

Shade Tree A's Newsletter

Augusta, Georgia

August 2007 Volume 35 Number 8





**The Shade Tree A's is a non-profit organization
with chapter affiliation with MAFCA and MARC**

The organization is dedicated to the preservation and the restoration of the Model A Ford automobile and supports membership in the national organizations dedicated to the same purpose



Your Shade Tree A's membership includes annual dues for the Model A Ford Club of America and a subscription to **The Restorer Magazine** from MAFCA, 250 South Cypress St., La Habra, CA 90631

Members are also urged to join the Model "A" Restorers Club. Dues are \$35.00 per year and include a subscription to the **Model "A" News**. MARC, 6721 Merriman Road, Garden City, MI 48135

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AUGUST MEETING

Our Annual Dinner Meeting will be held on Monday August 13th, and catered by Craig's Place at Mann Memorial United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Milledgeville and Kissingbower Roads. We will eat at 7 o'clock. For those needing directions, a map is on page 4.

REFRESHMENTS

Highlighted name coordinates what the group brings

August

Dinner Meeting

September

Gazette, Turley, B.Jones, W.Smith, Boswell

October

Bryant, Maypole, Purkey, Trapp, Leach



OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

Thoughts from the President

How resilient is the Model A? Well, show me another vehicle that is driven as often, where literary thousands are still on the road and that is over 75 years old. No doubt the Model A was designed well from the beginning, especially for it's time. But I will say "nothing lasts for ever" unless it is well maintained. For that I must say the STA's do a great job maintaining their Model A cars and trucks. As a club we have traveled thousands of miles with relatively few repairs. On many recent trips, we have not had to have even one "technical seminar". For some of our newer members, when touring and one needs assistance we kindly refer to the road side repair as a "technical seminar".

With that said, I want to encourage all members that if they have a problem and need advice or assistance, please don't hesitate to call on a club member. I don't know anyone in the club that won't assist or offer their expert advice. This may be the single most benefit of joining the STA's. As always, getting more than one opinion is usually helpful even if one opinion is yours.

The year is going by fast but we still have many events in front of us so join us if you can. Hope to see you then.

Have a Safe Trip,
Craig McMullin, President



MINUTES OF THE JULY 9th MEETING

The July meeting of the STAs was called to order by President Craig McMullin after a meal of sub sandwiches, potato salad, pasta salad, cakes, cookies and drinks provided by the Mason, Neal, Wade, Dover & Neitzke families.

Reports were given on the conditions of Glen Boswell, Betty Hall and Jim Dover's wife—they are all doing better. It was asked that we remember the Meloans as they go through a difficult time.

Richard Dunevent gave the treasurer's report and the minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

It was reported that Anne Neely-Beck and Susan Meloan had an article in the last "Restorer" and that Anne had received a MARC fashion award.

There were several show-and-tell items. Abbie Prince passed a brochure on a product to fix potential E10 Ethanol problems. Eric Shogren showed some king pins he is working on. An article in the VA Gazette showing "As" was passed and Walter Smith played a 1928 record (Henry Made a Lady Out of Lizzie) on a 1922 phonograph. Jim McPherson reported on a good trip (MARC National Meet) to Williamsburg, VA. Craig McMullen and Eric reported on the Trenton & Gilbert parades—9 cars and 1 red tractor (Craig).

Jim McPherson gave a rundown on upcoming events: July 14, Tech Seminar; Sun, July 29, Tour to the lake with dinner at Hickory Knob; Aug 13, Dinner Meeting at Mann Memorial Church (\$10 person, 7 p.m.). Anne Neely-Beck reported on a committee that she is working on that would approve fashions that look correct but that may not actually be Era.

Craig McMullin adjourned the business meeting and Abbie Prince gave a program on fans and cooling which had much discussion and ended with a vote by membership on which they prefer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Garage Tour

We will be visiting some very interesting garages, all containing a Model A Ford on Saturday August 25th. We'll meet for breakfast at 8:00 at the Sunrise Grill on Washington Road, and depart for our first stop about 9:00. This is one of our most popular local tours, seeing where our fellow Model A'ers keep and work on their Model A. We will eat lunch at Ivery's in Thomson, a restaurant highly recommended by Club members, and one we have been trying to eat at for years. So bring the ladies with you, they will enjoy the tour and the lunch. The tour will cover about 60 miles, round trip.

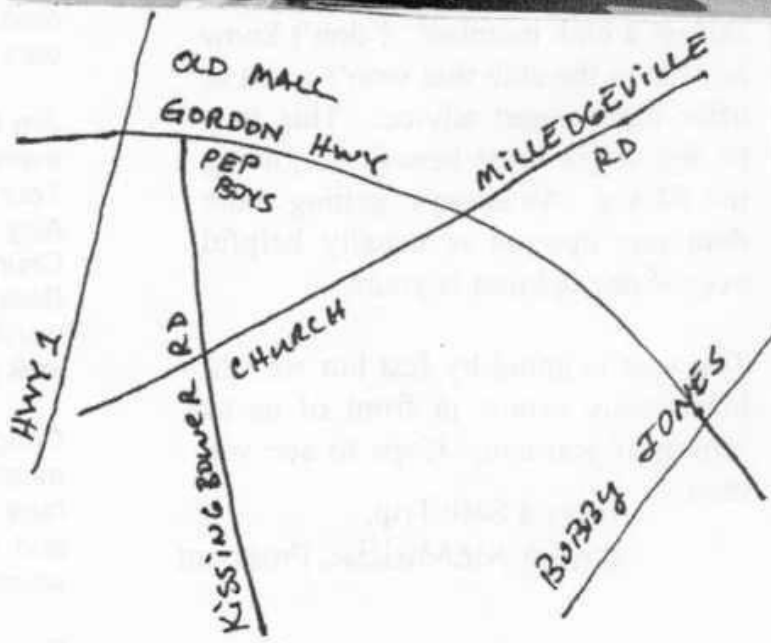
Chattanooga Tour

We'll depart for Chattanooga on Thursday September 6th at 8 o'clock from the Huddle House at the corner of Washington and Belair Roads. If you plan to eat breakfast before we leave, arrive early. The Scenic City A's will be our host for the weekend. There will be a welcome reception Thursday evening, a tour of the Chattanooga area Friday with a BBQ lunch cooked by one of their members, a hill climb sponsored by F.A.S.T. Southeast in downtown Chattanooga Saturday and a banquet Saturday night on the Southern Belle. Eat your fill from a buffet featuring prime rib and shrimp Creole while cruising on the Tennessee River. The host hotel is the Chattanooga Clarion (423-756-5150), currently being remodeled as a Double Tree. The group rate is \$79.00. Registration forms are available at the Club meeting.

RECENT EVENTS

LEXINGTON COUNTY PEACH FESTIVAL

The Shade Tree As were there again—this time it was the Lexington County Peach Festival on the 4th of July! Again, Craig drove his 1941 Farmall "A" and Teresa drove their car. Eric Shogren, two Gordon cars--driven by George and Don, Tom and Pat Roberts, Barry Ready and his father-in-law, Ken Nelson and the Booths from the Palmetto As all participated. The challenge for this parade is always the sizable hill in the middle of the downtown area—all of us made it up without a problem, even though Eric found himself behind a fellow riding a 3-wheeled (non-motorized) bicycle—happily, some fellow jumped out of the crowd to give this fellow up the hill!



RECENT EVENTS



Tech Session XI

On Saturday July 14th, twelve members of the Shade Tree A's met for breakfast at the Sunrise Grill before going to Richard Dunevent's garage for the days technical session activities. Twenty-one members worked on various projects, including the installation of a CB in Bill Adams 1931 DeLuxe Coupe, an external oil filter on Abbie Prince's 1929 Speedster, fitting kingpins and bushings, installing a new battery and evaluating various electrical problems. There were eleven Model A's present, including the 1928 Sport Coupe of Jim Mason and the 1931 Tudor of Don Neal, both driven from McCormick. Sheila McPherson prepared a special All American lunch in celebration of the 4th of July which





NOTES FROM THE MODEL A GARAGE

By Jim McPherson



Skinned Knuckles, a journal of car restoration, has an interesting two-part article in the April (Vol. 31, NO. 9) and May (VOL> 31, NO. 10) 2007 issues. Titled "Compression Ratios and Engine Efficiency", is reprinted from a late 1930's Motor Service Repair Manual booklet entitled "How to Raise the Compression Ratio of Automobile Engines". It is important to remember that in the 1930's gasoline was not as consistent in quality or octane rating as it is today. A car owner could shop around to find a fuel that burned better in his car. Automotive manufacturers were trying to improve their engines, and neighborhood shops would modify a factory engine to increase horsepower. This booklet tells the shop owner how to "sell" the increased compression job to his customers.

During the 1930's, the rapid increase in the compression ratios of automobile engines was one of the most important reasons for the rapid improvement of car performance. From 1928 to 1931, the average compression ratio increased from 4.86 to 5.23. Higher compression ratios results in improved power and acceleration, less fuel consumption, and reduced engine operating temperatures. Raising the compression ratio, more than anything else, will improve the performance of an engine at so little cost. As an example, an increase in compression ratio from 5.49 to 6.49 resulted in an 18% savings in operation. Raising the compression ratio of an engine from low to high results in the miles per gallon being increased by more than 20%, at any given speed.

Fuel economy and increased horsepower are obtained by increasing the compression ratio. If you have a Model A engine and head (low compression, and change to a Model B head (high compression) the compression pressure increases from 65 lbs/sq in to 85 lbs/sq in, a smaller amount of gasoline is compressed tighter so more power is developed. Driving a car at a given speed requires the same amount of horsepower, regardless of the compression. A high compression engine will develop this power with a lesser quantity of fuel, and the less fuel being burned results in increased economy and lower operating temperatures for the engine.

Bearing pressures are also reduced by increased compression ratios. The inertia forces in an engine are invariably larger than those due to gas pressure. In other words, an engine rotating without compression or firing would have greater bearing pressure than during actual operation at full throttle.

The combustion chamber is designed for the most efficient shape for a particular compression ratio. It is nearly always possible to mill off the lower surface of the head casting to increase the power output and decrease the fuel consumption. More next time.

To subscribe to Skinned Knuckles, go to www.skinnedknuckles.net.

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If YOU would like to support the Shade Tree A's Club, please contact any officer of the club. Names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed on page two of this newsletter.



SHADE TREE A'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Legend: A RED entry denotes a change or new addition to the calendar.

A GREEN entry denotes a Dinner Meeting at a different location.

AUGUST:

- 13 STA Dinner Meeting
25 Garage Tour

SEPTEMBER:

- 10 STA Meeting
6-9 Chattanooga Hill Climb
22 Technical Seminar

OCTOBER:

- 15 STA Meeting
20 Steak Cookout

NOVEMBER:

- 12 STA Meeting

DECEMBER

- 18 STA Christmas Party
Old MacDonald's Fish
Camp (Note Tuesday date!)

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

(Non-club events but members are encouraged to participate)

September:

- 13-16 Charlotte Autofair
28-29 Palmetto A's Swap Meet

October:

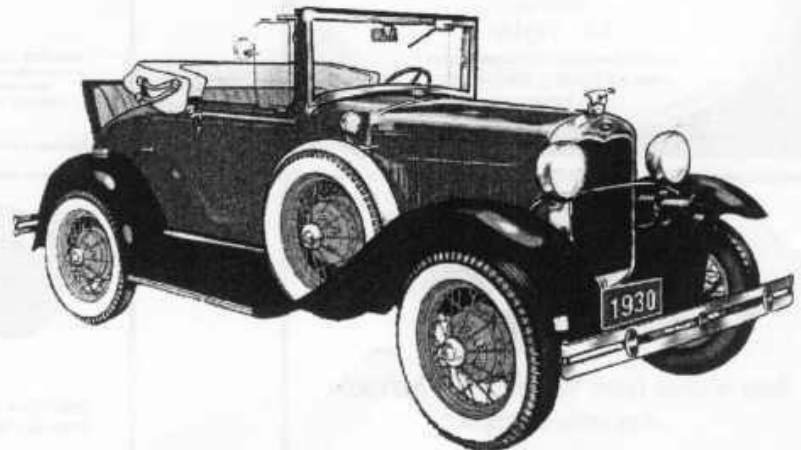
- 10-13 Hershey Swap Meet & Show

November:

- 15-17 Moultrie Swap Meet

December

- 5-9 MAFCA Membership Meeting, Southern CA



NEW MEMBER!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Bobby Brandon, Pascal Bryant, Sabrina Cozart, Rex Foster, Tony Gazette, Bob Jones, Ruel Martin, Sheila McPherson, Abbie Prince, Ted Roberts, Dan Snider, Dave Welter

For Sale

1928 Sport Coupe, Older restoration. Runs and drives well. Enjoy as is, or restore.
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