

Traveling with the

Rim Country Classic Auto Club



Payson Arizona

RIM COUNTRY CLASSIC AUTO CLUB NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019



THE RIM COUNTRY CLASSIC AUTO CLUB IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

- ◆ Providing social, educational and recreational activities for its membership.
- ◆ Participating in and supporting civic activities for the betterment of the community.
- ◆ Encouraging and promoting the preservation and restoration of classic motor vehicles.
- ◆ Providing organized activities involving the driving and showing of member's cars.

Join Us!

RCCAC meets at 6:30p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at Tiny's Restaurant, 600 E. Hwy. 260 in Payson

**RCCAC
P.O. Box 2853
Payson, AZ 85547**

Meeting Minutes can be reviewed on the clubs website:

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/rccac/>

Past newsletters can also be viewed and printed from the website.



The first month of the year is already gone. We had a great time visiting with friends at the first annual chocolate extravaganza thanks to Chuck Proudfoot and all the ladies and guys that made the sweet dishes. Hopefully next year we will have a larger crowd, we had about sixteen members and plenty of goodies. With the leftovers we got a little bonus of good will for the club as I took the leftovers to the Senior Center and they were quite pleased.

As you all know January is quite the month in Arizona to be a car person with all the auctions and car shows going on in the Valley. I hope some of you were able to take in some of the activities. It is really something to see where this hobby has gone. I know there are all different ideas on this subject but the base core is the car itself that we all love. My daughter and I were able to spend time together, as she is an enthusiast like me. She has always wanted her own collector car and we actually found one that she could afford, she is just thrilled and was able to buy a 1966 Mustang of driver quality that hopefully she will enjoy for years to come. One thing she is not too keen on is the fact that you buy a car and the first thing you do is spend money on fixing things and maintenance. HA-Ha.

Steve and Margie Fowler are the February activity folks so we will be anxious to see what they have in store for us. See page #2.

And remember like Clint Eastwood said "don't let the Oldman in" and always leave on the yellow.

FYI: Newsletter editor will be on another Norwegian work trip from the 15th of Feb. to the 2nd of March. The March Newsletter will come out hopefully on the 3rd no later than the 4th.



2019 RCCAC PIT CREW

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Who were the Vagabonds?



What did two men from this group do in history that we enjoy today?

See pages # 3-4

FROM THE GLOVEBOX



February Activities

at a glance

- 1- Mikes Fish & Chips 4:30pm
- 6- Membership Meeting
- 14- Valentine Activity

Upcoming Activity sponsors get your info into Margie before the 20th of the month. That way it will give me time to do up a fun promotion on your activity.

Dues are due by the 20th if you are to remain in the 2019 membership and the directory.



- 4 Judy Curtis
- 5 Judy Jones
- 17 Darlene Welsh
- 17 Randy Nelson
- 21 Michael Hamm
- 23 DJ Wells
- 24 Gary Allen
- 25 Jo Johnson



America's favorites made fresh!

February Activity

Bring your Valentine out for a ride to Culver's for lunch

12:noon Feb. 14th

Purchase a meal and get a

FREE Turtle Sundae

Remember to wear your name tag!

Please RSVP to Fowlers 478-6676 so Culver's knows how many to seat.

Upcoming Months Activities sponsored by members.

- March - Graves
- April - Gossards
- May - B. Beveridge
- June - Dexheimers

A sign up sheet will be coming around in the next few months. It will be for the rest of the year.



The Movies are back! Mary Cailey will be taking this activity on. We may not go each month, only when something worth seeing is playing.

Mary is keeping an eye out for a good one this month. TBD

Check your e-mails often so you don't miss this fun activity.

This is a FYI for members over 50- Did you know that Banner Health for Seniors offers classes on health topics, crafts, games & other fun activities, Doc Talks, travel opportunities, and local Merchant Discounts. Membership is:
 One person for 1 year \$15 2 year \$27
 Two Persons 1 year \$27 2 year \$51
 A quarterly newsletter is sent out with class schedules and other activities. **Check it out!**



Membership in our Banner Payson Medical Center chapter offers programs and benefits which support a healthy and active lifestyle for all "over fifties". Develop new social, leisure and educational activities in our "beautiful Rim Country" in Payson, AZ, the heart of Arizona.

As a member, you'll be entitled to special members-only benefits and perks if admitted to our hospital. You'll also experience a full calendar of educational events, social events, travel opportunities and fitness classes.

We appreciate volunteers and offer fun ways to give back. Volunteering is a wonderful way to stay active, engage socially, and share your expertise. Ask us about the numerous ways to get involved at the Banner Payson High Country Seniors.

Seniors spending time on activities they love can benefit overall wellbeing. **JOIN NOW.**

Now is the time to do the things you love. Choose the activities that make you the happiest, make a list, and dive in. Don't be afraid to explore new activities, especially if it's something you have always wanted to do. Enjoy your time as an independent senior and let

To learn more about our services and members of our medical staff, please contact us at: 928-472-9290 or visit PaysonHospital.com.

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Life is an ADVENTURE. EXPERIENCE Banner Payson High Country Seniors

For Upcoming Car Shows & Events In AZ visit web sites below:
www.cruisearizona.com
www.cruisinarizona.com carshows.html

Henry Ford, the Vagabonds, E.G. Kingsford, and the History of the Charcoal Briquette



Henry Ford- In 1919, car-making giant Henry Ford had been eyeing a significant tract of land on the far western portion of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan known as Iron Mountain. Ford's cousin, Minnie, to whom he was very close, lived there along with her husband E.G. Kingsford who ran a successful timber business and owned several car dealerships thanks to his wife's family connections.

Ford had begun wresting control from his stockholders and purchasing raw materials to be used in making his vehicles. Anything to make his car making process more efficient.

Kingsford had a beat on something Ford desperately sought. So Ford invited Kingsford to go camping with him. To talk business, he explained.

At the time, Ford had been making headlines across the country, not just for making cars, but for actually using one. Ford went on road trips. The press dubbed it, "auto-camping," because Ford along with his three close friends, who called themselves "the vagabonds" would travel by automobile during the day then set camps at night..



Ford's camping companions were no slouches. They included Harvey Firestone, the tire company founder; John Burroughs, the conservationist; and inventor Thomas Edison. Their journeys included a jaunt through the Florida Everglades and treks across mountainous regions in West Virginia and New England. Their first trip to the Adirondacks in 1918 was so satisfying they all agreed to make a trip to new destinations every year.

The trips were well-organized, well-stocked and oftentimes well-staffed with cooks and a cleaning crew. Like true campers, though, the formidable men did sleep on folding cots in a ten-by-ten canvas tent. Burroughs, in his 80's and the oldest of the four (Ford was in his 50's), chronicled most of the adventures. He marveled at their resiliency. "Mr Ford seizes an ax and swings it vigorously til there is

enough wood for the campfire," he wrote. Each year newspapers ran features of the "vagabonds" latest adventure and newsreels were shown in movie theaters throughout the country. After all these were prominent American inventors and "heroes" to some like Edison and Ford, who despite their gray hair, and unabashed preference to wear business attire – tight collars, three piece suits and ties – even on the retreats, were "roughing it," so to speak, in the great outdoors.

The papers couldn't hide the obvious irony of it all. "Millions of Dollars Worth of Brains Off on Vacation," the headlines blared. Even President Harding joined the men briefly for one excursion.

Burroughs diary accounts however, especially the campfire chats, would be interpreted much differently today. "Mr. Ford attributes all evil to the Jews or the Jewish capitalists," Burroughs wrote in his diary about one particularly spirited late night conversation. Ford's antisemitism would surface later, but at the time, the prejudice against Jews was not as divisive as it is today.

But no such controversy followed the "vagabonds" in the papers. "Genius to Sleep Under the Stars," read one article followed by tales of playful tree climbing, stream wading and bird watching. "The four famous men were like so many little boys," a Ford biographer wrote, "...the white-haired Huckleberry Finns."

Kingsford must have been pleased and a little flattered by Ford's invitation to join "the vagabonds" in Green Island, New York, a popular fishing spot near Edison's Machine Works company in Schenectady.

Firestone, Ford, Edison and Kingsford. Ford had a purpose. He needed land. Specifically, he needed land with timber on it. Nearly one-million board feet a day was used to manufacture the popular Model T's, whose chassis were made mostly of wood.

Kingsford convinced Ford to buy some flat land near the Menominee River and built a wood distillation plant. Ford heeded his advice and went even further. He would build the plant and an electric dam nearby to power it.

Ford hated to waste anything and in the wood distillation process



there was always a lot of waste, specifically wood chip ash, or rough charcoal. So Ford had an idea. He mixed the crushed charcoal with a potato starch glue and pressed the blackened goo into a pillow-shaped briquette. When lit, it burned white ash and produced searing heat, but little or no flame. Ford was not the first person to come up with the idea of charcoal in a briquette. That honor goes to a man named Ellsworth B. A. Zwoyer from Philadelphia who patented the idea in 1897. Ford, however, was the first to commercially market it.

He advertised the new product as “a fuel of a hundred uses” and perfect for “barbecues, picnics, hotels, restaurants, ships, clubs, homes, railroads, trucks, foundries, tinsmiths, meat smoking, and tobacco curing.” For home use, it was

less dangerous than a traditional wood fire, but

just as useful. “Briquette fire alone is enough to take the chill off a room,” the instructions informed. “Absence of sparks eliminates this menace to rugs, floors and clothing.”

Ford’s put his signature logo on the charcoal briquettes bags and sold them exclusively at his many car dealerships. When Ford died in 1947, the charcoal business was phased out. Henry Ford II took over and sold the chemical operation to local business men who changed the name to reflect its local heritage: *Kingsford Chemical Company*.

By that time, Kingsford was not just a person, but a city. Thanks to the economical success of Ford’s wood, parts and charcoal plant, the land used to build the original timber business was named in honor of its first industrialist.

His story is rarely told. (Pardon, if it reads like a resume, details are sparse.)

Born in Woodstock, Ontario, Edward George Kingsford moved to Michigan as a young boy. He lived on his parents farm in Fremont before becoming a timber agent and moving to Marquette in the Upper Peninsula.

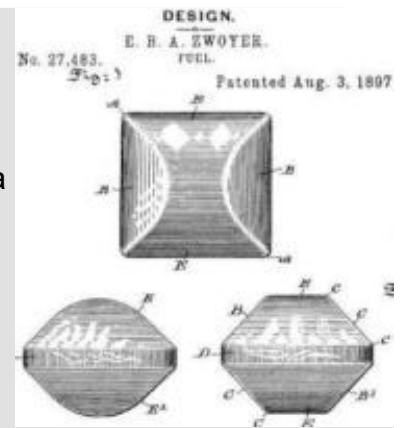
In 1892, Kingsford married Mary Francis “Minnie” Flaherty, Henry Ford’s cousin. Several years later, Kingsford signed a contract to become a Ford sales agent in Marquette and eventually moved to Iron Mountain where he bought tracks of land for timber and opened several Ford dealerships. When Ford called to discuss the possibility of using the massive timber resource for his car making, Kingsford answered. Eventually, the once uncharted land, about five square miles total, was named Kingsford, Michigan.

Despite the distinction, however, Ford, not Kingsford, is prominently associated with the town’s history. Ford was responsible for putting up the large factory, employing hundreds of workers, and building modern houses for the workers and their families to live. Within just one year, in 1920, the population of Kingsford blossomed from a mere 40 residents to nearly 3,000, creating a town out of an enterprise, thanks to Henry Ford. By the time Ford’s imprint left in 1950, Kingsford the town was established enough to persevere, although the plant’s closing was a blow economically. After the parts plant shuttered the charcoal business also left; moving operations to Louisville, Kentucky in the 60’s.

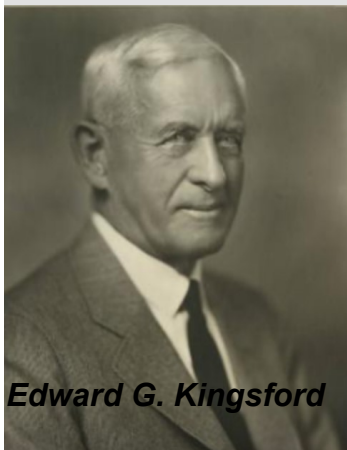
Ford’s name is still displayed on several establishments in town: Ford Airport, Ford Hospital and Ford Park are just a few examples. In a publication honoring the city’s 75th Jubilee, Kingsford is referred to as “The Town that Ford Built.”

Some might say that’s a slight to Kingsford, the man, who by association convinced Ford to venture out to the remote section of the Upper Peninsula, ultimately invest in some land, and put a little city on the map. Today, you have to go to Kingsford, Michigan to get the full story.

You’ll see. Ford gets the credit. But when it comes to charcoal, we all know whose name is on the bag.



Ford plant Kingsford



Edward G. Kingsford

