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On the Front Cover

Shade Tree A's Club President, Craig McMullin presents the Monroe Wade Award for 2022 to Gerald Melchiors. Congratulations Gerald! See page 11 for the text of Gerald's nomination for the award. Photo by Robbie Jones

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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 (www.mafca.com) and the Model A Restorer's Club (www.model-a-ford.org) 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.



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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

Craig McMullin - President

A big and long overdue Congratulations to Gerald Melchior for being the 2022 Monroe Wade Award recipient. Gerald and his wife Lois have been an active and longtime member of the Shade Tree A's. Gerald is a great guy always with a smile, an excellent car mechanic and an expert in all things related to antique and classic car restoration.

I announced my desire at the January meeting to plan a very special event in celebration of a major milestone, the Shade Tree A's Model A Ford Club turns 50. Our club, a Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) was established on June 17, 1973. Event planning has been initiated for a June celebration however ideas are still being evaluated and a detailed plan will be forthcoming. Your input is welcomed and more discussion will be at the February meeting, so bring your ideas!

A large "Thank You" to Steve Teal who did an excellent job presenting last month's Technical Program on his collection of Model AA Trucks. His collection consists of fully restored vehicles to others that are works in progress from flat beds, postal, dump, delivery and fire engines and probably a few other types that escape me, but you get the picture. A visit to see Steve's collection and shop in person should be on our tour agenda in the near future.



Photo by Steve Teal

MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2023 Richard's Garage Respectfully submitted: Frank Knapp – Secretary

The monthly meeting of The Shade Tree A's was held January 9, 2023 in the clubhouse meeting room at Richard Dunevent's garage. The meeting was called to order by President Craig McMullin at 6:55 PM welcoming all twenty-six members in attendance. John Neumar once again introduced Brandon Carter who recently purchased his first

During our new "Light Moment", John Neumar offered his "Joke of the Month".

Model A. On his second visit, Brandon and Rose

became our latest new members. Welcome guys!

Several sign-up sheets were passed around including those for refreshments, updates to the roster, and meeting attendance. No donations were made to our "name tag cup".

Jim McPherson, was recognized for his 60 year tenure as a member of MAFCA and 50 years as a member of the Shade Tree A's. Don Turley and Matt Barrett were also recognized for several articles in both national and local publications respectively.

President Craig presented Gerald Melchiors with the Monroe Wade Award for 2022. A member for 26 years, Gerald has participated in many Club tours, parades and has offered numerous Technical Programs over the years. Congratulations Gerald!

Continued on next page

MONTHLY MEETING TIME & LOCATION

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

MEETING MINUTES

Continued

Several members having January birthdays were mentioned as well as those listed below with medical issues:

Betty Wade, Syble Henderson, Janet Neumar and Misty Hooker will surely be included in our prayers for a speedy recovery.

Vice President:

Dan Perla announced our program for the evening. Steve Teal prepared a power point presentation highlighting his Model AA collection.

Treasurer:

Stuart Smith reported several expenses were paid for our Christmas Party. Both an invoice from Wife Saver for catering and a donation to the musicians were at the top of the list. Annual member dues and payments for business ads continue to be received.

A motion was made from the floor to accept the December "Board of Directors" Meeting Minutes and the Treasurer's Report. That motion received a second and was passed by unanimous vote.

National Director: No report was given.

Newsletter Editor:

Robbie Jones jokingly apologized to the group for the January Newsletter cover photo which featured him receiving the MAFCA "Newsletter of the Year Award". Robbie also read an email he sent thanking MAFCA for their consideration and choosing our Newsletter for this prestigious award.

Tour Director:

No report was given.

Show & Tell:

Kent Carruthers, displayed an old Model A picture he and Heidi purchased at an antique store. Kent offered to loan it to the Club for display as long as needed. Dan Perla passed around an intake manifold insulator and President Craig demonstrated a home-made gadget for helping with Model A timing.

Old Business:

Our Christmas Party was discussed with mention of the excellent seasonal music performed by musicians from a local high school. Also, nineteen members attended our annual New Year's Day breakfast at Cracker Barrel. Members were also invited to join a group that meets for lunch at CiCi's Pizza Restaurant on Wheeler Road every Wednesday.

New Business:

Upcoming swap meets include those of the Old 96 District (April in Greenwood, SC), Palmetto A's (June in Columbia, SC) and the Shade Tree A's own swap meet (mid to late April).

President Craig asked for comments "from the floor". Short lunchtime tours are being considered for Saturdays. These would be drives to a lunch spot about an hour away, eat lunch and socialize, and then back home, preferably via a different route.

Continued on next page

MEETING MINUTES

Continued

Vice President Dan Perla led a discussion regarding tour attendance. He asked for ideas that would make tour members more comfortable driving on Club tours. Things such as a member traveling on the tour with a trailer was one possibility discussed. Treasurer Stuart Smith suggested a Ford dealership as the host for our 50th anniversary celebration. Charles Weaver Sr. noted that June 17th, the actual date of the Club anniversary, fell on a Saturday and would be a good day to have the anniversary celebration. President Craig stated that the Augusta Museum was being considered as well. Ernie Dinkens stated that the St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on March 17. Lineup will be in the James Brown Arena parking lot from 12:00-1:00 PM with the parade starting at 2:00 PM.

During the discussion the President introduced all members of the Board of Directors.

Technical Program:

President Craig turned the podium over to Steve Teal for the Technical Program. Steve described all the Model AA trucks that he has owned and currently owns. He started the program by describing how he got interested in Model A's. When in high school a friend of his sister had a Model A and from that time on he knew he wanted one. As life has it, things interfered and it wasn't until the 1990's that he purchased his first Model A, a Standard Coupe which his grandson now owns. He then bought a Tudor but really wanted a Model A mail truck. He found one that actually served as the model for the Franklin Mint Model A mail truck. The mail truck was eventually sold prior to the purchase of his first Model AA truck, Charles, a 1930 short wheelbase (SWB) ladder fire truck. Steve has named all of his AA trucks; Charles is his grandfather's name). Next came Doyle (great

grandfather's name), a long wheelbase (LWB) pumper fire truck. His third AA truck was Hiram, an early 1928 soda/acid truck. Then came Newman, a 1931 SWB mail truck, Next came Elliot, a 1931 Deluxe Delivery Truck with graphics for Shawn's Diaper Service. This is a rare truck; there are likely only two remaining. Some of Steve's future projects include a 1930 truck with a leftover production cab, a 1930 tow truck with a Weaver 3-ton Auto Crane, a 1931 SWB stake bed truck, a 1931 AA dump truck with an Anthony Rotating Power Dump bed, a 1930 dump truck with a hydraulic lift and a 1931 LWB gasoline tanker truck that Steve plans to restore to commemorate Steve's Dad who drove an oil tanker truck. Steve's presentation was very informative and entertaining. Several members suggested a road trip to visit Steve's collection. Thank you Steve for a very good technical program.



Photo by Steve Teal

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M. after which members were treated to a feast of ham and turkey, string beans, dressing, cake, pie and drinks provided by Jim and Sheila McPherson and Dan Perla.

Special thanks to Robbie Jones and Dan Perla for their contribution to the January Meeting Minutes.

CLUB CALENDAR

Shade Tree A's Events

February

- Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage (Technical Program *Insert Bearings* in Model A and B Engines, presented by Stuart Smith)
- Saturday Technical Session, *Getting Kathy Poole's 1930 Coupe Running Correctly So She and Tom Can Join Us on Tours*. We will meet at 9:30 AM at Richard's garage. Lunch will be served.

<u>March</u>

- 13 Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage (Technical Program TBA)
- Saint Patrick's Day parade, Augusta, GA, lineup in the James Brown Arena parking lot from 12:00-1:00 PM with the parade starting at 2:00 PM
- 25 Saturday Technical Session, *Getting Your Model A Ready for Our First 2023 Tour*, Richard's garage, 9:30 AM

<u> April</u>

- 10 Shade Tree A's Meeting, 7:00 PM, Richard's garage (Technical Program TBA)
- 15 Shade Tree A's tour to the Old 96 District Model A Ford Club Swap Meet, Greenwood, SC

Every Wednesday at 11:30

Join the Shade Tree A's for lunch at Cicis Pizza on Wheeler Road

TBA - To Be Announced

Other Events of Interest

March

31-April 1 Swap Meet, Moultrie, GA

April

- 13-16 Charlotte Autofair, Charlotte, NC
- 13-15 AACA Southeastern Spring National Meet, Charlotte. NC
- 14-15 Old 96 District Model A Club Swap Meet, Greenwood, SC

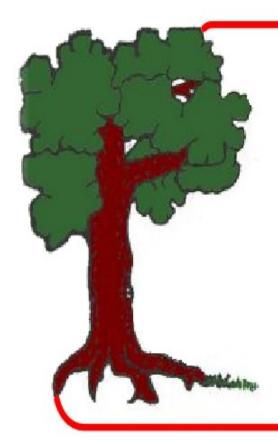
May

- 1-3 AACA Southeastern Divisional Tour, Oak Ridge, TN
- 12-13 Mid-Atlantic Pre-War Swap Meet (Model A & T) Luray, VA
- 18-20 AACA Eastern Spring National Meet, Gettysburg, PA

July

30 - August 4 MARC National Meet Hamilton, OH

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Shade Tree A's Member News

- Please keep the following Shade Tree A's members in your thoughts and prayers:
 - Syble Henderson
 - Misty Hooker recovering from surgery
 - Janet Neumar
 - Betty Wade recovering from broken wrist
- Don Turley was once again acknowledged for his contribution to Part 2 of the article, Evolution of the 1928-1931 Model A Ford Rear View Mirrors for Passenger Vehicles, in the November/December issue of the Model A News

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



Refreshment Schedule

February
Craig McMullin, Ralph Neitzke
March
Kathy Poole
April

Volunteers needed



February Birthdays

- 6 Steve Teal
- 13 Dean Summers
- 14 Don Bray
- 26 Steven Spencer
- 31 Janet Neumar

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shade Tree A's Embroidered Apparel

Do you need Shade Tree A's apparel? The point of contact to get shirts, etc. embroidered with the Shade Tree A's logo is Susan Meloan, 5030 Fieldcrest Dr. N Augusta, SC. Susan can be reached at 803-634-2570. The cost for embroidery is very reasonable.



The Burtz Block and the MARC Mileage Program

The following message is from Betty Fisher, Chairman of the Model A Restorers Club Mileage Program:

Good morning, all. I have been asked several times now whether the new Burtz Blocks will be approved for Mileage Program members. I have had communications with Joe Valentine, MARC president, as well as Andy Honiotes, chairman of the Touring Class Committee. I believe it is important that the Mileage Program and the Touring Class are united in their decision whether to accept the Burtz Block. Both programs have a common goal of promoting the recognition of Model A's that are regularly driven.

To this end, Andy Honiotes polled the Touring Class committee members by email asking for a yes or no decision regarding acceptance of the Burtz Block for Touring Class judging. The members responded quickly and agreed that the Burtz Block should be accepted.

Therefore, I am officially advising all Region Mileage Coordinators that **vehicles with the Burtz Block may be registered in the Mileage Program**. I will be revising and sending out the Mileage Program Guidelines in the near future, but as of this writing you may inform your members that the Burtz Block is definitely accepted by the Mileage Program.

Thank you for your patience, and thanks to the Touring Class Committee for their swift response in order to resolve this question.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Story and photos by Matt Barrett

According to Shade Tree A's member Frank Knapp, everyone loves a parade. And the very best one is the St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Augusta. After a two year hiatus because of the COVID 19 pandemic, the parade resumed last year with only 3 Shade Tree A's cars participating. This year I would like to see as many Shade Tree A's members as possible driving their Model A. The most in attendance in recent times was 12 cars and I believe we should be able to beat that record.

So if your Model A needs some attention to get it running don't hesitate to ask for help. Most Shade Tree A's club members would be happy to assist you.



Looking forward to a successful Parade, so mark your calendar for March 17th, 2023. We will assemble in the 7th Street parking lot of the James Brown Arena at 1:00 PM and the parade starts promptly at 2:00 PM.

Hoping to see you there.

Matt Barrett



RECENT EVENTS Shade Tree A's New Year's Day Breakfast

Photos by Andrew Morse



RECENT EVENTS

2022 Monroe Wade Award

Gerald Melchiors was presented the Monroe Wade Award for 2022 at the January meeting of the Shade Tree A's. Club President, Craig McMullin, read the following text of the nomination submitted for Gerald. Congratulations Gerald. You deserve it!

The person I would like to nominate for the Monroe Wade Award has been a member of the Shade Tree A's for twenty-six years. During that time he has participated in local Model A events, tours, and parades. This person has restored three Model A, as well as other antique cars. He participates in many Club activities, frequently presents programs at meetings, and assists others working on their Model A. He is a Model A problem solver. The two activities he enjoys most are driving his Model A and helping others maintain a safe and reliable Model A. He has been a frequent participant in the Model A Tech Seminars. His grandchildren love his Model A. It gives me great pleasure to nominate Gerald Melchiors for the Monroe Wade Award for 2022.

Attending a Model A Swap Meet

Story and photos by Jim McPherson

On Saturday January 14th, I attended the 38th Annual Swap Meet hosted by the Falls City Region Model A Club in Shepardsville (Louisville), Kentucky. We got our dose of winter weather going up, with sleet and snow in the North Georgia mountains, Tennessee and Kentucky. The meet was held inside at a local conference center which provided a warm environment on a very cold morning. The building was full of vendors including Gas Light Antique Auto Parts and a local powder coater displaying beautiful Model A wheels. The meet was well attended by anxious buyers. I found three parts I needed and made contacts with several people for possible future parts or services. The trip home was uneventful except for the snow covered mountains.





MODEL A ERA FASHION AND STYLE

Slide Fasteners

By Perry Jones, Piney Wood Model A Ford Club



Although not common during the Model A Era, the slide fastener, or what we now refer to as a zipper, could be found in an array of items. One example is the Saks Fifth Avenue advertisement to the left which is from 1931 The New York Times, featuring a Sports Wear outfit with a suede blouse with the "convenience of a talon fastener".

History

The story begins when Elias Howe, Jr., inventor of the sewing machine, received a patent in 1851 for an "Automatic, Continuous Clothing Closure." Howe's device was more like an elaborate drawstring than a true slide fastener, but because of the success of the sewing machine, Howe did not pursue marketing his clothing closure system.

Forty-four years later, inventor Whitcomb Judson marketed a "Clasp Locker" device, similar to the system described in the 1851 Howe patent. Being first to market, Whitcomb got credit for being the "inventor of the zipper." However, his 1893 patent did not use the word zipper. The Chicago inventor's "Clasp Locker" was a complicated hook-and-eye shoe fastener. Together with businessman

Colonel Lewis Walker, Whitcomb launched the Universal Fastener Company to manufacture the new device. The clasp locker debuted at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair and was met with little commercial success. The Universal Fastener Company moved to Meadville, Pennsylvania, where it operated for most of the 20th century under the name Talon, Inc.



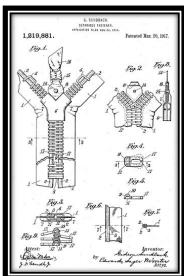
Frisco Employees Magazine 1929

MODEL A ERA FASHION AND STYLE



Swedish-born electrical engineer named Gideon Sundbäck whose work helped make the zipper the hit it is today. Originally hired to work for the Universal Fastener Company, his design skills and a marriage to the plant-manager's daughter led to a position as head designer at Universal. In his position, he improved the far from perfect "Judson C-curity Fastener."

When Sundbäck's wife died in 1911, the grieving husband busied himself at design table. By December of 1913, he



came up with what would become the modern zipper.

Sundbäck's new and improved system increased the number of fastening elements from four per inch to 10 or 11, had two facing-rows of teeth that pulled into a single piece by the slider and increased the opening for the teeth guided by the slider. His patent for the "Separable Fastener" was issued in 1917.

Naming the Zipper

The term 'zipper' is said to be derived from the 'zip' sound the invention makes when zipping, first used in 1923 by the American B. F. Goodrich Company. The company opted to use Sundbäck's fastener on a new type of rubber boots (or galoshes) and referred to it as the zipper, and the name stuck. The two chief uses of the zipper in its early years were for closing boots and tobacco pouches. Zippers began being used for clothing in 1925 by Schott NYC on leather jackets.

MODEL A ERA FASHION AND STYLE

In the 1930s, a sales campaign began for children's clothing featuring zippers. The campaign advocated zippers as a way to promote self-reliance in young children as the devices made it possible for them to dress in selfhelp clothing.

The Battle of the Fly:

A landmark moment happened in 1937 when the zipper beat the button in the "Battle of the Fly." French fashion designers raved over the use of zippers in men's trousers and Esquire magazine declared the zipper the "Newest Tailoring Idea for Men."



Zippers in the Model A Era:

Within the MAFCA Fashion Guidelines, there are six mentions of slide



fasteners or zippers. "Slide fasteners or zippers, were discussed in men's tailors' magazines, but were not commonly used in the fly until after the Model A era. They could be found in pockets or down the front of coveralls (as seen on page one)."

"To the left, a heavy washable cotton suede cloth that looks like fine suede leather and wears almost as well. This three-piece set, with sliding rustproof fastener, is practical for boys and girls."

Additionally they were found in both men's and women's golf bags for the ball and shoe compartments.



MODEL A ERA FASHION AND STYLE





The two images to the left are from the same Talon advertisement found in the 1931 Ladies Home Journal. "Traveling Case — equipped with a Talon Slide Fastener. It can be opened or closed in an instant — but it can't come open accidently." If you are heading to

the beach "The very newest knitted bathing suits have a Talon Slide Fastener at the back of the jersey. Beach pajamas are cotton mesh and Talon-fastened at the side. And the polo shirt of cotton mesh is Talon-fastened, too – at the front."

While the Slide Fastener did exist during the Model A Era, they were not as accepted and used like they are today.

References:

Montgomery Ward & Co. Fall & Winter 1929-30

Vogue 1931

Ladies Home Journal 1931

Woman's Home Companion 1930

Belle Hess 1930-31

New York Times April 7, 1931

Gideon Sundbäck / Public domain / via Wikimedia Commons
Federico, P.J. "The Invention and Introduction of the Zipper."

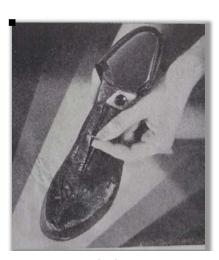
Journal of the Patent Office Society 855.12 (1946).

Friedel, Robert. "Zipper: An Exploration in Novelty."

New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1996.

Judson, Whitcomb L. "Clasp locker or unlocker for shoes."

Patent 504,038. U.S. Patent Office, August 29, 1893.



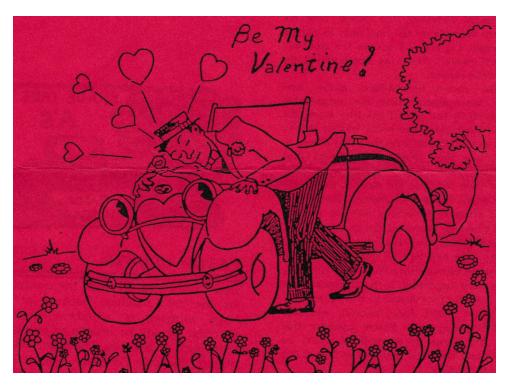
B. F. Goodrich Footwear Woman's Home Companion 1930

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 1993 issue of the *Shade Tree A's Newsletter* discussed Club apparel and announced the availability of Shade Tree A's logo patches. Also announced was a tour to the Richmond County jail, wow! A notice regarding a service to obtain information on the status of Club tours was included as well. The service provided a phone number for members to call to get the current status for an upcoming tour in the event of bad weather and such. The meeting minutes mentioned a discussion about naming the *Newsletter*. No details of the discussion were given. Club member Larry Komp provided a review of the Model A Ford Judging Standards and Restoration Guidelines. An article on the President's Tour to several Club member's houses/garages was included. Stops on the tour provided inspection of Ed Garvin's 1931 Deluxe Coupe and 1925 Chevrolet Touring, Henry Rucker's 1930 Standard Phaeton, Craig McMullin's 1930 Fordor (minus an engine), Leon Whewell's 1929 Roadster Pickup and Roy Mills's 1930 Coupe and 1931 Slant Window Town Sedan. Roger and Marsha Dozier joined the tour in their 1962 Corvair convertible! The gossip column reported that Frank Knapp's wife, Montie, had named Frank's three Model A's Lola 1, Lola 2 and Lola 3. She says "whatever Lola wants, Lola gets"!



TECHNICAL TOPICS

The following technical topic originally appeared in the 1993 issue of the Shade Tree A's Newsletter

AUTHENTICITY AND TROUBLESHOOTING By Jim McPherson

More notes from the MAFCA Judging School: There are three different profiles, described in the Judging Standards, of 28-29 hub caps after the early 28 style.

There are several different styles of Ford script and depending on the length of use of the die to stamp the hub cap, varying degrees of depth and sharpness of the script. Hub caps were steel, nickel plated in 28 to April 29 and chrome plated thereafter. The primary difference in the original and quality reproduction is in the ring area around the Ford script which is soft in the original and quite pronounced in the reproduction. This is also true of the area just below the ridge around the outside.

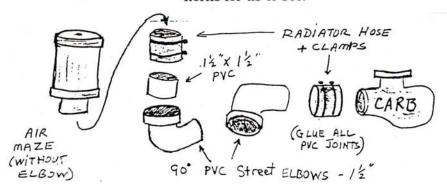
The 30-31 hub caps were stainless steel or stainless clad. Most of the 1930's were stainless steel with reinforcement liner. Those from mid 1930 through 1931 were stainless clad with a reinforcement liner. They are distinguished by a continuously smooth outer edge surface with no lip or crimping marks at the edge. The stainless steel made a sharp bend where the hub cap contacts the hub and the recessed center circle was convex around the Ford script which

bulges slightly above the outer rim. Some late 1931 hub caps had a very small script and no dimple in the "d" of Ford. The center had a bubble for the Ford script.

And from Squeaks & Rattles (Jackson-ville, FL): How do you get enough grease into the Model A's universal joint housing without pumping it up the speedometer cable and back the torque tube? Take out one of the speedometer drive gear housing bolts. When grease comes out this hole, you've got enough.

And have you seen those nice Model A air filters mounted vertically on plastic pipe? Think the \$32.00 price is a bit much? You can make one on the cheap, especially if you already have an old Air-Maze laying around. You need two 1 1/2" PVC street elbows, a 1 1/2" length of 1 1/2" PVC, about 4" of radiator hose and four hose clamps. A washable foam element can be made easily for the Air-Maze, or most parts dealers have paper elements that fit the Maze.

For next month sharpen your pencils the long wait is over. we will have the much talked about horn history and judging test, and if we are very very lucky maybe our Vice-President will bring his extensive collection of original horns for us to see.



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Member Advertisements

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

FOR SALE Original Model A Ford Distributor Housings, \$25.00 each. The reproductions are \$77.50 (plus tax, shipping and handling), and we all know how great reproduction parts are. Jim McPherson, 706-564-0120.

FOR SALE: Model A era metal trunk. It has been restored and painted to match the lower body color (Chicle Drab). You can paint it black (the original color) or have your local paint store match the body color of your Model A, and put the paint in a spray can for you to paint. It has a custom trunk rack made to fit the Model A. The rack needs to have the rust removed and painted (black). Current trunks are made of plywood and covered with Naugahide. They are \$599.00 and the new trunk racks are \$249.00. \$400.00. Call or text Jim McPherson. 706-564-0120. [Robbie Jones has looked at this trunk too. You can also contact him for additional information. - Ed.]



Photo by Robbie Jones

WANTED I had someone in the Augusta area call me today, looking to purchase a Model A Coupe with a rumble seat. If any of you have one available for sale or know of one that is available for sale, please get in touch with me and I will give you their phone number. This will need to be a good running/drivable car, not something that will need to be restored or extensive repairs. This person is not currently a member of a Model A Club. Thanks, Don Turley

Paid Advertisements

SHADE TREE A'S NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Our thanks to the following sponsors! Their generosity supports this Newsletter and the Shade Tree A's! Please remember these folks when you need a service they offer. And please, tell them you appreciate their support of our Club!







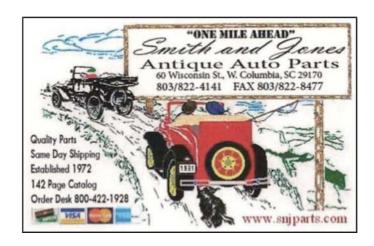












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