2nd Quarter 2022

A WORLD

YOUTH NEWSLETTER MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA

Fourth of July Festivities!

By Sherry Wink

The Sitzman family went to bed early Saturday night, July 3rd. None of them wanted to miss the opening ceremony of the Independence Day celebration the town was holding the next day! It opened with a 100 gun salute at sunrise, and Dad Sitzman, as a military veteran, was part of the ceremony. Of course, the Sitzman boys could hardly wait! As expected, it made an awfully loud noise, even if it was just 25 men shooting four rounds of blanks!

Sandy was competing in the town tennis competition that started at 8:30, so she ate breakfast in town at a friend;s house. Everyone else went home and ate a hearty breakfast of cinnamon rolls that Mom Sitzman had put in the oven just before leaving the house.

The high school band played a concert starting at 11:00. Sandy was upset she might miss it, but she didn't go very far in the tennis games, so she was able to be at the concert, which is a good thing, as she was one of the drummers!



The morning concert only lasted an hour, but the crowd cheered as old time favorites were played! Following the music, there was a basket dinner in the park, where all the families brought in huge hampers of food to share. All the town men and any hefty enough boys had helped load the town hall's tables on the back of an AA Ford truck to haul out the square and set up under the trees. Those tables were groaning under the weight of all the food! There was enough friend chicken and potato salad, and pies, cakes, and cookies to fill up even the hungriest Sitzman boy! Which was good, because the day was just getting started!



Following lunch, the band took the stage at the bandstand again and played another hour of patriotic music. The last song was "The Star Spangled Banner" that was the still new National Anthem (since 1931!) All the kids agreed that it was great that it was just the band playing it, since last year the minister's daughter had tried to sing a solo of the song, and left everyone's ears ringing long after that high note was tried for! And it wasn't even too bad having to listen to one of the town elders talk on and on for about a half hour following the concert.

After the speech, it was time for the real fun! Over at the bandstand, there were platform contests, including pie eating, cracker eating, and balloon popping. Larry confidently entered the teen level of pie eating, but was quickly chagrined with not one but both of the twins totally out ate him, ending up with a tie for 1st place!

The Big Man's Race, which required you to be 200 pounds or over was great fun to watch, although none of the Sitzman males were eligible.

(Continued on page 2)

Page	Title
1.	Forth of July Festivities
3.	Kids & Their A's
4.	Kids & Their A's 2
5.	More Kids and Their A's
6.	Six Different Things
7.	Teach What You Love!
8.	Another Lutey Family Update
9.	A Michigan Truck brought back to life!
10.	A Bright Future for this Model A'er
11.	Hubleys at the Kerrville National
12.	What the Heck is a Babbitt!
13.	Rethan's Texas Model A Adventure
14.	It's a New Model A Children's Book!
14.	Winners at the Olathe Kansas Regional
15.	Dallas Fashion Entrants
16.	May was Model A Youth Month
17.	Coloring Page
18.	Rumble Seat
18.	Quiz Time

(Continued from page 1)

All the Sitzman boys joined their friends for the tug-a-war, and in the end, it wasn't even clear which side was the winner, with everyone ending up in the mud puddle in the middle. Luckily there was a pump close by to rinse everyone off! And that pretty much naturally led to the next scheduled event, the water fight! Let's just say it involved the volunteer firefighters on one side, and the town kids on the other! Again, no clear winner, but everyone had fun, and got cooled off on a hot day as well.



The girls and boys races were divided up by age groups, and Suzanne came in second, which didn't disappoint her at all. None of the younger Sitzman's placed, but they had fun running just the same!

Supper was sandwiches, and leftovers from lunch, and there had been so much food, they almost didn't need the extra hampers all the moms had packed "just in case."

As everyone was settled down on blankets and benches around the park enjoying the food, the drum and bugle corps from the neighboring town put on a rousing performance at the bandstand. Then the high school band, faltering but still willing, played for another hour, with some of the more energetic members of the audience jumping up for a dance when the song choice allowed.

As the light started turning into dusk, it was time to head to the ball field for the final event of the day! It started out with a small parade, led by the local men of the American Legion proudly accompanying a large American Flag. Larry drove his Model A pickup, carefully washed and polished, and decorated with buntings of red, white, and blue. He was followed by kids, waving flags, riding bikes, and a few dressed up as patriotic figures. Leonard, the tallest of the younger boys, was dressed as Uncle Sam, and Suzanne put on a good representation of the Statue of Liberty, wearing a blue-green bedspread loaned to her by Grandma Roberts, with an earful of warnings about what would happen if she let it damaged! (Luckily, it survived without issue!) The parade ended with the 1928 AA firetruck, which was immediately pressed into duty for any stray sparks from the upcoming fireworks.





When everyone arrived down the hill at the ballpark, it was dark enough that the fireworks could begin! And it was an awesome display! All the bursts of color, and loud booms got oohs and aahs from the crowd for each shell burst. A few of the youngsters were not too happy with the noise, but their moms shushed them, and covered their ears until they got used to it. Somebody had brought a portable phonograph, and rigged up a megaphone to help project the Sousa music that played during the display. It was a magnificent event, with the crowd savoring every minute until the last barrage of fireworks burst overhead. Then the Sitzman family (and all the others too) gathered up their blankets, leftover dishes, bundled everyone back into the cars and wagons, and took their tired but happy kids home to bed. And then gratefully slid into their own beds, tired , but with a smile on their face.



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Kids and Their "A"s!



Chance Halladay, age 13 and Thor enjoying another drive in Grand Junction Colorado!



Callie Evans, age 13 is from Colleyville Texas and is a member of the Dallas Texas chapter of MAFCA.



Abigail Mika and Ambrose and Josephine Beckly are volunteers at Shawnee Town 1928 Museum in Shawnee Kansas. This year, they enjoyed a ride in a Camelot Phaeton, a Model A tribute car.



Glenn ("driving," age 4.5) and Henry (age 2.5) Mize of Highlands Ranch, Colorado in their dad Aaron's 1931 Deluxe Roadster. Looks like they are ready for a windy drive in the mountains!



Trudy and Ron Stevens were enjoying the Santa Maria Elks Rodeo Parade with their great-grandchildren, Mary Jane and Harley Quinn Ramirez and Lisa Marie and Luna Hudson, and dog Polly.



Alex Stolis and friends are admiring the family coupe. Alex lives in Minnesota.

Kids and Their "A" page 2



Ivy Baemel age 10, Denver Baemel age 6, and Willow Baemel age 8. This was taken in front of the ice cream shop in downtown Chillicothe Ohio on one of their weekly trips with their grandfather! .



Levi Cain, age 7, and Silas Cain, age 3. The brothers live in Michigan.









Max Tolman, age 13 and Pip Tolman, age 12 are from Upland, California and are working on their 1922/29/30 speedster. Grandpa says they still have a lot to do, but they are well on the way!

More Kids and Their "A's"



The grandchildren of Bill Kirkpatrick really enjoy his 1931 Tudor!

Bill lives north of Philadelphia Pennsylvania and takes his grandkids for rides as often as possible!













Lily Gehring, Age 7, and Emmitt Gehring Age 5 live in Kansas City Missouri. They recently joined their grandparents Larry and Jeanne Harding on a visit to the McFall Gas Station, located on the Antique Fairgrounds in Lathrop Missouri. The Northwest Missouri Model A Ford Club assists in the maintenance of this neat old station that open originally in 1922!

Six Things are different!

Rethan is checking out this speedster at the Kerrville National Convention. He thinks it's pretty awesome! But the top picture looks like it's lost a few details compared to the bottom one. Can you find the differences? *The answers are on page 12 but don't peek too soon!*



Teach What You Love!

Nathan Gild, age 11, is from Bethel Park, Pennsylvania recently had a school project that he made the most of.

His assignment was to teach his class about something he was interested in. Nathan choose the internal combustion engine, and he had a unique plan!

With the approval of his teacher, Nathan had his dad bring their Model A to school to use as part of his lesson. He began by outlining the history of gas motors to his fellow classmates, and then he used the simplicity of the Model A to illustrate all the parts of the engine. He was able to explain how they all work together to create power and deliver it to the wheels.

Nathan was asked multiple questions from interested classmates following his lesson, and he didn't slip a beat in answering all of them correctly. He impressed not only his class and teacher, but his father as well!

There is no doubt that Nathan is a Model A'er even at his age, and I'm sure he's just biding his time waiting for that driver's license so he can drive the A to school himself next time!









Another Lutey Family Update





The Lutey Family, from Marquette, Michigan sent me an update on the canoe project! "Papa" Dick (great grandpa) has finished cutting the wooden canoe down to size to carry atop the recently restored 1929 Woody.

Kaisen, age 3, and his granddad have been stopping by as often as possible to help with the work. They say the canoe looks great on the Woody, but they are still fine-tuning the rack to hold it on.











A Michigan AA Truck brought back to life!

Isabella Valley, age 15, is from Marion Springs, Michigan. The Ford AA truck she is driving belongs to her brother Lane, a farmer from Marion Springs, Michigan. The truck has an interesting history and has had a lot of help recently getting it back on the road!



A gentleman bought the truck in 2012, but it was in very poor condition. It hadn't run in many years and was yard art outside of Chesaning, Michigan. The transmission was completely full of water and rusted tight. After having a couple of shops do work on it, he got it running, drove it to a couple car shows in the area, then parked it and moved to Arizona.

The truck sat for about three years when he decided to have Isabella's brother Lane get it back on the road. Unfortunately, the engine had frozen up from sitting so long. Lane freed up the engine but still couldn't get it running, so Phil from All Automotive in Burton Michigan was able to diagnose the last remaining issues and get it back on the road.



Lane loves old farm equipment and says he plans to pull his antique Montgomery Wards gravity wagon to the elevator once or twice this fall with the AA truck and also says he'll deliver sweet corn with it this Summer. You can tell he loves driving it!



Isabella also enjoys driving the AA and is planning on driving it to school a few times (at the least) next year as well. Isabella keeps quite involved with project. She's president of the FFA for Chesaning High School this coming year, and does cheerleading and track and field as well. Isabella also highly involved with her 4H chapter. The truck suits her quite well!

Just this month, the AA received a new lettering job on the cab. The next planned renovation is rebuilding the flatbed!





A Bright Future for this Model A'er

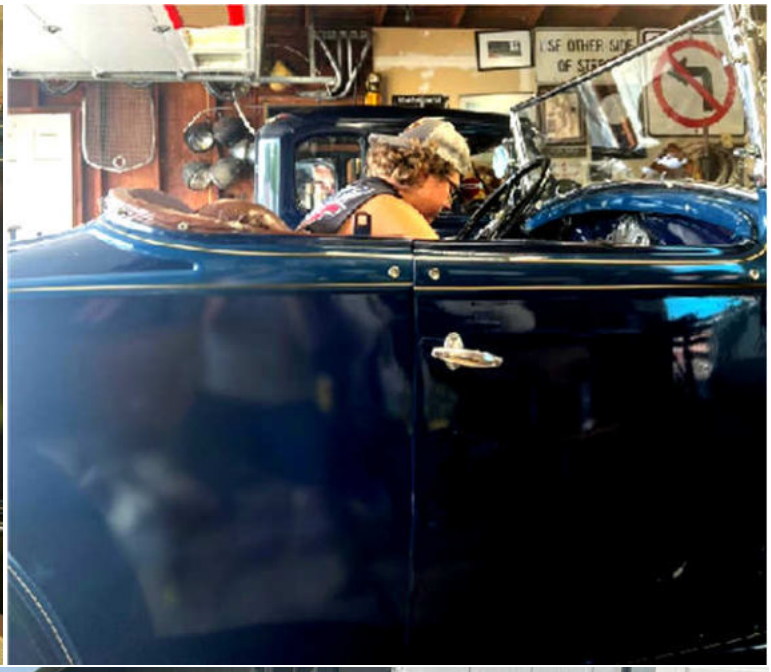


Jackson Bright is 14, and lives in California. He has worked with his dad in keeping their Model A roadworthy for years. Jackson, a sophomore, is also active in the school choir, and plays bass guitar.

Jackson just drove his dad's 1958 F100 for the first time, and has been assured that as soon as he gains enough experience with that vehicle's manual transmission, he'll be ready to learn to drive the A!

Looks like another Model A is going to be in good hands for another generation!







Hubleys at the Kerrville National

Great competition at the National Hubley race! Congratulations to all the winners, especially in the youth category!





Colin Ford's car set a track record with speed, but I didn't get the statistic. Colin won 1st place in Class 1: ages 3-9.





Bethany Sewell age 8 1/2 used the green pickup her mother built when she was Bethany's age. Bethany took 2nd place in Class 1: ages 3-9.





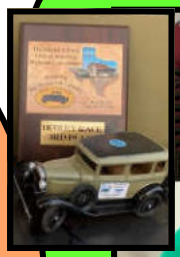
Madilyn Mache's car won first place at the Texas Tour in 2019! Madilyn won 3rd place in Class 1: ages 3-9.



Eleanor Johnson's yellow pickup won 1st place in Class 2: ages 10-17.



Cash Garcia won 2nd place in Class 2: ages 10-17.





Ethan Johnson won 3rd place in Class 2: ages 10-17, despite a few difficulties on the track!



The "People's Choice" award wasn't won by a youngster, but I think Tex Willis is a kid at heart! Check out his mini version of his 1929 pickup!









Ethan's car is a mini version of the family Model A Fordor!

What the Heck is a Babbitt!

Babbitt!! What a fun word to say! But do you know what it actually means and how it relates to your Model A? A Babbitt bearing is also known as a sleeve bearing. A bearing is a machine part in which another part turns or slides.

The word Babbitt comes from the name of the person who first developed this system of metal alloys in 1839, Isaac Babbitt. The actual Babbitt is the metal alloy (mix) that lines the inside of pieces that hold certain rotating parts in the Model A such as the crankshaft.



The Babbitt metal used in Model A bearings is tin-based, with copper and antimony mixed in. The tin provides the sliding effect, in combination with the oil lubricating the parts.

Tiny amounts of the tin wear away through use, and is washed away by the oil. This is why you'll hear things like "the Babbitt is shot, time for a rebuild!" The soft tin has worn away, making the lining bigger and looser which causes problems keeping the parts aligned.

To replace this material, the old soft metal lining (the Babbitt) must be melted out, and new Babbitt metal melted with a metal forge and poured in place.

The process is hot and dirty, and has multiple steps to get it right. Just a few of the steps are pictured here. But there are several videos on YouTube showing the process:

https://youtu.be/JBL0Y3_yQ7I
https://youtu.be/2lgk8NRl9mE A


A rough casting











Rethan's Texas Model A Adventure

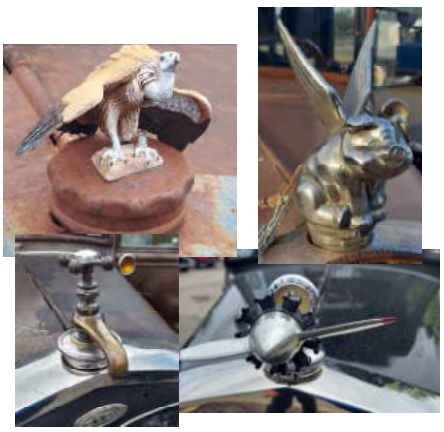
Rethan, age 13, had never been to a Model A convention before. He was thrilled when he found out he was accompanying his Aunt Sherry to Kerrville, even if she wasn't able to bring her 29 Tudor!



He spent the week checking out the vast variety of Model A's, in the parking lot, on the grand tour, at the judging arena, and even the car games! He said it was impossible to choose a favorite, but the A400 was way at the top there! And Tex Willis' truck was really cool!



Rethan really got a kick out of some of the unique radiator caps!





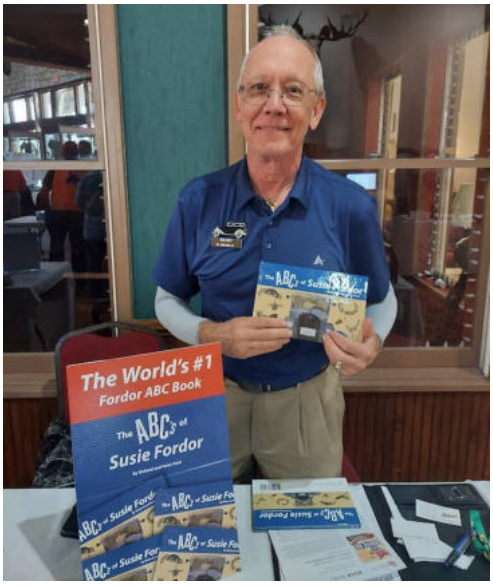
A big thrill for Rethan was winning the English Bobby hat and patches in the raffle!!

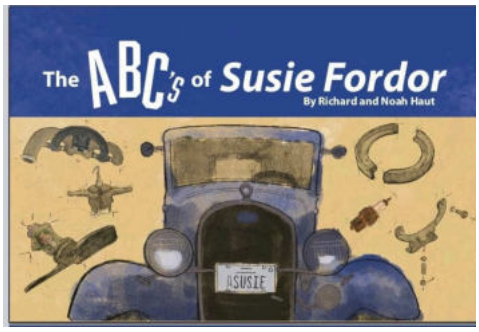
A favorite event on the grand tour—jumping in the river with the rope swing!



It's a New Model A Children's Book!

And a chance to get a copy for free!





While checking out the booths at the National Convention in Kerrville, I was delighted to encounter Author Richard Haut, selling his Model A based kids book titled "The ABC's of Susie Fordor."

Richard said he was inspired to write this book by his young grandson, and proudly showed pictures of the young man. I proudly showed him pictures of my granddaughter, and happily bought a book to take home for her. Then I came back and bought a few more, and then a few more! I decided this would be a great book to share with A-World readers who have their own young Model A'er to read it too!

So, if you have a youngster to read this to, **I have two copies that I will give away to the first two readers to contact me with their mailing address!** Just email me at AWorldEditor@hotmail.com, and I'll stick them in the mail. And if you are not one of the lucky winners, you can contact the author at RichHaut@gmail.com to buy a copy directly!



Winners at the Olathe Kansas Regional

A few of the kids that attended the Olathe Kansas Regional, hosted by the Plain Ol A's Model A Ford Club. If you were there and I missed you, send me a picture!!



Zach Thomason, age 13, is from Aurora Colorado, and made his first trip across Kansas in his Grandfather's Model A. He was happy to win a trophy in the Hubleys at the convention. Zach and his grandfather also provided some stage assistance to the Magic act that opened the welcome party!







Natalie and Adalyn Woerdehoff of Edgerton Kansas worn 1st and 2nd place in the "Pump It Up" walk up car games! They didn't place at the "Speedy Spark Plugs" game, but they still had fun.

An excerpt from an article by Lynda Davis and Nancy Cheshire, as printed in the Quail Tail, the Dallas Model A Ford Club's newsletter

Dallas Fashion Entrants Take the Stage—(Just the kids!)



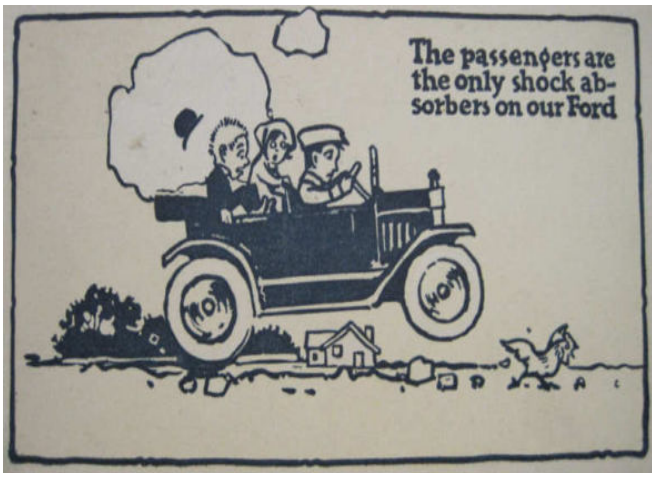
Crue Sewell won an Award of Excellence in an original Model-A era baby's outfit. The original white romper was owned and worn in 1928 by club member Terry Plata's father in 1928. Crue also wore an original white hat, socks, and shoes. Accessories included an original cloth diaper fastened with original "No Swallow" diaper pins, an original wooden teething toy, original hair brush, and baby blanket. This picture was photoshopped to a 1920s chair



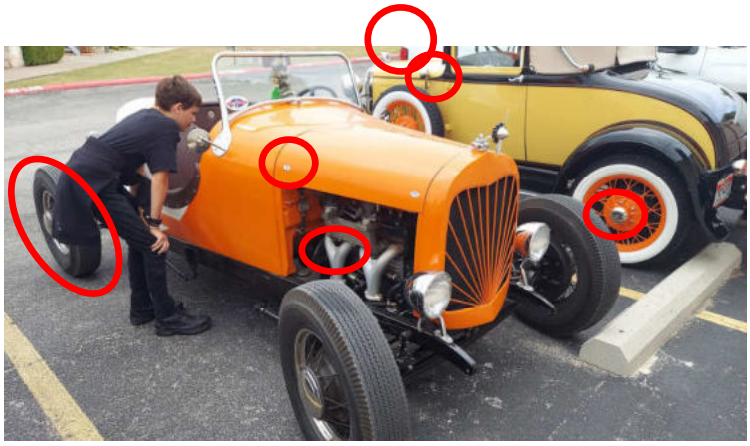
His sister, Lainey, won an Award of Excellence in an Era Image ensemble. She wore an original 1931 Model A Era dress with new black Mary Jane shoes. She carried an original cloth book and hanky.



Crue's older sister Bethany, who also won an Award of Excellence, wore a girl's party dress made by her great-grandmother from an 1928 original pattern. This dress was worn by her mother, Shelby, in 2006 at her first Texas Tour. Bethany was beautifully outfitted for a party and carrying a reproduction tiddleywinks game with attached gift bow, and a hanky.



Answers to Six Different Things



May was Model A Youth Month !

We received some great pictures we're sharing here!

Missouri Valley Region Model a Youth Day



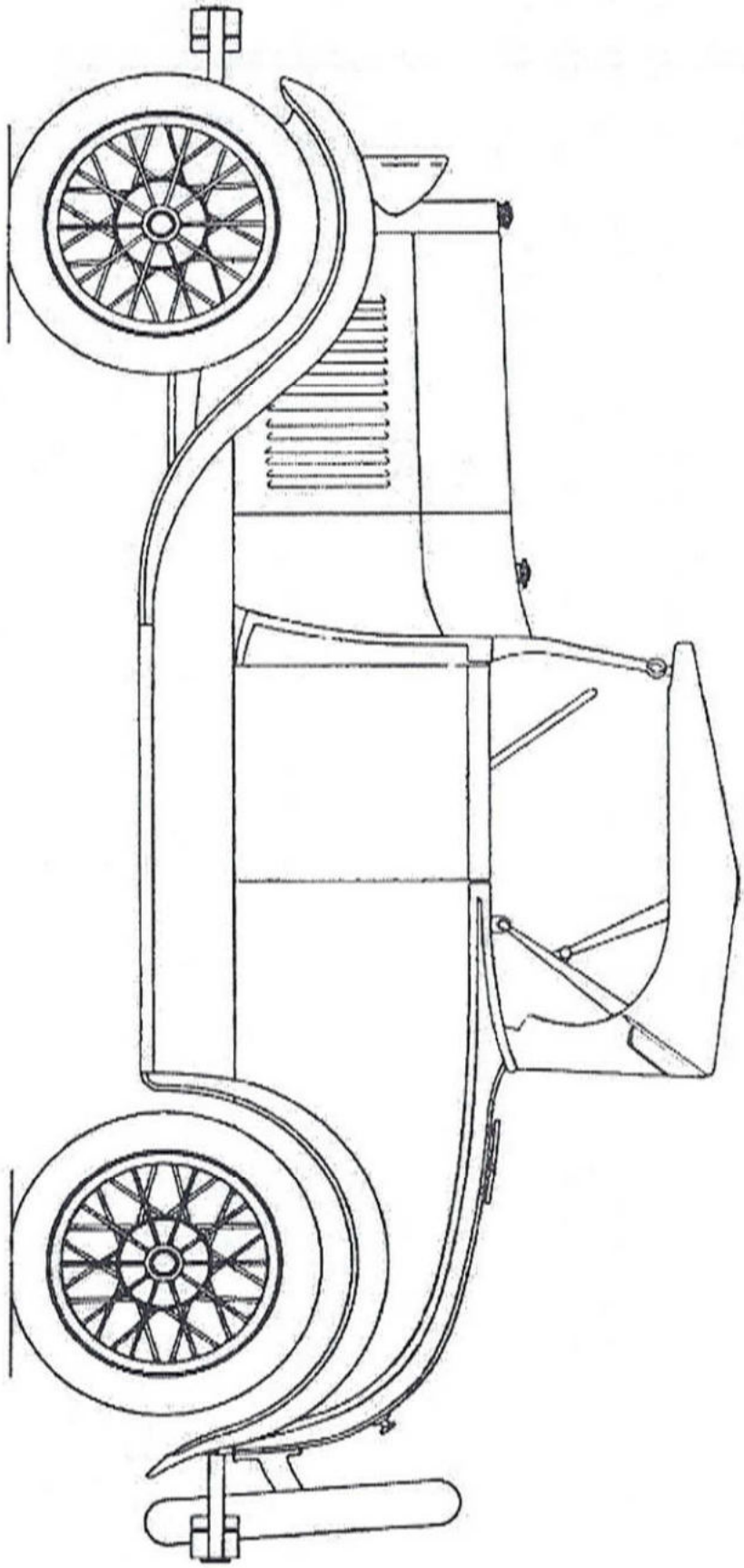



Lake Erie and Whitehouse A's Region Youth Model A Day!






This is a Model A Roadster. It's like a coupe, but it's a convertible! This picture is from the Plain Ol' A's Activity Book, a Kansas Model A Club.





Rumble Seat

Sherry Wink

Summer is halfway over and I still haven't got to drive The Old Lady! I almost did, to take her to the Olathe Regional, but a big "CLANG" under the hood changed my mind. Back into my friend's garage for to await a look-over. Turns out she is overdue for a new motor! She is now back in Nebraska waiting impatiently for that motor transplant to take place! The replacement motor is also now in Nebraska, so hopefully it's just a short wait for that to happen.

I did spend a few fun days giving kids ride in a substitute vehicle at Shawnee Town 1929 museum. My friend with her Camelot Phaeton replicar came to my rescue with her 1929 ~~want to be, I mean~~ – tribute car! I'm only teasing, it was really great to have her there so I didn't have to disappoint the kids that were lined up for rides almost as soon as the gates opened! I do hope when I go back in July I'll be driving my car, but if not, I have friends and more Model A's standing by It's good to be a Model A'er!





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) Who won the pie eating contest?

A) Larry B) The Twins C) Dad Sitzman

2) What year was the AA Firetruck?

A) 1928 B) 1929 C) 1931

3) What state are Glenn and Henry from?

A) Minnesota B) Tennessee C) Colorado

4) What vehicle are Pip and Max working on?

A) Coupe B) Speedster C) Phaeton

5) What subject did Nathan choose to teach his class?

A) Math B) internal combustion engine C) Model A's

6) How old is Kaisen?

A) 6 B) 4 C) 3

7) What is on the door of the AA Isabella drives?

A) her name B) The year C) L. Valley Farms

8) Who's Hubley is painted just like his family's A?

A) Ethan B) Bethany C) Cash

9) What metal is used in Babbitt alloy?

A) Tin B) Copper C) Antimony D) All of these

10) Who made their first trip across Kansas in his grandpa's Model A?

A) Natalie B) Zach C) Cash

Answers: 1) B, 2) A, 3) C 4) B 5) B, 6) C, 7) C, 8) A, 9) D 10) B