



**Willamette Valley Chapter**  
P.O. Box 3031 Salem, OR 97302

**John and Nancy Firth's 1931 Deluxe Pickup, a very rare 66-A.**



[willamettevalleymodel-a.org](http://willamettevalleymodel-a.org)

Model A Ford



Club of America



SALEM, OREGON

Model A



Restorers Club

**Next General Meeting: Texaco Station, NW Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum, Brooks, OR**

**Thursday, October 3, 2013 at 7:00 pm**

**willamettevaleymodel-a.org**

<b>President</b>	Ray Ramsay	<b>Historian</b>	Tom Morrison Gene Byrnes
<b>Vice President</b>	Susan Brennan	<b>Sunshine</b>	Dolores Byrnes
<b>Secretary</b>	Beauford Averette	<b>N.W.R.G.</b>	Tom Morrison
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gary LeMaster	<b>Newsletter</b>	Gary LeMaster
<b>Past President</b>	Lee Hardy	<b>Raffle Chair</b>	Peggy Ramsay
<b>Board Members</b>	Jeff Norwood 13 Fred Lissner 13 Jim Brennan 14 Blair Wasson 14	<b>Tour Chair</b>	Charlie Schmidt
<b>Swap Meet Committee</b>	Lew Garrison, Dale Stites, Charlie Schmidt, Gary LeMaster	<b>Programs</b>	President & Group
		<b>Road Cleanup</b>	Langley Jones

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**Newsletter Editors of the Month**

<b>January</b>	Hardy
<b>February</b>	Hardy
<b>March</b>	Garrison
<b>April</b>	Averette
<b>May</b>	Wasson
<b>June</b>	Averette
<b>July</b>	LeMaster
<b>August</b>	Brennan
<b>September</b>	LeMaster
<b>October</b>	Schmidt
<b>November</b>	Stites
<b>December</b>	Brennan

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**Board Meeting Hosts**

<b>January</b>	<b>17</b>	Giesbrecht
<b>February</b>	<b>21</b>	Kraus
<b>March</b>	<b>21</b>	Wasson
<b>April</b>	<b>18</b>	Brennan
<b>May</b>	<b>17</b>	Ramsay
<b>June</b>	<b>20</b>	Pizza Feed
<b>July</b>	<b>18</b>	Averette
<b>August</b>	<b>15</b>	Garrison (potluck)
<b>September</b>	<b>19</b>	Norwood
<b>October</b>	<b>17</b>	Schmidt
<b>November</b>	<b>21</b>	LeMaster
<b>December</b>	<b>14 (?)</b>	President's Breakfast

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**President's Comments:**

**THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR OCTOBER, or HENRY FORD WANTS YOU!**

By the next General Meeting, October will be upon us and the Touring Season is coming to an end. It's almost time to start assembling, or at least thinking about, that Winter To-Do / Wish List. But, before we do that, it's also time to start thinking about next year's officers and directors for the Club. Unfortunately, our Club seems to have fallen prey to the same predicament a lot of small, special interest clubs have fallen into. Meaning, there is a relatively small group of people that act as the Core of the Club and actively participate to keep the Club going. And, as you no doubt have noticed, the leadership of the Club tends to revolve around the Core that phases in and out of the various leadership positions. I believe that our Club is in danger of falling into this stagnation. In addition, our Core is getting older and many are wanting to take it a little easier and/or spend more time on their A. We are in need of two Board members, a Vice-President, and a President for next year. We also need some "new blood" to infuse the leadership so we don't keep circulating the same retreads, I myself being one. You can only rotate retreads so many times before they wear out. But, if you can stagger their use, they tend to last longer! At October's Board Meeting we will be assembling a Nominating Committee to find directors and officers for next year. This is a way that you can help the Club without having to be a Master Mechanic! Frankly, we need you in order to keep the Club going. So, if you have ever thought about lending a hand with the leadership of the Club, this is your year. Please volunteer. We are looking for a few good men and women to help us continue. Are you one? See you at the next General Meeting which, if you remember, will be out at the Texaco gas station at the NW Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum in Antique Powerland. See you there. Ray Ramsay

Some material printed in this newsletter may have been borrowed from other publications. We wish to thank other clubs for sharing their newsletters with us. We are happy to share our articles and other information publication in their newsletters.

**For information about the club, please contact Charlie Schmidt at (503) 263-6535**

Willamette Valley Chapter  
Model A Ford Club of America  
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes  
September 19, 2013

The Board of Director's meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President, Ray Ramsay. Others in attendance were Beauford Averette, Lew Garrison, Jim Brennan, Dale Stites, Charlie Schmidt, Peggy Ramsay, Lee Hardy, Jeff Norwood (Host), Fred Lissner, Gary LeMaster, Blair Wasson.

The Board waived notice of time, place and purpose of the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were not read.

The Treasurer reported that the books were up to date and in proper order.

**Model A Ford Problems Discussed:** None. **Committee Reports:** **TOURS:** The Jordan Chicken Dinner is September 22. September 28 is International Model A Ford Day. October 1 you can display your car at the Capitol from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm. They are looking for 24 cars that were made before 1939. Call Genoa Ingram at (503) 378-0595 if you are interested. **Sunshine:** Burt Edwards is in the Providence Benedictine Community Care facility in Mt. Angel, room 101. Bud Wedel is at home in McNary Estates but is not able to get out any more. He is on oxygen at all times. Both of these members would like a visit. **Program:** The program for the October general meeting is being determined. Remember we will be in the Gas Station at the Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Same 7:00 pm start time. **Socials:** No report. **NWRG:** There won't be a Regional Meet next year since the 2014 National Convention is in Puyallup, WA July 14-18. Early Bird Newsletter subscription forms are at [www.2014mafcanational.org](http://www.2014mafcanational.org). See the inside cover of the September/October issue of *The Restorer* for more information. The convention will be sponsored by the Gallopin' Gertie Model A Ford Club of Tacoma, WA. Be sure to get your registration in early. **Newsletter:** Charlie Schmidt is the editor for the October issue of *The Connecting Rod*. **Historian:** No report. **Swap Meet:** For the 2014 Swap Meet, the following changes will be made. 1. We will collect space payments on Saturday Night. 2. We will secure the South end of the parking lot all day Sunday so that all vendors go through the Collection Booth. 3. We will have the Collection Booth open from 5:30 to 11:00 am. 4. We will have a different method of showing who has paid for their space(s). 5. We will have 24 Event Staff vests for those working during the Swap Meet to wear. 6. We will have ½ page sign-up forms for vendors to fill out so that we can build a data base for future years. 7. If possible, we will have numbers on the spaces so vendors can select the spaces they would like for the 2015 Swap Meet. 8. We will have more two-way radios available at the Swap Meet and have training on how to use them before the Meet. 9. Charlie Schmidt will be in charge of keeping the power on Sunday. 10. We will have a large space numbering chart at the Collection Booth for 2015. **Old Business:** We need a leader for the Swap Meet concession booth by November 15 or we will try to find a commercial concessionaire to take over food sales at next year's Swap Meet. If someone steps forward, we will handle the food situation just as we did last year. The only difference will be in the timing of the food purchases to just the week before the Swap Meet. We still need a newsletter chair person for next year. Gary LeMaster has been doing the job for several years and would like to be replaced. **New Business:** Gary LeMaster will look into purchasing the 24 Event Staff vests. We will build a Club Member "special tool" availability list. That way, members will not have to purchase one-time use tools. We will build a wheel-straightening tool. We have not been able to find the one we had years ago. At the next two general meetings we will ask for volunteers to fill the two vacant Board Member positions, the Vice-President position, and the President position. Ray may appoint a Nominating Committee at the next General Meeting and have them gather for a short meeting after the General Meeting is over. Ideas will be solicited at the next two general meetings as to how we can give some of our funds to car hobby related projects. We will vote on the various ideas at our December general meeting. We will be buying 19 DVDs from MAFCA on various phases of Model A restoration for the club library.

Respectfully Submitted, Beauford Averette, Secretary.

## Notice – October Meeting, Change in Location

Due to events occurring at Mission Mill, the October 3<sup>rd</sup> General Meeting will be in the Texaco Gas Station at the NW Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum at 7:00 pm. Arrangements have been made to have someone at the gate to open it. If you have questions, please call Gary at 503-393-6069.

## IDEAS NEEDED

As you may know, due to the hard work of our members, our Club has been blessed with what, for us, is more money in the Treasury than previous years. Taking this into account, the Board of Directors has voted to come up with an activity or idea for the benefit of the club members for next year. We will be collecting these ideas over the next two months and voting will take place at the December meeting/Christmas Party to determine the winner. The idea should be related to our automotive/Model A hobby and its cost to the Club must be One Thousand Dollars or less. It could be a special tour. It could be a club generated activity or event. It could be a combination of the two. It could be a scholarship. And, it can be done anytime during next year, not just during the Christmas Season. A description of your idea should be in writing and you will be given time before the voting to advocate for your choice. The goal here is to both have some fun at our Christmas Party and provide a reward to the members for their hard work. In other words, share the Christmas Spirit. So, put your thinking caps on and see what you can come up with for next year.

## TOOL LIBRARY NEEDED

One of the problems with restoration work is that sometimes you need access to that special tool that you may never use again and therefore do not wish to incur the expense of adding it to your tool box. Unfortunately, the Club has learned the hard way that the Club's tools tend to "walk away" because eventually, no one knows where they are and there is no central repository for them. The Board of Directors came up with an idea that may solve both problems. First, if you have a specialty tool that you are willing to loan out, and perhaps even provide some operational guidance or training, we'd like to have your name on the list. The tool is yours and you decide who to loan it to (or not) and for how long. For example, if you have a wheel straightener and I wanted to borrow it, you would be well advised to ask if I had any idea how to use it. On the other hand, if Lew wanted to borrow it, no worries, mate! The lender is responsible for getting his or her tool back, but the borrower takes the tool on two conditions: (1) if you break it, you replace it with a tool of equal quality – irrespective of cost and (2) the lender must keep the tool in his possession at all times – i.e. no sub-lending! This way the Club can maintain a list of specialty tools that may be borrowed without having to have a place to store them. If this is of interest to you, please submit your name and a list of the tools you are willing to share to any Club officer or Board Member and we will try and have the first list out by the first of the New Year. Thank you for your consideration. Ray Ramsay

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE – 1990 Jaguar XJS V12 Convertible.** Beautiful car, red with black top and tan leather. Excellent condition. \$11,000 or best offer. Gene Byrnes, (503) 364-6646.

**FOR SALE – Two Model A engines, three transmissions, a radiator, and other drive train items.** Contact Paul Melsness in Klamath Falls, (541) 891-0636.

**FOR SALE – Two Model T's: a '21 Roadster and a '24 Touring, both very nice restorations, plus some assorted parts.** Contact Keith King in Klamath Falls, (541) 882-7349.

**WANTED:** Landau Brackets that the lower landau iron stud screws into for a '29 Sport Coupe. Dale Stites, (503) 363-8017.

## In Memoriam

Bud Wedel, long time member of our club, passed away on Friday, September 2013 at his home in McNary Estates, amid family members. As of this printing, arrangements had not been confirmed. Club members will be notified when arrangements are finalized.

## NW Regional Meet, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Bend, OR

On Tuesday morning, Charlie Schmidt, Lee Hardy, Tom and Verna Morrison, and Gene and Dolores Byrnes gathered on the south end of Salem for our tour over the mountains to attend the Regional Meet. The Byrnes' were trailering their beautiful '31 Deluxe Phaeton for Blue Ribbon judging, the rest of us had our Model A's warmed up and ready for the trip over the Santiam Pass.

The cars ran well all the way over, but Gene had several issues with his trailer (turn signals, a flat tire, and brakes that quit working). But, he and Dolores made it as well. We stopped at the Rest Area near MP 34 on Highway 22 and were enjoying our refreshments when another Model A pulled up. This couple from Canby was also heading over to Bend. We spoke briefly with them and then continued on our way to Sisters for a gas stop and lunch at Three Creeks Brewery. Upon arrival at the Riverhouse Hotel and Convention Center in Bend we found Blair and Tracy Wasson had just arrived in their modern car and then we also saw Russ and Lois Smith who had just arrived as well.

The High Desert A's did a remarkable job hosting this meet. It was very well organized and staffed. All of this obviously required a tremendous amount of work on their part. Annie Barlow mentioned that they started working on it two and a half years ago! All of the usual activities were included: a welcome social the first evening, an era fashion luncheon, car games, the grand tour (to Crane Prairie Reservoir), technical and fashion seminars, car judging, and a terrific Hospitality Room. There were 288 registered families including one member from Australia and one from New Zealand, 130 raffle prizes that were given away (thank you to Susan Brennan for procuring our club's raffle donation), and a lot of "tire kicking" out in the parking lots. All of the events were very well done. Our hats are off to the Meet committee for a wonderful time!

And speaking of car judging, Gene scored a very respectable 442 points, out of a possible 500. This garnered him a First Prize and an Award of Excellence. Congratulations, Gene! The top scoring car earned 450 points which indicates just how fine the Byrnes' car really is. A remarkable restoration. There were a total of 18 cars that were judged in the three categories; Restored (Blue Ribbon), Touring (Red Ribbon), and Original (White Ribbon).

And of further note, Tom and Verna Morrison celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 5<sup>th</sup> while attending the meet. Our hearty congratulations to them!

There won't be a NW Regional Meet next year due to the MAFCA National Convention being held in Puyallup, WA. So mark your calendars now for the National Convention the week of July 14-18, 2014. And then think about going to the next Regional Meet which will be in Walla Walla, WA in 2015; the dates for this are June 23-28. The fun just never ends.

### ROAD CLEANUP - It's that time again!

Please join us on Saturday morning, **October 19<sup>th</sup>**, to clean up our stretch of Hazelgreen Road NE. Some of us will meet at the Original Pancake House-North at 8:00am for breakfast. If you don't care to join us for breakfast, meet at E.Z. Orchards at 9:00am. This usually takes about an hour to do and the more members we have helping out, the faster it goes. Hope to see you there!

## Car Display at the Capitol

To celebrate the Capitol's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday, there will be a display of vintage automobiles dating from 1938 or earlier on **Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>**, from 10:00am to 3:30pm. The request is for 24 vehicles in, or restored to, original condition; customs and rods need not apply. If you are interested in displaying your car, please call Genoa Ingram at (503) 378-0595.

## International Model A Day

Saturday, **September 28<sup>th</sup>**, is International Model A Day. Although our club doesn't have an official event planned for the day, you might want to get your car out for a drive anyway. Maybe it's time to take the grandkids out for ice cream or just go to the grocery store. Let's show the world that 80-plus year old technology still works (at least, most of the time).

## About the Page 1 Photograph

The photo was taken at the NW Regional Meet in Bend, Oregon earlier in September. John and Nancy Firth are members of the Henry's Lady Chapter in Grants Pass and John is also a past national president of MAFCA. He had a display board with the pickup which presented the following information about this very rare truck.

- The 66-A was developed for General Electric in early 1931 to promote their new coil-top refrigerators. It was also used by Firestone and a few other companies.
- Designed as an upscale, smaller version of the AA Service Car 229-A; with a body manufactured by Briggs.
- The side panels of the wood-lined bed overlap the 82-B cab and are attached with carriage bolts. The tailgate lowers to two positions.
- It was available in all 38 commercial vehicle colors for 1931, and also white.
- A total of 293 were made beginning on May 1, 1931; 125 of them were for General Electric.
- Standard equipment included the stainless steel radiator shell, headlights, cowl lights, and cowl band as well as the chrome-plated bed rails and tailgate hardware.
- This particular pickup was assembled in the Richmond, California plant in August 1931. It was used as a furniture delivery truck in San Jose and then garaged for 61 years. All of the bed wood is original.
- The color is Duchess Blue, a body color for 1931 commercial vehicles and also a trim color for some 1928 models.
- There are 23 Deluxe Pickups known to exist today, about half of which are in operable condition.

Congratulations to John and Nancy for a remarkable, and beautiful, restoration. And thank you for bringing it to the meet for all of us to enjoy.



## Of Kings and Queens and other Things...

To test your knowledge of American "Royalty", please match a name from the list to each of the "titles" indicated. Not all of the names will be used, and one name is used twice.

The answers will be reviewed at the October General Meeting. Good luck!

King of Rock 'n Roll	_____
Queen of Soul	_____
Godfather of Soul	_____
King of Cool	_____
King of the Cowboys	_____
Chairman of the Board	_____
Queen of Scat	_____
Queen of Gospel	_____
King of Swing	_____
First Lady of Theater	_____
Sport of Kings	_____
Sport of Queens	_____
America's Royal Family	_____
First Lady of Song	_____

Tom Mix  
Anita O'Day  
Glenn Miller  
Horse Racing  
Ella Fitzgerald  
the Rockefeller's  
Benny Goodman  
Julie Harris  
Elvis Presley  
Lou Rawls  
Aretha Franklin  
Clark Gable  
Greyhound Racing  
Artie Shaw  
Frank Sinatra  
Roy Rogers  
Yacht Racing  
James Brown  
the Kennedy's  
Mahalia Jackson  
Steve McQueen

**The Connecting Rod**  
P.O. Box 3031  
Salem OR 97302

### *Club Events and Tours*

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| Oct | 1  | <b>Tues, Car Display at the Capitol</b> - from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm.  |
| Oct | 3  | <b>Thurs, General Meeting</b> – Gas Station at the NW Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum, Brooks Powerland, 7:00 pm |
| Oct | 17 | <b>Thurs, Board Meeting</b> – Schmidt, 1540 NE Laurelwood Circle, Canby, OR 7:30 pm                              |
| Oct | 19 | <b>Sat, Road Cleanup</b> – Meet at Pancake House-North at 8:00 am, or at E.Z. Orchards at 9:00 am                |
| Nov | 7  | <b>Thurs, General Meeting</b> - Mission Mill, Card Room, 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor, 7:00 pm                          |
| Nov | 16 | <b>Sat , Albany Swap Meet</b> – Linn Co. Expo Center, opens at 8:00 am, \$5 admission fee                        |
| Nov | 21 | <b>Thurs, Board Meeting</b> – LeMaster, 1845 Lockhaven Drive NE, Keizer 7:30 pm                                  |