

# SHADE TREE A'S

## NEWSLETTER

February 2020

Volume 47

Number 2



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### On the Cover

The sun rises on the Shade Tree A's as they celebrate the beginning of 2020 with breakfast at Cracker Barrel on New Year's Day. Photo by Robbie Jones.

## 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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## OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

*Matt Barrett - President*

Greetings fellow club members 🤠

If you missed New Year's Breakfast at Cracker Barrel, you missed 30 fellow club members and nine Model A Fords. What a great way to start off 2020!

The Aiken Model A Club invited our Club members to join them for lunch in Ridge Spring, South Carolina on February 15th. We plan on leaving Richard Dunevent's about 9:30 AM to arrive at our destination about 11:00 AM. The Old Ninety-Six Club and the Palmetto Model A Club will also attend. For more details, please give me a call at 706-799-3699. This should be loads of fun, so get the old girl running and come join us.

Make sure you plan to be a part of the annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade on March 17th in downtown Augusta. We will gather with our cars at 1:00 pm in the James Brown Arena parking lot on the 7th street side. Last year we had a great turnout and lots of fun. All my family members that attended last year had a ball and you will, too! So let's "parade" our beauties on St. Paddy's Day and throw those beads to the crowds. 🍀🍀🍀🍀

Also, we are having a picnic with the Savannah Club, the Aiken Club, the Old Ninety-Six Club, the Palmetto Club and the Charleston Club at Rivers Bridge State Park, South Carolina on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Last year's picnic at Magnolia Springs State Park near Millen was great family entertainment. This year we want to add some Model A games to the "menu", so stay tuned for more info.

I hope to see you at our next meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Happy Driving 🚗

## MEETING MINUTES

*January 13, 2020*

*Richard's Garage*

*Respectfully submitted: Frank Knapp – Secretary*

The monthly meeting of the Shade Tree A's was held January 13, 2020 in the clubhouse meeting room at Richard Dunevent's garage. President Matt brought the meeting to order at 6:55 P.M. Nineteen members were in attendance.

### Treasurer's Report:

Dan Perla reported our treasury basically remains the same as last reported with only a \$17.00 change in the positive. He also announced only 31 members had paid their 2020 member dues.

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

### National Director:

Jim McPherson reported he has received a request from MAFFI for a donation. No action was taken as to a response. Unfortunately, Jim also announced his resignation as National Director. Several members praised his long-time commitment and service to The Shade Tree A's.

### Newsletter Editor:

Robbie Jones complimented President Matt for being first to submit his newsletter article about how he became interested in the Model A hobby. Robbie encouraged others to also submit articles to be published under "You and Your Model A".

### Under Show & Tell:

Andrew Morse displayed a "blown" airbag saying they only take 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a second to deploy on impact. According to Andrew, they deploy by way of nitrogen pellets. Very interesting!

*Continued on next page*

# MEETING MINUTES

*Continued*

## Under Old Business:

President Matt reminded the group of our planned tour to River's Bridge State Park on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. He is expecting members from several other clubs to attend due to the destination being centrally located, Hopefully the Savannah, Aiken, Charleston, Ninety-six and Columbia clubs will participate.

Eric Shogren invited all to join the Aiken A's for lunch on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> in Ridge Spring, S.C. meeting at Juniper's Restaurant at 11:00 AM

## Under New Business:

Due to several members resigning from offices to which they were elected last fall, those positions have been filled as follows:

- President, Matt Barrett*
- Vice President, Dan Perla*
- Treasurer, Stuart Smith*
- Secretary, Frank Knapp*
- Board Member 1, Richard Dunevent*
- Board Member 2, Darrell Henderson*
- Tour Director, Membership Chairman and National Director positions remain open*

Dan Perla also asked for volunteers interested in becoming our Webmaster. Dan is planning to step down in March.

## Technical Program:

Eric Shogren conducted the technical program. Eric discussed the use of several original K. R. Wilson tools that Robbie Jones used recently to rebuild the rear axle in his Coupe. The tools are used to remove (and install) the drive shaft and pinion gear from the differential housing without disturbing the preload on the pinion bearing. Another tool is used to remove the pinion gear from the driveshaft.

Eric also had on hand special wrenches used to adjust the pinion bearing preload. Of special interest to everyone was the humongous pipe wrench that Eric has to turn the pinion bearing removal tool.

A discussion and question and answer session followed on a variety of topics such as the use of air filters on carburetors, effect of carburetor jet size on engine performance and problems with reproduction ignition points

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM after which refreshments provided by Jim and Sheila McPherson and Dan Perla, were enjoyed by all.

(Special thanks to Robbie Jones for covering Eric's presentation.)

### **MONTHLY MEETING TIME & LOCATION**

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at Richard Dunevent's garage, 4338 Owens Road, Evans, GA. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM and are followed by refreshments.

LOOKING AHEAD

Club Calendar

February

- 7-8 Moultrie Swap Meet, Moultrie, Georgia
- 10 Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage  
(Technical Program TBA)
- 15 Lunch trip to Juniper Restaurant in Ridge Spring, South Carolina with the Aiken A's.  
Depart Richard Dunevent's house at 9:30

March

- 9 Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage  
(Technical Program TBA)
- 17 Saint Patrick's Day parade. Gather in the 7<sup>th</sup> Street parking lot at the James Brown Arena.
- 28 Palmetto A's Annual Picnic

April

- 2-5 Charlotte Autofair
- 13 Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage  
(Technical Program TBA)
- 17-18 Old 96 District Model A Club Annual Swap Meet

TBA - To Be Announced

February Refreshments



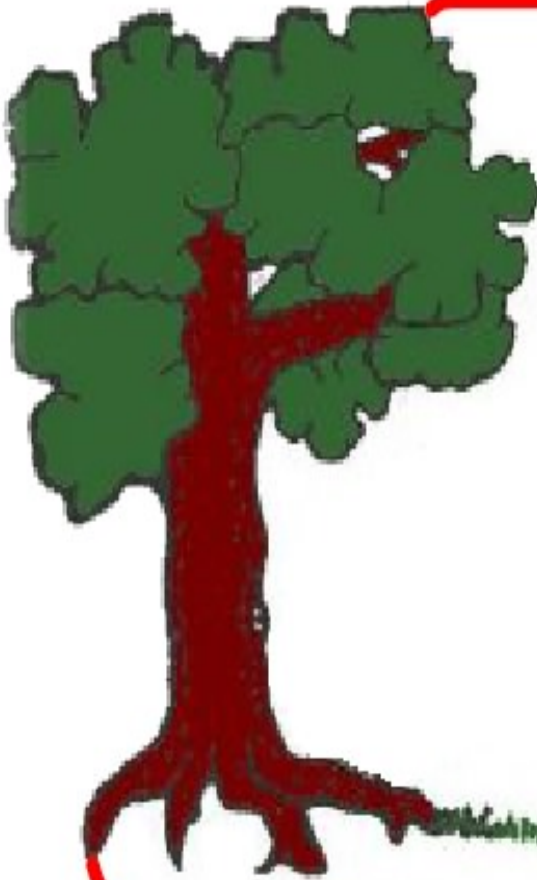
Jim and Sheila  
McPherson  
Frank Knapp  
Robbie Jones



February Birthdays

- 3 Mary Morse
- 11 Larry DuVall
- 11 Ralph Neitzke
- 22 Marsha Barrett
- 24 Craig McMullin
- 27 Stuart Smith
- 27 Art Towe
- 27 Charles Weaver

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Shade Tree A's Member News

- Ralph Neitzke received the *CSRA Care-Net Family Caregiver Award* on November 7, 2019 for his many years of dedicated caregiving to Tina. See photo on next page.
- Congratulations to Kent Carruthers. A photo of the Miss Oliver Hardy Festival Queen with Kent's car was published in the January/February 2020 issue of *The Restorer*. See photo on next page.

Send items for Shade Tree A's Member News to:  
[newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org](mailto: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 Dan Perla at [vp@ShadeTreeAs.org](mailto:vp@ShadeTreeAs.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Shade Tree A's Annual Dues Are Past Due!

If you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so by the February meeting. The Newsletter mailing list will be updated afterwards to reflect the current roster. If you haven't paid, you will not receive any future Shade Tree A's Newsletters.

Dues are \$25. Checks should be made payable to Shade Tree A's and can be mailed to Stuart Smith or brought to the February meeting.



### Time for a New Shade Tree A's Webmaster

I created the Shade Tree A's website in 1996 inspired by the 1995 MAFCA South East Divisional Meet that our club sponsored. It was also the first SE Divisional MAFCA meet. Now, after over 23 years of maintaining the website, I feel it is time to let someone else contribute to the club by taking over the reins of the website. I will continue to manage the website till the end of March 2020, during which time I will assist whoever takes over. The website hosting is currently paid for until October 2020. If no one volunteers, and the club does not continue to pay for the website, the URL ([shadetreeas.org](http://shadetreeas.org)) will be lost after October 2020.

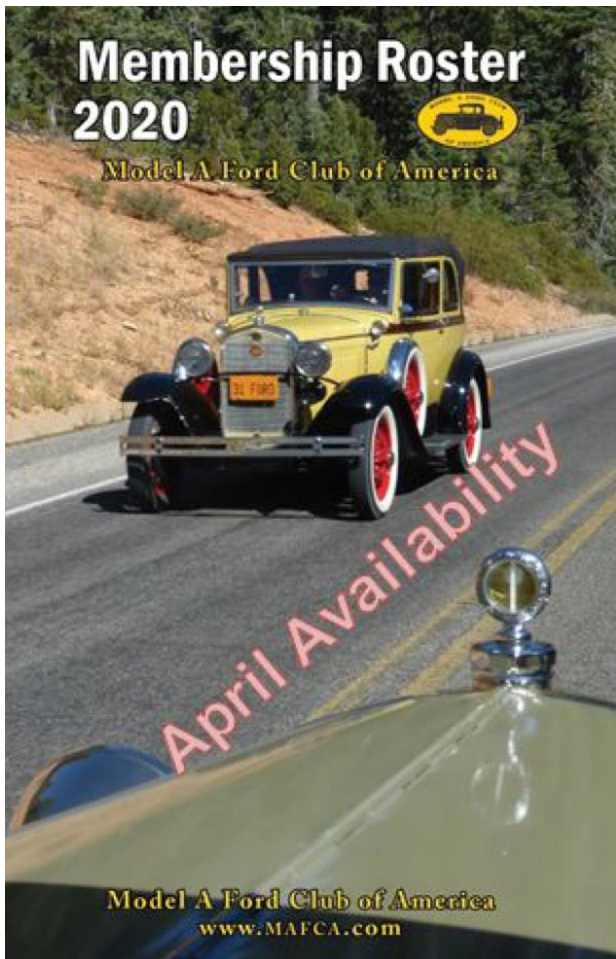
*Regards,  
Dan Perla*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Road Trip to Juniper Restaurant Saturday, February 15, 2020

The Aiken Model A's are "organizing" lunch at Juniper Restaurant in Ridge Spring, South Carolina on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. Other area clubs are also planning to attend. Juniper is reserving the back room for all that attend.

We will depart Richard Dunevent's house at 9:30.



### Important Reminder

Don't forget to order your 2020 Membership Roster now. You don't want to be traveling without this helpful resource. Order yours now so you will be sure to get a copy. They will go fast. Price: \$16 plus postage

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or visit  
[www.mafca.com](http://www.mafca.com)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Day Trip to Rivers Bridge State Historic Site Ehrhardt, South Carolina Saturday, May 2, 2020

The Shade Tree A's are meeting up with the Live Oak A's from Savannah, the Aiken A's, the Old Ninety-Six District Model A Club, the Palmetto A's of South Carolina and the Low Country Model A Club for a picnic at Rivers Bridge State Park on May 2, 2020. Last year's picnic at Magnolia Springs State Park near Millen was great family entertainment. This year we want to add some Model A games to the "menu", so stay tuned for more info.

Rivers Bridge State Historic Site marks the site of one of the Confederacy's last stands against General William T. Sherman's sweep across the South. Of all the Civil War Sites in South Carolina, the Battle of Rivers Bridge is the only one in the State Parks system that is home to a preserved battlefield.

A ¾-mile guided trail details the Battle of Rivers Bridge by way of interpretive panels along the trail. Ranger-guided tours of one of the most well-preserved Civil War sites in South Carolina, which includes still-intact earthen fortifications, are also given throughout the year.



RECENT EVENTS

Shade Tree A's New Year's Day Breakfast

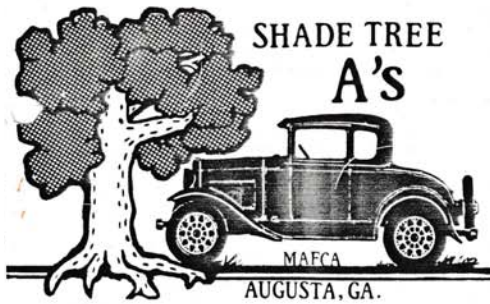
Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Story and photos by Robbie Jones

Approximately thirty Shade Tree A's members woke early on New Year's Day morning to meet at the Cracker Barrel for breakfast. The parking lot looked awesome adorned with nine Model A's.



# THE SHADE TREE A'S – THIRTY YEARS AGO



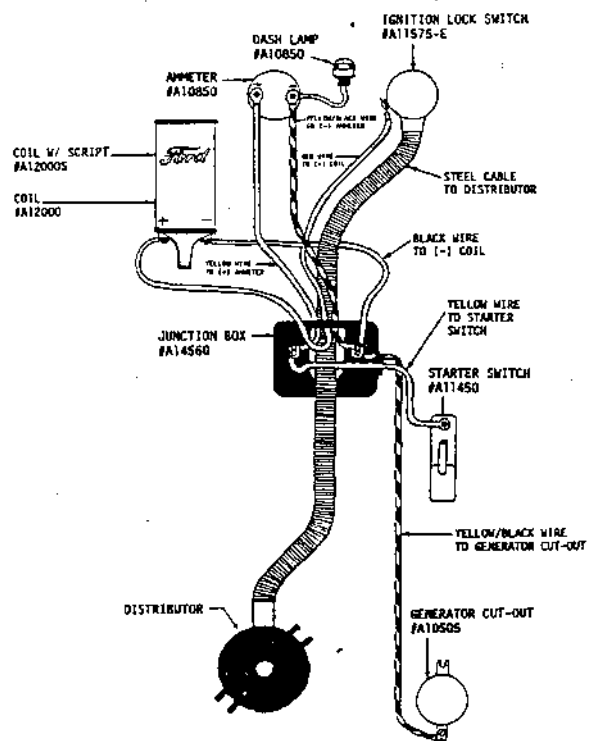
The 1985-2005 Shade Tree A's newsletters are now available on the Shade Tree A's website. They can be accessed via the same "button" as the other newsletters, but they are password protected. The same password used to access the member roster is used to access the newsletters. Thank you Dan Perla for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

The February 1990 issue of the Shade Tree A's Newsletter reported on the donations made by the Shade Tree A's to the Toys-for-Tots campaign. Bobby Jones and Monroe Wade purchased \$500 worth of toys for the Shade Tree A's which were delivered to the WJBF Channel 6 television station. The money for the toys was raised by Club members who decided to forego the usual purchase of gifts for the annual Christmas Party. Richard Dunevent, Rob Hefner, Bobby Jones, Ralph Neitzke, Ben Oman, Don Turley and Monroe Wade delivered the toys in their Model A's.

A reprint of an article from Old Cars Weekly discussed sealing roof leaks. A wiring diagram supplied by Bobby Jones was also included in the Newsletter that could be cut out and kept in your Model A for reference. A sign to cut out and display on your A at car shows was also provided.



MODEL "A" - IGNITION WIRING DIAGRAM



The diagram to the right was scanned from a copy in the editor's files that was "cleaner" than the diagram in the February 1990 Newsletter. If you would like a clean copy to print, let me know. Ed.

## TECHNICAL TOPICS

### DIPSTICK TRANSMISSION KIT

*Story and photos by Matt Barrett*

According to the manufacturer, you no longer have to crawl under your Model A to check your transmission fluid levels. This kit comes with a cover for your floorboards and a template on where to place your inspection plate. You can purchase this kit from just about all the parts suppliers or you can make your own.

You will need a 3/4" x 6" steel nipple and a 3/4" steel cap. Drill a 9/32" hole in the center of your cap. You will use an engine dipstick and push it all the way into your cap and make sure the dipstick only protrudes 1/2" out the other end. Use a thread locking compound on the transmission end to prevent the pipe nipple from backing out when you remove the pipe cap. You will be able to check your fluids without getting under car.



*(If thread locking compound doesn't work, try using a 3/4" electrical conduit nut as a locknut on the transmission end to keep the pipe from turning when removing the pipe cap. Ed.)*



### Member Advertisements

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


- Original Model A Instruction Books (Owner's Manual). Prices based on condition, \$25 to \$195.  
Don Turley, Call 706-863-4867, leave a message and I will return your call. Or email [don@donturley.com](mailto:don@donturley.com)
- Engine stand, \$25 OBO, Robbie Jones



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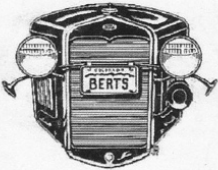
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