

# **HALLOWEENING**

BY SHERRY WINK

The Sitzman family always looked forward to Halloween! It was something everyone enjoyed, even Grandma Roberts! She always told stories of the tricks her brothers had played, but she never admitted to having helped! Of course her brother Uncle Orin soon set the story straight when he came to down to visit.

Seems like Grandma was pretty ornery as a kid! Of course that didn't surprise anyone who really knew her, not even her grandkids. They knew she liked a good joke as well as anybody.

One year she had been painting the chicken coop and got some of the red paint on her thumb. Instead of just washing it off, she wrapped the towel around the base and hollered for Larry to call the Doctor. When he saw that supposedly bleeding thumb, he turned white! By the time Grandma caught up with him to tell him it was just a joke, he was half way to the barn to get the Model A!

Larry didn't think it was funny at the time, but the rest of the kids were rolling on the ground! Grandma did apologize for scaring him and gave him a really big piece of apple pie for supper that night, so he forgave her really quick. After all, he liked a good joke too, he just preferred it not be on him!

For Halloween this year, the town was having a big party. The adults got to dress up too, and everyone had been planning their costumes for weeks. Out in the country, you had to be creative and make your own costume, you couldn't just buy one at a store!

Mom and Dad Sitzman dressed up as gypsies. Dad borrowed Aunt Rosalie's' fiddle to really look the part. Mom found a big pair of hoop earrings and wore the piano scarf for a shawl. She looked really good!

Sharla, the oldest girl decided to go as a monster. She took egg white and green food coloring mixed together and put it all over her face. When it dried, it cracked and creased and looked really scary. She teased her hair until it stood straight up. Then Sandy told her she always looked that scary, and Mom had to separate them for a while.

Larry wanted to go as a ghost, but Mom Sitzman wouldn't let him cut eyes holes in any of her good sheets. She found him an old piece of one he could use, but he had gotten so tall it was way too short! So he went as a hobo instead.

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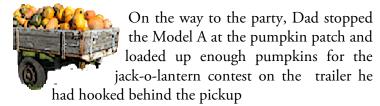
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Richard and Robert had Mom Sitzman sew two pairs of Dad's old overalls together and also two of his shirts. They went as a two headed man. Since they were identical twins, it was a really startling look!

The rest of the kids had similar fun costumes, with the littlest ones being fairies, princesses, pirates, lumberjacks and cowboys

Grandma said she was going as herself and the little boys agreed that was scary enough! She chased them out of the kitchen with a wooden spoon, laughing all the time. They grabbed some Halloween cookies on the way past the table, and out the door they went!

As evening set in, Dad pulled the pickup up to the house and loaded up jars of cider, and baskets of good smelling stuff. Everyone was so excited, they could hardly wait but soon it was time to go.



Grandma had apples in her car to use for the apple bobbing. She also had made a lot of candied apples on a stick that she had taken to town earlier. The kids were really looking forward to those, and the popcorn balls and other treats they knew would be part of the party!



Everyone in town and from all around the area were there at the big party. There was a live band playing, and while the kids played all the games, the grownups danced. And everyone ate candy, and apples, and all the other treats, and drank cold apple cider when they got hot.

Once the games were over, the judging for the costumes took place. Only Sharla won a prizes, as there were lots of other inventive costumes too. But no one else cared, as they were all full of treats, and had handfuls of toys they won at the fishing game.

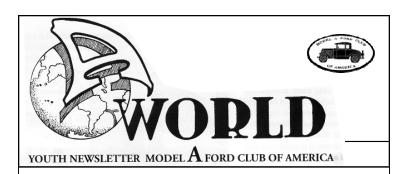
For the little kids and Mom and Dad, the night was over, and they headed home with Grandma dropping them off. But for Larry and the Twins, it was time to head off with their friends to get up to a little Halloween mischief. Now this was never really mean stuff, like turning over outhouses, or even moving them 3 or 4 foot backwards

(So when you went to use it in the night, you fell in the pit, yuck!!). No, the boys knew that Dad Sitzman wouldn't let them get away with that kind of stuff, and even if he had, Grandma Roberts wouldn't have!

So instead, they did fun, if annoying, pranks like knocking on doors and running, and moving things in peoples yards around. Quite a few families woke up the next morning to find their jack-o-lanterns on top of the garage!



To end the evening, the boys would all go out to the cemetery, light candles, and tell each other ghost stories and share the treats they had loaded their pockets with! When they were all as scared as it was possible to be, they loaded up in the Model A and headed back home, where they would dream of next year's Halloween!



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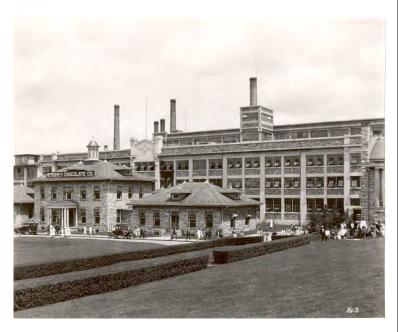
## **Chocolate Kisses and More!**



Did you know that kids growing up in the Model A days enjoyed Hershey's chocolate too? Of course back then, a very large bar only cost 5 cents! But that was a lot of money in those days, so I'm sure getting a bar of this was a very special treat! And Hershey's kisses were around then too, but at that time they were each hand wrapped.

Hershey's chocolates were made by Milton Hershey. He was one of the first in the United States to figure out how to produce chocolate so it could be affordable to everyone. Before, only the Europeans had the secret of how to make good chocolate, so it was hard to get and very expensive.

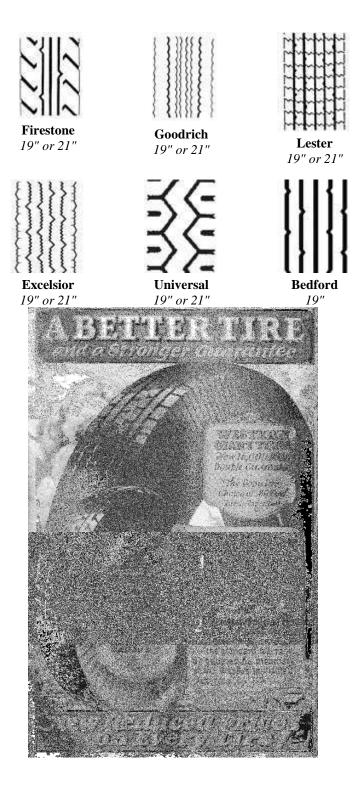
Mr. Hershey was so dedicated to making chocolate that he built a whole town for the workers in the new factory he built to make his new chocolate. By the Model A years, he had the largest chocolate factory in the world. His town was very successful, and included an amusement park, swimming pool and golf courses. This town is still around today, known, of course, as Hershey, Pennsylvania.



# **Auto Safety**

It's always good idea to check the tread on your tires. Some people say stick a penny in the tread and if you can see the top of Lincoln's head, it's time get new tires!

Did you know the tread can be very different on tires depending on their brand? Everyone has their own idea of which tread pattern works best, but any pattern is better than a tire with no tread!



# **Hubley Racing**



Hubley cars are 1/24 scale die cast metal models cars. They were made by Hubley company, and later by the Gilbert and Scale Models companies. Today, many regional and national conventions have a Hubley Derby event.



This is a gravity race with two or three cars racing in side by side lanes down an elevated 40 foot long t r a c k . Each race eliminates the slowest vehicle, and then the remaining vehicles race again until all but one remains.

The maximum weight for a car is 1 lb 5 oz and weight can be added to lighter cars to bring them up to this maximum weight (the Station Wagon is the heaviest). The tracks typically have an electronic timing system and then a catch area at the bottom to slow the cars. Races are grouped by age and the adults are as competitive as the kids.

There are rules and tips on the MAFCA website.

A Hubley Model A car is a great project for a father-kid project. Hubley kits are often available on eBay and occasionally at swap meets. I have even found some in antique stores.

The Hubley brand kits tend to go for the most money while the newer Scale Models versions are usually the cheapest. If purchasing a kit that has been opened, make sure all of the parts and instructions are there.

The kits are a combination of metal and plastic held together by screws. The frame, body shell, engine, and driveline are metal. The seats, wheels and tops are plastic. The metal is die cast, meaning they



poured pot metal into a die for each of the metal pieces. There is a LOT of flashing (molding seams) to be removed before assembly can commence. The kits contained a file but a Dremel tool works much easier. Use the dremel only with an adult's assistance of course.

It is very important to make sure the inside surface of the wheel hubs are very smooth. They have to able to turn freely against the brake drums. The outside of the brake drums also need sanded really smooth. If you don't the wheels won't turn as fast. It will be like your brakes are dragging! Dry lubricants like powdered graphite help a lot in making the two parts turn smoothly.

When assembling the front end, there is a change from the instructions if you plan on racing the car. Insert the screws which hold the tie rod on from the bottom instead of from the top. This lets the front



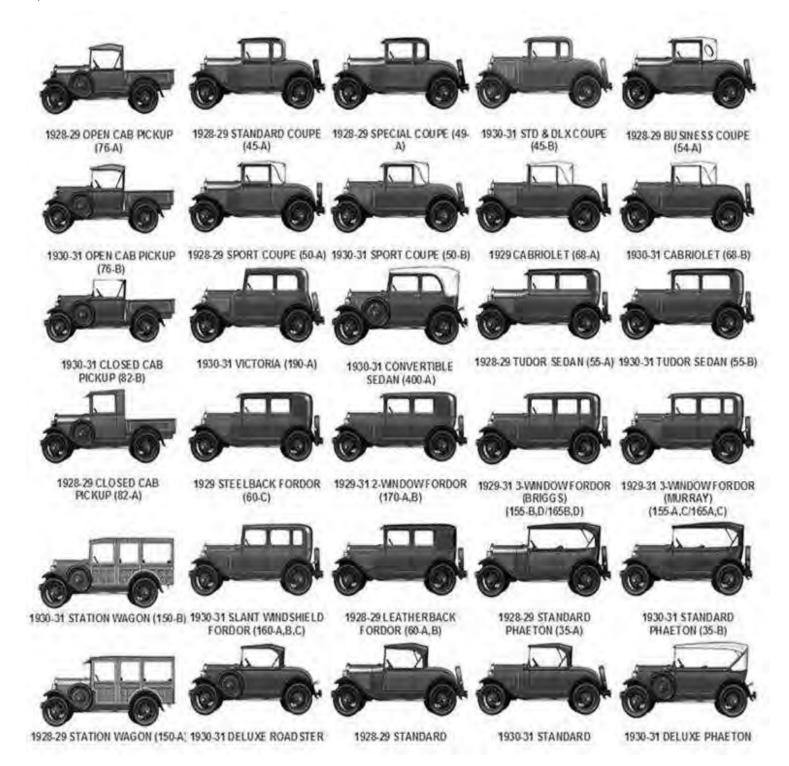
wheels be adjusted and locked in a straight ahead position without having to remove the body. This is up to each racer, some think they will go faster this way, but other racers believe that the cars run faster by having the wheels move with the track. That's something you'll have to decide for yourself!

Have fun, and lets go racing!

## **Model A Models**

I'm sure you can all identify a Model A. The gas cap by the radiator is a dead giveaway! But what about the rest of it? Did you know that the "A" came in a LOT of different body styles too? Check out all the different versions in this chart below. Some are just variations between the years, but there are still a lot of different styles. And of course, this doesn't include all the custom styles like hucksters and commercial vehicles!

Next time you go to a meet or anywhere there are a lot of Model A's see how many different ones you can identify! Or even make a copy of this page, and start marking them off. I would love to hear from anybody that manages to see at least one of each of the styles listed below!



# SIX THINGS ARE DIFFERENT!

This 1929 era gas station looks great with all those Model A's in front of it. But the bottom picture has lost a few of the details! Can you find them without looking at the hints?

The answers are on page 8, but don't peek too soon!





# **Grandma's Games**

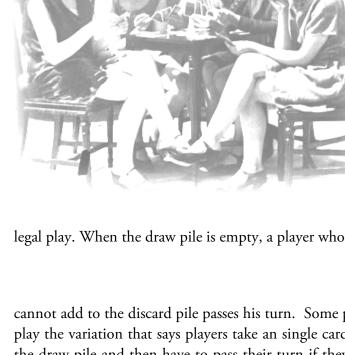
Crazy Eights is a simple game that your grandparents probably played when they were a kid. It's a distant relative of gin rummy but much easier to learn! The object of the game is to be the first to eliminate all of your cards. Everyone plays independently, no matter how many players are playing. It uses a standard deck of cards so you can play it anywhere.

Choose a dealer. They deal each player the same number of cards. In a two-player game, each player is dealt seven cards. In a game with three or four players, each player is dealt five cards.

The remaining cards are placed face down in the center of the table, forming a draw pile. The top card of the draw pile is turned face up to start the discard pile.

The player to the dealer's left goes first. The goal is to match the top card on the discard pile by matching either the suit (clubs, spades, diamonds, or hearts) or rank (2s, jacks, etc).

A player who cannot match the top card on the discard pile must draw cards until they can play one. They are allowed to pull cards from the draw pile even if they already have a



cannot add to the discard pile passes his turn. Some people play the variation that says players take an single card from the draw pile and then have to pass their turn if they can't play.

However, if a player has an 8, he can play it anytime. All eights are wild and can be played on any card during a player's turn. When a player discards an eight, he chooses which suit is now in play. The next player must play either a card of that suit or another eight.

The first player to discard all of his cards wins!

With four players, it is possible to play teams. If you do this, the game ends when both members of a team get rid of all their cards.

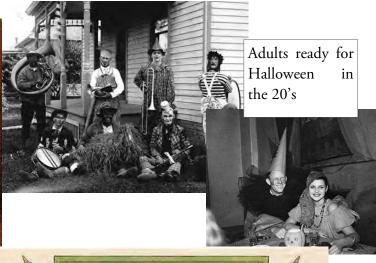
To play multiple rounds, add up the cards remaining in the losers' hands and give the points to the winner: 10 points for each face card, 1 point for each ace, 50 points for each eight, and the face value for the other number cards. Play to a set number, such as 150 or 200

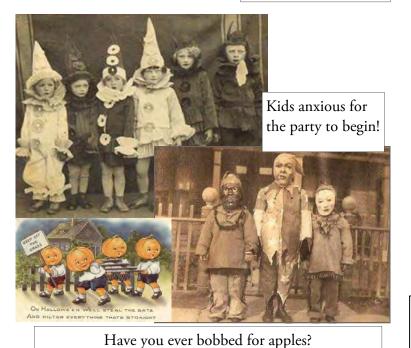


# Halloween Model A Era Style

In the 1920's and 30's, Halloween parties were very popular! Trick or treating didn't start until the 40's! Instead, towns and families would have dances and parties. People decorated for Halloween as much or more than we do today. Adults had just as much fun as the kids, and their parties often lasted all night! In the cities, parties were glamorous but in the country, people were creative with their costumes and still had just as much fun!





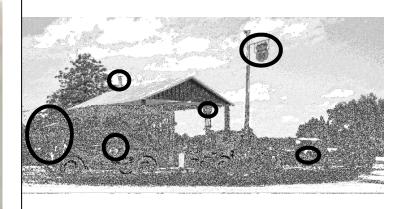




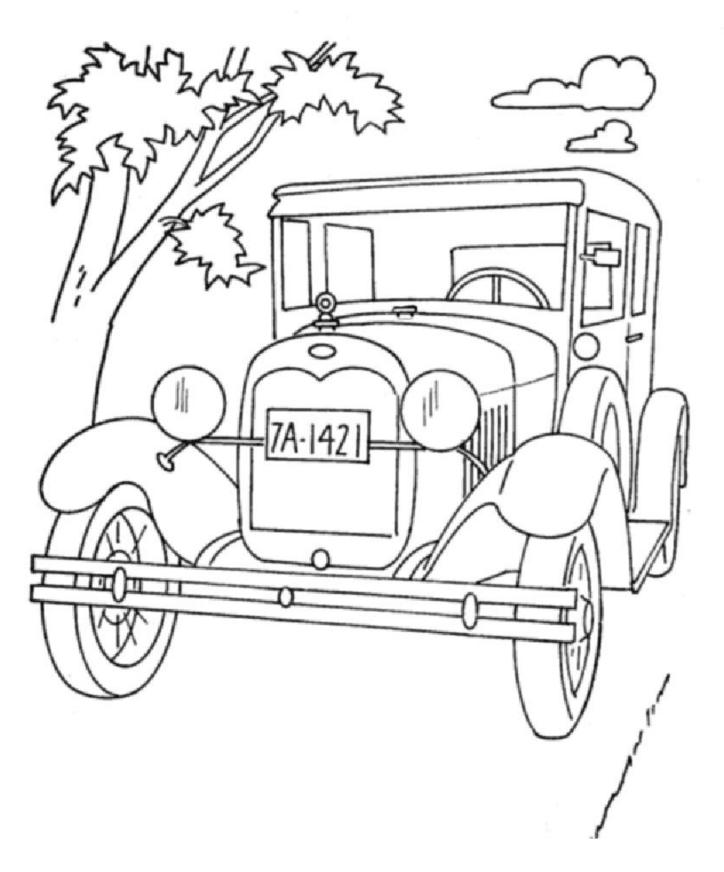
I bet your grandpa has!

Six different things:

Did you find them all?

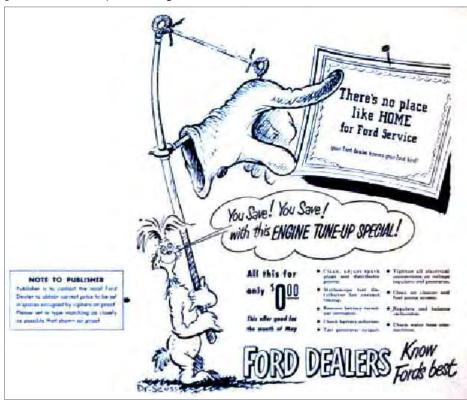


# **Coloring Time!**



## **Ford Facts**

I'm sure you are have read or been read Dr. Seuss books! The Cat in a Hat, Horton Hears a Who, just to name a few. But before Theodore Seuss Geisel, who we all know as Dr. Seuss, became famous for his children's books, he drew illustrations for magazines. He also became very well known for his drawings for advertisements. Flit Bug Spray was one of his best known (right), but in the 1940's Dr. Seuss also illustrated ads for Ford (below, and bottom left). I'm sure you can recognize his distinctive characters! He also did some animated cartoon ads for Ford parts on Saturday Mornings. (bottom middle)

















#### **Rumble Seat**

Sherry wink

Where did the summer go? I don't know about you, but it just seemed to fly for me!

Did you get your cars out a lot this summer? Here in Missouri it was very, very hot, but I still managed to drive the Old Lady to quite a few events. Most times I had my "pit crew" of two nephews with me, but a few times some brothers and sisters, or other nephews and nieces went too! I have a large family, and it always makes it more fun when some of them join me on my adventures in the old car.

And some of these trips have been adventures! As I learn all the ins and outs of driving a Model A, I find I have more to learn all the time. But I'm also getting more comfortable with her too. And together this summer we have explored over two states and multiple small towns. I've driven downtown in the big city of Kansas City, and hit the back roads in the country. We've spent time at the local Sonic eating ice cream (a favorite of my pit crew), and proudly showed off at the City Market Art of the Car Show. The Old Lady was proud to be a part of a show at the Shawnee Town 1920's museum and has patiently waited for me during a lot of the restaurants our club's tours usually end up at!

I haven't driven in any parades yet, but the parade season is here, so by the time you read this, I have plans to have driven in several. I hope there aren't too many hills to have to start on, since I'm still working on that!



Is there anyone who would like to start receiving the A-World by email? If so, just let me know and send me your email address. One advantage to this is that you will receive it in color!



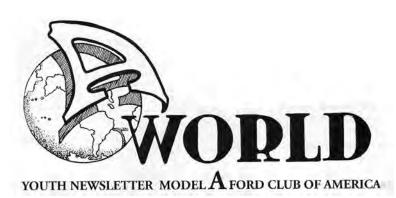
#### **Quiz Time**

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 holiday was the Sitzman family celebrating?
  - A) Halloween B) Christmas C) Easter
- What was Larry's first costume choice?A) Ghost B) Hobo C) Lumberjack
- 3) What state is the town of Hershey in?
  - A) Missouri B) Wisconsin C) Pennsylvania
- 4) Which coin do you use to measure tread?
  - A) Dime B) Penny C) Quarter
- 5) Hubley racers can weigh a maximum of:
  - A) 2 lbs B) 1 lb 2 oz C) 1 lb 5 oz.
- 6) Which card is wild in Crazy Eights?
  - A) Joker B) Eight C) Ace
- 7) What fruit do you bob for on Halloween?
  - A) Apples B) Oranges C) Pears D) any of these
- 8) What bug spray did Dr. Seuss used to advertise?
  - A) Swat B) Flit C) Flight
- 9) What decade did Dr. Seuss draw ads for Ford?
  - A) 1920's B) 1930's C) 1940's
- 10) What is your Editor still nervous about?
  - A) Stop signs B) City traffic C) Starting on hills

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





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