



THE RATTLIN RAGS

TREASURE VALLEY MODEL A
FORD CLUB OF AMERICA



TREASURE VALLEY MODEL A CLUB MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN 4TH OF JULY PARADES

Club members were encouraged to attend local “small town” parades and activities in their Model A cars and trucks, decorated to celebrate the 4th of July. Several cars entered the Melba, McCall and Idaho City Parades. Enjoy pictures from those activities!

Idaho City’s parade had our Club members and members from the Western Idaho Model T Club showing their patriotic spirit. Additionally, Susan drove a unique little neon green electric car.

The kids along the parade route really enjoyed running to pick up the candy thrown to them from the cars!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Local 4th of July Parades: Idaho City Parade	1
Index / TVMAC Officers / More Idaho City Parade Pictures	2
Calendar / Activities / Fast Food Fridays / Fast Food Friday at Freddy's in Caldwell / August Ptomaine Tour	3
More Idaho City Parade Pictures	4
Craig and Lynne McClintock's Unique Model A	5
More about McClintock's Car	6
Lady A's / Frugal Cooking Tips from the Great Depression	7
Bending Overflow Tube / Wheels	8
Melba and McCall 4th of July	9
Membership	10



2023 TVMAC Officers

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

Deadline for pictures, stories, flyers, current events, etc. in next month's The Rattlin' Rag is:
Monday, August 14, 2023
 Please email to
 JoAnn Blout

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

AUGUST 2023

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	15	16	17	18 FFF	19 Ptomaine Tour
20	21	22	23	24	25 FFF	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Local Events:

Mechanics Garage:
Hightower's Garage: call Elvin to schedule the day and time to get expert help with your project.

Next Club Meeting
August 10, 2023, Bob's Restaurant & Lounge, 1411 Shilo Drive, Nampa, Idaho 83687 Dinner at 6:00 p.m., Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

August Ptomaine Poisoning Tour
Save the date: August 19, 2023

Fast Food Fridays in August
August 4: Arby's, 989 N Milwaukee, Boise
August 11: Dairy Queen, 4849 N Meridian Road, Meridian
August 18: Arctic Circle, 3108 Cleveland Blvd, Caldwell
August 25: Sonic, 4936 N Linder Rd, Meridian

Meet at 6:00 p.m. for a meal or dessert and an opportunity to socialize with other Club members.

FFF AT FREDDY'S
July 7th found club members gathered at Freddy's in Caldwell for fun and food.



PTOMAINE POISON TOUR

Ron Mahan is leading the August "Ptomaine Poison Tour" on August 19th. Plans include leaving Hightower's Shop, using back roads toward Melba, on to the Snake River Scenic Drive, then heading to Lake Lowell for our lunch. After lunch we will wonder back to Hightower's and home. The tour should be about 60 miles and last about 3 1/2 hours, hopefully in the cooler part of the day.

For those who don't know what a "Ptomaine Poison Tour" is, the idea is to AVOID food poisoning while cooking your meal on the Model A Ford manifold. In next month's Newsletter we will include a couple of easy recipes that should cook in about 1 1/2 hours on the manifold.

MORE IDAHO CITY PARADE PICTURES



MEET CRAIG AND LYNNE MCCLINTOCK'S HISTORIC 1931 MODEL A

Attending car shows and interacting with other Model A Club members, I have learned that every car has a story. It may have been the car your father or grandfather owned. Or it may have been the first car you owned and drove to high school every day. What I find most interesting are the stories of the people that owned these vehicles.

One such person was Robert W. Plaster. He grew up during the depression, attended school to study accounting and went to work for the IRS for four years. During his time at the IRS he learned the most advantageous ways to form and purchase companies. In 1963 Robert Plaster started purchasing propane distribution companies until he built his business into one of the largest propane distribution companies in the country estimated to be worth 5 billion dollars.

Robert Plaster and his son Steve shared a passion for classic automobiles. In the early 1970's Evergreen Historic Automobiles was started in Lebanon Missouri. The first car Robert purchased was a green 1931 Ford Model A Slant Window Fordor. At first they collected cars that were of interest to them but not necessarily of high value other than for their condition or low mileage. Robert was drawn to the classic body styles of the 1930s and 1940s while Steve's interest was in muscle cars and cars from the 1950s and 1960s.

By the mid 1980's they changed their focus towards collecting rare and high dollar classic automobiles for their investment potential. The collection grew from Fords and Chevrolets to over 200 manufacturers including LaSalle, Pierce Arrow, Auburn, Cord, DeSoto, Edsel, Indian, Kiser, Checker, Mercedes, Jaguar, Kelsey, Delage, Delahaye, Duesenberg, Kiblinger, Shamrock, Owen, Woodhill and more. The collection also includes the unusual, such as:

- The 1932 Lincoln Model KB that FDR used in his first inaugural parade.

- Cars once owned by Rod Stewart, Sam Snead, Alan Jackson, and Michael Douglas.

- Ford Shelby Mustangs.

- All body styles of Corvette ever produced.

- A Batmobile from the TV series.

- The Mutt Cuts car van from the movie "Dumb and Dumber".

Today, Steve Plaster continues to buy and sell cars around the world. This private collection of 600 or more cars are housed on three acres in a 150,000 square foot facility in Lebanon Missouri. Steve has recently opened his private collection to the public by appointment. If you want to learn more about Evergreen Historical Automobiles, there is a lot of information online.

I had been searching for my first Model A for over one year. I was looking for a driver quality 1931 Slant Window Fordor Town Sedan that was reasonably priced. About the middle of November last year I saw a 1931 green Fordor for sale online. However, I continued to look past this car for three weeks because the car was advertised as a Standard model. The car was priced well and met all my requirements except it was not a Town Sedan.

Then I took a closer look at this car and noticed there was no dome light. Standard models had a round dome light in the center of the headliner behind the front seat while the dome light on

light on a Town Sedan was oval and mounted above the rear window. I knew the car had a cosmetic restoration in the late 60's or early 70's. Was it possible someone restored a Town Sedan as a Standard interior? Since the car was priced right and met all my requirements except it was not a Town Sedan, Lynne and I decided to purchase this car in December.

The seller turned out to be Evergreen Investments which is the marketing arm of Evergreen Historical Automobiles. It just so happens we purchased that very same green Fordor Robert Plaster purchased in 1973 as his first collector car. Robert bought this car because he thought it would be a fun thing for the family and friends to enjoy. Lynne and I purchased that very same car for the very same reason 50 years later.

I am somewhat surprised the family would part with the first collector car the late Robert Plaster purchased and placed in the Evergreen Historical Automobile collection, especially since it remained in the family's private collection for five decades. But this car did not fit their business model and they needed the space for additional cars. After purchase, we had the Model A shipped from Lebanon Missouri to our home in January by Passport Transport which is also owned by Evergreen.

Since then I have enjoyed working on the car with Elvin Hightower and all the other club members that helped me learn and get the car ready for the Emmett Tour this year. I also had an opportunity to inspect what was behind the headliner to determine where the dome light was before restoration. It turns out the oval shaped dome light bracket is mounted above the rear window confirming it was likely a Town Sedan when it left the Ford factory in 1931.

Thank You Treasure Valley Model A Club members for sharing your knowledge and support regarding the purchase, operation and repair of our first Model A.

Sincerely,

Craig and Lynne McClintock





FRUGAL COOKING TIPS FROM THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Ideas taken from www.thesimplifydaily.com

GROW YOUR OWN: During the Depression that was the only way you could afford to feed a family. Everyone should try to grow something since that connects us with where our food comes from.

EAT FROM THE WILD: Foraging for greens, herbs, and fruit was common. Think picking wild strawberries,

service berries, chokecherries and any other fruits available in your area. Hunting and trapping game from rabbits and squirrels to deer and elk for meat was necessary.

BARTER WITH NEIGHBORS: If one family has chickens and another a milk cow it made sense to trade eggs for milk.

USE WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO YOU: Those who did not have a lot of land couldn't raise a cow so they did not eat beef, but even a small amount of land allows for raising chickens or even a pig. That meant they ate chickens, pork, and eggs.

LET NOTHING GO TO WASTE: Wastefulness was probably a dirty word during the Depression because resources were so scarce. Everything was used and reused and all scraps were fed to the animals or put into the compost pile for garden fertilizer. Considering the average American wastes a quarter of their food per year, we could learn a lot from our frugal ancestors.

PRESERVE EVERYTHING: When you can't afford to go to the grocery store you learned to use anything you can get. Women canned fruits, vegetables, meat, and lard. Today some folks are freeze drying lots of things. If you get a great deal on eggs, freeze dry them and put them into your storage. If something is offered to you for free, don't turn it down. Figure out how to preserve it.

EAT LOTS OF CORN AND POTATOES: We live in Idaho and potatoes and corn grow here. During the Depression folks ate fried potatoes three meals a day because they were filling and easy to grow. They also grew corn that they ground into meal to make cornbread, which was also filling. These two foods have a bad rap today, but if it comes from the ground it probably has lots of nutrients and is better for us than a lot of processed food.

I hope this has given you some quick ideas to help you live a little more frugally.



BENDING THE RADIATOR OVERFLOW TUBE BACK

By Jim Cannon

The Ford Service Bulletin of April, 1930 (page 450) advises that if you have excessive coolant loss through the radiator overflow tube, you can bend the tube back toward the back edge of the radiator filler neck. They also mention soldering in a brass washer where the tube passes through the baffle plate.

To bend the tube, insert a large Phillips screwdriver into the tube. You want the smooth shaft of the screwdriver to pretty much fill the tube, and don't have the tip go below the baffle plate, about 2-3 inches. Then gently push the screwdriver back away from you a bit, remove the screwdriver a bit (about 1/2"), then bend it some more. Repeat until the top of the tube is as far "back" as it will go.

If you need to, you can add a small piece of rubber tubing to the top of the overflow tube to raise the level in the top tank that much more before the coolant starts going out the overflow. But don't raise it too much or coolant will start leaking out of your radiator cap, and make a mess on your paint and radiator shell.

I hope this helps. Have a Model A Day! Jim

**TIRES AND WHEELS**

- 1) Tire pressure recommended is 35 PSI, proper inflation is a must for safety.
- 2) Use a good tire preservative on the sidewalls to help slow down the drying process.
- 3) If you don't plan to drive your car for a long period of time, put the car up on jacks to prevent flat spots on the tires.
- 4) Rotate the tires every 2,000-2,500 miles for even tire wear.
- 5) Don't allow the tires to be exposed to direct sunlight while sitting for long periods of time.
- 6) Always check the spokes on your rims for damage and straightness.
- 7) Always check your tires for nails, screws, glass and anything else that might have fallen on your garage floor. These things lead to a slow leak and a flat tire.

MORE 4TH OF JULY PARADE PICTURES

MELBA PARADE PICTURES FROM HENRY HOLADAY



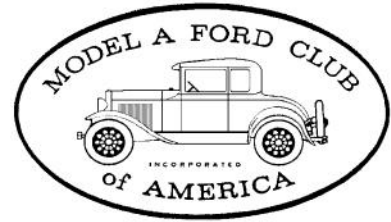
MCCALL PARADE PICTURES FROM ROB HARRIS
Rob reports he was the only Model A in that parade.



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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