



Rumble Seat Review



February 2022

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



Russell Baker's
1929 Model A Speedster



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

President's Message

Clay Pitkin

Happy Valentine's Day!

I would like to extend a warm greeting to all those new members, present & past members, and to those who read our newsletter on-line.



Recently the Beehive A's of Northern Utah toured the Armor Max Facility in Ogden BDO district. In the past, this was also known as DDO.

I would also like to offer my thanks to Mark Burton at Armor Max. Mark was willing to come in on a Saturday and provide the Beehive Model A's of Northern Utah.

I would like to offer my thanks to Dennis Thompson for arranging this and coordinating this with Armor Max.

I also need to recognize Heidi Pitkin. As we were awaiting the arrival of the tour guide for the 10 o'clock tour, Heidi was on the phone with Dennis, and then she made contact with Mark the employee who would offer a tour.

When you see these individuals, please recognize and thank them for their efforts.

For those that could not attend, this tour was very informative and really neat to see not only how Armor proofing vehicles is done as well as being able to take a step back in time in the BDO, you really missed a very good tour.

The tour lasted for 1 hour and we were able to see everything from the windows they install, to total disassembly to fully assemble of multiple vehicles. In addition, Clay Pitkin & Colby Neiderhauser was pleasantly shocked with a shocking door handle!

In addition to this tour, I have always liked traveling through BDO; I like to look at and admire all the old buildings, the structures, and if you look around you can almost visualize and feel the history.

See you on the road in your model A

Clay

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New Members

We welcome new members Kelly and Roseanne Johnson of Evanston Wyoming. They are the proud owners of a 1929 Tudor.

Norman Leishman

Passing

Norman Wyatt Leishman (1932 – 2022) passed away on January 28, 2022. He was a past member of the Beehive A's and had a 1030 Sedan and a 1929 Coupe. He is survived by his widow, Janet and four children.



The Beehive A's had several members attend. Dave Spinden, Randy and Kathy Christiansen, Dennis Thompson all attended with cars and Steve and Louise Sessions also attended.

Next Meeting

Our February meeting will be held:

Monday, February 14, 2022 7:00 PM
Pleasant Valley Library
5568 S Adams Avenue
Washington Terrace, UT 84405

Tech talk and bio will be Phil Steiger and Karen Stoker.

Business

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| 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

JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting was primarily a business meeting. President Clay Pitkin covered the recent changes to the bylaws upping the amount of money the club officers are allowed to spend without a majority vote by the membership.

He discussed the bylaw requirement for a yearly audit of the Club finances which includes a report to the club by the March meeting. He asked for a volunteer to perform the audit.

The tour committee had set a tour of Armomax of Ogden. The company provides armored cars to clients. The tour was set for Saturday, January 22. See the short writeup below.

President Pitkin and President Elect Mike Nichols both provided short biographical sketches on themselves and the Model A cars. Other members were invited to provide similar sketches on themselves, their cars or share a learning experience they have had at future meetings.

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Our February meeting will be at the Pleasant Valley Library in Washington Terrace on February 14 at 7:00 PM. February Refreshments will be provided by Henry Dominguez.

ARMORMAX TOUR



Armormax was gracious enough to offer the Beehive A's a tour of their facility located in Business Depot Ogden on January 22. To accommodate everyone who wanted to attend they ran two tours. Between the two tours 27 Beehive A's member families participated in the tour.





Member/Car Profile

Russ Baker was born in California and lived there off and on throughout his early life. His father was in aerospace and it was common for him to move around the country at 18 to 24 month intervals.

He started his first business when he was 12, R. D. Baker Bicycles. Russ even made a sign for his business that he hung over his workbench. His focus was on Schwinn 10 speed bikes. He's buy them and parts at yard sales and swap meets, clean and polish them up and repair them. He'd take them to swap meets riding one and tagging one along the side while his friend rode another. He and his friend would make their way into the drive-in swap meet, set up in a stall and leave his friend to sell the bikes while he hustled down the rows looking for parts and other bikes to refurbish. He sold the bikes for \$50 or \$75 each and sold them as fast as he could refurbish them. This little business evolved to the refurbishment of motorcycles and then cars.

Russ bought his first motorcycle at age 14 and his first car at 15 ½, the car was a 1966 Oldsmobile Cutlass with a four on the floor.

He grew up very much independent. Early on he learned the value of hard work and the power of money. In addition to refurbing bikes, motorcycles and cars he always had one or multiple jobs from the time he was 13. Upon graduating from high school, Russ left home

and put himself through college by working construction and retail sales.

His construction background led him to applying and testing for a general contractors license when he was 21. He was the youngest general contractor in California. He opened a general contracting business and did land development, but soon tired of general contracting and the lifestyle in California and moved to Utah in 1982. He took a position with the University of Utah in Architecture and Engineering Services. While there Russ met his wife, Danna, there and they married in 1984. In 1985 they moved to his family's hometown in Kirksville, Missouri.

While in Missouri Russ established two cattle ranches, and built a corporation with offices from Denver to St. Louis and Chicago to Wichita. He and Danna has their two children during this time.

In 1990 Russ and Danna made their home in Farmington, Utah. Here he started and grew a business, several years ago he retired from it and finally divested is stock. The still stays busy with other business endeavors.

Russ bought his first Model A, a 1930 Coupe. He started doing some minor repairs which ended up being a full, no nut unturned restoration on the car, he still has it and it's a lovely Chicle Drab.

Russ lived two doors up from Beehive A's member Mel Thompson and the developed a lasting friendship. It was Mel that introduced him to the Beehive A's Club, with his first meeting being at DeVere Brough's home. He later served as Vice President and was President in 1995 and 1996. He then served as Special Events Coordinator and Fund Raise for 7 or 8 years. He admits he can't get enough of it and is also a member of the Salty A's (along with a few other distinguished gentlemen from the Beehive A's).

Russ had me meet him at his shop to see his cars (and a lot of motorcycles!). On entering his non-descript shop tucked away near a residential area of Kaysville, it's obvious he likes his cars. Just inside the door is a work area with an antique license plate undergoing

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restoration. On a peg on the opposite wall hangs entry lanyards for car auctions, best guess on my part is nearly a 100 of them. Deeper in the shop are the fruits of those auctions. First was a 1930 Cabriolet that needs a radiator, Russ has one new in the box ready to put in before spring.



Through the man door are a few more of his cars. For Model A's there is his first Model A, the meticulously restored 1930 Coupe. On a lift is a 1964 MGB Roadster. On the floor of the shop is a 1929 Speedster with his name on the driver's door and his wife's on the passenger door, his children are listed as the pit crew. Also on the floor is a 1928 Roadster Pickup, a 1929 Studebaker Cabriolet with a straight 8 and a 1957 Studebaker Silver Hawk. There is a 1989 Land Rover

Defender soft top that belongs to his wife. And a 2007 Shelby GT500 sets behind it. Multiple motorcycles are also in the shop that are 'overflow' from the garage at his home.

We took a short trip to his home where the

majority of motorcycles are displayed. At one point he owned a Triumph dealership and had many very rare anniversary and limited production Triumphs. In

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addition to the cars at his shop he has a 1936 Ford Coupe V8, a 1993 Mercedes 500 SL and a 1998 Porsche Boxster.



He and his wife have 19 automobiles and over 50 motorcycles. Over the years he has owned well over 100 automobiles and hundreds of motorcycles.

Russ says he cherishes the friends he and his wife have made in the club and is grateful for what they have taught him. He fondly recalls Ed Neiderhauser, Al Davis, Ray Wheelwright, Randy Christiansen, Karen Stoker and Rudy Eilander, Doug Jenkins and all the rest of the club that have helped him build and enjoy his Model A's.

Editor's note: Apologies to Russ, we had a difficult time scheduling and my brother, Shawn, who takes the

Facebook Beehive Model A's

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 photos wasn't along so I didn't get a great photo of Russ with one of his cars for the cover. I also had a family matter come up and had to leave early. Again, apologies!

Long Range Calendar

| Date/Time | Event | Locations |
|-------------|--------------------------|---|
| TBD | Tour | Island Park |
| February 12 | Red Car Show | Las Vegas, NV |
| February 14 | February Meeting | Pleasant Valley Library, Washington Terrace 7:00 PM |
| February 26 | Beehive A's Tour | Hoopernacle – Hooper, UT |
| March 4-6 | AutoRama | Mountain America Expo Center |
| March 14 | March Meeting | Pleasant Valley Library, Washington Terrace 7:00 PM |
| March 18 | Chrome in the Dome | Pocatello I.S.U Arena |
| April 11 | April Meeting | Pleasant Valley Library, Washington Terrace 7:00 PM |
| May 9 | May Meeting | Pleasant Valley Library, Washington Terrace 7:00 PM |
| May 21-22 | Rollin' in the Red Rocks | St. George, UT |

Tech Corner

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

We didn't receive any technical questions to discuss at the February meeting. If you have questions you would like to have discussed at an upcoming meeting please send them to us at 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.

CHASING THREADS AND SETTING THE STUDS IN A BLOCK

Past President Kevin Fielding did some work on one of his cars, captured some photos and provided the following writeup to help the rest of us take on the challenge of thread work in an engine block. Thanks for

providing us a contribution to the Tech Corner! Other submissions are welcome.



While doing some work on the Coupe I previously owned I noticed that one of the studs at the front of the engine was much taller than the other, by almost a half an inch. This could mean a couple of things, it is longer than it should be or with my luck it is not screwed into the block far enough and torquing it down means running the risk of pulling the threads out of the block.

After pulling the stud and confirming it was in fact the correct length, I set about cleaning the hole in the block to make sure there was no junk in the bottom of the hole causing the stud to bottom out.





Next I set out to chase the threads in the block with the correct size tap. That is when I ran into a bit of a problem. With the head in place the tap was too short, and wouldn't even reach the threads in the block. What I needed was an extension for my tap. I found that the end of the tap fit squarely in the end of a 1/4" drive ratchet extension and the tap handle fit just fine on the other end.



After chasing the threads, and going through the cleaning process again. I double nipped the stud and screwed it into place.

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As you can see the stud is now seated to the correct depth and the worries about torquing to the correct specs are gone. Moral of the story if you need an extension for a tap, look no further than your ratchet drawer, you might just get lucky.

Kevin says he has more ideas for future articles including "Repairing a headlight switch" and the "Resurrection of the Phoenix engine."

Thanks for the contribution 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

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: 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

Facebook Beehive Model A's

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, Round Speedometer

Mike Nichols is looking for an emergency brake cross shaft. He needs one that fits a '30 – '31 frame. He's also looking for a round speedometer and cable. Contact Mike 801-725-4833 or mtnichols@yahoo.com

Free to a Good Home: Rear Axle Housings

Dennis Thompson has rear axle housings with good bearing surfaces. They are available free of charge. Contact Dennis 801-510-5837

Sponsors



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