

Taylor-Tot News

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MERRY CHRISTMAS!



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Special Christmas Edition

I hope this newsletter finds everyone greatly Blessed in this season of Hope and Love.

We hear so many things that could have us all in the dumps, but I am here to tell you there IS Hope... and His name is Jesus. If you like to know more, send me an email.

On the Taylor-Tot front this month, we have a part one of a very moving story about a child named Emanuel.

Also, I will do my best to help shed some light on the 'secret formula' of determining what vintage a stroller is. In some respects, it's really easy and makes perfect sense...but that's in a perfect world. I think you'll find the article highly informative.

As 2009 comes to a close, I want to take a moment to thank those of you who have contacted me (and that would be ALL of you) this year.

Thank you to those who entrusted their personal treasures to me for their restoration. I did my best for you and I hope it shows.

As always, if I can be of service to anyone, please let me know.

- Tom

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You received this newsletter because you made contact with 3R1 Enterprises, the web specialist on Taylor-Tot strollers.

If you do not wish to receive future Newsletters, please send a 'reply-back' email, with the subject line of "UNSUBSCRIBE" and you will be immediately removed from our newsletter list. - thank you!



Emanuel's Story – Part 1



Rachel's child photo

They really don't "make them like they used to".
In some ways that's good, in some ways, maybe not.



1950's model. "Hot Rod Orange", 1955 Ford Sea Sprite Green and Snowshoe White colors.

While it should be pretty obvious that I love these old Taylor-Tot strollers, the strollers aren't the most important part of the gig. People are what is important. Connecting with people, refreshing their memories of a childhood gone by is what really makes me tick.

One of the blessings of having the only website about Taylor-Tots is that people are finding it. People who I would never have known about otherwise have found my little website and that makes all the work worth it.

A few months ago I received an email from a nice lady named Rachel. Rachel is from Vancouver, Canada and even though the idea of some guy in Tennessee being contacted by someone from Vancouver is pretty far out, her request was even more interesting.

Rachel sent me a photo of a young child sitting in a stroller. She said that the picture was probably taken in Lithuania in the late 1930's and she wondered if the stroller could be identified as a 1930's vintage Taylor-Tot.

When Rachel sent the picture, it was a very dark print - obviously a very old photo. The first thing I did was use a photo program to lighten up the picture so that I could see more of the stroller's

details.

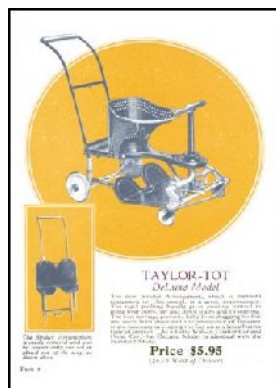
When I was better able to see some of the details of the stroller in Rachel's picture, I found several items that seem to tell me that this wasn't a Taylor-Tot stroller.

For instance, the child's T-handle was wider; the front crossmember is shaped at an angle; the front bumper is shaped differently and there doesn't seem to be any beads in front of the youngster. I really struggled with this one, because I wanted it to be a Taylor-Tot. It reminded me of a 1932 Taylor-Tot like one I had seen on a catalog cover. If the child's handle had been wider and the front crossmember had been squared off, I would have agreed that it was more than likely, a Taylor-Tot.

As it was, I had to get back to Miss Rachel and tell her that it didn't look like it was a Taylor-Tot. I told Miss Rachel that I thought it might be a European stroller, perhaps of the same 1930's vintage because, just like cars of the day all looked basically the same, my thinking was that strollers might have also.

I wanted to write this article for the newsletter, so I asked Miss Rachel's permission and when I did, she asked if she could write the 'other half' of the story of the child in the stroller.

Stay tuned for Part two in the next issue of Taylor-Tot News.



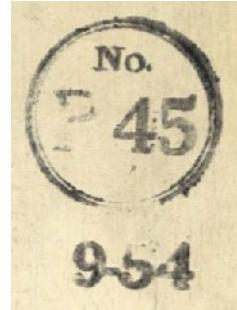
Most of you have probably seen the ad at left. It was from a 1932 Taylor-Tot catalog. This was the 'typical' Taylor-Tot of that era and was mainly what I used for my assessment of Miss Rachel's photo.



Model No. P-60
Manufacturing date=
December 1952



Model No, V-42
Manufacturing date =
December 1942



Model No. P45
Manufacturing date=
September 1954

Just how old is this stroller?

This question comes up more than any others. Some people have no idea. Others can pinpoint it to a year, only because they know when the stroller was bought originally. Let's see if we can shed some light on the 'hunt'.

The primary way to determine how old a Taylor-Tot is would be to look underneath the wooden seat and find the stamped-in date code. The date code had a 1 inch diameter circle with some numbers inside it. Those numbers were the Model Number that Taylor assigned to it.

Under the stamped circle were some other numbers in the format of XX-XX, or X-XX. That is decoded as first, the number of the month. January = 1; Dec = 12. The next digits were the last two numbers of the year. For example, 54 = the year 1954.

I'll put a few decoded date code examples on this page and then next issue we'll decode a few model years by the way the strollers were made. After all, many of these little guys got more than their share of repaints and the stamped date code could be long gone.

Note: The model V-42 was a wooden stroller, except for the backrest. It was made during the war years while the metal shortage was ongoing. I will be doing a more in-depth article on it in the future.

Want your Taylor-Tot story told?

All of the people receiving this issue have contacted us at 3R1 and some of you have told us really interesting stories or, if you have already told us your story and wouldn't mind it being read around the world, send us a note of permission and we'll probably get it in the next issue.

FEEDBACK WANTED:

Sincerely interested in what YOU think about this effort.

Is it worth a read? Please let us know. Just send a reply-back or contact us at WWW.3r1enterprises.com or 3r1enterprises@bellsouth.net

