

SHADE TREE A's

NEWSLETTER

May 2018

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On the Cover

Shade Tree A's members Frank Knapp, Dan Perla, Stuart Smith and Matt Barrett (from left to right in the photo), Robbie Jones (behind the camera) and Robbie's wife and daughter, Leta and Keri, viewed the Ford Tri-Motor while it made a stop in Augusta. Story and photos on page 8.

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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Facebook: Shade Tree A's Model A Ford Club

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

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Please contact Robbie Jones at Newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org concerning reprinting of articles, illustrations, or photos.

OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

Matt Barrett - President

Greetings fellow club members 🤖

There are no words to truly express how saddened we all were at Frankie Dunevent's passing. She was a very vital member of the STA family and her presence will be missed by all. She always had a smile for us as well as treats and kind words. Our prayers are with Richard and the Dunevent family.

Many months ago someone mentioned that the lug nuts on my 1930 Tudor were stainless steel and so not original. Well that got me to thinking that with about 40 members in our club, everyone has different ideas what a Model A Ford should look and run like. I purchased an oil filter and will install it in a couple of days. Some would not have an oil filter because it's not original but others relish the idea. There are so many options available for today's enthusiast. The point is whatever makes you happy is the option you should choose.

I would like to encourage everyone to get their A's in good running order and get out there and drive them. The weather is warming up - no better time than now to hit the road in your jalopy. If you need help getting your car in tip-top shape, reach out to your fellow club members. We're here to help each other.

Happy "tune-ups" - see you at our next meeting May 14!

Best regards,
Matt Barrett

MEETING MINUTES

There are no meeting minutes this month since the April meeting was cancelled due to the visitation and funeral service for Frankie Dunevent.

MONTHLY MEETING TIME & LOCATION

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at Richard Dunevent's garage, 4338 Owens Road, Evans, GA. Meetings begin at 7PM and are followed by refreshments.

LOOKING AHEAD

Club Calendar

May

- 14 Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage
(Technical Program – Andrew Morse will present a program on the mechanics of painting a car - how to actually lay the paint on the car)

June

- 11 Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage
(Technical Program – TBA)

July

- 9 Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage
(Technical Program – TBA)

TBA - To Be Announced

May Refreshments



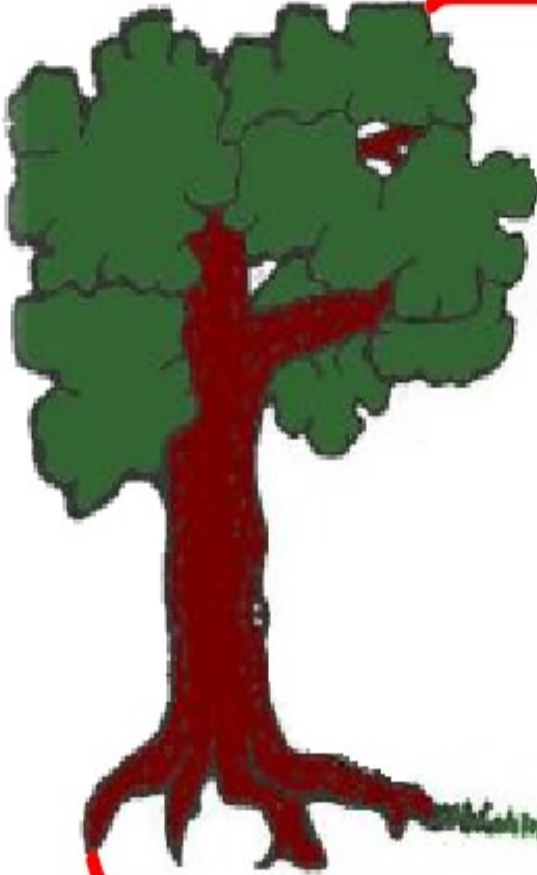
Andrew Morse
Robbie Jones



May Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|-----------------|
| 5 | Montie Knapp | 7 | Jim Dover |
| 8 | Lois Melchiors | 9 | John Schroen |
| 10 | Kent Carruthers | 10 | John Neumar |
| 11 | Mike Gordon | 16 | Kathleen DeMato |
| 16 | Kathy Poole | 18 | Ragnild Ezelle |
| 18 | Dotti Shogren | 19 | Brenda Prince |
| 20 | Gerald Melchiors | 21 | Billy Garland |
| 23 | Frank DeMato | 24 | Linda Krosting |
| 27 | Misty Hooker | 28 | Ben Deitz |
| 28 | Donald Gordon | 28 | Betty Wade |
| 29 | Joe Christian | | |

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Shade Tree A's Member News

- Jim McPherson is recovering from recent shoulder surgery.
- Jim Dover recovering from recent hospital stay
- Continue to remember Richard and family in your thoughts and prayers after Frankie's passing

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 or 706-513-7619

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim Dover's 94th Birthday Party, May 5th 11am-5pm

596 Springhaven Dr., North Augusta S.C. 29860

Jim "Grandpa" Dover is turning 94, Josh and Becky Dover want to invite over friends and family to their new home to help him celebrate this special occasion! We will have grilled oysters, low country boil and a selection of drinks, diet and regular. The event will be kid friendly and you are encouraged to bring your own folding chairs. BYOB and any finger food you want to contribute. If you want to bring a gift please keep it under \$25, but certainly not necessary. Call or text me at 706-664-7915 to let me know that you are coming and how many may be in your group. We have almost 10 acres of land and a large yard so should have plenty of parking. You can't see our house from the road, the driveway is gravel and about 700' long. We will have balloons on our mailbox and gate so you will know that you have the right place.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU RSVP SO I CAN ARRANGE PARKING IF NEED BE



RECENT EVENTS

Thomson Car Show

Photos by Matt Barrett



RECENT EVENTS

Ford Tri-Motor at Daniel Field

Story and photos by Robbie Jones

One of the few remaining Ford Tri-Motor airplanes made a weekend stop in Augusta on April 27-29, 2018. The exhibit was free but rides were supposed to be offered for a fee. I say "supposed" because the Tri-Motor had mechanical problems while here so I don't think anyone got to fly in it. Dan Perla did come prepared with cash on Sunday just in case it had been repaired and could fly. Several Shade Tree A's members (Matt Barrett, Robbie Jones, Leta Jones, Keri Jones, Frank Knapp, Dan Perla and Stuart Smith) visited the Tri-Motor on Sunday and convinced the officials to open the hangar doors for a photo op with our Model A's. Hopefully it will make another stop in Augusta in the near future so Dan can get his flight time in!



RECENT EVENTS

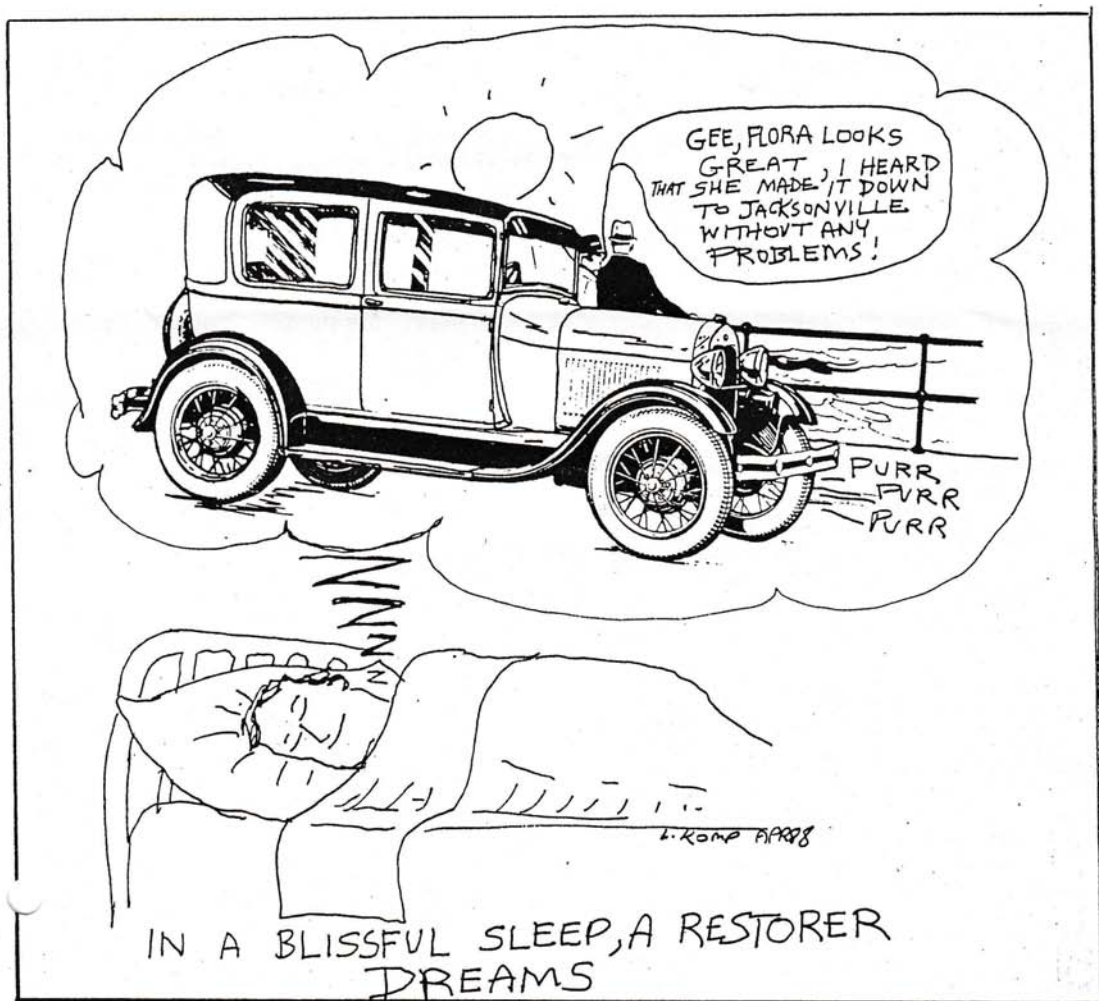


THE SHADE TREE A'S – THIRTY YEARS AGO



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 cover of the May 1988 Shade Tree A's Newsletter showed then Club President, Larry Komp, dreaming of a successful trip to Jacksonville in Flora when in reality Flora was in pieces laying on his garage floor at the time. Also in the May 1988 issue was an announcement that Ford Model A Zenith carburetors were going to be reproduced!



TECHNICAL TOPICS

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

Maintaining the Model A Ford Radiator and Cooling System

Lots of people ask me about their radiators. There are several common problems that I thought we could address in this month's article. I **will** try to cover the basics, if you have any additional questions, call me anytime.

A Healthy cooling system: A well-maintained radiator and cooling system should be free of any leaks. The coolant temperature should remain within 100° of the temperature outside. In other words, on an 80° day the coolant temperature should stay under 180°. Measure with a temperature gage or laser thermometer at the upper water neck. Your coolant should never be a rusty color, and you should not have to add more than a quart of coolant during a normal drive. Keep in mind that a Model A cooling system is open to the outside atmosphere so you will lose coolant, you just shouldn't lose much.



TECHNICAL TOPICS

Leaks:

The most common leak is at the water pump. This can be corrected by rebuilding your water pump or replacing it with a "leakless" modern water pump. Another common leak is at the radiator cap. This will cause water to splash onto your windshield. This is not an overheating problem, just a problem with your cap sealing gasket. If you have a Quail or Moto-meter, you will have multiple gaskets, so you may have to spend some time making sure you have a good seal at the top of the radiator. If your radiator is leaking in the core, then a trip to the radiator shop or a new radiator may be in order. Of course hoses can also be a source of leaks. Just check everything carefully.

Rusty Coolant: Keep at least 1/2 gallon of anti-freeze in the car year round to prevent rust.

Flushing your cooling system: If you do have rusty water in your cooling system, you can try flushing it out with a garden hose. Make sure your engine is cool, then remove the upper radiator hose. Place a garden hose and the top of your radiator and turn on the water at a medium rate. Allow your engine to idle, letting the freshwater flush down to your radiator and up through your engine and out onto your clean driveway. The rusty stains will remain there for years. There are also some excellent chemical flushing agents available at your local auto parts store which will really clean the system well. Just follow the directions on the container.

More advanced problems: You can have more advanced problems such as a leak at your head gasket. If water disappears from your cooling system at an alarming rate or if you get water contamination in your oil then you can pressure test your cooling system to find hidden leaks. These pressure test kits are available at auto parts stores, sometimes they will even loan you the kit free of charge. Keep in mind you will need to plug off the overflow pipe before you can pressure test.

Still having problems? If you had checked everything above and still have overheating problems, then I would recommend a new radiator such as a Brassworks. Your original radiator is almost 90 years old, and they do wear out. Let me know if we can help.

Classified Advertisements

Deadline for submittal – 20th of the month – Send submittals to newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org

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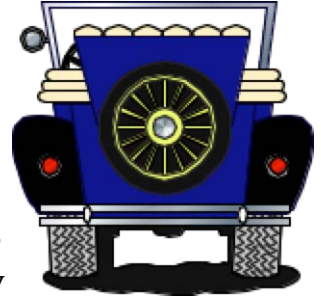
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The Rumble Seat

By Robbie Jones

April seemed to be a month that a lot of memories came to mind. Frankie's passing brought back many memories of her from way back in my childhood. In the April 2016 issue of the Shade Tree A's Newsletter, I wrote a Rumble Seat article telling how I have known Richard for a long time. What I didn't really say was that I have known both Richard and Frankie for a long time. My family, the Dunevents and a few other families used to travel on weekend trips together, especially to the mountains in the Fall. The picture below shows us all together on one such trip to the north Georgia mountains. The photo was taken in the early 1970's (note that Jason is not in the picture). Some of you may recognize a few others in the picture too. Unfortunately, Daddy was behind the camera and not in the photo. That's me front and center. I have very fond memories of our trips together with Richard and Frankie. As I'm sure you all will agree, Frankie will be greatly missed.



The other event that brought back memories was the Ford Tri-Motor display at Daniel Field. One of the trips with Richard and Daddy that I mentioned in the April 2016 Rumble Seat article was to Santee for a car show. That show was at the old Wings and Wheels museum. The museum had a Tri-Motor on display. That was the first and last time I saw a Tri-motor so I just had to see it again when it came to Augusta.