

THE RUMBLE SHEET

MAY 2024 VOLUME 58- ISSUE 5

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Club

If you think the Month of April was full of opportunities to enjoy your Model A's, wait till you see what we have planned for you in the month of May. April saw us touring Honor Heights Park in Muskogee, enjoying a great metrological presentation from Michael Grogan Fox 23, and finishing the month on Spring Tour with the Sooner Club at Fort Sill in Lawton.

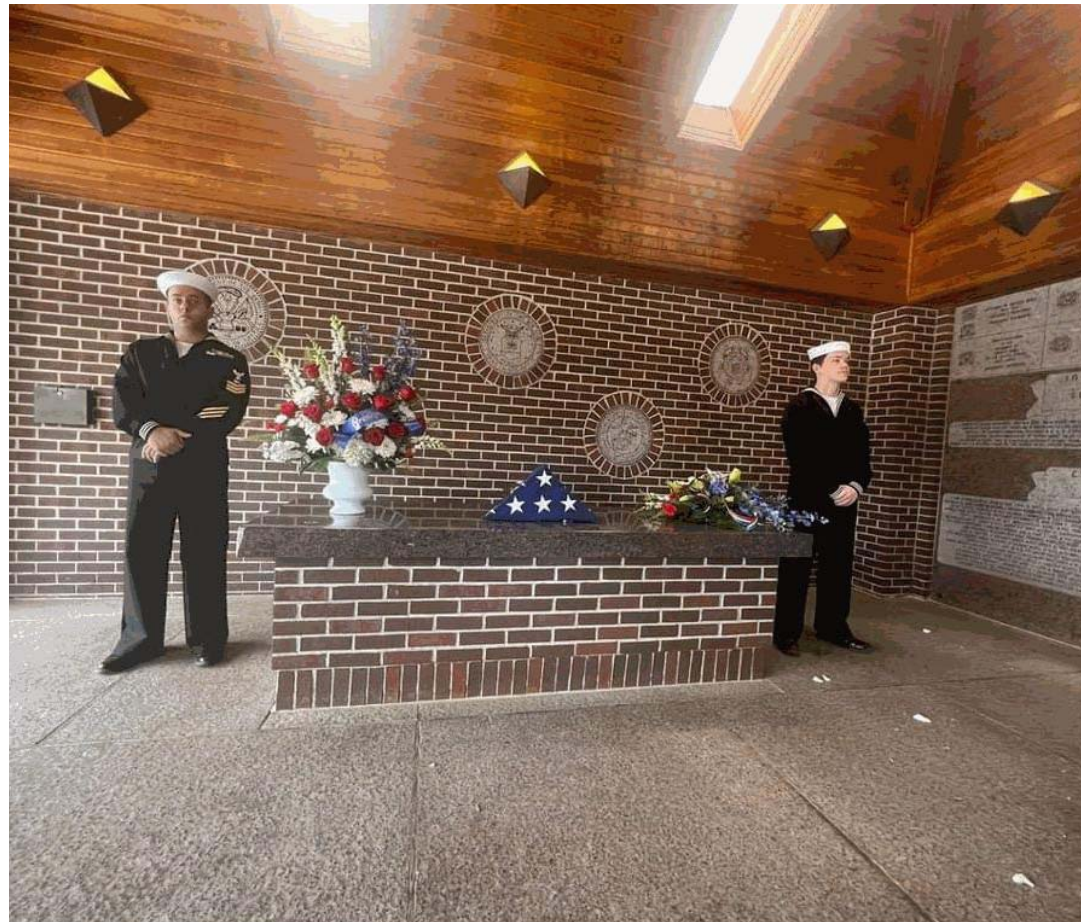
This month we will be heading back north to Owasso for breakfast followed by a poker run. On Saturday May 11th, we will be touring the Gathering Place hosted by Kim and Kindall Sutter. Be on your best behavior, Kim's mother will be joining us. This will be a unique photo opportunity for the cars and a chance to see the park in peak spring foliage. Saturday May 18th, is Rooster Day in Broken Arrow. Linda Mellage will be leading us in the parade.

Spring is here and there are lots of activities planned to enjoy the weather, the cars, and most importantly the fellowship of all our Model A friends.

Kent



IN MEMORIAM - RICH ROBINSON



THE FINER POINTS

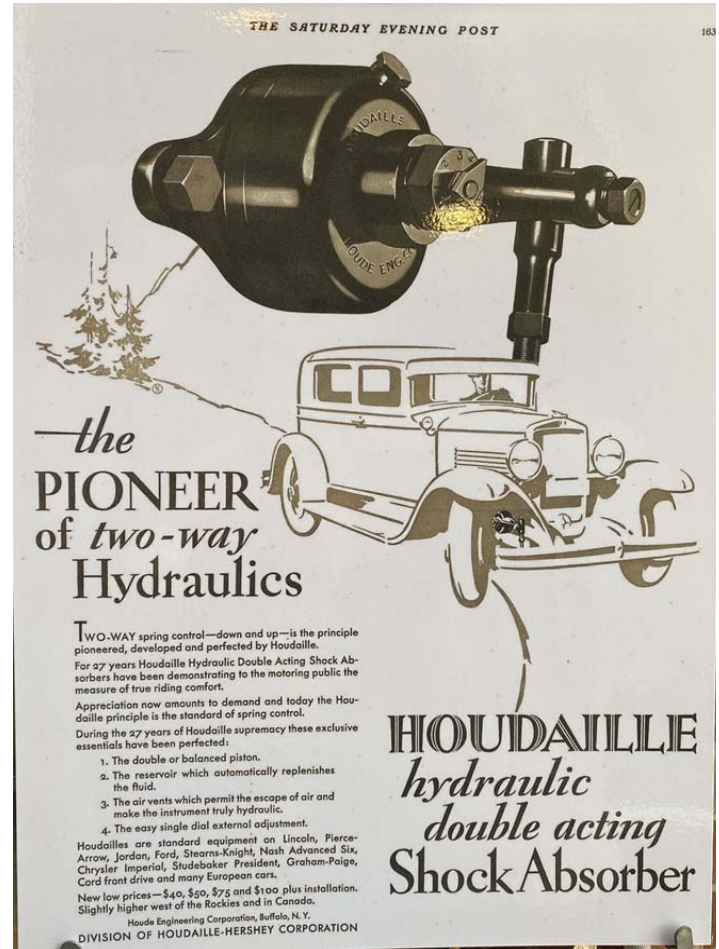
by Chris DuVall

I don't know about you, but I've been spending as much time in the Model "A" as possible. I'm trying to make up for not driving my DeLuxe Roadster very much over the last few years. Additionally, I've been working to get the ride to feel smoother like my other Model "A's". My Deluxe Roadster has reproduction hydraulic shock absorbers on it, and overall, they work well. In fact, I think they perform better than modern shocks since the hydraulic shocks were designed specifically for the cars. The needle valve is fully adjustable just like on the originals providing a soft or stiff ride as desired. What if you want original shocks though? What are some things to look for?

Area 23 of the Restoration Guidelines and Judging Standards outlines all the styles of shock absorbers used on the Model "A" except for the very first one. Below is a photo of the first Houdaille shock style used exclusively on the prototype cars. If you look closely, you'll see the shock is mounted on the frame horn next to the bumper arm, and the bottom of the link attached directly to the front axle. Obviously, this shock was an afterthought when designing the Model "A" chassis. Ford engineers did have it all sorted out by the time production started though.



Below is an era advertisement for the Houdaille shock absorber that Ford used on its prototypes. For the most part, these shock absorbers were used on large expensive motorcars. If I remember correctly, the Houdaille shock used on the prototypes cost \$100 per shock. So, they would have essentially doubled the price of the Model "A".



Luckily, Ford had Houdaille design a smaller version that was more reasonably priced for our cars. In 1931, a replacement shock for your Model "A" would have cost \$3 from the dealer not including installation. Since more than 20 million units were produced, they are common to run across at swap meets today. I don't know about you, but I don't normally carry the standards with me whenever I'm out and about. So, I have some rules of thumb whenever I'm looking at shocks to determine approximately what year they are. Below is a photo of a set of 1929 shocks. The first design sported a flat outer cover, and small mounting ears. In 1928, the outer cover generally had the Ford script stamped into it. Whereas in 1929, the script was not present. Just remember, a flat cover means an earlier shock.

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Beginning in 1930, the outer cover was redesigned with an indentation to provide a better seal around the shaft. At left is an example of this cover on my 1931 shock. The mounting ears were also redesigned in 1931 to be more triangular in shape which provided more strength. So, if you see an indented cover, think 1930 or 1931. Also, the later the shock, the more patent numbers that are present.

You may also notice the “AC” stamped on my 1931 shock. That stands for “Anti-Clockwise” which tells me this is either a left front or right rear shock. This means the shock has 40% of the resistance when the arm rotates clockwise (up) and 60% of the resistance when the arm rotates anti-clockwise (down). In other words, the traverse spring returns to its original position more slowly than it was compressed upwards, hence absorbing the shock. Right front or left rear shocks could have been marked with a “CW” for “Clockwise”. Not all shocks were marked “AC” or “CW”. Regardless, it is important to make sure the shocks are installed correctly. Otherwise, they will not perform as designed.

As you’re looking for shocks, it’s important to remember there were four manufacturers: Houdaille Engineer Corp, National Acme Company, Spicer Manufacturing Company, and Ford Motor Company. Ford only made shocks in 1931, and they really don’t seem to be that common. The two previous examples I gave above are National Acme shocks. If you are wanting a set for show, then all four shocks should match on your car.

(continued on page 4)



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NUTS & BOLTS

by Ken Brust

Bob Stine, our new Board Member and refreshments provider, brings a large photo each month to our club meetings showing our party celebrating the club's 50th anniversary in 2018. We had our Model A's form a giant number 50 next to the Stokely Event Center before we went inside for the fun celebration. We also had a helium balloon loft with requests to finders to send us where each was found. The furthest balloon reported was found in Henryetta by, no other, than Jim Shoulters, a famous National Rodeo Champion. So naturally, we all had to go meet him in Henryetta later for lunch and thank him for making our 50th anniversary extra special.



(Finer Points continued from page 3)

There are a lot more details we could delve into on shock absorbers, and perhaps we will someday in another article. For now, hopefully you have some good rules of thumb to follow if you're looking. As for me, I'm always looking. Just do me a favor and don't tell Julianna! Ha! I want to leave you with one thing to always remember: All Model "A" Ford shocks said "HOUDAILLE HYDRAULIC SUSPENSION MADE IN U.S.A." If you're at a swap meet, and the shock you're looking at does not say these words specifically, then the shock is not an original Model "A" shock.



As I write this, I'm thinking of our Spring Tour coming up soon to Lawton. Traveling seems to suit many of us as we enjoy hitting the road in motorcars almost 100 years old. But we really have it pretty good these days with fairly nice roads, good hotels and many of us with air conditioning in our cars. I'm reminded of a trip my dad took in a Model A Ford coupe with a rumble seat and with three other guys in 1932 to see the Olympic Games in California. They were all Eagle Scouts, 20 years old and each had \$30 for their three week trip. They traveled 5,550 miles and visited many National Parks along the way. They camped or stayed with friends or relatives, crammed together in the cab when it rained and had a fantastic and very memorable trip. There is a lot to say about youth! There seems to be nothing that can hold back youthful dreams. This same travel adventure in youth is told with the Abernathy Boys. Our Spring Tour includes a stop in Frederick at the museum which tells the story of these two boys and their incredible adventure by horse and motorcar before they were even in double digits in age. Their book is one of my favorite reads!



Happy trails to all.....



MAY 4TH, 8:30 A.M.

APPLE BARREL CAFE

14002 EAST 116TH STREET ST N OWASSO

The May breakfast will be at the Apple Barrel Café in Owasso starting at 8:30 a.m.. Following breakfast, Sam Slavens will lead the group on a poker run in the Oologah area ending at the Will Roger's Museum in Claremore. Sam will have maps to distribute at breakfast.

Looking forward to a fun breakfast followed by poker run. by Roy Cail



BROKEN ARROW COMMUNITY THEATER - JUNE 8

"ALWAYS A BRIDEMAID"

by Roy Cail

1800 South Main Street, Broken Arrow

Time: 7 p.m. Seating, Play starts 7:30 p.m.

Price: Adults: \$20/Person - Seniors/Vets: \$18//person
Students: \$20/person

Come join us for a fun-filled evening on June 8. We have 24 seats reserved with a purchase cutoff date of May 27. Checks should be made out to the Tulsa Model A Ford Club. Tickets must be paid for no later than May 27.

We will arrange for dinner before theater at the Rib Crib located on 71st and S. Main St. at 6 p.m. If you plan on attending dinner, please indicate when you purchase your tickets.

TULSA MODEL A FORD CLUB GATHERING PLACE TOUR AND LUNCH MAY 11, 8 A.M.



by Roy Cail

The Gathering Place in Tulsa is the newest incredible park to visit and explore in the U.S. The Gathering Place has been named the Best City Park in the country by USA Today for a second time.

It was designed by the same brilliant landscape architect who created Maggie Daley Park in Chicago and Brooklyn Bridge Park in New York.

This park has the ability to make Tulsa a "bucket list" travel destination for families across the United States.

Currently the Gathering Place is 66 acres of park space. There are two additional phases still in progress which will bring the size of the Gathering Place to about 100 acres!



Our arrival time at the Gathering Place is on May 11 at 8:00 am. Use the north entrance off Riverside Drive (S. John

Williams Way) as we have reserved parking. The best place to park the cars for a photo opportunity will be in front of the playground, which is one of the most iconic and most photographed. The early start will give us time for some photos before the public starts to arrive between 8:30 and 9:00. We'll tour the playground, Boathouse, Lodge. and white-water rafting area. We will plan for about 2 ½ hour tour and photo opportunities. Then we'll head to our lunch spot (McNellie's located at 7031 S. Zurich Ave, Tulsa). McNellie's is located off Yale and 71st. It would be a good idea to have everyone wear comfortable walking shoes.

We will need a car count but will leave a few extra spaces just in case. Kendall will be our tour guide and that will last about an hour.



MEETING MINUTES

The General Membership Meeting for April was called to order at 7:00

pm April 16th by President Kent Washburn. The flag salute was led by Kent. Prayer was given. Thirty-seven members were present. New members were introduced including Bob Soper, Jon and Jane Lord, Keith and Debbie Jones, and Lonnie and Kelly Sherry.

Special speaker Michael Grogan, Fox 23 Meteorologist, gave an interesting presentation on weather and weather forecasting in Tulsa. He discussed how a weather forecast is prepared, current weather patterns, the difference between a “watch” and a “warning” (remember taco), and how to prepare for severe weather and tornados. Lots of fascinating information was presented and very well received by the membership. Thanks to Michael.

The Treasurer’s Report was given by Jeanne Washburn. Ending balance was \$6393. Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. Ken presented the Sunshine Report with information and concerns regarding several members including Cheryl Jackson, Joanne Cooper, and Roy and Barbara Cail. Anyone knowing of a member who is ill or injured please notify Ken with the information.

Reports were made on March drives and events. Lots of fun and fellowship. The Spring Tour 2024 was discussed. The agenda will be sent via e-mail. It was suggested that everyone review our web site for general trip driving procedures. Our new procedure of sending detailed event information via email just prior to an event seems to be working well. I know it helps my really poor memory to recollect the details of our events. At my age, I need all the help I can get.

Lots of interesting events are scheduled for this year. Mitch Duval talked about the Model A Ford Foundation and their plans for expansion of the Model A Museum. He discussed a program where a picture of your car on a plaque to be hung at the museum can be purchased with a \$200 (?) donation to the Foundation. See Mitch for details.

The Gathering Place tour on Saturday, May 11th was discussed. Meet at 8:00 am at the North entrance on Riverside Drive. Details will be sent via e-mail.

The May 1st, 2024 breakfast will be at the Applebarrel restaurant just off Hwy 169. A poker run will follow. See e-mail for details. Comedy Play House

and Dinner is scheduled for June 8th. Dinner at Rib Crib in BA. Details in e-mail later this week. (I was looking forward to this event, but I’ll be leading a group of Miatas on a tour in Colorado. Drats!)

There was a short discussion of a bus tour to to the Model A Museum at some time in the future. This will require a lot of planning, so let a BOD member know, if you are interested. Probably sometime in 2025.

Here are a few planned events for your schedule: June 16th - 29th is the MAFCA National Convention in Ruidoso, NM; December 11th -14th is the MAFCA National Awards Banquet in Salt Lake City; Fourth on the Third at the TCC Performing Arts Center; Ice Cream Social on July 20th at Joanne Cooper’s, organized by Marvin and Linda Mellage; River City Players on August 3rd at 1:00 pm, organized by Kent and Jeanne Washburn. Visit the Events Calendar on our website for more scheduled events.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Bob Stine. I think he spent most of it on doughnuts for the Men’s Coffee on Wednesday. Thanks Bob.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm Coffee and lots of cookies were consumed.

Tim Bodine, Secretary






Bob Soper
18220 E. 41st Place - Tulsa, OK 74134
918-704-6175
1929 Steelback 4 Door Sedan

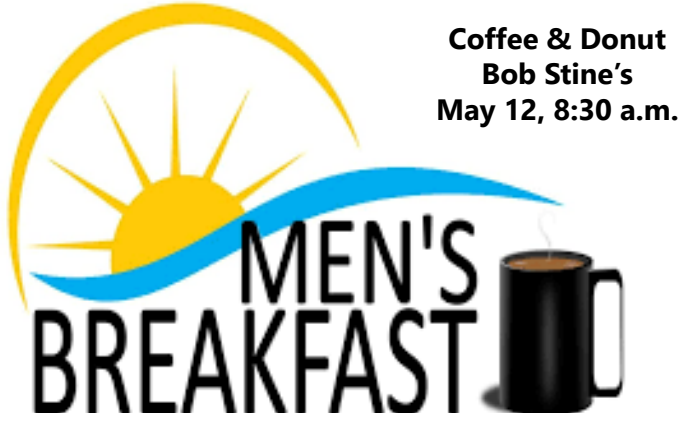


APRIL MEETING - MIKE GROGAN AND THE WEATHER



 **Mike Grogan Weather**  · [Follow](#) 10h · 

It was fun talk about forecasting Oklahoma weather with the Tulsa Ford Model A Club tonight! They drive awesome cars and know never to d... See more



**Coffee & Donuts - Marvin's Shop
May 7, 8:00 a.m.**



Calendar of May Events

May 1 - 4

4/Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

Model A Breakfast

Apple Barrel Cafe, 14002 E 116 St N, Owasso

Sam Slaven's - Poker Run

May 5 - 11

7/Tuesday, 8:00 a.m.

Men' Coffee at Marvin's

9/Thursday, 11:30 a.m.

Ladies' Luncheon

Carrabba's Italian Grill, 11021 E. 71st Street

11/Saturday, 8:00 a.m.

Gathering Place Guided Tour

Lunch out of the park - Kim Sutter

May 12 - 18

15/Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.

Men's Coffee at Bob Stine's

14550 North 69th E Ave, Collinsville, OK

18/Saturday, 10:00 a.m.

Rooster Day Parade - Broken Arrow

8:45 line up

May 19 - 25

21/Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

General Meeting

Hardesty Library

Cake Walk - Linda Mellage

May 26 - 31

27/Monday - MEMORIAL DAY



JUNE

1-Model A Breakfast - Pending, Sam Slaven's

4-Men's Coffee, Marvin's, 8:00 AM

8-Broken Arrow Community Theater,

Dinner at Rib Crib, 71st & Main, Broken Arrow

13-Ladies' Luncheon, 11:30 AM

18-General Meeting, Hardesty Library, Cake Walk,

Linda Mellage

19-Men's Coffee, Bob Stine's, 14550 N 69th E Ave,

Collinsville, 8:00 AM

JULY

2-Men's Coffee, Marvin's, 8:00 a.m.

3-Fourth on the Third - Pending - Dinner Before

6-Breakfast, Pending

11-Ladies' Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.

20-Ice Crea Social, Joanna Cooper's

20-General Meeting and Board Meeting after

Ice Cream Social

AUGUST

3-River City Players with Thunderbird Club, 1:00 p.m.,

Rock 'n Roll Show, Tahlequah

17-Play Day, Pending

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 **SUNSHINE Report** by Ken Brust

Joanna Cooper continues to heal from her cracked vertebra with injections and meds.

Kent is recovering slowly after shoulder surgery, but no Model A driving for awhile unless Marvin can install power steering in his car.

Both Roy and Barbara had bad cases of the flu with Roy even spending a few nights in the hospital. But both seem to be on the mend now.

Cheryl Jackson is recovering from several surgeries over the past few months and is finally doing pretty well. She and Bobby can now start planning their Route 66 drive to Chicago.

Jan continues to grieve over the recent loss of her son while we all grieve with Pat with the passing of Rich.

If you know of anyone feeling low and needing a little boost, please let me know. Thanks.

918 728-1900



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Kent Washburn
- 12 Linda Stine
- 12 Terri Ulberg
- 17 Charlie Ramsey
- 17 Lisa Ramsey
- 18 Steve & Kenda REISER
- 23 Barbara Cail
- 28 Lonnie Sherry
- 29 Mitchell & Melody DUVALL
- 29 Ollie & Virginia HARRIS



**May - Tory Brust and
Linda Ochs**

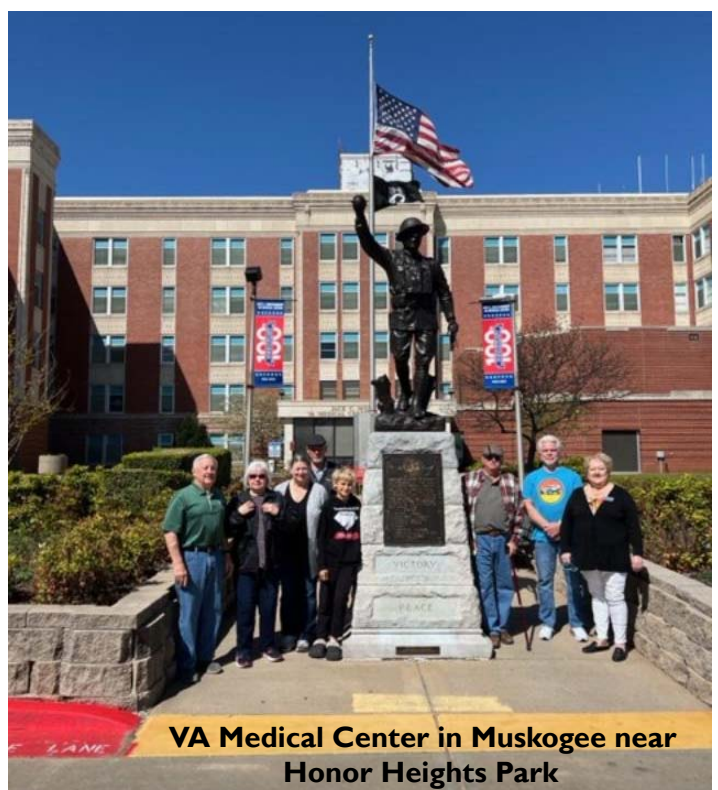
CLUB JACKETS, HATS AND MORE

If you are interested in purchasing clothing items with the Club Logo, contact

Kent Washburn
918-693-8504 or
klwashburn@cox.net



*Carrabba's Italian Grill
11021 E. 71st Street, Tulsa
Thursday, May 9th, 11:30 a. m.*



**VA Medical Center in Muskogee near
Honor Heights Park**

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Board

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About the Tulsa Model A Ford Club

Chapter #8231 of the Model A Club of America (MAFCA)

This is the official publication of the Tulsa Chapter of Model A Ford Club of America. This monthly newsletter is mailed to members, prospective members, advertisers and editors of similar publications. It's purpose is to keep you informed of what has taken place, scheduled activities and to promote fellowship among club members.

Members are encouraged to submit articles containing technical or any club related information. Articles must reach the editor by the 5th of the month to insure publication in that month's newsletter. Articles received after that will appear in a following newsletter.

Membership dues for the Tulsa Model A Ford Club are \$30 per family annually payable at the end of the year. Contact the New Member chairperson for new memberships and the Treasurer for renewals. The Tulsa Model A Ford Club recommends membership in the national MAFCA organization.

Members may advertise at no cost, non-business ads in the newsletter For Sale, Wanted or Trade section. Businesses may advertise with cost by the ad size, (business card size or 1/4 page) in the advertising section. The number of ads are restricted to space available in the Rumble Sheet. Contact the Advertising chairperson for details.

Meeting Schedule

- Business Meeting - 7:00 p.m., 3rd Tuesday of each month at Charles Hardesty Library, 8316 East 93rd Street, Tulsa
- Breakfast - 8:30 a.m., 1st Saturday of each month, location to be announced
- Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m., 1st Tuesday of each month, Charles Hardesty Library, 8316 East 93rd Street, Tulsa

TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE, LETTER, OR FOR SALE OR TRADE, EMAIL:

Harold Helton - hahelton@cox.net

The Rumble Sheet

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