



# **"The River Cities Running Board"**



**RIVER CITIES MODEL "A" FORD CLUB**

<http://www.rivercitiesrunningboard.com>

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VOL 15 ISSUE 12    ESTABLISHED IN 2000    December 2015  
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**MAFCA AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER, 2002-2009, 2011 and  
2013**

**OLD CARS WEEKLY GOLDEN QUILL AWARD 2004, 2010**



**Visit our Web site at [www.rivercitiesrunningboard.com](http://www.rivercitiesrunningboard.com)**

# 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  
Vice President  
Secretary & Benevolence  
Treasurer

Joe Spooner  
Bob Smith  
Connie Penny  
Joe Carter

## OTHER POSITIONS:

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

Bill Shirley  
Jim Langley  
Sharon Webb  
John Robertson  
Jim Langley  
Al Lugo  
Dick Noxon  
Mickey Timbes  
Bill Shirley  
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  
Mickey Timbes  
\*Dan Palmer  
Dan Diener

Bob Smith  
Al Lugo  
Lawrence Farrar  
Bill Buck

Bobby Penny  
\*Robert Jackson  
\*Bettie Jackson  
(\*Deceased)

## PAST PRESIDENTS:

Jim Timbes NOV 2000- DEC 2001  
Mickey Timbes DEC 2003-2004  
Joe Spooner DEC 2006-2008  
Jim Timbes DEC 2009-2010  
Paul Singer Dec 2012-2014

Bob Smith DEC 2001- 2003  
Jim Langley DEC 2004 -2006  
Jim Langley DEC 2008- 2009  
Al Lugo DEC 2010-2012  
Joe Spooner DEC 2014

## Presidents Rattles for December 2015

June and I are hopping each of you had a Happy Thanksgiving. We did. Our daughter and granddaughter from Texas came to visit a few days and our grandson was here also.

Our November tour to the Baker syrup cooking and Meadows Mill was excellent. There was more at the syrup cooking than just that. There was coffee, biscuits and sausage, fellowship, an old log house, a barn full of old tools, a complete country store and a hill covered with all brands of gas station signs. The tour of the mill by the owners and the sack lunch on the patio by the creek was great. A must do again!

Plans for an enjoyable Christmas party are coming together with a delightful dinner by Margie and Robert. Come and bring your appetite and Christmas spirit.

Our new officers will be installed at our December meeting. Let's all give them our support and help to make 2016 a banner year. It is your club so make it a good one. Thanks to all who drove in the Columbus Christmas parade. It was fun and good PR for our club.

Here's hoping our club year was to your liking and all had an enjoyable time. It was my pleasure to serve as your club president again and I thank each and everyone who had a part in making it so.

Merry Christmas and God bless to each of you from June and Me.

**If it says "Ahooga", drive it!**  
**Joe**



# JOIN US!

BY AL Lugo

NEXT MEETING: December 17, 2015-  
6:00PM (EASTERN) Our  
next meeting will be our Annual  
Business Meeting and Christmas Party  
at Woodmen of the World Lodge, on  
Highway 80, in Phenix City.

## COMING EVENTS

December 4	MATTS
December 5	Columbus/Phenix Christmas Parade
December 11	Planning Meeting
December 12	Columbus/Phenix City Christmas Party
December 17	Annual Business Meeting and Christmas Party
January 1, 2016	MATTS (YES! COME TO START THE MODEL A YEAR!)
January 15, 2016	Planning Meeting
January 21, 2016	Club Meeting

### *CRUISE EVENINGS*

Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday-	Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	Jim Bob's
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	Jason Deli
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	Harley Davidson on Williams Road
Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	BoJangle's on Schomberg Road
Every 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	Country's on Broad Street
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	Opelika Home Depot
Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Steak and Shake (Bradley Park Drive)
Every Sunday AM	IHOP Airport Thruway

### NATIONAL:

December 3-5 MAFCA National Awards Banquet- Medford, Oregon

# **River Cities Model A Ford Club Meeting Minutes from November 19th, 2015 Club Meeting**

The November meeting of the River Cities Model A Club met at the woodman of the World building on November 19,2015.

President Joe Spooner called the meeting to order.

Members present were: Bob and Connie Penny, Paul and Mary Nell Singer, Glenn Williams, Cindy, Dick Noxon, Al Lugo, Barbara and Howard Ruddick, John Robertson, Tommy Ellis, Joe Watkins, Jim Miller, Mickey Timbes, Joe and June Spooner, Sharon Webb, Joe Carter, Bob Smith and Bill Shirley.

members under the weather are: Mark Gamble, Bobby Shackleford and Nell LaClaire.

the River Cities Model A Club celebrating their 15 year anniversary.

President Joe Spooner led the club in the Pledge of Allegience. Al Lugo led us in prayer and we preceded to the buffet .

June Spooner presented our program this month celebrating the Veterans in our Club. A few of our members shared their military experiences.June passed out a thank you card and a flag pin to all Veterans. We are all very appreciative of their service to our country.

Old Business:

Minutes for the October meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter by a motion from John Robertson and second by Howard Ruddick.

Treasurer Joe Carter gave the treasurer's report.

a copy of our club charter hanging in the Woodman meeting room.

Al Lugo announced the new nominations of club officers for the 2016 year.

Members present then voted to accept nominations. The are : President-Jim Langley, Vice President-Mark Gamble,Secretary-Pat Gamble and treasurer Joe Carter. They will be installed at our December meeting.

Dick Noxon will announce at the December meeting the winner if the Road runner award.

Paul Singer gave details on the Saturday tour.

Bill Shirley has been invited by Brookstone school to bring his model A over for the students to view it.

Club votes to donate a \$100.00 to Maffi endowment fund. Members voted to give our caterer Robert a gratuity at our December meeting.

Paul Singer had registration forms for members interested in driving car in Christmas parade on December 5th.

Al Lugo asked if any members were interested in driving in a Mayor's parade on December 9th. Contact Al for information.

Club members will participate in Toys for Tots again this year. Please bring a unwrapped gift for a boy and girl to December meeting.

Sharon Webb won the dinner ticket drawing.

meeting was adjourned.

submitted by

Connie Penny

Secretary.

<http://www.jigidi.com/solve.php?id=J6RFL68F&s=e>

Life is a puzzle. Make sense - solve the puzzle! Go to the above site. Hold down control and left click your mouse.

**Our Annual Business Meeting and Club Christmas Party will be on December 17, 2015. Our special Christmas dinner will be catered by Robert and will again cost \$15.00 per person.**

**We ask you to please make reservations and payment to our Treasurer Joe Carter, so we can have an accurate "headcount" to give Robert.**



## **MODEL A TINKER TIME SHOP**

### **November 6, 2015**

Photos and information by Al Lugo

Another great MATTS was conducted at Bobby Penny's shop on November 6, 2015. Many members attended and learned more information on how to keep our beloved Model "A" s on the road.





**Some of the members attending MATTS.**



**Bobby shows the project for the day: How to restore the Model A Steering box.**





**One of our visitors was a hard core Model Aer...**



**We also had a “ Can you identify this tool?”**



**Joe shows one type of gauge to do alignment in the Model A**



**Bobby talking about front end troubleshooting.**





**Joe talks about a modern cutout.**



**Bobby is working on this cool project.**

**Come and join us every first Friday of the month at Bobby's shop. You will learn many things and enjoy the fellowship.**

**You are cordially invited to the:**  
**Annual Christmas Open House**  
**Bentley's Antique Auto Service**  
**Friday December 18**  
**10 AM to 2 PM**

**This is a time to show our appreciation to all of our Model A Friends and customers. The shop will be open with all the cars on display. We invite folks to bring snacks to share, and lunch will be served for everyone at 12 PM. Bentley's is located at 95W Ridgeway Rd Maysville, GA 30558. For directions or more information, go to [www.mymodela.com](http://www.mymodela.com) or call me at 678-407-1947. Hope to see you there.**

**The Model A Ford Museum has had a great year and we thank all of you and your local Model A clubs for supporting the museum through your gifts and visits. Are you looking for a unique Christmas gift for your special Model A'er? A MAFFI membership would make a thoughtful holiday gift for anyone with interest in the Model A Ford. This gift provides a real "win-win" situation – an appreciated gift for the recipient and a welcomed MAFFI donation on behalf of the giver. Check out [www.maffi.org](http://www.maffi.org) for application and the benefits of membership.**



**PLEASE make plans to join us at the annual "CARS FOR KIDS CAR SHOW" on December 12th at Cook's (held in the lot behind Cook's) from 9-2pm. Admission is \$20 OR one UNWRAPPED TOY!**

**Coffee will be provided earlier so plan to arrive sooner if you can! Of course Cook's WILL be open so you can purchase some AWESOME LUNCH!**

**THIS car show has always been such a hit and is for a GREAT cause. We sure hope ALL of you can join us! Your support is greatly appreciated!**

**WHO KNOWS... MAYBE I'll even set up my HOT APPLE CIDER - we'll SEE!**

**Hope to see ya there!**



# DID YOU KNOW?

By AL LUGO

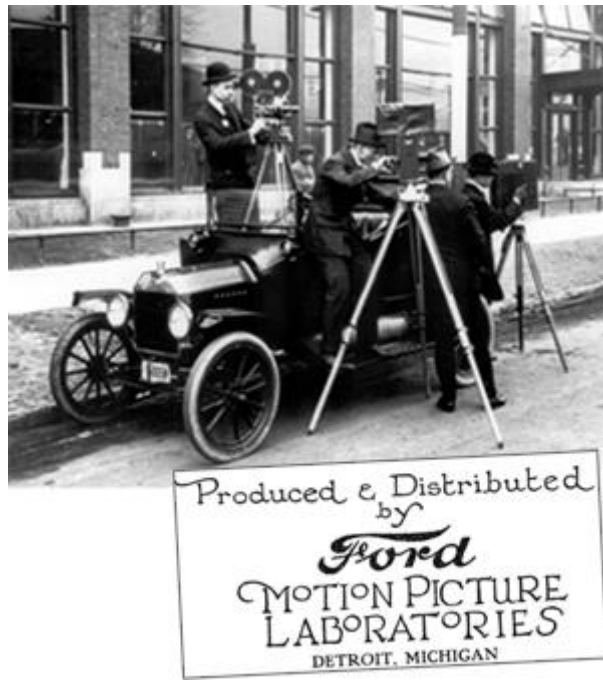
The Ford Motor Company has one of the richest histories of any Automobile Company. This was possible because of the preservation of documents, photos, and short films. It is my purpose in the coming months to bring you significant facts of Ford history presented in short “bullets”. Please join me in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

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## Henry Ford A Movie Mogul?

- From 1915-1920's Henry Ford was overseeing the largest motion picture production and distribution operation in the world.
- \* One-seventh of the U.S. movie going audience watched Ford Motor Company films each week. These films were translated into eleven different languages to be shown all over the world. This was indeed a great advertising and promotion tool for the Ford Motor Company.
- In 1913, Henry watched a movie production company filming some of his car making operations of his Highland Park plant. Ford thought this might be a great way to communicate the news of the day and also train his workforce and promote his Ford automobile.
- After consulting with Thomas Edison, in April 1914. Henry told Ambrose B. Jewett, the head of his advertising company division, to set up a moving picture department.
- Within months, Ford Motor Company became the first industrial firm to possess a fully functional motion picture facility. Starting with a staff of two it grew to a staff of over twenty five.
- \* Ford established its own film processing laboratory at the Highland Park plant after they acquired modern 35 mm cameras. By then, the Ford Motor company Motion Picture Department rivaled any Hollywood studio.
- The first film produced was “ How Henry Ford Makes one Thousand Cars a Day”.
- During the next two years, the department produced a weekly production called “ Ford Animated Weekly. Theaters around the country showed this ten to fifteen minute educational production. This documented events of the day at no cost to the theaters.

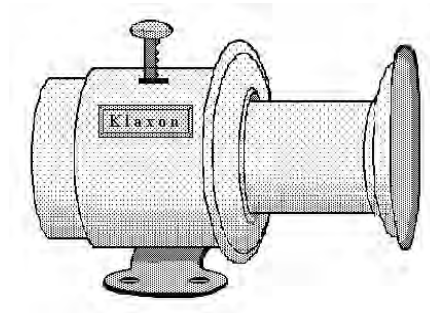
- There was no advertising in these reels but a photo of the Model T radiator could be seen in the background.
- In 1916, Henry decided to slow down this very hectic production and instead produced more historic and educational films. The name was then changed to "The Ford Educational Weekly". The result was an in-depth coverage of topics like geography, travel. And education.
- By 1918 Ford had become the largest motion picture distributor in the world spending \$600,000 a year which is the equivalent of over \$ 8.6 million dollars today.
- In 1918 Ford partnered with the Goldwyn Distribution Company Corporation to circulate "The Ford Educational Weekly".
- By 1919 the series appeared on over 5,200 movie screens every week in the U.S. To reduce production cost, Ford began to charge theaters a dollar a week to show their production.
- By 1920 many theaters stopped showing his films due to this cost and Ford's anti-Semitic attacks. By August of 1920, numbers dwindled to about 1,300 theaters and by December 1921 the "Ford Educational Weekly" ceased production.
- After this, Ford also formed a department of Photography and combined with the motion pictures they were directed to develop and produce "The Ford Educational Library".
- In addition to these productions Ford had a personal photographer that produced footage of Henry and Clara Ford, their house, their son and family. Thanks to all this effort great footage and photos remain of the great Ford Motor Company and its founder and family.
- During the Great Depression of 1932, after Ford suffered its worst sales numbers on record, in order to reduce cost, Henry Ford's movie mogul days officially ended. A smaller photographic Department staff continued to make films documenting the company's operations for internal company use. Later outside motion picture companies were hired to produce promotional and sales films.
- On November 28, 1962 the Ford Motor Company transferred all the rights to the surviving 1,800,000 feet of motion picture film to the National Archives.



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES



## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



DECEMBER 4- Joe Watkins  
DECEMBER 25- James F. Durfy  
DECEMBER 27- Gloria Willett

DECEMBER 12- David Black  
DECEMBER 27- Mary Ann Lester  
DECEMBER 30- Maxine Williams

# CLOTHE Child

Sponsored By  
Wild Hogs Classic Car Club



50/50 Cash  
Drawing  
\*Silent Auction\*

*Cruising to Clothe  
A Child*

*To Benefit*

**Families Served By  
Bullock County DHR**

**Saturday**

**03/05/2016**

(Rain Date 03/12/2016)

**11 am -2 pm**

**\*Admission Free To The Public\***

**Car/Truck Pre-Register Entry Fee \$20.00**

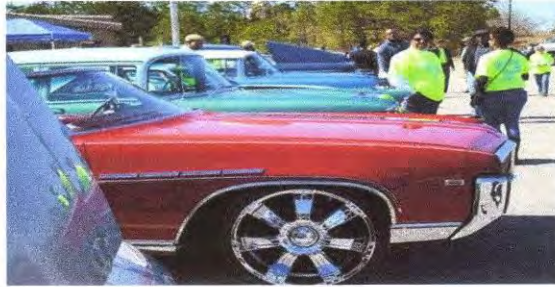
**After 02/05/2016 Entry Fee \$25.00**

**(entry fee includes lunch)**

**Line Up @ 10:30 at Richard Stone Armory Complex**

**located at 21578 HWY 82 E**

**Union Springs, AL 36089**



Questions Call (334) 850-2715, (334) 850-0416, or (334) 695-3896 ————— Mail Registration Forms to Club President  
Levi Cunningham at P.O. Box 1081 Eufaula, AL 36072.

Registration Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Make Checks Payable to Bullock County Department of Human Resources)

Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Information

Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Neither Event Coordinator, DHR, nor City/County Government shall be held responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of vehicle or personal items before, during, or after this event. Participation and/or donations are voluntary. By Signing above participant releases any and all liabilities from event coordinator, participants, volunteers, DHR, or City/County Government.

Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_  
(Assigned by Event Coordinator)



## Model A Q&A'S

**We are getting ready for the Christmas Open House at Bentley's Antique Auto Service. It gives us a chance every year to really clean up the shop, then welcome all our friends and customers for a day of fellowship around the shop. Make plans now to attend Friday, December 18. Here are some interesting questions from the last few weeks.**

**Q: My fuel gauge reads zero. I replaced the cork a cork of years ago, but it seems to have failed again. What have I done wrong?**

**A:** This is a very common problem these days. Just about every Model A that comes in the shop has a damaged fuel gauge cork float. The problem is the ethanol in the modern fuel attacks the cork float. In a few months. Even a brand-new float will sink to the bottom of the gas tank. We always rebuild the gas gauge with a rebuild kit and a Neoprene float. This is fairly simple, although you will need a special set of tools to disassemble the gauge.



You will need to disconnect your battery, then remove the instrument panel. Make sure your fuel level is lower than the level of the gauge or you will make a mess. Use your special tools to remove the gas gauge. With a little patience you can see the gas gauge is fairly easy to disassemble. Clean all the parts as good as possible. The original cork float will usually break apart easily to be removed. Install the new neoprene float. We usually use a very thin piece of stainless steel wire to hold the new float in place. Now carefully reassemble everything in the correct order. We always check for leaks by pressurizing the tank with a little compressed air and spraying some soapy water solution on the gauge before you reassemble the instrument panel. Your new neoprene float should last for many years.

**Q: I purchased some new tires for my Model A. Where can I get them mounted?**

**A:** Any tire shop should be able to do that for you. You can actually mount them yourself. New tires usually are very easy to mount. Getting the old ones off may be another question. The old ones are usually very hard and we have had to cut them off with a Sawzall. Note that the valve stem should be aligned with the "S" in Firestone. The "Ford" in the hubcap should also be perpendicular to the valve stem.

**Enjoy the Drive... Bentley Bohanan Bentley's Antique Auto Service, Inc. [www.mymodela.com](http://www.mymodela.com) 678-407-1947**

## Syrup Sopping and Meadow's Mill



River Cities Club had a well-organized tour set up for the Saturday before Thanksgiving and it was the final day for Syrup Sopping. Yes we had to hit the road with the Model A's.

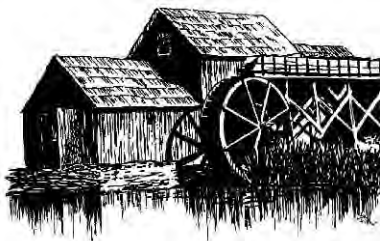
We had Joe Watkins, Bobby Penny, Al, Dick Noxon, Howard & Barbara, Bob Smith, Larry & Lisa, Paul & MaryNell and Joe & June for this day trip. Too bad others did not show up, as it was a very scenic day in the old cars. By keeping us on small back roads, meaning off Rt 280 or Rt 80, we were over an hour to go only 27 miles. It took lots of planning for this to take place.

We left Glenwood School going to Smiths Station, then south to Old Auburn Rd. From there it was zigging and zagging to Rt 51, which is 18 miles out Rt 80 from Ladonia – wow.

The four buildings at the Syrup site were all neat, especially the old General Store – everything looked like it was just moved to this site intact. Amazing originality to the artifacts inside the store. We had a blast with Spooner in his bib overalls acting as the shopkeeper.

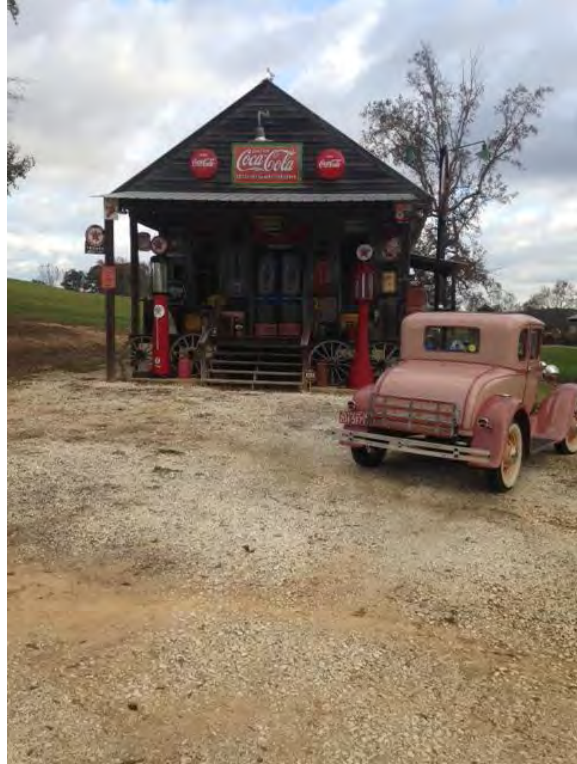
In the other building the 75-gallon tank for the syrup was heated by propane and only vented with a fan in the roof, but there were no fumes in the shop at all. Steam was really coming off the liquid; if I remember right only 6-8 gallons of syrup would be left. Lots of ongoing work to get the job done as 3 fellows stayed very busy at the tank while we were there.

After climbing the hill to see all the signs and the windmill with a cistern right on top of the hill, which is used to irrigate the sugarcane, we loaded the cars and followed Joe & June with the lunches back the same roads to Meadow's Mill.



The two young people making a bed & breakfast out of an antique mill were quite talkative about the whole affair at this site. It was very scenic and a nice place to eat lunch with the water making pleasant noises while we ate. Afterward people started thinking about a nap right by the river. Ha

**Roving Reporter,  
Bob Smith**



**Joe's car during the syrup sopping and Meadows Mill Tour**

**FOR SALE**

**Fred Hoffman has his 2 Model A's for sale.**

**'29 Roadster \$16,500 7,000 miles since restoration**

**'31 Tudor \$6,500 needs restoration**

**Fred's Cell is 757-871-9536 if interested**

**Cars located in Gloucester, Virginia**

**1929 Tudor Sedan - Project car - Completely disassembled**  
**Frame has been sandblasted, primed, painted**  
**Hood, tank, cowl, primed , painted**  
**Floor board and wood rail replaced**  
**Speedometer rebuilt, New motometer**  
**Tires and tube new a few years ago**  
**Generator rebuilt**  
**Engine cranks and runs good but not in a while**  
**All four steel fenders in good shape**  
**Body, fenders, and doors sand blasted but were not primed**  
**Will need battery, upholstery kit, roof kit**  
**All parts are available**  
**Asking \$4,000 Call 1-256-825-5664 or cell - 1-334-329-0472**  
**Located near Opelika, AL**

### **PARTS WANTED**

**WANTED; 1930-31 Model A Cowl with tank and Hood**  
**& related parts.**  
**Mark Gamble 706-333-7586 (cell)**