

# Shade Tree A's Newsletter

Volume 35, Number 2

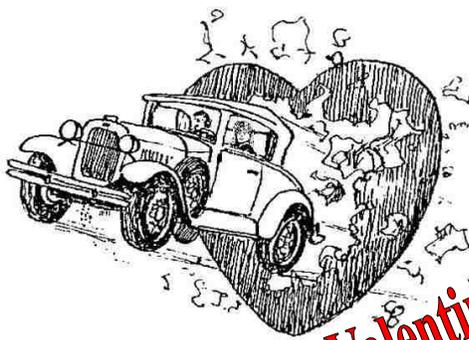
Augusta, GA



February 2008



Hannah and Dalton Gazette of Temple, Texas  
Grandchildren of Carole and Tony Gazette



**Happy Valentine's Day!**

MAFCA 2007  
Newsletter of Distinction

Cover Story,  
Page 5



### The Shade Tree A's is a non-profit organization with chapter affiliations 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 (\$40) for the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) and a subscription to **The Restorer** Magazine from MAFCA, 250 South Cypress St., LaHabra, CA 90631

Members are also urged to join the Model "A" Restorers Club (MARC). Dues are \$38 yearly and include a subscription to the **Model "A" News**. MARC, 6721 Merriman Road, Garden City, MI 48135

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#### FEBRUARY MEETING PROGRAM

The Shade Tree A's will meet **Monday February 11<sup>th</sup>** in Richard Dunevent's garage. The meeting will begin at 7 o'clock. We all know the Model A came with a complete tool kit so the owner could maintain and make simple repairs, but in this day and time which tools are essential for the average roadside repair? Larry Komp tells us about the tools he considers necessary to carry with him in these modern times. And, as part of the repair, and restoration back in the Model A garage, each of us has devised tools to complete a repair. Please bring at least one tool you have made, modified or found an alternative use for to the meeting to share with your fellow Club members.

**NOTE:** This is the month we serve a spaghetti supper, so along with your hand-crafted tools, bring your appetite!



#### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

We've had 18 potential newsletter names! The committee will be meeting to narrow down the choices and at an upcoming membership meeting soon, those attending will be asked to vote for their favorite.



## OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

Thoughts from the President...

I am really looking forward to the New Year—primarily I am encouraged by the fellowship that occurs at club meetings, at other various club activities and those interactions among members that go on more or less behind the scenes as close friendships are developed. I was particularly pleased with the interaction among the 33 in attendance at the January monthly meeting as we kicked-off the New Year. I also thought Abbie, James, and Richard did an excellent job presenting the technical program on installing shims and those invaluable personal experiences they were so willing to share with all of us. It is this type of positive communication and feedback that helps us all experience more fully the Model A Ford and the Shade Tree A organization. I hope that if you were unable to attend the January meeting that you will be able to join us in February.

We had to postpone the Fuel Economy Run because of the heavy rain. I know many of you were disappointed because this event was very successful in years past. However, we will reschedule soon and remember we have some great awards for this event.

Looking forward on the calendar at February and March it looks like we are going to be real busy. If you haven't tuned your car recently or changed the oil, now would be a good time to do it. Also for more serious technical issues, we do have another technical seminar planned in early March. Hope to see you all at the next event.

Have a safe trip,  
*Craig*



New Year's Breakfast



## January Membership Meeting Minutes

The January Monthly Meeting of the STAs was held January 14, 2008, at member Richard Dunevent's garage at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President, Craig McMullin. Sign-up sheets were passed around for the Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre and the Volunteers for Monthly Program Presentations. The refreshments roster and attendance sheet were also passed around. Visitors and member illnesses were also recognized.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Richard Dunevent and the December Meeting Minutes as published in the January Newsletter were approved.

Recognition was given to the STA's organization for two special occasions.

- January marked 20 years meeting in Richard Dunevent's garage. Larry Komp reflected on the first meeting for present club members.
- The STAs will be 35 years old on June 17, 2008.

For Show-n-Tell, Jerome Trapp passed around a quick-release clamp.

Under Old Business, several members recalled December club activities. The Christmas party, held at Old McDonald Fish Camp, was discussed. The club membership present at the meeting voted to have the 2008 Christmas Party at Old McDonald's with an expanded menu of baked/broiled items, remaining on a weekday night, but preferably earlier in the month. Ernie Dinkins will contact Old McDonald's for dates available.

Under New Business, President McMullin's presentation to the West Augusta Rotary Club, a Memorial Day Wedding, and the Augusta Mall Display were discussed. In Tour Director, Eric Shogren's absence, Jim McPherson discussed the upcoming schedule of club tours and activities.

The Shady A Ladies requested that anyone signed up for the Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre on March 1<sup>st</sup> interested in dressing in era fashions (or look-alikes), please do so. The play is based in the late 1920's/early 30's and several club members already plan to dress accordingly.

With no further business, the program (Installing Babbitt Bearing Shims), presented by Abbie Prince, James Beck, and Richard Dunevent, was introduced by Vice President Jim McPherson, and the business meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Theresa McMullin*  
Secretary



## January Board of Directors Minutes

The Shade Tree A's Board of Directors met January 21, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at Richard and Frankie Dunevent's house. The meeting was called to order by President Craig McMullin. The meeting was attended by all board members with the exception of Eric Shogren, Tour Director, who is on temporary work assignment.

The following items were discussed:

- \* Refreshment Roster - It was decided that a fifth person would be added to each month and the list sent around again at the February meeting.
- \* Membership Roster – There were a few late changes to the roster that was passed out at the January Meeting. A new roster will be given out in February for everyone's review of their own specific data.
- \* Newsletter Name – There have been 17 or 18 suggestions submitted to the committee. The committee will meet next week to streamline the suggestions to 4 for voting by the club membership present at the February Monthly Meeting.
- \* 2008 slate of club tours and activities – The year-in-review was discussed and events planned accordingly.
- \* 2008 Budget - briefly discussed and needs refined. Hopefully, the budget will be available to present to the membership at the February Monthly Meeting.
- \* Club by-laws and policies and procedures with regards to ballot-casting in officer elections - Several options were discussed, however, more discussion is needed prior to presentation to the club membership. This issue was tabled for the next board meeting.

Bill Adams stated that the Library has items missing and those have been missing since before Wayne Ready inventoried it. He will need help in determining what needs to be replaced and/or what needs to be purchased for the Library.

Jim McPherson discussed the need for a new TV for the monthly meeting. The current TV is old and will not connect to a DVD player. Many of the technical programs available for meetings require a DVD player. Jim priced a 27" TV/DVD/VHS combination set at Wal-Mart for \$318.00. It was decided to query the membership first to see if anyone has a DVD-ready TV that they would like to donate before we vote to purchase a new one.

Respectfully submitted,  
Theresa McMullin  
Secretary

## Ford Trivia

Henry Ford and Thomas Alva Edison were great friends and had adjoining "Winter Estate" homes in Fort Myers, FL.



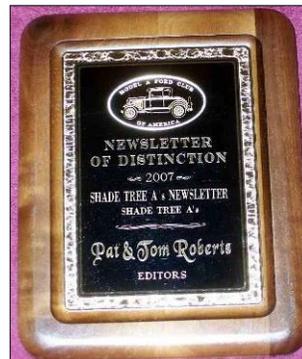
In 1928, Dr. Holt of Rollins College in Winter Park, FL visited Edison and described his "Walk of Fame" at the college.

Thomas Edison and his wife, Mina, decided to make a similar walk in 1930. Calling it their "Friendship Walk", they constructed a garden walkway of stepping-stones, each one inscribed with the name of a friend and/or visitor who had visited their Florida home. The first stone was from Dr. Holt (see above). Stones were given through 1947.

The story is told that the unmarked stone (third one in) was given by Henry Ford. It was not marked because Ford said he was just a poor boy and could not afford it, although, he was very wealthy at the time. If you visit the homes, look for this stone—also ones from John Burroughs, Harvey Firestone, Botanist John Small, Pharmaceutical F. Merck, and local Jimmie Newton (associated with Edison Park—1920s development across the street).

(Our thanks to Rebecca Jones of the Edison-Ford Winter Estates, 2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33901)

## MAFCA Corner



At MAFCA's Annual Membership Meeting in Ontario, CA in December, the STA newsletter received the 2007 "Newsletter of Distinction" award. This is third place nationally.

In the MAFCA Chapter Coordinator Newsletter of December, 2007, Tanya Gordon's article about "Grandpa and Grandson" (October 2007) was mentioned. The MAFCA review started this way: *It seems that often the Model A bug skips a generation. Shade Tree A's has an example in their October newsletter.....*

# COVER STORY

## Meet Hannah and Dalton Gazette!



STA members Carole and Tony Gazette share these pictures of their grandchildren, Hannah and Dalton. During a Thanksgiving visit the young folks enjoyed riding and having fun with the Model A—and posed for these pictures.

Hannah and Dalton live in Temple, Texas and both of their parents are dental hygienists—their dad in Austin; their mom in Temple.

Hannah is in the fifth grade and is an accomplished quilter—she recently won an award in a national quilting contest for kids. She also sings and plays the piano.

Dalton, a ninth-grader, is an avid motocross rider and musician. He loves to play guitar.

They're cultivating their interest in the Model A early—they're off to a great start!!!!



In the late spring, I'd like to feature your children (or grandchildren) **with your** Model A in our newsletter. So take some pictures and send them on—we'll have a special youth section.

My email address is [patroberts@wildblue.net](mailto:patroberts@wildblue.net)—or you can give your pictures to either Tom or me at a meeting or club event. If you don't have email, just get in touch with me and I'll contact you. My phone is (803) 649-0054.

Please be sure to let me know the names and ages of the young folks in the picture, where they live, and other items of interest! Deadline will be April 15.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

—pat roberts



# CLUB ACTIVITIES

## New Year's Breakfast

We had a great turnout to start 2008, with 32 club members in attendance and nearly a dozen cars at the Belair Road Cracker Barrel, on our coldest day of the winter. But there was a roaring fire in the fireplace to keep us warm and we lingered around drinking coffee and planning events for the new year. It was great to see old and new friends alike. There were even a hardy few who had apparently "welcomed" the New Year into the wee hours of the morning.

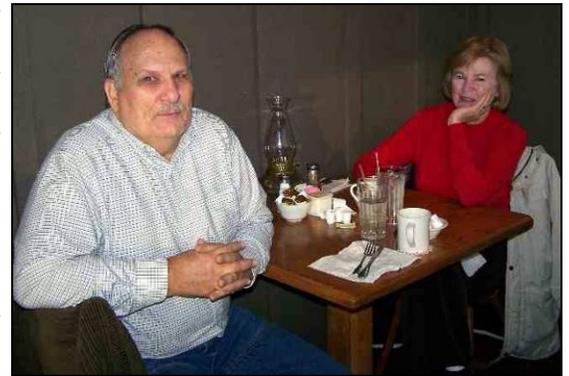


But true to the traditions of the Shade Tree A's once Ralph Neitzke gave the blessing a hush fell over crowd as everyone dove into their breakfast. Those brave souls who

drove their Model As were: Betty and Deborah



Wade in their 1930 Tudor Sedan; Stuart and Gail Smith in their 1929 Tudor Sedan; Abbie and Brenda Prince in their 1930 Tudor Sedan; Ralph Neitzke in his 1929 Roadster Pickup; Jack Horner in his 1930 Town Sedan; George and Christine Gordon in their 1929 Pickup; Don Gordon in his 1929 Sport



Coupe; Richard and Frankie Dunevent in their 1930

Tudor Sedan; Ernie Dinkins in his 1931 Coupe; Don and Delores Cerefin in their 1929 Coupe; and Pascal and Barbara Bryant in their 1931 Town Sedan.





# CLUB ACTIVITIES

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SWEETHEART PANCAKE BREAKFAST Saturday, February 16

It is that time of the year again, time for the Shade Tree A's Annual Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast. On **Saturday February 16**, bundle up your Sweetheart, put her in the Model A (give her a special ride in the rumble seat), and head over to the home of Jack and Carrie Horner (4167 Quail Springs Circle, Martinez). Arrive around 9 for some of the best pancakes (with all the trimmings) you have ever had, cooked by those famous STA chefs.



STA chefs.

### TECH SEMINAR XIII March 1, 2008



Many of you have not driven your Model A much this winter, so now is the time to drag it out, crank it up, and get it ready for the spring activities. From March to mid-May is one of the most active times of the year for us. Gather for breakfast on **Saturday March 1** at the Sunrise Grill on Washington Road at 8:00 am. We'll proceed to Richard's garage around 9, where we will spend the day providing maintenance and repair to our Model A's to ensure a safe and pleasant spring. If anyone needs more heavy-duty assistance, such as seat belt installation, give Craig (803-637-3790) a call so we can make arrangements to have the correct help available. Homemade chili will be served for lunch. And don't let the fact that this is our **13<sup>th</sup>** Tech Session keep you away!



### ALL MODEL A SWAP MEET, Cullman, AL Saturday, February 23

The Rambling A's are hosting their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual All Model A Winter Swap Meet **Saturday February 23** in Cullman, AL. The swap meet is being held indoors in an 80 by 100 foot building, including the Car Corral, at the Alabama National Guard Building, so the weather will not be a problem. Many northern Model A Clubs have a winter swap meet as a diversion to the long winter weather they have. While we are lucky to live in a warmer climate where we can enjoy our Model As year round, this swap meet fills a winter void in similar activities. The swap meet is located just off I-65 (North) at exit 304 (Good Hope), turn right and the building will be just past the second traffic light, on your right. The swap meet will be open from 7 AM to 2 PM.



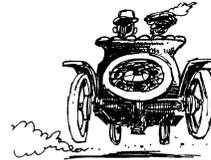
### FORT GORDON DINNER THEATRE Saturday, March 1

The Shade Tree A's return to the Fort Gordon Dinner Theater **Saturday, March 1** for dinner and the musical "Cabaret". From the book by Joe Masteroff, with music by John Kander and lyrics by Fred Ebb, "Cabaret" is based on the play by John Van Druten and stories by Christopher Isherwood. The scene is a night club in Berlin as the late 1920's are drawing to a close. The Master of Ceremonies welcomes the audience to the show and assures them that, whatever their troubles, they will forget them at the Cabaret. Later we find Cliff, a young American writer, and Sally Bowles, a singer at the Cabaret, and follow them and the people of Berlin leading up to the Third Reich as history is being made. Musical numbers include Cabaret, Willkommen, Don't Tell Mama, Two Ladies, and the chilling Tomorrow Belongs to Me. In 1967 Cabaret received 8 Tony Awards, including those for Best Musical, Composer and Lyricist. This play is not recommended for young audiences. Doris Brown has obtained a special price of **\$36.00** each for us. (Sorry for the price increase, but the theater personnel did not realize this was a "special presentation" which required the higher cost.) The all-you-can-eat dinner buffet begins at 7 PM. Contact Jim McPherson by phone or email (705-592-4836 or [james.mcpherson@amedd.army.mil](mailto:james.mcpherson@amedd.army.mil)) to make your reservations. These productions sell out fast, so be warned.





## CLUB ACTIVITIES



## Nuts and Bolts



### BRENT TERRY RESTORATIONS April 11-13, 2008

Brent Terry owns a restoration shop in Johnson City, TN specializing in Model A Fords. Last year he held a three-day, hands-on school for Model A enthusiasts. Several Shade Tree A's members attended, where among the projects, they rebuilt an engine, straightened sheet metal and re-built a rear end. Brent is going to hold another school **April 11-13**. This is a hands-on experience, where you can take your fender, door, or part and learn to make the repair with the assistance of the men in his shop. Again this year they will rebuild an engine, including pouring and boring the bearings, install an interior kit, and other projects of interest to all of us. Space is limited to about 100 people, so if you are interested you had better act fast. For more information, contact Abbie Prince (prince77@comcast.net, 803/279-5759) for more information.



The Shade Tree A's are in need of a TV. While beggars can't be choosy, we do have one requirement—it needs to be DVD-compatible. The one we have is not. It would be nice if it was 27" or larger.

If you have one to donate, please let us know. We could also use a basic DVD player. These items are needed to support the monthly programs.

## On the Shady Side

....Anne Neely-Beck

Just want to encourage anyone who is attending the World Meet in Dallas in June to think about entering fashion judging in the Model A Era Image category. I will be glad to help you put your outfit together for judging. Check out my article about entering fashion judging on the MAFCA website. When we took our trip to the MARC National Meet last summer I kept a diary of the whole trip including the trials and tribulations of the fashion judging. There is a rumor that this article will be in the March/April *Restorer* and the March/April *Model A News*.

**Happy Valentine's Day**



1930 Valentine



# VINTAGE VISIONS

...Anne Neely-Beck

These seven patterns from the 1929 February issue of *Needlecraft Magazine* were available for purchase and are unlike the ones from *McCalls*, *Vogue* and *Delineator* that I usually feature in *Vintage Visions*. The *Needlecraft Magazine* and a magazine called *Woman's World* offered more "down to earth" patterns for their readers. Nothing fancy like the other magazines that showed the latest styles from Paris, these two magazines were for the everyday woman of the era. The patterns were also described with no frills and no French terms (see below).

NEEDLECRAFT MAGAZINE February

Descriptions of these seven patterns:

- Pattern 328—New Feminine Elegance
- Pattern 2633—Important-Styles Details
- Pattern 240—Smart One-Piece Dress
- Pattern 322—Exclusiveness
- Pattern 3383—Perfect Chic
- Pattern 3461—A Favorite
- Pattern 3235—Smart New Neckline

Notice with all the patterns,  
the waist is creeping up towards  
the natural waistline.

3235

All patterns, 25 cents each. Address: Needlecraft Magazine, Augustin, Maine



## Notes from the Model A Garage

...Jim McPherson



### Have you given your points a check-up lately?

The ignition points in your Model A would surely make the short list of essential parts, and may even be considered the heart of the Model A engine. We often “check” the points, determining the gap, and adjusting as necessary. Sometimes we even check or set the timing as part of this process. But how many times have you examined the points during this process? You might learn something about the condition of your Model A if you did.

### Give your points a physical

First, open the points. Are they pitted? If the points are pitted (that is—there is a pit in one face of the points and a corresponding protrusion on the other face), more than likely there is an electrical problem. If the points are not properly aligned, or if they are not parallel to each other, these problems need to be rectified. If there is a smudge of oil matter on the points, or under the points, there is most likely a mechanical problem that has to be repaired. And if the points have a frosted appearance, leave them alone. That is normal and healthy.

### Use the points to diagnose the condenser

The pit, and corresponding peak on the points tells the story of your condenser. Condensers store electricity. If they do not store enough, the pit generally develops on the negative side of the points. If it can store too much, the pit will generally develop on the positive side. On our Model A's, about the only change we can make to correct this problem is to replace the condenser with one of either lower or higher capacity. Unfortunately we are not able to measure the capacity of a condenser in our home shop and the capacity of the condenser is not marked on the condenser. So we are left with replacing the condenser with one of another brand, hoping for a correction of this problem.

### The color tells it all

Next, let's examine the points for color. You'll need a good light to avoid shadows. A blue color indicates electrical trouble such as high voltage, excessive primary current flow or defective condenser. When trying to diagnose a problem on the side of the road, how many times have you used the color of the points to diagnose a failing condenser? A black color indicates mechanical trouble caused by dirt, oil or grease on the contacts. The wrong cam lubricant might be the cause. Grey is a normal operating color and is usually accompanied by a slightly frosted and roughened texture which is an acceptable condition. Replacing a set of faulty points will not solve any problem. It will make the car run better, but the underlying problem still exists and will come back to bite you on a later tour.



## SHADE TREE A'S NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Our thanks to the following sponsors whose generosity supports this newsletter. Please remember these folks when you need a service they offer and don't forget to tell them you appreciate their support of our club!

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If YOU would like to support the STA's Club, please contact any officer. You'll find this information on page 2.



# SHADE TREE A'S CALENDARS



## FEBRUARY

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

## MARCH

- 1 **Tech Session XIII**
- 1 Ft. Gordon Dinner Theatre
- 10 **STA Meeting**
- 14 **St. Patrick's Day Parade, Augusta**
- 22 **Picnic in the Park, Columbia**

## APRIL

- 14 **STA Dinner 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)

### February

- 23 Ramblin' A's Swap Meet, AL

### March

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

### April

- 3-6 Charlotte Autofair
- 11-13 Brent Terry Restorations
- 18-19 Old 96 Swap Meet, Greenwood, SC
- 25-26 Hill Climb/Bluegrass Festival, Unicoi, TN

### June

- 22-27 MAFCA/MARC World Meet, Addison, TX

### September

- 18-20 AACA National Meet, Cleveland, TN

### October

- 8-11 Hershey Swap Meet, Hershey, PA

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



- 9—Chris Garrison
- 11—Ralph Neitzke
- 12—Virginia Trapp
- 17—George Gordon
- 22—Ruth Hitt
- 24—Craig McMullin

## REFRESHMENTS

Highlighted name coordinates what the group brings

### March

**Neitzke**, Richardson, Dunevent, S. Smith

### April

Dinner Meeting

