

Shade Tree A's Newsletter



Volume 34, Number 10

Augusta, GA

October 2007

they bought 500,000 RUCKSTELLS - NOW they're looking for the NEW RUCKSTELL for the NEW FORD!

OVER 500,000 Ruckstell Two-Quiet-High Axles for the Model T Ford were sold by Ford dealers. Over 500,000 Ford owners discovered the new driving pleasures of two-quiet-high performance. 80% of those 500,000 today own Model A Fords. The Ford dealer who can show them a Ruckstell that will do even more for them than the Ruckstell Axle did for their Model T, is assured of a welcome reception.

The Ruckstell Two-Quiet-High Transmission not only provides every advantage of two quiet highs and smooth, vibrationless overdrive, but in addition, which only a transmission can provide. A complete factory built unit, it simply replaces standard transmission with no cutting, changing or extra assembling. No extra operating levers are required as with the axles. At the same time, it gives the Model A a synchronized clash-proof shift at any speed, from high to intermediate or intermediate to high!

Equip a demonstrator—prepare for the new Ruckstell sales!
Write for full information.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

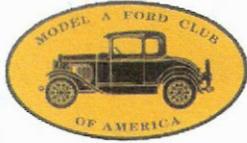
Ruckstell Power Head
Gives speed and pick-up in excess of the first Model A Fords! Special heat-treated alloy developed by Aluminum Company of America makes possible 15% more power, and 10 to 15% greater top-speed without overheating or motor knock.
Write for prices.

TRADE PRESS PUBLISHING CO.
A COPY
TWO DOLLARS A YEAR

April 1931

Cover Story,
Page 10





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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Updates Below!

OCTOBER MEETING

NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING DATE

The Shade Tree A's will meet **Monday October 15th** in Richard Dunevent's garage. The meeting will begin at 7 o'clock with a light dinner. The program, Car Design, will be presented by Bill Maypole. Bill presents a slide show of car design from his career with VW, and shares his expertise on what it takes to design a car in this day and time.

DUES INCREASE NOTICE

As you received your MAFCA dues notice and election ballots in the September issue of the *Restorer* magazine, you may have noticed that their yearly dues have increased to \$40. As these MAFCA dues are included in your Shade Tree A's dues, our dues will now be **\$65.00**. "One check, that's all", says Treasurer Richard Dunevent. Make that check out for **\$65.00**, complete the dues card (found in the *Restorer*) and get them both to Richard no later than December 1st. You may also mail them to: Richard Dunevent, 4338 Owens Rd., Evans, GA 30809-9678.



OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

Thoughts from the President

There is some buzz around the club on whether to continue providing a dinner meal prior to our monthly business meetings. Some have suggested that this is difficult and expensive to come up with a meal for approximately 40 people that is appetizing and suits most dietary needs. As most of you remember, we have in the past just provided refreshments (soft drinks and desserts) usually towards the end of the evening and continue to socialize afterwards. If you have a strong opinion on the subject on providing dinner, I would like to hear from you. We will discuss the subject at the next BOD's Meeting and at the October Monthly Meeting.

A busy time of the year is upon us so be mindful of your calendar to squeeze in some STA activities. This time of year is great to be out and about in your Model A. The general public is also very appreciative of these fine old cars, especially seeing them traveling down the road versus in a museum or at a car show.

The West Augusta Rotary Club has contacted us to speak at one of their luncheon meetings about the Shade Tree A organization and the cars we are so proud of. We have agreed upon January 24th to deliver a slide presentation during lunch and to display our cars in the parking lot afterwards for a "show and tell". I believe this is the first time we have been asked to formally present information about the club. I think this is a great opportunity for us to tell the general public a little about the STA's and the Model A Ford.

Lastly, I want to thank Anne Beck for her fashion articles and trip report in the September newsletter. It is to our advantage to have members involved on the national level to keep us informed of new activities and direction. The new national fashion judging category that combines reproduction with original era fashions (something the STA's have been doing for years), provides another example of the STA's out in front leading the way.

Have a safe trip,
Craig



Minutes of the SEPTEMBER Meeting

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The September meeting of the STAs was called to order on Monday, September 10 by president Craig McMullin after a delicious meal of fried chicken, baked beans, coleslaw and desserts provided by the Boswell, Gazette, Jones, W. Smith and Turley families.

New member Don Cerefin was introduced. Pascal Bryant and Craig McMullin were back from recent surgery.

The treasurer's report was read and the minutes approved as published in the newsletter. Jim Dover had several interesting "show and tell" items.

Under old business, Abbie Prince reported on the Garage Tour and the Chattanooga Hill Climb.

Under new business, the nominating committee is open to nominations of officers for next year. The Monroe Wade nominating form will be in the October newsletter. Craig reviewed the budget from Jan 1-July 1 and passed on information on the MAFCA dues increase. Our club dues (including MAFCA) will now be \$65/yr. (see box on page 2). Jim McPherson reviewed upcoming events and Barbara Bryant reported on the steak cookout. Eric Shogren passed on information on a new source for powder coating with colors. Tom Roberts showed a DVD on the failed Ford rubber plantation (Fordlandia) in Brazil.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Roberts



GENERATIONS

GRANDPA & GRANDSON, TOGETHER

....by Tonya Gordon

My family moved here about 6 months ago, and my son Michael Gordon, Jr. is age 12. He is at the age where he loves to learn new things. One of his favorite things is to tinker around with projects in the garage. He has spent many a day there working on things with his "Pappy", George Gordon.

Not long ago, Pappy bought a 1928 Model A, and right away Michael could hardly wait to get started fixing it up. Many of his afternoons are spent sanding the car, getting it ready for its restoration—and spending as much time as he can with his Pappy. Now that school's in session, he can hardly wait to get home, go out to the garage and help Pappy work on the Model A—or just to tinker with whatever project's underway at the time.



The bond between grandpa and grandson over the last few months has become amazing. To see them together, so hard at work on a project they both love, has forever become a warm part of my heart. I'll always cherish these memories—as will Michael.



MOLD AVAILABLE
FOR
SHADE TREE A'S
BRONZE CASTINGS



Above is the bronze medallion that was recently added to Wayne Ready's plaque at the Southlawn Cemetery, Whiskey Road in Aiken. It's about 2" square. The mold for this casting has already been paid for--the medallion can be cast and put on anything for only the cost of the casting. For further information, please contact Becky Ready at (803) 642-6982.



Youth Newsletter of the
Model A Ford Club of America

Did you know that Model A Ford Club of America has a newsletter written just for our youth? It is sent free of charge every other month to kids in grades K-12. It is called the A-World.

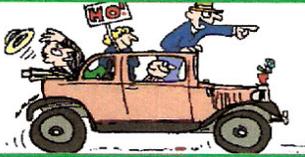
MAFCA members may request a copy sent to their children, grandchildren, or other interested youth. It is very easy to be placed on the mailing list by following the guidelines below:

Send the following information by either e-mail or regular mail: names of each youth in the family, their age, grade in school, mailing address with zip code. By regular mail, send to

A-World c/o Archie Cress
9103 Fortuna Drive # 9306,
Mercer Island, WA 98040-3151

By e-mail, send to joanarchie@comcast.net

P.S. Grown-ups like the publication, too!



CLUB ACTIVITIES

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oliver Hardy Festival

The Shade Tree A's will participate in the 19th annual Oliver Hardy Festival parade on **Saturday October 6th**. We will leave from the Cracker Barrel Restaurant at 8:30 and tour to Harlem for the parade at 10. Enjoy the many activities after the parade.

Blythe Fever Parade

We will participate in the Blythe Fever Parade on **Saturday October 13th**. Meet in Blythe at 10 o'clock for the parade lineup; the parade begins at 11. Enjoy the festival following the parade at the Community Center and the street dance starting at 7.

Annual Steak Cookout

The Shade Tree A's will have its Annual Steak Cookout **Saturday October 20th** at the home of Glenn Boswell, 3634 Devaney Lane, Martinez. Arrive anytime after 1 o'clock for an afternoon of fellowship under the shade of tall pecan trees. Drive your Model A for all to see!. Barbara Bryant (706-738-4455) is coordinating the food again this year. If you did not sign-up at the meeting, give Barbara a call to reserve your steak and add your salad, casserole or dessert to the list. The steaks will be \$8.00 each this year. Be sure to bring your chair, a platter and eating utensils.

Tech Seminar XII

Get Your Model A Parade Ready!

We'll meet for breakfast at 8 o'clock on **Saturday October 27th** at the Sunrise Grill on Washington Road. After breakfast we'll proceed to Richard's garage for a day of Model A maintenance and repair. Abbie Prince will show the new bearing clearance adjustment movie. Emphasis will be on maintenance and repairs necessary to get your Model A ready for the busy parade season. If you have a problem you would like help with, call Craig McMullin (803-637-3790) to add your name to the list. We'll be having BBQ sandwiches for lunch.

Richland Creek Old Farm Days

On **Saturday November 3rd**, we will leave from the old Hardee's on Hwy 25 at I-20 and tour to Saluda for breakfast with the Old 96 District Model A Club at

Shirley's Restaurant. Following breakfast we will go to the Richland Creek Farm Festival for a day of old farm day activities, a tractor show, and tractor pulls. Our Model A's will be displayed in a special area while we enjoy the activities.



RECENT EVENTS

Chattanooga Tour

On Thursday September 6th, members of the Shade Tree A's departed for Chattanooga from the Huddle House on Washington Road; those trailering and traveling the Interstate departed from Richard Dunevent's. The group taking the scenic route stopped at antique shops along the way and arrived at the Dillard House in time for lunch. An afternoon stop at the Whistle Stop Antique Mall and we were soon on US 64 from Franklin, NC to Chattanooga. It's a scenic mountain road through the gorge—a very rocky mountain with whitewater streams and mirror lakes. Thursday evening we attended a reception hosted by Coker Tires and Honest Charlie's at their showroom. Friday, the Scenic City A's had arranged a tour to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum. We took a train ride to the turntable and watched our locomotive being turned around for the return trip. Then we visited the restoration shops where four locomotives are being restored. This is the only train restoration facility in the country. Back at the museum, a BBQ lunch cooked by one of the Scenic City A's members awaited us—BBQ pork and chicken, baked beans, homemade potato salad and cole slaw, quite a meal! Then we were off to Gold Point Yacht Harbor to see the antique car collection and restoration shop of Kayo Irwin before returning to the hotel. After dinner in one of the many restaurants in the historic part of downtown Chattanooga, we took a walking tour of the historic area and the riverfront, topping the evening off with an ice cream. Saturday, F.A.S.T. Southeast sponsored a hill climb in downtown Chattanooga. Practice runs consumed the morning activities with the actual time runs in the afternoon. Our own Abbie Prince participated with his 1929 New York Yankees' Special. A banquet was held on Saturday evening aboard the Southern Belle. An all-you-can-eat buffet featuring prime rib and shrimp Creole, live music and cruising on the Tennessee River completed the evening. A short time into the cruise, the riverboat had to turn around and return to the dock to get additional dishes. I guess they knew a hungry crowd when they saw us! Some got up early Sunday, some slept late, but all make it home safely. Pictures? Next page—and on our Website!!



Chattanooga Story, Page 5



The Three Little Pigs (AKA "The Garage Tour")



Ten Big Bad Wolves gathered around for breakfast on the cool Saturday morning of August 25th at the Sunrise Grill on Washington Road. By departure time, eighteen Big Bad Wolves and nine Model A Fords had gathered to visit the garages built by three Little Pigs to house their Model A's.

The first Little Pig (Bill Maypole) built his garage out of wood. It had a sturdy wooded ramp to the elevated garage, no doubt a safety feature to protect his



a cozy home atmosphere for his Model A, including a 1940's farm gas pump and pictures of his grandparents and their new 1929 Model A roadster. An unexpected tour of his Art Studio was a big hit.

Model A from rising flood waters. Bill also provided



The second Little Pig, (Tom Hitt) built his garage out of wood and steel. He has covered storage along the length of his garage for his Model A's parents (a Model T Fordor Sedan and Touring



Car) and a World War II military airplane, just in



case the Big Bad Wolf comes and Tom needs to make a fast exit with his Model A!!

The third Little Pig (Curtis Krosting) built his garage out of



wood and vinyl. He had created many spaces to hide cars and parts from the Big Bad Wolf (and his wife).

All garages were deemed secure and the Big Bad Wolves congregated to devise a new plan to gain entry, as their collective huffing and puffing did not do the job.



By this time the wolves were hungry, so they went to Ivery's in Thomson for a great



buffet lunch, fried chicken and BBQ pork ribs! They were met there by Ken Nelson, driving his 1931 Deluxe Roadster all the way from Lexington, SC. It turns out the wolves did not leave a trail Ken could follow!

Others driving their Model As were: Richard Dunevent in his 1930 Tudor Sedan; Don Gordon in his 1929 Sport Coupe; George Gordon in his 1929 Pickup; Bill Maypole in his 1931 Deluxe Roadster; Jim and Sheila McPherson in their 1930 Town Sedan; Dan Perla in his 1930 Town Sedan, Abbie Prince in his 1930 Tudor Sedan, and Stuart Smith in his 1929 Tudor Sedan.



VINTAGE VISIONS

Susan Meloan

CONSTRUCTING A "MODEL A" HAT

During the Model A Era when a lady left her home during the day she almost always wore a hat whether she was shopping, attending a meeting, tea or card party, visiting friends, going to a sports event or even as an active participant in a sports event or on the beach. When assembling a reproduction ensemble finding the right hat can sometimes be a challenge. It is often possible to find something on the modern sales racks that can be used or slightly altered to look like it was from the Model A Era, and coordinates with the outfit. However during the era, the ladies often constructed the hats themselves.

In looking through the magazines of this era we find numerous examples of such hats. *Needle Craft*, *Fashion Service*, *McCall's*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Illustrated Home Sewing*, and others, as well as 'how to' booklets from vendors contain instructions for such creations. Some were crocheted or knitted. Often the magazines contained the detailed instructions for constructing them, while others offered patterns that could be ordered or purchased. A person experienced in these arts can reproduce these hats either from the printed directions, or someone with much expertise may be able to copy a picture.

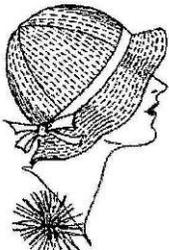
The publications also contain instructions for hats that were shaped with steam and using some judicious stitching fashioned into a perfect hat to coordinate with the ensemble. Obviously the hat forms available for shaping could be purchased from millinery suppliers. They were made from felt, straw or other material. These might be somewhat difficult to find today, but one could possibly use old hats found in a flea market or from an antique dealer to disassemble and copy one of these.

Fashion Service contains instructions for constructing several different styles from fabric and other available supplies. I used the instructions from an article by Mary Mahon from the Spring 1928 issue of *Fashion Service* to make this black taffeta cloche. I found materials that could have been purchased during the 'Era'. The taffeta was black synthetic fabric. The well as several tarlatan. When I was I found it was "a thin open plain weave acetate, an available directions for this hat as others called for researching this product stiffly starched muslin fabric", and found it from an art supplier: www.danielsmith.com. much the crinoline that petticoats as teenagers in directions for hats

It resembles very we knew so well for the 50's. Other actually called for crinoline. Either would work. The decorative trim is rayon braid and the hat is lined with silk crepe de chine.

Other issues of the magazines contained instructions for hats suitable for accessorizing tailored dresses or sports outfits from cotton or wool fabrics. Some of these were decorated with judicious stitching.

With a little ingenuity one can come up with just the right hat for the outfit!



A stitched hat from *Illustrated Home Sewing*, May-July-September, 1930



Instructions for this crocheted hat were available by request from *Fashion Service*, June, 1928



Instructions for this sports hat were printed in *Needle Craft*, 1931



This hat was shaped from a Japanese rice paper product – Toyo, from *Fashion Service*, Spring, 1930

On the Shady Side

BITS AND PIECES

Anne Neely-Beck

This year has flown by! Already it is time to start thinking toward 2008. **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR "VINTAGE VISION" FOR 2008.** It is easy to do an article—you can research on the internet, use the MARC or MAFCA fashion guidelines or the MAFCA *A Book of Fashion Facts*, or you can borrow a Era magazine or book from me. The article doesn't have to be long, just contain a picture and a short text. I will have a sign up sheet available at the October meeting.

By the time you receive this Newsletter I will have returned from California where I attended the MAFCA Era Fashion Committee meeting and the MAFCA board meeting. I will fill you in on the details in the November Newsletter.

Also I have an Era Fashion Patch for sale, suitable for your club vest or shirt. Several STA members bought one from me at the Hill Climb in Chattanooga. The cost is \$4.50 each so let me know if you would like one. You could be one of the select few on the east coast to have one!!



I'm looking forward to cooler fall days for riding around in the Model A!!!

Ford Trivia



The Monroe Wade Award

Accompanying this issue is a nominating form for the 2007 Monroe Wade award.



For new members who might not have had the pleasure of meeting Monroe, a little explanation might be in order. Monroe was a man who loved Model As and his STA Club. He was a man you could **ALWAYS** depend on to help you, no matter the time or weather. He worked hard for the club and you could usually find him nearby—doing anything he could to be of help.

He restored a 1930 Tudor that had belonged to his mom—then went on to restore a number of other A's—all of them were award-winning.

Since Monroe's death in 2003 his wife Betty and daughters Deborah and Joyce have continue to be active in the Club—and to drive Monroe's beloved cars.

The annual award is our way of remembering Monroe and is presented at the Christmas party. Previous winners are:

- 2003—Jim McPherson
- 2004—Richard Dunevent
- 2005—Ed Meloan
- 2006—Craig McMullin

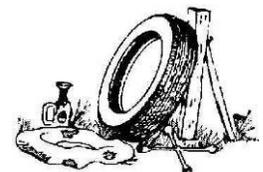
On **October 20, 1927**, the "New Ford" engine assembly line was started up. Newspaper accounts reported that Henry Ford took a machinist hammer and hand stamped the first of five engines to pass the engine test line. "Engine No. 1" was originally installed in a Tudor Sedan and offered to Ford's good friend Thomas Edison. However, Edison preferred a Phaeton! Therefore, sometime in May 1928, Engine No. 1 was removed from the Tudor Sedan and placed in a Phaeton; then given to Edison with Ford's compliments. The car is now in possession of the Henry Ford Museum.

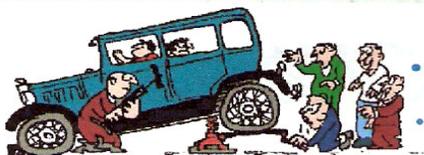
—from "Birth of Ford's Second Model A" by George DeAngelis

FOR SALE

Four B.F. Goodrich whitewall 19" tires available. They have at least half-life left in the tread. I would like \$125 for the set.

Contact Abbie Prince—(803) 279-5759
Cell—(706) 339-9701





NOTES FROM THE MODEL A GARAGE

By Jim McPherson



WHEN IS “New” NOT NEW? (Cover Story)

In my profession of medical research, I am frequently asked if we can do something. My usual answer is yes, it has already been done, so repeating it is not a problem. The ad on the cover of this Newsletter is another example. The ad originally appeared on the April 1931 cover of *FD&SF Magazine*; then recently re-appeared on the cover of *Secrets Magazine*, Volume 17, Issue 1, July 2007. Ruckstell took advantage of its popular two-speed rear axle for the Model T in promoting its Two-Quite-High Transmission for the Model A, providing two quite high gears and a smooth, vibrationless overdrive transmission. Any different from the “new” Mitchell transmission for your Model A? No, both replace the standard transmission and provide synchronized shifting back and forth between high and intermediate gears. I wonder if Mitchell had one of the Ruckstell transmissions while designing theirs? Ruckstell also offered a Power Head for your Model A. Anything new?

Now, let me climb up on my soapbox. Several STA members subscribe to *Secrets Magazine*. Some may not because the magazine is the official publication of the Secrets of Speed Society. This magazine is about much more than speed. How many of you have had your Model A engine rebuilt by Billy Garland? How many times have you heard him say good crankshafts are hard to find? Better yet, how many of you have had to find one? New, counterbalanced crankshafts are available for your Model A or B engine. Have you seen them in the Restorer, Model “A” News, or Model

A Times? They are in the *Secrets Magazine*, along with a host of useful information. Read on!

How many of you have heard about the “new” Model A engine Terry Burtz is designing? Terry has designed a new Model A engine which internally is modern, insert bearings, engineered counterbalanced crankshaft, pressure lubrication, etc, but externally looks exactly like the original Model A engine. Even you purists will not be able to tell the difference from looking at the outside of the engine, according to Terry. The target price is \$3,000.00 for a short block! A summary of his design is in the July 2007 *Secrets Magazine*, and the entire article is available at <http://www.ModelAEngine.com>. Also in this issue is a reprint from the April 1931 issue of *Automobile Trade Journal*: “The Model A Ford as 6 or 8” speculating about the next Ford automobile, and whether the improvement would be a Model A with a 6 or 8 cylinder engine, and much more.

Subscription information for *Secrets Magazine*: 3860 Cain Run Rd., Batavia, OH 45103, \$45.00 first class, \$38.00 bulk rate. Phone: 513-724-0700 Their website is: <http://www.secretsofspeed.com/>

And back to ZDDP, the anti-wear oil additive which has been removed from our modern oils. GM now has this additive available as part number GM 12345501. It comes in 4 oz cans, and the recommendation is 2 oz per oil change. Eddie Collins of the Low Country A's is assembling quite a lot of information on ZDDP.



SHADE TREE A'S NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Our thanks to the following sponsors! Their generosity supports this newsletter!
 Please remember these folks when you need a service they offer.
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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 HAPPENINGS



OCTOBER

- 6 Oliver Hardy Festival Parade
- 13 **Blythe Fever Parade**
- 15 **STA Meeting**
- 20 Steak Cookout
- 27 **Tech Seminar XII**

NOVEMBER

- 3 **Richland Creek Old Farm Days**
- 12 **STA Meeting**

DECEMBER

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

2008

JANUARY

- 1 New Years Day Breakfast
- 14 **STA Meeting**
- 24 **West Augusta Rotary Club**

FEBRUARY

- 11 **STA Meeting**
- 16 Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast

MARCH

- 10 **STA Meeting**

APRIL

- 14 **STA Meeting**



A **RED** entry denotes a change or an addition to the calendar.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

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

October

10-13 Hershey Swap Meet & Show

November

15-17 Moultrie Swap Meet

December

5-9 MAFCA Membership Meet, Southern CA

2008

February

23 Ramblin' A's Swap Meet, AL

March

14-15 AACA Grand National/National Meet, Melbourne, FL

April

3-6 AACA National Meet, Charlotte

September

18-20 AACA National Meet, Cleveland, TN

October

8-11 Hershey

REFRESHMENTS

Highlighted name coordinates what the group brings

October

Bryant, Maypole, Purkey, Trapp, Leach

November

McMullin, Horner, Don Gordon, Nelson

December

18—Christmas Party (Tuesday)

Old MacDonald's Fish Camp

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Charles & Donna Wold, 616 Knight Road, Waynesboro, GA 30830-7012
(706) 554-0960; email: engines41@comcast.net

Donald & Dolores Cerefin, 2416 Cardigan Drive, Aiken, SC 29803
(803) 644-4437; email: dcerefin@bellsouth.net

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Doris Chavis, Shelby Deitz, Ed Meloan, Tina Neitzke, Anne Neely-Beck,
Harold Moore, Jim McPherson, Glenn Boswell, Dolores Cerefin,
Jerome Trapp, Hilde Dover, Sheila Wilson, Pat Roberts, Christine Gordon

