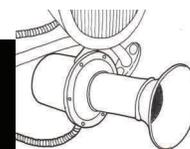




THE KLAXON



March 2013



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And much more .

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And much more in this month's Klaxon.....

The Newsletter of the

Delaware Valley Model A Ford Club, Inc.

Who are we:

The Klaxon is the monthly newsletter of the Delaware Valley Model "A" Ford Club, Inc. and is circulated to all club members and other interested clubs. The club meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm at Daley's Service Center, 2749 Bristol Pike, Bensalem, PA 19020.

If you wish to contribute articles for publication in the Klaxon please do so by submitting them to the editor Steve Organ. Other pertinent information can be obtained from the officers.

Technical and historical questions are encouraged and we'll do our best to get the answers. Questions can be submitted via E-Mail at: Sorgan@themaxwellgroup.org.

Club Officers

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Secretary – Don Fortune	215-698-1256
Treasurer – Don O'Hara	215-338-6368
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THE KLAXON

President's Message



Greetings:

Our auction at the February meeting went well. This allowed members to sell some excess, unwanted items to make room for new purchases. Some feedback that I received afterwards; 1) The auction should be done up front with everyone seated. 2) The item's owner should describe the item briefly. 3) A percentage should be given to the club. Perhaps we could do an auction a couple of times a year.

A few weeks ago, Punxsutawney Phil predicted an early spring. Whether or not he is correct, spring will still be here before you know it. Is your car ready for some tours? Have you put off that winter maintenance and repairs like I have? Well, its time to get to work and get those cars ready to roll soon. If you have a problem or question with your Model A, ask the members at our meeting. Our collective expertise is sure to find an answer for you.

When we do tours and parades, if anyone is able to get some pictures and send them to me, it would be appreciated. When I can attend I do take pictures however I am unable to get to every event. It would be nice to get more event photos for the website and our Facebook page.

See you on the 7th!

Jim

Visit our web site at

www.dvmafc.org

Up Coming Events

3/7/2013—Monthly Meeting at Daley's Service Center

4/28/2013—Renninger's—Early Morning

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Edsel Ford's Model A dual-cowl phaeton heads to auction



It's no surprise that Edsel Ford's personal Model A received a number of upgrades in the aesthetics department; Edsel continually pressured his father to jazz up Ford's products. More surprising, however, is the fact that Edsel's personal Model A spent 50 years in a dairy barn hidden away from the world and that it won't make its debut as a fully restored car until next month, when it crosses the block at Gooding's Scottsdale auction.

As a member of the team that developed the Model A, Edsel Ford made sure to infuse it with some of the same styling that made Lincoln a stand-out in previous years and thus address the criticism that Ford's Model T lacked style. In doing so, he earned hard-won praise from his father: "We've got a pretty good man in my son," Henry Ford said upon the introduction of the Model A. "He knows style – how a car ought to look."

Considered one of his crowning achievements, the Model A could still benefit from some upgrades, Edsel figured, so in 1929 he and his father approached LeBaron to create a special one-off Model A. They specified a dual-cowl phaeton – a body style Ford never offered in the Model A lineup – built about two inches narrower than a standard Model A and with a number of custom touches, like the laid-back windshields, the Victoria-like back panel, smooth cowl sides, and elongated front fenders. As was LeBaron's practice, its craftsmen built the body in aluminum over a wood structure. To the black-painted body Edsel and Henry added Stephen Grebel headlamps, a center-mounted Klaxon horn, exposed chrome detailing, and patent leather splash aprons. Powered by a standard Model A four-cylinder, the chassis still featured a number of modifications, including a completely custom frame, a rear axle narrowed by eight inches, a factory-dropped front axle, and cantilever rear springs similar to those found on a Ford Model AA truck. "There's really not much on this that's from a stock Model A," said Chris Roberts, who worked on the restoration of the car for Mann's Restoration and Maintenance.

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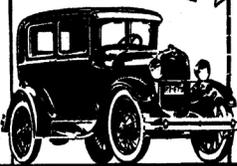


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Titled in Edsel Ford's name, the phaeton apparently served as a styling study, though there's some speculation that it could have been considered for production. According to Gooding's auction description, early antique car collector Vernon Jarvis ended up buying the Model A sometime in the 1950s and stored it in an Illinois dairy barn, where it remained until 2007, when the barn was reportedly slated to be demolished. According to FordGarage.com, Phil Hawley, owner of the Route 66 Dream Car Museum in Williamsville, Illinois, came across the phaeton, by this time fitted with a Ford V8-60 engine and front sheet metal that made the phaeton resemble a 1937 Ford. (The staff at Mann's indicated that the current owner, not Hawley, discovered the car in the barn in 2007.) Roberts said he believes the front sheet metal and V8-60 were added while the phaeton was in storage in an amateur effort to hot rod the car. Regardless of the origin of the later configuration, Hawley cleaned up the phaeton and displayed it as found until his death in 2010 and subsequent auction of the museum's contents.

About a year later, the current owner took the phaeton to Mann's in Festus, Missouri, for a complete restoration to its original configuration. According to Roberts, that restoration required extensive fabrication of missing one-off parts (including one of the windshield frames, the hood, bumper, door hinges, top irons and top bows), modifying a Model A grille shell, sourcing another pair of Stephen Grebel headlamps, and plenty of research. The latter, conducted by the owner, turned up not only the original title for the car, but also correspondence between Edsel and Henry Ford and LeBaron laying out the car's specifications. "We even tracked down the body number in LeBaron's files and found out it was built between two Duisenberg's," Roberts said.

Though Mann's still has a few details to finish, Roberts said the phaeton will be ready for Gooding's Scottsdale auction, scheduled for January 18-19, where the phaeton is expected to sell for \$325,000 to \$400,000.

Remember When??



TRIVIA

1. What popular retail store has offered automobiles for sale twice in its history?
2. What automobile company built the PT-109?

ANSWERS

2. Packard built the famous gunboat

through their outlets.

Frazer, Montgomery Wards, Macys and Gimbels have also sold autos at one time

was the second offering. Although sold exclusively by Sears, it was built by Kaiser-

Autobugy, built by Sears in its Sears Motor Car works in Chicago. The Allstate

1. Sears Roebuck & Co. in 1908-1912 and 1952-1953. The first model was the Sears

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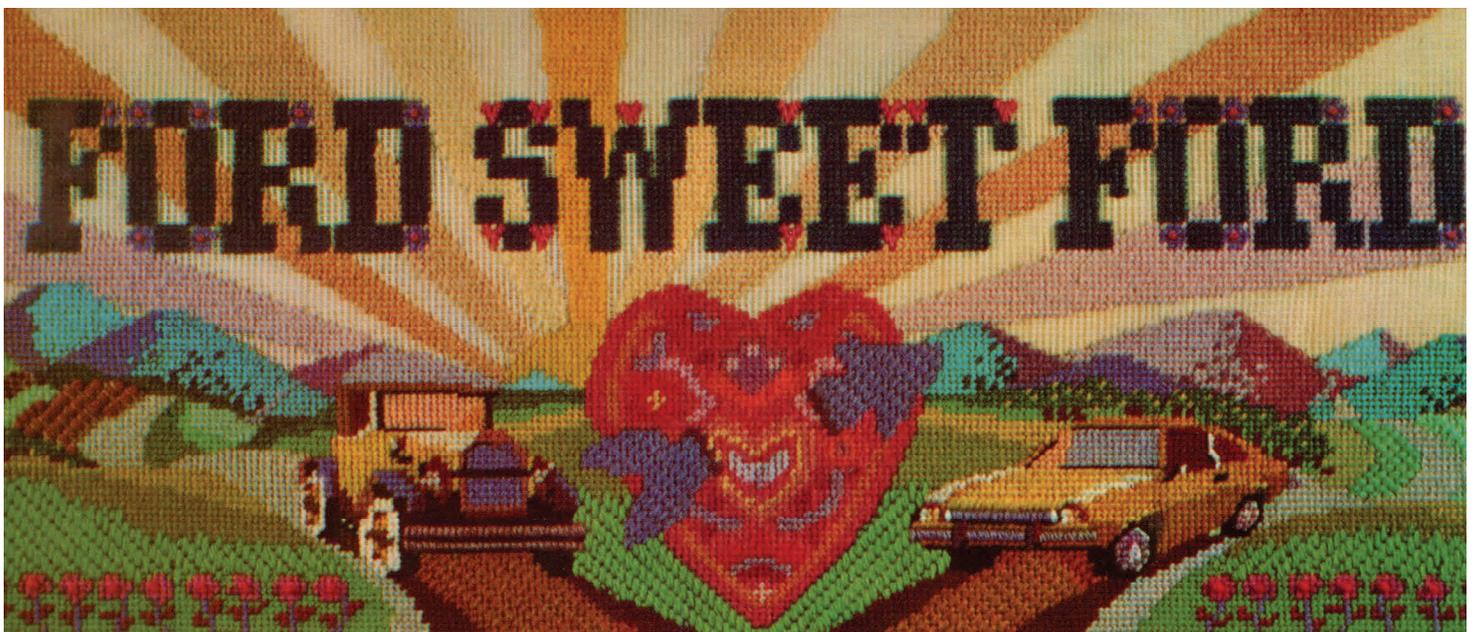
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The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.

Fuel for this car was sold in *drug stores* only.

Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower !

The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.

The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian Between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births took place at HOME.

Ninety percent of all Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION!

Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND the government as 'substandard.'

Sugar cost four cents a pound.

Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.

Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.

(Continued on Page 10)

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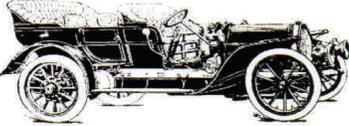
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The Five leading causes of death were:

1. Pneumonia and influenza
2. Tuberculosis
3. Diarrhea
4. Heart disease
5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars.

The population of Las Vegas , Nevada was only 30!

Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.

There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.

Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write and only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at the local corner drugstores.

Back then pharmacists said, 'Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind,

Regulates the stomach and bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health'

Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.

There were about 230 reported murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A. !

I am now going to forward this to someone else without typing it myself.

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Up Coming Events

3/3/2013 - Hamburg Swap Meet – Hamburg Fire Co Field House – 7am – 2pm \$2.00 adults

3/1-3/2013—Atlantic City Car Show

3/7/2013—monthly meeting at Daley’s Service Center

3/22-24/2013 – Northeast Rod and Custom Nationals, Phila. Expo Center – 215-896-2923

4/30 – 6/1/13 – Carlisle, Eastern Division National Spring Meet – Fairgrounds - AACA

5/4/2013 - (rain date 5/11) – “Spring Spectacular Car Show”, Grand Market Place, Willingboro, NJ
\$15 DOS – 9am – 3:30pm – Movin’ on KruZers.

6/1/2013 - Haddon Farmers Market Car Show 2820 Mt. Ephraim Ave, Haddon, Twp. \$15 DOS –
9am – 3:30pm - Movin’ on KruZers.

6/15/2013 – Grand Market Place “Father’s Day Care Show” Willingboro, NJ \$15 DOS – 9am –
3:30pm - Movin’ on KruZers.

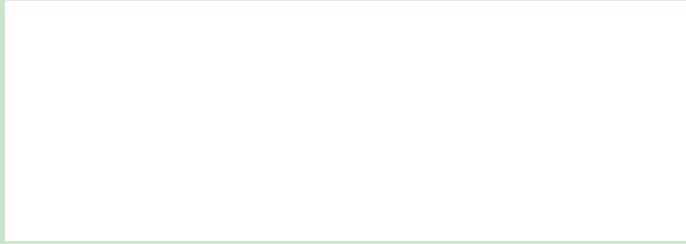
9/28/2013 – Fall Blast Car Show” Willingboro, NJ \$15 DOS - Movin’ on KruZers.

10/21/2013 – “Tony’s Place” Car Show – 1297 Greeley Ave, Ivyland - \$15 DOS, 9am – 3pm -
Movin’ on KruZers.

This car came out loser in
a battle of wills with a trol-
ley bus on Boston 's
South End in 1932



Even public servants
weren't immune to acci-
dents. An early mail
truck came out loser in
this battle with a tree on
the tree-lined Commer-
cial Avenue , Boston



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Member's Spotlight



Bob and Dee Coates
1931 Deluxe Roadster

My 1931 Deluxe Roadster purchased in 2007 – sight unseen except online photos – from a teacher in Grand Rapids, MI.
The car was delivered to my home by a FEDEX truck 5 days later. Make a lot of friends with this car and really enjoy owning it.
Bob has driven the car in many club parades and events. It's always nice to see his great roadster.

