



# **"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,  
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:**

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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 Down the Road**

## **By Jim Langley**

Well September is upon us and that means cooler days for more Model A fun. We have a lot of activities up coming such as the Seale Courthouse Celebration on September the 4<sup>th</sup> (contact Bobby Penny if you are interested in going) and then there is the Carburetor workshop part II at Al's Garage. After that we have the International Model Day celebration on Broadway in Down Town Columbus on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September, this is always a fun time where we get to show off the cars and talk to folks about the cars (the more the merrier). If you have an idea of a club activity, please bring it up at the planning meeting. All are invited to attend where the club members and the board of Directors get together for Breakfast and discussion about club activities planned to present to all club members at the monthly meetings. The Board can only come up with a few ideas and you just might have something that would be a fun activity that all would enjoy both for tours and activities at the club meetings. If you have an idea for a meeting program, please bring it up to John Robertson who is our program director and he will try to fit it in to the schedule. Looking ahead to October, there is the club picnic at the Spooner's cabin by the lake and the LaGrange car show.

### **Bits and Pieces**

A very strange quote from Henry Ford that he said in 1917, "Businessmen go down with their businesses because they like the old ways so well they cannot bring themselves to change. One sees them all about – men who do not know that yesterday is past, and who woke up this morning with last year's ideas." **Yes, he did say that about his thinking of the future, BUT, later this view was not followed when it came to Model T Ford production.**

If you are an average American, you will spend some six months of your life waiting at Red Lights. **Now-a-days, too many folks are not average, since they don't stop for Red Lights...**

*J/M*

# JOIN US!

BY AL Lugo

**NEXT MEETING:** September 21, 2017- 6:00PM (EASTERN) Our next Club meeting will be at Woodmen of the World Lodge, on Highway 80, in Phenix City.

## COMING EVENTS

September 1	MATTS
September 4	Seale Courthouse Celebration
September 9	Workshop Carburetor Part II, Al's Garage
September 15	Planning Meeting
September 16	Model A Day- Uptown Columbus
September 21	Club Meeting
October 6	MATTS
October 13	Planning Meeting
October 14	Spooner's Lake Cabin Picnic
October 14	LaGrange Car Show
October 19	Club Meeting- Officer Nominations are due

### 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, Phenix City)
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	Opelika Home Depot Cruise In
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	Phenix City Home Depot Cruise In (Starts March 18)
Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Steak and Shake (Bradley Park Drive)
Every Sunday AM	IHOP Airport Thruway

### NATIONAL:

October 1-6	MAFCA National Tour- Pacific Coast Hwy
November 29- Dec.3	MAFCA National Awards Banquet, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**River Cities Model A Ford Club  
Club Meeting Minutes  
August 17, 2017**

The August Meeting of the River Cities Model A Ford Club was held August 17, 2017 at the Woodmen of The World lodge in Phenix City at 6:00PM EST.

ATTENDING the meeting were Jim Langley, Paul Singer, Mary Nelle Singer, Neil LaClair, Joe Carter, Sharon Webb, Pat Gamble, Mark Gamble, Al Lugo, Bobby Penny, Dexter Watkins, Tom Ellis, John Robertson, Joe Spooner, June Spooner, Dick Noxon, and Bill Shirley.

Jim Langley called the meeting to order, then led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Joe Spooner said grace and members proceeded to the buffet table.

**Sunshine Report:**

Bobby Shackelford's shoulder is still bothering him since his accident. The Lester's are holding their own. Bill Shirley announced his doctor said he was now cancer free.

**Old Business:**

Minutes of July meeting were approved by club members. Joe Carter gave the treasury report which was approved by club vote.

**MATTS:**

Next meeting of MATTS will be Sept 1<sup>st</sup>.

**New Business:**

Nominating Committee is progressing with selections for recommending Office Candidates for the 2018 election. At the last planning meeting a suggestion was discussed to buy books from MAFCA, MARC and other sources for the Club library. The funds for these books will come from our treasury funds. Members are encouraged to think of and form work age ideas to present at the September membership meeting. A letter from the Model A Youth Restoration Award was read to the Club. They are asking for candidates to receive scholarships that will help them to restore and make proper restorations on their cars.

**Upcoming Tours/Activities:**

Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> Club members will meet and tour to Howie's for breakfast.

Callaway Car Show Sept 2nd. Those wishing to Show their cars are admitted free of charge.

Labor day, Sept 4<sup>th</sup> club members will meet at Truck stop on 431 then proceed to Seale Courthouse for Labor Day festivities.

Saturday, Sept 16<sup>th</sup> the club will celebrate International Model A Ford Day by showing our cars at Uptown Columbus.

Annual Club Picnic will be on October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Spooner's Lake House at Lake Martin.

Meeting program: Show and Tell

Members enjoyed showing and seeing what everyone brought.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Nelle Singer  
Secretary

## 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>



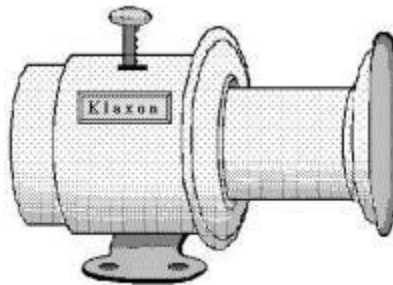


## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES**



**SEPTEMBER 19- Howard & Barbara Ruddick**

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**



**SEPTEMBER 10- Jason Conry**

**SEPTEMBER 13- Louann Buck**

**SEPTEMBER 19- Mickey Timbes**

**SEPTEMBER 24- Louise Morris**

**SEPTEMBER 26- Lee Coxwell**

# **The Model A Carburetor**

## **Part II**

**Our next Workshop will be conducted on Saturday, September 10, 2017. The topic will be the Model A Carburetor, Part 2. The instructors will be Joe Spooner and Bobby Penny. The location will be at Al's Garage. Lunch will be provided, and starting time will be 9:00 AM Eastern.**

**Please sign up during the August meeting or please Email or call Al Lugo before September 1, 2017 (Last Day to sign up). This is very important to have an accurate headcount for the caterer. Come and Join us and learn more about keeping our Model "A"s on the road!**

**Al Lugo**



**Photos by Al Lugo**

**Come join us on the first Friday of each month at Bobby's shop for fellowship, hot coffee and doughnuts, while learning about the Model A's.**





**Bobby leading the group in a long period of fellowship and members talking with each other about their projects and Model A's**



**A new tool that Al purchased that is used for timing that permits checking top dead center by yourself. This tool was described first in Ford Barn and Model A Times. He will also show this tool at our general meeting.**



**Bobby presented a timing gear that clearly showed the depression on the gear that would match what we found when we timed our ignitions.**

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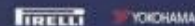
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# DID YOU KNOW?

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.

.....

## HENRY FORD II



from the Collections of The Henry Ford

- Henry Ford II is also known as "HF2", as "Hank the Deuce" and as "Henry the Second". He was the oldest son of Edsel Ford and the oldest grandson of Henry Ford. When his dad Edsel died in May 1943 Henry Ford II was serving in the Navy.
- Henry Ford had re-assumed the Presidency of the Ford Motor Company. By this time Henry Ford was not consistent mentally and it was felt that he was not fit for the job. During this period the company had 600 million in cash but was losing over 10 million dollars a month. It has been said that the administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, worried about the war production at Ford, even considered a government takeover of the company.
- Henry Ford II joined the Navy in 1941, receiving an ensign's commission and was assigned to do administrative work at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, near Chicago. He left the Navy in July of 1943, joining the Ford management team a few weeks later. He was asked to leave the Navy to help run the Ford factories by Bill Knudson who headed the mobilization effort of American industry during the war. Knudson, a General at the time, was worried about Ford Motor Company's contribution to the war under the leadership of the elder Henry Ford.
- In September of 1945 he became the President of Ford Motor Company at the age of 28 when the 82 year old Henry Ford resigned from Ford Motor Company. HF2 had seized control of the company backed by his mother and his wife who threatened to sell her stock in Ford, which was family owned, if her son was not given control of the company. He was President of Ford Motor Company from 1945 to 1960 and CEO from 1945 to 1979.
- When he became President the company was in turmoil, the European Factories had suffered a lot of damage and domestic sales were in decline. He immediately went to work, first firing Harry Bennett, who was the head of the Ford Service Department and the cause of much of the turmoil and hiring good men and listening to their advice. Within a few months he terminated or demoted or transferred over a thousand employees. Most of these were Bennett's cronies.
- Knowing he was inexperienced, he hired some seasoned executives like Ernest Breech and Lewis Crusoe, executives from the Bendix Corporation. Breech served as Henry Ford II's mentor and the Breech and Crusoe team became the core of HF2 business expertise.
- Also HF2 hired ten Officers from an Army Air Force statistical team, which will be known as the "Whiz Kids". Some of these later served in key positions in the Ford Motor Company. The "Whiz Kids" were later also known as the design team for the 1949 Ford which re-established Ford as a formidable automobile Company.

Ford had 100,000 orders for the 1949 Ford the day it was introduced to the market.

- HF2 is credited with also helping to revitalize Detroit and the surrounding communities. He made Ford departments cost-accountable, bringing the company out of the red. By 1950 Ford was restored to second place in the auto industry.
- In 1956, under Henry Ford II, Ford Motor Company became a publicly traded corporation, raising 650 million dollars for the Company. It was structured so that the family maintained control of the company.
- Later the company lost about 325 million dollars in the Edsel car. But during his tenure the company had great success with the creation of the Thunderbird and later the Mustang. He later was instrumental in expanding Ford business overseas establishing Ford as a major power in Europe and other overseas markets.
- During the early 1960's HF2 tried to buy Ferrari from Enzo Ferrari. HF2 wanted to expand the Ford presence in motorsports including the Le Mans 24 hour race. After the deal failed, HF2 started the Ford GT40 project, with the objective of ending Ferrari's influence at Le Mans. After difficult years in 64 and 65, in 1966 GT40's won at the Daytona 24 Hours and the Sebring 12 Hours race and winning during the next four years at Le Mans.
- He was never able to achieve his greatest goal, to beat General Motors and become number one again, but in 1986 Ford reported profits of 3.3 billion to GM's 2.95 billion. It was the first time since 1924 that Ford had top GM on profits.
- HF2 desire to keep his power brought him into conflict with his aides just like his grandfather. The Ford Motor Company was his life and his kingdom. Anyone that challenged him was let go.
- Henry Ford II was said to be very candid and honest. He always took responsibility for his decisions. He was known for his deeds and his integrity. He mended relations with the Jewish community. He later received the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai Br'ith American Award in 1980.
- The President of the United Automobile Workers union named Mr. Henry Ford II as one of the most influential and colorful figures in the auto industry. During HF2



tenure at Ford, the UAW was able through negotiations, to introduce new concepts at Ford that later set industry wide standards.

- Henry Ford II retired from all positions at Ford Motor Company when he reached the age of 65, the mandatory retirement at Ford Motor Company. By the time he retired as chairman in 1980, Ford Motor Company was the fourth largest industrial corporations in the world.
- When asked why he work so hard at Ford Motor Company or to settle an argument he would always say "I had to, my name is on the building".
- It is said that even after his retirement, he remained as the ultimate source of authority at Ford. HF2 died in 1987 at the age of 70 from pneumonia at the Henry Ford Hospital. He died exactly 30 years after his grandmother, Clara Ford at the same hospital.
- Henry Ford II was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Lyndon Johnson in 1969. In 1983 he was inducted into the Automobile Hall of Fame. He was also later inducted into the Junior Achievement U. S. Business Hall of Fame in 1996.
- In 1996, the Ford Moto Company renamed its World Headquarters complex the Henry Ford II World Center an installed a bronze statue of him in the lobby.



Henry Ford II and his grandfather Henry Ford...



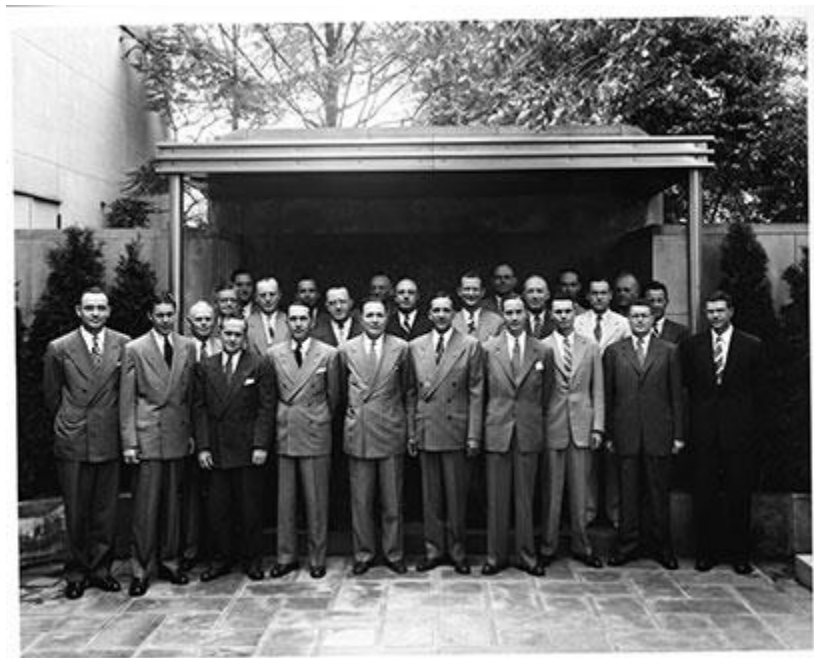
Henry Ford II in front of the Henry Ford II World Center...



Henry Ford II enjoying success at the 24 Hours of Le Mans...



**Statue of Henry Ford II and Walter Reuther, UAW President...**



**The new management at Ford, including "The Whiz Kids"...**



**Henry Ford II enjoying a talk with Ford Factory Workers...**



**Henry Ford II enjoys the success of the new *Mustang*...**

# FOR SALE

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# WANTED

1930-31 Model A Sport Coupe wanted.

I have a customer looking for a 1930 or early 1931 (flat firewall) Sport Coupe for restoration. Does not have to be very nice, but must be rust free especially in the body.

Looking for a complete car, does not have to be in running condition. Let me know what you have, thanks in advance, Bentley



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## **MAFFI Newsletter Minute**

We are in the last minute preparations for Model A Day, Sept. 16, 2017 and hope that many of you have made your plans to attend. In addition to the new displays in the museum, a 1931 Standrive Milk Truck, a right hand drive Phaeton produced in England, and a Russian built GAZ engine inside the museum we will have a couple of interesting and rare vehicles outside the museum (weather permitting). This year's technical seminars will be on Front End Assembly and Repair, Installing a Cell Phone Power Outlet in 6 volt Model A, Roadside Trouble shooting, Model A Accessories and for the ladies, a fashion seminar "Vintage in Style; From Pouch to Purse". (There is a small charge of \$5/person for each seminar.) Last but not least is the all-day swap meet and the membership meeting and Hall of Fame ceremony!! Don't forget to bring your MAFFI membership card for free admission to the museum.

Thank you for your continued support of the Model A Ford Museum.

Loukie Smith

MAFFI president