



# The Rattlin' Rag

TREASURE VALLEY MODEL A  
FORD CLUB OF AMERICA

## MAY 1ST 2021—26th ANNUAL MELBA FUN RUN



The Melba Fun Run, sponsored by The Western Idaho Model T Ford Club, started in Kuna at the Albertsons parking lot. 65 vehicles registered for the event from several local car clubs, including our Treasure Valley Model A Club. This annual Fun Run is a fund raiser for the Melba Senior Center. Last year's event was cancelled due to COVID restrictions, so this year was especially important.

Our first stop was Celebration Park on the Snake River. The Park personnel were prepared for us and guided us to parking spots. It was fun to get out, stretch our legs, and admire and talk with other car owners.



Model T's lead the way to Celebration Park.



Some of the vehicles and folks at Celebration Park



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Annual Melba Fun Run  | 1  |
| Index / TVMAC officers<br>Melba Fun Run (cont.)               | 2  |
| Calendar / Activities<br>Jim's Tech Tips                      | 3  |
| Meet Club Members   | 4  |
| Meet Club Officers  | 5  |
| Melba Run Follow Up / Fun Facts<br>Shavers and Joanie Calhoun | 6  |
| Lady A's / Rumble Seat Drivers<br>License / Fast Food Friday  | 7  |
| Car Show / Wanted/For Sale /<br>Recent Repairs                | 8  |
| 2023 Meet Prep: Restorer's Class                              | 9  |
| Membership  | 10 |

**Melba Fun Run (cont.)**



After leaving the park we traveled to Melba across the high desert and stopped for a few minutes to observe a "Fly Over" from 4 vintage planes. It was fun to watch them fly in the sky above all our vehicles. The pilots belong to a vintage flying club.

Upon arriving at the Melba Senior Center we were served a nice meal of Hot Dogs/Chorizos, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, and Brownies a la mode. A Raffle for a Henry Rifle and an auction of donated items completed the event.



(pictures courtesy Rob Blout)

**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
- Lady A's: Elaine Hightower
- Newsletter: JoAnn Blout

**Melba Fun Run Facts**

65 cars registered  
 Gun Raffle tickets - \$2300  
 (Won by grandson of a car owner present at the lunch)  
 Auction \$1045 (large Spuddy Buddy \$125—Jeff Caldwell)  
 Total cleared \$4300  
 The Center Thanks everyone who participated!  
 KTVB covered the Celebration Park segment as part of Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation month.  
<https://www.ktvb.com/mobile/video/news/celebrating-history-at-celebration-park/277-3550614e-a993-47d0-98->

Deadline for pictures, stories, flyers, current events, etc., in next month's Rattlin' Rag is: Monday, June 14, 2021

Please email:  
 JoAnn Blout  
 jblout50@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF UP COMING EVENTS :

**JUNE 2021**

| SUN             | MON          | TUES | WED | THURS           | FRI    | SAT             |
|-----------------|--------------|------|-----|-----------------|--------|-----------------|
|                 |              | 1    | 2   | 3               | 4 FFF  | 5               |
| 6               | 7            | 8    | 9   | 10 Club Meeting | 11 FFF | 12              |
| 13              | 14 Open Shop | 15   | 16  | 17              | 18 FFF | 19 David's Hope |
| 20 Father's Day | 21           | 22   | 23  | 24              | 25 FFF | 26 Dairy Days   |
| 27              | 28 Open Shop | 29   | 30  |                 |        |                 |

Local Events:

- 2nd & 4th Monday: Hightower's Shop Open: 6:00 pm—9:00 pm.
- Our next meeting is Thursday, June 10, 2021 at Jeff & Stephanie Stapleton's, 6817 E. Bay Horse Ln, Nampa. Check your email for more details.

Fast Food Fridays:

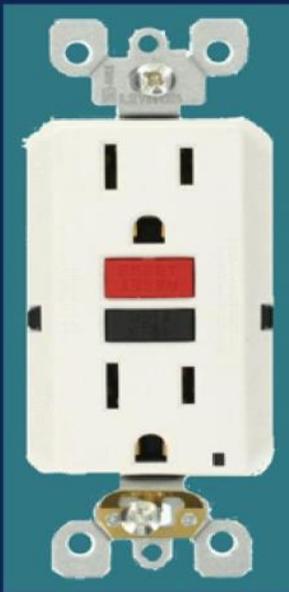
- June 4—Culver's 3494 Tecate Lane Meridian
- June 11—Big Jud's 3030 E Overland #100 Meridian
- June 18—Freddy's 1395 N Happy Valley Rd, Nampa
- June 25—Fanci Freez 1750 W. McMillian Rd, #100 Meridian

Tours and Activities:

- 6/19 David's Hope Fun Run
- 6/26 Meridian Dairy Days Parade

Refer to tvmaclub.com Current Tours

**Jim's technical tip**  
by Jim Cannon,



We all have these electrical outlets in the garage, outside the home, in the bathroom, in the kitchen that cut off the power (Interrupt the Current) if they detect a bad electrical connection in something (a Ground Fault). So they call them Ground Fault Current Interrupt, or GFCI, outlets and they help keep you from getting electrocuted.

We were in our house in Houston for almost 30 years and I never gave them much thought. We had a bunch of them, and I assumed they worked... Boy, was I wrong!

As it turns out, you need to TEST them about once a year or so. They go bad with time, especially those exposed to the elements. They have a TEST button built right into them that you press, to see it trip (and a Reset button to turn them back on after a trip).

I was doing a lot of work around the house a couple of years ago when we were preparing to sell it. Holly and I pressure washed the floor of the garage and I vacuumed up the water with an electric shop vac as we went. It turns out, that tingling feeling I was getting while running the shop vac was not from my True Love working right next to me. I had a bad electrical connection (extension cord) in that water and the GFCI never tripped!

I was lucky I was not hurt. I never, in over 25 years, tested a GFCI. Don't push your luck like I did. Please go test the ones you have that you rely on, and replace any that fail.

Stay safe, and "Have a Model A Day!" Jim



## Getting to Know TVMAC Members: Vern & Norma Lee Shaver

I was first fascinated with cars at the age of 14. Dad had a '29 Model A pickup and I wanted to drive it. After much cajoling, he parked the "A" in the pasture and said, "When you learn to drive it, park it in the driveway." That was the beginning.

After several years (1961) I was away at college at Idaho State. One of my classmates invited me to his home in Oakley for the weekend. About 6:00 that evening we were off to feed the cattle. On the way I spotted a Model A coupe sitting in a field. I asked Mose (my classmate) who it belonged to. He said he didn't know, and it had been sitting there as long as he could remember. On the way back we stopped to look at it. An elderly woman saw us looking at it and came to the door. I asked her if it was hers and did it run? She said it was her late husband's and it ran when he parked it. Obviously the next question was, "Is it for sale?" She said she would have to have \$20 for it. Money never came out of my Levi's so fast!

The next day we fixed a tire, put some gas in it, and charged the battery. It fired right up and I took off for Pocatello and back to school. When I got to Burley a fellow stopped me and wanted to know if I wanted to trade it. I asked him for what and he showed me a picture of 3 restored "A"s. He wanted \$750 and my coupe and I could have my choice of the 3. It may as well have been \$7 million! Then he asked me if I wanted to sell mine and offered me \$75, which I took. I often regretted having sold it.

Fast forward to 2015. I saw a '30 coupe (or part of a '30) sitting in a yard. I asked if it was for sale and the usual response was, "We're going to fix it up." Every year for 3 years I stopped by and asked the same question, and always got the same answer. Unbeknownst to me, my wife knew the wife of the owner. So the saying goes, "If you want something done, give the problem to your wife." About two weeks later I bought the "A" for \$1200. After much work, mostly done by Elvin (with what little help I was), we got it put together, painted, and driving. There's still work to be done, mostly cosmetic, (seats, upholstery etc.) but we drive it and it's fun. Not for sale!

I have owned over 300 cars and trucks. After that I quit counting. I think I need to check myself into the "Henry Ford Clinic"!!!

We look forward to many trips/excursions in the coupe. By the way, this is the first car my wife has been excited about.

Norma Lee with our 1930 coupe.



Vern and Norma Lee at the Melba Senior enter enjoying lunch.



## MEET JOANIE CALHOUN, SUNSHINE COMMITTEE CHAIR

My love affair with the automobile began while being driven to school in a 1937 Chevy Coupe. I got to shift. I was 5 years old in Castro Valley, California.

My first car was the 1930 Model "A" I now drive. I bought it back in 1962 for \$300 from my Uncle Bill and Aunt Millie. I was 15 years old and didn't even have a drivers license. It was rough, layers and layers of black paint, no upholstery, no headliner, but it ran. My dad, brother and I worked on it, layer by layer. When all the paint was off it looked like stainless steel. Then Dad applied 6 coats of primer and then the green and black you see today. Even the spoke wheels were down to bare metal before the creamy yellow was applied.

In 1965 I graduated high school. The Christmas before graduation I met my first husband. His car had broken down on his way to Idaho. It was a 1962 Corvair with the engine in the back. He'd broken the drive line. We worked on it a lot and got to where we could drop the engine in 45 minutes. That fall he went to Vietnam. I went to work for Bank of America in Oakland, California, about 15 miles away. I couldn't afford insurance on two cars so the Model "A" sat while I drove the Corvair to work. In 1966 I married my first husband and moved to southern California. I couldn't take the "A" with me so it sat in Mom and Dad's garage. My first daughter was born in 1970. Charles Manson was quite active at that time period and I knew I didn't want to raise my children in California.

So in 1972 we moved to Gooding, Idaho, and in 1977 to Buhl. My Aunt Millie died that year, leaving me \$2000. With that money I bought my sewing machine (I still use it) and brought my Model "A" home from California. We took it to the trim house in Twin Falls and they put in the upholstery and head liner. Finally it looked like I would be able to drive my car. The Buhl Sage Brush Days parade was our goal. We entered, but the car heated up and we had to pull out. The Model "A" went to the storage garage.

In the spring of 1984 I became a single mom. Money was tighter than ever, so the Model "A" stayed garaged. In December of 1984, while working for Idaho First National bank in Buhl, I met my third husband, John Calhoun. In the summer of 1985 we were married on a Friday night after work. Between us we had 4 girls, two houses, and 80 acres to care for. No time and no money for toys.

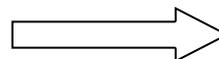
Advance to 1997, the girls were grown and gone, we sold my house and his house and built our little house on the farm. Idaho First was changed to West One Bank and bought out by US Bank. I could no longer tell my customers, "I'll take care of that for you," as everything had to go through offices back east. After 13 years, I left that bank and hired on with Farmers National Bank in Wendell. With the girls grown, we took the Model "A" out of storage and put it in the Wendell Dairy Days parade in 1998. My 4 year old granddaughter rode in it with me.

In 2002 John's health took a turn. By 2004 he was forced to retire early due to health issues. I retired in 2009. In 2011 we sold the farm and moved to Caldwell. My son-in-law Scott got to know Dave and Brenda Larsen through Hewlett Packard. He got club information from them and encouraged us to join. Finally, thanks to Elvin, Glen and Norm, we were able to drive my Model "A" and enjoy it the way I dreamed of back in 1962.

Our wireless doorbells  
sitting on their chargers....



Joanie Calhoun participated in the Melba Fun Run driving her 1930 Model A Coupe.



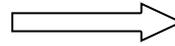
## MELBA FUN RUN FOLLOW UP

At the end of the activity many of us got caught in the storm that hit the Treasure Valley with high winds, rain, some hail, and blowing dust. Don Borchers reported that the storm hit Kuna just as Lora Eggan in her Model A Coupe and Daisy Ford in her 1918 Model T Depot Hack were headed home. They both drove all the way to Boise with the storm raging around them. Don followed them in his van with his 4 way emergency lights on. Needless to say Daisy and her two daughters got soaked. By the time they got to Overland Road the coils in the "T" shorted out due to the rain. From there the "T" got a ride home on Gary McNary's trailer.

Daisy reports she dried out her 4 coils and was on the road the next day to another event.

The Dash Plaques provided to all participants were sponsored by Francis and Bobbie Everett. This is a picture provided by Don Borchers of Francis' 1924 Dodge. He purchased it in 1954 at a Sheriff's Sale in Boise for \$22.50.

Great story and a big Thank You for the Dash Plaques.



## FUN FACTS ABOUT THE SHAVERS

Vern and Norma lee have been married for 29 years. Vern has 3 children with 7 grandchildren. Norma Lee has 2

children with 3 grandchildren. Between them they have 5 great-grandchildren. Vern worked in construction and retired as a construction supervisor. Norma Lee has been with Mary Kay for over 42 years and is a Mary Kay distributor.

## FUN FACTS ABOUT JOANIE CALHOUN

Joanie and John each had 2 daughters when they married. She now has 5 grandchildren from those daughters. She loves to be with people, which leads her to help others whenever she can. She enjoyed helping with the Booth Bash Car Show. She recently found a sewing machine, just like the one she bought with the money her aunt left her, so she can teach Lara Eggan to sew.



# LADY A'S CORNER by JoAnn Blout



The Lady A's met at Norma Lee Shaver's for a Mary Kay Spa day. Six ladies attended and enjoyed time together, played games, and learned about her beauty products.

## Fast Food Friday's Are Back!



Five couples gathered at Freddy's in Caldwell to enjoy the first Fast Food Friday of the season. Included were the Borden's, Spofford's, Ornellas', Little's and Hightower's. Check the Newsletter for future FFF locations and meet at 6:00 pm.

Photos courtesy of Judi Ornellas

RUMBLE SEAT DRIVER MUST CARRY THIS LICENSE ON SAID PERSON OTHERWISE MUST REMAIN SILENT WHILE IN VEHICLE

State of  
Nervous Disorders  
and  
Anxiety

LICENSE NUMBER  
**27-1931**  
The Issuing Authority, THE MODEL A FORD CLUB of AMERICA, Have Assigned The Above Number Based On Whatever Insignificant Reason It Has

### RUMBLE SEAT DRIVER'S LICENSE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF LICENSER \_\_\_\_\_

THIS LICENSE CERTIFIES THAT THE HEREIN NAMED PERSON HAS PASSED THE NECESSARY TESTS OF ANNOYING DRIVERS AND PASSENGERS TO THE EXTENT THAT HE/SHE IS HEREBY REGULATED TO THE RUMBLE SEAT ONLY AND SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED TO SIT INSIDE ANY MOVING MODEL A FORD. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE SHALL THE LICENSEE DISTURB, CRITICIZE OR ANNOY THE VEHICLE'S PASSENGER AND ESPECIALLY THE OPERATOR.

DATE ISSUED  
**1927-1931**  
LICENSE EXPIRES AT THE DISCRETION OF THE VEHICLE OPERATOR

ISSUED BY:  
*Fleming Ford*  
COMMISSIONER OF BACK SEAT and RUMBLE SEAT DRIVERS.  
DEPT. OF CONFUSION



# 1st ANNUAL BOOTH BASH CAR SHOW

The Treasure Valley Model A Club, under the direction of Jeff Caldwell, sponsored the FIRST ANNUAL BOOTH BASH CAR SHOW on May 8th 2021. This car show benefits The Salvation Army's Booth School and Home for Pregnant and Parenting Teens. In spite of the cold and windy weather, and COVID 19 restrictions the Car Show was a big success! This is the first car show our Club has ever sponsored.



Lara Egan and Glen Clayton check out Spofford's car filled with diapers.

Nancy Caldwell and Elaine Hightower selling Raffle Ticket for donated items.

These dedicated ladies sold \$668 in Raffle Tickets!



Clayton's Woody on display beside Model A showing engine and set of tools. (below)



Rob Williams Old Model A "A work in progress!"



66 Cars on display!



Jeff reports the Booth Bash Car Show raised approximately \$2,700!

Car Show photos courtesy Judi Ornellas.



**ITEMS WANTED / FOR SALE**  
Wanted: one right rear fender for 1930 Victoria  
Contact Rob Spofford 208 863-3889

**RECENT REPAIRS / BUILDS AT HIGHTOWER'S GARAGE:**  
Repaired Vern Shaver's car  
Put Overdrive in Rob Spofford's brother's car  
Putting Overdrive in Al and Dee Borden's car

## PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2023 NORTHWEST REGIONAL MEET

(Articles will refer to things we need to work on as we prepare for the Regional Meet we are hosting in 2023. Your Committee ideas are needed.)

### The Restorers Class – Questions & Answers

A few years ago MAFCA experimented with a new vehicle evaluation program called “The Restorers Class”. Designed for the everyday Model A, the purpose of this new class is to recognize members who use their Model A’s for touring, club activities or daily driving. Many members own Model A’s that are in wonderful condition and are proud of their restoration work. It is these individuals The Restorers Class is reaching out to. After two very successful trials, MAFCA’s Board of Directors approved for general use this new program. Now begins the training of evaluators and implementation of the program.

Many questions have come to the steering committee regarding this new program, so in an effort to help interested persons better understand the program and future, here are a few of the questions and answers.

1. Is there a fee to enter my Model A in The Restorers Class? *MAFCA does not charge a fee for the evaluation process, however the host organization may include a fee to cover costs they incur.*
2. If I enter my Model A in The Restorers Class, will it be locked away in building somewhere? *No, the Restorers Class evaluations are done in a designated area, usually the meet parking lot. You will be able to remove your vehicle at any time once the Evaluation Windshield Placard has been removed. The process is usually done within a few hours.*
3. What are the award levels? *Participation-349 points or less, Bronze-350 to 399 points, Silver-400 to 429 points and Gold-430 to 450 points.*
4. Can I watch the evaluation process? *Yes, but we would ask you to stand back and allow the vehicles to be evaluated without obstructing the Evaluators.*
5. I drove my Model A to the meet and it’s a little dusty, do I need to clean it before having it evaluated? *No, a little road dirt will not affect its evaluation.*
6. Will I loose points for safety items such as seat belts or an additional tail lamp? *No, items such as these are simply overlooked and treated as though they are not there.*
7. Does my Model A have to be completely original to enter or can it have some modifications, such as an alternator or overdrive? *Modifications such as these are allowed, but do not receive points. To see what is allowed prior to entering your Model A, we suggest you obtain a copy of the Evaluation Score Sheet from the MAFCA website.*
8. My vehicle was evaluated at a previous meet can I enter it again? *Yes. The goal of the evaluation process is to help owners with their restoration process. By entering and re-entering with changes made between evaluations, you can improve your score and your vehicle.*
9. Do we have to pre-register or can we register at the meet? *Pre-registration typically is available at most meets and is encouraged. Registration at the meet may be available at the host’s discretion.*
10. Will I receive a copy of the Evaluation Score Sheet at the end of the meet? *Yes*
11. I like The Restorers Class program and philosophy, what are the qualifications to become an evaluator?  
*The qualifications are as follows:*
  - a. *Apprentice Evaluator. Individual with no training who have completed and passed “The Restorer Class Model A Evaluation Test (written exam). An Apprentice shall be supervised by an Evaluator at MAFCA National Conventions, or other MAFCA sanctioned Restorer Class events and shall not contribute to evaluation score determinations. The Restorers Class Committee shall advance an Apprentice Evaluator to Evaluator status once the individual has demonstrated knowledge of the Evaluation process.*
  - b. *Evaluator. Individual who has completed the Apprentice Evaluator level or is a judge or higher under the Model A Ford Judges Certification Program and has performed under the direction of an Evaluator at one sanctioned event.*

For more information, visit [www.mafca.com/therestorersclass](http://www.mafca.com/therestorersclass)

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