



PLANETARY NEWS



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Model T'ing at Home

With the majority of us hiding in our basements, trying to avoid the dreadful and painful virus, I thought we would bring you some of the Model T work that is still being done, although in solitude. Tod Wirth has been working on one of the first Model T's ever made. The car, although very good looking, is in rather poor shape internally and the owner has asked Tod to "freshen" it up. This car looks like most 1909 Model T's, but the engine does not. It is called a "Water Pump Engine". Prior to the more 'standard' motor configuration, the water pump engine had a number of different features, including a built in water pump. This article will attempt to illustrate some of these interesting differences. As Tod ventured into this project, the first item was to research the car.

This car is number 1400 and the Ford production card is still available. Seeing this, it was noted that this engine had the wrong carburetor attached. Amazingly, the prior owner found one and it came with the car! The Buffalo carburetors are about as rare as hens teeth! Making some parts for it and restoring it to operating condition was one of Tod's first tasks. This is probably the only Model T, that came with a Buffalo carb, that still exists. Some major differences can be seen in these photos, besides the addition of the gear driven water pump, are the head design, the location of the water inlet and outlet, the crankcase breather/filler pipe and the crank mechanism. The water pump, shown (Go to Page 8)



Cylinder Leak Down Test Part 2



1]- **Model T'ing at Home**— Tod Wirth is working a classic

2]- **Car for Sale** — Gloria Arnold is selling Ross's Model T

3]- **Model T Tip** — How to remove those pesky rivets

4]- **Coach House** — Adam Doleshal's progress on Jeff Schmittinger's engine.

6]- **I Did It** — Cylinder Leak Down Testing Part 2

EVERY MONTH

2 Board Meeting

5 Next Coach House

10 Book Review

11 Board of Directors

12 Committee Chairs

3 Editor's Message

10 Calendar of Events

11 Recipe

11 Edsel Ford Says