



2nd Quarter 2023



# WORLD

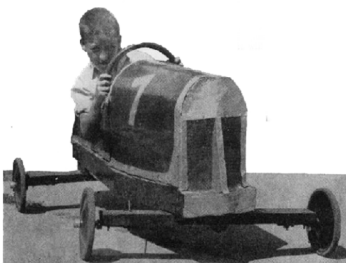
YOUTH NEWSLETTER MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA

## SOAPBOX DERBY

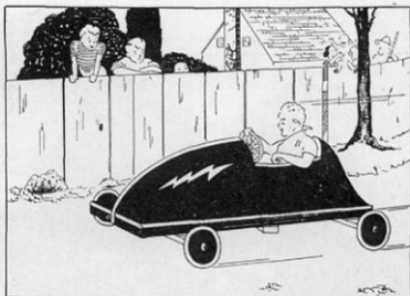
By Sherry Wink

Richard and Robert, the Sitzman twins, were hot on a new project! Dad Sitzman had given them a corner of the barn as a workshop, and it was buzzing with activity this summer. The boys had read the latest "Boy's Life" magazine and it had an article about the Soap Box Derby, calling it "The World's Greatest Amateur Race" and it included plans and instructions for building your own car!

More than one boy in town had read this magazine, as those that had a copy shared it with those that didn't. And now the Soap Box Derby was the biggest thing in town. It was decided to hold a local race in the fall. That gave everyone time to build a car to race!



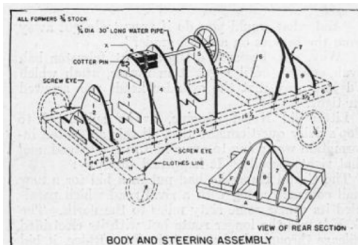
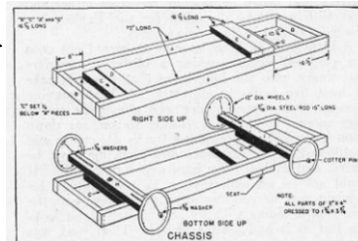
From the moment this hubbub started, no wheels, metal, or wood was safe from the eyes of the boys planning their own version of this gravity racing car! Richard and Robert knew they had to ask permission for whatever they used, but other families weren't so lucky, and more than one baby buggy had to be rescued from a barn or garage



before the summer was over! After all, wheels were one of the hardest components to find, as they had to be rubber. Still, no 2x4 or plank was safe from their scrutiny, and Dad Sitzman found it

hard to say no to their earnest requests. He even made a few special trips to town to buy them the hardware needed that they weren't able to scrounge up.

But Richard and Robert knew all the storage places for such things, and they scoured both the Sitzman barn and sheds, and Grandma Roberts farm as well. Luck was with them, and they triumphantly returned with not just one, but two sets of wheels! One was from a baby buggy with a broken frame, stored in the loft at Grandma Robert's barn. The other was actual two from a tricycle, and two from a coaster wagon that only had three good wheels left. Robert said the third wheel could be a good spare on the back if the car needed more weight.



With Dad Sitzman's approval, the twins gathered up tools such as saws, files, hammers, and wrenches, and started working diligently on

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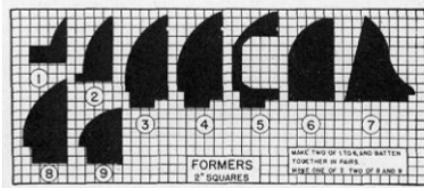
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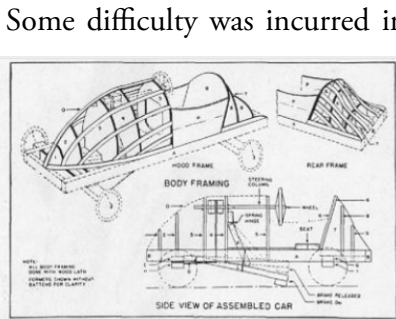
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their cars. All summer, Dad Sitzman would reach for a saw or hammer only to remember it wasn't in his toolbox or workshop any more. But he couldn't complain, and he was proud of the workmanship he was seeing being put together in that back corner.



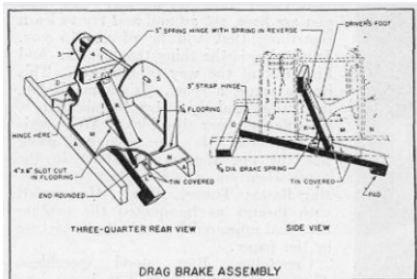
The twins made sure to never neglect their chores, although they weren't above bribing a brother or sister to do some of them with promises of letting them ride in the cars once they were done. The younger kids happily went along with that plan. And once in a while, one of them would get to sit in the car, while the twins inspected different things to make sure they had it all right. So everyone in the family was having fun with this project!



Some difficulty was incurred in finding the steering wheels for the vehicles. Richard and Robert spent weeks searching corners and visiting neighbors trying to find just the right ones. But as they weren't the only ones on the hunt, the pickings were scarce! But

Uncle Bert, Mom Sitzman's brother came to the rescue. He drove out to see them one weekend, and on his way down, he stopped at a junkyard, and picked up a few steering wheels from wrecked vehicles. He said it only cost a little bit of change. Once the twins decided which each wanted, the remainder were offered to their friends. This made the twins quite popular for a while, I must say!

The work continued all summer. It was pretty involved, and things didn't always go right. Measure twice, cut once didn't always work out and more than few boards ended up being cut down to still yet smaller pieces, and frankly, some just ended up as firewood. But Dad Sitzman just shrugged, and said "you can't learn without a few mistakes" and good naturedly helped the boys track down



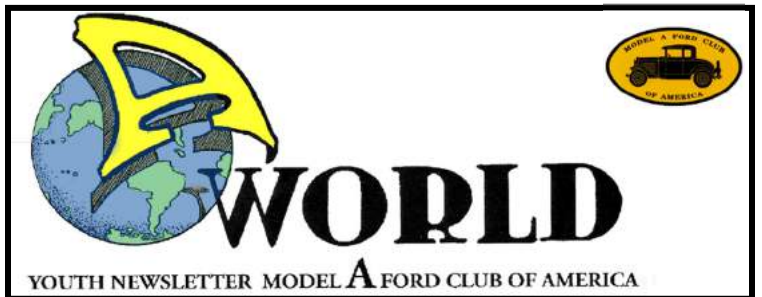
replacement boards and parts.

Larry was really busy all summer working for Dad Sitzman and another farmer, but he stopped to help whenever he could. He was a little envious that he didn't have time to make his own, but he had the Model A pickup to drive, so he said he was just "helping out the little guys with their toys," which annoyed the twins, but they just rolled their eyes and kept on working. Larry was also happy to give them rides to various places, with the Model A pickup to haul back any good stuff they dug up! Not all farmers just gave them the items they needed, some of them traded for some chores, saying things that were received without work lost their meaning. And the twins didn't hesitate to keep their part of any bargains.

By the end of the summer, it was down to the final sanding and then the paint job. Lots of discussions were held about colors and trim, and Mom Sitzman hid her best paint brushes just in case. The cars ended up as blue for Robert, and red for Richard. At last, they were ready for the big race that had been scheduled for Labor Day!

(The race and the results will be the story in the next A-World!)

If you want to read the article on how to make a Soap Box Derby car that was printed in the May 1936 issue, go to <https://tinyurl.com/Boys-Life-Soap-Box-Derby>



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# KIDS AND THEIR A's!



Colton Ray is 12 years old, and lives in Bridgeport, Alabama. This picture was taken on the occasion of his 7th grade Spring Fling Dance.



Wyatt and his Prom date Madison are from Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina!



Oliver, age 7, has been helping his Grandfather Chuck Kibbee with Model A projects since he was old enough to walk! He lives in Bakersfield, California.



Aria Walker lives in Missouri, and is already in love with Model A's. She'll be ready to start driving once she gets that shift pattern down right. And grows a little more so she can reach the pedals!

# KIDS AND THEIR A's PAGE 2



Severn, age 7, is from Audubon, Minnesota, and is already an experienced Model A mechanic. He takes every opportunity to work on the family's car. As you can tell, he likes to get close up and inside his work!



Presley Griffin is 1 years old, and lives in Dunnville Ontario Canada. Looks like she's already planning on how to get the keys for the family's Model A!



Lilly, Zachary, Wesley & Gavin Taylor live in Reedsport, Oregon are 4th generation Model A'ers!

## Visit to Shawnee Town 1929 Museum

By Sherry Wink

The Old Lady and I make a visit to our favorite museum this week. The only museum in the country that focused on 1929! Each year, we go for the Time Traveler's Program, where I portray Clara Ford. I give visitors rides all day while talking about the Model A and Ford history. It's always so much fun!

This year, my first day, we had a youth camp visit, so I easily ferried over 100 kids about the museum grounds, telling stories, explaining parts of the car, and answering questions. We talked about the electric starter vs. hand cranking, about the suitcase on the back (that's why the modern cars have "trunks"), and I challenge them to find the gas cap! Some are just happy to ride in an old car, some have lots of pertinent questions, and a few even check out under the hood. But all seem to have a great time!



Just one group out of many that took a ride around the grounds. I have a picnic basket of hats that they can choose from if they want to add that era fashion touch!



Shawnee Town 1929 has a number of young volunteers who are also always eager to take a ride, when the crowd of visitors dies down. They really seem to enjoy checking out The Old Lady and they look right at home in their 1929 era outfits!

The Old Lady gets to spend a couple of nights in the garage bay of the replica 1929 Dodge Dealership while participating in the Time Travelers program. She feels right at home!

# SIX THINGS ARE DIFFERENT!

Just one of the many Model A's that were at the Colorado High Country Tour in June! But the top picture looks like it's lost a few details compared to the bottom one! Can you find the differences?

*The answers are on page 10 but don't peek too soon!*





# Model A Youth Restoration Award Update

Submitted by Bob Moore



Garrett Cortez, 20, lives in Pomona, California, and is the Vice-President of the Pomona Valley Model A Club. He received a Model A Youth Restoration Award in 2022. The award was in the form of gift cards to cover the purchase of parts that would complete the restoration of his truck.

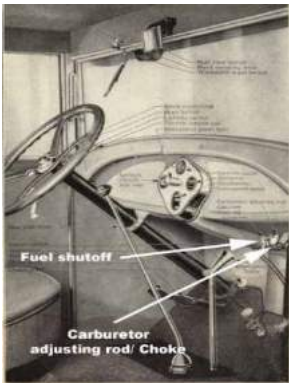
Garrett's introduction to the Model A was in 2017 after his father purchased a 1930 Model A Coupe for his wife for their third wedding anniversary. Garrett was always on hand to tinker with it and joined them on tours with their local club.



With his father's and others' assistance, Garrett is restoring a 1929 Pickup named Charleston, which he found in 2020 just before Covid reared its ugly head. It took several months for the first parts to arrive. The engine had a stuck valve, and many other issues needed his attention.

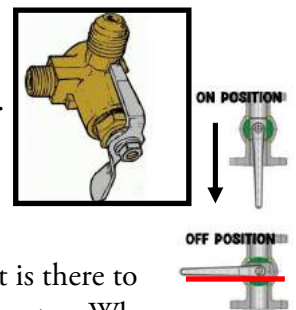
Garrett has good support for the project. "Luckily, with this project, I have been blessed with people willing to sit down and share all their years of knowledge about these classics." Garrett hopes to complete the project by year-end while in his first year of college.

## Gas Shut Off Valve



An important but often ignored part of the Model A is the gas shut off valve. Located under the dash on the left of the passenger side, this important device serves an important purpose. And yet, I'm sure there's not one Model A driver who hasn't forgotten to use it at least once!

First, it's important to know the function of the valve. Like the name says, it is there to turn off (and on) the gas flow. But why? The Model A uses a float style carburetor. When the fuel is allowed to flow into the carb, the bowl fills up until the float goes up and shuts off. But gas evaporates quickly, especially at warmer temperatures, so the carb will continue to allow gas to refill it. Eventually, you could end up with an empty gas tank and a lot of gas vapors around your car! If your carb leaks, the shut off valve also stops that from occurring while the car is parked.



So, what happens if you don't turn this valve? Well, it depends on what position it is in when you forget! If it's in the on position and you leave that way when you park, you risk the consequences listed above. But if you leave it in the closed position when you go to drive the car, well, let's just say you won't get very far down the road without gas flowing into the carb. I admit, it's happened to me. Started the car, started driving across the parking lot, and cough, cough, cough, the car just died. While I was puzzling as to what happened, a fellow driver walked up to the window and reminded me to check my shut off valve. Once I turned it on, I asked him how he knew? He just responded "well, that's about how far I got when I forgot to turn mine back on!"

So, the general rule of thumb is that the handle points down, the way gas needs to flow from the tank. There are always exceptions to the rule, but this seems to be the case for the majority of the Model A's. One easy way to remember: if you can put your keychain on the handle, the gas is off! If all else fails, pull out a sharpie pen and mark the on and off position. Trust me, if you don't need it later, it's easy to clean off, and it's better than pulling on the road and then having the car die on you!

# Teaching the History to Today's Inner-City Youth

by Danielle Mitchell

Today's youth are a generation like none before. With constant access to technology, sports and school, not much time can allow for exposure to hobbies such as the Model A. This all changed at a school in urban Oklahoma City after a few group members of the Oklahoma Model A Restorers Group visited Eugene Field Elementary, a low-income, inner-city school, to teach and show students ages 4-12 about this wonderful car.

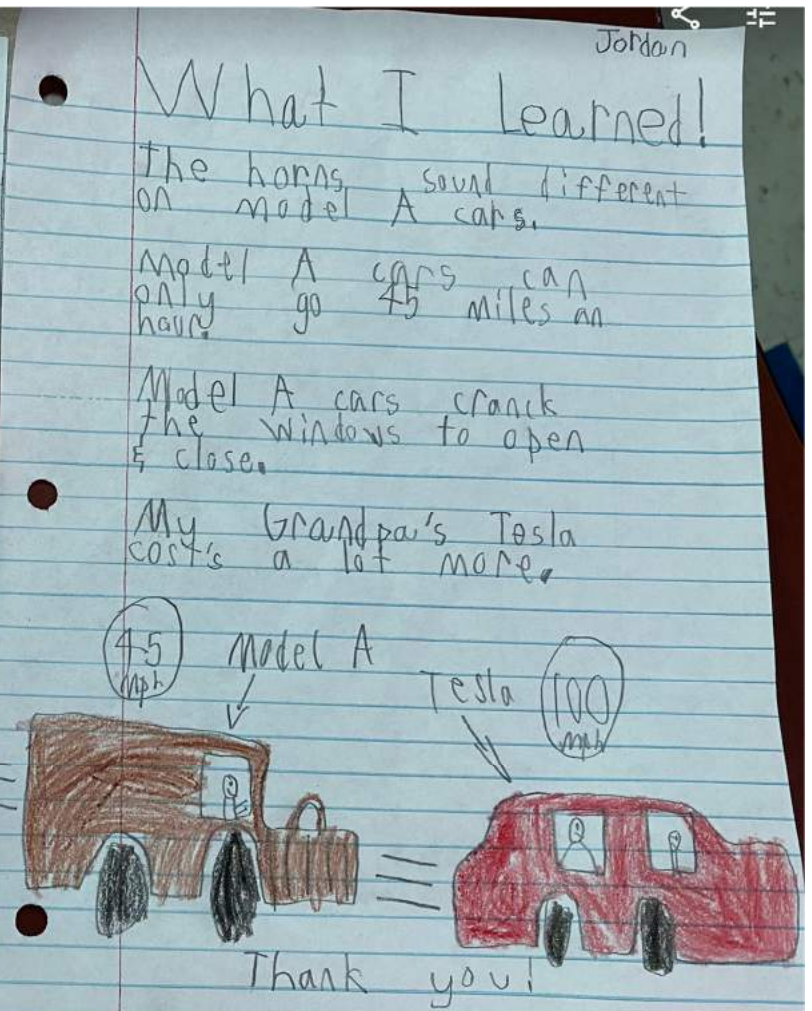
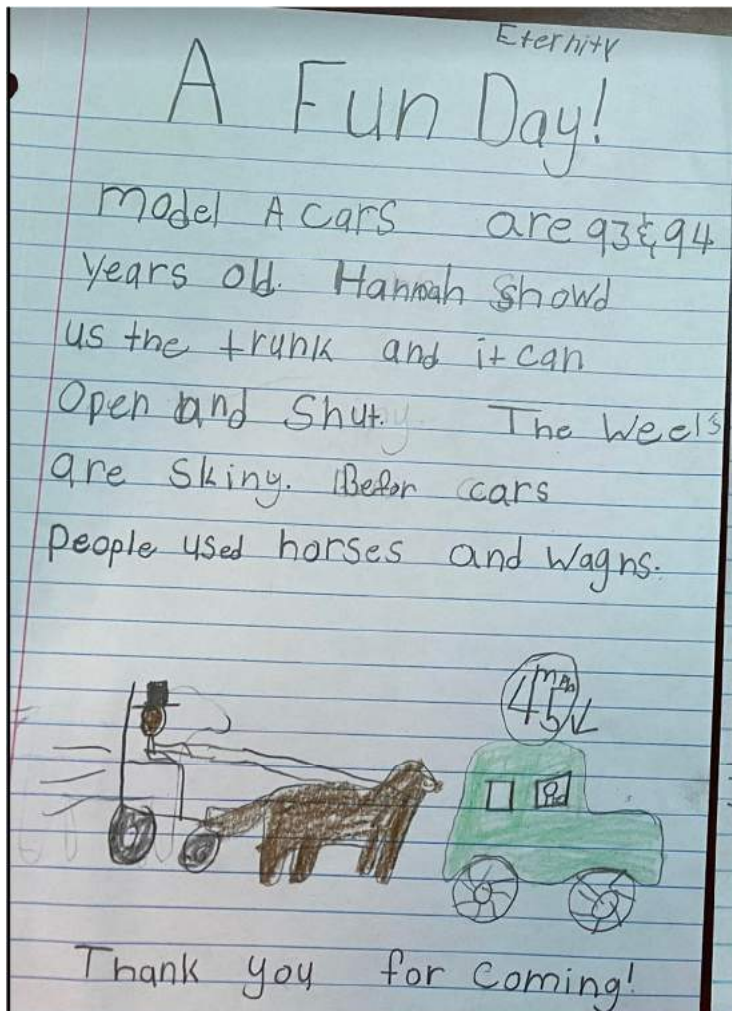


Students learn about the Model A

Students at this school do not have easy access to events or field trips that would expose them to living history. This event featured two Model A's (a 1930 coupe and a 1929 roadster), along with a short presentation and a question/answer session. This event not only exposed students to the Model A, but also to the wonders of Henry Ford and the moving assembly line.

This was an opportunity to expose students to the Model A and the history of the Model A. Students were given the opportunity to

(Continued on page 9)





(Continued from page 8)



observe the motor and interior of the vehicles. Most students were in awe of what they saw. They were able to compare the vehicles of today to the predecessor, thus gaining knowledge of how much has changed (and what has not changed) in the past 95 years. The knowledge gained from this experience included technology, engineering, and social studies/history.

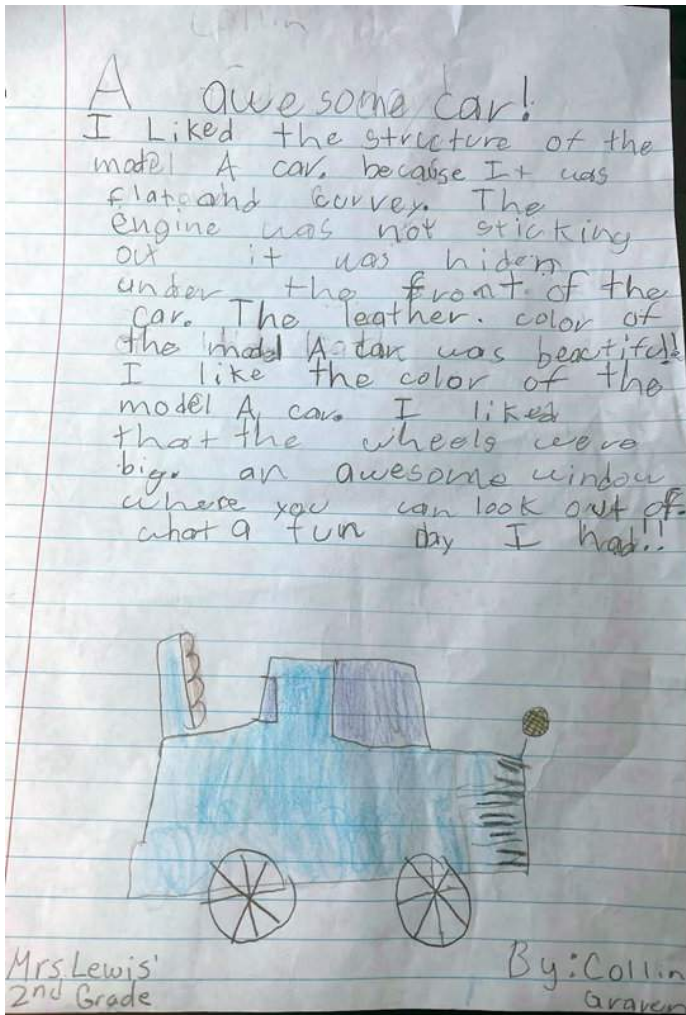


David Mitchell shows a fourth grade student the engine & radiator

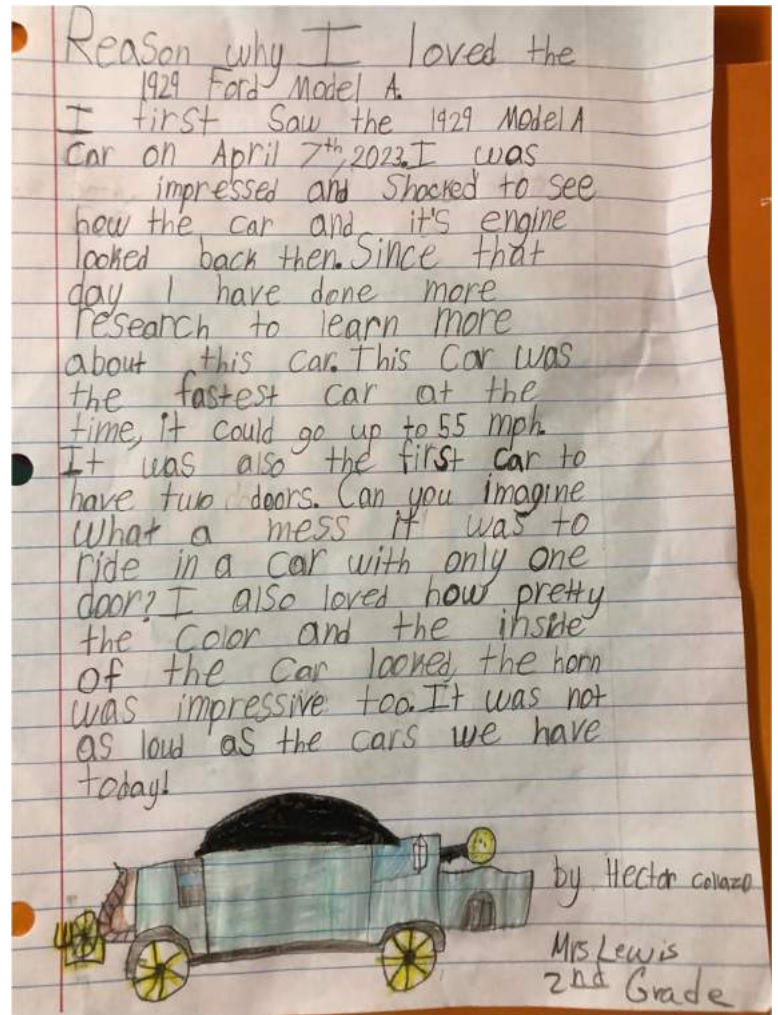
A student sits inside to see the differences from modern cars.

While the students were being shown the different classes of the vehicle (my husband's 1930 coupe), my 6 year old daughter assisted in showing them how to get in and out of the rumble seat, showing the window cranks, showing them the door handles, showing them the dash light, and finally showing them the horn by honking it. The majority of the school was able to relate to my daughter showing them the features of the 1930 Coupe, due to her age. The students were in awe of the simplicity of the Model A in comparison to today's modern vehicles.

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An Awesome Car by Collin Graves 2nd grade



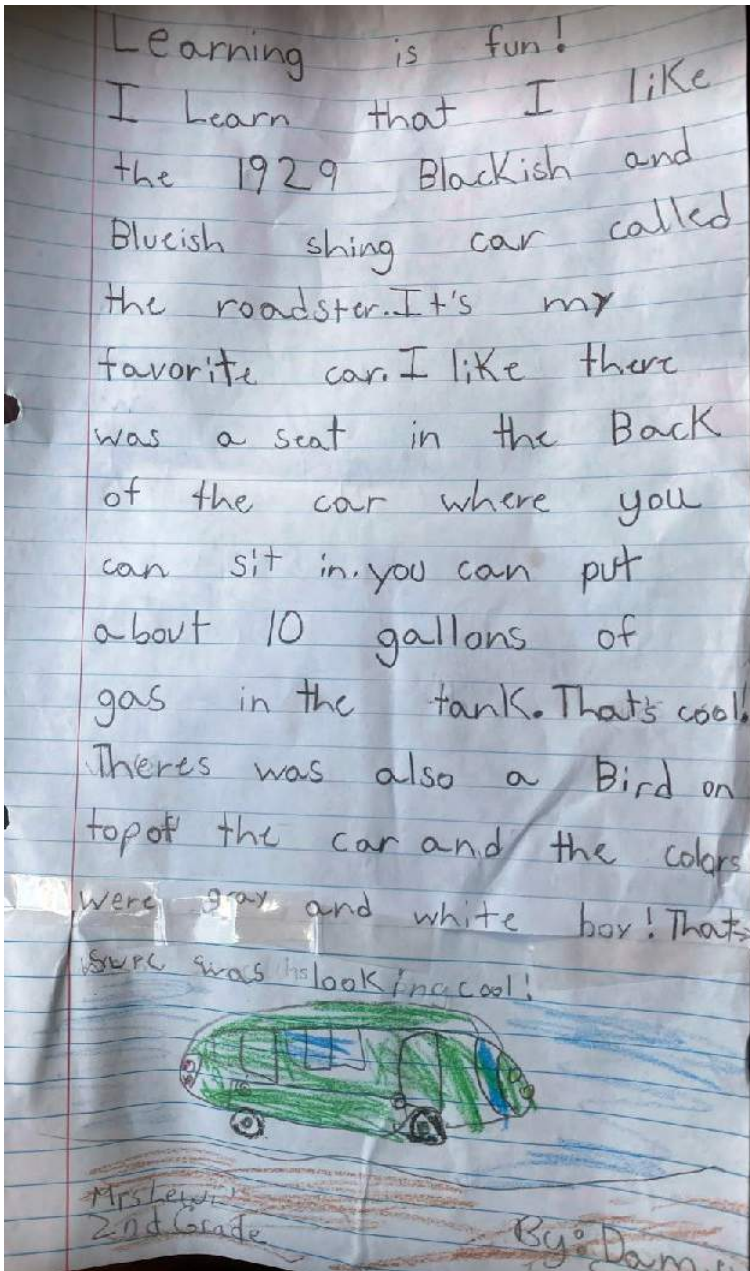
Reasons I love the 1929 Roadster by Hector Collazo

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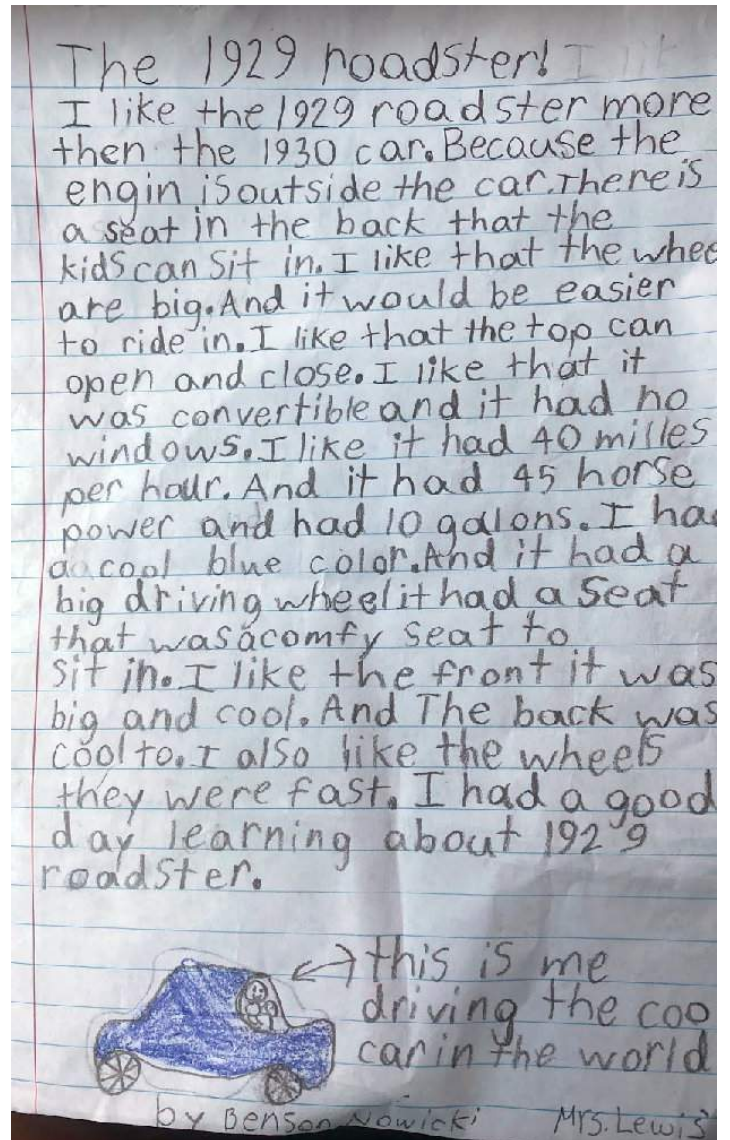
After exploring the vehicles and asking questions, students were given the chance to write what they learned and found interesting. Responses included “The Model A cost much less than my grandpa’s Tesla”, “My family would not fit inside since it only seats 2-4 people, and my family has 8 people”, and “I wouldn’t be able to take it to Mexico because it doesn’t go fast enough and there is nowhere to put all of our suitcases”.

These students’ eyes were opened to a brief piece of the past. They were able to experience, hands-on, what history has to offer. Many left this experience wanting to know more. They have completed their own research on both the Model A and other vehicles. They have compared and contrasted the Model A to current vehicles. They have since drawn and colored pictures of the Model A and further researched the Model A (and other cars of interest) to further their knowledge.

As the population of Model A enthusiasts is aging, it is important to introduce youth to this hobby, so that the hobby can continue. Hopefully at least one student took something away from this and is now inspired to research the Model A on their own, and maybe even continue to pursue this as a



Learning is Fun by: Damian Sanchez, 2nd grade



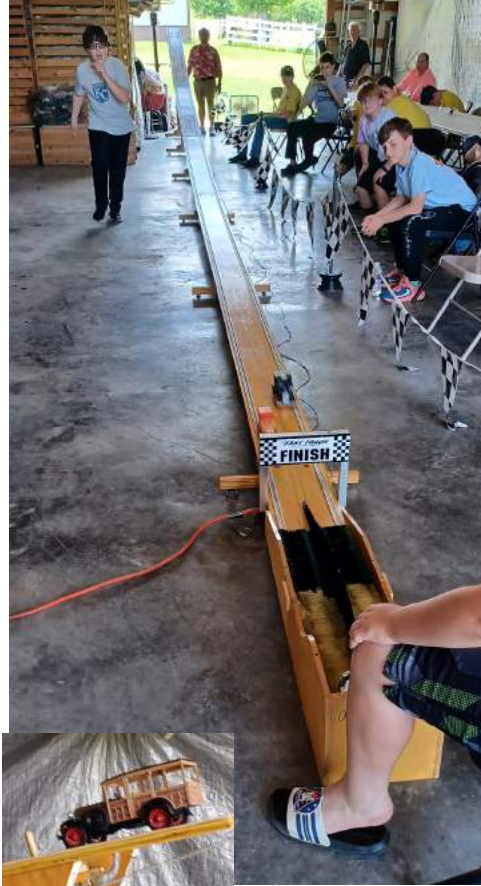
The 1929 Roadster by Benson Nowicki 2nd grade

## Model A Youth Event!

In the month of May, the Heart of American Model A Ford Club (HOA) sponsored a Model A Youth event for a group of Boy Scouts. They were joined by members of the Plain Ol A's Model A club. The activities included introducing the boys to Model A's as well as providing Hubleys to race on the track inside members Lance and Terri Burton's barn. Some time was spent under the hood and inside the cars, showing the differences between the A's and modern cars. After a lunch of hot dogs and all the sides, Model A rides were given!

After the rides, a Hubley race demonstration was held inside Lance's barn. The HOA built the track years ago and maintain the track for use at various events, including the local Regionals. It's a work of art. The boys cheered the cars on as Lance and others explained the rules and process. The Station Wagon was the dominant car on the track!

What a great way to celebrate Model A Youth Month! Great Job!



# Ford Advertising

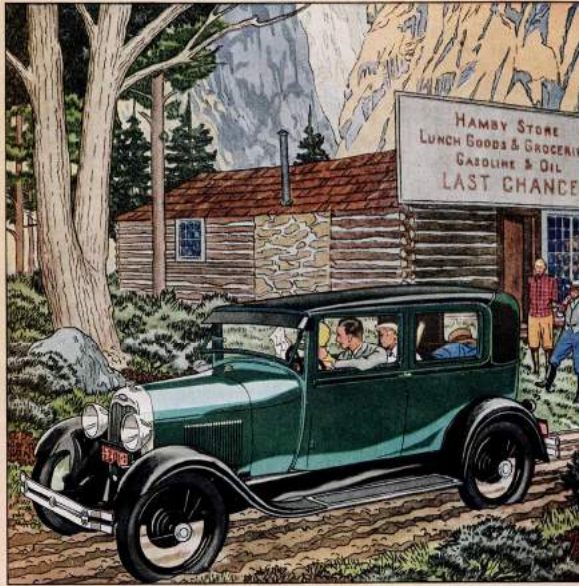
This ad really talks up the strength of the Model A! The text says that forty different types of steel are used in the car, including seven different types in the transmission! The ad continues to discuss the manner of heat treatment and the use of electric welding which permits the use of steel forgings instead of stamping or casting.

But I like the way that they really go all out showing the toughness in the illustration! You see they are in the mountains and are passing the "Last Chance" for gas, oil, and groceries. Not to mention that's a mud road they are driving on. I think they have to be really brave regardless of the toughness of the vehicle! They don't even have a trunk on the back of that car to carry extra parts. I hope there is at least a spare tire on the back!

Mom's looking at a map, Dad is waiting for her to tell him which way, and junior in the back just looks excited to be there. The two men at the store don't look like they are too sure about this whole thing!

The caption at the top of the ad claims the car has quick acceleration, 55 to 65 miles an hour, and smoothness. I don't think any of these characteristics are going to be in use on this trip, do you?!

## THE FORD IS AN UNUSUALLY STRONG AND STURDY CAR



The Ford Tourer Sedan, shown here, brings you all the features of the Ford car—ease of control, quick acceleration, 55 to 65 miles an hour, smoothness, balance and security at all speeds, four Handzell double-acting hydraulic shock absorbers, steel, fully enclosed six-brake system, Triplett shatter-proof glass windshield, Alcomite chassis lubrication, economy, reliability, long life.



each part, and then through large production, to give it to the public at low cost.

The Ford open hearth furnaces have a yearly capacity of 600,000 tons. The quality and uniformity of this steel are held to even closer limits than those used in industry generally.

As important as the steel itself is the Ford method of heat-treating by automatic control so that the same piece of steel, though in one unit, may have different degrees of hardness at different points.

A further development of this one-piece principle has been made possible by perfecting the art of electric welding. This permits the use of an unusual number of steel forgings instead of malleable castings or stampings, without increased weight, yet with a considerable gain in strength and simplicity.

Such high quality of material has a direct bearing on the performance of the Ford car. Throughout, it has been designed and built to give you many thousands of miles of faithful, uninterrupted service at a very low cost per mile.

The Ford is an unusually strong and sturdy car because of the enduring quality that has been built into every part. Of special interest to every motorist is the extensive use of fine steel.

The story of Ford steel dates back to 1905, when the Ford Motor Company developed the use of a new alloy which raised the tensile strength of steel threefold. That was the beginning of the Ford idea of using specific steels for specific parts—an idea which has perhaps its highest expression in the new car.

Today, more than forty different kinds of steel are used in the Ford—each particular kind being selected and perfected to fit the particular needs of each part. Seven kinds of steel are used in the transmission alone because research and experience have proved that seven kinds of steel will give greater efficiency than one or two.

There is no limit to selection—no thought that any certain steel must be made to do for many parts to save expense. The Ford policy has always been to use the best possible material for

**I COULDN'T FIX YOUR BRAKES**

**SO I MADE YOUR HORN LOUDER!**

Answers to Six Different Things

# Rethan's Colorado Model A Adventure

As told by Rethan Edwards



My Aunt Sherry was going to Breckinridge to give a class at the High Country Tour. She asked my mom and I to go with her to help. I was excited, because I love Model A's and like wearing era clothing, something my aunt helps me with. She bought me an era pocket watch and chain that I think is the heart of any era outfit I wear.

The first full day we were there, we unpacked all the class stuff and moved it to storage in the classroom location. That took a lot of time! But then I was free to check out the hotel and find the swimming pool and hot tubs. Even though the hotel was a maze, I found them within an hour!

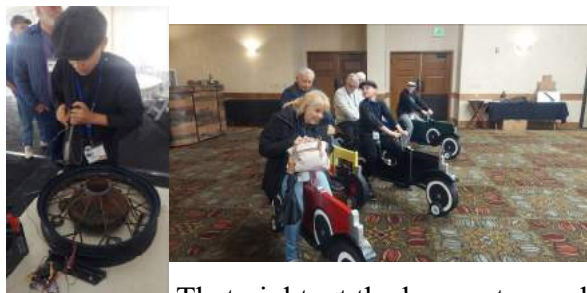
Tuesday, we followed Model A's on their tour. (we had a modern car due to the classroom supplies taking so much room.) But we didn't finish the tour as my aunt's van had mechanical problems. So she took us out for

tacos! Then it was time for the Hubley race. This was my first time, and I had just finished my pickup. When I registered it, some of the guys helped me give it some fine tuning and some advice for more I can do at home. It was fun. The race was fun too, but my pickup never crossed the finish line. I will have it rolling better next time thanks to all the good advice that was shared. But I just consider this my "shakedown tour" and am glad it didn't fall apart or something! The whole point of it was just for fun!



Wednesday was the class and I helped set out all the era fashions and fabric books she was using in the class. Then I took tickets at the door. We used my bowler hat to pull tickets from for the door prizes. After the talking was over, I helped show people my favorite fabric book, that I call "Big Boy" because it is huge! It has lots of fabric samples used to make men's suits. It was a fun class and I even met a few Model A guys who all complimented me on my outfit.

I spent most of the next day in the pool and such, with kids my age, because my aunt had to have her car towed to a repair shop. We also took the free shuttle to town for lunch and shopping. I got to pet lots of doggos too.



Friday morning, while my aunt took the bus to go get the car, my mom and I went to the car games. Friends of my aunt gave me a ride in their car for the games. That was awesome! And I had a lot of fun playing the walkup games too!



Me and my Mom



That night, at the banquet, we all dressed in era fashion again. For some reason, everybody made a fuss over my black and white shoes! Even the stand-up comedian, Nancy, noticed them, and she made me come up on stage to show everybody. After her show, she asked to take pictures together, so we went and posed by the Model A's outside. She is really a fun and nice person!

We headed home Saturday morning and had to drive thru a blizzard in June. That was strange! We made it home safe that night, but I think I slept most of the way.



## MAFCA Special Student Membership program

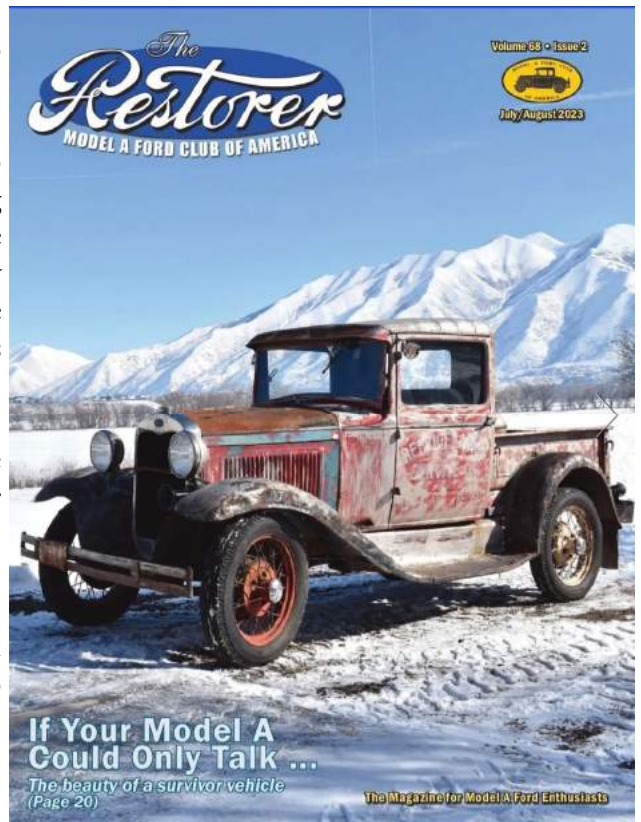
Did you know MAFCA offers a special Student Membership to high school, technical school and college students?

The MAFCA website explains: “We all recognize that we need to grow the Model A hobby with more involvement by young people. We are encouraged by the increased interest in the Model A by students at the high school level around the country with many chapters mentoring these young enthusiasts. I hope to see more Student Members join and more Student Chapters formed as a result of this low-cost membership option.”

This new class of membership costs only \$5.00 and the student will receive a “digital only version” of *The Restorer* magazine. All it takes is filling out a short form or a call to MAFCA headquarters to become a student member.

We encourage all Student Chapter members, and youth from all over, to take advantage of this special membership option. To get the form online, go to

<https://www.mafca.com/membership.html#student>



### MAFCA Student Membership Application

MAFCA student membership is available to High School, Technical School and College students age 13-22.

The annual dues is \$5.00 per year and includes a digital only copy of *The Restorer* magazine.

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this completed form and payment to :

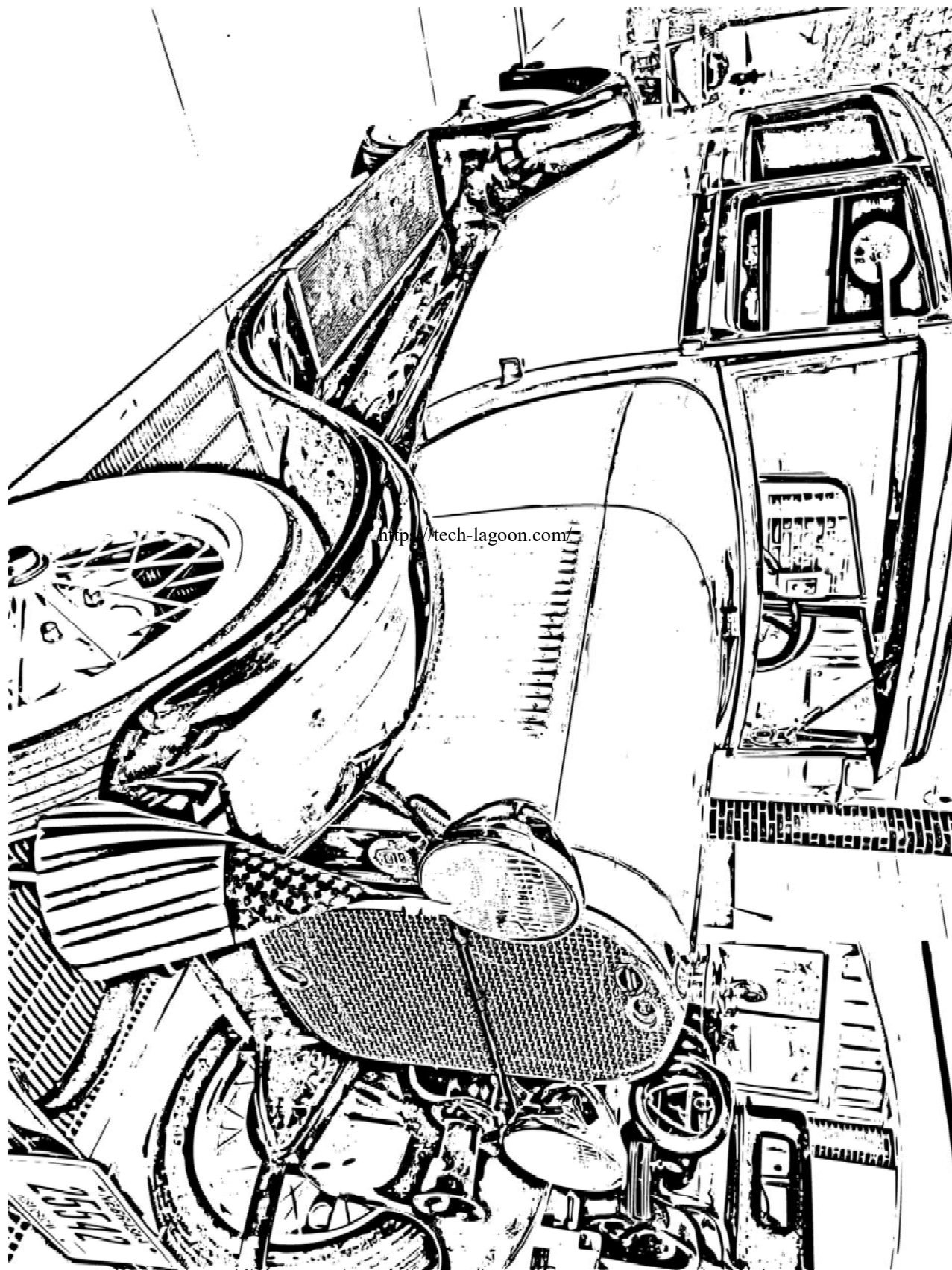
MAFCA 250 S. Cypress Street La Habra, CA 90631-5515

or

Call MAFCA headquarters toll free at 866-379-3619

Nov 1 2018

This is a 1929 Model A Tudor Tudors were one of the most popular models of the New Ford Sold and can be found in many color combinations. What color will you color this one?





## Rumble Seat

Sherry Wink

As you can see from the story on page 5, the Old Lady is back on the road! When she came out of the barn this spring, she still has some problems. More troubleshooting, and the addition of a better ground wire seems to have done the trick. She is running great now!

The guys in my club helped me out this summer by putting seatbelts in the Old Lady. That will allow my granddaughter, age 4 to have a booster seat in the back. It will be much safer for her to ride with me, something she loves to do!

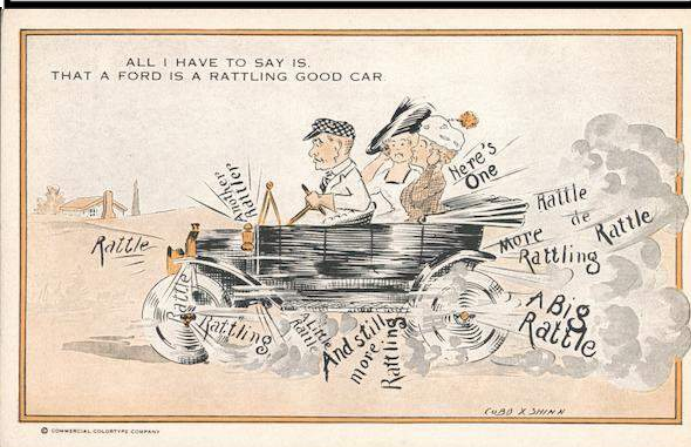
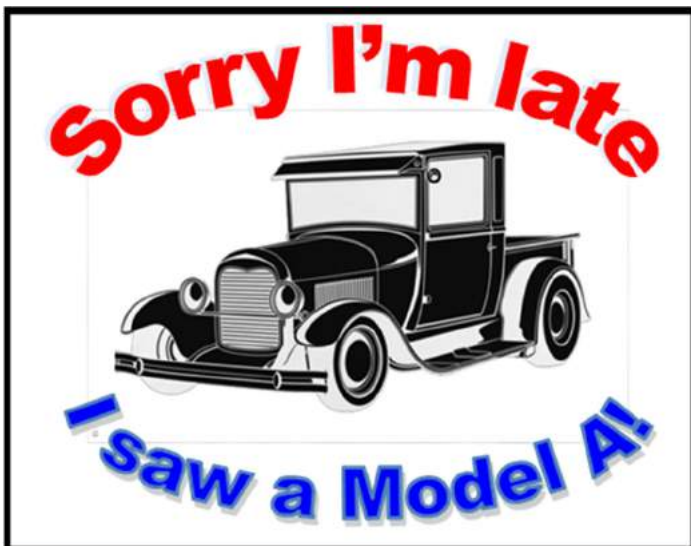
I met a few A-World fans in Colorado, so much fun! If you run into me anywhere along the road, come say hi! I love to meet people who read this newsletter!



## Quiz Time

Take a half sheet of paper. Number 1-10. Name at the top right corner. If you share this A-World with others in your family or friends, make sure you do not write on the newsletter pages. There are two ways to take this quiz: 1) Not looking back 2) Looking back as you take the quiz to find the answers. Try the “not looking” way first!

- 1) What powers the Soap Box Derby cars?  
A) Battery B) Gravity C) Feet
- 2) What had wheels that everybody wanted?  
A) Wagon B) Car C) Baby Buggy
- 3) What state does Colton Ray live in?  
A) Nebraska B) Alabama C) Missouri
- 4) The Taylor Kids are what generation Model A'sers  
A) 2nd B) 4th C) 3rd
- 5) Shawnee Town Museum represents what year?  
A) 1928 B) 1929 C) 1931
- 6) Garrett Cortez holds what office in the Pomona Valley Model A Club?  
A) Treasurer B) President C) Vice President
- 7) What elementary school did the Mitchell Family visit?  
A) George Washington B) Parkville C) Eugene Field
- 8) What group did the HOA's invite for the Model A Youth event?  
A) Boy Scouts B) Cub Scouts C) Girl Scouts
- 9) The Model A on page 6 was visiting what state?  
A) Nebraska B) Colorado C) Kansas
- 10) Who drew a picture of themselves driving the “coolest car in the world?”  
A) Hector Collazo B) Collin Graves C) Benson Nowicki



Answers: 1) B, 2) B, 3) C, 4) B, 5) B, 6) C, 7) C, 8) A, 9) B, 10) C