

#### A SITZMAN'S NEW YEAR'S EVE

#### BY SHERRY WINK

It was New Year's Eve at the Sitzman's household, and the Sitzman kids were all excited, especially the little ones. This was the one day in the year when they all were allowed to stay up until midnight. What a treat!

New Year's was a special holiday for more than one reason. Each year, after drinking an eggnog toast and yelling "Happy New Year", they always refilled the glasses, and then toasted to Mom and Dad Sitzman's anniversary. That's right, Mom and Dad Sitzman had been married on New Year's Day, January 1st. Mom Sitzman said that when they had trouble deciding on a date, Dad Sitzman had just finally said "Let's start the new year out right!" and that was that!

Dad always joked that it was so he never had to worry about forgetting his anniversary date, so that would automatically make it a happier marriage.

For the Sitzman family, New Year's Eve wasn't about parties or drinking. For them, it was another family event. Of course, it goes without saying that Grandma Roberts and Mom Sitzman, along with the help of the girls, made quite a spread of delicious food for the evening. And surprisingly, some of the boys were also turning into quite good cooks. But then Dad Sitzman never hesitated to jump in and help in the kitchen, so maybe it wasn't that surprising after all.

While the cooks were putting together a savory meal, the rest of the Sitzman crew were working on getting the chores done as soon as possible. It took a little more time, with a lot

of help missing in the kitchen. But there was no complaining, and even when Nick spilled the chicken feed trying to carry a bucket bigger than him, no one fussed, and just helped him clean up what they could and reminded him that the chickens would love the treat when they were let loose the next day.

Larry and the twins' biggest chore was to restock the woodpile. It took several trips with the Model A pickup to move enough wood from behind the barn to the lean-to behind the house to satisfy Grandma Roberts. She kept telling him that there was a big snow headed their way, and it was better to do now then while a blizzard was raging around them. Larry had his doubts about the storm since the sky was clear, but Grandma's word was law! So he kept stacking that wood high!

Inside, one of the last tasks of the evening for Mom Sitzman was to mix up the traditional eggnog. She had lots of interested helpers to crack all those eggs, separate them, and then turn the hand beater to whisk all the eggs white nice and frothy. The yolks had to be beat up



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too, and someone had to watch the milk and cream on the stove as it heated to scalding, but not letting it boil, which would ruin it! Lots of advice was offered too, when Mom started adding the sugar to the hot milk, with most of the



kids urging her to "add just a little more" after every scoop full! But Mom Sitzman had made this enough time to know when to stop, regardless of the sweet tooth of all the kids!

The milk had to be cooled down before adding the eggs, so it was carefully placed outside in a sheltered spot, with

a clean dishtowel over top of it to keep it clean. Once it had cooled sufficiently, Mom Sitzman brought it in and then slowly added the yolks and frothy whites to it while the kids took turns stirring. Once it was done, Mom Sitzman allowed each of them just a little sip, because "a good cook always samples her work". One and all agreed that it was perfect!

There was only one last thing needed for the eggnog to really

be perfect. The Sitzman kids all held their breath as Mom Sitzman climbed the kitchen step ladder to reach into that high part of the cupboards that held the really special things. They continue holding their



breath as she carefully passed down the green and white punchbowl and cups one at a time. This was a very special set, one used only once a year, for the eggnog. It had been a Wedding present to Mom and Dad Sitzman, and they had used it every year since for this special purpose. Once this set was safely on the little table next to the Christmas tree, everyone could finally breath a little easier.

The last task of the evening was done after supper. Once all that wonderful food was devoured, and the dishes cleared, it was time to take down the tree. The boxes were brought down from the attic, and the kids scoured the tree to make sure none of their favorites

were left behind, hidden in among the thick branches.

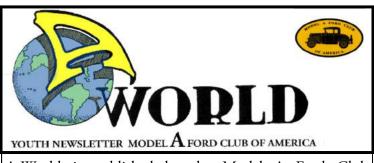


The Sitzman tradition was to welcome in the New Year with the burning of the Old Year's Christmas tree. Once the tree was empty to Mom Sitzman's satisfaction (she usually found a few missed treasures), Dad Sitzman and the older boys took it on the back porch. Using axes and hand saws, they quickly took the branches off and sawed up the trunk. Larry took a quick look at the sky, and decided Grandma had been wrong about the storm. It was still clear, with stars shining. Then

all the kids triumphantly carried the fragrant pine back into the house. Grandma harrumphed about the getting pine sap all over, but she was just keeping in practice, not really being grouchy.

It was getting late, and Dad Sitzman was telling stories around the open door of the woodstove, while the kids were allowed carefully add more pine branches each time Mom Sitzman allowed it. As expected, most of the younger kids didn't make it to midnight! But the ones that did, gathered around with their cups in their hands, clinked them together and then welcomed the new year and celebrated Mom and Dad's anniversary with loud appreciation! And then, without any complaints, they all headed to their warm beds. And Larry, looking out the curtains one more time to confirm that Grandma had finally been wrong, was astonished to find that sometime during the time they had been around the fireplace, huge flakes had started drifting from the sky, and already covered the Model A with thick coating of sparkling snow!

Happy New Year everyone!



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# KIDS AND THEIR "A"S!



Hailey Hudson lives in College Station Texas. Here she is clowning around while helping her dad work on their Model A



Natalie and Trevor Zavacki live in Pennsylvania. As you can see, they are quite proud of their Model A pickup!

As you can tell from the coats, they aren't afraid of cold weather while driving a Model A!





Laeland Bradsher lives in Holden Beach, North Carolina. I think he really likes to get into his work while helping with the Model A.



Alexander Mavrov is 8 years old and lives in San Jose, California. Alexander is a neighbor of Jill and Mark Barrett who took him out to see the lights this Christmas.



Kat and Turner Dabney live in Ashland VA. They recently participated in Christmas parade, riding in "Rusty". Rusty is a late '29 RPU that their dad saved from the elements. He needed a lot of love but after 3 years and 1000's of hours, the Dabney family can be proud of saving this wonderful Model A!





Mariela Justice is ready to drive their 1929 Roadster around the world! Just give her the key! Mariela lives in Austin Texas.



Edward McCreery shared this great picture of one of their club member's sons enamored by the hobby. Didn't hurt they won a trophy at a car show. The next generation of A owners.

(Unfortunately, this young man's name was not shared, so if you recognize him, let me know, I'll update it in the next edition!)



Sofia Veksland is 3 years old in these pictures. Sofia lives in Cherry Hill New Jersey. In the bottom picture, she is ready for Grandfather Robert Gomel to get this car on the road!



## **MORE KIDS AND THEIR "A"s!**

This is Jack, grandson of John de Sousa. Jack lives in Mystic Connecticut, but visit's his PopPop on Cape Cod as often as possible. When he arrives, the first thing he wants to do is get out the Model A Station wagon!

Another thing that Jack and PopPop enjoy doing together is Hubley racing! These diecast models are fun to work on together. Here are a few pictures of Jack racing at one of the New England meets a few years back. As you can see, Jack was thrilled with the race and with the trophy he won.







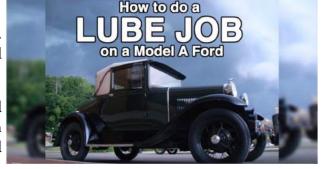


## Using Modern Technology to Learn to Work on Old Technology!

Have you ever wondered how to do something on a Model A, but didn't have anyone around to show you how? Well, with the internet, there is a lot of help out there! The internet has a lot of great sites to visit and learn Model A basics, from tune-ups to brake jobs.

One of the places I'm starting to see more of is YouTube videos. Sometimes there is nothing like seeing something done, instead of looking as pictures in a book.

Here's a new video just put up by Mark Hayward. It's directed toward helping beginners and young people learn to work on their own Model A's. Check it out, it's pretty good, I learned from it!





# **SIX THINGS ARE DIFFERENT!**

These Model A are looking sharp in downtown Parkville, but a few things in the top photo seem to have gotten lost. Can you find the missing details without looking at the answers? *The answers are on page 10 but don't peek too soon!* 





### Model A Restorers—Next Generation!

Matthew 16 and Conner Goodwin 14 are from Prairieville Louisiana. Their family are members of the Red Stick

Model A Ford Club in Baton Rouge. Both Matthew and Connor have their own Model As that they are restoring. They work very hard in school, but still find time to help preserve these fine Fords.

Matthew has a 1930 roadster truck. It is a running chassis with body to come shortly (painting). He received a MAFCA Youth Restoration Award for 2018 to help assist in this work. He is still in High School but is also doing early Collage at the University of Alabama. He wants to go into medicine (Pediatric Nephrology) so problem solving skills learned keeping these old Model A's running will come in handy!



Conner has a 1928 Leatherback (early with side cowl vent) it is not yet a rolling chassis but it is well on its way. He is in 8th grade and involved with Choir and the tennis team. He also enjoys going to car shows, museums and on outings with his club. Conner's car will require a lot of work, but he said he is ready for the task! He and his dad bought the car from one of their club members who had got it from one of the original family who bought it new in Louisiana. The last date on the license plate was 1957! It has been off road since then. But Conner will eventually get it back out there, I have no doubt!















## Christmas Gifts for the Mechanically Minded

There were many toys made during the Model A years that reflected the new motorized world that surrounded kids of the Model A era. The world had changed from horse drawn buggies to all these new mechanical marvels that changed things drastically. It was a fascinating new direction for toys as well as real life. Here's a few fun examples from a 1928 catalog!



A special building just for parking a motorcar in was still a very new idea. This garage holds two wind-up cars!



These fire trucks were probably

very popular! Especially the big one that would actually pump water through the nozzle. The crank at the front bumper mimicked the hand crank of the older vehicles but was actually to pump the water with. The little one on the left had a bell that you could ring.



Did you know that until the 1920s there was no such thing as traffic cops! They had to be invented, along with traffic laws!

Motorcycle cops were popular in big cities as they could get around heavy traffic easier. This toy threw out sparks from a

flint rubbing on the back wheel.

B23810-Spitfire Motorcycle When wound up, this cop will run rapidly across the floor throwing out sparks from the flint and wheel on the 7 ins. long.....

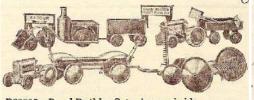
This is an interesting toy! Over a foot tall, the bell rang when you turned the crank, and the light flashed every 5 gallons. One of the few I've found that used a battery. I bet you know more than a few people that

would

would.

love B23823 — Gasoline to have this Pump. 13 ins. high.
Bell rings when crank their is turned and electric light in top lights at collection! I every five gallons.
Enameled in natural can easily be replaced. A most realistic and interesting toy Boys and girls \$1.50

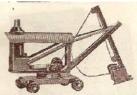




B23807—Road Builder Set. A remarkable set in metal consisting of ten pieces, including steam roller, tractor, scraper, two trucks, signs and tools. Steam roller 4½ \$1.00 ins. long. Price

B23808—Haymaker Set. Complete toolsin miniature, tractors and steam rollers have propelling motor. Each, \$1.00





B23758—Steam Shovel. A large indestructible toy of steel with realistic mechanical action, 21 ins. long and 1445 ins. high. With it a child can actually dig in the sand or dirt just as the large shovels do. Such loys are the large shovels do. Such loys are of the finest quality.

They are of the finest quality.

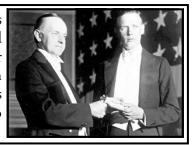
\$5.85

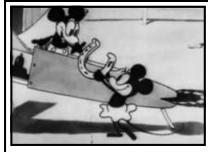
New roads were being built in the 20's like before. never The new equipment used made new and interesting toys.

### Fun 1928 Facts

You know, the years 1928-1931 were not just about Model A's! Other things occurred in the world that also changed the way we live. Here's a few of them

American aviator Charles Lindbergh was presented with the Medal of Honor by President Calvin Coolidge in honor of his 1927 famous solo





Mickey and Minnie Mouse made their first appearance ever in the animated short Plane Crazy.

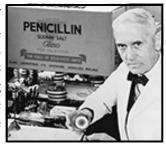


The first machine-sliced and machine-wrapped loaf of bread ever sold was in 1928 in Chillicothe Missouri. Bread had less preservatives in it back then and went stale quickly when sliced. So it wasn't until the inventor came up with a way to also wrap the bread in wax paper that pre-sliced bread become desirable.



Scottish inventor John Logie Baird demonstrated the world's first color television transmission sent the first TV pictures under the sea to the USA in 1928.

In 1928, Sir Alexander Fleming noticed a bacteria-killing mold growing in his laboratory, discovering what later became known as penicillin, the first miracle antibiotic.





The 1928 Summer Olympics was the first Olympics where women were allowed to compete in athletics and gymnastics. It was

also the first Olympics to feature a torch.



Amelia Earhart was a woman pilot in the early 20's, and in 1928 was invited to be the first woman to fly across the Atlantic (but as a passenger). It wasn't until 1932 that she became the first woman to fly a solo flight across the Atlantic.



The Ford River Rouge Complex at Dearborn Michigan took over a decade to build. It was started in 1917 and finished in1928. At its height, the it consisted of around 2,000 acres with 100,000 employees that put out around 4,000 cars per day.



## **Model A Advertising**

February 21, 1931

Liberty



#### When Winter Sweeps Down From the North

Тикоисноит this country—in Canada and in Europe—the new Ford has made an unusual record for endurance and reliability. Cold weather emphasizes the value of its simplicity of design and dependable performance under all conditions.

The 1930 Automobile Winter Race, arranged by the Royal Automobile Club of Sweden, resulted in a sweeping vic-tory for the Ford cars. This run was made over slippery mountainous roads. At times, the cars were half hidden by snow. During the night the tempera-

ture was twenty degrees below zero.

At Fernan Lake, Idaho, a Ford car went through the ice and was sub-merged in fifteen feet of water. It was finally raised after twelve days and found to be in good condition. After a new battery and carburetor bowl were installed it was driven away under its own power. Even the exterior finish showed no serious barm.

amples of the way the new Ford stands up under the added stress and strain of winter driving.

Through swirling sleet and drifting snow it has fought its way on missions of business and of urgent need. Lives have been saved by its ability to get through. Thousands of Ford owners have found that it is no longer necessary to lay up the car when winter sweeps down from the north.



The beautiful new Ford Town Sedan is richly finished and upholstered. You may purchase it on convenient, economical terms through the Authorized Ford Finance Plans of the Universal Credit Company

In the years when the Model A was brand new, cars needed to be tough! The ability to drive in bad weather was a very important thing to consider when buying a car. The title "When Winter Sweeps Down from the North" just emphasizes the bad weather in the picture.

This ad illustrates how well the new Ford drives even in heavy snow. And it injects drama in the situation beyond just a snowstorm!

The black sky lets us know it night time, probably stormy. The man answering the door appears to be in a robe. The only light in the house besides at the front door is upstairs, most likely in a bedroom. The emblem on the radiator of a cross in a white circle and the big bag in the man at the door's hand is indicating to us that this is a doctor.

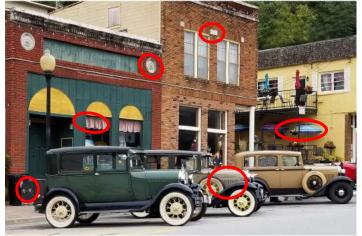
Got it—stormy night, medical emergency, and a Ford Model A to the rescue, letting the doctor make it to his suffering patient. A great drama, all wrapped up in one simple illustration.



THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS

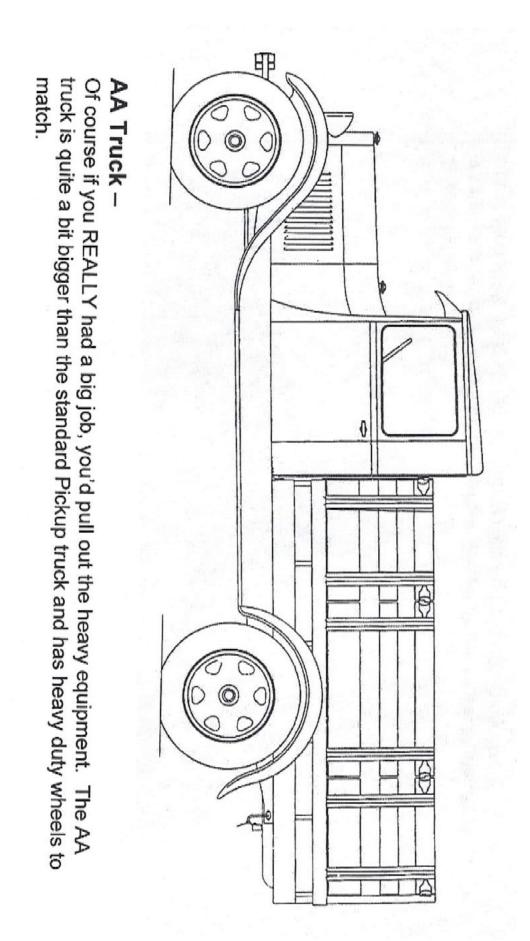
This ad was found in a 1936 edition of the Country Gentleman magazine

### Six different things: Did you find them all?



the country

This is a picture of a AA truck. You can color it any color you want! Have fun!



## **Rumble Seat**

Sherry Wink

And again, another year has rushed by! It just doesn't seem

possible! But, the Old Lady is now tucked securely away on her side of the garage, to dream of next spring, when it gets warm enough to take her out again. Although, she's in for a surprise! She'll be getting a wake-up call sooner then she expects, since she has a couple of mechanical issues I need to get addressed before our next tour! But it will just be from her garage, to the heated garage of a friend, who plans on rebuilding her transmission tower, so her gearshift is not swinging ALL over the cab when I'm trying to shift. Not her fault, when you get old, sometimes things just need a little fixing once in a while!

I was thrilled that all year long, I have been able to include so many pictures of all of you enjoying your Model As. Thank you SO MUCH for all the fun you have shared with me. I am always amazed at all the different ways to have fun in a Model A, and with this issue, also of the work being done on saving and passing on this wonderful old vehicles. Don't forget to keep sharing more of these great pics next years!

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you!





#### **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 was in the eggnog Mom Sitzman made?
  - A) Eggs B) Sugar C) Milk D) All of these
- 2) What did the Sitzman burn on New Year's Eve?
  - A) Fire wood B) The old Christmas Tree C) Coal
- 3) What is the name of Kat and Turner's Model A?
  - A) Rusty B) Mator C) Henry D) Ethel
- 4) What is one of Jack's favorite Model A hobbies?
  - A) Restoration B) Touring C) Hubleys
- 5) What model A is in front of the "Six Different Things" picture?
  - A) Tudor B) Fordor C) Roadster
- 6) Matthew won what MAFCA award in 2018?
  - A) Newsletter B) Award of Excellence
  - C) Youth Restoration Award D) None
- 7) Connor is restoring what year Leatherback?
  - A) 1928 B) 1929 C) 1930 D) 1931
- 8) Which toy on page 8 needs a battery?
  - A) Motorcycle B) Fire Truck C) Gas Pump
- 9) What year Olympic was the first to allow women to compete in athletics?
  - A) 1931 B) 1928 C) 1930
- 10) What unwrapped toy was the Postman delivering using the 1931 Model A?
  - A) Toy Car B) Doll C) Sled