



# Rumble Seat Review

December 2024



Beehive A's—The Model A Club of Northern Utah



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



## President's Message

WOW!!! This year has gone by and here it is December. Merry Christmas everyone! What old-time movie did this phrase come from? Any guesses?

With this being my last entry to the newsletter as president of this fine automobile club, how can I describe how it has been for me? Being president has been a privilege, a great journey with all of you, and fun times with all. Thank you all for allowing me to represent the club. I have enjoyed being your president for this past year. One of my goals as president was to keep the club running as smoothly as it has done in the past and to bring in new and different innovative ideas to promote you as club members and the club itself. I hope that I have lived up to my, and your, expectations as the president.

My thanks go to our new president for 2025, as she (Heidi) has helped tremendously at our meetings, getting the computer to work, and make the presentations work. Also, thanks go out to all the Board Members who have supported the club and supported me when we needed to make decisions for the club. And of course, thanks to all the club members whom I have gotten to know better in name and connecting a face with a name. Still, some out there I need to know. So, thanks for letting me be your president this past year.

I will be passing the Steering Wheel to Ms. Heidi during the Christmas party, which symbolized that Heidi will be steering us in a wonderful new direction, with her talents as president. I know that all you club members will support her as you have supported me and past presidents in making the club run as smoothly as it has been.

Remember that the MAFCA Awards Banquet will be held in Salt Lake City, and we the Model A club, along with the other Model A clubs, will be represented. Thanks again, to all who will be volunteering to help this Banquet succeed.

Our last outing for the year will be our Christmas Party at Timbermine restaurant. Sign up for this as soon as you can so we can give an accurate head count. Last year we had some last-minute requests that we accommodated, but let's not wait till the last minute. Let Jim Brown know if you will be coming and please pay your meal and club dues. Also remem-

ber that each person is to bring one (1) gift of no more than \$15.00 to spread the cheer and joy of gift-giving.

The longtime phrase of "Merry Christmas everyone," was on the old-time movie, "It's a Wonderful Life", with Jimmy Stewart. At the end of the movie, he got to be with his family again, and he picked up one of his children and after the bell rang on the tree the little child he was holding said, "An Angel got their wings, and Merry Christmas everyone."

So with this, Merry Christmas everyone, and hoping that the new year brings good things to you and our club. I have enjoyed the past year and being your president. See you in the chairs and not up front. Thank you.

Ron Lucero

## 2024 Officers

### **President:**

Ron Lucero....luceronald155@gmail.com

### **President Elect:**

Heidi Pitkin  
itsthepits5@gmail.com

### **Vice President:**

Keb Leete....kleete@comcast.com

### **Treasurer/Secretary:**

Jim Brown....na7gjim@msn.com

### **Newsletter Editor:**

Henry Dominguez....dominguezh2@aol.com

### **Historian:**

Bill Wiser....bill.wiser@wiservision.com

### **MAFCA Representative:**

Brian Gough

### **Past President:**

Mike Nichols....mtnichols@yahoo.com

Cover photo: This beautiful 1931 400-A would make somebody a wonderful Christmas present indeed. It's on the the showroom floor of Sundblad Brothers Motors, Ishpeming, Michigan. (Courtesy Superior View)

Next Meeting...

..is the Christmas Party!

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM

**Timbermine Steak House Restaurant**

1701 Park Blvd

Ogden, Utah

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Craig Berry  
Kirk Clausse  
Ken Decker  
Chuck Evans  
Dan Johnson  
Kris Johnson  
Keb Leete  
Henry Prevedel

## CARS & PARTS

Woody Bird Jr., who lives in Pleasant Grove, Utah, has many Model A parts for sale, such as motors, transmissions, intake and exhaust manifolds, front and rear springs, shifters, wheels, even and a Model T chassis. His phone is 385-419-8805.

Mike Bachman has two 1930 Model A chassis for sale. Please call him at 801-430-0583.

Steve Nailer is liquidating cars. Please reach out to Dave Spinden for more information. His phone number is: 801-745-5327

# Henry Ford Loved Tunnels!

For whatever reason, Henry Ford loved tunnels. He had a tunnel running from his mansion to the powerhouse that supplied heat and electricity to his home, some 400 feet long. And he had a similar set up at his winter retreat in Richmond Hill, Georgia. Edsel also had a tunnel running from his mansion to its powerhouse as well. Like father, like son.

The massive tunnel shown below ran from the Detroit River to Ford's River Rouge plant, over 2 miles away. The tunnel was started in the summer of 1929 and was completed in the spring of 1931. Fifteen feet in diameter, the tunnel had the capacity to supply over 900 million gallons of water per day to Ford's factory. From its high point at the Detroit River, the tunnel was 65 feet under ground by the time it reached the Rouge Plant. From there, the water was pumped up to the powerhouse.

To commemorate the completion of the tunnel, Henry Ford, with his love for fanfare, drove the 1931 Model A Roadster from one end of the tunnel to the other. "Never mind that the car could not be driven into either end of the tunnel," wrote a reporter. "Just lower its parts 60 feet into the pump house, assemble them, complete the round trip, disassemble, and hoist away! Then let the water flow."



(Photo courtesy of The Benson Ford Research Center)

# CHRISTMAS PARTY!

DATE:

DECEMBER 17, 2024

TIME:

6:00 PM

PLACE:

TIMBERMINE STEAKHOUSE

1701 PARK BLVD  
OGDEN, UTAH 84401  
(801) 393-2155

Don't forget a white elephant gift!  
(One per person)

# BLACK FRIDAY TOUR

While many of us went out shopping on “Black Friday,” some intrepid club members took their cars out on that cold, clear day. In total, 17 members drove 7 cars to The Grille Restaurant in Tremonton and had a relaxing lunch in the atrium. Of the 7 cars, not all were Model As. Randy Ropelato drove his 1966 Mustang. But that was okay, because there were plenty of Model As to help him in case he broke down!

Below: Members’ cars parked on the east side of The Grille Restaurant.

Right: Club members enjoying lunch and each other’s company.

Thanks to Ron Lucero for the photos.









To illustrate the great wealth of the auto barons (Henry Ford included, of course), this is the home and yacht of Anna Dodge, wife of Horace Dodge, of the famous and illustrious Dodge brothers duo. It was located on the shore of the Detroit River, between downtown Detroit and Edsel Ford's mansion. The house was over 42,000 square feet in size and had 75 rooms, 15 fireplaces, 37 sofas, and more than 100 tables. It cost \$4,000,000 to construct (\$700,000,000 in today's dollars!), and Mrs. Dodge filled it with antique furniture, some once owned by Marie Antoinette. The yacht, named Delphine after Anna's daughter, was 257 feet long, steam powered, and cost \$2,000,000 to construct. It is still in operation today in Europe, and is for sale if any of you are interested.

Where did Anna get all her money? After the Dodge brothers died (both died 1921), the two wives sold the company to Walter Chrysler for \$146 million (\$26 billion in today's dollars!). So, Anna built Rose Terrace and Maltila (John Dodge's wife) built Meadowbrook Hall, which still stands today and is a museum.

While Anna lived in the exquisite mansion by herself (except for a few servants), she seemed well-content, for she lived to be 103 years old, and was only confined to a wheelchair for the last few years of her long, carefree life. She lived at Rose Terrace for 36 years and survived both of her children.

Anna Dodge died in 1970 and while the mansion was given consideration as a national historic structure, it was eventually razed in 1976. Today, 18 homes now take up that river front property.

Anna may have gotten her inspiration from Edsel Ford, who had built quite a fabulous mansion some 7 years earlier. We'll take a look at Edsel's Gaukler Pointe mansion in the next newsletter.

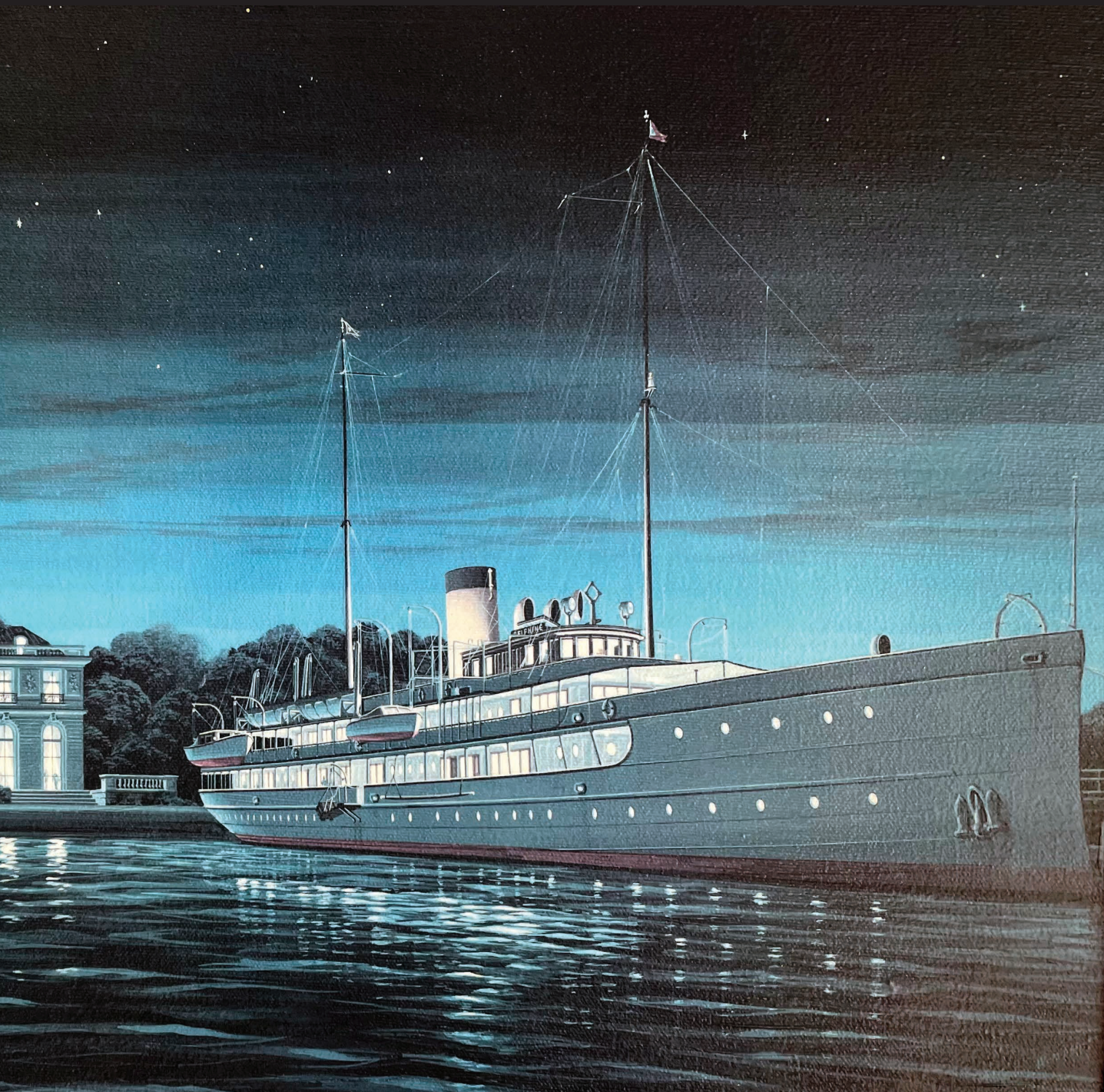


Anna Dodge  
1866-1970

(Photo off the Web)







Rose Terrace & S.S. Delphine  
(Editor's photo)





# MORE THAN JUST AN AWARDS BANQUET IT'S A MINI CONVENTION

SALT LAKE CITY  
DECEMBER 11-14 2024

## BUS TOURS

### GOLDEN SPIKE NATIONAL PARK



### SPACE SHUTTLE BOOSTER AND ROCKET DISPLAY



### SALT LAKE CITY HISTORY TOUR



<https://utahvalleymodelclub.org/nab>

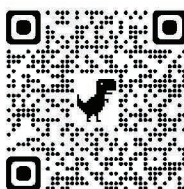
## SEMINARS

UTAH HISTORY IS AMERICAN HISTORY  
EDEL FORD AND THE MODEL A  
THE ULTIMATE MODEL A QUIZ

## NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

TABERNACLE CHOIR SUNDAY MORNING  
PIONEER VILLAGE CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS  
TEMPLE SQUARE GUIDED TOURS

REGISTER NOW  
AND GET A FREE  
POLO SHIRT WITH  
YOUR CAR  
IN THE LOGO



2024 Salt Lake City National Awards Banquet  
MAFCA's Annual Mini Convention  
December 11 - 14, 2024  
Salt Lake City Marriott University Park  
480 Wakara Way  
Salt Lake City Utah 84108 - 800-228-9290  
Model A Club special pricing \$129 per night  
link to hotel registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

MAFCA Number\* \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Qty	Charge	Sub Total
Registration postmarked before October 1st 2024		\$80/per family	
Registration postmarked after October 1st 2024		\$95/per family	
NO REFUNDS AFTER OCTOBER 1st 2024			
One free polo shirt per registration prior to October 1st 2024		Size:	n/c
Include a high-resolution digital photo of your car			
Additional shirts	Size:	\$35 each	
Wednesday December 11 at 7:00 p.m.			
Welcome Reception - Hors d'oeuvres and Floor Show		\$32 each	
Thursday December 12			
MAFCA Board Meeting 9:00 to 5:00 as needed		n/c	
Seminar 1 The Ultimate Model A Quiz 9:00 to 10:00		\$10 each	
Seminar 2 U.S. History That Happened in Utah 10:15 to 11:15		\$10 each	
Lunch break - on your own 11:15 to 1:30			
Seminar 3 Edsel Ford and His Mark on the Model A 1:30 to 2:45		\$10 each	
Fashions Workshop 9:00 to 12:00		pay on site per project	
Friday December 13 All Day Bus Trip			
The Rocket Garden and Golden Spike National Monument Tour		\$75 each	
Late lunch at Maddox Family Restaruant		Included with tour	
Saturday December 14 Half Day Bus Trip			
Tour of Salt Lake City's Historic Sites		\$70 each	
National Awards Banquet		\$85 each	
Total:			

Make check payable to 2024NAB

Mail this Registration Form, the MAFCA Waiver form and your check to:

Robert Mack - 1537 W. Meadow Lane, Mapleton, UT 84664 - 801-682-3731

Send a good sharp digital 3/4 view of your car for your free polo shirt's custom logo to:

Robert Mack at mack4759@yahoo.com Put your name in the subject line.

If interested in sponsorship opportunities contact Brad Christopherson at bdc.p51@gmail.com

\* A free first-year MAFCA membership is available. Contact Robert Mack above



## Sponsors

**JENSEN** *AUTO  
SERVICE*

**Jensen Auto Service**

3192 Midland Drive

Ogden, UT 84401

801-621-4252

<https://www.jensenautoservice.com>

**Snyder's**  
**ANTIQUE AUTO PARTS**

