



# Rumble Seat Review

December 2021



## Beehive A's - The Model A Club of Northern Utah



Past President Kevin Fielding and His Wife, Pamela, with His 1925 TT Truck



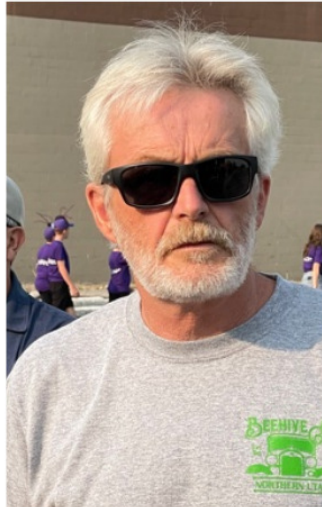
Beehive A's is a Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America

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## President's Message

### Dennis Thompson

I feel a sense of sadness as I write the last president's message for the year. The end of 2021 is near and touring, car shows, parades and meetings are all behind us. Now it is time to do the big projects on our cars. Considering the circumstances of this year we have done very well. If you feel the way I do about the pandemic then we are all exhausted from it. I would love to have a year that we didn't have to worry about social distancing and wearing masks! Maybe 2022 will open new doors for us!



I would like to thank all the officers for 2021. They have all be exceptional and are a very strong team. I would also like to encourage all of you to thank them too as they are the reason for our success this year. I look forward to the new officers coming into leadership for 2022. I am sure they will do a great job and encourage you to give them your support.

The breakfast/lunch at Ramblin Roads on black Friday went well as did the tour afterwards. Once again, the skies were clear and although cool, it was a very nice day. We had at least nine model As and a more modern Chevrolet in attendance. Thanks to Randy Ropelato for guiding us on all the unknown roads in western Weber County.

The last event we have this year is the Christmas party at Ruby River. Please look for the details in this newsletter. I checked with Jim Brown and he informed

me that we have 75 signed up to attend this party. Should be a good one, hope to see you there.

Dennis

## New Members

Bill Wiser from Hooper attended for the first time. He is the new owner of a 1930 Tudor.

## Next Meeting

Our December meeting will be held:

Monday, December 13, 2021 6:30 PM  
Annual Banquet  
Ruby River Steakhouse  
4286 Riverdale Road, Riverdale

## Meet the New President

Clay Pitkin, our new President for 2022, was born in Ogden and raised in Sunset, Utah. He and his wife, Heidi, have two children and reside in Clinton. He is employed by the State of Utah for 25 years, he has been in Beehive A's since about 2014.

Majority of my life, I have been around cars, trucks, etc. I must give credit to my dad who taught me how to work on cars and have a love for automotive and internal combustion engines. Growing up as a young boy, it was not uncommon to see my dad or Grandpa's working on something and my dad would say c'mon Clay, grab that wrench and loosen that bolt.

I recall one instance where my dad owned a 1960 Chevy Impala, and we had to pull the engine to rebuild it. This engine was the big 348, we rigged an apparatus to go over the trusses in the garage, and many supports to the ground, we had an old chain hoist, and I had been elected to pull the chains, I recall that whole garage moaning and groaning as that engine came out, but it did come out! I think at the time I was about 8 or 9 years old.

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My interest in Model A's came in about 1990. I was over at my friend's house, and in his garage was a 30 Coupe, and it was amazingly straight. I was only 17 at the time, and of course I did not have the money to purchase it, even if it was for sale. Many years go by, and I would see my friend and his dad

from time to time, and mention that if he ever wanted to sell, please let me know.

I later met my wife Heidi, and her dad also mentioned that he was looking for a Model A. I again saw my friend's dad in 2000, and he mentioned the car was for sale. I called my father-in-law, told him about it, and the arrangements were made, he bought the car! Together my father in-law and I removed the body off the frame, had the frame powder coated, painted the front and rear axles with Por 15, sent the engine off to Bud Cheney to be rebuilt, and started to put the car back together. While the engine was at Bud's, we had the flywheel shaved, all new babbitt, etc., installed. In addition, we also installed a leak-less water pump, & modern points, and now a Zenith Carb to replace the Tillotson carb.

Unfortunately, my mother in law's health continued to deteriorate and the car was put on hold. In 2014/2015 Heidi and I approached her dad about selling the car, and the deal was done. We proceeded to bring the car home in boxes and begin the assembly process.

At this time, I also began to research the origin of the car. The engine was made on April 14, 1930. The car itself was manufactured as near as I can tell, in August 1930. I did however find out that this car was the 2,739 Coupe Assembled in San Francisco. I was also able to trace the car's origin back to Oregon, I inquired with the State of Oregon, and they were able to provide me documentation dating back to 1952 of the same owners, however the state of Oregon did not have any

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documentation past 1952. I have been told these individuals are the original owners of the car since 1930. In 1990 the car was sold to Gene Wahlstrom in Kaysville, whom I have been told that he was previously a member of the Beehive A's at one time, and unfortunately he lost his life as a firefighter.

In addition to the assembly process, we also elected to remove the trunk, install a rumble seat, along with all new wiring harnesses, an overhead dome light, and have the seat re-upholstered as well as new carpet, roof, and glass.

Other projects that I have is a 1996 Geo Metro (Yes, I said Geo metro) that is powered by a Snowmobile engine that I race on the Bonneville Salt Flats for land speed records, and of course many plastic model cars and trucks that I build.

For my favorite Model A, I would have to say it is the coupe.

## Business

2021 OFFICERS	EMAIL
PRESIDENT DENNIS THOMPSON	DENNIST30@COMCAST.NET
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PAST PRESIDENT RICK BERRY	RICKBERRY2@COMCAST.NET

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EVENT COORDINATOR RANDY ROPELATO	GAROPE29@AOL.COM
PAST PRESIDENT DENNIS THOMPSON	DENNIST30@COMCAST.NET

## 2022 Dues

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN! YOU CAN PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2022, IF YOU HAVE NOT. DUES ARE \$20.00 PER YEAR. CONTACT SECRETARY/TREASURER JIM BROWN.

## Past Events

### NOVEMBER MEETING

The meeting was held on November 8, 2021 at the Pleasant Valley Library in Washington Terrace.

President Dennis Thompson discussed the Providence car show held in October. We had good participation and the weather was nice.

The annual Christmas party will be held in place of the December meeting. This year there will be a change of location to Ruby River Steakhouse, located at 4286 Riverdale Road, in Riverdale. The dinner will be held on Monday, December 13 at 6:30 PM. This is an upstairs location, but there is ground level access at the rear for the restaurant. Reservation registrations were sent with the November newsletter and closed on November 25th.

The Black Friday tour was announced. The group will meet at 10:30 at Ramblin' Roads café in Ogden. An optional tour may follow.

Next year's events include:

- Soda Springs tour June 24 and 25
- Hooper Tomato Days over Labor Day
- Model A Day/Club Organization Anniversary at Dean Murray's date to be announced

Bill Wiser was introduced as a visitor/new member. He is from Hooper and recently purchased a 1930 Tudor.

Club finances were reported and we have a slightly higher balance than the previous month and have more money in the account than this time last year.

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Dennis announced the charter required club membership approval to spend or incur more than \$300 dollars and the banquet will require about \$2,800 dollars minus the portion paid by the members to attend. This will leave a balance the club will pay of approximately \$1,400 for the meal and facility plus the costs of the gifts and prizes. A motion carried to authorize the expenses as outlined.

It was further noted that the charter and bylaws limit any single board member from spending or incurring more than \$150 and the board is limited to \$500. After several motions and much discussion the membership voted to amend the bylaws and raise the limits to \$300 for an individual officer and \$500 by the board.

The elections were held and Mike Nichols was nominated, accepted the nomination and following a vote was selected as the 2022 President Elect. Shawn Youngberg was nominated, also accepted the nomination and was voted into the office of Vice President.

Jim Brown retained his position as Secretary/Treasurer by an acclamation vote.

The following appointed positions were selected and approved by the membership:

- MACFA Representative – Mike Bachman
- Club Historian – Holly Jenkins
- Event Coordinator – Randy Ropelato
- Newsletter Editor – Kevin Youngberg

The November Tech Talk was given by Clay Pitkin. He covered trailer wiring and troubleshooting as well as tie downs.

Karen Stoker and Rudy Eilander provided the treats at the meeting. Thanks Rudy and Karen! And there will not be refreshments at the December meeting, since it will be the banquet. January Refreshments will be provided by Craig Call.

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### JUST FOR FUN

So how did the term pickup truck come into being? Well, according to one source, in 1925 the Ford Motor Company introduced the first "pickup" based on the Model T Runabout. Ford offered the rear "pickup box" separately at their dealer parts department for \$25.00. The box was then bolted onto the back of the vehicle as an accessory. Since the box was "picked up" at the parts department by the customer, the term "pickup" took hold for this style of vehicle. Later the box was installed at the factory and evolved into today's pickup trucks.

### A BIT MORE FUN

As kids each of us boys took turns helping dad work on his car. He worked at Hill AFB and we had two cars. There was the go to church car that mom drove, something nicer and fairly new and Dad's older car that he used as a car pool car to get to the base. All the riders chipped in a little money to pay for gas and a bit of maintenance, but Dad drove it every day. When he was going to be off one of the other people in the car pool kept it overnight and drove the group to work. Because of this, it was important to keep it running. Five people depended on it to get to work. If it needed work or broke down he had to get it running. The first one I remember was a 1950 lime green (very faded paint) Chevrolet four door. Funny, the work cars were all Chevs and the go to church cars were all Fords.

We lived in an area where the houses didn't have garages, just car ports. And we were on the north east bench of Ogden facing east. In the winter the cold was terrible and the wind blew the cold and snow right into the car port. If that car needed work, Dad and one of the boys would be out in the car port in the wind and blowing snow fixing it. Yes, we did do it in the summer too, but for some reason we only seem to remember the very cold sessions. By us fixing the car, I mean Dad would fix it and we'd hold the flashlight. He tried to teach us and we

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tried to learn, but those sessions just weren't conducive to learning. The cold, the tool set that didn't have everything and the urgent need to finish the job so he'd be able to get the car pool to work the next day all were pushing on him. Then there was the flashlight. A little two cell with a very dim yellow beam that was the boy's responsibility to put on the spot where Dad was looking and needed to see. But being boys and kids it was more fun to point it somewhere else, jiggle it and generally think of what we could do to get Dad to send us into the warm house. This often led to Dad telling us, "Hold the damn thing where I can see it, not where you can see it!" This has become quite a joke around our shop as the three brothers work on our Model A's. I recently found a little note on Facebook that reminded me of that.



### BLACK FRIDAY BREAKFAST AND TOUR



The Club again held their annual Black Friday tour/ Members brought twelve cars to breakfast/brunch at

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Ramblin Roads in Ogden. We had ten cars participate in the tour West Weber County tour led by Randy Ropelato. The tour meandered through all the rough roads in ALL the towns in western Weber County.



I believe we had a full year of activities without awarding the Break Down Award!

## Member/Car Profile

KEVIN FIELDING, PAST PRESIDENT



Meeting Kevin Fielding at his barn was like stepping back in time. He had just returned from a school demonstration for his grand-daughter. He had driven his favorite, a TT Truck named Thelma Tae and it was parked down the driveway in front of the barn. He had all his demonstration goods in the back of it. He was dressed in a well-worn and patched set of bibbed overalls and a Carhartt chore jacket. My brother Shawn and I chatted with him a bit out by the truck and it got cold, so we stepped into the barn to see Kevin's other cars. We were out of the wind so a bit warmer, but it

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was dark in the barn and when I asked if we could turn on the light, Kevin informed me there weren't any.

Kevin explained that he always had a passion for old cars. At 13 his first car was a 1939 Plymouth. This was sold to get into a '36 UL Harley with a 80 cubic inch engine. That led to a 42 WLA Harley, commonly known as the Liberator. And finally, on the Harley side, a 1971 FL that had been one of the original Ogden police motorcycles.

The trades and sells offs to get something else continues as he turned his attention to early Ford V-8 trucks. The first was a '53 F100 with a flat head, next was a '56 with a 352 engine. He stayed with trucks moving to the C10 line, but marriage finally caught up with him and he ended up trading his last C-10 for a family friendly Suburban.

Early in the 1990's he bought a 1929 AA truck and that got him interested in the very early Fords. The AA truck brought him to the Beehive A's and in 1993 he served as President.



While the AA was fun, Kevin felt that it was a bit modern and wanted something a little earlier so it was sold to buy the TT truck, Thelma Tae. It seems like, if one T is good, more would be better. Kevin added a 1924 Depot Hack, a '20 Speedster and a T tractor conversion to the stable. To complete his farm rigs set up he has a 1917 2-horse power Hercules engine Sears and Roebuck engine with a pulley set up on it.

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Kevin got into the Model T's bigtime, but he's back. He picked up a '29 Tudor that was in terrible shape and is in the process of creating a hotrod out of it. It currently has a Chevrolet 350 Tri-Carb engine in it and is undergoing major work to get it road worthy.



About two years ago he added a 31 Coupe. He enjoyed that a great deal, but wanted something larger and more comfortable, so he traded that for a 1930 Murray bodied Fordor Town Sedan. He loves his Model T's but says there is nothing like the comfort of a Model A.

## Long Range Calendar

Date/Time	Event	Locations
December 13	Christmas Dinner in lieu of Club Meeting	Ruby River, Riverdale 6:30 PM, You MUST RSVP
January 10	Club Meeting	Pleasant Valley Library

## Tech Corner

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ron Lucero suggested we have a short question and answer period at meetings to cover questions

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generated by club members. He suggested we post the questions in the Newsletter that comes out prior to the meeting so everyone can review and be ready to discuss them.

If you have questions you would like to have discussed at an upcoming meeting please send them to us at [beehiveas1@gmail.com](mailto:beehiveas1@gmail.com). Because of lead time in preparing the Newsletter, questions arriving less than two weeks before a meeting will be published in the following Newsletter for discussion at the following meeting.

### FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST MONTH

Last month we talked about winterization of the car and mentioned adding a bit of oil to the cylinders and then rotating the engine without starting it to spread the oil around the cylinders and pistons. This generated a question on how we do this, so to clarify, we just pull the spark plugs, squirt a bit of motor oil in each cylinder, give the engine a couple of turns with a hand crank and the re-install the spark plugs.

Happy wrenching,

The Youngberg Brothers (Dirk, Shawn and Kevin)

## Member Sales Corner

If you would like to place a free ad in the newsletter for Model A related items, please contact Kevin Youngberg at [Beehiveas1@gmail.com](mailto:Beehiveas1@gmail.com)

### Wanted: '30 pickup passenger door

Clay Pitkin is looking for a passenger door for a 1930 pickup. He can be contacted at 801-589-5797.

### For sale: Oil Breather Tube



20-inch oil breather tube replaces the oil fill cap to prevent oil splatter in the engine compartment. Like new, only used 40 miles and 4 quarts. Contact Shawn Youngberg

801-866-7708

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**For sale: Installation kit for T5 transmission**

Allows a T5 transmission to fit into a Model A Ford. Comes from Auto Restoration in Muncie, Indiana \$900.00

Also have a very good T5 transmission for \$900.00. Contact Jim Nelson 801-547-7780

**For Sale: 1929 AA Truck**

1929 AA pickup runs, new head gasket, drives. No pictures, condition unknown. Clay Pitkin met this fellow and the fellow is interested in selling it. The condition is unknown. He does not have the title to it, however he said I do know it's free and clear. He indicated its been in Idaho its whole life. He is asking \$2,000 O.B.O. The gentleman's name is Kenn he can be reached at 509-770-5590. If you call tell him Clay from the Burley Idaho estate sale referred you to him.

**For sale: Overhauled Zenith Carburetors**

Rebuilt Zenith carburetors, \$175 outright sale (no core required). Contact Del Friedli 435-753-1659

**In search of: 1930 – 31 Emergency Brake Cross Shaft**

Mike Nichols is looking for an emergency brake cross shaft. He needs one that fits a '30 – '31 frame. Contact Mike 801-725-4833

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