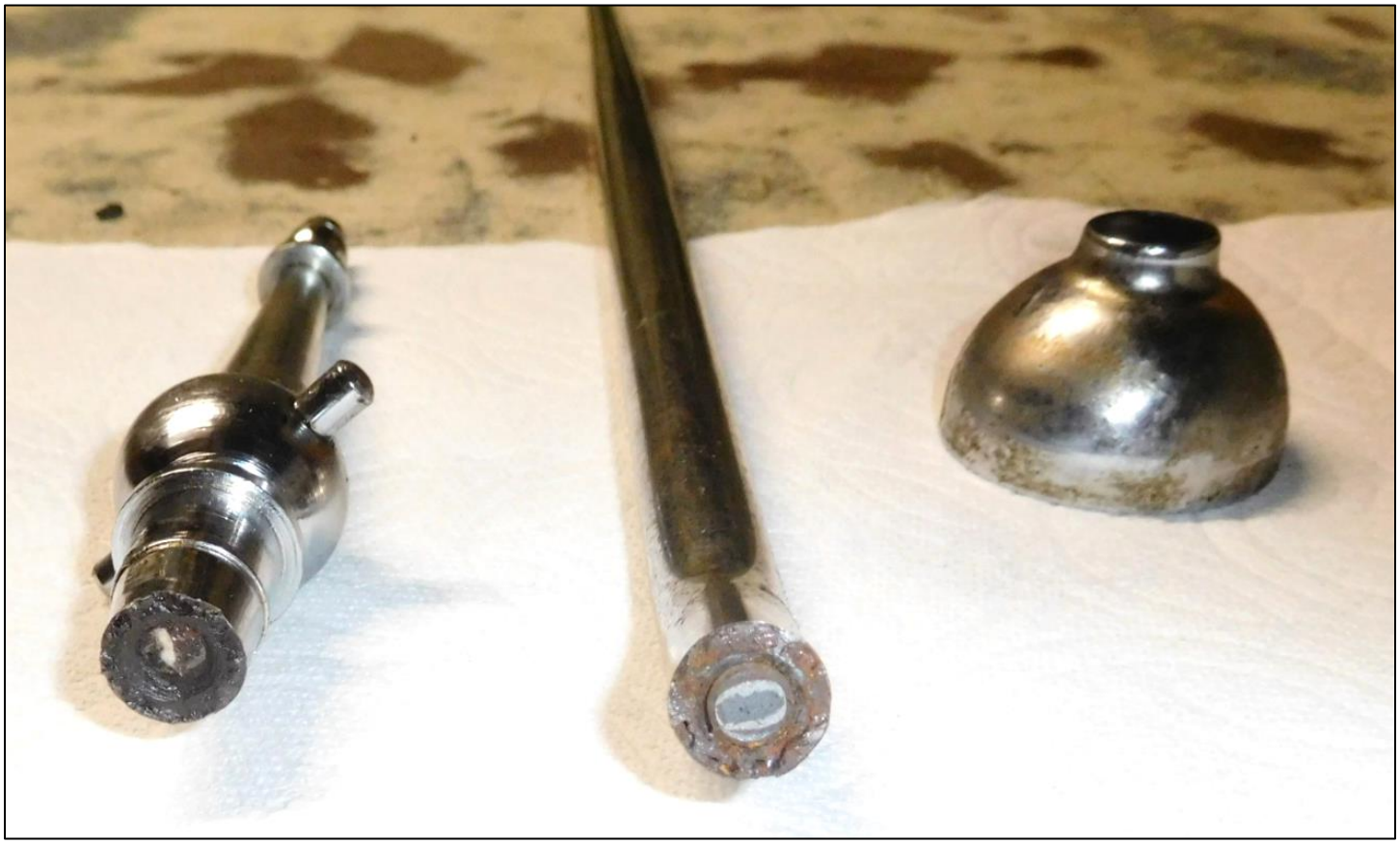
Reproduction Gearshift Lever

by Tom Endy 2020

For a number of years the Model A Kingdom has been subjected to poor quality reproduction transmission gearshift levers. They are not made the same as the originals. The originals were all one piece and were bent at two different angles to accommodate 28-29 cars and 30-31 cars. The reproductions are bent to one size fits all, somewhere in between the required angles for 28-29 and 30-31.They are also made in two pieces and screwed together just below the angle bend. Many reproductions have experienced failure modes. The most significant is they tend to snap off right below the angle. The second failure mode is they can unthread where they are screwed together. The failed gearshift in the photo below failed as the owner was attempting to down shift from high to second. When the lever snapped off it fortunately left him in high gear so that he was able to coax the car home.



The best option is to always use an original gearshift lever, and one that is bent to the correct angle for your year car. The worn ball on the end of the lever can be welded up and ground down to fit the slots in the shifting forks. Quite often the issue is that the plating is shot and having something re-plated in the US is sometimes very difficult. The original gearshift levers were plated in what is known as a “Butler” finish, that had a dull appearance.

Arizona Model A Ford near Phoenix offers original shift levers in both 28-29 and 30-31 that have had the ball welded and the lever re-plated.

Arizona Model A (owner: Sammy Guthrie)
15838 South Gilbert Road
Chandler, AZ 85225
480-782-0266