

# THE GREAT PUMPKIN ADVENTURE

# BY SHERRY WINK

It was October at the Sitzman home. And that meant Halloween was just around the corner. The whole family loved this holiday, including all the adults, and it was always a great time for everyone.

This year had something new added! Farmer Bob down the road had decided to try his hand at pumpkin farming this year. Now growing pumpkins is quite labor intensive and Farmer Bob was not a young man. So he recruited the Sitzman boys in to the project. He promised them all a percentage of the money he made from the project, and pumpkins for the whole family to boot! With an offer like that, how could they refuse?

So the work began. Larry and the twins were the best helpers, although the three little boys, Leonard, Sam, and Stanley tried their best. The field chosen had to be prepared early in the spring. Farmer Bob had set aside some manure piles to age the year before. All this manure had to be carted to the field and dug into the ground where the pumpkins were to be planted. Larry drove quite a few trips in the Model A pickup carrying that manure. And then each evening, he had to go back home and wash out the pickup bed so the bed wouldn't rot out.

Then all the soil had to be piled in hills where the seeds would go. The manure had to be over a foot deep in these mounds to more digging! Once those seeds were planted, the real work began! Pumpkins are very thirsty plants, and

there was no water at the field. So the Sitzman boys carried barrels and buckets back and forth from the creek in the Model A and hand-watered all those plants! It took about a week to get the whole field watered, and then it was time to do it again! But they persevered, and the pumpkins grew and grew!

There was also mulching and weeding to do, and the Sitzman boys and Farmer Bob kept that field looking great. And of course, they had to keep adding more manure to keep the pumpkins growing big!

Each boy had their favorite hill, and Farmer Bob gave them permission to pinch back vines and buds so those plants concentrated on just several really large pumpkins. The boys argued over whose pumpkin was going to be the biggest! Farmer Bob just watched and nodded, but didn't take sides. But he had his own favorite plant, way back at the back of the fields where it wasn't so obvious.

Finally, all their hard work was paying off. It was the middle of October and Farmer Bob announced that it was time to open the field to the public and start selling the pumpkins. Of course each of the boy's pumpkins were marked with a "Sold" sign until it was time for them to be harvested.



# PAGE TITLE

- 1. THE GREAT PUMPKIN ADVENTURE
- 3. KIDS & THEIR A'S
- 4. HANDS ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION
- 5. LIVING HISTORY DAYS
- 6. SIX DIFFERENT THINGS

# Page Title

- 7. CARBURETOR BASICS
- 8. Fun 1931 Facts
- 9. What's the Difference
- 10. Puzzles from 1930
- 12. MODEL A ADVERTISING

# PAGE TITLE

- 12. CAR-TOON
- 12. Puzzle Answer
- 13. COLORING PAGE
- 14. RUMBLE SEAT
- 14. Quiz

Each weekend, the field was opened to anyone that wanted a pumpkin and the Sitzman boys showed up to help. They walked the fields with the families and kids, and helped carry the chosen gourd back to the front to be measured and paid for. Sometimes they gave the little kids piggyback rides too!

Due to the hard work and love that had been given to this field, the harvest was a bumper crop. Everyone said these were the best and biggest pumpkins they had ever seen. The Sitzman boys almost busted with pride when they heard that and it made all the sweat and blisters of the summer worth it!

Finally it was the week of Halloween, just a few days to go, and it was time to harvest the special pumpkins. Each boy was anxious to see who won their own private contest, and toted their choices up the front of the field by the farm stand. To their surprise, their pumpkins were almost all the same size, differing by only less than an inch. But still, Larry's was the biggest by a tiny fraction, and he was ready to start the bragging when Farmer Bob said, "wait a minute, there's still one more to measure." Boy where they all surprised when Farmer Bob had to roll his pumpkin out from behind the table because it was too big to lift! Somehow they had missed seeing that giant pumpkin all summer as it quietly grew in the back corner. So that what why Farmer Bob had always insisted he'd take care of that far back corner!

When the tape measure was used, it was astonishing! That pumpkin was a full 14 inches bigger around then Larry's. The boys all just gaped in astonishment. But Farmer Bob just laughed and told them "You are all learning to be good farmers, but I've been doing this for over 50 years! You still have a little bit to learn! Come back next year, I'll teach you more!!" And the boys just laughed and agreed they were eager to do just that.

That afternoon, the rest of the Sitzman's came out and Farmer Bob let them pick out as many pumpkins as they could pile in the Model A. After all, thanks to the boy's help, there was more than he could possible sell, a true bumper crop! He even gave a lot of them free to the school and to the local children's home, and the senior citizen's home, and still had to leave some in the field.

But true to his word, he paid the boys with their percentage of the profit, and their eyes got kind of big at the amount they had earned. It was a lot more than they expected, and again, it made all that extra work that summer well worth it!

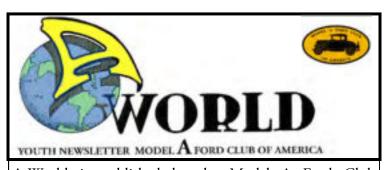
For Halloween, Farmer Bob got together with Dad Sitzman and had a big Halloween party right by the field. All the family and lots of friends were invited. There was a huge

bonfire for cooking. There were hotdogs and hot biscuits and potatoes baked in the coals, followed by marshmallows to roast. And lots of hot cider and hot cocoa to drink.

When it got dark, there was a hay ride towed by the Model A truck out among the pumpkin field, and the woods next to it. The little kids had a lot of fun on that, and were truly startled when they drove by the scarecrow in the pumpkin field and it suddenly jumped out at them! It turned out to be Larry all dressed up in the scarecrow's clothes.

After a few screams, they all started laughing and laughing as Larry's initial jump at them turned into him scrambling to get all those cloths off himself, having discovered he wasn't the only one sharing those clothes! As he was pulling them off, several field mice who had had their fall nest disrupted scampered off! Larry, to his

chagrin also discovered later that a few insects had been in that straw too! He had that scratchy evidence for quite a few days following Halloween. Dad Sitzman teased him for quite a while about his trick turning into a treat for



A-World is published by the Model A Ford Club of America for the benefit of youth and the promotion of the Model A hobby.



Editor: Sherry Winkinhofer AWorldEditor@hotmail.com © 2019 All Rights Reserved by

Model A Ford Club of America 250 South Cypress Street La Habra CA 90631-5515

A-World is free, courtesy of MAFCA. As of May 2016, it became a web or email only publication. If you wish to have it emailed directly, please send your email address to AWorldEditor@hotmail.com

# KIDS AND THEIR "A"S!



Chris Smith took his Grandkids and neighbor's kids riding in his two Model A's at the Petersham, Massachusetts Independence Day parade. Here's the ones in the back of the pickup!



Siblings Larissa Goings and Zach and Colby Hedden are my pit crew here in Table Rock Nebraska. These are pictures I took after they helped me detail The Old Lady to get her ready for Living History Day!



Harrison Lilienthal, shown here with his dad Kenny and Mom Aanna, is 20 months old. But he's already learning how the car works. For this parade, he learned how to reve the engine with the hand throttle! Never too young to start learning!



Clara, Lulu, and Sam Evans (Top), and Jack Evans (bottom right) recently went on their first Model A ride while visiting in Table Rock Nebraska. No special event, just a great Model A driving day!

# Hands on to the Next Generation

Submitted by Donald Hohman



In 1979, a 16 year old young man loved the look of the 1928 Model A Roadster pickup. He had shown his step dad the picture of what he liked in the "Henry's Lady" book.

One January day the family took a drive to Ohiopyle PA and entered a garage that had multiple antique cars but one grabbed his interest immediately, a 1928 Model A Roadster pickup. He crawled around it and under it on the polished floor. As he laid under it looking at the pumpkin, his step dad looked under the passenger running board and asked "Do you like it?" which was replied with "You know I do". "Well, I guess I'll have to pay him his ransom, happy birthday." That is how I came into the possession of my truck.

I've now had it 40 years and either when I pass or when I turn 66 and have had it 50 of its 100 years, it will be given to my now 16 year old neighbor boy Nick Waxler. He is my son's best friend and has always been a help to me here at the house. My 17 year old son Matthew Hohman now owns a 1929 Phaeton that I hope the two of us will restore together and the two of them will enjoy the A's for many years together.

The truck is one of three A's we had and the only one we did not have to restore. The Tudor and Sport coupe gave us hours of time together when I was a kid to spend with my father. "Cars are disposable items" my dad always said. You run them and use them to do tasks and accomplish things. What is not disposable are the memories built working on them and making them your own. This is where passing the interest onto the next generation becomes important. You are not passing on a car or truck, you are passing on a tool to create memories and bonds between people.

I was going to sell the truck as my sons were not really interested in it but when I told Nick, his face told me I had made a bad mistake. I asked if he liked it and he said yes so off the market it went. As Nick worked on it, Matt became interested. Together they have spent time working on getting it running again and on the road.

As Matt wants a family, the Phaeton we found for him to work on will be better suited for him as time goes on. It came home from Philadelphia Sept 22nd 2019.

Nick is a student at the Beaver County Vo-tech for mechanics and Matthew is looking to go to tech school to be a mechanic after he graduates in 2020. These A's will give them both insight into how the older cars operate and learn from them.

They have taken off the wheels, dismantled most of the simple parts of the engine and had it fire to life after many years in storage. It has provided them something constructive to do and a reason to hang out. They have researched the paint for each part and Nick has rebuilt his first carburetor and both have timed the engine and ripped apart the distributor. I have to say that explaining how to time the car was the most fun with the boys as the simplicity amazed them

# Living History Day

The Old Lady and I recently participated in Living History Day in Table Rock Nebraska. We spent the day talking to 300 fifth graders, telling them the story of Henry Ford, his production line, and Ford cars. As you can see from these pictures, The Old Lady was a hit!



# **SIX THINGS ARE DIFFERENT!**

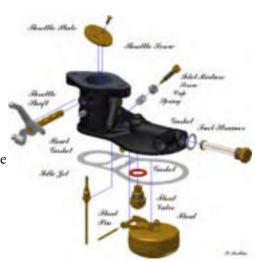
This Fordor is in the shop for a little work. But the top picture looks like it's missing a few things compared to the bottom one. Can you find the differences? *The answers are on page 10 but don't peek too soon!* 

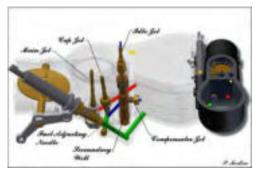


# Carburetor Basics

Did you ever wonder how a Model A carburetor works? Here's some wonderful illustrations and explanations found at ModelABasics.com.

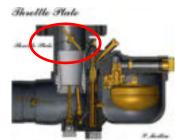
So, a carburetor's purpose is to mix liquid gasoline with air to turn it into a gas so it be exploded in the pistons. This is done by a suction being created by the pumping of the pistons. This causes fuel and air to be pulled into the carb, mixed together in the right amounts, and then moved on to the pistons. Each alternate downward stroke draws in a fresh charge of mixed fuel and air to be mixed and used.



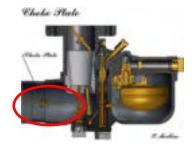


The amount of fuel pulled in is determined by the amount of suction and the use of "jets", tiny nozzles that react to the different levels of suction created under different levels of suction.

GREEN: Adjustable fuel supply for Cap Jet
BLUE: Predetermined fuel supply by Compensator Jet for Cap Jet and Idle Jet
RED: Direct fuel supply for Main Jet (Used for High Speeds)
YELLOW: Ambient air to fuel bowl



The throttle plate handles how much air flow is delivered to the engine. It is controlled by the "Throttle Lever" and "Accelerator" inside the cab of the Model A.



Pulling on the Carburetor Adjustment Knob, often called the GAV (Gas Air Valve) closes and opens the Choke Plate, where the air comes into the carb. Turning the GAV adjusts the amount of gasoline flowing through the "Cap Jet".





When the engine is started with the choke closed, a greater vacuum is formed, pulling in a larger amount of fuel.



Idling occurs when the "Throttle Plate" is partially open. A vacuum above the plate is created, drawing air through a small hole, which pulls the gas from the secondary well through the "Idle Jet".

# Fun 1931 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

The Empire State Building was completed in 1931. It opened on May 1st and became the tallest building in the world. It had 102-stories and is 1454 feet high to the tip of its antennae.

Its name is derived from the nickname of New York State, the "Empire State".



MERRIE MELODIES

The first Merrie Melodies was released. Merrie Melodies was an animated series of comedy short films produced by Warner Bros. A sister series to Looney Tunes, it later included cartoon characters

such as Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig and Elmer Fudd.

Jane Addams was the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (and only the second woman ever). She founded the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in 1919. In the USA, Jane Addams worked to help the poor and to stop the use of children as industrial laborers. She ran Hull House in Chicago, a center which helped immigrants in particular.

Al Capone was an American gangster who was a kingpin of crime in Chicago during the 1920's. When the government couldn't find enough evidence to charge him with those crimes, they arrested and convicted him of tax evasion in 1931.





Dick Tracy, the comic strip detective character created by cartoonist Chester Gould, makes his debut appearance in the Detroit Mirror newspaper.



Aviator Wiley
Post and
navigator Harold
Gatty completed
their recordbreaking aroundthe-world flight.

They took off from New York in their plane, the Winnie Mae, and made several stops as they traveled around the globe. They successfully completed their trip of over 15,000 miles returning to New York in just over 8 days, breaking the previous record of 21 days.

The "Star Spangled Banner" is officially adopted as the national anthem of the United States. The song had previously been used by the United States Navy in the late 1800's but it did not become the official national anthem until 1931. Prior the country did not



1931. Prior the country did not actually have an official national anthem.

The first electric guitar was invented by George Beauchamp.

It was nicknamed the "Frying Pan. because its shape resembles a frying pan: it has a flat, circular body, and the neck represents the "handle."

It was a lap steel guitar designed to cash in on the popularity of Hawaiian music.





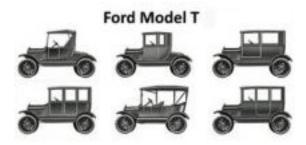
Babe Ruth hit his 600th home run on August 21st, 1931

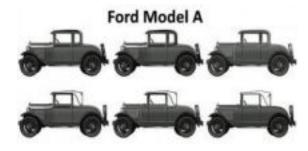


# WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE FORD MODEL T AND MODEL A?

I know, that's like a stupid question to us Model A'ers! But ever been out riding in your Model A and have someone think it was a Model T? They say something like "My grandpa had one in 1926" and you know they have the wrong Ford! Why is such a common mistake do you think?

Well, The Model T was the first affordable automobile available to middle-class America. It was made for almost 20 years (1908-1927). Almost 15 million of them were built during that time. Model A's were only built 4 years with around 5 million were built, still much fewer then the T's. So there were so many more of the T's around for so much longer. And there was some similarity between the body style of the later models of the T's compared with the new Model A's. But when you know what to look for, it's easy to tell the difference! Check out some of the differences below to point out next time someone ask you "what's the difference?"





# External Difference:

**Size**: The Model T was a much smaller car except for the height. The Model A is 24 inches longer on average and could be as much as 1000 pounds heavier than the Model T, so it looks more solid.

**Radiator Shell** – The Model T radiator shell opening is flat across the top, while the Model

A's has a double curve. Model T radiator's sides are parallel and straight but the Model A radiator sides are rounded and angle outward.



**Fuel Tank** – The Model T's gas tank is under the driver seat, and the Model A fuel tank is in the cowl, right at the dashboard. The Model A fuel filler cap is right there in in front of the windshield.

Wheels – Nearly all Model T Fords have wooden spoked wheels from the factory. The Model A used wire spoke wheels.

**Fenders**—The Model A has smoother, rounder front fenders while Model Ts had more of a "cut-out" look.

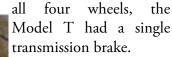
Headlights—The Model T headlights are painted; the Model A headlights are shiny metallic, usually nickel or stainless steel.

# Other Internal Differences:

**Ignition and Starting** – The Model T Ford had to be hand cranked to start. The Model A, while still having the ability to be hand cranked, had an electric starter and a conventional ignition.

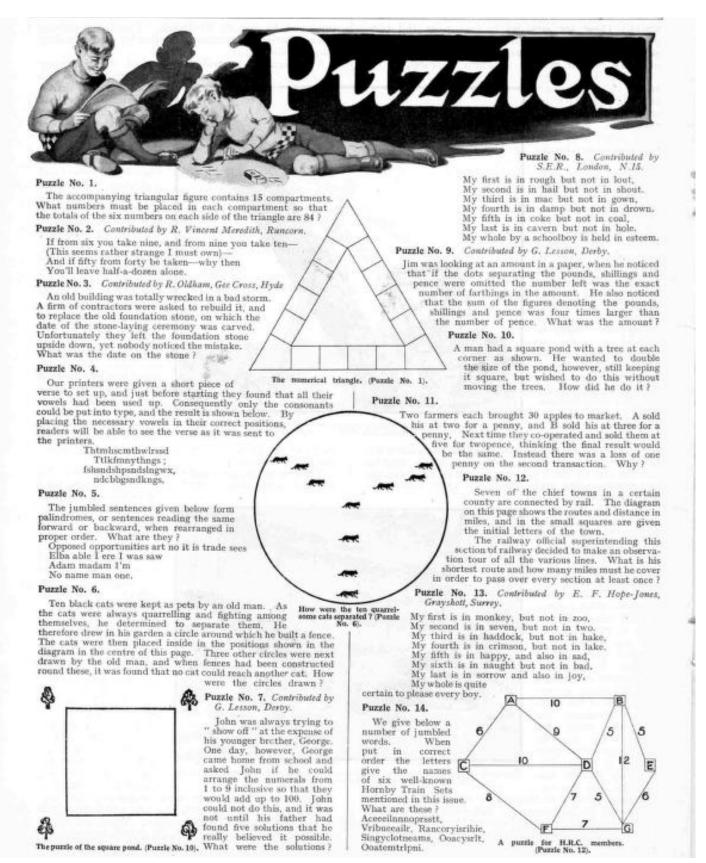
**Transmission** – This is a major difference in the two vehicles; the Model T had a two-speed planetary gear transmission operated by pedals. The Model A had a three speed transmission much like our modern manual transmission. Just looking inside the front of the two cars shows the difference plainly.

Brakes - The Model A has mechanical drum brakes on





What did kids do for fun in the Model A years? Here's one example. This page of puzzles is from a 1930 Meccano magazine. Meccano was a company that built toys similar to Erector sets. They had reusable metal strips, plates, angle girders, wheels, axles and gears that are connected using nuts and bolts. It enables the building of working models and mechanical devices. The magazine was full of ideas for those toys but also had lots of other fun things to use your mind for!



Puzzle No. 15. Contributed by E. Midgley, Worsley. Manchester.

My first is in pencil, but not in lead, My second is in blanket, but not in bed.

My third is in come, but not in go,

My fourth is in cotton, but not in sew. My fifth is in dome, but not in bell, My sexth is in peal, but not in knell.

My seventh's in run, but not in walk, My eighth is in speak, but not in talk. My ninth is in hot, but not in cold,

My tenth is in brave, but not in bold. My eleventh's in hen, but not in cock,

My twelfth is in sand, but not in rock. My thirteenth's in tin, but not in box, My fourteenth's in badger, but not in fox. My fifteenth's in love, but not in hate, My sixteenth's in stride, but not in gait.

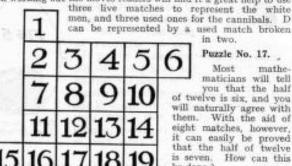
My whole is quite incomprehensible.

Three white men, A, B, and C, were shipwrecked on a desert island on which there were three cannibals, D, E, and F. A short distance away there was another larger island on which good supplies of food were to be found. The only means of crossing the shark-infested sea between the islands

was a small rowing boat that would carry two people. All the white men, and one of the cannibals, D, were able to row.

All six men naturally wanted to cross to the other island, but as it was unsate to white men to be outnumbered by the cannibals, they were in despair for a time, thinking bals, they were in despair for a time, thinking the six sheep pers before the thirteenth bundle was stoken. (Purzle No. 18)

getting across, by which the number of white men ould always be at least equal to that of the cannibals. What was A's plan In working out the moves readers will find it a great help to use



A plan of the fortress mentioned in Puzzle No. 22,

8

The cut and mice, (Puzzle No. 20).

## Puzzle No. 20.

The illustration to this puzzle shows a cat, with 13 mice arranged in circular order around her.

Twelve of these mice are black and the thirteenth is white. The cat kills the mice one by one, starting to count at a certain mouse and counting to the thirteenth mouse every She kills the thirteenth and proceeds each time to count from the next living one. From which mouse must she start in order to kill the white one last?

### Puzzle No. 21.

Jimmy had not been paying attention during the English lesson, and his teacher made him stay in after school. Thinking to punish him by keeping him longer than usual, the teacher wrote seven letters a,e,i,o,u,w and y, on the blackboard, and told Jimmy that he could not go until he had

puzzie No. 20). made a sentence using only those seven letters.

Jimmy, however, being quite a bright boy, soon found out a sentence using the letters, and was able to go out and join the rest of the class at football. What sentence did Jimmy write?

## Puzzle No. 22.

Twenty men were imprisoned in a fortress containing twenty cells. There were four British, four French, four German, four Russian and four Italian prisoners. They were arranged so that no prisoner had one of his own countrymen in an adjoining cell. How was this done?

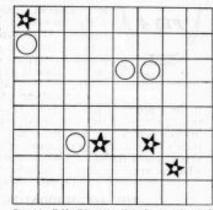
## Puzzle No. 23.

One letter, appearing in five places, has been omitted from the letters\_below. What is the complete sentence? the letters below ITTYNITTEDHAILLTS.

# Puzzle No. 24.

A foreign power had stolen the plans of a secret type of submarine which, although only in its experimental stages, was expected to revolutionize marine warfare, Naturally marine no expense was spared by the Ad-miralty in endeavours to retrieve the plans, but all attempts met with failure.

The foreign power constructed submarine to the designs they had stolen, but they



Can you divide this square into four equal parts? [Puzzle No. 25].

were unable to make certain of one important measurement of a vital part, and consequently the submarine The measurement that could not be found out was given on the plans as "CH3ES."

What was the actual measurement in feet?

# Puzzle No. 25.

How may the figure shown above this puzzle be divided into four equal parts, each of the same shape and each con-taining one star and one circle? The divisions must be made along the horizontal and vertical lines of the figure.

## Puzzle No. 26.

Arrange twelve pennies or counters in a circle as shown opposite. Now take up one penny, pass it over two others and place it on the third one. Repeat the process until, after six moves, the coins are arranged in six pairs in the positions 1,2,3, 4,5,6. You may travel in either direction round the circle at each move and the two pennies jumped over may be either two separate coins or a pair.

How can this is seven. be done? Puzzle No. 18.

in two.

Most

Puzzle No. 17.

maticians will tell

you that the half

mathe-

The diagram illustrat-

ing this puzzle is made with thirteen matches and

represents a farmer's hurdles arranged to form six sheep pens all of the same size. One of the hurdles was stolen one night, and next day the farmer was in despair. After a great deal of thought, however, he found that by re-arranging the remaining twelve hardles, he could still enclose

## Puzzle No. 19.

What nautical term is hidden in each of the sentences given below?

six pens of equal size. How did he do it?

1. I do not mind about the risk. If four of you are prepared to come with me I'll start right away.

2. His form, as the club's best forward, was not up to his usual standard.

3. Now that he was an experienced pilot his favourite pastime was looping the

loop.
4. Do artists have to pay very high rents for their studios?

5. Often Derrick would wander out of the

garden and be lost for a few hours.

6. Will you please lend me your soft rubber?

The one I bought yesterday is too hard.

7. "Sarah at Chelmsford!" he saw on the posters.

Put these twelve counters into six piles. (Puzzle No. 26).

6

12

2

3

5

10

8

# Holidays are happiest

From State of the five fixed materials and materials and which go it had the notified a material on the control of the state of the sta

the carefree, inexpensive way?

From Australia, black & white, photo realistic.

Here is a nice comparison of the ads used in the United States vs. those of a few other countries.

**Model A Advertising** 

While the same style of art was used all four years in the US, in other countries there was more variety.

haven't found many color internationally, but most of the US ads seem to be colored. I'm not sure what the difference was from, but interesting to note!



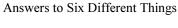
A Canadian Ad, with line art, and lots of info boxes.







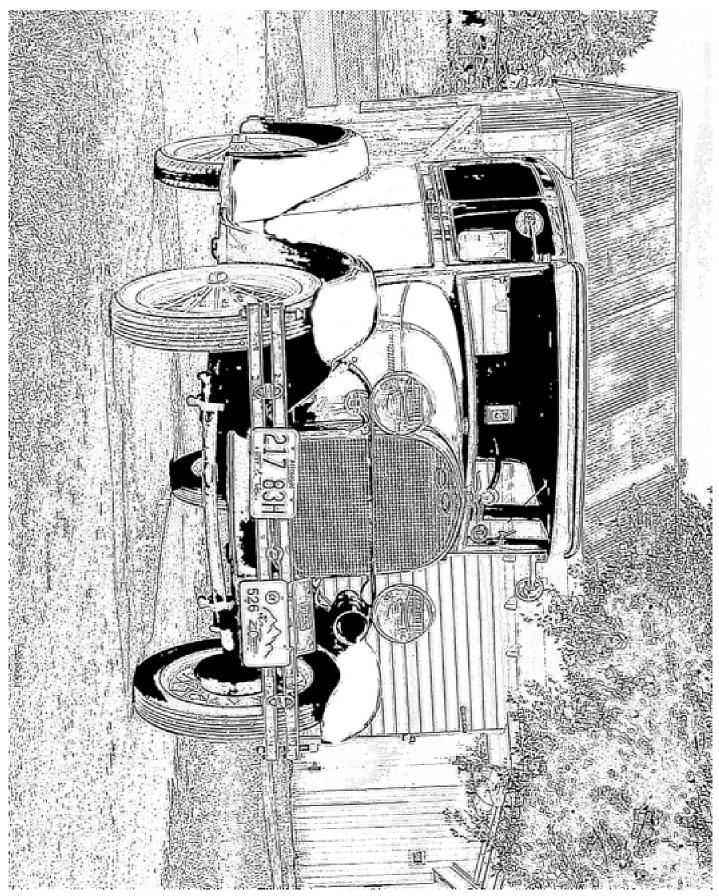








This is a picture of a Model A Fordor. You can color it any color you want! Have fun!





# **Rumble Seat**

Sherry Wink

The Old Lady was busy all summer introducing herself to new friends. As you can see by the pictures on page 3 and page 5, and below, she was surround by kids pretty much throughout the whole time! From giving rides at Shawnee Town 1928 Museum in August to Living History Day in September, she's been busy driving around a 3 state area this year. Nebraska, Missouri, and Kansas so far!

I actually took her to Nebraska for my hometown fair in August, but then have kept her there so she can get some much needed exhaust work this fall when my mechanic brother has some extra time. But in the meantime, she has kept busy with lots of extracurricular activities and jaunts that weren't planned, but sure have been fun! I've found lots of kids to introduce to Model A rides and stories.

Next month, she will be taking me to Julian Nebraska to help with the grand re-opening of their 1920's gas station. I'll be doing my Clara Ford impersonation there too! I hope there are a few kids there too, I'll make sure to offer them rides too, along with making sure they get to honk the horn!



My friend Trenton Williamson helped me throw candy during the annual Table Rock Fair parade.



# **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 crop did the Sitzman Boys help grow?
  - A) Corn B) Pumpkins C) Apples
- 2) What did Nick recently rebuild on the 28 roadster?
  - A) Horn B) Water Pump C) Carburetor
- 3) What did Harrison Lilienthal learn to operate at the Independence Day Parade?
  - A) Throttle Leaver B) Spark Advance C) Brakes
- 4) What did Larissa, Zach and Colby help with?
  - A) Cleaning B) Driving C) Changing Tire
- 5) A carburetor does what with gas?
  - A) Liquefies it B) Mixes it with air C) Nothing
- 6) What nickname was given to the first electric guitar?
  - A) Kettle B) Skillet C) Frying Pan
- 7) Which country is not represented by an ad on page 8?
  - A) England B) Germany C) Canada
- 8) What's the last year the Model T was built?
  - A) 1926 B) 1927 C) 1928
- 9) What type of toys did the Meccano company build? .
  - A) cars B) dolls C) mechanical building sets
- 10) What body type is the Model A on the coloring page?
  - A) Tudor B) Fordor C) Roadster