

The Passenger Bus Project is Moving Along

by Ken Ehrenhofer

The Model A Ford Foundation has taken on a huge project. It is a 1931 Ford AA Adult passenger bus and it is under restoration. The Coastal Carolina A's are digging into it and getting the chassis ready to roll.

Help from all ends of our hobby have come forward to help out. Walt Bratton has donated lots of parts needed to rebuild the chassis. Rich Falluca of Antique Engine rebuilders has donated a rebuilt engine. Joe Davis from Aries Muffler has provided a muffler and Gary Berg is working on an AA radiator and donating all of his labor to do it. Tommy Lee Bird of Coker tire has given us a real good deal on seven tires, Tubes and flaps for new rubber all the way around. Parts have come from all over as far away as San Diego and as close as Michigan. We have so many people to thank that it will take a long time. There is also a group down in North Carolina who have been really working on this chassis and we must say THANKS to the Coastal Carolina A's headed up by Don Temple and Grier Fleischhauer and their crew. Don is a premier restorer and is very familiar with AA restorations.

They are planning on having the chassis done by Christmas time so that shows us how hard they have been working. We delivered it to them back in May and since then they have had work days every week. The progress has been amazing especially since the chassis was in pretty bad shape. They have welded and riveted and ground on this cracked and broken frame. Recently they had it powder coated black and it is on the way to recovery. They are installing new bearings and seals in every location needed with new kingpins and steering balls in the front end. They are painting the wheels in a Tacoma Cream color and installing the 600x20 tires tubes and flaps. This chassis is going to be gorgeous and we are all proud of the Coastal Carolina A's. Thanks Guys and Gals of Coastal Carolina!!!!



So you might be asking what is going on with the Bus Body? Good question! The roof wood has been coated with a special material several times and this will help solidify the very rotten wood in and around the roof area. This is to insure when we disassemble the wood hopefully will stay together (as much as possible) in order to be used for patterns.

The roof wood is almost completely off the vehicle and ready to go to Larry Wallace for duplication.

The body will be moved to Elk Grove Village, Illinois for disassembly of the body panels and repair of these panels. Things will be moving along this winter on the body restoration. More to come in the near future on this wonderful project.

Ken Ehrenhofer

