

"Model A Van"

1931 Ford Van

Weight: 2400#

Engine: 4 Cylinder, 201 CID, and 40 HP

ground Brakes: Mechanical

Weight: 2,285#

Transmission: 3 Speed Manual non synchronized

Front Body: Briggs Manufacturing Company

Passengers: 2

Serial # 4344727

Tire size: 4.75-19

6 Volt Battery w/positive

Fuel Capacity: 11 Gal. Gasoline

Rear Body: Kettle Body Co.

Cost new: \$475 + Rear Body

The rolling chassis, from the doors forward, was produced by the Ford Motor Company. The ice cream box was manufactured by the Kettle Body Company. Inside of the ice box is an upper 6 volt light, floor pallets that allowed cool air flow under the ice cream, and a floor drain for sanitizing purposes. Dry ice was used for a refrigerant. A temperature of -20 degrees was ideal for starting the day sales. The box has two doors for accessing the ice cream and allowing air flow during defrosting the unit. The set of bells are original Good Humor bells. The hand painted graphics were taken from photographs acquired from the Smithsonian Institute of a 1930 Good Humors truck used in Chicago, IL



Loaned to the Museum by: Joe Hornacek - Rochester Hills, MI

The truck was used, serving the streets of Detroit by an ice cream company that manufactured the ice cream bars under the Burt patent. The truck was used, serving the streets of Detroit by an ice cream company that manufactured the ice cream bars under the Burt patent. Harry Burt founded the Good Humor Company and acquired a patent for the process. Harry developed the process to distribute his products via specially equipped trucks. Block ice was also sold from his trucks for home use in ice boxes. Harry's son came up with the idea to use the bells off of his bobsled to attract attention. The original name of the company was Good Humors. Back in the 30s, humor was a synonym for flavor for the tongue. The letter S was removed in the 1940s era. Good Humor Company destroyed their trucks in order to prevent their competition from using them. Very few trucks were passed on to their retiring drivers.

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