

# Shade Tree A's Newsletter

Augusta, Georgia

January 2007

Volume 34 Number 1



Betty Wade with  
the 2006  
Monroe Wade  
Winner



**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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### JANUARY MEETING

Our **January 8th** meeting returns to our regular meeting location in Richard Dunevent's garage at 7 pm.

The program will be presented by Gerald Melchoir and will demonstrate upholstering the Model A seat.

### 2007 CLUB DUES ARE PAST DUE!

This may be your **LAST** newsletter if you have not renewed your Shade Tree A's Membership! Better do it NOW while you are thinking about it!

Send check for \$55.00 to Richard Dunevent, Treasurer, Shade Tree A's; 4338 Owens Road; Evans, GA 30809.

### REFRESHMENTS

Highlighted name coordinates what the group brings

#### January

**Meloan**, McPherson, Miller, Brown, Komp

#### February

**Garvin**, Shogren, Chavis, Roberts, Ready

#### March

**Dunevent**, Melchoirs, Dinkins, Knapp, Prince





## OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

Thoughts from the President

I would like to thank Jack Horner again for his leadership as President of the STA's in 2006. The organization is growing; it is active and is financially stable. I look forward to working with Jack in 2007 as immediate past President on the Board. Thanks Jack for a job well done.

I would also like to thank Ed Meloan for his work on the Christmas program this year. The program agenda that were at each table setting were especially good looking and well done. Also the 2006 Year in Review slide presentation was exceptional. Thanks Ed, for all your hard work.

Hope your new year got off to a great Model A start. The STA officers and staff are eager as we begin a new year with some of the old traditional activities mixed with a few new ideas that we think you will enjoy. I am looking forward to the technical seminars continuing this year. I thought that last year we had an excellent turn-out on Saturday mornings spent at Richard's. Everyone seemed to enjoy the camaraderie and either learned a little or helped someone else with a particular problem. All-in-all great fellowship, good times and many memories.

The Savannah, GA. tour planned for March and the MARC National Meet in Williamsburg, VA. in June will no doubt be two of this year's highlights. If you plan to attend the Williamsburg event it is not too early to make reservations. Please talk to Jim McPherson as to a special tour that some will be making on the way to the Meet.

Whether you're an active Model A driver, expert mechanic, fashion consultant, food coinsurer, or have technical standards knowledge you all have something to offer the STA organization. Make the most of it and help the club as only you can to be an organization that others strive to emulate. You will be rewarded with a great circle of life-long friends and many many wonderful memories.

Have a safe trip,

*Craig McMullin*, President



## MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING

On Saturday, December 9, over 100 attended the Christmas Party held at the Hepzibah Community Center. The Shady A Ladies did a superb job in party planning. Lorry Schroen coordinated the food; Susan Meloan handled the logistics and arranged for centerpieces for each table.

After a sumptuous dinner, Vice-President Craig McMullin called the meeting to order at 8:30. Tom Roberts read Jack Horner's Christmas Greetings to the Club. Jack was 'half-way around the world' and missed his first Party since joining the Shade Tree A's.

A report was given on Wayne Ready's hospitalization – he's in MCG's Room 8632; Ernie Dinkins reported that Paul West had a mild heart attack. Richard Dunevent gave the treasurer's report – the Club is in good financial shape.

The motion to approve the November minutes as published in the Newsletter was made by Jim McPherson and seconded by Eric Shogren. Included in the November Newsletter were revisions to the Club By-Laws as recommended by the attorney who secured the Club's Incorporation; the motion to accept these changes was made by Jim McPherson and seconded by Eric Shogren.

**Old Business:** The Club has been actively appearing in various Christmas parades including those in Gibson, Graniteville, Thomson, Aiken, Hepzibah and Gracewood. Over 20 Model As were in the Thomson parade, and a check for \$200 was added to our treasury.

**New Business:** Jim McPherson encouraged the club to participate in the Christmas Lights tour on December 12 and the New Year Breakfast at 9:00 am January 1 at Cracker Barrel. We have no reservations there, so plan to be early! After breakfast the group will tour to Furniture Doctor, where Walter Smith will tell us about furniture restoration; then we'll drive to see Walter's bottle collection.

The Shady A Ladies had no report. The Board of Directors will meet December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Meloans.

Continued on Page 4

December Minutes, Continued from Page 3...

A motion by Jim McPherson and a second by Eric Shogren adjourned the business meeting.

On the Christmas Party Program, mileage awards were given – Pascal Bryant traveled 1,680 miles this year; Abbie Prince, 3,050; Jim Mason, 2,672; George Gordon 2,565 and James Beck, 1,460.

Craig McMullin presented anniversary pins. They will be updated at each Christmas Party. The first level is for 2 years of membership in the Club; then 5 years, 10 years etc. in 5-year increments. Craig stressed that the pins be recycled and asked that if you're reaching a new milestone, it would be appreciated if you'd trade in your old pin!

An outgoing President's Gift was given to Jack Horner; and Ed Meloan presented a slide show of 2006 events—the Club was busy!

Tom Roberts announced the slate of officers for 2007: President, Craig McMullin; Vice President, James Gay; Secretary, Susan Meloan; Treasurer, Richard Dunevent; Tour Director, Jim McPherson; National Director, Ed Meloan; Board of Directors, Bill Maypole.

Betty Wade and Ed Meloan presented a handsome plaque to the winner of this year's Monroe Wade Award—Craig McMullin.

Door prizes (the poinsettia centerpieces) were awarded.

Respectfully submitted, *Tom Roberts*



## MINUTES OF THE BOARD

The Shade Tree A's Board of Directors met at the Meloan's home on December 18, 2006. President Jack Horner called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

There was discussion about dues and membership. Richard Dunevent reported that most dues had been paid on time. Jim McPherson led a discussion about club activities, sponsored vs other. It was suggested that we have a double calendar—the first listing official sponsored events and the second listing other events of interest.

This will be tried and discussed at a regular meeting.

Jim McPherson talked about upcoming events in Savannah. He made a motion to do the March 9-11 event in lieu of the March 24 event. Motion was seconded by Ed Meloan—passed unanimously.

Income and expenses for 2005 and 2006 were reviewed. A motion was made by Craig McMullin to review and approve a budget at the next Board of Directors meeting. Richard Dunevent seconded the motion—passed unanimously.

The possibility of selling ads in the newsletter to help defray newsletter expenses was discussed. It was decided to dedicate one page to business card-sized ads for \$100 per year per ad. This will be offered to the general membership at the next meeting.

Susan Meloan discussed the amount of space needed for the Shady A Ladies fashion articles in the newsletter.

Tony Gazette asked that we consider buying a sound system for use at meetings and other events. Jack Horner will donate a system—less the speakers. His offer was accepted; the Club will purchase speakers.

Jim McPherson asked for suggestions to encourage and promote the Shady A Ladies. Tony Gazette offered to get information on Washington, GA hotel and dinner theater.

Craig McMullin asked for feedback on the Christmas Party. Craig then presented Jack Horner with a gift for his year as President. Jack was asked if he would again host the Valentines Day Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast on February 10, 2007. Jack agreed to do so.

Outgoing President Horner then yielded the gavel to incoming President, Craig McMullin who made a few brief comments and scheduled the next Board of Directors meeting at the Meloan's on January 16, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Tom Roberts*

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Come Along And You'll See Stars

We'll meet for breakfast at the Sunrise Grill on Washington Road on **Saturday January 27<sup>th</sup>** at 8 o'clock. We'll leave about 9 o'clock and tour to the University of South Carolina at Aiken to visit the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center Observatory. The observatory includes the DuPont Planetarium and the Bechtel 16" telescope. You'll see a star studded show, as you observe planets, nebulae, galaxies and stars in ways you have not seen them before. The observatory seats 46, and the cost will be \$5.00 per person. Following the show we may visit the shops in downtown Aiken before touring to New Ellenton for lunch at Carolina BBQ.

## Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast

That special time of the year is fast approaching, when you take your sweetheart to breakfast. An not just any breakfast, but the Shade Tree A's Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast. I don't know how we can be so lucky, but we have been invited to return to the home of Jack and Carrie for breakfast on **Saturday February 10<sup>th</sup>**. Arrive around 9 for some of the best pancakes our Shade Tree Chefs have to offer, and don't forget your sweetie. You might want to bring her in style, in your Model A. The address is 4167 Quail Springs Court, in Martinez.

## Model A Roundup

The First Coast Region of MARC will host their Model A Roundup in Jacksonville (Orange Park) **February 15-18**. The location is the same as last year, with the Quality Inn (Exit 10 off I-295) being the host hotel. You may make reservations by calling the hotel at 904-264-1211. The room rate is \$55.00 per night. Area tours, a flea market, seminars, Friday night dinner at Clark's Fish Camp and an ice cream social are some of the activities planned.

## "All Model A" Winter Swap Meet in Alabama

The Alabama Rambling A's are hosting an All Model A Swap Meet on **Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup>**. It will feature inside, outside covered, and outside open spaces. The swap meet will be held in the Boy Scout Building, located in Vinemont, AL, just North of Cullman on Hwy 31 North (Exit 311 off I-65 [Hwy 157], about 45 miles North of Birmingham). Motels at this exit are: the Best Western Inn (\$55.20, 888-559-0549); Sleep Inn & Suites (\$59.99, 256-734-6166); and the Holiday Inn Express (\$70.00, 256-734-2728). Ask for the "Winter Swap Meet" rate. The swap meet will be open from 7AM until 2 PM.

## Fort Gordon Dinner Theater

The Shade Tree A's will be returning to the Fort Gordon Dinner Theater on **Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup>** for dinner and the Broadway play **"Guys and Dolls"**! A musical comedy set in Damon Runyon's mythical New York City. This oddball romantic comedy - considered by many to be the perfect musical comedy - soars with the spirit of Broadway as it introduces us to a cast of vivid characters who have become legends in the canon: Sarah Brown, the upright but uptight "mission doll," out to reform the evildoers of Time Square; Sky Masterson, the slick, high-rolling gambler who woos her on a bet and ends up falling in love; Adelaide, the chronically ill nightclub performer whose condition is brought on by the fact she's been engaged to the same man for 14 years; and Nathan Detroit, her devoted fiancé, desperate as always to find a spot for his infamous floating crap game.

Everything works out in the end, thanks to the machinations of Abe Burrows and Jo Swerling's hilarious, fast-paced book and Frank Loesser's bright, brassy, immortal score, which takes us from the heart of Times Square to the cafes of Havana, Cuba, and even into the sewers of New York City. Funny and romantic, **"Guys and Dolls"** is ideal for audiences of any age, so bring the entire family. Tickets are \$39.00 for civilians, \$36.00 for seniors (over 65) and retired military. Sign-up at the meeting, or call (706-592-4835)

or e-mail ([james.mcpherson@amedd.army.mil](mailto:james.mcpherson@amedd.army.mil)) Jim McPherson for your reservations.

## The Shade Tree A's 2007 Grand Tour

The Shade Tree A's 2007 Grand Tour to Williamsburg, VA and the MARC National Meet offers some very special sights and scenery.

We will depart Augusta Wednesday June 13<sup>th</sup> and tour to Myrtle Beach, SC where we will join the Jacksonville A's and other Model A clubs. Thursday we will reach the Outer Banks of NC, arriving on Ocracoke Island by a 2 ½ hour ferry ride from Cedar Island. Ferry reservations have to be made within 30 days of the departure day (800-BY-FERRY or [www.ncferry.org](http://www.ncferry.org)). We will spend Thursday night at Blackbeard's Lodge, built in 1936 (PH: 800-892-5314). Friday we will tour the Outer Banks, stopping at such historical sights as the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse and Kitty Hawk. We will spend Friday night in Sunbury, NC, and arrive in Williamsburg Saturday.





# RECENT EVENTS

Williamsburg, Continued from Page 5...

Hotel rooms in the Williamsburg area are at a premium. Williamsburg is not only a prime tourist attraction, but it is also the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. If you have any feeling that you might like to go, I would encourage you to make your hotel reservations now. The host hotel is the Woodlands Hotel & Suites (Deluxe Suites \$179, Superior Room Class, \$137), and the overflow hotel is the Cascades Motel (\$116). Additional lodging is available in the Governor's Inn (\$105) and the Williamsburg Lodge (\$179). Reservations for any of the above hotels may be made by calling 1-800-261-9530. **Most of the national chain motels we usually stay in are full.** Some of us will be staying at the Quality Inn Colony (309 Page St) at a rate of \$62.96/\$53.96 (click on the 50+ rate) from their web site ([www.choicehotels.com](http://www.choicehotels.com)).

You may want to visit the Williamsburg Meet web-site (<http://clubs.hemmings.com/colvamodela/>) for a preview of what awaits you at the MARC National Meet.

**One note: to register for this meet you must be a member of MARC, so if you plan to attend this meet, you might consider becoming a member now, to take full advantage of your membership (and the Model A News magazine).**

## 2006's First Christmas Parade

For the Shade Tree A's, the Christmas Parade season began with the parade in Gibson, GA on Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup>. We met in the Wal-Mart parking lot and departed for Gibson at 11:30. We ate lunch at Crossroads BBQ outside of Gibson, where we consumed our fair share of BBQ and those famous fried apple and peach pies. We were just able to waddle to our cars and make the parade lineup by 3 o'clock. Frankie Dunevent passed out a box of delicious Christmas candy to each participant (THANKS Frankie).



After the parade through the town square we stopped at the home of Dunevent relatives for refreshments before heading home.





## Thomson Christmas Parade



The Thomson Christmas parade was held on Saturday evening December 2<sup>nd</sup>. This may have been the first time many of the 21 Model A's present for the parade had participated in a nighttime parade, with several areas being quite dark. The parade began promptly at 5:30 PM, with us near the front, with no marching units or performers in front of us, which made the long parade route pass quickly. We keep being amazed by the number of people who turn out to view the parade, including an extra ordinary number of children.



Leon Newsome, from the Thomson Packing Company, rode in the bed of George Gordon's pickup. George had his truck appropriately decorated with pigs, turkeys and other wildlife. Following the parade, we went to the packing house where each participant picked up their gift of sausage and a calendar (and did a little shopping).

Mr. Newsome made a donation to the Club for participating in the parade. A large group soon found themselves across the street at Ryan's, eating supper before returning home. There were many members who we have not seen in a while, out with their Model A for this parade. THANKS for your support.

## The Twin Living Christmas Trees

The Shade Tree A's enjoyed a grand musical performance by the Millbrook Baptist Choir on Sunday afternoon, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Entertainment was provided during the hour before the performance by a number of groups including the Youth Choir, and a group of couples with the ladies dressed in their holiday finest and the men in tuxedos.



When the performance began, we were convinced it had been organized and directed by Tony and Carole Gazette, straight from our MAFCA Membership Meeting Welcome Party.

A variety of performances were presented, all with Christmas rock and roll songs being the central theme. Then the Christmas trees came to life with the performers singing a number of songs, accompanied by a light show from the Christmas tree lights.

Ed Garvin arranged reserved parking for the Model A's very close to the building, and a number of people attending the performance took the time to view and comment on the cars.

## Christmas Lights Tour

The Shade Tree A's held their annual Christmas Lights Tour on Tuesday December 12<sup>th</sup>. Several members gathered at the Village Deli in Daniel Village for dinner before the tour.

Eight Model A's and several more modern cars left Daniel Village and toured to the Summerville Section of Augusta, our first stop. There we toured a home extensively decorated with a Disney theme. Next we toured to West Augusta and toured a home decorated throughout for the Christmas season. Members had a chance to relax and talk while enjoying refreshments.

# RECENT EVENTS



## Hephzibah Christmas Parade

Photos by Melinda Brandon



Christmas was certainly in the air for the Hephzibah Christmas Parade on Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> as our first really cold wave of the year ushered in winter. Eleven Model A Fords, all decorated in their Christmas finest, paraded through downtown. George Gordon had Santa singing Christmas songs from his sleigh and Frank Knapp had his Victoria out for its maiden voyage. The Club received a First



Place trophy for their entry. After removing the decorations from the cars, we went to Sconyer's for lunch.



## The 2006 Monroe Wade Award



**This years winner of the award was Craig McMullin.**

Craig has been an outstanding representative of the Shade Tree A's, interfacing with local charitable organizations to display our Model A's at community events. These displays have raised the community awareness of the Model A Ford and the Shade Tree A's in the Central Savannah River Area by both their display and in print.

Craig served as Co-Chairman of the 1995 and 1998 Southeastern Divisional Meets for the Model A Ford Club of America, hosted by the Shade Tree A's. He also served as banquet coordinator of the 2004 MAFCA National Membership meet here in Augusta.

Craig drives his 1930 Standard Fordor on local and regional tours, and promotes driving the Model A to Club members. He established the Club's highly successful and very popular Technical Sessions to help fellow Club members repair and maintain their Model A's.

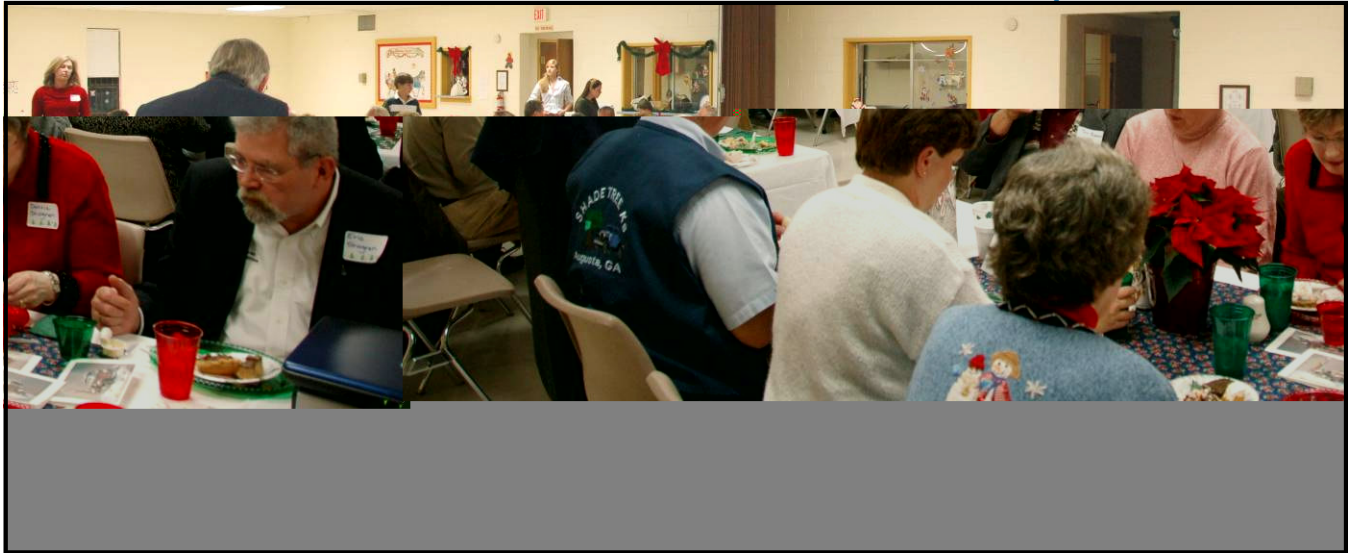
Craig has served as a member at large of the Board of Directors as well as Vice-President and President of the Shade Tree A's in 1993, 1994, 1997, 1998 and again in 2007. He is always ready to offer thoughtful and enthusiastic support for any club project.



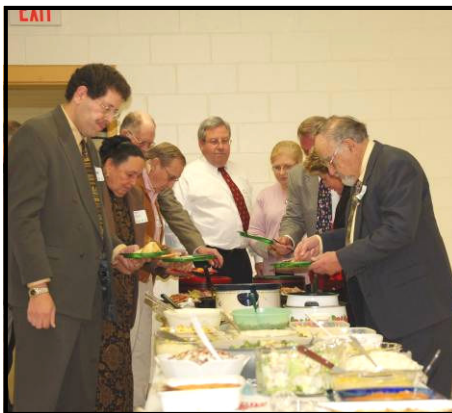
# RECENT EVENTS



## The 2006 Shade Tree A's Christmas Party



On a cold winter night that actually felt like Christmas, the Shade Tree A's met at the Hephzibah Community Center for the annual party. The room was festively decorated with live poinsettias and Christmas appointments.

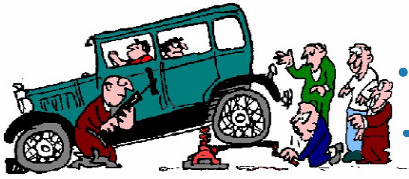


The food table was loaded with ham, turkey and dressing and all the trimmings. Thanks to Lorry Schroen's organizational skills, there were so many different dishes that one could only wish to taste everything. The Shade Tree A'er's again outdid themselves.



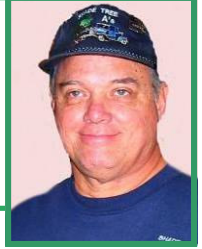
After the bountiful meal, we held the annual business meeting during which the by-law changes suggested by the legal counsel were passed and the Monroe Wade award was presented to Craig McMullin. The evening was finalized by a photographic review of the year prepared by Ed Meloan. Again we wish to thank all those that made this occasion possible.





## NOTES FROM THE MODEL A GARAGE

By Jim McPherson



The announcement has been made, and conversion will soon start on an alcohol plant in Augusta. However, the alcohol will not be derived from corn as it is in the mid-west, but from wood pulp. We might consider converting our Model A's to operate on this newer fuel source. I guess we will be able to tell everybody we are burning wood to run our Model A engines as a conservation effort!

Many Model A owners have placed a safety fuse at the starter to protect the electrical system. There was an interesting tip in Henry's Horn, the newsletter of the Henry's A's Chapter in Livermore, CA on just this topic. Instead of using a safety fuse, they suggest using a circuit breaker, which fits the fuse holder. They replaced the 30 amp fuse with a 30 amp circuit breaker available from Peterbilt truck dealers. It snaps into the fuse holder with no modifications. The part number is CC1630 and it cost about \$17.00. If you have trouble finding a fuse when you need to replace one, or if your electrical system has a tendency to frequently blow a fuse, this may be a good solution for you.

## THE "GREAT" MAIL TRUCK RACE



About mid morning Thanksgiving day, a Model A Truck with a huckster body and an AA Truck minus its heavy wood mail truck body lined up for the First Annual Great Thanksgiving Model A Verses Model AA Truck Race. Dan Perla was at the helm of the AA Truck, and myself, Larry Komp, was driving the Model A huckster, 'Woody'. Mike Holahan, of Sarasota, FL, served as both the official official and official photographer. See his attached action photo, which really captures the excitement and magic of this hysterical moment. This first race ended in a photo finish tie.

The real reason for this wonder less event was to compare the first gear ratio between a Model A 'tranny' and the 4 speed AA 'tranny'. After realizing that Dan Perla's Mail truck was screaming its guts out just to keep up with my looping Model A huckster, Woody, we concluded that the first gear in a AA tranny is geared much lower. Hey, we could have looked up this information or did the math, but that would have been no fun at all.

Yours in the Heat of Completion,

*Larry Komp*





# VINTAGE VISIONS

By Susan Meloan & Anne Neely-Beck

## WINTER COATS IN 1929 & 1930



During the winter season, it seems appropriate to look at women's coat in the Model A Era. Commonly use fabrics were made from wool fibers. In the Sears catalog we see wool broadcloth and velour, and in 1930 a combination of wool and silk. A number of coats had a large mushroom-type fur collar. Many of these collars were made from wolf dog fur as well as that from a few other animals.



The coats in 1928 were constructed with the straight lines of the clothing in that year. Like the dress styles as the years increased, the coats became more fitted. The above picture from McCall's, November 1929 shows the fashions as seen in Paris.. The title of the article is entitled "Curves are Coming Back". The Paris

fashions tended to be little ahead of those generally seen. The coats seen in Sears and Wards catalogue are somewhat straighter in 1929, but are more fitted in 1930 and 31.



The picture to the left shows coats from a 1930 McCall's. The coats are more fitted and often belted at the waist. The dark gray coat (2nd from right) features a fitted circular skirt with a tie waist and a bloused bodice.



## 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.

### JANUARY

- 8 STA Meeting  
27 **USC Aiken Observatory & Planetarium**

### FEBRUARY

- 10 **Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast**  
12 STA Meeting  
24 Ft Gordon Dinner Theater

### MARCH

- 9-11 Savannah Tour  
12 STA Meeting  
17 St Patrick's Day Parade  
24 Picnic-in-the-Park  
29-1 **Darlington Speedway, Charleston Club**

### APRIL

- 9 **STA Dinner Meeting**

### MAY

- 14 STA Meeting  
18-20 Social Security Run

### JUNE

- 11 STA Meeting  
13-24 **MARC National Meet, Williamsburg, VA  
(NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!)**

### JULY

- 9 STA Meeting

### AUGUST:

- 13 STA Meeting

### SEPTEMBER:

- 10 STA Meeting  
7-9 **Chattanooga Hill Climb**

### OCTOBER:

- 8 STA Meeting

### NOVEMBER:

- 12 STA Meeting

### DECEMBER

- 8 **STA Christmas Party**

## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

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

### February:

- 2-4 Moultrie Swap Meet  
15-18 Model A Roundup, Jacksonville  
24 "All Model A" Swap Meet, AL

### April:

- 13-15 MARC Membership Meeting, Joliet, IL  
12-15 Charlotte Autofair  
20-21 Swap Meet, Greenwood  
27-28 Fiddlers & Fiddleheads Hill Climb & Festival, Unicoi, TN

### September:

- 13-16 Charlotte Autofair

### October:

- 10-13 Hershey Swap Meet & Show

### November:

- 16-18 Moultrie Swap Meet

### December

- 5-9 MAFCA Membership Meeting, Southern CA

## NEW MEMBERS

The Shade Tree A's are happy to welcome two new members!

Donald G Gordon, P.O. Box 5813, Augusta, GA 30916

Phone (706) 829-7058

Jay and Robyn Broome; 341 Candlestick Way, Martinez, GA 30907

Phone (706) 863-5236 - 1930 Ford A Tudor

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Paul West, James Purkey, Jack Horner,  
Frankie Dunevent, Carrie Proctor, Karen Palermo