

Chapter Coordinator Newsletter – March 2010

The **MAFCA 2010 Million Mile Challenge** is well underway with mileage reports submitted to millionmiles@mafca.com. Spring is spring and miles will be coming in from the cold climate states as well. Remember, it is better to drive your Model A than leave it in a garage. Let's make this a Model A Driving Year.

MAFCA's first national tour, which runs June 19th to 27th, marks the **150th Anniversary of the Pony Express**. Registrations are rolling in. Undecided if you want to attend? Watch *The Restorer* and www.mafca.com for more details and register for this unique event and join in the fun with other Model A'ers.

The **MAFCA 2010 International Convention** in Vancouver, Canada August 1st to 6th is loaded with exciting activities. Check out the host chapter's updated website at http://www.lionsgatemodelclub.com/2010_Convention/2010Welcome.html for photos of this beautiful city and information of the events planned.

MAFCA has had requests from chapters interested in making Hubley tracks for those that have already built a track for ideas and instructions. If anyone has plans that could benefit other chapters, please contact me at sgrundie@sbcglobal.net. I can forward your information on to the interested parties. Also, it would be great if plans could be placed on the MAFCA website. Contact webmaster@mafca.com if you have plans that could be added to the MAFCA website.

I have found interesting the amount of newsletters that have contact with school groups or are involved with young people in some capacity. The **Model A Club of Greater Baltimore** had a *Take Your Model A to School Day* as part of their club's *Youth Outreach Program*. The **Shade Tree A's** has received a request to bring cars to school as part of their eighth grade class's history program. **Old 96 District Model A Ford Club** from South Carolina attended school for a fifth grade class who are studying about Henry Ford and the first cars. The **Cape Cod Chapter** from Massachusetts recently had an article of a project underway by a younger member Sean Baldwin who is working with his mentor Charlie Colbath restoring an early 1929 Pickup. Books are great but hands on sharing of knowledge offers so much more.

I was reading a recent newsletter from the **Model A Club of Arizona**. They want to find a way to encourage some younger members to join their club. Going to schools, perhaps shop classes in local high schools, is a good way to start. I believe that a local Boys Club could have a young teen that needs direction, has an interest in cars and could spend time with members. Show him the basics...change the oil, grease the car, do minor repairs, *spark* an interest.

I have also noticed a growing amount of chapters have added a Youth Coordinator representative in order to reach out to the youth in their area. The **Cape Henry Chapter** recently appointed Zachary Oman as a new Youth Coordinator for their chapter. He attends college, attends his chapter meetings and still has the time to reach out to the young people in his community.

Evergreen A's meetings from a recent board meeting had a suggestion from one of their members to coordinate with local technical school principals for the purpose of displaying their cars and a demo chassis. The intent would be to generate interest in the

Model A and encourage members to develop a “big brother” type program with interested students. A great idea!

I enjoy sharing some of the interesting news from local chapter newsletters. Recently the **Northern Ohio Model A Club’s** newsletter pictured a photo of a chair made from Model A wheels, spring leaves and connecting rods, with a plank for a seat. A unique *Model A “Wheel” chair*. It rocks on the spring leaves welded to the bottoms of the two side wheels. It’s amazing the imagination of Model A’ers.

Diamond Tread News featured an article from *Ford Dealer & Service Field*, September 1928. It described the trip to the South Pole by Commander Byrd and how the New Ford helped with the expedition. The Ford truck was outfitted with “Snow Flyer” equipment. The combination of runners and special tracks helped delivery supplies. It was a very enjoyable reading.

In a recent **Minuteman Model A Ford Club’s** newsletter, Art Callan wrote a wonderful human interest article about Henry Ford. What struck my interest was the fact that between 1934 and 1952, the second floor of the world famous Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan housed the Edison Institute High School. Young people that attend participated in a program called “Learning by Doing.” Henry Ford encouraged students to select jobs from a variety of occupations. I would have assumed it would be auto related. However the areas included tending a garden, homemaking or applying textbook theory to real-life problems in a machine shop. Ford’s philosophy was that such an education would make the transition from home life to the working world easier. This type of school could benefit students of today, especially those that are not college bound. Henry Ford was just an amazing man.

One more interesting article I found was in *Old Cars Weekly*. MAFCA member **Peter Winnewisser** is a staff writer for the publication as well as an author of a number of Ford related books. This recent column by Peter was title *Ford jokes* started early and talked about funny poems, cartoons and postcards that poked fun at Ford. As a collector and researcher, he has identified 30 different Ford joke books and 115 Ford comic postcards and more than 45 reference books and articles about Ford humor. Peter has also compiled automotive humor other than Ford-related material numbering 43 references from 1905 through 1947 and an additional 68 from 1950 through the end of the century as well as more than a 100 auto humor postcards (not Ford related). It amazes me how much humorous material was produced.

The **Gulf Coast Model A Club’s** newsletter had a great article about [Bo’s Hallow](#) written by Bob McEowen. My poor husband...it’s another Road Trip. The village is based on the Borel family’s collection of Model A Fords. There is a 1930’s gas station, post office, barber shop and hardware store. The family’s smoke house sells beef jerky and sandwiches. One of the first structures the family built was a reproduction covered bridge. There is a working windmill, a small chicken coop, an outhouse, the entrance to a mineshaft and a Western-era “hoosegow”. Model A Fords of all kinds are around the compound, drivable and in regular use, consisting of coupes, four-door sedans, trucks, doodlebugs and home-built tractor.

Stephanie Grundman, 2010 Chapter Coordinator