

The Victoria Bustle

International Model A Ford

Victoria Association

Founded 1986

Model A Ford Club of America – Model A Restorers Club

October 2023

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This photo was sent in by a number of members.
We all agreed that all of the oil must have been drained!

President's Message

It is Labor Day weekend, and I am at my family's cabin at Lake Tahoe. The weather was nice when we arrived here, then a storm moved in, and we had 3 days of rain. Having to stay indoors has allowed me to work on things for the Victoria Association and on the Victoria Supplement. I did a correlation between the VA membership and the VA's surviving Victorias list. I found that over 25% of the members have not submitted a questionnaire or do not have Victorias.



2024 National Meets. I am planning on being at the MAFCA National Meet in New Mexico on June 23rd to the 29th. I will be holding a Victoria Association meeting there. I would like to see a VA meeting at the MARC meet, but I need someone to lead it. I am looking for volunteers!!! When I host a meeting, I ask each attendee to please talk about their Victoria and then have everyone gather outside with the Victorias at the meet for a picture. It is a lot of fun to meet other Victoria owners. I need a volunteer or 2 so that I can get a meeting location at the MARC meet.

QUESTION FOR THE VA MEMBERSHIP

This question is for Victoria Association members who have a Victoria assembled in Canada or another foreign assembly plant.

Does your Victoria have an original Murray Body number tag on the firewall or else-where? Please email Bill Cilker (wciikerjr@comcast.net) with your answer. I need several responses and please include approximate date of assembly of your Victoria.

This information will be used in the Victoria Supplement to the Restoration Guidelines.

Victoria authenticity

There were several changes made to the Victoria in mid to late June. The front seats of the Victoria were changed from the original style (3-hole adjustment on the driver's seat) to the same seats as used in the 400A. They are a sliding driver's seat and a fixed position passenger seat. The late seat's seat back cushion came much closer to the seat bottom cushion.

At about the same time, the front seat back hinge metal paint was changed from black to a chocolate brown. Also, the door panels were changed by adding a stitch pattern to the cloth area and the center binding between the door cloth and the bottom carpet was removed.

I am always looking for any Victoria with the remains of an original interior. If you know of one, please let me know by emailing me at; wciikerjr@comcast.net.



A Message from The Bustle Editor, Dean Larson

I want to thank those that sent me information and pictures for this and future issues of the Bustle. No less than 4 members sent the photo shown of the front page. Each of us assumed that all the oil and gear oil *MUST* have been drained!

I participated in the 66th annual New England Model A Ford Meet last month. There were almost 130 Model A's at the meet from 21 Clubs, stretching from Canada to Pennsylvania. Among the registered cars were three Victoria's. Two Leatherbacks and one Steelback.



Bob Bidonde's tan Steelback is in the foreground. Bob is a long-time member and is ready to help with a body number if you don't have one affixed to your firewall. See the Victoria Service section later in this newsletter for more information. Just before the meet, Bob was involved in a fender bender. The driver's side wheel was hit and the front

fender sustained damage. Bob was OK! Bob has already massaged the fender to its original shape and now it just needs to be painted. The green Leatherback is owned by our newest member, Ralph Caporelli from Worchester, Mass. I met Ralph and his wife on the ferry to Orient Point, Long Island. I just happened to have a supply of applications with me and Ralph quickly completed the application and gave me his dues! Ralph had been a club member, but sold his earlier Victoria and did not renew his membership. The last Leatherback in line, is mine. I restored it 38 years ago in my garage.

Please consider submitting a short story about your Victoria for future issues. Why you decided upon a Victoria, how long you've owned it and any recollections about the restoration or repairs that we all might be interested in. You can send stories or articles to me at bumppo72@comcast.net.

A reminder from our Membership Chairman, Ed Greany

Address changes

If you **move**, be sure to notify the Victoria Association Membership Chairman, Ed Greany, of your new address!! (crest25@verizon.net) Also, if you **change** your email address, please let Ed know about the change.

If any Victoria Association member would like to have the Bustle emailed to them instead of getting it by mail, please contact Ed Greany (crest25@verizon.net) and let him know. You will get the pictures in color.

Model A Ford Youth Scholarship Message

The Scholarship board would like to thank all the regions, clubs and individuals for their contributions to this worthy cause. Initially established by the Victoria Association in 1990, there have been 38 active Model A applicants that have been recipients of \$1,000 a year scholarship. The Victoria Association bears all administrative costs so that 100% of the funds collected go to the recipients. The Board of the Scholarship fund is elected by the Victoria Association, Board of Directors. This program aims to attract and keep the youth engaged in the Model A Ford hobby.

We can all help fund this program by sponsoring local club activities. Having an auction of donated Model A related items at a club meeting is one idea that has been used. Collecting small “fines” for not wearing your club name tag at your meetings might be another idea. One club does this and often ends up with a collection of change, nuts, bolts and cotter pins!



The Model A Ford Club of Long Island had a raffle for an incredible ginger Bread house made by club member Linda Adams. We had a table at the meet and Heather Smith spent hours explaining the Youth Scholarship Program and why it was important. Thanks Linda and Heather for your support of the program!

Visit the Victoria Association web site at www.victoriaassociation.org for all the details. Our website also has information about the Youth Model A

Ford Restoration Award, a national club program supported by the Victoria Association and many other clubs and generous Model A parts vendors.

Technical Talk

How Much Gas Do We Have?

Have you ever been on the way back from a tour or car show late in the evening and suddenly wonder how much gas you have? Can we get home? The original dash light sometimes just doesn't illuminate the gas gauge very well. You strain to see what the gas level gauge is telling you, taking your attention away from the road?

Peter Leif of Milton Massachusetts has found a novel solution. Probably each of us has gone from incandescent lights to LED's in our homes, so why not in our Victorias! Peter purchased these flexible LED lamps on line. They have a built in on off switch and were very reasonable, being just \$1.66 each. The catch is that Peter had to buy 20 of them at a time. Peter found that not all of them functioned!

The power supply for these lights was intended to come from a computer by plugging it into the USB port. The power to actually light this item up is right in the range of our Victoria's 6 volt systems. Peter merely cut off the USB plug and used a crimped-on plug, to tie it into the Victoria's power. As with most LED's, there is only one way to wire them so if you power it up and the light doesn't come on, switch the wires.



As you can see, the light is quite bright and you can adjust the beam of light in any direction. Perfect for checking directions on a map (does anyone still use maps?) or to allow your co-pilot to read the next riveting page from the Bustle, Restorer or the Model A News or the latest issue of Hemmings!

Perhaps a compact portable light could be made by attaching a pair

of long wire with alligator clips? It could be put in a zip lock bag and tucked in in your bustle. As long as your problem is not a dead battery, it would be helpful!

Ads/For Sale

Searching:

VA member, Bill McElroy (lincolnm9@aol.com) is still seeking information and the location of a Brewster Green and Black Steelback Victoria that was restored in 1971 by a friend of his and may be in the Dayton Ohio area. The restorer's family is looking for the Victoria. See the previous issue of the Bustle for details.

Victoria For Sale

A unique 1931 Steelback is being offered for sale. At first glance it appears to be a 1932 Victoria as it has been extensively modified. The car has a Steve Serr head #168, Small 45 amp alt, Honda gear drive starter, headers, downdraft carb, electronic Ignition, 1936 Water pump with adapter, Serpentine belt, 1954 Ford pickup, steering, 1985 Maserati coupe front seats, the rest of the interior is good, 1935 Banjo wheel steering and horn button, 1932 Brookfield dash, custom instrument panel, Stewart Warner winged gauges, 1935 Original rear spare tire cover, gas tank mounted in the rear, 11 gallons, 1932 original cowl vent, 1932 repro front and rear bumpers, metal top with custom rain gutters, 1931 visor, Suicide doors, artillery wheels 10 spoke 4 ½, rear wheels widened 2", 6 ½ repro knock off hub caps, tube shocks, front has extended perches shocks mounted on the bottom, upper mounts and shocks never installed, 5 speed closed drive transmission, 3.54 rear end, Dennis Cling brake lines all the way around, Lincoln brakes on the front. The car is located in Fountain Valley, California. Asking price \$33,000 obo.

Contact Larry McKinney at lmcpspeed@gmail.com
714-904-6453 or 714-328-1354



Victoria Parts For Sale

Arlyn Bieber (anbieb@san.rr.com) has several sought after Victoria parts for sale

Original front seat support studs for passenger seats (late '31) \$40 pair
 Original dome light cover with glass \$50
 Original driver's seat "saw-tooth" adjuster (late '31) \$40
 Original driver's seat sliding tracks (late '31) \$75 pair
 Original pedal plates \$20
 Original seat adjuster guard \$40 (late '31)

All prices, plus postage. Contact Arlyn Bieber, 9880 Caminito Munoz, San Diego, CA 92131 or email to; anbieb@san.rr.com



Victoria Parts For Sale

After complete restoration of 2 Victorias I have several surplus parts that need a new home. All of the parts below, with the exception of the new reproduction door posts, are very good original Ford factory parts for the Victoria. The door posts appear to be of good quality and have never been installed in a car. Before offering these parts for sale elsewhere, I wanted to give my fellow Victoria Club members the opportunity to purchase any of these parts you may need.

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • Left door frame (beadblasted and primed) | \$65 |
| • Right door garnish molding (blasted and primed) - 30 1/2" | \$45 |
| • Rear spare tire carrier (part #A-1414) | \$25 |
| • Pair of window regulators -excellent original condition | \$325 |
| • Pair of new reproduction door posts | \$25 |

If interested in any of these items, contact me at bbuckmeyer@yahoo.com. I have pics of all of the items so you can see their condition for yourself.

Thanks...Bill Buckmeyer

Victoria For Sale

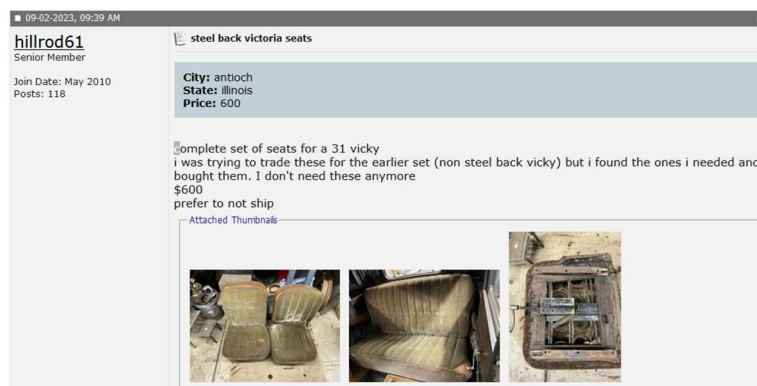
1931 Ford Victoria Steel back, maroon and black. Features: Restored in 2010; LeBaron Bonney interior; engine rebuilt by Schwalm's with Babbitted Bearings; 6,800 miles; cast iron brake drums; wood grained dash; side bowl carburetor; safety glass. Will deliver within Virginia. Price \$23,000.

Contact: Tom Quigley, 65 Pond Hollow Lane, Nellysford, VA 22958 or email to tjquigley6@comcast.net



Ford Barn Victoria Items for sale

Occasionally items can be found that could be used for our Victoria's. If you haven't joined this community of passionate Ford hobbyists yet, look them up! See examples that follow.



When visiting the site, if you click on the member's name in the upper left corner you can send the member emails about the item or items being offered for sale. There are conditions for communications that require a minimum number of postings you have made to the site. See the web site for details.

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 of the Bustle.

We also have paper and digital window patterns for the Victoria. Please let Chuck know if you would like to use them.

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.



International Model A Ford

Victoria Association

Dean Larson – Editor

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First Class Mail

To:

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.