

#### **PUTTING UP PRESERVES**

#### BY SHERRY WINK

Each year, Dad Sitzman planted a huge garden. The whole family worked hard each summer keeping it watered, weeded, and eventually harvesting the wonderful vegetables and fruit that was the end result of all that work! Their table was always full of fresh food grown with their own hands. Summer saw fresh sweet corn right off the stalks, and bright red tomatoes fresh almost every day.

Strawberries were a spring treat, as was the asparagus that was nothing but a happy memory this late in the fall. The garden also held green beans, spring peas, okra that Mom



Sitzman fried up in cornmeal, carrots, onions, radishes (Dad Sitzman's favorite!) and a nice variety of beans that would be dried and served up in stews this winter. Don't forget the cucumbers that were now

pickling in vinegar and spices. Mom Sitzman made the sweet pickles up by the gallon jar and once opened, they didn't last long!

The summer garden was pretty much done for, but the fall harvest was just going strong. The pumpkins were turning orange, and the butternut and acorn squash were perfect for harvesting. Once these were picked, they would last for months and were a welcome addition to the cold winter days. The watermelon was gone, they didn't last long around the large Sitzman family! But Mom Sitzman had

gathered up the rinds and made pickled and gingered watermelon rinds, a nice treat to look forward to this winter also!

Now all summer long, Mom Sitzman and Gramma Sitzman had been "putting up" the surplus garden items.

They canned tomatoes and tomato juice, green beans, and a little bit of sweet corn too. Larry always wondered why they called it "canning" when it was actually using glass jars, but never did find out.



Each fruit or vegetable would be cooked up, put into clean glass jars, and then heated in boiling water so the lids would seal tight in a vacuum once they cooled. Food sealed like this could last for years, but it never made past the first winter in this household!

Now canning was a big task, and because of the volume being processed, was just too much to do on the normal kitchen stove. Instead, Dad Sitzman had built a large fire pit with a grill across it to heat the water and jars. When Mom Sitzman and Grandma Roberts got going, they



would have several large washtubs on the fire full of jars bathing in the hot water.

Mom Sitzman and Grandma Roberts weren't doing all the work, there was plenty for the whole family to do!

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First, all the glass jars had to be washed and scalded before they could be used. The lids too. And there were hundreds of them! The girls and younger boys formed a production line, washing, and drying and setting them out on a big table. The older boys, Larry and Richard and Robert were responsible for keeping the fire going. They kept pretty busy driving the Model A pickup back and forth to the back of the barn where the firewood was stacked. And every so often Grandma Roberts would decide they still didn't have enough jars and would send them over for a truckload from her barn.

Now it was late in fall, and the vegetables were canned and in the root cellar where they stayed cool all year round. The shelves were groaning with the weight. But the work was not done, not quite yet.

The first frost had hit, so Dad Sitzman picked the tomatoes left on the vine that were still green. But they didn't get wasted. Grandma always made up a large batch of piccalilli.

Similar to pickle relish, it had chopped up green tomatoes, onions, vinegar, red peppers, and a lot of other spices. It made a great addition to sandwiches! It was the only thing Grandma Roberts canned in small pint jars because a little went a long way! Pretty powerful stuff!



The apples were in season now, and they took quite a bit of work too, peeling and coring and slicing. But it was all worth it to know that later in the year, there would be wonderful apple pies being made from these jars! And don't forget the homemade apple butter cooked up on the stove!

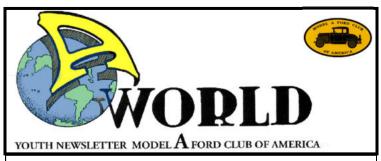
Quite a few other fruits ended up in jars too over the course of the season. Grape juice, peaches, and pears, all into the jars! Wild plums ended up as jelly, Dad Sitzman's favorite. Of course, there would always be some peach and apple jam too, everyone in the family loved homemade bread smeared with fresh butter and those jars of jelly and jam!

As the jars filled, of course, a certain amount was set to one side to send over to Grandma Roberts' house. Larry and the twins were responsible for loading up the Model A and getting all those jars to Grandma's root cave in one piece! And of course, with all this bounty, Mom and Dad Sitzman always knew someone in need to share with.

So every day or so, they loaded up little baskets of jars, threw in some fresh squash, or a few apples, and Larry got to spend a few hours driving his Model A around the area delivering these gifts. Not that he minded! Because at each place he went, it wasn't enough to just drop them off. No, each little old lady insisted he sit down for a few cookies and some milk, and each older bachelor insisted he sit a spell and spin a few tales of the old days.

Finally, all the goodies that could be canned were finished and stored away for the winter. The last fire was put out, and the garden was ready to plow under for spring. That last weekend was always the Sitzman kid's favorite part of gardening season. See, Grandma Roberts always spent that day making fresh bread. When all the work was done, they would open a jar of each of the different jellies and jams, and apple butter, so everyone could taste test all their hard work.

The bread was sliced, still steaming slightly, and just as the plate started being passed around, the Model A came roaring into the drive, and Larry jumped out barely before it came to a stop! He had been delivering the last of the gift basket, and had really been fretting that he was going to miss out! No fear of that, Grandma Roberts had set aside a whole loaf of bread just for him, so he set on the tailgate of his pickup and proceeded to eat the whole thing, barely stopping to take a breath!



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# KIDS AND THEIR "A"S!



Bree Fellows lives in Ohio. She is 15 1/2 and is the 4th generation to drive the family's 1931 coupe.



The granddaughter of Harold Fienberg enjoys helping her grandfather show his 1930 Roadster and going to car shows with her dad. He says she is always disappointed if she doesn't help bring home a trophy!!



Lyla Olson is 10 years old, and lives in Darlington, Wisconsin . You can tell she is ready to start learning how to drive this A!

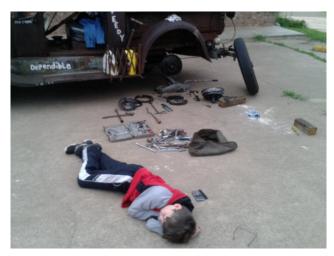


Mila Steinhauser is 18 months and Lillian Steinhauser is age 10. This car belonged to their great-grandfather, who was only the second owner. Mila and Lillian live in Galena, Ohio.



Ethan Hebert lives in Texas and has been helping his dad work on their Model A since here was born!

# **MORE KIDS AND THEIR CARS!**



Flashback! Bobby Willis was 12 at the time of this picture. They were on the way to the 2014 Texas Tour and the wheel came off just two miles out. Grandpa went to get another hub while Dad took it apart and Bobby took a nap!.





Grace Woodley is 9 and she lives in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. These pictures are from the Millville 4th of July Parade. It was a purposely last minute effort by the Millville Fire Co. to minimize the crowds due to COVID-19. Grace said it just didn't feel right not to be throwing candy for the kids.



Flashback! Connor Ogle, was age 3 at the time of this picture. He lives in Pennsylvania. He loves his Grandfather's car. His Grandfather says he always needs a ride soon after he visits.

This car is a 1928 but not a Model A, it's an Overland Whippet. But perhaps the girls are thinking of the Model A too! Both girls live in Chile, South America.





Robert Dagsen loaned his car for a friend's daughter's wedding in West Warren Utah. I don't have the names of all the kids, but they sure look like they are loving the Model rumble seat!!

Kade Friday is from Winnsboro, Texas. He is riding in the rumble seat of a 1928 Special Coupe belonging to James T. Brown of Mineola Texas.

# **ANOTHER PAGE OF MODEL A KIDS!**



Flashback! Richard Watson lives in West Berlin New Jersey. He was 23 months old when this was taken in 2012. He is ten now and still enjoys spending time with his grandfather and his Model A.







Craig Vermes shared these pictures: Andrew Chang is 11 years old and Julia Chang is 9 years old. They are from Ludlow Massachusetts. Both Andrew and Julia love their Uncle Craig's car, named "Fireball." They have helped work on it often. Their grandparents live in Taipei Taiwan, but have visited and attended some of the regional meets in the area.



Craig trying out one of those new powered screwdrivers. He reports: It takes 4 cookies an hour, but it works."



# **SIX THINGS ARE DIFFERENT!**

These Model A are hanging out in a historical district after a parade. But the top picture looks like it's missing a few things compared to the bottom one. Can you find the differences? *The answers are on page 10 but don't peek too soon!* 



# Toy Vehicles

As long as there have been powered vehicles, there have been kids who want to play with toys just like them! Here are a few fun toys you could have bought in the Model A years between 1928 and 1931.



Who wouldn't want to play with this fire truck! With a long ladder, a brass bell, a yellow water tank, and a pump action that shot a stream of water 30 feet!





Here are several version of a Tri-Motor plane. The propellers turned when it rolled along.



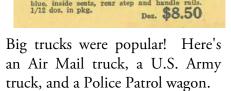
These vehicles would make any little farmer happy. The "Speed Wagon" had a drop tailgate and chain. The tractor and trailer had a steel geared spring with a speed control lever.

This little pull toy "roaring racer" made realistic noises when rolling across the floor.



This steam shovel and dump truck would help build quite the road in the sand box.







This setup included a dumb truck, hopper, conveyer and loader. A future road builder in training! Quite elaborate!

#### Model A Youth Restoration Award Recipient Ryan Spieker

By Bob Moore



Ryan Spieker developed his love for Model A's as he was growing up. "As long as I can remember, I have seen the various parts of Model A Fords

in and around my Grandpa's garage and shed.

My Grandpa has an ongoing interest and passion in continuing the Model A legacy and keeping the history alive by passing on his passion and knowledge to his children, and now grandchildren. I have had numerous opportunities to go for an afternoon ride with my grandparents, or attend Model A events/convention with my grandparents in their Model A."



Ryan is a recipient of the Model A Youth Restoration Award in 2020 and is working with his older brother Dillon and grandfather on restoring a 1931 Tudor sedan. He says, "I enjoy being part of this project because of the looks, smiles, and waves encountered when people see a piece of history rolling down the street."

When Ryan's father married into a Model A family, he learned that you always keep your eyes open for Model A's, whether driving down the street or parked somewhere, regardless of the condition. On their family trip last year, somewhere in the middle of Nebraska, they spotted a rusty old Model A sitting along the road. His grandfather later met them at the car and assured Ryan, Dillon, and his father that it was complete although very, very, rusty.

Ryan's grandfather is the Model A enthusiast. He has restored and repaired many Model A's and was anxious to work with his grandkids on restoring the "barn find" that they had found. They trailered the Model A to their grandfather's home in Colorado. Last summer, Ryan and Dillon spent time working with and learning about every aspect of the Model A from their grandfather.

Ryan writes, "We recognize that this is not going to be a quick project, which makes it difficult to set a target completion date." Their goal included going through the car this past summer to get it running and would like to have it drivable within one year.

The Model A Youth Restoration Award awarded Ryan \$2,500 in gift certificates from Model A parts and services vendors. Also, Grundy Insurance will provide one year of insurance on the Model A when the project is complete, and registered in Ryan's name. Good luck Ryan. We will be looking for a progress report.





# New Contest!! Win one of the New Paper A's!

knew it was time!



So, what do you have to do to enter? It's easy!

Send me a picture of you with a Model A

Have you seen the new paper cars for sale in the Restorer

or on the website? They look like so much fun! And guess what! I have THREE of them to give away! It is A-Worlds first contest in years, but when I saw these, I

> Include a short story about something you've done with a Model A's. It can be handwritten or printed out, and it's ok to have an adult write it down for you, just as long as it's your story!

The winners will be chosen by a random drawing of all entries, so everyone has an equal chance. And the story and your picture will be printed in the next A-World! Remember, any kid, anywhere, can enter. I'll even mail them internationally!

The contest is limited to kids school age and younger please. Deadline for your entry is November 1st.

You can send your entry to me at-

email: AWorldEditor@hotmail.com,

or mail them to me at:

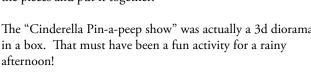
Sherry Winkinhofer PO Box 172 Table Rock NE 68447.

### Paper Toys

Paper toys were not unusual in the years of the Model A. Often they were printed in magazines for kids to cut out and enjoy. Paper dolls were very popular, such as the Dolly Dingles family below that was printed in the Pictorial Magazines.

Other toys like the "Jolly Jugglers" or this merry-go-round were made to paste onto cardboard. You would then cut out the pieces and put it together.

The "Cinderella Pin-a-peep show" was actually a 3d diorama in a box. That must have been a fun activity for a rainy







### Spark Plugs

A spark plug may be a small part, but they are really an important key in making a motor run! What do they do? The spark plug converts electrical energy from the battery into a spark. And they do this in a specific sequence, hundreds of times per minute. The faster you are going, the faster the sparks need to happen. The Model A controls the timing of these sparks with the spark advance adjustment lever, on the left side of the steering column.

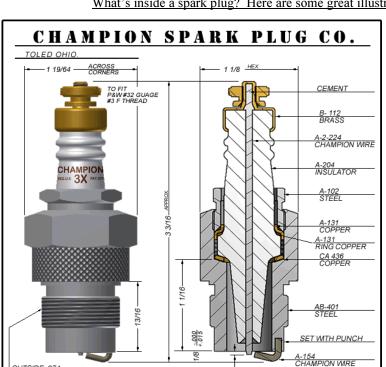
If a plug fouls up (get too dirty to work) you can hear it by how rough your engine will sound. Sometimes it is just a matter of removing the plugs and cleaning them. But if they are too worn, they will need to be replaced. Worn you say? How does that happen to a non-moving part?

The spark happens because of the space between the two wires at the bottom of the plug. This is called the "gap" and it has to be a very specific space. If too small, the spark isn't strong enough. Too big, and the spark may not happen. This constant sparking eventually wears the metal down so the space is getting wider over time. It needs to be adjusted every so often. This is called "gapping the plug" and you use a special tool called a thickness gauge which has metal pieces of each thickness you might need.



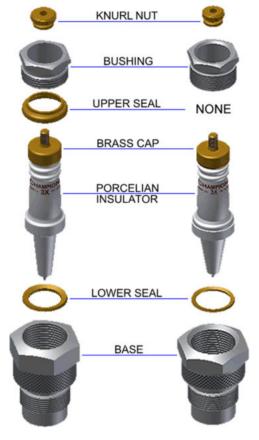
There are 4 main steps that take place inside your engine to make it run and the spark plugs are an important part:

- Step 1) A mixture of gas and air is sucked into the combustion chamber by the piston moving down inside the cylinder.
- Step 2) The gas & air mixture is squeezed in the combustion chamber by the piston moving up inside the cylinder.
- Step 3) The gas & air mixture is ignited by the **spark plug**. this causes an explosion inside the combustion chamber. The force of the explosion pushes the piston back down inside the cylinder.
- **Step 4)** The spent gasses that result from the explosion are then forced out of the combustion chamber by the piston.



OUTSIDE DIA

What's inside a spark plug? Here are some great illustrations from a site called ModelABasics.com.



NO.

# **Ford Advertising**



The substantial worth of the new Ford is reflected in its alert, capable performance and economy of operation and up-keep. Men and women everywhere have found it ideally suited to their business and social needs. Its many uses make it truly The Universal

An interesting use of the Ford is by police departments for the detection and apprehension of criminals. In their ceaseless vigil, these ears are driven in all kinds of weather, virtually twenty-

A ficet of 42 Model A Fords in Low ville covered a total of 2,620,800 mi Ford

in twelve months, or the equivalent of 105 times around the world. Five new Fords on police duty in Niagara Falls have been driven more than 100,000 miles each. In Miami a police Ford has some 120,000 miles

in Omaha is 35,000 miles per ear for two years of police service. The superintendent of automotive equipment says the cost of repairs has been "very low."

the cost of repairs has been "very low." The police departments of New York. San Francisco and other large cities use hundreds of Ford cars and trucks. In New York, the total exceeds four hundred and fifty.

Large industrial companies operating large fleets of Ford ears and trucks report the same reliability and good service. Long, hard usage emphasizes the value of simplicity of design, high quality of materials and unusual care in manufacturing and assembling.

and you can purchase it on convenient, conomical terms through the Authorized Ford Finance Plans of the Universal Credit Company. The Model A was welcomed by law enforcement nationwide. Ford took advantage of that by promotions like this advertisement.

In the text, it talks about 42 Model A's in Louisville, 5 new Fords in Niagara Falls, 18 in Omaha. In New York, over 450 Model A's were in service by 1931. And it pointed out that large cities used hundreds of the new Ford.

Apparently these new Fords were also amazing for the mileage put on them by the police. The 42 Model A's in Louisville was said to have driving a total of 2,620,900 miles in one year, the equivalent of 105 times around the world! And Miami reported over 120,000 on one car.

So it wasn't just the general public that fell in love with the "New Ford", but businesses and law enforcement as well!

You can see by the illustration that this roadster is being driven in a large city, but these new cars were very popular in the country too due to their reliability.

## The New Fleet of the Missouri State Highway Patrol

In 1931, the Missouri State Highway Patrol was brand new, and their patrol fleet consisted of 36 new Ford Model A roadsters, a Plymouth sedan, an Oldsmobile, a Ford sedan, a Buick, and three Chevrolets. As you can

see, Ford definitely had top spot in the market! officers driving the roadsters were instructed to drive with the top down except in the worst weather so people could see their uniforms. Back then, they wanted the police to be as visible as possible! Also included in the Missouri fleet were 12 Harley Davidson, three Indian, and two Henderson motorcycles. Imagine a cop on an Indian motorcycle!

The new Model A roadsters cost the Missouri patrol \$413.18 each. The top picture is the first of the new cars lined up at the dealership ready to be delivered. The cars were equipped with twin Klaxon horns (apparently not ahooga horns) but no sirens yet! They also had a spotlight, a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and an electric "PATROL" sign behind the right side of the windshield. Eventually they added a State Patrol decal

A retired trooper reminisced: "35 mph was the average for patrolling. Our cars had no sirens and no red lights, but we did have a lighted sign on the dash, which spelled out "Patrol" when we wanted to stop somebody. And, we used hand signals. "





# MODEL A WORD SEARCH

X S M D G A C Z Z G 0 T K E U K B K D K D 0 H S R 0 K Н T L C S Z S 1 T 0 R T E D X В T E 0 0 D 0 A Н T E Z Е L M K U D D D K K Ε D K S 0 R U C S 0 E

Find the following words in the puzzle. Words are hidden  $\rightarrow \Psi$  and  $\searrow$  .

CABRIOLET COUPE FORDOR HUCKSTER PHAETON PICKUP ROADSTER TOWNCAR

TUDOR VICTORIA

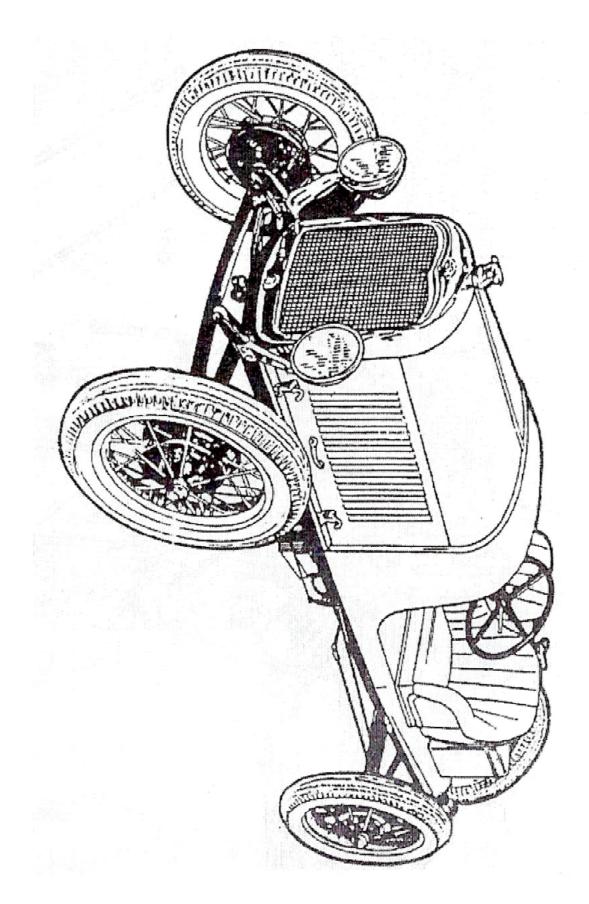
Answer key on page 12!



Answers to Six Different Things



Model A's didn't come from the factory as Speedsters, but they were often used to custom build into these racing cars. What color do you think it should be?



### **Rumble Seat**

Sherry Wink

So, how has your Model A summer been? Mine has not included as many Model A drives as I would like, darn virus! But our club has managed to have a few socially distanced tours and events, and The Old Lady and I have made a few drives on our own, so she's not getting too cranky!

As you can see from the below picture, my granddaughter is of an age where it is time to start taking her on my drives. That's something I know we will both enjoy! Hope you have a lot of fun Model A experiences for the rest of the summer!

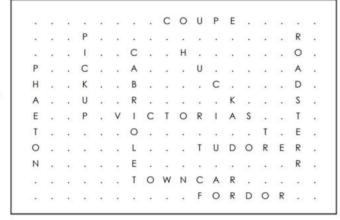




My granddaughter Rosie is ready to take The Old Lady for a spin any time Gramdma lets go of the keys!

#### SOLUTION

### MODEL A WORD SEARCH





## **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 is Dad Sitzman's favorite vegetable?
  - A) Tomatoes B) Radishes C) Carrots
- 2) What was the only thing the Sitzman's canned by the gallon?
  - A) Tomatoes B) Peaches C) Sweet Pickles.
- 3) Who is the 4th generation driver of their families 1931 A?
  - A) Bree B) Ethan C) Connor
- 4) Who got to ride in the 4th of July Fireman's Parade?
  - A) Rosie B) Bobby C) Grace
- 5) Whose Grandfather is from Taiwan?
  - A) Andrew B) Julia C) Both!
- 6) Which toy vehicle had a brass bell?
  - A) Airplane B) Army Truck C) Fire Truck
- 7) What Model A is Ryan restoring?
  - A) 1931 Tudor
  - B) 1928 Fordor
  - C) 1929 Roadster
- 8) What new item can you win in a contest?
  - A) Paper Dolls B) Paper A C) Model Car
- 9) Spark plugs never wear—
  - A) True B) False
- 10) How may Model A Roadsters did the New Missouri State Patrol buy?
  - A) 25 B) 36 C) 40