



REDWOOD REVIEW

Regional Group #27

October 2020

Volume 51 Issue 10

Meet Edna, our 1912 Model T Commercial Roadster

By Mike Buegeleisen

I have been fascinated with Model T's for quite a while. I have always admired them and thought a Model T would be fun to tinker with someday when the timing was right. By chance I sold our 1933 Pickup about 2 months ago. Someone saw a picture of it on Facebook and ask me if it is for sale. I said yes, they sent money, and off to Germany it went. The very next day I got a call from John Girman telling me about a T in my neighborhood. Thank you John. To my knowledge there were not any T's in my area, so I was intrigued. I had recently seen one for sale on Craigslist that said it was in Healdsburg/Windsor but they were asking a lot of money for it, so I never called. It turned out to be the same Model T but John told me they are willing to take much less for it as the own-



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er was moving soon and she needed it out of the garage. I called and arranged a time to go see it. Turns out it was .7 of a mile from our house. It had been sitting in the garage for 23ish years. I knew nothing about Model T's and this was a Brass era car that I knew a little less than nothing about. To me the condition seemed good, the price seemed ok, the location was so close, and the fact we sold our 33 PU days before and I had money burning a big hole

in my pocket, it just seemed like the universe was telling me it was time for a Model T. At this point just picture Amy shaking her head at me, with a smile of course, but also with a look of, what the heck are you thinking ... all of us married guys know that look... and the smarter ones read that look and listen... Then there is me, bringing our new T home.

On to the particulars of the T. Apparently this body style is fairly rare. One

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From The President:

Greetings and Hello from Tacoma, Washington. Yes Dave and I are not home. First trip since March.

For October we need to cancel all meetings and tours planned. This is getting old real fast. I hope everyone is healthy and staying safe. I have not heard of any club members that have gotten sick from the Covid19 and I hope we all can stay well. We have things to do and places to go.

I hope the wheels have started to turn thinking of fun tours for next year. Maybe a tour out to Fort Bragg, Santa Cruz or places you would like to visit and check out. We would also love to see some day trips planned. I am not sure when we will go, but its fun to think of the future.

So you may ask why are you in Tacoma? Well, our grandson Michael and his wife purchased a fixer upper home here in Tacoma. The house was built in 1890 with a remodel done to the house in the last ten years. But, out back is a structure that needed to be totally reconstructed to make a gar-



age. This structure we think was also built in the late 1800's. As we tore down the nasty, rotten walls, we found more spiders and bugs, than anyone would ever need to see. Michael is overjoyed to have us here to help with the project. So you ask, how is the weather in Tacoma? Raining of course. This makes the project even more of a challenge. Dave and I along with our daughter Emily and our son in law Shawn are glad we could help out.

Here is the update on Dave's dream car, the 1963 Ford Falcon Sprint like the one he drove in high school. Check out the shiny silver car ready for paint. No rust or old paint anywhere. The sanding job was intense but well worth the outcome. So while we are here in the Seattle area, Dave has purchased all the interior and upholstery from a shop here close by.



Dave is super excited to be able to visit and pick up what he needs in person.

As the school year has begun, I am back as the teacher for our grandson Arturo who is now in Virtual learning, Spanish emersion first grade. My weekdays are full of Spanish and Google translate. Dave and I are glad we can spend time and help out our grandchildren.

Well here is to another month of masks, hand sanitizers, social distancing and staying home.

Stay safe and I will check in with you all next month.

Carol Rasmussen

Minutes of General Meeting

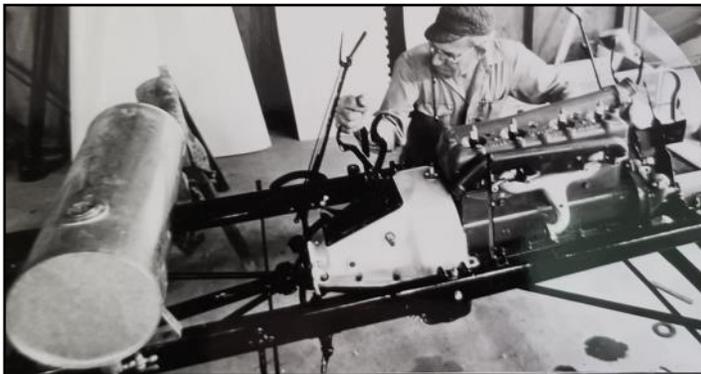
With the September meeting cancelled, there are no minutes to publish.

of the nick names for this body style is a “Mother in Law Roadster”, which was nicknamed for the single seat in the rear, on top a small box and all alone back there. To me it is really bizarre.. Why not a bench seat? Or at least something more inviting. But it is quite the conversation piece. We haven’t had anyone in the seat while driving but hopefully soon. My mother in law did a test fit and said she is willing to go for a ride... What a trooper.

From what I can gather from the stories I was told, this Model T was bought in secret, and was secretly being restored by a gentleman named Al, with help from his close friends, with the end goal of giving it to his wife, Edna, on her birthday. Edna was interested in Model



Mike’s Mother-in-Law Nan trying out “the seat”.



Previous owner during restoration

T’s, but she liked restored shiny cars, not basket cases. Some good friends of theirs owned a nice 1912 Commercial Roadster that Edna really admired so that is what gave Al the idea. She stated that someday it would be great to have one in the garage and Al agreed but said they are expensive cars so don’t get her hopes too high. Over the next three years Al had to keep the car a secret and finagled quite a few stories along the way about parts showing up and what he is doing at his friends shop all the time. It all worked out and the

secret was kept, yay. The T restoration was 95% complete at the time of Edna’s birthday. Unfortunately, Edna had fallen ill and was not in good health, so her husband borrowed a few remaining parts needed to get the T on the road in time for Edna’s birthday. It turned out to be a great day as Edna was completely surprised when she was presented with “Her new T”. They had ordered a personalized license plate that said “Edna’s T” on it which is



why the T’s name is Edna. Sadly Edna passed not long after being presented with “Edna” but during that time the T gave her much joy knowing that is was built with love by her husband and a few others for her.

Fast-forward another few years and Al was remarried and the T was parked in the couples garage. The borrowed

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Meet Edna, continued from Page 3

parts had been returned so Edna wasn't drivable and life marched on as she sat under a cover resting. Al had passed away about 10 years after all this so the T was left to his widow. She had little interest in it so poor Edna just kept resting until a couple months ago when I came along. It had not moved for 23ish years, she was dirty, had flat tires and a few bruises from being a garage shelf for years. After I got Edna home I ordered all the appropriate parts that were missing to make her run and started learning about Model T's. It took me a couple of weeks to install the needed parts and do the appropriate work needed to a car that has sat for that many years. Since this is a 1912, it is a hand crank start only.. I tuckered my self out a few times cranking her with no success. After a few calls, some more tinkering and a fair amount of patience she came alive and sounded happy. It was a good feeling. Next was driving it that is not an easy task until you become comfortable with a hand throttle and 3 pedals. I called upon John Girman for some help again in this department and he graciously came over to help. John is an old pro at driving a T and he made it look easy. We made a few laps up and down the street and all seemed good. At that point it was my turn to try so John stopped in a parking lot for me to take over. I jumped behind the wheel, did some familiarizing of things and away I went. I made it about 10 feet, hit the brake and killed it. Nice job! So I got out to start it and the temporary battery I was using decided it was done for the day so there I was walking home to get my car and a tow rope while having a stern conversation with myself about learning to drive a T. Ha!



T pilot John Girman at the controls



Amy's first ride

We got Edna home no problem and that was it for now. I did a few more small things, bought a new battery and got some seat time without starting her up. At this point I have been out driving her about 7 times and I feel comfortable in her. One of the drives was to the grocery store with Amy, as we needed bananas and milk. This was Amy's first ride in Edna

and it was short drive but full of entertainment. When I go to the store for bananas and milk, I get bananas and milk. Apparently I am doing it wrong as we ended up with 5 bags of groceries and a watermelon. I just kept my mouth shut and we headed out to Edna with our "bananas and milk" At that point I casually mentioned to Amy that we have no trunk and no doors, hmmm. It was entertaining getting everything packed around, under and on top of Amy. We had a small audience as we did this because Model T's attract attention. After Amy was secured, I had to climb over her as you enter the Model T on the passenger side and slide under the steering wheel. I believe we had our audience laughing so a job well done. I am pretty sure we made it home with all groceries that I will attribute to my stellar driving.

So who's ready to ride in the "Mother in Law seat?"



TAMAGNO'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For More Information
Contact Rick Tamagno at 707-539-2876

Regional Events Calendar

I cannot confirm any events for **October 2020** at this time. All the event websites have not been updated to know whether they have been cancelled or are still a go. I recommend checking with event organizers before planning to go anywhere.

STAY SAFE

Hope to see everyone soon.

Redwood Region Club Members!

In these extraordinary times I would like to invite you, once again, to submit your short story, photos or anything you think might be of interest to your fellow club members. What projects fill your days? Submit a simple story, use your phone/camera to take pictures.

You can send them to me:

John Thompson, Editor: Redwood Review

rdster36@comcast.net



Ford Rotunda and Administration Building, Dearborn, Michigan.

From a Chaffee & Co. postcard 1941

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | | | |
|--------|-----------------|--------|-------------------|--------|---------------|
| Oct 1 | Dave Thomasson | Oct 16 | Basil Scott | Oct 26 | Donna Winton |
| Oct 02 | Wayne Taylor | Oct 17 | Charlene Trabucco | Oct 27 | Dave Peterson |
| Oct 08 | Doug Clem | Oct 20 | Louis Riga | | |
| Oct 09 | Richard DeCroff | Oct 24 | Rochelle Berizzi | | |
| Oct 15 | Bill Crackbon | Oct 25 | Don Troya | | |

Earlene Barker's 90th Birthday Bash

By Charlene Trabucco

On September 1st Earlene Barker celebrated her 90th birthday, and celebrate it she did. Her friend, Jan Thomas, from her church set up a "drive by and wish her Happy Birthday" from your car. Word got out and the celebration began. There were two designated times. Earlene's garage was decorated with balloons, birthday banners and a table with delicious cupcakes, quite festive. Dave and I drove the '47 (well, he drove and I was the passenger). There were several Ford Club Members that drove by at 3pm, many in their old Fords. We actually got out of our cars (with masks on, of course) to wish Earlene a Happy Birthday. She was very pleased to see everyone. So much to say and catch up on. Many church members and neighbors came by also. Earlene's granddaughter, Ivy and her two children were there to help celebrate. Other well-wishers waved and some pulled in to say hello. What a wonderful 90th birthday celebration for Earlene!!

I called her the next day and she said she really enjoyed her birthday party and so happy to see friends, V8ers and neighbors.



Redwood Empire Regional Group #27

2020 Officers

President: Carol Rasmussen (707) 226-5256
 Vice President: John Girman (707) 992-0730
 Secretary: Steve McClain/Charlene Trabucco (707) 575-3504
 Treasurer: Dennis Ripple (707) 838-4331

Committee Members

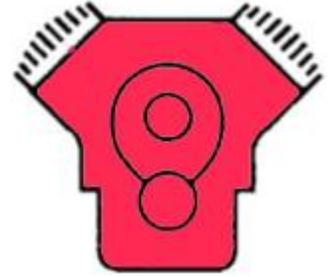
Tour Coordinator: Rick Tamagno (707) 539-2876
 Swap Meet Chairman: Dave Peterson (707) 527-9183
 Historian: Mike Buegeleisen (707) 217-8751
 Sunshine Lady: Pam Johnston (707) 255-1230
 Newsletter Editor: John Thompson (707) 318-3520
 Roster: Patty Girman (707) 992-0730
 Club Clothing: Mike Buegeleisen (707) 217-8751

Board Members

Charlene Trabucco, Steve McClain, Rick Tamagno, Sterling Cousins, Richard DeCroff, Ron Mollo, John Girman, Bill Crackbon

All Members are invited to attend the Board Meetings; call any of the above Board Members for dates, time and meeting place.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The membership dues to REDWOOD EMPIRE REGIONAL GROUP #27 are \$20.00 per year (single or couple). You may sign up at a meeting or mail in your application (with a check) to the address on the form below.

(You are required to be a member of the national Early Ford V8 Club, for membership information refer to : www.earlyfordv8club.org)

RERG #27 MEMBERSHIP FORM (mail to RERG #27 P.O. Box 3302, Santa Rosa, CA 95402)

NAME _____ Your Birth Date: Month _____ Day _____

SPOUSE _____ Spouse Birth Date: Month _____ Day _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Ph # _____ E Mail _____

Early Ford V8'S You Own (Give Year, Model, Body Style and Engine Type)

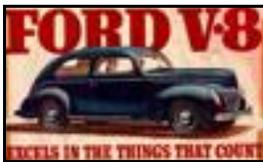
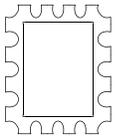
(Attach additional sheets with V8 information as needed)

REDWOOD EMPIRE RG # 27 IN SONOMA, MARIN & NAPA COUNTIES, OCTOBER 2020
Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7 PM at Round Table Pizza- Exit Hwy 12 & Stony Point Road to
2065 Occidental Road, Santa Rosa. All interested V8-ers are invited to attend! This newsletter is a monthly publication of Redwood Empire
RG # 27 of the Early Ford V8 Club of America. Other Regional Groups may reprint material, provided proper credit is given.

Redmond, Oregon V8 Western National meet in 2012



John Thompson, Editor
The Redwood Review
478 Woodley Place
Santa Rosa, Ca 95409



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