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**EARLY FORD V-8
CLUB**

ON THE ROAD

ST. LOUIS R.G. #124

MAY 2020

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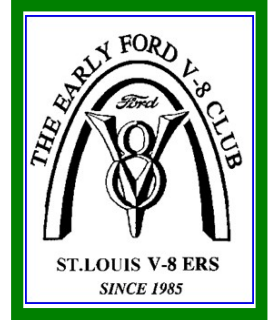


Introduction of the 35 Ford (Dealer Photo)



President's Message

By George Ball



GREAT TRUTHS (Part I)

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

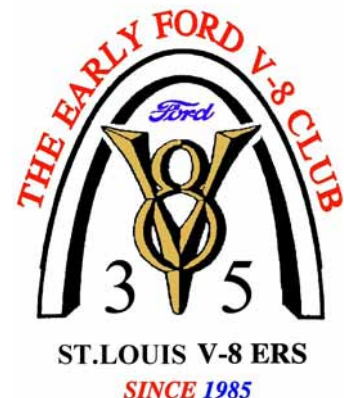
- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair..
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing Jello to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
- 6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE:

- 1) You believe in Santa Claus.
- 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus.
- 3) You are Santa Claus.
- 4) You look like Santa Claus.



Editor's Page

Members: Please keep Al Hartnagel in your thoughts and prayers. Al is at home recovering from serious abdominal surgery. Barb says "The Old Coot" is doing well. But a few prayers wouldn't hurt.

Members: Please check up on each other and your neighbors. Stay safe and practice social distancing. You in the garage and your wife inside the house reading a good book.

Please Help!! Your Editor needs stories/articles for our Newsletter! I know things are slow right now, so its a great time to think back and recall some of those great old car experiences and put them on paper!!

2020 MEETING HOSTS

(AS OF 3/19/20)

MARCH 21 at 1 pm.....Jan & Dave Conrad
APRIL 19 at 1 pm.....Lee & Laura M. Dumont
MAY.....Don & Mary Rogers
SPRING TOUR (Optional).....Open
JUNE.....Bruce & Theresa Williams
JULY.....Open
AUGUST.....Howard & Peggy Crawford
SEPTEMBER.....Doug & Joni White
OCTOBER.....Carmen Viviano
FALL TOUR (Optional).....Open
NOVEMBER.....Open
DECEMBER 13 at 1 pm.....Russell & Gayle Roark

Obituary for Paul S. Rathmell

PAUL S. RATHMELL

JANUARY 13, 1949-APRIL 15, 2020



Paul was born in St Louis, MO to Thomas S. and Grace M. [nee Steinmetz] Rathmell.

Paul graduated from Ritenour High School in St Louis. He later served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

After returning from Vietnam, Paul married Robin (nee Wagstaff) Carter in 1972. They were married for over 25 years and had six children. Paul worked at the Ford Plant in Hazelwood, MO for 35 years. He retired from Ford in 2005 and spent his time working on vintage cars, attending car shows and spending time with his children and grandchildren. Paul loved movies and country music (especially Dolly Parton) and was an avid collector.

Paul was a very loving and active father and grandfather. He is survived by six children: Christina [Cristopher] Cristea, Lisa [Donald Willis] Rathmell, Matthew Rathmell, Amanda [Jeff Reynolds] Rathmell, Andrew [Julianna] Rathmell, Katherine [Tedd] Rathmell Lowe; twelve grandchildren; Alexandre (Brenna) Cristea, Andrew Cristea, Aidan Cristea, Abigail Cristea, Jameson Reynolds, Joshua Reynolds, Tobias Rathmell, Aurora Rathmell, Connor Lowe, Gabriel Lowe, and Brittany Lowe; one brother: Charles [Sandy] Rathmell; one sister: Deatra [Thomas] McCarroll; cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Paul joined our St. Louis Regional Group #124 in 1987 and had been a continued member for 33 years. Many of you may remember the meeting that he hosted at his home in St. Charles back in nineties and rode on his back yard train. It was very unique. He had a 1935 Ford Humpback Deluxe, and two Antique pickup trucks.



by Peggy Crawford

A Jet-Powered Ford 8N Tractor in an Early Ford V-8 Museum...Why?



Member **Martin Baumann** of Michigan, donated this incredible piece of machinery to the V-8 Museum. It's not Ford Flathead-powered and it's not a factory "as Henry Made It" piece of farming equipment. So why accept it as a donation? Because we preserve Ford history and this nugget of history is quite a story!

Ford Actually Experimented with a Similar Design

The Ford Motor Company built the Ford Typhoon, an experimental tractor, for research work. The engineering department built and tested it to help them learn more about a free-piston turbine engine. The sales department then unveiled it in March 1957 to emphasize the breadth of tractor engineering work Ford had undertaken. Ford's free-piston engine was actually a free-piston gas generator and a gas driven turbine that was capable of operating on a variety of fuels. The Typhoon was a tricycle type of tractor that was similar in appearance to the Ford 900 series. However, it was longer with a 97-inch wheelbase and had two headlights mounted at the upper front corners of the hood. The grille, hood, fenders, and wheels were painted gray and the engine and drive train were painted red. The free-piston turbine engine was limited to 50 drawbar horsepower for the Typhoon, about half of the engines rated 100 horsepower.

Upon completion of this project I was able to learn through the Internet and magazine articles that both Ford and the International Harvester Companies had built

prototype turbine powered tractors. Ford built the Typhoon in 1957 and International built the HT-340 in 1961. The disposition of the Ford is unknown and the International is in the Smithsonian Institution. It was remarkable to me when I read of the International HT-340 and how parallel the design was to the "Typhoon II" tractor that I created.

The Following is an article from the 1958 issue of the Ford Almanac:

"Revolutionary New Free Piston Turbine Tractor"
 "The most revolutionary development in tractors since Ford introduced the hydraulic system in 1939" That's what Ford engineers call the "Typhoon". It's a free piston turbine engine "It brings us to a threshold of power capabilities of which farmers previously could only dream", says Merritt D. Hill, General Manager, Tractor and Implement Division. It is now being tested in the field. The engine has only one cylinder, and produces gasses that spin a turbine at 45,000rpm. It has no crankshaft, connecting rods, or spark plugs. The Typhoon should be cheap to build and cheap to operate since it will burn any hydrocarbon fuel; cheap to maintain, and automatically give more power when the going gets tougher. It starts instantly in coldest weather, and has no vibration.

On a personal note, in building the "Typhoon II" I began a search for "Typhoon I". I was able to talk to an engineer assigned to this project in 1957 and gain knowledge of it and if it was still in existence. Supposedly there was one tractor and two engines built. The extra engine was presented by Ford Motor Company to the engineer I spoke with and was in his possession for two years. At that time Ford Motor Company requested it back and it was destroyed because of some sort of patent infringement.

Then I began tracking down the actual "Typhoon I Tractor". Through multiple leads and their memories I finally located an employee of the Ford Tractor Division that related the following story to me: "It was in 1978 when additional warehouse space was needed. The "Typhoon" was on a pallet with the wheels removed. It was then that a piece of equipment was dispatched to haul the original "Typhoon" to its final resting place in a metal recycling dumpster".

Ford Motor Company Typhoon II

When I named my turbine powered Ford 8-N tractor Typhoon II, I named it after the original Ford full size experimental turbine tractor named Typhoon. Little did I know that Ford Motor Company also had an experimental tractor named Typhoon II. It was a 3/8"



scale model of a "Tractor of the Future" Pictures of this tractor were discovered by a good friend of mine, Don Olson. Don is a retired engineer of the Ford Tractor Division of Ford Motor Company. He and a group of his former fellow employees meet occasionally to reminisce. One member of the group happened to bring some old pictures he had stored away and behold, there



appeared "Typhoon II". When Don sent me these pictures I immediately went to the Benson Ford Research Archives at the Henry Ford Museum to re-search this new find. The Henry Ford Museum is located close to my home and I do tractor research



there regularly. When the archivist completed a search for Typhoon II the only item we found was a picture of a boat owned by Edsel Ford named Typhoon II. This boat was photographed near the boat house at the Edsel Ford home on June 15, 1934. There is probably no way of ever identifying the date

this prototype model tractor was built as there are no markings on the photograph. It is natural to assume it was built sometime after the full size prototype Typhoon turbine tractor was built in 1957. Following is the text of the sign in front of the Typhoon II model tractor pictured.

Typhoon II

Virtually everything the farmer may need for comfort and efficiency has been anticipated by Ford Motor Company advanced stylists in the Typhoon II, a 3/8" scale model representing one area of styling exploration into the possible appearance of tractors of the future. Inside the all weather cab the stylists envision such unique features as a two way telephone, weather forecasting equipment, a food warmer and refrigerator and a small television screen which would enable the driver to view the operation of the rear mounted implements.

Below is the sign Marvin gave us with Typhoon II



Coffee In St. Louis

By Diane Huber

Mike and I went to a flea market in Belleville Illinois where I purchased an Old Judge Coffee jar for \$2. Old Jars and their history always intrigued me so I looked up the history of the Coffee Company on the internet. The jar is listed on several sites ranging from \$20 to \$50, so I think I got a bargain at the price I paid.



Here is a little history on Coffee in St. Louis

Old Judge Coffee Building on Laclede's Landing at 710 North Second, was built in 1844 for \$30,000. The 5 story building was owned by the Scharff & Bernheimer Company, one of the largest shipping firms on the Mississippi River. The 1904 World's Fair was responsible for the explosion of the coffee industry and by 1920 there were over 86 coffee roasters locally. In 1918, the building was purchased by Old Judge Coffee as a factory for roasting coffee and spices. Old Judge Company was the first to produce vacuumed sealed cans for their products. They produced over 3 million pounds of coffee per year and the price of coffee then was six cents a pound in the day. The green beans were brought by steamboat from New Orleans, roasted here and then carried westward by Conestoga wagons, stagecoach, train and steamboats. St. Louis kept the western half of the country moving with coffee. The Company was sold to Chock-Full-O-Nuts in 1962, and operations ceased in St. Louis.

Most of the coffee roasters have long since passed but about 20 companies still remain in the region. In 1977 the Old Judge Building was re-habbed, and now includes several business and residences, including a few restaurants on the first floor that again sell coffee. On warm summer days, the smell of cinnamon can still be detected from wood supports on the second and third floor. I thought the delivery truck picture was interesting, Mike states probably from the 1930's.



National Meets 2020

June-15-18

Eastern Meet, Morgantown, PA **CANCELLED**

Sept. 21-24

Western Meet, Alamosa , CO

[2020 Western National Meet flyer - ver 2 5-10-2019.pdf](#)

Future Events:

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE M– Breakfast at 8 AM
at Village Café, 6127 Ronald Reagan Dr., Lake St.
Louis, MO 63367. Just off Hwy 64 at Hwy N
across the street from Walmart. 636-561-0235

EVERY WEDNESDAY – The ROMEOs meet at
**Culvers 4351 State Hwy K, O’Fallon, MO
63368** at 11:00 AM

EVERY THURSDAY – The ROFers meet at Lion’s
Choice 17294 Chesterfield Airport Rd.,
Chesterfield, MO 63005 at 11:00 AM

May

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 9 Terry Hagan
- 9 Vicki Henry
- 10 Seth Swoboda
- 13 Ray Aumann
- 14 Suzette McPhail [R Bauer]
- 22 Claudette White
- 23 Gina Shepard



Don Rogers, Editor
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

St. Louis R.G. Web Site

<https://stlv8club.org/>