The Victoria Bustle

International Model A Ford Victoria Association

Model A Ford Club of America & Model A Restorers Club

Founded 1986 – Frisco, Texas

July 2022

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Presidents Message

It is hard to believe that it is July already. I do not know where the Spring went. I am working on the Bustle while I look out at little blue patches of Lake Tahoe and hear the wind through the pines.

This is the first time that I have been responsible for writing, publishing, and mailing the Bustle. About a month and a half ago, Tom Endy let me know that due to health issues, he had to resign as the Bustle editor. Tom has been the bustle editor for the last 28 years.



"**Tom**, everyone ever attached to the Victoria Association is truly in your debt for all the issues of the Bustle that you have produced and mailed out, **THANK YOU** for all the years of dedication".

During the last 3 months, I have been doing additional research for the Victoria Supplement, welcomed 4 new Victoria owners, and held a Victoria Association Gathering at the MAFCA National Meet in Kerrville, TX. The Victoria Association was the only Special Interest Group to hold a meeting at the meet.

Victoria Association positions available –

The Association really needs members to step up and help run the club. I cannot do it all by myself!

The Bustle editor

The Victoria Association is now looking for an enthusiastic person to take over as the Bustle newsletter Editor. The Editor is responsible for gathering and producing articles, assembling the information into the Bustle, getting the Bustle published, prepare them for mailing and mail them.

Treasurer and Membership

The Victoria Association also needs a volunteer to replace Judy Burrell. Judy has asked to step down as she has other activities that she wants to pursue. She has been the Treasurer and Membership director for the Association for quite a few years. Ideally, someone would volunteer to do both jobs as Judy has done, but if someone would be willing to handle just one of the jobs, that would be great, too.

Treasurer

The Treasurer would handle the finances for the Association. They would deposit and write checks and deal with any financial issues. The Treasurer would also work closely with the Membership person.

Membership

The Membership person needs to keep the membership list up to date, send out the yearly dues notices and follow up on members that do not pay. They would also be responsible for accepting the new member applications and forwarding checks to the Treasurer.

The Bustle needs your stories!!! Your tales of adventures with your Victoria or articles about how you restored your Victoria are needed.

New Members:



George & Mary Jones' Victoria

Randy & Mary Bowman are driving around in their mid-Leather back production Victoria in Tan and dark brown. With 3 spare tires, Randy will never worry about getting flat tires. They live in Pierceton, IN.

Kevin & Caitlyn Schnyer enjoy driving their Kewanee and Elkpointe green Steel back Victoria in the Hanover, MA area. The car is restored with a flat firewall and a rear spare. It has the early style front seats with a Mohair interior. **Greg & Mary Jones** of Aiken, SC have an early Leather back in Brewster green light and black. The previous owner said that the numbers match. The color combination is fantastic.

James & Claudia Kinville from Bloomington, MN are looking for a late 1931 Victoria with the sliding driver's seat. In the past they has owned a 1931 SW Town Sedan and several 1960's cars.

Bill & Sherrell Paige live in Long Beach, CA and own a Kewanee and Elkpointe green Leather back with apple green wheels. The Victoria has mohair interior with 3 window curtains. It has a single spare tire on the rear.



The Victoria of Randy & Mary Bowman

Victoria Association meeting at MAFCA National Meet in Kerrville, TX.

The International Model A Ford Victoria Association held a gathering on Thursday evening, June 16th, 2022, at the MAFCA National Meet in Kerrville Tx. We had 18 people at the meeting. There were about 9 Victoria owners, spouses, and others. The President of MAFCA, Jay McCord, was there with a member of his home club who owns a Victoria. MAFCA Board member, Kay Lee, owns a Victoria attended, and past MAFCA board member Tom Jeans was an interested attendee. MAFCA web master Rick Black was also in attendance.



Arlyn Bieber talking about his Victoria's restoration

I started the meeting by giving a brief history of the Victoria Association and found out that Kay Lee was a charter member from the original meeting in 1986. I then gave a quick story about purchasing my Victoria in February of 1980. After my story, I had each person talk about themselves and their Victoria if they had one. The stories were interesting, and some were quite detailed.

After the introductions and stories, I talked about the Victoria Association's need for an Editor, Treasurer and Membership volunteers. I also gave a brief update on the Victoria Supplement to the Restoration Guidelines. Then we had a time of general discussion.

After the meeting, I asked that the members with a Victoria at the Meet, please bring their car to the front entrance and we would get a picture of attendees and the Victorias. Everyone had a good time.

After pictures were taken, Rick Black had a picture, like the one on the front cover of this Bustle, on the MAFCA web page within 1 hour.

How NOT to Drive a Victoria.

Stan Johnson, Springfield, Virginia

I am the proud owner of a 1931 Leatherback Victoria. I bought it during the 2006 MAFCA Convention in Massachusetts, hauled it home and spent years restoring it. I love it! But this story is not about my current Victoria. It is about the first Victoria I ever saw, back in the mid-1950s when I was in High

School. When I first saw it, it was owned by a man named Hans Butte. He was the husband of my 4th grade teacher in the small town of Northport, Washington.

The car was parked on a side street with a For Sale sign on it. I was with my dad and we stopped and looked it over. It was in great original shape. My dad said, "We could drive this to Nebraska". He had grown up in Nebraska but had left in 1932 to find work in the Pacific Northwest. I think the Victoria reminded him of that era and a longing to return to that place and that era. To me it was an assessment that this car was in such good shape that it could make a long trip. But we didn't buy it and we drove off empty handed. I already had a 1930 Model A coupe at home, so I was easily able to console myself.

But my best friend and his father made a similar visit to the car and they decided to buy it. The next day my best friend drove it to school and proudly parked it prominently in the school lot. At lunchtime a group of us went out to look it over. This was a different era of school control. We were free for the lunch hour, and not constrained to the school grounds. To reinforce the point about how free we were in that different era, during deer hunting season we used to bring hunting rifles to school, locked in our car trunks, and then go hunting after school was ended for the day. No one ever thought anything about using the guns to threaten people.

So, four of us got into the newly purchased Victoria, and went for a drive around town. At some point in the trip my friend asked if I wanted to drive. Of course, I did. So,0 I drove the car on the way back to the school. Just as we neared the school, we saw an oncoming car. It was a new 1955 Ford Fairlane Crown Victoria!

I was struck by the irony of the two Victoria's, 24 years apart in age, passing by each other. The street we were on had an open field beside it. I decided to show deference to the newer model by steering off the street and into the open field. What I didn't realize was that the field has once housed WW II emergency housing erected to house families working in war-related industries that had sprung up in the area. Remaining in that field, hidden by tall weeds and shrubs, were 2-foot-deep foundation cavities for the house sites. Suddenly our Victoria dropped down into one on the holes and slammed against the far side wall. There were no seat belts, of course, but I was held back by the steering wheel. My friend who was in the front passenger seat hit the windshield with his head and shattered the windshield. The two in back were thrown upward and actually ripped the chicken wire roof material loose.

Surprisingly, the car actually bounced out of the hole and was able to be pushed to the parking lot. We all went into the schoolboy's bathroom to patch ourselves up. The Victoria was towed home where the angry father declared that the Victoria was *totaled*. When the front tires hit the far bank of the hole, it transferred the force to the front wish bone. The wishbone ball-mount at the bottom of the flywheel housing took the force and shattered the flywheel housing. Of course, I now know that can be repaired, but my friend's angry father used that damage to declare my friend car-less. Eventually he ended up with a replacement, a1940 Chevrolet two-door sedan. He never asked me if I wanted to drive the Chevy. And I never drive my current Victoria into open fields.

Victoria part question –

Last month, I posted in the Bustle that VA member Dean Stevens was interested in knowing what members have used for the 2-window rubber anti-rattlers (guides) at the bottom of the door window openings.

Rick Hall responded with information that the window bumpers are #B-45830 at CW Moss in Orange CA. Rick says that they fit perfectly.

Art Ebeling said that he used parts from Bob Drake. The part numbers are B-7021452 for the door window bumper and B7021444 for the moulding bumper. Art says that they are listed as being correct for a 1932 Victoria and they are also correct for 1931 Victorias.

Thanks to Rick and Art for responding. Please let me know if you have any Victoria questions to present to vast knowledge of our Association members.

Victoria Bustle improvements

I would like to know what we can do to make the Victoria Bustle more helpful / interesting to the Association members. Please send me an email with your suggestions.

For sale and wanted

Jim Kinville is looking to purchase a late Steel back Victoria with an indented firewall and a sliding driver's seat. If you know of one, please contact him at 952-941-5336 or *jrkinville@gmail.com*

Joel Sheldon has an urgent need for the 4 cowl side door hinges. Someone took them off before he purchased his Victoria 20 years ago. The hinges also are used on 160 series sedans and the 400A Convertible sedan. Please help Joel out. He can be reached at *jsheldon66a@gmail.com*.



Howard Kriebel is selling his 1931 Victoria Leatherback, 10,996 miles, A4301072, 190A-22373, Restored 2007, L.B. interior, Mitchel O.D., Mitchel synchronized 3 speed transmission, 3.78 Axle, counterweighted and balanced engine, Snyder 5.6 head, B Cam, and late sliding driver's seat. All work done professionally and carefully maintained. Paint shows use, no rust, a very solid tourer. \$23,500. (Pennsylvania) sauenohr1@gmail.com

Any Victoria Association member can also put a for sale or parts wanted ad in the Bustle.

Victoria Association services –

The Association has a technical director, Chuck Christenson, who is willing to answer your questions on the Model A and the Victoria. You will find his email address on the front cover.

Bob Bidonde is now using the registry of Victorias to assign Body numbers to members' Victorias that do not have one. If you need a body number for your Victoria, please contact Bob at *modela1931@aol.com*

The Association also has paper and digital window patterns. Please let Bill Cilker know if you would like to use them.

The International Model A Ford Victoria Association is a body style chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) and a region of the Model A Restorers Club (MARC). The association was founded in 1986 at Frisco, Texas by Charlie Viosca. The purpose of the association is to aid the membership in the authentic restoration of the Model A Ford A-190 Victoria body style. To achieve the purpose this quarterly newsletter is published for the association membership. The intent is to furnish accurate and complete information concerning the Model A Ford Victoria body style. Permission to reprint from this publication is expressly given provided acknowledgement and credit is given to the author and to the publication and no changes are made to the original article.



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