



THE RATTLIN RAG

TREASURE VALLEY MODEL A
FORD CLUB OF AMERICA

TOURS! TOURS! TOURS!

We have a new Tours Committee

During last month's Treasure Valley Model A Club meeting we decided to create a committee to plan future local tours. Howard Little is the chair of this committee with Jeff Caldwell, Rob Blout, Craig McClintock and Ron Mahan as members. The committee wasted no time in organizing and meeting via Zoom to create a calendar to incorporate traditional tours and begin plans for new tours.

At our meeting this month the committee passed out proposed TVMAC Tours for 2023 and two questionnaires requesting club members input for other tours. The committee would like a tour for each month that has weather conducive to touring our Model A's. To that end, the following proposed tours were presented.

February 25, 2023 Howard Little is planning a tour to Payette. It will begin at Elvin's shop at 10:00 am. This is a relatively short and easy tour designed as a "shake down" run for all of us as we clean out the cobwebs of winter storage from our cars. Rob Blout will drive his modern truck and pull the "trouble trailer" for anyone's A that breaks down and cannot be repaired during the tour.

March's tour will be the traditional Emmett Tour organized by Ron and Fran Carr. They will monitor the weather and decide if the tour will be on March 18 or March 25. In the past some folks met at Elvin's shop to drive to Emmett and others went directly to the Carr's home. After the tour we usually gather in their back yard for lunch. They will let us know if lunch will be pot luck or provided for a small fee. Plan to bring chairs to sit on the lawn.



April is full of activities. April 1st is the Portland, Oregon Swap Meet. April 8th is the Firebird Swap Meet. Toward the end of April Rob Blout is planning a club tour he is calling the Marsing Loop, which will begin at Elvin's shop and continue toward Marsing, drive along the Snake River and on to Walter's Ferry, then back to Nampa. Date and time will be determined.

May will be the traditional Melba Tour which supports the Melba Senior Center and is organized by the Model T Club. Our committee is also considering another tour, possibly to the Owyhee Reservoir Glory Hole.

June's tour, with Jeff Caldwell organizing, will be a tour to Wilder to visit Fred Gooding's impressive car collection (refer to Jim Borchert's slide show/presentation) and a local winery. More details to come.

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TOURS CONTINUED:

July's tour will be hosted by Rob and JoAnn Blout in Idaho City. We will participate in the 4th of July Parade - on the 4th of July, and then have a "bring your own picnic" in a park. More details closer to the event.

August's tour is very much in the planning stage and if you have suggestions please let a committee member know. Possible option is overnight trip to Halfway, Baker, Sumpter, and Vale, OR.

September's tour is the McCall/New Meadows trip over Labor Day weekend and organized by the Model T Club. The Northwest Regional Meet in Victoria, B.C. will be September 18th through 22nd.

October's activities include participating in the car show at the Veteran's Hospital organized by the Model T Club and benefiting the hospital. Details later.

Our tour committee is looking into an overnight tour to Challis to learn about the dredge with stops in Stanley, Sun Valley, and Mountain Home. Another option is a tour to Bruno Sand Dunes to do some star gazing at the observatory.

The committee handed out 2 different survey questionnaires at the meeting. If you didn't get the chance to finish them, please watch your email for copies, take time to fill them out and return them to a member of the committee.

- 2022 TVMAC Officers**
- President: Rob Spofford
 - Vice President: Elvin Hightower
 - Secretary: Lora Eggan
 - Treasurer: Arlan Potts
 - Membership: Arlan Potts
 - National Rep: Jim Borchers
 - Sunshine Committee: Joanie Calhoun
 - Lady A's: Stephanie Stapleton
 - Newsletter: JoAnn Blout

THANK YOU GREG AND LORI WEST

Greg West has been our Tour Chairman for many years and we want to thank him for his years of service. Lori has been his partner, navigator, and sidekick as they pre-ran tours to check roads, plan places for meals, and took pictures of our activities. We all appreciate your contributions to our enjoyment of club activities and tours. We look forward to your continued input and support.

Deadline for pictures, stories, flyers, current events, etc., in next month's Rattlin' Rag is:
Monday, March 13, 2023
 Please email to
JoAnn Blout

FAST FOOD FRIDAYS

Connie Spofford announced that Fast Food Fridays will resume Friday, May 5, 2023.
 Watch the website and this Newsletter for weekly details.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

MARCH 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Club Meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Emmett Tour?
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Emmett Tour?
26	27	28	29	30	31	



2023 ANNUAL DUES

Arlan Potts is accepting 2023 annual dues at this time. Dues are \$20 per family, and can be paid by check or cash.

Arlan accepts payment at our monthly meetings or by mail to his home address. His address us on the last page of this newsletter.

Local Events:

Mechanics Garage:

Elvin and Glen's Distributor Seminar

February 18 @ 10:00 a.m. Limited to 10 people, contact Elvin to sign up. Hightower's Garage: call Elvin to schedule the day and time to get expert help with your project.

Next Club Meeting

March 9, 2023, Bob's Restaurant & Lounge, 1411 Shilo Drive, Nampa, Idaho 83687 Dinner at 6:00 p.m., Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

First Tour of 2023 - 2/25

"Shake Down" Tour to Payette

Meet at Elvin's Shop at 10:00 a.m.

LADY A'S

Watch for Details on a CPR class in March for ladies and men.

MECHANIC'S GARAGE

Elvin Hightower's garage has, of necessity, changed from Monday night open garage on the 2nd and 4th Mondays to "Almost Everyday Mechanic's Garage". Please contact Elvin to discuss your "project". He is also willing to hold and schedule workshops to learn how to do various repairs or rebuilding of Model A parts or systems.

TVMAC PATCHES

Our club purchased small and large patches for jackets or shirts with our Treasure Valley Model A Club logo on them. The patches are excellent quality and can be ironed or sewn on jackets or shirts that you purchase separately. By purchasing your own jacket or shirt you ensure you get the styles and sizes you want and need. A new order has been placed and should arrive soon. Arlan has the patches with him at our monthly meetings.

MEET CLUB MEMBERS RON AND MELODIE MAHAN

Chiggety, chiggety, chiggety! The comforting sound of a Model A engine purring down the road has been part of our family story for close to 40 years now. I remember the day when Ron, along with his dad and his friend, Jerry, hoisted the body of our 1929 Coupe onto the drivetrain, and it looked like a real car! I was a newlywed then, and did not know how much work was still to come: the interior, the headliner, and the upholstered seat that would turn the trunk space into a real rumble seat. It was quite an education for me, but I watched with pride as the project came together, piece by piece.

Ron became interested in Model A's right out of high school. He found a car to restore in 1972. It was sitting in Nampa gathering rust in a backyard, and it was a true basket case, complete with potshot bullet holes in the side. At that time Ron met Bert Colwell, one of the founding members of the Treasure Valley Model A Club. Bert had a small store of extra Model A parts that he kept available for sale, and he and Ron built up their friendship as Ron started restoring the Coupe.



Coupe as Ron found it in Nampa

Most of the hard work was done before we married in 1983, with Ron working on the Model A when he was home between the cross-country trips he made working as a long-haul truck driver. But his patience and perseverance paid off, and about 12 years later, the Model A was ready to roll! Our daughter Andrea was still a toddler when Bert invited us to join the Model A Club in 1986. We were welcomed into the circle of about twenty five families. I remember the club met in member's homes at that time, and planned many fun excursions around the Treasure Valley. I used to wonder if our motto was "drive and eat" or "eat and drive"! We had so much fun visiting and learning and sharing with the other club members.

As one of the youngest couples in the club at that time, our children, Andrea and Scott, had the privilege of growing up in the rumble seat, and getting to know the club members like extra grandparents.. We participated in parades, picnics, car shows and state wide tours. Everywhere we went we met people who shared their own family histories with stories of, "I remember when we drove a car just like yours!" I always tried to impress upon my kids how fortunate they were, because not everyone had a Model A Ford in their garage. Of course, it wasn't always fun riding in the rumble seat when the wind and rain came down. Eventually we had a portable



Restored Coupe in the same spot in Nampa

cover built to clamp onto the back of the coupe. It had vinyl zip-down windows that the kids could crawl through, and they would cozy down into the rumble seat and be in their own world. That cover was the best thing ever, until they both grew too tall to fit through the windows.

Over the years, Ron and I have participated in many big events, including at least three Northwest Regional Meets hosted by our club. We attended our first Labor Day Tour in 1986, which included an elegant banquet and era fashion show at Shore Lodge in McCall. The Labor Day tour became a family event that we looked forward to every year. We also drove the statewide Idaho Centennial Tour in 1990 (from Boise north to Coeur d' Alene, east to Salmon and the Montana boarder, south to Idaho Falls, and finished by going west back to Boise). Another highlight was attending the club car shows for the Boise River Festivals. Additionally, Ron and I supported the club by holding officer positions. Ron was club president two years in a row, and I was secretary/treasurer/newsletter editor several times.

One of our most memorable day trips occurred when Andrea was about 16 years old. She had taken her driver's education course and Ron decided she was old enough to have some driving lessons in the Model A. The club planned a tour to Silver City. It was a beautiful spring day as we started out. I remember how strange it felt for me to share the rumble seat with Scott, while Andrea was in the driver's seat and Ron was the co-pilot. As we got close to Silver City the road became very dry and dusty. By the time we arrived Scott and I were coated with dust! We had a wonderful time walking around the old town and shared a picnic lunch. At the end of the afternoon I pulled rank and said Andrea could ride home with her brother in the rumble seat. She had done a fine day's driving, but now she could relax ... that's when the rain started. The storm clouds built up so fast and furious that the kids were drenched by the time we made it home to Meridian.

Ron knows every nut and bolt on the Model A and I have always been thankful for his care and maintenance of our Coupe. But when you drive an antique vehicle sometimes a mechanical failure can sneak up and surprise you, as we all know. One time we were on our way home from the McCall Labor Day tour, driving near Cambridge, when all of a sudden we heard a loud noise under the hood. The car jerked and anti-freeze starting gushing out onto the road. Ron pulled the car over and found that the fan blade had broken in half, went through the radiator and put a large knot in the hood, and was now lying on the road. Lucky we had a "guardian angel" following us. Glen Clayton came up, helped Ron repair the radiator, and then produced a brand new fan blade from his cache of spare parts. I have always been thankful that our Model A friends are so quick to help one another, and we were especially thankful that day!

Our children are grown, and we have two grandchildren to drive around with us. I hope we continue to have many adventures on the road together in our Model A Ford.

Story and pictures by Ron and Melodie Mahan

Ron, Melodie and Andrea with the Coupe



Andrea, Scott and Ron on a tour.



Ron and Melodie with Coupe at a car show.

RECENT "ALMOST EVERYDAY MECHANICS" ACTIVITIES

Elvin and Glen are holding a Distributor Seminar on February 18th at 10:00 a.m. at Hightower's Shop. Class is limited to 10 participants, so call Elvin to reserve your spot.

Elvin reports lots of activity at his shop during recent weeks. They have done an engine installation, worked on a rear end (and found a metal tooth in the bottom of the differential), discovered several problems while trying to fix an oil leak, and are scheduled to work on several more club members' cars in the next few weeks.

They can always use help, and you can hone your skills and increase your knowledge, so call Elvin to see when he has work scheduled.



Jeff and Stephanie recently took their grandson, John, to Elvin's shop to help Shawn work on his car. Not only did the extra help move the work along, the young man learned more about Model A's and how to work on them.



Remember, many hands make light work - as long as you are willing to follow directions and learn.



Pictures and information provided by Stephanie Stapleton.



LADY A'S ORGANIZING CPR CLASS

Elaine Hightower is working hard to complete the details for a CPR Class. Both Ladies and Men are invited to participate. This will be a basic class, will last about 2 hours, and will cost \$10 per person. There is a limited number of members who can attend due to room size constraints. Elaine hopes to have the class in March, so watch for details by email.

Stephanie Stapleton, our new Lady A's Chairman, is beginning to plan activities for us after the CPR Class. Stay tuned for details. Thank you, Stephanie.



Era ad shows Model A is an easy car for women to drive.



CONGRATULATIONS

SAM STONE

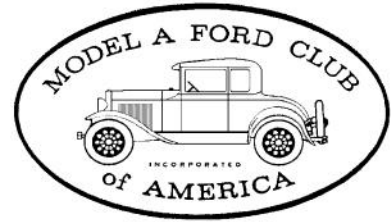
Sam's photograph, taken on the 4th of July 2022, was submitted to MAFCA and recently won a National Award.

He took the photo by laying on the ground near his car while the fireworks were going off. Great Picture, Sam!

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

Interest in becoming a MAFCA member?

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

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

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