

# SHADE TREE A's

## NEWSLETTER

June 2018

Volume 45

Number 6

**"One of America's Five  
Greatest Auto Museums"**  
~ AutoWeek Magazine



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### On the Cover

Shade Tree A's members Chuck and Sharon Howell recently visited the National Automobile Museum in Reno, Nevada. More photos and story on page 11.

## SHADE TREE A'S MODEL A CLUB



The Shade Tree A's Model A Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and the restoration of the Model A Ford automobile. Shade Tree A's annual dues are only \$25. Members are urged to join the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA, \$50 annual dues) and the Model A Restorer's Club (MARC, \$45 annual dues) to enjoy the benefits of these national organizations including their respective magazines: *The Restorer* (MAFCA) and *Model A News* (MARC). The Shade Tree A's club is also a member of MAFFI, the Model "A" Ford Foundation, Inc.



#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

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Please contact Robbie Jones at [Newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org](mailto:Newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org) concerning reprinting of articles, illustrations, or photos.



## OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

*Matt Barrett - President*

Greetings fellow club members 🤖

It's hard to believe that in 30 days half the year will be gone!

Someone once compared life to a roll of toilet paper, the closer you get to the end, the faster it goes. This year is just flying by and the very hot days of summer are upon us. You almost wish ole Henry had air conditioning in his beloved Model A. I, for one, sure wish that he did. At the St. Patrick's Day Parade I reminded my daughter that our A had 4-40 A/C - that's four windows down going forty miles per hour 🏎️

Even though the heat can sometimes be unbearable in Augusta, we can still find that occasional balmy evening to enjoy driving and riding in our jalopies.

I spoke with Mrs. Sanders with Sconyer's BBQ and we are able to acquire the large banquet room for August 16th for our annual barbecue. The room was already spoken for the previous Thursday, August 9th. As far as I can tell, we are not required to put down a deposit. Never hurts to know the owner!

So to wrap up my little newsletter, keep cool, enjoy your summer vacations and drive those cars on the highways and byways of Ga-Lina. Happy Model A driving, ya'll!

Best regards,  
Matt Barrett

## MEETING MINUTES

*May 14, 2018*

*Richard's Garage*

*Recorded by: Frank Knapp - Secretary*

The monthly meeting of the Shade Tree A's was held May 14, 2018 in the clubhouse meeting room at Richard Dunevent's garage. President Matt brought the meeting to order promptly at 7:00 PM. Twenty-eight members and guests were in attendance.

Our "Name Tag Penalty Collection Cup" received no donations due to the fact President Matt failed to identify offenders. If this practice continues, I fear our treasury may suffer in the coming months!

Two guests, Mike Neumar and Ashley Bennett, were welcomed by members after being introduced by John Neumar.

Jim Dover continues to entertain our members with the antics of his extensive family. According to Jim, one of them decided to send their dog "Jake" to college to learn to speak English. Once Jake graduated, he apparently returned home with family stories that cannot be repeated in this forum. Another good story Jim!

Richard Dunevent thanked all STA members for their many thoughts and prayers after the passing of his beloved wife Frankie.

Under Show & Tell, Don Turley announced he received his forty-five-year pin for MARC membership. Congratulations Don!

*continued on next page*

## MEETING MINUTES

*continued*

President Matt also displayed a MAFCA certificate honoring the Shade Tree A's for forty-five years as a charter chapter. He indicated it will be framed and displayed in our meeting room while also offering to pay for framing! Thanks Matt!

### Treasurer's Report:

Substituting for our treasurer, Dan Perla reported we experienced our usual increase in expenses during the first quarter. According to Dan, pay-outs such as our generous donation to charities, National Club dues, website charges, etc. left our primary checking account somewhat less than the balance reported in January. During the past few months our Regions Bank Statement shows \$1,316.90 in withdrawals while deposits only amounted to \$400.00. Dan also warned possibly sometime in the future we may need to 'dip' into our healthy reserve account, however he sees no huge expenses looming for 2018.

A motion was made from the floor to accept the March Minutes as published in *The Newsletter*. That motion received a second and passed by unanimous vote.

National Director, Jim McPherson, reminded all present that both MARC and MAFCA National Meets are coming up soon. The MARC meet will be held in Branson, Missouri June 24th thru July 1st. The National MAFCA Meet will be held in Reno/Sparks, Nevada June 24th-29th. Pack ya' bags!

Our Newsletter Editor, Robbie Jones, offered a very sincere "Thanks" to all who have contributed pictures for publication in *The Newsletter*. He also commended those members present at our Daniel Field Photo Shoot for reminding him the need for "vertical Images" as the proper format needed for potential front page photographs.

There were no items discussed under Old Business.

### Under New Business:

A motion was made by Jim McPherson to resend a previous addition to our Policies & Procedures section of the By-Laws. According to our Nominating Committee Chairman, the policy of having the Club pay MAFCA annual dues for certain club officers had no effect on attracting members to serve. After a short discussion, that motion received a second and passed with only one negative vote from Ralph Nietzsche (AKA "Mr.No"). It has become evident that Ralph simply does not believe in unanimity!

### Technical program:

Once again, Andrew Morse treated the group with another excellent program on fender repair, metal prep, various rust removal techniques, primers and paint products. As expected, he was flooded with questions to which he responded with his usual expert answers! Great job! Thanks Andy.

With no urgent business remaining, President Matt adjourned the meeting at 7:43 pm. Refreshments provided by Andrew Morse and Robbie Jones were enjoyed by all.

Respectfully Submitted  
Frank Knapp, Secretary

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Club Calendar

**June**

- 11      Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage  
(Technical Program – Movie "The Story of Henry Ford" - Part 1)

**July**

- 9      Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage  
(Technical Program – Movie "The Story of Henry Ford" - Part 2)

**August**

- 16      Annual dinner at Sconyer's Bar-B-Que, 6:30 PM in the "Big Room" upstairs

TBA - To Be Announced

### June Refreshments



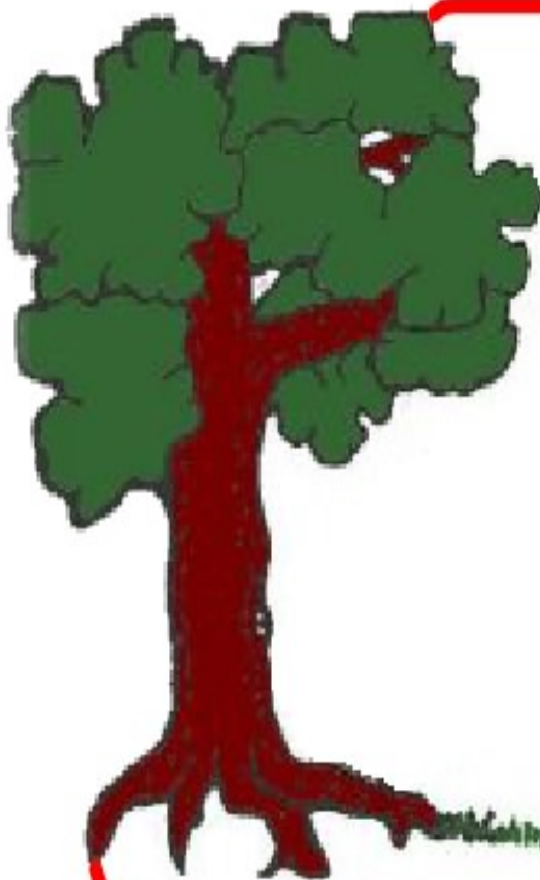
Dan Gordon  
George Gordon  
Mike Gordon  
William Gordon  
Misty Hooker



### June Birthdays

- 6      Matt Barrett  
7      Charles Howell  
30     John Dirksen

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



### **Shade Tree A's Member News**

- Billie Jones recovering from recent fall

*Send items for Shade Tree A's Member News to:  
newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org*

### **Monthly Technical Program**

Got an idea for a technical program for presentation at a monthly meeting?

Got a topic you would like discussed during a monthly technical program?

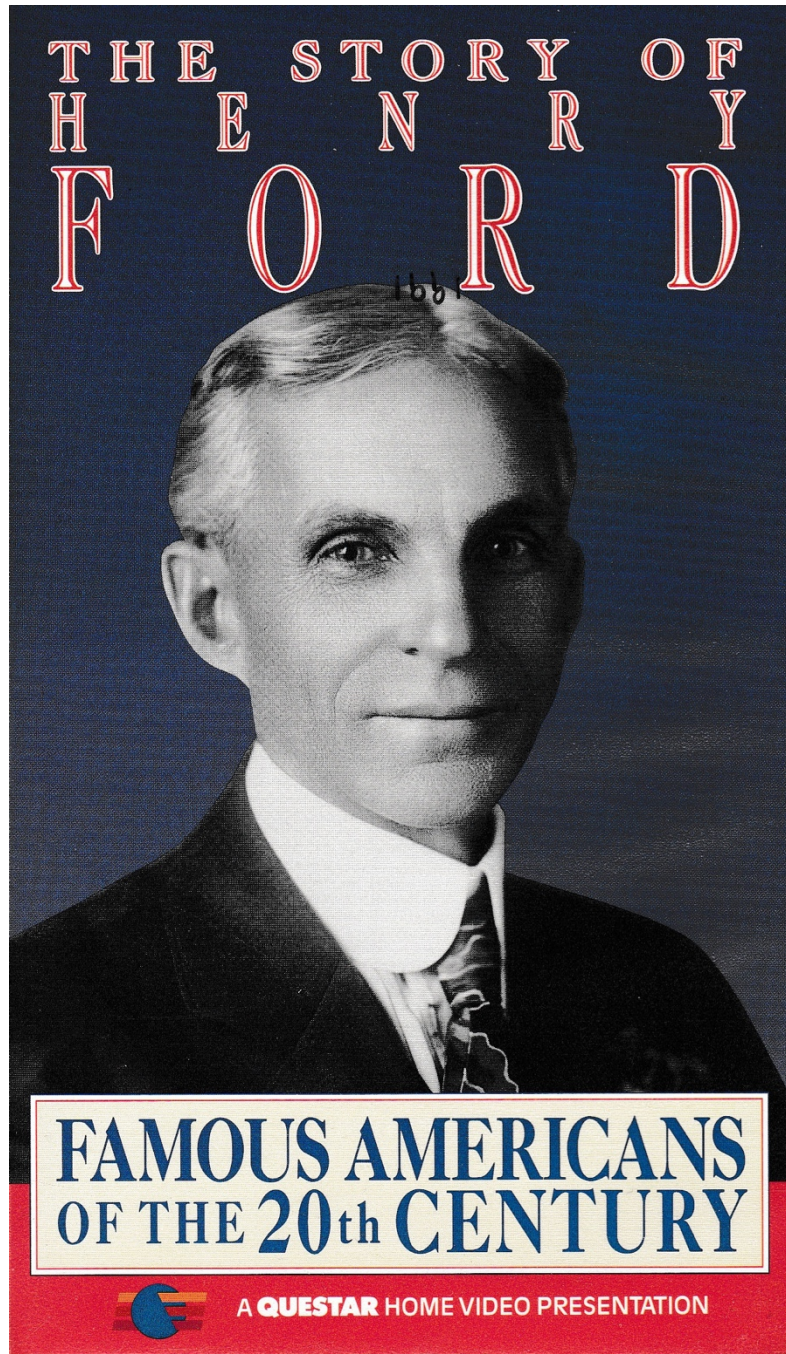
Do you want to volunteer to present a technical program?

If so, contact Mike Gordon at [vp@ShadeTreeAs.org](mailto:vp@ShadeTreeAs.org) or 706-513-7619

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Featured Movie

The movie, *The Story of Henry Ford*, will be shown as the technical topic in upcoming monthly meetings. The movie will be shown in two parts, Part 1 in June and Part 2 in July.





## RECENT EVENTS

### **Congratulations to Don Turley on 45 Years of MARC Membership**

In 1973, Don was living in Atlanta when he joined the Model A Restorers Club (MARC) and the Georgia Region of MARC. He didn't find out about the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) until he joined the Shade Tree A's. His first attendance of a Shade Tree A's meeting was in November 1979 when Bobby Jones and Richard Dunevent took him to a meeting. Since that was at the end of a calendar year, his membership did not start until January 1980. He also began his membership with MAFCA at that time.

### **Penny Pinson Hot Dog Day**

*Story by Jim McPherson*

*Photo by Sheila McPherson*

In honor of an Old 96 District Model A Club founding member Penny Pinson, the Club continued a tradition started by Penny and held their annual Penny Pinson Hot Dog Day on Saturday May 12, 2018 at Emerald Farms in Greenwood, SC. Seven Model A's and about 25 members attended. There were new ducks on the pond and the fish were jumping as we ate hot dogs and the side dishes provided by those attending. Much Model A conversation consumed the afternoon.





## **RECENT EVENTS**

### **Vietnam Wall Memorial Tour**

*Photos by Dan Perla*





## RECENT EVENTS

### Fun Run Car Show

*Story and photos by Chuck Howell*

Quite by accident, Sharon and I stumble upon the 31<sup>st</sup> Fun Run Car Show while in Kingman, AZ. 755 cars were registered in this year's 122-mile cruise on Route 66 from Seligman to Topock, Arizona. Hope you enjoy these few photos.





## RECENT EVENTS

## National Automobile Museum

*Story and photos by Chuck Howell*

Sharon and I recently visited the National Automobile Museum in Reno, Nevada, which houses the Harrah Collection of 200 Vintage and Classic Cars. I highly recommend visiting the Museum the next time you're there. Hope you enjoy the photos of some truly rare cars.



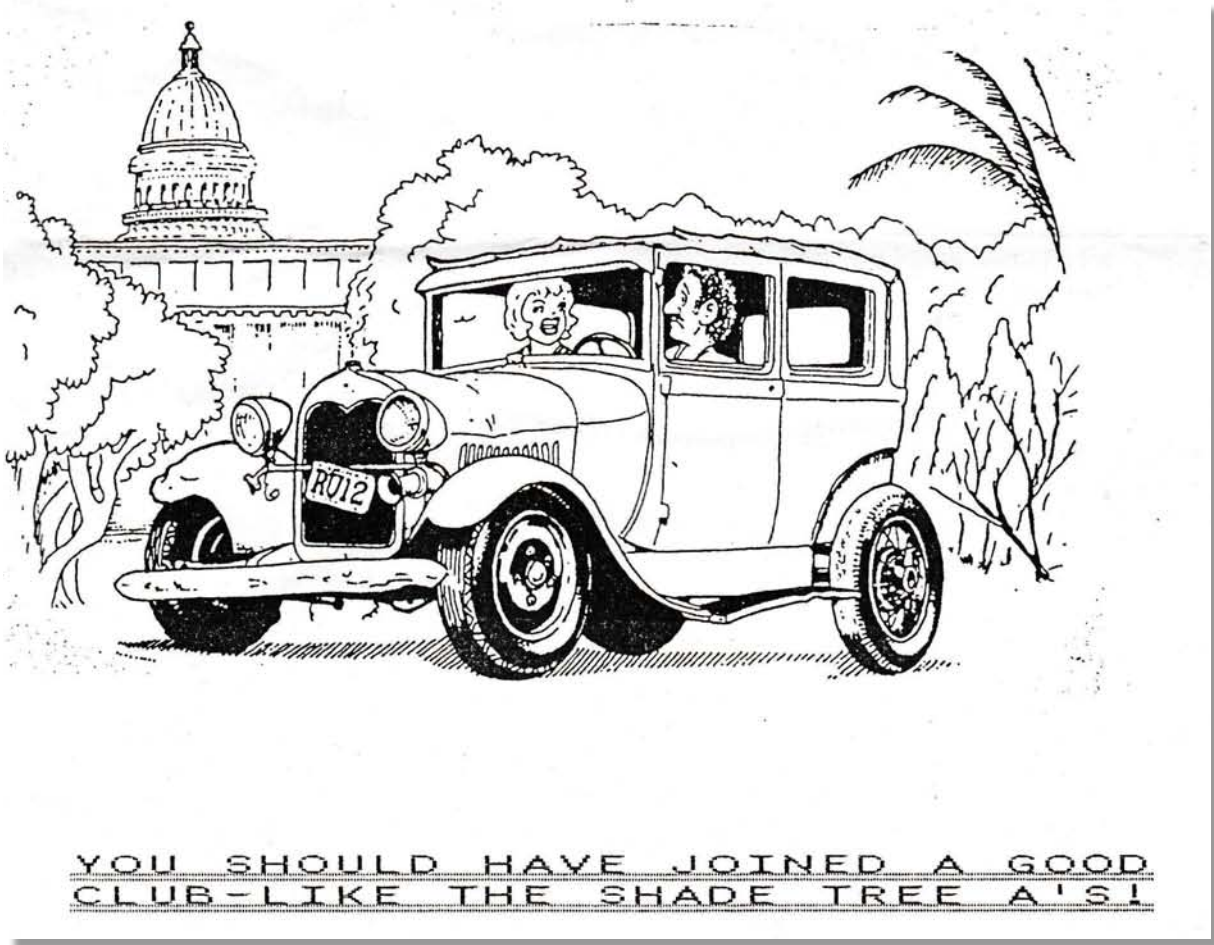


## THE SHADE TREE A'S – THIRTY YEARS AGO



The 1985-2005 Shade Tree A's newsletters are now available on the Shade Tree A's website. They can be accessed via the same "button" as the other newsletters, but they are password protected. The same password used to access the member roster is used to access the newsletters. Thank you Dan Perla for scanning these and posting on the website.

The June 1988 issue of the Shade Tree A's Newsletter discussed a show and tell item presented at the May 1988 meeting, a magnetic oil drain plug. The plug was touted as cheap insurance for cars without oil filters like the Model A. An upcoming garage tour was also anticipated. The benefits of sandblasting and advice were discussed in the "President's Column".



## TECHNICAL TOPICS

*The following Technical Topics were provided by Bentley's Antique Auto Service.*

### Model A Q&A's

Like always, we've been busy in the shop. Seems like lots of brake and steering work. I believe we could have a full-time shop just doing that kind of work. Of course, I love the restoration work even more, turning rusty, neglected and forgotten cars into something the owners can be proud of and enjoy for years to come. Here are some highlights from the last few weeks.

Question: I was driving my 1930 Coupe the other day, and noticed when I pulled into the driveway there was a trail of oil following me. After I parked the car in the carport for a few minutes there was a very large puddle of oil under the car. It seems to be coming from the housing under the clutch. Is this something easy to fix?

Answer: I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but usually when a Model A engine is losing that much oil it is a sign of a serious engine failure. You can remove the oil pan and check the rear main bearing. There is an oil drain tube that could be your problem, but it's probably a bearing failure. You can avoid this by checking the bearing clearance at least every 5,000 miles. Checking the clearance involves removing the oil pan, and is a bit of a hassle, but it can save you an engine in the long run.

Question: My Model A is a great driver, but I notice when I decelerate down a long hill the car will jump out of high gear. I can watch the gear shift, it just seems to vibrate slowly and move from third gear into neutral. What's going on?

Answer: This is one of the first problems I ever fixed for a customer, years ago when I started working on Model A's. First I tried rebuilding the gear shift tower. This is a fairly easy job, which requires removing the floor boards, and taking the shift tower out. You can replace the shift lever and the spring-loaded detents. This will help a little bit, but more likely you will really need to remove the transmission and replace the input shaft and the high gear slider gear. Over the years these parts get worn and don't mesh properly. Try to find original parts if possible.

Question: I would like to replace the brakes on my Model A Roadster. I was thinking about going to hydraulic brakes. Would this be a good idea? Where can I get the parts?

Answer: Years ago when the junkyards were full of old V8 Fords, it was common for guys to go to the junkyard on a Saturday and pick up everything they needed to convert a Model A to hydraulic brakes. Now those days are long gone, but most of the parts are available new. As far as I know, no one is making a complete kit at this time. To be honest I would rather have an original mechanical brake set up, with new cast iron brake drums and high friction linings. This system is less expensive and like I say, more original to the car, so it is much easier to service and maintain. It's up to you, but I like the original stuff. Les Andrews Model A Mechanics Handbook has excellent information about rebuilding the Model A brakes. I highly recommend this book to anyone who owns a Model A.

Enjoy the Drive...

## Classified Advertisements

Deadline for submittal – 20<sup>th</sup> of the month – Send submittals to [newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org](mailto:newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org)

## Paid Advertisements

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