

# "A" RAMBLINGS

Happy  
JANUARY  
New Year!  
2024

LVVMAFC NEWSLETTER

Las Vegas Valley



Model A Ford Club

WWW.  
VEGASMODELA.COM



## DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

PARADE

PARTY



**Mike McComb's FROSTY THE MODEL A**  
Mike decorated his Model A as Frosty the Snowman to lead his daughter's cheer team through the Boulder City Christmas parade.



PHOTO BY: MICHAEL FECCHINO

**Model A Club Christmas Party**  
Yummy Christmas to all! The club's Christmas Party at Giuseppe's Bar & Grill on December 2nd. A good time and good people, what else could you ask for!

More on page 6

ART

## JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:



Our daughter, Amy Ford, took an art class in December. She did an amazing job capturing a Ford truck taking a winter ride through the woods to pick up a Christmas tree!



2024 BOARD MEMBERS

Liz Prehm - Chris Ringenbach - Dave Ringenbach - Charlotte Kessler - Dale Rausch

Welcome to our new board members of the LVVMAFC for the year 2024.

We will try very hard to make this another wonderful year. However, we can always use your help with ideas for tours and events. We also appreciate any help with planning and organizing as well!

Thanks you for joining the meetings, breakfasts and tours, we all need each other to make our club successful!

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STEVE KUSHNER'S "DIRTY HANDS" PG 8

# UP COMING EVENTS

<b>MONTHLY MEETINGS:</b> February 20, 2024 LOCATION: THE TAP HOUSE 5589 W Charleston Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89146 <b>TIME: Eat: 6:00 PM Meeting 7:00 PM</b>	<b>SPRING MODEL T &amp; A PICNIC</b>  DATE: LOCATION: MORE INFO ON THIS SOON! TIME:
<b>FEBRUARY BREAKFAST</b> DATE: Sunday, February 4, 2024 LOCATION: Peg's Ham & Eggs 8465 W Sahara LV, NV 89117 TIME: 8:30 AM Eat: 9:00 AM	<b>HELDORADO PARADE</b>  DATE: May 11, 2024 LOCATION: MORE INFO ON THIS SOON! TIME:



## 2024 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President	Dale Rausch	831-901-7250	derausch@aol.com
Past President	Dave Ringenbach	702-353-7951	d55bach@gmail.com
Vice President	Charlotte Kessler	702-426-2562	charkessler@yahoo.com
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Membership/ Publicity	Mark Schieff	702-592-1368	mschieffPMO@aol.com
Web Master	Dale Rausch	831-901-7250	dale.rausch@yahoo.com

## NUTS'N BOLTS



NEWSLETTER: Published monthly by the LVVMAFC Articles submitted for publication should reach the editor by Friday noon following the monthly meetings. All articles become the property of the club and are subject to corrections or revisions. Permission granted to reprint articles.

WEB SITE:  
[www.vegasmodela.com](http://www.vegasmodela.com)

DUES: \$25 annual club dues are payable before the first day of January. Members not paid by January 31st shall be considered inactive and dropped from all chapter mailings. Members are encouraged to join the MAFCA National Organization for \$50. Visit [www.mafca.com](http://www.mafca.com) to join.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Brenda Frigaard	January 6
Pam Fecchino	January 7
Jerry Vozzola	January 10
Gene Johnson	January 13
Emily McComb	January 15
Jack Cleveland	January 19
Maricela Aguayo	January 21
Scott Lyon	January 25
Robert Thomas	January 26
Karl Elliott	January 31

HELLO  
2024 SAVE THE  
DATE:

October 20,  
2024  
Spring MT  
A & T Picnic

## THE SHOP

**Call Del before you  
head to the shop!**

If your Model A isn't running correctly and you need some advice, call a member or better yet come to the shop!

Is there something Model A related you need more information on! Suggest it as a meeting program topic!

Mark: cell: 763-242-4356  
Email: [mfrigaard@gmail.com](mailto:mfrigaard@gmail.com)  
Del: 702-553-8664



## MADAM PREZ

By DALE RAUSCH

# OFFICER'S REPORTS 2024

Happy New Year 2024!! The year of the Dragon, I hear it's going to be an interesting year!

It was great to see so many members at the Kick-off Breakfast at Dean's Place on January 7th, it was sure cold but we had some brave souls who drove their Model A's!

I'd like to thank Mark Friggard for the interesting "Shop Talks" he puts together for us each month. I personally find them very informative and interesting. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please reach out to Mark, he's always looking for new ideas.

The Model T Club has shared with us that one of their member's, Ray Potter, is having a huge garage sale on February 24th, he is downsizing, everything must go! He has a lot of Model T & Model A parts and also some of his cars are being sold too (he hasn't decided yet which ones he's parting with at this time). The sale is from 8 am to 2 pm at his home located at 2619 Ashby Ave., Las Vegas, Nv. 89102. The Model T's are meeting at Vickie's Diner on Sahara for breakfast, then heading over together. We can join them if we wish for breakfast too.

If anyone is interested in ordering a shirt with our club logo embroidered on it, here are the details: Please feel free to browse the website, any item can be embroidered with our logo. You can choose your own color for the car embroidery, maybe to match your own car. The website is <https://imagination sunltd.com/> They are located in Henderson on Water Street. The owner's name is Tina and she'll be happy to help you, her number is 702-565-0129. Remember the prices on the website are for the shirts ONLY, the embroidery is extra. The polo shirts we typically order are K573 for the Men and L573 for the Ladies. The Ladies shirts are fitted with short sleeves and seem to run a bit small. Some of our Ladies have recently tried L562 which has a 3/4 sleeve, however they do run about a size small, please bare this in mind as they are not returnable after they are embroidered. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me too.

Please read the Tour Director's report, they have some great ideas already for this year! They are planning a breakfast tour for the ladies this spring to test their skills driving!

Let's get out there and drive our wonderful cars!



## VICE PRESIDENT

By Charlotte Kessler

### A Word From our new VP

Hi Everyone, I'm so sorry to have missed the first meeting of the year. I look forward to our next meeting together! Stay well and happy!



## SUNSHINE REPORT

By Charlotte Kessler

### KEEP OUR MEMBERS IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS!

Jim Miller and Carol are home from some traveling. Unfortunately, Jim had to travel to Colorado to see his sister, Anita, prior to her death. We're so sorry for your loss!

Hal White lost his sister, Janet, after a long battle with cancer. Hal and Pat made a quick trip to N. Dakota for her service. Sorry for your loss, Hal.

Carol Miller fell and broke her little toe. Best wishes for quick healing, Carol.

Jack Camburn is recuperating from back surgery. Best wishes for continued healing.

Spoke to Lorraine Hanna and she sends her best wishes to everyone.

Mark and Brenda Frigaard had Covid and thankfully are doing better now.

Del Hering also got Covid and at the time of this newsletter is feeling much better!



## WEBMASTER

By Dale Rausch

Contact me: [dale.rausch@yahoo.com](mailto:dale.rausch@yahoo.com)



SCAN ME

### Club Shirts & Website

Please read the Presidents report on the new process to order club logo shirts. The website is: <https://imagination sunltd.com> Phone number: 702-565-0129.



## TOUR GUYS

By DAVE & HAL



**Dave Ringenbach: 702-353-7951**

**Hal White: 702-334-1450**

**\* Breakfasts \* Tours \* Picnics \* Parades\***

### Dave's Report:

Mark your calendars for our next breakfast which will be on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at Peg's Ham & Eggs on 8465 W. Sahara. You know the drill, we'll meet in the parking lot at 8:30 and then eat at 9:00. Thank you to Karen Smith for making the arrangements. Hope to see lots of A's in the lot.

The Helldorado Parade will be Saturday, May 11 starting at 10 a.m. There's no fee to participate and it's a good excuse to show off our A's. More information on this as the event gets closer. We'll go to lunch, TBD after the parade.

We will be joining the Model T club in April for the T & A Spring picnic. More info to follow.

Mark your calendars, October 20<sup>th</sup> is our annual Fall Spring Mt Ranch Picnic with the T club.



## TREASURER

By Chris Ringenbach

### Financial Business

#### December 2023/ January 2024

Opening Balance	\$9270.25
Income:	
Dues	175.00
Auction	10.00
Advertisers	75.00
Total Income:	260.00

#### Expenses:

Tap House Room	
Rental	-25.00
Sunshine	-50.00
Spring Mt Ranch	-205.00
Shop Expense	-57.00
Trophy Engraving	-35.22
Total Expenses	-372.22
Ending Balance	\$ 9158.03



## SHOP TALK

By Mark Frigaard

### WHAT'S HAPPENING at the SHOP?



**SHOP HOURS:**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
**MONDAY \* WEDNESDAY \* FRIDAY**  
5204 SEQUIN DR. LV 89130  
Call: Del 702-553-8664

Welcome Model A'ers to another year of fun filled events with our great club! Hopefully your "A" is ready and anxious to hit the road, if not, call or come to the workshop for any assistance you may need to be ready. Over the past couple of months not as many visitors have come to the shop, but the regulars are there more often than not. We continue to drag in old greasy, dirty, rusty gold we are finding in our stockpiles to restore for use at another time or to have a good working part if any member is in need of a part without having to take their car down for weeks rebuilding one. Parts restored are more carburetor's, battery hold down brackets and a steering column.

Over December, I've gone thru another stock Model A block at my garage, cleaning it up (always the worst job) good thing all the main and rod Babbitt's looked good, so they just needed to be plasti gauged to .001 and torqued down to proper tolerances, and there still is a couple shims on each side. Then lapped in all the valves and replaced the solid lifters with single locking adjustable. Next honed the cylinders and installed new rings, before I got the block it looks like someone had sleeved the cylinder's so it's back to stock, 3.87", installed a newly plained head and it was ready for the test stand. It fired up in a blaze of smoke from all the oil I used putting it back together.....ha. Once that cleared it ran great, no knocks and the rear main is holding good, no signs of a leak after 20 mins of run time. After shutting it down I checked the compression and all cylinders are at 61lbs, very respectable for an all-stock motor. So, now I have two stock motors with new clutches ready to install if anyone has engine issues.

Back at the shop, we did have a great learning experience on one carburetor (a Tillotson) that was dubbed "THE CARB FROM HELL" it would run great at an idle, but the only way it would run speeding it up was if you either choked it 3/4 of the way or did the same thing by covering the intake throat mostly with your hand. After multiple times of disassembling cleaning jets and shooting carburetor cleaner through the passageways, reassembling and dam, NO difference.....that's why the nick name! It's a Tillotson so they have air leak issues



Hal & Jerry refreshing themselves on different steering columns for the Model A



Mark holding a steering column or lifting weights? Not sure!



Mark Schieff came out to see what's going on at the shop.

Shop report continued from page 4

normally from warped casings or worn-out throttle shafts, right? So that's what the focus was, BUT, when we sprayed starter fluid around while it was running the motor didn't change tones like it was sucking air somewhere... hummmm. ok let's change directions on trouble shooting, Del has a Tillotson that runs well so we took the top half of the bad carb and put it on Del's bottom, it ran great no issues so now we put Del's top on the bad carb bottom, and it needed to be choked to run... ok at least we know the bottom half is the problem. So, obviously its not sucking air it must be starving for gas, there are multiple PLUGGED chambers, so we drilled out the plug on the chamber from the cap jet in the bottom of the bowl to the gas adjusting needle well and it was probably 98% plugged, so some gas got thru but not enough to speed up. After running a couple small drill bits through the chamber, it was all cleared out now to order new plugs from Sammy. After calling him he said they don't make any plugs for Tillotson only Zenith, GREAT now what? Well, Sammy had a suggestion, he asked if I was a fisherman... **duh, I'm from Minnesota everyone fishes!** He said take one of your small split shot sinkers that's just a little bigger than the chamber opening and rap it in with a small ball peen hammer. That is ingenious!! Can't believe I didn't think of that! So, its all buttoned up and back on the test motor running great, yahoo So the lessons learned are: if you think its an air leak causing your problem spray carburetor cleaner around when it's running and the motor will speed up if it has air leak, if not its probably a gas flow issue. And Hal has mentioned multiple times when rebuilding carburetors, you should drill out the plugs and clean out all the chambers also. But no one does this "Even Hal ha-ha". With all the carburetors I've seen done, we normally just spray cleaner in the chambers and blow them out, right or wrong. So, keep a small bag of split shot sinkers handy in case you need to drill out any plugs! And if all else fails don't forget to drill out the chambers!

Until next month, even though it is getting cooler out, get them A's out and about they love to be driven and showed off. Take it for a drive to visit the workshop, we'd love to see you!



## GOLDEN PISTON AWARD WINNER!



Dale was very delighted to present Hal White with the honor of winning the Golden Piston Award for 2023. Hal is a very active member of our LVVMAFC and enjoys making people happy. He works hard thinking of new ideas and tours to present to the club. The planning to set up these tours is no easy task but he does it because he loves getting us all together driving our A's in and out of town!

Next time you see him say, Thank you! Every club needs a HAL, to keep them laughing and active with their cars! We are lucky enough to have the "original"! On behalf of the club I say, Thank You, Hal for being such a special, hard working member of our club!



# MEMBERS AND THEIR CARS ABOUT TOWN!



Photos by: Doug Smith

Steve Kushner is very happy with the license plate topper he found. "Registered Pharmacist"



Doug Smith attended the Law Enforcement Appreciation Day sponsored by the City of Las Vegas at the Police memorial park on January 6th. It featured vendors, law enforcement booths, a canine demonstration, and emergency vehicle display from local law enforcement agencies. Several city council members gave speeches, and the retired law enforcement employees were honored.



Photo right: Mark and Brenda took their roadster out on a cold December night for a photo opportunity. Can you see Brenda in there?



Photo by: Mark Frigaard



Karen & Doug "Tracy"!

## Christmas Party

Photo's by: Michael Fecchino

Many club members enjoyed a wonderful night of food, music and conversation. Dale's game of finding members with different life experiences got us all curiously mingling and laughing together.



Bill & Kathy



Richard & Steve



Dave & Chris



Hal & Pat



Michael & Pam



# SECRETARY

By Liz Prehm

## Meeting Minutes

The January meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM with a total of 32 members present. There were no guests or Model A's driven. The pledge was led by someone with a flag on their phone!

The minutes as printed in the December newsletter were accepted by a motion from Pat and seconded by Hal. The Birthdays greetings were read by Pres. Dale. Happy Birthday to all of you New Year's members! The President's report informed the club of a garage sale coming up in February. Our new VP was not at the meeting because she was not feeling well. But is doing fine now. The secretary was visiting her grandchildren in Reno. Having fun celebrating 2 grandson's birthdays. But her trusty husband, Dan, did a great job taking notes during the meeting!! Thank you, Dan!! I appreciate it! The treasurer gave her report for club finances since our last meeting. Hopefully you have all paid your dues. Workshop, Mark, I am sure said something about the shop but I don't have any notes on that. However you can read his Shop Report in this newsletter, it will fill you in on the scoop at the shop. The tour directors have a few things planned. Please read their report and be sure to save those date! Sunshine report is on page 3, please find all the club health news there. If you have anything you would like to share with the club please let Charlotte know. She is so good at prayers and well wishes! Newsletter report: Thank you to Mike McComb for sending the picture of his Model A Frosty the Snow Man! How in the world did you make such a huge hat!? Great idea for the parade! Thank you to Steve Kushner for his article on "Dirty Hand". He wrote it for the July 2012 newsletter and I'm glad he shared it with us again. Printed on page 8. Thanks to Mike Fecchino for the photos he took at the Christmas Party. They are printed on the front and page 6. Website and Shirts: New information on the shirts. You can now order directly from the provider. The information is in the Presidents report in this newsletter. Mark's program was on Deep Cleaning the Carburetor! It will make yours work much better! The Golden Piston Award was awarded to Hal White by Dale. Congratulations Hal!! Photo on page 5. Thanks, Dan for taking the picture. A rice cooker was auctioned off. Thanks to who ever brought it in and to whoever bought it! No dark horse winner. :( Our next meeting will be February 20, 2024. A motion was made to close the meeting by Griff and seconded by Bob. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. Thanks for coming and see you next month, if not before! Before I end this I would like to let you all know we have new members in the club. Jeff & Marla Wells sent in their application to Chris. We haven't met them yet but are looking forward to meeting them soon. If you see them show up at a breakfast or meeting be sure to introduce yourselves and welcome them to the club. Remember "Let's Drive more in 2024"!



## GARAGE SALE!

**Model T member, Ray Potter, is having a downsizing garage sale with lots of Model T & A parts and maybe even cars.**

**February 24, 2024  
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
2619 Ashby Ave  
Las Vegas, NV 89102**

**The Model T Club is having breakfast at Vickie's on Sahara before the sale if you would like to join them.**

## Put your ad in our newsletter

If you think your business would interest any of our club members you can advertise in our newsletter.

Just \$25.00 per year you can put your business card sized ad in our newsletter.

Contact the editor for information.



## THOUGHT OF THE DAY:

**Drive your Model A often!**

**Henry didn't build Model A's just for practical purposes you know! He built them so our clubs could have fun in them!**



**This is the last chance to pay your DUES to stay on the mailing list for the club. If you have forgotten your dues, this is the time to remember!!! \$25.00 per membership. Send to Chris Ringenbach 20 Lantern Glow Cir. Henderson, NV 89074 Make checks payable to LVMAFC**



**Remember, while reading this article, it was printed in the  
 "A Rambling" newsletter from July 2012 !  
 So, some of the dates and numbers may not add up!  
 But, the story still relates!**

**DIRTY HANDS**

By: Steve Kushner

There's a TV show that I watch occasionally named "Car Crazy." I see it as being about people who seem to have something in their DNA that attracts them to cars. Someday biologists will finally write an article about this, have it printed in the latest edition of the American Medical Journal or maybe even Scientific American.

Those of us who have this gene in our DNA remember playing with toy cars as infants, could at the age of 5 name every car on the road and tell you what year it is and explained at age 15 to mom and/or dad how to hop up the family car. Since mom and dad wouldn't honor those suggestions, we went out and as soon as we were able got our own cars to tinker with. And tinker we did! Most of us had a car that had to be worked on all the time. When it didn't need to be worked on, we modified it, providing us with hours of unnecessary expense and aggravation. Often the results of these unnecessary modifications were very rewarding. Other times, we made a change to the car that really didn't have any advantages over the original design except it made the car a little different. In either case, we were satisfying our genetic craving for dirty hands, cut fingers and the need to curse the car, the tools and ourselves for not leaving the darn thing alone in the first place.

I am a believer that this gene stays with you forever. I can back up this theory by admitting that I own a Model A. I cannot stop myself. At the age of 59, I continue to be a glutton for punishment. It's that darn gene! As much as I curse the car, the tools and the cut hands, I always go back for more! We call this "therapy".

I enjoy meeting other members at the monthly club meetings and I look forward to website changes and the next newsletter issue. Not too long ago, I hosted a workshop where LVVMAFC members pitched in and worked on a member's Model A.

There's nothing better than a bunch of people who all have this dirty hand's gene getting together and doing what we love best.

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