

## Waco Family & Friends

Doug put together a very nice article for us about tools to travel with. See below.

But first I would like to remind everyone about the O'Reilly's customer appreciation day coming up on the 14<sup>th</sup>. As most of you know they really help us out during the Regionals with a large cash donation. We might not even be able to do the show without their help. I know that it is during the day and many of you work, but if you get the chance please stop by. I also wanted to mention that the Mustang club has been invited and surely we don't want them to have more cars there than we do. I hope to see you there.

Please let me know if you are interested in going to see Doc, the B29 Bomber as a club. They will give private tours where you get to see everything if you have a good size group attending. We can make arrangements to have a tour after hours if that would make it more convenient for everyone.

Is anyone going to Sugar Shane's in Augusta tonight?

Do not forget, we have a meeting Wednesday evening. Bring something for "Show N Tell" that will educate some of us.

Where do you buy liquid electrical tape?

At last, **Doug's Corner.**

Alright, David shamed me into getting in gear on my next article. I have been holding back on it because I wanted to get this right. Most of you know I really enjoy Roadkill TV Show hosted by David Freiburger and Mike Finnegan. Hot rod magazine, July 2019, has David Frieburger's take on Road-Trip Tools that I thought was worth sharing. Looks like the United States started a transition to metric system around 1975. For the gear head the nuisance started then and

required us to go back and forth to the tool box as metric bolts started showing up on our rides. If you are pre-1975, you're golden for a bag of simple road trip tools; Frieburger recommends and I am quoting "maybe there's a handmade hammer that looks like it survived WWII. That's gold. Imagine the glory of repairing your hooptie at the side of the road with a vintage monkey wrench that was engraved by "Hardy" at one time and "Case" later on as you wonder which one of those he-men cut and ground the handle into the shape of a Prybar. What tools do you need most? That's a question I get asked often so here goes. First, it's forgivable to get brand new staples such as zip ties, but beware of the super cheap ones that break in your hand. You find the better ones at Lowe's and Home Depot. Ratchet straps can be remarkably handy to hold hoods to roofs or serve as temporary motor mounts. A handful of hose clamps can also be cleverly employed to do anything but clamp a hose. And there's duct tape, of course, though I rank it below zip ties and ratchet straps. Once you start the pawn-shop hunt, you may not get everything you need in one shop, so you have to prioritize. The most critical tools are Vise-Grips and you should get more than one set. In addition to being used to remove stubborn fasteners they can do stuff like crush off a leaky brake line or fuel hose, replace a window crank or trans shifter, or hold together a couple of pieces of metal that need to be welded. Hunt for old Vise-Grips as they are no longer American made. For other pliers, get dikes, Channel Lock, and needle nose in that order. Next up, a Crescent wrench and then combination wrenches. As for size priority, it goes like this (for the American cars I always drive): 1/2, 9/16, 7/16, then everything else, Get two of each, as a luxury. Only once the wrenches are handled do I worry about socket sets and I usually stick to 3/8 drive, selecting deep sockets before regular ones. After that, you only need one good flat screwdriver and one Phillips. Then it's off to the fun stuff like a good hammer and prybar."

I thought it was a well thought out advice for Hot Rod subscribers worth sharing. Taking the above advice plus some metric wrenches if you have a newer hot rod and the chances of sitting alongside the road get slimmer. I am really proud of my friend Jack Blackwill. Years ago his RV transmission had a major seal go bad. They put some tools together dropped the transmission and repaired and reinstalled it to get back home. That's cool. If you have a bag of tricks or something to share concerning road trip tools lets share them at one of our meetings. Or maybe we can set a date for one of our meetings to show and tell.

Doug