



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



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

<http://www.rivercitiesrunningboard.com>

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**VOL 17 ISSUE 7    ESTABLISHED IN 2000    July 2017**  
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**MAFCA AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER, 2002-2009,  
2011 and 2013**

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



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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 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

Jim Langley  
Al Lugo  
Mary Nelle Singer  
Joe Carter

### **OTHER POSITIONS:**

Editor  
Tour Director  
Publicity Director  
Program Director  
Club Liaison  
Membership Director  
Awards Director  
Historian Director  
Scholarship Director  
MATT Team Leader

Bill Shirley  
Paul Singer  
Sharon Webb  
John Robertson  
Joe Spooner  
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

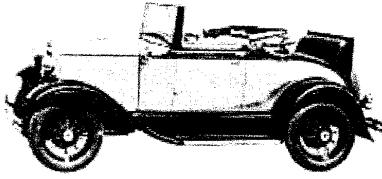
Bob Smith  
Al Lugo  
Lawrence Farrar  
Bill Buck

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  
Jim Langley Dec2015-2017

Bob Smith DEC 2001-2003  
Jim Langley DEC 2004-2006  
Jim Langley DEC 2008-2009  
Al Lugo DEC 2010-2012  
Joe Spooner DEC 2014-2015



# EZ ON

**THE GREAT RACE** - You missed a great opportunity to see many friends and some great cars in the rally when we gathered to greet them on Main Street in down town Newnan on Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. We had eight club members attending and two Model A's driven to Newnan. Saw six members, and missed the Gamble's, but know they were there since their car was parked along Main Street. 116 entries in the Rally, including our old friend, Taylor Merrill who was participating in his 1929 Ford Roadster for the 15<sup>th</sup> year. The Great Race Rally began on Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup> in Jacksonville, FL and ends in Traverse City, MI on Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>...

Be sure and attend the Member's Meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup> and get Paul Singer's update for the club's July Activity... Check the upcoming schedules for other interesting activities in the River City Running Board...

How many of you have ever traveled along Georgia State Highway 5? (Bob Smith - you are excluded). Curious how you can travel on this road and all of a sudden realize you are traveling on Alabama State Highway 48 ??? See me...

# JOIN US!

BY AL Lugo

**NEXT MEETING:** July 20, 2017- 6:00PM (EASTERN) Our next Club meeting will be at Woodmen of the World Lodge, on Highway 80, in Phenix City.

## COMING EVENTS

July 7  
July 14  
July 14

**MATTS**  
Planning Meeting (at Bradley Park Burger King)  
Orchard View Nursing Manner (after planning meeting)

July 20  
August 4  
August 11  
August 17  
August 19

Club Meeting  
**MATTS**  
Planning Meeting  
Club Meeting  
Breakfast Tour

### **CRUISE EVENINGS**

Every 1st Tuesday  
Every 2nd Tuesday  
Every 3rd Tuesday  
Every 4th Tuesday  
Every 5th Tuesday

Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway  
Jim Bob's (By Hobby Lobby)  
Jason's Deli (Close to Sears)  
Country's on Broadway  
El Vaquero Mexican Restaurant (Stadium Drive, Phenix City)

Every 2nd Saturday  
Every 3rd Saturday  
Every 4th Saturday  
Every Sunday AM

Opelika Home Depot Cruise In  
Phenix City Home Depot Cruise In (Starts March 18)  
Steak and Shake (Bradley Park Drive)  
IHOP Airport Thruway

### **NATIONAL:**

October 1-6  
November 29-Dec.3

MAFCA National Tour- Pacific Coast Hwy  
MAFCA National Awards Banquet, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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

### **Meeting Minutes June 15, 2017**

The June Meeting of the RCMAFC was held 6:00PM EST Thursday June 15, 2017 at The Woodmen of The World facility in Phenix City, Ala. Attending were Joe Carter, Bobby and Connie Penny, Mickey Timbes, Dick Noxon, John and Ricky Robertson, Tom and Sharon Ellis, Bob Smith, Paul and Mary Singer, Al Lugo, Joe and June Spooner, Howard and Barbara Ruddick, Joe Watkins, Sharon Webb, Bill Shirley and Kevin Adams. President Jim Langley called the meeting too order and led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Joe Spooner said Grace, members proceeded to the buffet line.

Sunshine Report: Bill Shirley is scheduled for surgery on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Old Business:**

Minutes of the May meeting were approved by members present. The treasury report was given by Joe Carter and approved by members present.

Bill Shirley announced the Club's Scholarships are being awarded to Eben Jordan and Mary Molly Hanks. These students are the grandchildren of Joe and June Spooner. They will be attending Auburn in the fall.

Generator workshop was held at Al Lugo's garage on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Paul Singer presented the workshop.

The next MATTS meeting will be held at Bob by Penny's shop on July 7<sup>th</sup>. There were 14 present at the June meeting.

#### **New Business:**

At the last planning meeting the amount of treasury funds was discussed concerning the ways and means to reduce and maintain a cap on these funds. A suggestion was made to donate periodically to local charities, a suggestion to this effect was presented at the June meeting, members are to consider additional charities at the July meeting.

#### **Tour Activities:**

Paul Singer gave information on the Tour scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup> to witness "The Great Race" coming thru Newnan GA with a Tour to the Orchard View Nursing Home on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Program:**

Joe Spooner presented the program on Ford's accomplishments not connected to Ford Cars. He called it "Henry Outside The plants."

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

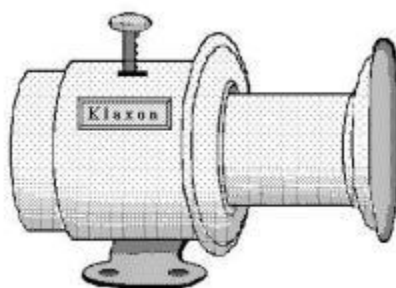
Mary Nelle Singer

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES



**JULY 3- Joe & Donna Carter**  
**JULY 23- Louie & Gloria Willett**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



**JULY 3- John Robertson**  
**JULY 4- Mary Nelle Singer**  
**JULY 11- Dick Noxon**  
**JULY 20- Pat Langley**  
**JULY 22- Lisa Farrar**

# MODEL A GENERATOR WORKSHOP...

By Al Lugo

On June 10, 2017 the River Cities Model A Ford Club held our thirteen workshop. This time the topic was "The Model A Generator"

Members met at Al Lugo's garage and Paul Singer served as the instructor, giving us a superb presentation that included in-depth information on how the Generator works on the Model "A" and how to properly rebuilt it.



Members participating were Bobby Penny, Paul and MaryNelle Singer, Sharon Webb, Larry Farrar, Richard Noxon, Jim Langley, Howard Ruddick, Neil LaClair, and Al and Liz Lugo.

After Paul's presentation that included a nice video, Paul and members got busy taking apart and putting together the generator.



After a good lunch from "Countries" BBQ members were enjoy apple pie and ice-cream.

If you missed this great workshop do not worry. Join us in other workshops in the near future...



Photos provided by Al Lugo





Photos by Howard Ruddick

We gathered at Bobby's shop to learn about the Model A and how to keep our Model 'A's on the road. Just look at the number of cars in the parking lot! Super attendance.



Our library is coming together. The late Bettie Jackson who was one of our Founding Members had donated a full set of our newsletters. These newsletters are our Club history from startup in December 2000 to 2010 when we switched to electronic newsletters.







**Sharon presented the Club with a beautiful clock she made.**

**We discussed the Preventive Maintenance and Safety Check Lists published by Les Andrews in his "Model A Mechanics Handbook series."**



**Come join us the first Friday of each month at Bobby's shop to learn about the Model A. Bobby has a great coffee urn and super doughnuts! Come and enjoy the fellowship.**

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# 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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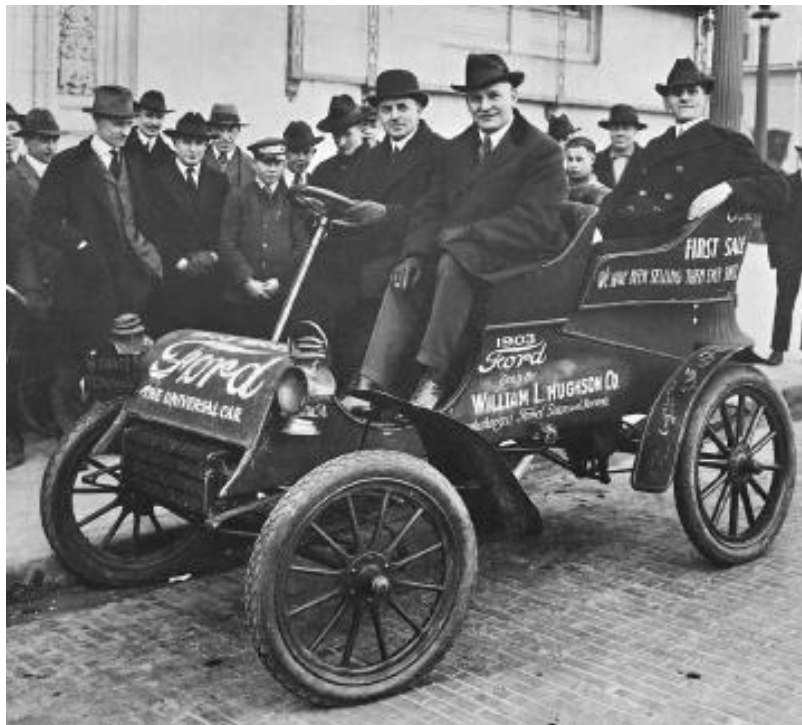
## William (Billy) Hughson- Henry Ford's First Dealer



William (Billy) Hughson shaking hands with Henry Ford

- It is said that Billy Hughson did not even know what an automobile was when he met Henry Ford at a bicycle show in Chicago in 1902.
- Hughson was born in Buffalo, N.Y. in 1869 and later went to San Francisco seeking to make his fortune. At the time he met Ford, he was the Head of Hughson & Merton machinery parts Supply Company. He attended the Chicago Bicycle Show searching for new products for his company.

- Ford was attending the bicycle show to demonstrate his Quadricycle and look for possible dealers. Ford thought Billy Hughson would make a good dealer in his part of the country.
- Hughson in turn was of the idea that a motor carriage was a good item to sell as a bicycle. After meeting Ford he shook hands and agreed to purchase \$5,000 worth of the automobiles that Ford would soon produce.
- Six months later he traveled to Detroit with the 5,000 dollars and was able to attend on June 16, 1903 the formation ceremonies of the Ford Motor Company. Since Ford had not built any other cars yet he offered Hughson the opportunity to invest the \$5,000 in Ford's new company. After talking to his partners in San Francisco they decided to pass on this opportunity that later proved to be a great economic mistake since an investment of \$5,000 then could have been worth many million dollars later.
- With the \$5,000 Hughson purchased twelve of the automobiles Ford will soon build. This made William Billy Hughson the first official Ford Dealer.
- After Hughson took possession of the cars they sat at his warehouse for 3 years without selling any of the vehicles. One of the reasons was the bad roads around San Francisco and also that most of the public thought that automobiles were toys for rich people. In 1906 San Francisco suffered a major earthquake that left the city in need of help. Hughson donated six of these automobiles to the Red Cross for ambulance work. His other six cars and his office were destroyed during the earthquake. The Red Cross used them since these vehicles could travel where a horse could not travel or where a horse was afraid of traveling.
- For his contribution during this disaster a US Army General, General Funston, who was in charge of reconstruction, made sure that Hughson's dealership office was the first business rebuilt in the Market Street.
- After the earthquake, with the visibility of his cars used by the Red Cross, his business picked up in San Francisco and he was then called Mr. Ford Dealer around the city. By then the public knew the automobile was much more than a rich person's toy.
- Since he was the first dealer, his west coast territory included California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii. It is said that at one time there were 120 dealerships that were traced to Hughson.
- Later Hughson found Ford's 999 race car in a Santa Monica junk shop bought it and restored it and presented it to Henry Ford as a gift for his museum.
- William Billy Hughson died at the age of 100 and the oldest Ford dealership closed 10 years later.



**One of the first 1903 Ford sold in San Francisco. A representative of the company is behind the wheel of the car...**

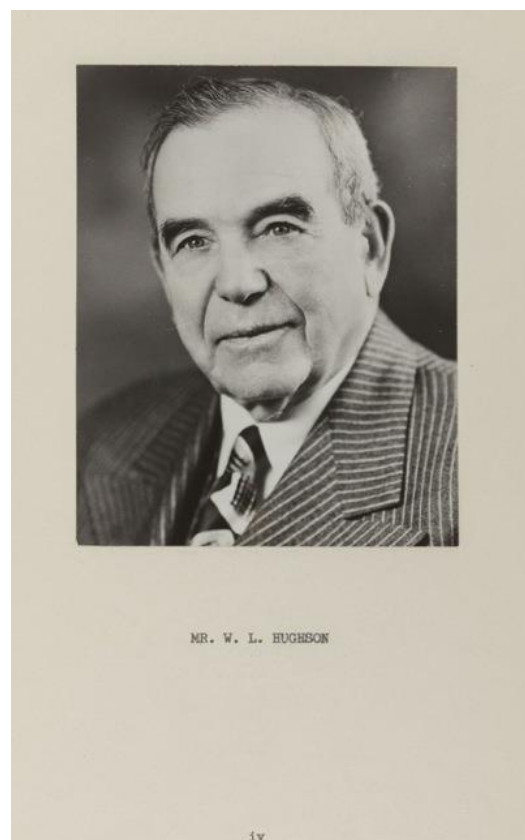


**An early photo of a Hughson's dealership...**





Another early photo of a Hughson's dealership...



A later photo of Mr. Hughson...



A 40's Hughson's used car dealership...

## HELP

Roy Armstrong: [royra@windstream.net](mailto:royra@windstream.net) Needs help with his Model A, "Do you know of anybody that might have a top rear panel (the one that has the rear window in it) for a 28 or 29 pickup"?

## Parts needed

Gerald [gfireman52@aol.com](mailto:gfireman52@aol.com) Anniston, Al. Area. Needs a 2 tooth steering gear (A Complete unit) Help him out if you can.....

[modelaman@farmerstel.com](mailto:modelaman@farmerstel.com) Bob Sloman Needs a 1929 Alabama Plate for his Model A. Anyone got ONE ????

## A's on Broadway

Mark your calendar for the 16<sup>th</sup> of September when we celebrate International Model A day at Uptown Columbus. More information to follow the closer we get to the 16<sup>th</sup>

Club winners from this years East Alabama Old Car Club car show this year.



**Sharon Webb**



**Jason Conry**



**Al Lugo's Volvo took 1<sup>st</sup>  
Plus he won best of show**



**And the winners are**

## ***OVER THE HILL...***

**By jim langley**

**Over the hill, welcome a new day.**

**Hop in the A and lets go play.**

**Over the hills, and down thru the dells,  
lets seek and find those two lane trails.**

**Over the hill, welcome a new day.**

**It's first light and here we go, down  
thru the country to see such sights, colors  
and sunshine abound, just can't get  
enough looking around.**

**Over the hill, welcome a new day.**

**The sound of our engine is a peaceful  
Purr, the wheels are-a-turning round and  
Round, sadly later we must get back  
to town.**

**Over the hill, welcome a new day, fun filled  
in our Model A...**