



# The Valley News

January 2011

Monthly Newsletter of The Missouri Valley Region, Model "A" Restorers Club, Saint Louis Missouri  
Dedicated to the appreciation, enjoyment and preservation of the Model "A" Ford since 1959

## President's Corner

By *Sonny Ketchum 314.353.0854*

Well this year has really gone by fast. Here it is 2011 and my term has come to an end. I really enjoyed serving as President. It would not have been possible if it wasn't for the help of so many members.

I hope everyone had very enjoyable holidays. I know I did.

This is my last President's column and a very hard one to write. December was such a busy month, but it's all family. The family stuff I

could write wouldn't mean much to the club because nobody would know anyone I was talking about.

I finally took Smurf (my 30 coupe body) to the body shop. He said he would have it painted in about 7 weeks. That will work out pretty good because by that time maybe it will warm up a little bit. I have the frame and motor ready for the body. I'm really looking forward to putting the body on the chassis. In the spring I hope to take Smurf on her maiden voyage.

We are going to have a new group of officers this next year. [January 16, 2011](#) will start the change of offi-

cers. The new officers are: President, **Bob Taylor**; Vice President, **Jeff Buckley**; Secretary, **Jim Clark**; Treasurer, **Dayna Cogorno**; and Editor, **David Stukenbroeker**. Board members are **Bert Schott**,

**Greg Piel**, and **Bob Austin**.

**Sonny Ketchum** will serve as alternate. Please give our new officers the same support you gave me. The best way to do that is to sponsor a tour or tech seminar and volunteer to help when help is needed.

I would like to thank me wife, **Barb**, for being an excellent First Lady. I needed her

notes and reminders to keep me on track. **Barb**, thanks again for being at my side.

I would like to thank my officers for doing an excellent job. Also, all the people who sponsored tours and seminars or who just helped out when they saw something that needed to be done. That is what makes this club great!

See you all at the February meeting when I will be viewing it from the cheap seats.



**Next meeting: Tuesday, February 1, 2011 - 7:30 pm**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church - 820 Lockett Road Kirkwood Missouri**

# Die Hard



**Another Successful Die Hard**

Thanks to **Tom Holtgrave, Mike Rowles, Fred Burk** and a few other wonderful souls, we had another feast on such a cold day.

We once again had the pleasure of listening to **Harry Boyd** sing for us. For anyone who has not yet heard this deep rich voice, you have missed out on a treat. **Harry** will sing seasonal songs and end up with a prayer and best wishes song, a song he sings and ends with each year. For those of you who do not know, **Harry** is the father of **Bob Taylor**. Everyone tells him it is not his fault, but remember, **Bob** is our 2011 president.

We collected hats, gloves, scarves and cash that was donated to the Trinity Church for their Christmas missions and charity work. Thank you to all who donated.

We will do this again the first Sunday of December . See you there.



## Assembly Plants and Body Numbers

Researched and developed by Dave Sturges  
14505 MacClintock Drive, Glenwood, MD 21738-9626  
(410) 442-2724

I have undertaken a research project, trying to identify the Model A Ford Assembly Plants and the codes that were stamped into the frames on the bodies of some Model A's. I know this project has been addressed in the past, but to date I am not aware of either a solution or a good technical article having been published.

### Location of the Assembly Plant ID Number

The body assembly plant number was stamped into the top of the front body cross member, into the body side rails on the floor board level, or into the wooden cross member on certain body styles such as Cabriolets and Fordors. The number can be located anywhere on the cross member and can be oriented to read from driver to passenger side, from passenger to driver side, or from back to front. Also, the size of the stamp used differs from one assembly plant to another. Briggs and Murray bodied cars had a brass tag affixed to either the wooden body cross member or firewall. I am not collecting these tag numbers.

Most, but not all, of these numbers contain one, two, three or four letters that denote the specific assembly plant where the car was assembled. The digital portion of the number could indicate body style production. To date, 31 of the 35 assembly plants have been equated to their letter codes. It would appear that all of the assembly plants, regardless of its particular capability (i.e., major, standard or minor assembly plant), stamped these numbers into the cross member or side rails. For some unknown reason, not all Model "A" cars have an assembly plant number, but could largely be a result of the body cross member or side rails being replaced or the assembly plant number being filled in during restoration.

## Betty Boop Start Up Video

By David Stukenbroeker 314.221.1444

I had the privilege of a sneak preview of this fabulous video. Without question, this is an incredible DVD of the 17th start-up party Terry Oberer has put on. The car is **Betty Boop** owned by **Junior Linenfelser**.

**Gene Cogorno** has certainly outdone himself on this one. There is wonderful footage plus a narrative by **Terry Oberer** along with some cool special effects. The opening scene must be seen to be believed.

The showing will be at our February 1st meeting. Be sure to attend this one, as it will be very special.

Remember, we are looking for our 18th start-up candidate. No, we cannot use any of Jim Ruth's cars, maybe **Jim Ruth** himself.

## Extend Drain Intervals ..... BT By Bob Taylor 636.274.3022

Amsoil's reformulated Extended Life XL Synthetic Motor Oils boast "Extended Drain Boost" additives to accommodate newer vehicles' oil change intervals of 10,000 miles or six months (whichever is first), or even longer. The new oil meets the new API SN and ILSAC GF-5 service categories, the oil has extra alkaline additives and premium synthetic base stocks to neutralize acids, raise the total base number and resist shear. Amsoil says the products offer improved fuel economy: are not harmful to emissions systems: provide hot and cold engine protection: and reduce viscosity loss and evaporation. (Available in SAE 5W-20, 5W-30, 10W-30 and 10W-40)

Many of us look at the above and are very skeptical of these product CLAIMS. Well, the new oils do meet the requirement of the American Petroleum Institute and the other world wide oil testing institutes. The premium base stocks are Group II and III base stocks which are the purest base oils available except for Group IVs, which are not readily available. They are almost 99% free of contaminants, which allows more neutralization of acids and other contaminants. Amsoil claims better fuel economy. That's true with less friction and lower viscosities you can expect 6 to 8 tenths of a mile per gallon improvement. The Group II and Group III base oils are more stable when it comes to viscosities. They have a built in viscosity modifier along with the additive package in the final product that holds the oil at a flow rate consistently throughout the changes in temperatures. Because of the purity of the base stocks and the control of the additive package the new motor oils are friendlier to the emissions systems. These claims are not just claims from Amsoil, but are true throughout the oil industry. CAUTION: Read the label; make sure the **DONUT** (Note to **Jim Ruth**, it is not the edible kind) is part of the labeling.

Questions? I'll See you at the meeting 2/1/2011

TERRY OBERER Start-up Party

#17 Betty Boop



David Stukenbroeker, Newsletter Editor  
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### MARC Regional Officers for 2010

<u>President</u>		
<b>Bob Taylor</b>	636.274.3022	Hippo1941@cs.com
<u>Vice President</u>		
Jeff Buckley	314.846.7408	Puxico001@Hotmail.com
<u>Treasurer</u>		
<b>Dayna Cogorno</b>	314.434.1064	Cogorno2@sbcglobal.net
<u>Secretary</u>		
<b>Jim Clark</b>	636.441.5770	Blindman1963@Sbcglobal.net
<u>Board Members</u>		
<b>Greg Piel</b>	314.353.0854	sixapiel@charter.net
<b>Bob Austin</b>	636.933.0887	Austin1127@yahoo.com
Bert Schott	636.519.0431	BSchott@Charter.net
<b>Sonny Ketchum</b>	314.353.0854	nice57sonny@yahoo.com

[www.modelclub.org](http://www.modelclub.org)

**Wanted:** a set of usable 21" whitewall tires for a 29 coupe. Don't have to be new, but need to be white-walls and roadworthy. **Ralph Barton** 636.272.2146 or cell 636.614.5316.

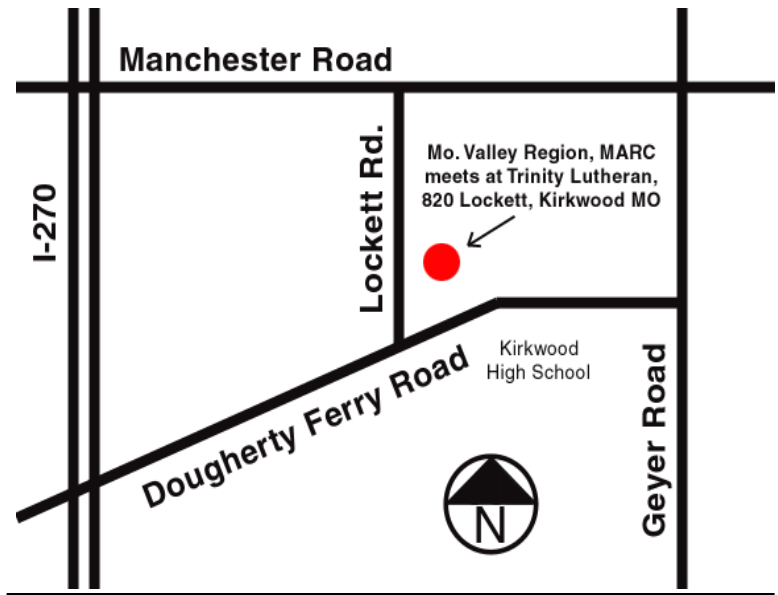
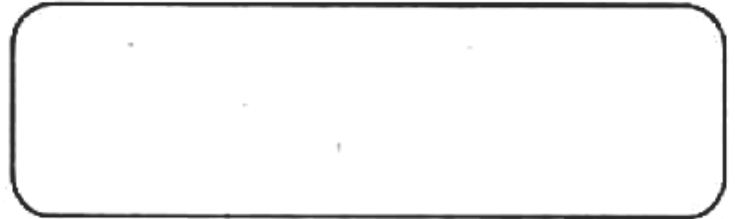
**Services:** Expert Mechanical rebuilding, 30 years experience, Engines rebuilt, transmissions, brakes, electrical, F&R Axles, Car assembly, Tune-Up & More  
**Larry Shepard** 636.947.4515

**For Sale:** I have the following parts for Ford Model T - 1 pair of running board aprons for a "26-27 sedan (that is what they looked similar to in a parts catalog). Already painted a nice gloss black - \$40. Also 1 pair of used axle shafts - \$30. **Jim Preston** 314.353.4592

**For Sale:** 1929 Roadster fully restored with side mount, leather trunk and much more. For information **Bill Link** at 314.965.5465.

**Next Issue will have the**  
**2010 Awards Banquet**  
**And Some Rebuttals'**

## First Class Mail



## Mo Member says:

### *Things I gotta do*

1. Write an article for the newsletter
2. Donate to MAFFI Museum
3. Drive your Model "A" for MAFCA
4. Plan a 2011 Tour
5. Support the officers
6. Find a Start-Up car candidate

