

WHEEL WOBBLE

Rachel d'Entremont

Lots of Model A drivers have experienced the occasional wobbly wheels that makes the car bounce around like the Professor's Model T in Disney's *the Absentminded Professor* (Fred McMurray). It's not a good feeling to go over a bump and have the car seemingly go berserk.

The first time it happened to me was right after we got the car road worthy (more or less) and I was learning to drive it. We were in the parking lot of an old shopping center in Aiken and after driving around the empty lot, I drove behind the building where the pavement was not as good. The car started wobbling and bouncing all over the place. I put on the brakes, got out, and turned the wheel over to my son Brian. He drove it home with no hint of a wobble!

Over the years that wobble has come and gone. A while back Brian installed a shim (Smith and Jones #A-3430SHIM) on the radius ball that seemed to help a lot.

I have generally noticed that if I get it up to a good speed (between about 20 and 30 mph) the wobble disappears. Others have told me to apply the brakes or come to a complete stop and the wobble will disappear.

On the way to the Aiken Christmas parade, the wobble came back in a big way and none of the usual remedies worked. I tried speeding up; the wobble remained. I tried stopping; the wobble remained. I drove to the line-up position and multiple people came up to tell me that my wheels were wobbling (as if I couldn't tell when the fillings in my teeth were practically knocked out from the bouncing around!). After some discussion and my pronouncement that I would probably drop out of the parade if it kept up. I decided to back the car up and have some folks look at the wheels as I

Shade Tree A's News

drove up. You guessed it, no wobble.

In anticipation of Brian's visit to Aiken from Switzerland, I purchased a couple of new shims thinking that the one he had installed had either fallen out or needed a boost. Once Brian had the pieces out. It became clear that there was too much play in the bolts of the radius rod assembly. Back to Smith and Jones for the entire assembly kit.

After Brian replaced the upper and lower plates above and below the radius ball and replaced the sleeves through which the bolts go, the wobble seems to be gone. The fit is now snug enough that the shim is no longer needed.

I will not miss having strangers rolling down their windows at traffic lights to inform me that my wheels wobble. I prefer the thumbs up and the shouts of "nice car"!



ABOUT THE SHADE TREE A'S

<http://www.shadetreeas.org>

The Shade Tree A's is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and the restoration of the Model A Ford automobile. Shade Tree A's annual dues (\$65) include membership in the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA, \$40) and a subscription to *The Restorer* Magazine. Members are also urged to join the Model "A" Restorers Club (MARC, \$38) which includes a subscription to *Model "A" News*. The club also is a member of MAFFI, the Model "A" Ford Foundation, Inc.

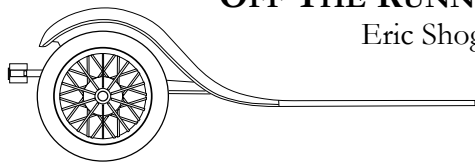
About This Newsletter

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Please contact Rachel d'Entremont (Newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org) concerning reprinting of articles, illustrations, or photos.

OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

Eric Shogren, President



BENEATH THE WHEEL

(With apologies to Hermann Hess)

Eric Shogren

Wow, the last time I started writing a January president's column for the Shade Tree A's newsletter I was welcoming everyone to the 31st year of the Shade Tree A's. Now I would like to welcome you to our 42nd year! What a great time I have had being a member of this great club over the last fourteen years. Just as importantly, I would like to say that I am honored that you, the membership, have chosen me to once again lead this great club.

In looking back over last year, I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank last year's Board of Directors, Gerald Melchior, Greg Jones, Don Cerefin, Richard Dunevent, Walker Crosby, Tom Roberts, and Doug Wilson, for dedicating their time and efforts to lead our club.

We also have an excellent year ahead of us. One thing I would like to address first and foremost is the meeting schedule. Last year we started a split schedule with meetings in October through April held on the morning of the second Saturday of the month and meetings in May through September held the evening of the second Monday of the month. I think this has been a great opportunity to explore different meeting schedules. And now that we have had a full year with this schedule I think it is appropriate that we revisit the schedule and see if it meets the needs of the membership. Therefore, we will have an open discussion of the meeting schedule during the meeting on Saturday January 10th followed by vote of the membership on the schedule during the February 14th meeting. We are going to use this two-step process to ensure as many of the members as possible have an opportunity to participate in this decision.

In closing I would like to mention two of my goals for this year. Specifically, that I want to encourage the participation of every member and will work to give everyone an opportunity to get out and drive their cars, because that's the real fun of this hobby (not to mention all the good eating along the way!). Also, I will be looking into ways

that we can recruit new members. The friendship and fellowship you find in this club and this hobby is very important to me and I want to see it continue to flourish for many years to come.

So see you all at the next meeting on Saturday, January 10th. I would also like to invite you to meet for breakfast at the Sunrise Grill on Washington Rd, next to Kmart at 8:00 am on January 10th. And as I like to say "A day broke down on the side of the road in your Model A is better than the best day at work!"

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Page 1

Sketch 1930 Model A Tudor Sedan
Steven Brown

MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

December 1

TBonz Restaurant, Augusta

President Melchior called the Annual December Christmas Meeting to order at 6:30pm in the Banquet Room at TBonz Steak House. NO name tag violations were recorded since the 52 attendees present passed muster on the way in....many smartly dressed for the occasion in their finest Model A period attire. Minutes of the November meeting were approved and December birthdays acknowledged.... Bill Richardson for closest to Christmas (the 24th), and Richard Dunevent, eldest of the two, at 70 years young. Sympathies were expressed to Eric Shogren who was with his very ill mother in Minnesota.

We were reminded that the annual Parade Season is upon us. Plan to attend parades at Gracewood, Graniteville, Jackson, Gibson, Edgefield, Aiken, et al...see details of line-up times and places in the Newsletter. Gerald also announced that the Front Room of the Cracker Barrel restaurant (I-20 Exit at Rte.383) is reserved for our annual New Year's Day breakfast, 8 AM!!

Next on the agenda was announcement by President Melchior of the Annual Monroe Wade Award. This year's recipient was Larry Komp. See story in the December Newsletter. Next, Don Cerefin, Election Committee Chair, announced results of voting for year 2015 Officers of the Augusta Shade Tree A's. Those elected are:

President:	Eric Shogren
Vice President:	Greg Jones
Secretary:	Kathy Poole
Treasurer:	Richard Dunevent
National Director:	James McPherson
Board of Directors:	Tom Poole

The newly elected stood and were recognized with applause by the group.

The formal meeting was adjourned. Chuck Howell then lead a Blessing and the Annual Christmas Dinner began.

Note: Following dinner, Sheila McPherson

CONTACT INFO

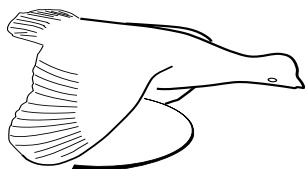
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Web Page: <http://www.ShadeTreeAs.org>

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Greg Jones Vice President	720-272-7907 vp@ShadeTreeAs.org
Kathy Poole Secretary	706-854-1945 sec@ShadeTreeAs.org
Richard Dunevent Treasurer	706-339-8167 treas@ShadeTreeAs.org
Jim McPherson National Director	706-592-4835 nationaldir@ShadeTreeAs.org
Tom Poole Board of Directors	706-854-1945 bod1@ShadeTreeAs.org
Gerald Melchior Past President	706-294 5065 bod2@ShadeTreeAs.org
Tom Roberts—Board and Membership Coordinator	803-649-0054 membership@shadetreeas.org
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Anne Neely-Beck Era Fashions	478-945-3736 erafashions@ShadeTreeAs.org
Dan Perla Webmaster	706-855-5730 webmaster@ShadeTreeAs.org

lead a spirited Gift Exchange that featured a Moose, an STA embossed pillow and a bottle of wine. All became very popular "swaps". A good time was had by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Cerefin, Secretary



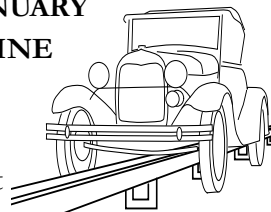
LOOKING AHEAD

CLUB EVENTS

- Jan 1—New Year's Day Breakfast
- Jan 10— Regular monthly meeting
- Jan 17— Coffee & Cars-10:00 Aiken
- Jan 24— Coffee & Cars-10:00 Aiken
- Jan 31— Coffee & Cars-10:00 Aiken
- Feb 14— Regular monthly meeting

FROM THE JANUARY ASSEMBLY LINE

- 4 - Michael Gordon
- 12 - Frankie Dunevent
- 14- Carrie Horner
- 20- Leonard McCain
- 24 – Sharon Stewart
- 27 – Marvin Vanover
- 29- Heidi Carruthers
- 31- Jack Horner
- 31 –Janet Neumar



NEWS FROM UNDER THE SHADE TREE

If you have news to share, let me know at
newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org

NEW YEAR'S DAY BREAKFAST

Our annual New Year's Day breakfast will be held on Thursday, January 1st at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant at I-20 and Dyess Parkway. Plan to meet at 8:00 in your Model A if you can.

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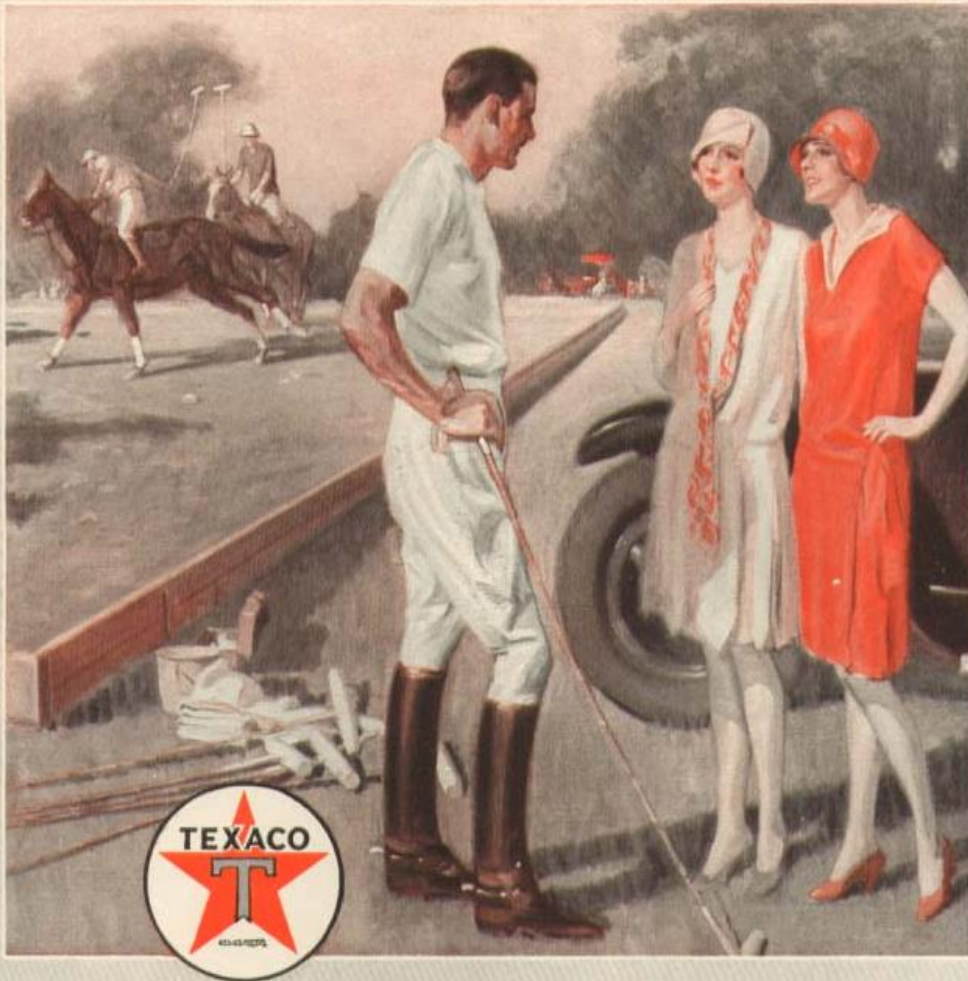
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CHRISTMAS PARTY/ANNUAL MEETING

December 1

About 50 people signed up for the Christmas party held at TBoyz in Augusta on December 1st with many wearing Model A era attire

The short business meeting included the announcement of the new officers:

- ◆ President: Eric Shogren
- ◆ Vice-Pres: Greg Jones
- ◆ Secretary: Kathy Poole
- ◆ Treasurer: Richard Dunevent
- ◆ National Director: Jim McPherson
- ◆ At Large: Tom Poole
- ◆ Past Pres: Gerald Melchior

The winner of the Monroe Wade Award was announced but Larry Komp was not there to accept the award. It will be presented to Larry at a regular meeting next year.

As in past years, the most passed around gift of the Chinese Gift exchange involved blinking lights – this year on a stuffed reindeer.

THE 2014 MONROE WADE AWARD

This year's winner of the Monroe Wade award has been a long-time member of the Shade Tree A's and can often be found assisting other members with their restoration projects: everything from removing or installing engines, replacing body parts, sandblasting, welding, and painting to reupholstering. This member not only repairs Model A's but drives one on a regular basis.

He has participated in National Meets and membership meetings, helped organize swap meets, and provided cars for events and displays. His stories, cartoons, and drawings can be found in old issues of the newsletter which he once edited.

He has presented technical programs for the club and is currently restoring a 1930 AA Stake Bed truck. Also known as Flora's owner, this year's award goes to Larry Komp.

THE AIKEN PARADE

December 14, Aiken SC

Remove ye now our gay apparel, tra la la la la, la la la.

The weather was too warm for Christmas scarves and gloves during the Aiken Parade but otherwise it was a perfect day for it. Only 9 of the 12 Model A's that arrived for the parade made it to the finish line. Craig McMullin left almost immediately after arriving at our designated place, Pat Roberts abandoned her pickup at our starting point with water pouring out of the radiator just as we were joining the parade, and Larry and Cheryl Lamb dropped out of the parade somewhere along the route.



THE GRANITEVILLE PARADE

December 6, Graniteville SC

Six cars met in the Kalmia Plaza shopping center in Aiken and traveled together to Graniteville for the one-mile-long parade. In spite of the drizzly weather, the parade route was packed with people.



THE EDGEFIELD PARADE

December 7, Edgefield SC

Four Model A's traveled from downtown Aiken to Edgefield where they, including five dog, represented the Shade Tree A's and the Aiken Model A's in the Edgefield Parade. The weather was beautiful and the streets crowded with on-lookers. It was a late-in-the-day parade but we managed to get back to Aiken before it got too dark.



MEMBER PROJECTS

CHARLES HOWELL

Charles Howell shared these photos of his restoration project which he began one year ago. He has “removed, repaired, replaced, repainted, reassembled and restored this vehicle from the tires to the roof”.

He says it has that new car smell, but the frame, body, motor, radiator, starter, transmission (gear box), brakes, wheels, and many other parts are original.



MARC DRIVING AWARDS PROGRAM

Robbie Jones

Robbie Jones is the MARC Driving Awards Coordinator for the Shade Tree A's. As a reminder, if you are a participant in the program, be prepared to note your mileage as of December 31, 2014 and provide it to Robbie when requested (after the first of the new year). If you are a member of MARC and have never registered for the program and would like to participate, contact Robbie for a registration card at the following email address:

drivingawards@shadetreeas.org

A one-time registration fee of \$1.00 is required and the program is open to all MARC members. The first award is given at 2,000 miles and every 5,000 miles thereafter. Mileage does not have to be earned all in one year and can accumulate from year to year. Additional information on the program can be found on the MARC website at:

www.modelaford.org/drivingawards.htm

BREAKFAST BEFORE THE MEETING

For those able to make it, please plan to meet at the Sunrise Grill on Washington Rd, next to Kmart at 8:00 am on January 10th.

2015 MEETING SCHEDULE DISCUSSION

An open discussion by the STA members will be held at the meeting on Saturday January 10th to discuss the meeting schedule for 2015 and will be followed by vote of the membership during the February 14th meeting. This two-step process is intended to ensure as many of the members as possible have an opportunity to participate in this decision.

MAFCA & STA DUES

You should have received your MAFCA renewal form in the mail by now. It's green and hard to ignore!

Please turn in your MAFCA dues (\$40) along with your Shade Tree A's dues (\$25) to Tom Roberts, Membership Coordinator. The combined dues may be paid in one check, total \$65.00, payable to the Shade Tree A's. The club will then send the information and dues on to MAFCA. Don't forget--MAFCA membership includes your subscription to "The Restorer".

Bring your check and renewal form to the meeting or mail it to:

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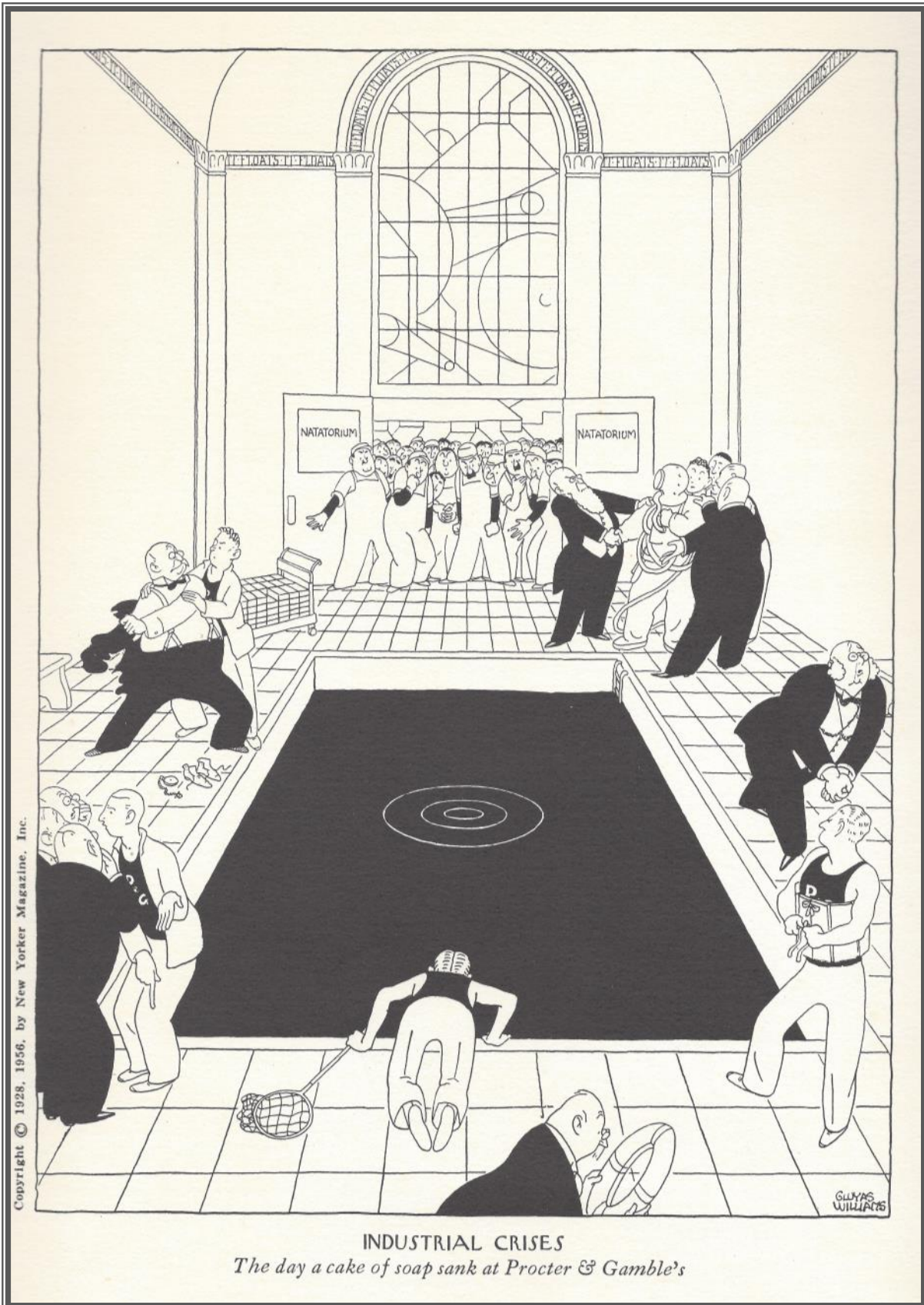


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IVORY SOAP

New Yorker Magazine Aug. 18, 1928



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