

CHRISTMAS SHARING

BY SHERRY WINK

Christmas at the Sitzman home was always a fun and glorious event. Mom Sitzman and Grandma Roberts spent days baking wonderful goodies, some to eat immediately, and some to put away for the big day when all the family gathered together. There was



always fudge, peanut brittle, divinity and caramel, not to mention pressed cookies, gingerbread, and all the other special things that only made their appearance at Christmas!

unknown projects in the barn that would be quickly Stanley), a beautiful doll (I'm too old to play with baby covered up or put away anytime a youngster put their nose dolls anyhow said Suzanne) and the list went on and on. around the corner. The kids claimed to each other that they were doing their best to find out what he was up to, but in reality, they all knew they really didn't want to ruin the fun and surprise of Christmas Morning.

about a family in town who wasn't going to have ANY Christmas. The father had been sick, and there was no money for presents, barely enough for food. And he decided that maybe there was something that could be done. So the Sitzman family had decided to secretly adopt this family.

Now there wasn't a lot of money to buy new toys for everyone in the family let alone another whole family. But that didn't stop the Sitzmans!

The kids were all sent to go through their toy boxes and shelves for any gently used toys they thought they could do without. And Mom and Dad Sitzman were so proud of the kids and the resulting outpouring of wonderful things. It wasn't just old broken items that were gathered up. A favorite teddy bear (because the little girl should have something soft and loving to hold explained Shannon), a Dad Sitzman would always be busy on secretive and well loved truck (I know he'll take good care of it said

So each item was taken examined and then sorted into piles. Some things were perfect as was and ready to be wrapped. A few Mom slipped away knowing that the youngest kids would miss them even if they wanted hard to share too. But this year there was something new happening too! Just And a few just needed a little extra polish to make them a week before Christmas Eve, Dad Sitzman had found out suitable. Those were the ones that attention was focused on.

> Dad Sitzman took the boys into the workshop and started them on sanding and painting the older toy cars and wagons. Dad himself built a crib and highchair for the baby doll, and cut dowels into discs for the boys to paint red and black for a checker board he built.

- **Christmas Sharing**
- KIDS & THEIR A'S
- THE CHRISTMAS PARADE
- CHRISTMAS TOYS FOR MODEL A KIDS
- SIX DIFFERENT THINGS

TITLE

- MODEL A ADS
- **AUTO PAINT AT HOME**
- MODEL A WORD SEARCH
- How Does it Make that Ahooga SOUND?

PAGE

- **PUZZLE ANSWERS**
- 11 **COLORING PAGE**
- 12 RUMBLE SEAT
- Quiz

In the house, the girls helped Mom Sitzman dig through her sewing box for scraps of fabric to be turned into doll clothes and blankets. They were soon busy sewing on little buttons and lace trims. Even the youngest were give pieces of fabric to cut up to feel like they were helping too! Meantime in the kitchen, Grandma Roberts was making more cookies

and candies to box up in silver paper and ribbons. Later she popped popcorn and helped the little kids string it onto twine and make silver stars out of paper to put on a small tree that being planned for the family.



Finally the big day was here-Christmas Eve at last. This year instead of talking about what Santa was bringing them, the Sitzman children were starry eyed, talking about how happy and surprised the unsuspecting kids in the other family were going to be when Santa visited! Because Dad Sitzman wasn't just going to drop and run, oh no! He had a Santa suit all ready to make deliveries in!

Waiting until it started to get dark, he loaded everything up in the Model A pickup. With Larry driving, Dad Sitzman rode in the back to keep everything in place. Once close to the house, he had Larry kill the motor and park a ways away from the house. Then he grabbed a big sack of toys, settled his beard and hat in place and took off with a loud "HOHOHO!". Up to the house he marched, but not to the front door, no! Everyone knows Santa doesn't come via the door. Dad, I mean, Santa started going round to the windows, rapping on them, and ho-ho-ho-ing. Quite quickly a startled lady opened the curtains and then the window to se what was going on, and Santa quickly jumped right in the window! Larry could hear the excited shouts of the children a block away, and it made his heart warm even sitting in the cold truck.

Much later, after Dad had returned, and the kids had had time to finally slip off to sleep, Dad, Larry and the twins took another trip to the house. This time Dad did go in the front door, having arranged it with the mom previously. And he took more presents, and the now decorated tree to



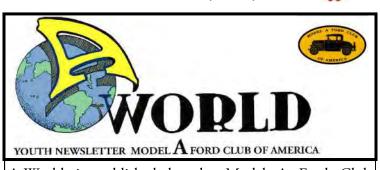
add to the empty front room. He unloaded boxes of food and goodies and filled the cupboards with the food Mom Sitzman and Grandma Roberts had provided. The boys, working rapidly unloaded a full pickup load of firewood into the almost empty wood shed, and promised to bring as much more as was needed to keep the family warm all winter.

Then, tired, but filled with joy, the Sitzman men went home, picturing the happy faces of the those kids when they woke the next morning.

But just so you know, even though the kids had been willing to give up ALL of their gifts to make this poor family happy, Mom and Dad Sitzman hadn't let that happen. So when the Sitzman kids got up Christmas morning thinking they would have nothing under their tree, they too were surprised to find full stocking and gifts under the tree. Perhaps not as many as might have been, but not one complaint was to be heard!

The kids giggled and laughed as they went through their stockings. Every year without fail, Santa brought them each an enormous orange, and the largest apple they every saw, and of course the boys made a competition in complaining whose was biggest. The stockings also contained nuts and candy canes for all. And through all the noise and commotion, Mom and Dad,

the noise and commotion, Mom and Dad, and Grandma sat there with huge smiles, for to them, the best gift of all had been the love their kids had shared with a needy family.



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KIDS AND THEIR "A"s!



Ella Hebert is all dressed up for a holiday drive in the family Model A. Ella and her family live in McKinney Texas.



Hailey, Paige and Sean Hudson (left to right) are in front of the their 1929 Town Sedan immediately after the first snow fall in College Station Texas in 8 years.



Left to right, Mariah 12, Seth 8, and Adrianna 10, grandchildren of Jay McCord .The high school drama department used his truck as a background piece for their recent play.



Webelos Scouts learning to safely change a tire. Members of Pack 86-96 in Santa Maria California.



This is Blake Sullivan who is 8 years old. He is helping work on his grandpa's Model A. He loves getting his hands on tools to help out and learning how things

This is the Annual Christmas parade in Santa Claus, Indiana. In the rumble seat of their 1929 A is 8 year old Baron Von Krauskopf and his cousin Kyle, with Dad Brett and cousin Cody in the front. Their entry is titled "Four Rudolphs in an Old Car".

If it looks cold, that's because it was a chilly 27 degrees that morning with snow flurries! Baron and his dad take the car out frequently throughout the year and he helps with the washing and waxing at this point in his young life. Oh yeah, and he loves pushing the Aoooooogaaa horn button!



THE CHRISTMAS PARADE

My name is Seth and I like Christmas. The Christmas Parade is in 1 week so I'm going to meet my grandpa tomorrow to help him fix the Model A and decorate it for the Model A part of the parade. My grandpa's Model A is going to be in the parade and I'm going to ride in it with him. The model A is a 1931 Fordor slant Windshield.

We are going to decorate our car with Christmas lights, flags, mistletoe, shiny tinsel, ornaments, candy canes, and a stuffed reindeer to sit on the hood with a big red nose like Rudolph! When the parade starts, there will be horses, marching bands wearing Santa hats, and cheerleaders with red and green pompoms. Then we drive in a line with the other Model A's. My favorite part is throwing candy out of the window to all the kids. My sister is going to march in the parade playing her flute.

After the parade our whole Model A Club will drive to Giavanni's for hot pizza. Being in the Christmas parade is one of the best days in a Model A!

By Seth Padilla, age 8-Santa Maria Model A Ford Club, Santa Maria, CA Grandson of Jay and Kay McCord



Christmas Toys for Model A Kids!

Anything with wheels was a hot item for kids back then. From bicycles to pedal cars to pedal planes, if it rolled, it was fun!





A lot of people really enjoy board and card games today. Model A kids weren't much different! Check out these board games. And the card games look fun too!









Sports celebrity endorsed sports shoes are not a modern invention. Although I don't have a clue who Dutch Lonborg was, I bet the kids back then knew very well!



Toys often related to real life work and skills too. Here are a couple of examples. This sewing machine really did sew seams. The scroll saw was usable too.

SIX THINGS ARE DIFFERENT!

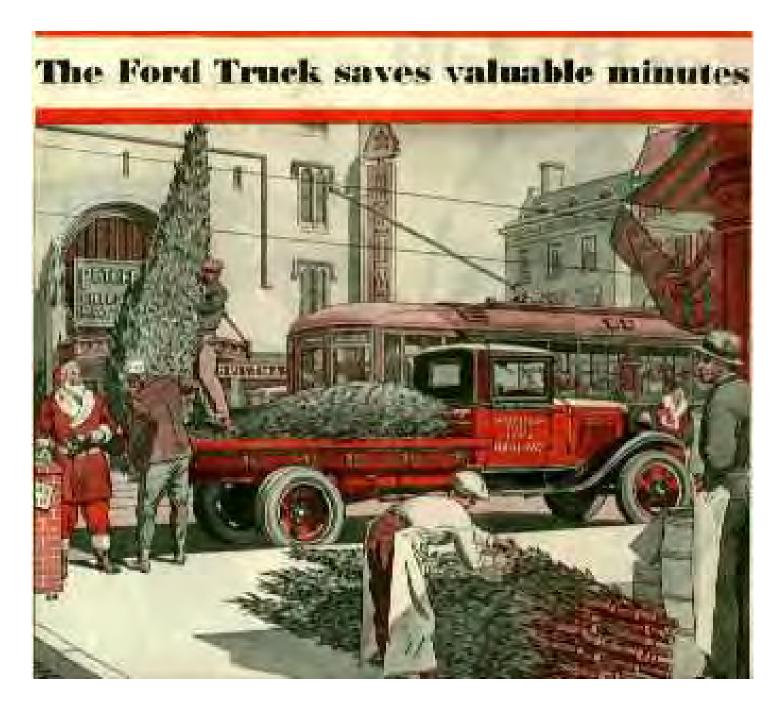
These Model A's are ready to go on tour, but a few things in the top photo seemed seem to have gotten lost before they got out of the parking lot. Can you find the missing items without looking at the answers?

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





Model A Advertising



This advertisement for a AA truck was issued in December 1930. Titled "The Ford Truck saves valuable minutes", it shows a Ford Model AA flat bed truck delivering Christmas trees to the local store on the corner.

Notice the man on the right in his shopkeeper's apron watching with satisfaction as the trees are delivered. There is even a Santa Claus ringing a bell on the left side of the ad! What other Christmas symbols do you find in the picture?

I love the way they used a lot of red shades with a little green mixed in to tie in with the Christmas feelings!

Auto Paint at Home

By Sherry Wink

Did you know that auto paint in the 20's and 30's just did not last like the car paint we have now days? It often lost its shine quickly, sometimes within a year or less. It took a lot waxing to keep any type of shine, and even that only worked for a short while. But all was not lost. Why, you give your car a whole new life in just one afternoon! At least that's what these ads tried to tell you.

Wardshine claims their paint "Makes your car look like new". Another ad claims "Apply at 10—Drive at 12". Nu-Car Lacquer says "Lacquer it in the morning, drive it in the afternoon". I wonder just how true that was? And how many people ended up with bugs permanently embedded in their paint because they took it for a run a little too soon!?

They made this paint in a lot of colors to try to make it match the car colors of the day. Of course there was basic black and Dust Proof Grey. And a variety of blues and greens such as Baby Blue and Jade Green. Also red and greys were popular such as Windsor Maroon, or French Grey.

And they sold the brushes to use to put it on with. Yes, this auto paint was designed to be brushed on, as is illustrated in several of these ads! Home paint sprayers were available, but too expensive for most people in those days.

I was once talking to some distant cousins who still own their dad's AA truck. One of their favorite family stories was about when he brought it home brand new. Apparently Mom really,really disliked the color, so the next morning when Dad went to the barn to get the truck, Mom was there painting it with a brush and a bucket of red barn paint! Maybe she should have waited until she could have ordered a bucket of "Nu-Car Lacquer"!









Automobile Body

Enamel

Give your car a smart.



Model A Words

Here are some words I found in the Technical Question and Answer section of MAFCA.com. See how many you can find!

The answers are on page 10 if you get stuck.

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S Z V G T L R W M	P A C E O D	Y A R E L	R T L E	B B D	U V N T	R I I G	E V P N	T R S G	O C W F	R F X D	R S G	J I G O	B A B	F T H G	B U M P	G J F O	D C I N	T S D	L R W D
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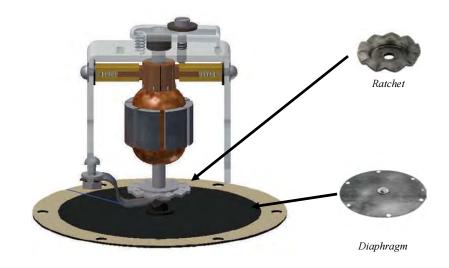
How Does it Make that Ahooga Sound?



We all love that great Ahooga horn on our Model As, but do you know how it actually makes that sound? It's not as complicated as you might think! The mechanism is driven by a small electric motor. We won't get into the details of the motor, that's a different article!

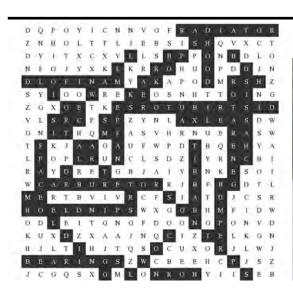
The motor turns a shaft that has a small metal disc called a ratchet on the end. This ratchet has a wavy edge to it. When the ratchet turns, it rubs against a metal stud set in a very thin steel circle called a diaphragm. The vibration caused by this is what makes the actual noise of the horn. The "ah" part of the sound is the motor coming to speed, the "oooo" is the full speed vibration of the diaphragm, and the "ga" is the sound as the vibrations dies down to a stopping point.

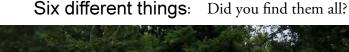
If you want to help work on a Model A, a horn is a great starting point. It is simple to take apart and lubricate or replace parts on. And once you finish that, it will that much more fun when you hear it sounding out "Ahooga"!



Illustrations sourced from modelabasics.com. It's a great site to help learn about your Model As!

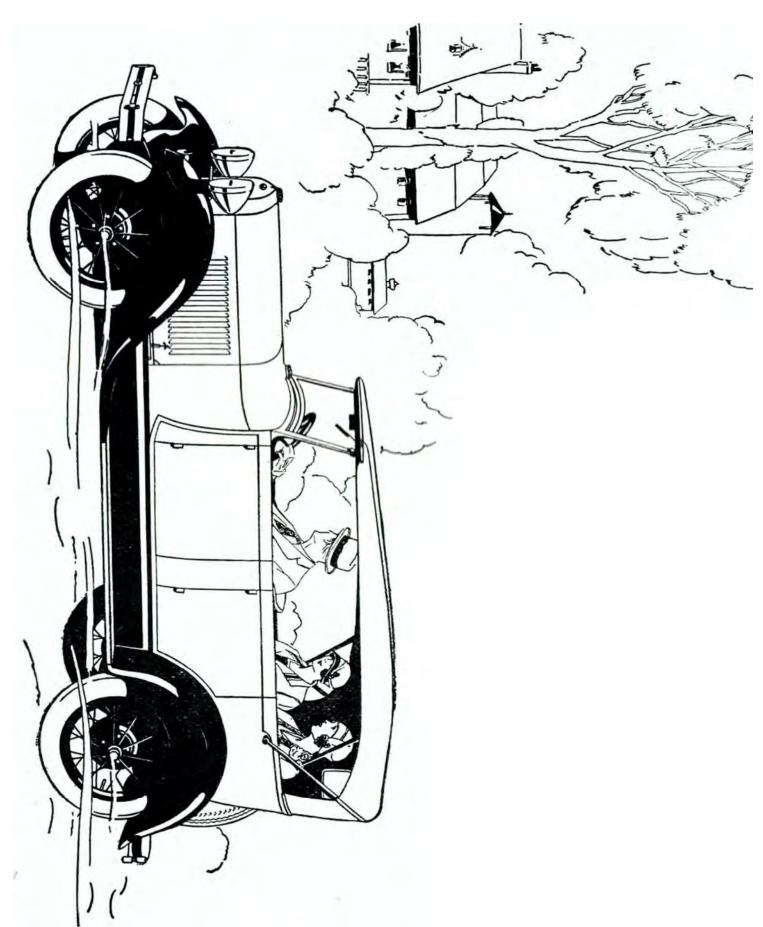
Puzzle Answers







This is a picture of a Phaeton from a 1928 Ad that ran in Canada! Color it your favorite color for a Model A!. Have fun!



Rumble Seat

Sherry Wink



Merry Christmas to everyone! I hope the holiday season is going well for everyone. Have any of

you been able to ride your Model A in any Christmas Parades like Seth Padilla is planning to? I think that would be so much fun, but in Missouri, it is usually just too cold and the weather too inconsistent to be able to plan something like that.

Right now, I'm actually living in Nebraska for a while looking for a new house to buy in Kansas City! But don't worry about the Old Lady. She's snugly tucked away in a garage on my brother's farm, right next to his classic El Camino, just waiting for spring weather to hurry up and arrive.

I also got inspired in Gingerbread for our club's recent Christmas Dinner. But it wasn't a gingerbread house I made, but a Gingerbread Gas Station (actually seven of them!). It was replica (sort of) of a 1922 gas station our club helps maintain at a local antique club's grounds. It was damaged by a tornado in March, and a lot of work went in repairing it, so I felt that this was a good year to celebrate it in sugar! Lots and lots of sugar on top of that gingerbread! And I also found a Model A cookie cutter, so gingerbread Model A's for everyone! I may not be able to drive my Model A during the winter, but I can still keep the Model A activities going! I hope you are too!





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 did Shannon give up for the needy family for Christmas?
 - A) Doll B) Truck C) Teddy Bear
- 2) What did Grandma Robert have the kids string on twine?
 - A) Popcorn B) Cranberries C) Turnips
- 3) Hailey, Paige and Sean celebrated the first snowfall in eight years in what city?
 - A) College Station TX B) Sioux Falls IA C) Atlanta GA
- 4) Seth in riding in the Christmas Parade in what year A?
 - A) 1928 B) 1929 C) D) 1931
- 5) Dutch Lonborg played what sport?
 - A) Football B) Baseball C) Basketball
- 6) How many roadsters are in the "Six Different Things" picture?
 - A) None B) One C) Six.
- 6) How many trees still need to be unloaded in the Model A ad on page 7?
 - A) Four B) Two C) Six
- 7) What is the paint on page 8 applied with?
 - A) a brush B) a spray can C) a mop
- 8) What is the wavy wheel called in the horn?
 - A) a disc B) a ratchet C) a diaphragm
- 9) What is the thin disc that vibrates to make the horn noise called?
 - A) a diaphragm B) a ratchet C) a noise maker
- 10) What model is the Model A on the coloring page?
 - A) Roadster B) Fordor C) Phaeton