and its six-cylinder engine by offering a V-8.

But when rumors of a new Ford began to circulate, sales of the Model T, already slipping, really hit the skids. To plug the hole more quickly, Ford decided to stick with a four cylinder engine, albeit substantially upgraded, and put the V-8 on the back burner.

Model T production shivered to a halt in the summer of 1927, after nearly 15,500,000 had been produced. Not only was it the car that put America on wheels; it was also the car that put most of the civilized world on wheels, through Ford's extensive export and overseas production operations. Massive Ford plants all over the world would be shuttered for six months while the new model went through its final stages of development. Since they were starting all over again, Ford decided to call the new car the Model A.

As development continued, Edsel Ford became the driving force behind the new model. He insisted that it be equipped with a conventional three-speed, sliding-gear transmission instead of the Model T's planetary gear set. He pushed for substantially improved engine performance. And he closely directed the chassis and body design to make certain the new car wasn't just better than the old one but more attractive, too.

When it came to styling, Edsel knew exactly what he wanted. He specified that the new model be styled like a "baby" Lincoln, the luxury car marque that he had been shepherding since its acquisition from the Leland family in 1922. While hardly "leading edge," the Model A that emerged until Edsel Ford's prodding was contemporary and handsome.

"TO BE CONTINUED"

River Cities Model A Ford Club October Meeting Minutes

October 20,2011

Opening:

The regular meeting of The River Cities Model A Ford Club was called to order at 6:00 pm on October 20, 2011 at the Woodman of The World Lodge by President Al Lugo. He then led the group in The Pledge of Allegiance. The blessing was given by Joe Spooner and all proceeded to the buffet.

Present:

Paul and Mary Nelle Singer, Dick Noxon, Glen Williams and Cindy, Al Lugo, Howard Ruddick, Bobby and Connie Penny, Joe and June Spooner, Bob and Bettie Jackson, Mike Alexich, Jim and Mickey Timbes, Kevin Adams, Jim and Linda Miller, Russell Lester, Skipper Barfield, John Robertson, David Black, Bill Shirley and Sharon Webb.

Al Lugo called the meeting to order and welcomed the new member: David Black. Mr. Black was instrumental in inspiring Mickey and Jim to create this club. Also another member under the weather is Louie Willett who recently had back surgery.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved with the following revisions: Correction: Robin Gaylor is the daughter of Bob and Bettie Jackson, not their granddaughter as written in the newsletter. Joe Spooner needs an "e" at the end of his first name. Jim Miller made a motion to accept the minutes as written with the above changes. Jo Spooner seconded it. The members unanimous approved the motion.

Treasurers Report:

The treasurer's report was read by Bettie Jackson and a motion by John Robertson to accept the report was made. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Program:

Paul Singer presented the "Cooling System in the Model A." He shared a number of useful facts about how to take care of your Model A and how the cooling system works. He stated the ideal temperature for the cooling system is 160 degrees. The radiator holds 1 ½ gallons of water. Oil is

another important item in the cooling process. You need to use 5 Quartets of non-detergent oil which should be changed every 6 months.

Old Business:

Please continue to submit articles and pictures to Bill Shirley the web master for the Website and News Letter. Great job Bill! The club workshop on Saturday 10/15/2011 went real well. 15 members attended and the brakes were adjusted on 3 cars. Sharon Webb thanked Joe Spooner for the wonderful presentation and the opportunity for to get under The Pheonix and adjust his brakes. Also Al Lugo was thanked for providing the roomy garage for the task and the wonderful lunch. Al reminded the group that these workshops are put on so that club members have the opportunity to learn more about their Model A's. He encouraged the members to submit their ideas for future workshops. A thank you note was received from Robin Gaylor, recipient of one of the club scholarships which Al read to the group.

New Business:

A suggestion from Jim Langley was submitted at the end of the last meeting suggesting that we begin next year with having a breakfast meeting quarterly perhaps in conjunction with an event. Al stated we needed someone to step forward and help organize the decoration of the Christmas Part December 15, 2011. Mickey agreed to chair this. Al thanked June Spooner for creating the oath for officers to state when they are sworn into office. The upcoming car show events were reviewed as written in the newsletter. Oct 22, 2011 is a visit to Spring Harbor. Signup sheet was circulated. It begins at 10 am. Oct 28th Friday is the Fall Festival at Parkwood Nursing Home. The signup sheet for that was circulated. The Buena Vista Car show is Oct 29 Saturday. Other events include the Steeple Chase Nov 5, 201 at Galloway Gardens and the Christmas parade in the Cusseta Dec, 3. More about these will be coming in emails soon. The program for next month will be presented by Joe Spooner called " Restoration of his Model A Coupe" The next board meeting is Friday Nov 4, 2011 the Wynton Burger King. Hope to see more members their!

Reports from Committee Chairpersons:

Vice President:

Paul Singer stated to please submit your mileage as soon as possible as next month the year's total of miles driven will need to be tallied. A winner

of the prestigious Road Runner Award will be announced and given out at the December meeting.

Programs: Nothing to report.

Nomination Committee:

Mickey Timbes states the present club officers have agreed to run for their respective positions and will accept if nominated. Betti Jackson, treasurer stated this would be her last year in this position. Sharon and Al also stated the same. Paul Singer agreed to run for the vice president again. Al reminded the group that all persons need to participate in the club for it to remain strong and vibrant. Voting will be done at the November meeting and installation at the December Christmas party.

Publicity: Mickey Timbes continues to submit articles to the Restorer.

Historian: nothing to report

Scholarship: The bylaws and dates for the next submission of applications for the scholarship need to be added to the web site.

Membership: nothing to report.

Mechanics: nothing to report.

50/50 DRAWING: The winner was Kevin Adams.

Adjournment: John Roberson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Timbes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm

Minutes submitted by: Sharon Webb

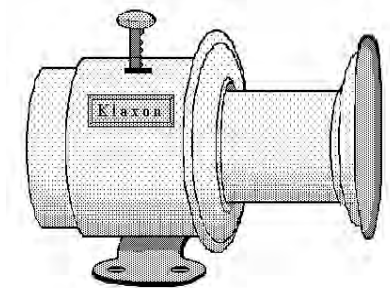
"Life is a series of experiences, each of which makes us bigger, even though sometimes it is hard to realize this" Henry Ford.
(Quote Provided by Joe Spooner)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES



NOVEMBER 6- Jim & Linda Miller
NOVEMBER 11- Chad & Christy Davidson
NOVEMBER 20- Vance & Hazel Waggener

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



NOVEMBER 4- Richard Hood
NOVEMBER 13- Kevin Colangel
NOVEMBER 17- Susan Gilbert
NOVEMBER 21- Anita Barron
NOVEMBER 28- William Shirley
NOVEMBER 30- Laura Penny

NOVEMBER 8- Tom Penny
NOVEMBER 17- Donna Carter
NOVEMBER 19- Kevin Adams
NOVEMBER 28- Bobby Penny
NOVEMBER 29- George Wood I

SPRING HARBOR VISIT

By Al Lugo

On October 22, 2011 six members of the River Cities Model "A" Ford Club visited Spring Harbor Nursing Home and had on display six Model "A's".

Members attending were Bobby Penny, Neil LaClair, Mickey and Jim Timbes, Butch Whitaker (he had two Model "As") and Al Lugo.

Nursing Home residents and some of their guest enjoyed our great automobiles and were observed traveling down "Memory Lane"

After showing our cars and exchanging stories our members were invited to a very nice lunch enjoyed by all.

Join us at the next Nursing Home visit and enjoy a great experience.



Residents enjoying the Model "A"s...

Photo by Al Lugo

BRAKES WORKSHOP...

By Al Lugo

On October 15, 2011 the River Cities Model A Ford Club held our second workshop. This time the topic was "Brakes according to Henry"

Members met at Al Lugo's garage and Joe Spooner served as the instructor, giving us a superb presentation that included in-depth information on how the brakes work on the Model "A" and how to properly adjust them.

Members participating were Sharon Webb, Joe and June Spooner, Dick Noxon and guest Bobby Shackelford, Mike Moyer, Bob Smith, Bill Shirley, Howard Ruddick, and Al and Liz Lugo.

After the presentation members got busy and got under Sharon's car and Joe showed how to troubleshoot and adjust the brakes.

After a good lunch from "Countries" BBQ the brakes were adjusted on Bob Smith and Al's car.

Join us in other workshops in the coming year...

All photos provided by Al Lugo.
(for more photos of workshop go to the web site)



Who is this? It was taken during the late '20s or early '30s in Southern Georgia. He was the Sheriff of either Clinch or Echols County at the time of the photo.

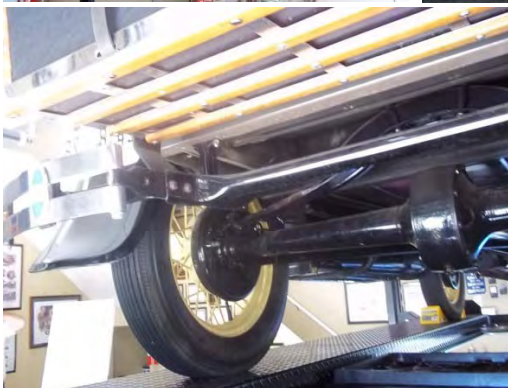
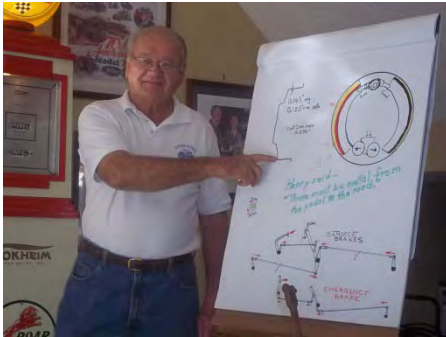


(He is related to a club member)

More on Brakes by Henry from Sharon Webb

Brake Workshop: Adjusting your Model A Brakes

On October 15, 2011 The River Cities Model A Club members were fortunate enough to have presented by club member Joe Spooner a comprehensive lecture and demonstration of how to adjust your Model A Ford brakes. Joe used props as well as drawings to demonstrate how they work. As many as 5 Model A Fords were in attendance with their owners as well as a number of other interested club members. The event took place at Al Lugo's beautiful garage which sports 3 bays with one having a lift! After the didactics were presented we broke for a lunch of chopped Bar B Q, ribs and "fixings" which was elegantly severed by Lizabeth Lugo. Then it was back down to business! My car (The Pheonix) was the first to go on the rack. I was naturally eager to put to use the knowledge gained from Joe's presentation. We all got an opportunity to get under "The Pheonix" remove pins and tighten the brakes. Once he was back on the ground we "jacked" his front end up and made the final tightening of the brakes. We did the same on the back. Next it was time to check the performance. I backed him out of the driveway, reeved him up, took off and stomped the brakes! WOW! What a difference it made. He stopped on a dime (so to speak)! I wish to thank Joe Spooner, Al and Lizabeth Lugo for making all they did to make this workshop a terrific opportunity for the club to socialize and learn much more about our cars. This is the kind of club we are..... one that puts to *use all our resources* to help each other out in support of our club's goal to maintain the presence in our society of one of the greatest cars ever made!



Submitted by Sharon Webb

Ford's Rustless Metal

NO; Henry Ford didn't invent it, we are hastily assured by *Current Science* (Columbus, Ohio); but he "saw it first" for the automobile industry. This paper proceeds to give us these details:

"The new product is 'Allegheny metal,' and it is an alloy of the finest steel with about 18 per cent chromium, 8 per cent. nickel, and smaller amounts of manganese, silicon, phosphorus, and sulfur. Being steel, it, of course, has carbon in the mixture, too.

"An alloy, you remember, is an intimate combination of metals, to form new properties. There may be a chemical union, or a mere physical mixture, or combinations of both, in a complex alloy such as Allegheny metal. Not only the constituents, but the manner of their melting, mixing, and cooling, affect the properties of the final product. It is like making tasty soup—there must be the proper ingredients, and a good cook as well.

"Allegheny metal was invented in Germany during the Great War as a type of armor. The British discovered it about the same time. Only a few years ago were the methods of making it in large quantities worked out, then Henry Ford made a contract for most of the American production. He uses about 1,000 tons of it a month.

"You will see this metal on the bright parts of the newest Ford cars. It won't rust, won't tarnish, won't weather. Being one of the hardest forms of steel ever invented, it won't scratch. Nickel, once the premier of bright metal platings, is hardly used at all to-day in the automobile industry.

"This is the second time Henry Ford saw something first in the business he is in.

"Many years ago he picked up the broken axle of a wrecked French racing car, and found a part of it to be unusually hard. He had the metal analyzed, and discovered vanadium in the alloy. Up to that time it was a secret with the French, but soon all the 'Lizzies' had castings at the ends of their axles of finger-thinness—but they never broke!

"They were of vanadium steel—the first light, tough alloy to be used in automobile manufacture."