



**Willamette Valley Chapter**  
**P.O. Box 3031 Salem, OR 97302**



**1931 Deluxe Roadster**

Model A Ford



Club of America



**SALEM, OREGON**

Model A



Restorers Club

**Next General Meeting, Willamette Heritage Center (Mission Mill) 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Card Room, Salem, OR**  
**Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:00 pm**

<b>President</b>	Bob Myers	<b>Historian</b>	
<b>Vice President</b>	Gary LeMaster	<b>Sunshine</b>	Ginny Giesbrecht
<b>Secretary</b>		<b>N.W.R.G.</b>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gary LeMaster	<b>Newsletter</b>	Gary LeMaster
<b>Past President</b>	Gary LeMaster	<b>Raffle Chair</b>	
<b>Board Members</b>	John Martin	20	<b>Tour Chair</b> Tim Fleming
	Fred Kroon	20	<b>Programs</b>
	Lee Hardy	19	
	Fred Lissner	19	

**Swap Meet Committee** Lew Garrison, Dale Stites, Gary LeMaster

<b>Newsletter Editors</b>		<b>Monday Breakfast</b>	<b>General Meetings</b>		<b>Board Meetings</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>Hardy</b>	<b>Jan 14</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Annual Banquet</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>Hardy</b>	<b>Feb 11</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Jan 14</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>Hardy</b>	<b>Mar 11</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>LeMaster</b>	<b>Apr 8</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Mar 18</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>LeMaster</b>	<b>May 13</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Apr 15</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>LeMaster</b>	<b>Jun 10</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>May 20</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>LeMaster</b>	<b>Jul 8</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Jun 17</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>LeMaster</b>	<b>Aug 12</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Swap Meet</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>LeMaster</b>	<b>Sep 9</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Four Club Picnic</b>
<b>October</b>		<b>Oct 14</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>NWVCMM</b>
<b>November</b>		<b>Nov 11</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Sep 16</b>
<b>December</b>		<b>Dec 9</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Oct 21</b>
			<b>December</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Nov 18</b>
					<b>Dec 16</b>
					<b>President's Luncheon</b>

### **A Note from Bob**

We had two more well attended tours in August. The Military Tour (Fred Lissner) and the Covered Bridge Tour (Fred Kroon, Blair Wasson, Chris Feskens & Bob Myers) both included our club and the Enduring A's from Albany. Thank you to Martin Harding on his extensive knowledge of the bridges and to Fred Lissner and Lew Garrison for the write-ups in this month's Connecting Rod.

We're short on tours for the coming weeks. An idea from the board was to tour the Heritage Rose Garden in St. Paul or a Lavender Garden, or both. Another tour that would include a stop at Willamette Pie would be welcome. If someone has the expertise and contacts let me know. We have members with great experience to help you put the tour together.

John Martin, Board Member, is tabulating the Membership Survey from last meeting. So, we may have a few comments to pass on to you soon.

We'll have videos for our program. They will likely be from YouTube or DVD Any suggestions would be welcome. We're looking for some entertainment for Ladies and the Gentlemen, too.

See you at the General Meeting, September 5<sup>th</sup> at the Card Room, Willamette Heritage Center

Bob

Some material printed in this newsletter may have been borrowed from other publications. We wish to thank other clubs for sharing their newsletters with us. We are happy to share our articles and other information publication in their newsletters.

**For information about the club, please contact Gary LeMaster at (503) 393-606**

## **Military Museum Tour**

Fred Lissner's neighbor, Robin Bartel, has been collecting and restoring military equipment and artifacts for over 40 years. On Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, the Enduring A's from Albany joined members from the Willamette Model A club in a tour of Robin's private collection.

For an hour and a half we wandered through this extraordinary museum born of a singular passion to preserve our heritage. The vast majority of the collection is focused on First and Second World War memorabilia and in Robin's own words he intends to collect one of everything! The museum includes training materials, documents, first aid equipment, a variety of small arms, uniforms, artillery and shells, carts and beautifully restored vehicles. Robin led us through the first room answering many questions. Tour participants then dispersed through the remaining displays where Robin and his assistants answered questions and related some of the stories associated with what we were seeing.

Everyone was impressed with what they saw and learned. And when we finally reached information overload, we adjourned to Paddington's Pizza for lunch before going our separate ways satisfied that a good time was had by all.

Fred Lissner

## **Covered Bridge Tour**

Saturday, August 10, the Club enjoyed a tour of covered bridges in Marion and Linn Counties. We were fortunate to have Martin and Linda Harding from the Enduring A's Club to tell us of the special features and hidden bodies to be found at each of the sites as Martin was a bridge inspector for Linn County Public Works and is now retired. The group included Bob and Patti Myers in their 30 Town Sedan, Lew and Judy Garrison along with Barbara Barton in the 31 Slant Window Sedan, Jim Rowen in his 29 Town Sedan, Blair and Tracy Wasson along with Peggy Ramsay in their 30 Tudor Sedan, Lee Hardy in his 31 Cabriolet, Paul and Holly Peters along with two guests in their 29 Plymouth (not a Ford but still nice), Chris Feskens in his 31 Town Sedan, John and Shirley Martin in modern iron, and from the Albany Enduring A's, Martin and Linda Harding in their 29 Tudor, Gary Linkel and Lou Vee Walker in their 1929 Special Coupe.

Fred Kroon organized the tour beginning in Stayton however was unable to go with us beyond the Stayton/Jordan bridge. Our tour began in Salem with Chris Feskens taking the lead. Everything was going well until we got to the outskirts of Aumsville. Everybody seemed to be turning into a gravel pit for some reason which we soon found to be for Bob and Patti's Sedan for it decided to stop running and would go no further. Seems we later found that the coil bit the big one. Fortunately, the owner of the site allowed Bob to park it behind locked gates so he could have it towed later. Bob and Patti then rode in Jim Rowen's Sedan for the rest of the tour. We then proceeded to the Stayton Park for donuts and coffee and our first bridge.



The Stayton/Jordan bridge was relocated from its original site but due to faulty Christmas lights, burned down, but because of insurance was able to be rebuilt in 1994 by a volunteer group in a matter of several months. This as well as the remaining bridges are of a Howe Truss design and were covered to protect the structure from water damage. Most all were built in the 1930's.

Fred in his 29 Huckster could not leave Stayton so we proceeded on to our second bridge, the Hannah Bridge following a route taking us across the original location of the Jordan Bridge. The Hannah Bridge was built in 1936 across Thomas Creek and is one of the shorter spans.

Next was the Shimanek Bridge which we did not stop at having no parking; however this bridge is the only one painted red requiring significant maintenance. It is also completely enclosed. Martin noted that several of these bridges are subject to vandalism as young adults will climb using the structure to access the roof by removing the roof materials so they could jump into the river or creek below. For this reason, all the bridges are equipped with video cameras located at their entrances.

We then proceeded to Roaring River County Park where we had lunch. After lunch we went to the Larwood Bridge built in 1939. This is where Martin explained that the ashes of a man were buried and it was at this spot a murder victim was found.

Next was the Hoffman Bridge built in 1936 across Crabtree Creek. After parking we walked across the bridge and Martin related the significant features to be found.

Our last bridge was the Gilkey Bridge, also built in 1939 but reconstructed several years ago with new concrete footings. Martin told us the reconstruction involved the removal of the bridge using two cranes, one on each side of the river where it was set aside for repair and then rest on new abutments as we see it. For those who are interested, a time lapse video can be found on YouTube showing this process. (Try the links below. They may or may not work for some. So, give them a try.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xK9UAdinb3I>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2EyzhPU6DE&t=6s>

After this we found our own way home and can't thank Martin and his wife Linda enough for being an invaluable guide and historian for us.

Submitted by Lew Garrison







## Tours & Upcoming Events!

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|-----|----|------|---|
| Sep | 5  | Thur | General Meeting 7:00 PM Willamette Heritage Center Mission Mill Card room 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor |
| Sep | 9  | Mon  | Breakfast at Sybils, 2373 State Street 8:30 AM  |
| Sep | 16 | Mon  | Board Meeting, Gold Dragon Chinese Restaurant, 4645 Commercial SE, 2:00 pm                      |
| Oct | 3  | Thur | General Meeting 7:00 PM Willamette Heritage Center Mission Mill Card room 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor |
| Oct | 14 | Mon  | Breakfast at Sybils, 2373 State Street 8:30 AM  |
| Oct | 21 | Mon  | Board Meeting, Gold Dragon Chinese Restaurant, 4645 Commercial SE, 2:00 pm                      |

**The Connecting Rod**  
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