

**JANUARY 30, 2021 TOUR TO CELEBRATION PARK**



January 30th was a crisp, clear and sunny day - perfect for a Model A Tour! Fifteen cars left Hightower's driveway headed to Celebration Park, south of Kuna on the Snake River. Tour master, Greg West, plotted a route to keep us on back roads and away from traffic as much as possible. All started out well, but about 1/2 of the group got separated from the rest and created their own route. Not to worry, we all made it to the destination. The only casualty was Glen and Wilda Clayton's flat tire. Many hands helped them fix the tire so they could get back home. Thanks to all who helped. Some of the members enjoyed a late lunch at Idaho Pizza Company before heading home. We all needed the outing. Thank you, Greg, for helping us spend some time together with our great cars!



Upper left picture is the gathering of Model A's at Hightower's home. Above picture is what we look like following each other on the road. Left picture is through the back window of Fred and Judi's 1931 Coupe. (pictures courtesy of Judi Ornellas)

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2020 TVMAC Officers

- President: Rob Spofford
- Vice President: Wayne Brossard
- Secretary: Lora Egan
- Treasurer: Arlan Potts
- Membership: Arlan Potts
- National Rep: Martha Borchers
- Sunshine Committee: Joanie Calhoun
- Newsletter: JoAnn Blout

Deadline for pictures, stories, flyers, current events, etc., in next month's Rattlin' Rag is: Monday, March 15, 2021

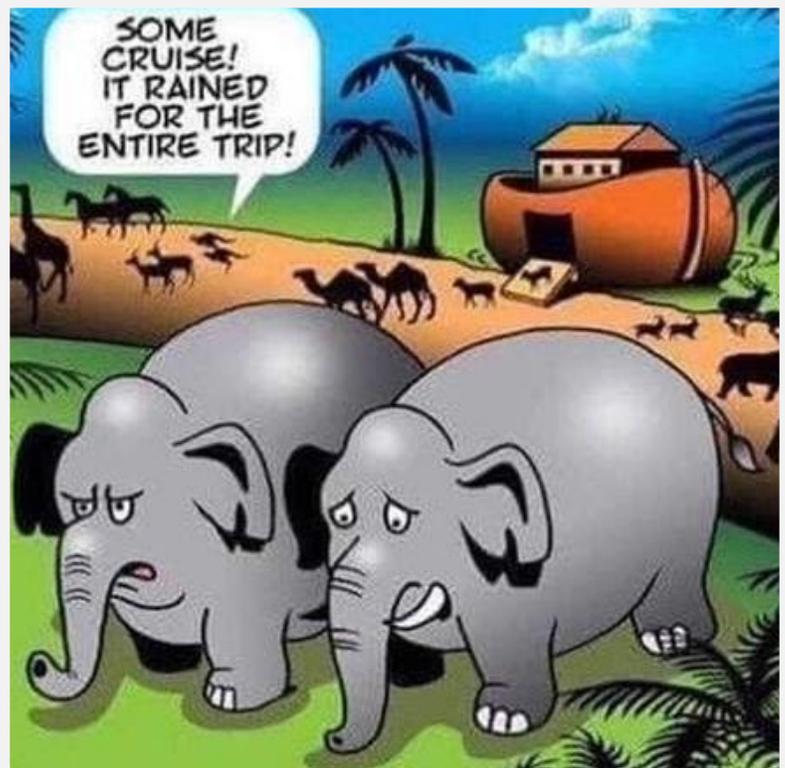
Please email:  
JoAnn Blout  
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**DID YOU KNOW?**

**HUGS THAT LAST OVER 20 SECONDS RELEASES CHEMICALS IN YOUR BODY CALLED "OXYTOCIN" THAT MAKES YOU TRUST SOMEONE MORE.**

Just a Thought and a Giggle!



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 2021						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 TVMAC Meeting	12	13
14 Daylight Savings	15	16	17 st. Patrick's Day	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Passover
28 Palm Sunday	29	30	31			

**Local Events:**

- **2nd & 4th Monday:** Hightower Shop: 6:00 pm—9:00 pm. This is your chance to get help and pointers regarding repair and maintenance of your Model A from very experienced members—Elvin and Glen.
- **Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11, 2021 at Hightower's shop. Bring your own meal. Shop open @ 6 pm for eating, meeting @ 7 pm.**

**Jim's Tech Tips  
By Jim Cannon  
Towing Your Model A on a Trailer**

There will be times when you need to transport your Model A on a trailer. Here's a tip on trailer loading to help you tow safely.

When the car is loaded on the trailer, the tongue weight of the trailer on the trailer hitch (on the back of your car or truck) should be between 10-15% of the total weight of the combined "trailer + Model A". If you load the trailer with less than 10% of the weight on the hitch, the trailer will sway as the speed increases, which is very dangerous. Over 15% can put too much unnecessary load on the back of your tow vehicle, which can take weight off of your front wheels (needed for steering and braking) - which is also not good.

How do you know the weight of your "trailer + Model A"? I took my car on the trailer to my local feed store where they have a scale. Many truck stops also have scales. I parked the loaded trailer on the scale, disconnected my truck, and moved the truck off the scale. They charge a small fee to give you the weight. Once I had that total weight, it was easy to calculate 10% and 15% of that. For example, if your "trailer + Model A" is 4,200 pounds, your Target Tongue Weight is 420 to 630 pounds, call it 525.

Once you know the Target Tongue Weight that you are shooting for, how do you know what the actual tongue weight is when you put the Model A on the trailer? You can figure it out with a ruler or tape measure. Go to a building supply store (like Home Depot) with your tow vehicle and no trailer. Measure and record the distance between the bottom of the trailer hitch and the ground. Now start loading 80# bags of dry concrete mix into your car trunk or truck bed until you have loaded your Target Tongue Weight. (I had a helpful young guy at HD load them for me.) The exact load is not critical, but it must be above your 10% number. Now measure and record the distance between the bottom of the trailer hitch and the ground again. Once you have those 2 numbers, you can ask the helpful lad at the store to unload all those bags and put them back! Thankfully, you only have to do this exercise one time.

With these 2 measurements, before and after the load was added, you can quickly figure out the change in height above the ground when you have your Target Tongue Weight on the back of your tow vehicle. This CHANGE in the height of your trailer hitch is the HITCH DROP that you need to get when you load your Model A on the trailer. Before attaching the trailer to your tow vehicle in the future, measure the height of the trailer hitch above the ground. Now attach the trailer and load your Model A on it. Pull the Model A forward on the trailer until trailer hitch has dropped by your Target Hitch Drop. You can roll the Model A forward and backward a bit on the trailer to get the amount of drop that you are shooting for. Now tie the Model A down in this position on the trailer and be confident that you have enough, but not too much tongue weight on your trailer hitch.

I have marked on my trailer the best spot to load a Model A to get the target tongue weight and hitch drop. When I put them on the mark, the tongue weight is correct.

For more tips on safe towing, check out the website: <https://www.curtmfg.com/towing-safety>. Let's be careful out there, and Have a Model A Day!  
Jim Cannon

## Getting to Know TVMAC Members

### Fred and Judi Ornellas

Once upon a time in a land far away, a handsome Coast Guard guy knocked on my apartment door looking for someone to go square dancing with him. That far away land was Washington DC back in 1966. He (Fred Ornellas) was born in San Francisco, raised in the Bay area and graduated from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo with a major in Physics. The cute little blonde gal was Judi, born in New Jersey, raised on Long Island, went to college in northeastern Pennsylvania, and was a legal secretary for many years.

We were married in 1967 in Massapequa, NY, started our life together in McLean, VA. We are the parents of three daughters, Holly, Heather and Dawn, who were mostly raised in Cashmere, WA, then in Denver, CO, prior to our arrival in Boise in 1989 when Fred went to work with Hewlett Packard.

Each of our daughters is now married and raising our grandchildren. Holly and Steve live here in Boise and have our two oldest grandsons who graduated from Borah. Heather and Lane live outside San Antonio, TX, where five more of our grandsons reside (although the oldest is at BYU and second oldest is serving a church mission in Bentonville, Arkansas). Dawn and Rob are in Juneau, AK. They own and operate the final two grandsons and our only granddaughter. So if you lost count, that's nine handsome grandsons and one beautiful granddaughter.

We enjoy traveling especially when we have the opportunity to spend time with our daughters and grandchildren. We love camping which started back in 1967 in a pup tent. Today you will find us towing our 16' Scamp which we take just about anywhere. We have camped our way to Alaska and twice across the "lower 48". We enjoy reading, helping others, and going out with friends. Fred spends a lot of time in his "lab-or-a-tory" in the basement. His lifetime hobby has been electronics which put him through college and supported our family for many years. You should know that Fred hates pipes. Judi enjoys genealogy, gardening, sewing, creating cards, and scrapbooking which she now does electronically.



Moving from California to Washington in 1969.



We are the owners of just "ONE" 1931 Model A Coupe that Fred purchased in 1960. He put many miles on it between the Bay Area and San Luis Obispo. In April 1969, we moved from the Bay area to Wenatchee, WA. The back of the pickup was packed with some of our belongings including Fred's 1956 Ariel motorcycle. The rest of our household goods were in storage. The Model A (then black) was towed behind the pickup. We camped in our two man pup tent along the way. That was an adventure! In 1988, the Model A was transported to Colorado in a moving van and then Fred towed it behind our Nissan to Boise in 1989.

In the early 1990's the "A" received a new paint job (blue with yellow fenders, an upgrade from chipped black and grey) and a rumble seat. All of the grandkids have ridden in the "A" and five have experienced driving it with Papa. Here's a picture of Elliot who was so excited when he managed to double clutch the "A". Submitted by Judi Ornellas



I find Senator John Kennedy of Louisiana has a wit and way with words that rivals Will Rogers of old. I hope you enjoy a few quotes from him. JoAnn Blout, editor

"You can only be young once, but you can always be immature."

"Always follow your heart . . . But take your brains with you."

"Don't stand between a dog and a fire hydrant."

"Just because you CAN sing doesn't mean you should."

"Go sell your CRAZY somewhere else, we're all stocked up here."

"The short answer is NO, the long answer is HELL NO!"



Fred & Judi Ornellas camping above Idaho City.

**2021 Annual TVMAC dues are now due. Dues are \$20 per family per year. Please give your money to Arlan Potts or mail your check to:**

**Arlan Potts**  
**10921 Montana Ave.**  
**Boise, ID 83713-5048**

## TVMAC PRESIDENT 2021

### Rob (and Connie) Spofford

Rob and Connie are Idaho natives. Rob grew up on a farm and attended school in Southern Idaho. He graduated from Idaho State University and entered the Army during the Vietnam War. He retired from the Army after a tour in Afghanistan. Rob worked for the State of Idaho and retired as an IT manager.

Connie grew up and attended schools in Boise. She graduated from the College of Idaho and then taught High School Math for 5 years. She also retired from the State of Idaho as an IT manager. She is an avid Quilter (aka: Fabric collector)! Connie likes doing almost anything with some kind of needle, unless it is a shot.

Currently we have 3 road worthy Model A's and several partial cars. The first car is a 1928 Roadster that Rob and his father started building from junk yard parts in 1957 when he was a boy. This was Rob's first car and he drove it to high school and college. It is the same color and body style that his parents drove on their honeymoon in 1930 to the Oregon coast.

The second car is a 1928 Station Wagon. This car was a "garage find" in Kimberly, Idaho in 2016. We drove this car coast to coast in 2019 traversing about 8,400 miles. The plan is to make a Canadian coast to coast trip this year if the border opens up. It has the most comfortable seats of the three cars. We drove it to southern Utah and Colorado in 2020, where we visited numerous state and national parks.

The third car is a 1930 Fordor. It was purchased in 2018. The overall plan is to have a Model A for each of our four grandchildren. The youngest grandchild is not old enough to drive, so we have some time. We are out of garage space already so that is impacting the purchase of another car.

Both the Roadster and the Station Wagon have appeared in the Ridgefield, Washington Fourth of July Parade. We have twice tried to take both cars, at the same time, to Vancouver, Washington for family gatherings and 4th of July Parades, but with out success. The first time the Woody failed while Connie was driving, with a broken valve. The second time the Roadster failed while Rob was driving, with a broken fan and subsequent radiator issues. Our plan is to try again this summer, COVID restrictions allowing. Hopefully the third time is the charm!

Rob and Connie have been married for 38 years. We have always lived in Boise. We have two daughters and four grandchildren. We both enjoy traveling, whether in this country or others. We have visited 87 countries so far. (Article and pictures submitted by Connie & Rob Spofford)



**LADY A'S CORNER** by JoAnn Blout



COVID 19 has played havoc with our lives!  
 The Lady A's miss lunches together, seeing movies in theatres, and just enjoying each others company.  
 We are looking forward to a safer time when we can resume our normal activities.  
 Stay Healthy and Safe!

**GRANDMA'S "OLD FRUIT" CAKE**

My Grandma, my father's mother, was born in 1896. She was raised on a small farm in central Utah, the oldest of 11 children. When she married in 1919, she took with her the values of hard work and thrift. She believed in the adage:

- Eat it up
- Wear it out
- Use it up
- Or do without

There was no waste at her table. She sewed most of the clothes her family wore. She was a quilter, loved to crochet, and to tat. She taught me how to embroidery tea towels and pillow cases. But the thing I remember most vividly is that she canned everything she could. All the fruit from her trees and every vegetable from her garden went into a jar. She was famous for her Mustard Pickles and her recipe is a cherished possession. I lived with her one fall, while student teaching, and she would giggle as she told me the products of her canning "... Sure will taste good when the snow flies!"

If canned fruit is not used in a few years, it begins to deteriorate. It goes "mushy" and the color goes brownish. My thrifty grandma figured out a good way to use that "old fruit" to make a treat for her family. Desserts were a rare occurrence in her home. But when she discovered a jar of fruit that was no longer in its prime, she would make it into a cake! "Old Fruit Cake" is moist and delicious. She served it without any type of frosting.

**"OLD FRUIT" CAKE**

1 Quart of old fruit:

Pears, peaches, plums, apricots work well. If the fruit was canned with the pits, remove the pits.

Put fruit and juice into a blender and blend until smooth. (Grandma used a potato masher)

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 4 tsp Baking Powder | 1 tsp Nutmeg        |
| 4 Cups Flour        | 1 tsp Ground Cloves |
| 2 Cups Sugar        | 1 tsp Salt          |
| 1 tsp Cinnamon      | 1 Cup Vegetable Oil |

Mix all ingredients well.

Add 1 Cup Raisins and/or 1/2 Cup Chopped Nuts (optional)

Pour into greased 9 X 13 inch cake pan

Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes

Submitted by JoAnn Blout

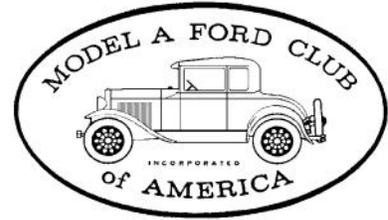


Looking for Submissions!  
 If anyone has a story, or recipe, or fashion idea, or something of interest to share with The Lady A's, please send it to me.  
 jblout50@gmail.com

The Treasure Valley A's is a Model A Ford automobile club located in the Boise area of Idaho. We are dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the Model A Fords from 1928 through 1931 by the Ford Motor Company. Membership is not limited to owners and is open to anyone interested in preserving the memory of our past and the great impact that Henry Ford made upon the world with his Model A.

The Treasure Valley A's have had a long history in the city of trees. Many of the club's members have spent most of their lives here in the area. The club was formed around 1963 and its membership consisted of only eight couples and a few cars. Since then the club has grown to well over a hundred and thirty and is one of the most active antique car clubs in the state.

We would love to hear from you or even better, stop by our next event.



TREASURE VALLEY  
MODEL A FORD CLUB OF  
AMERICA

Visit us on the web at: <http://www.tvmaclub.com/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TVMACIdaho/>

Twitter page: [https://twitter.com/TVMAC\\_ID](https://twitter.com/TVMAC_ID)

**Interest in becoming a MAFCA member?**

**Go to: <http://www.mafc.com/>**

**Treasure Valley Model A Ford  
Club of America**

10921 Montana Ave.

Boise ID 83713-5048