

Chapter Coordinator Newsletter

June 2010

The miles are adding up as the MAFCA Million Mile Challenge rolls on. An e-mail from the Club Ford A del Uruguay, Clube do Fordinho do Brazil and Club de Amigos del Ford A de Argentina were involved in a large tour from San Pablo, Brasil to Buenos Aires, Argentina passing across all Uruguayan country the last weekend in May. They put on hundreds of kilometers. Information from the Model A Ford Club of Mexico reported on 9 Model A's who traveled to Piramides do Toetihuacan with a total of 134 miles each or 749 miles.

The Million Mile Challenge is worldwide and has all of MAFCA excited. I am excited for the final total. I'm guessing it will be over a million miles. Drive your A's. Remember it is better to drive your A than to leave it in your garage.

This is my 5th year as MAFCA's Chapter Coordinator. My first year, I thought I could skim through the many newsletters I received each month, or at least skim over the classified ads. I quickly found out that the idea was impossible. There is so much information found in local newsletters. I even got myself into trouble finding items in classified ads that my husband and I now own including a wide-bed pickup box, tires, fenders and a Model A tractor. Restoration continues...

After serving four years, I was off the MAFCA Board of Directors for two years. I am so pleased to be back as Chapter Coordinator. I can again read the wealth of information in MAFCA chapter newsletters. When I was reading the recent issue of the Model A Messenger from the Central Alabama Model A Ford Club, there was a classified ad that caught my eye. It reads in part: Model A Wanted!!!! I have a "young man" who wants to buy a Model A to restore with his grandfather. He wants a car to restore, but wants one that runs, if possible. If you have one or know of one for sale, e-mail the details, body style, condition and price, with pictures, if possible to David Black, 892 Co. Rd. 107, Bremen, AL 35033, e-mail to david_black@model-a-man.com. I thought perhaps someone reading this will know of a Model A that could be a great fit for this young man. If I would have skimmed over the classified ads, I could have missed this important ad. That is why I read every part of each chapter newsletter.

In the July/August issue of the Restorer, I mention in my Chapter Chatter the Pikes Peak Model A Ford Club and how they invited local cub scouts and their families to join events of their chapter. Their following newsletter talks about a recent Model "A" BugOut, which is a technical event. Along with their members were an Auto Shop teacher, high school auto shop students, cub scouts, girl scouts and their parents. How cool! There were even rides given in A's. The article told how the interest in A's was evident with many questions asked and ideas exchanged by all. A Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to the Pikes Peak Chapter from the Boy Scouts of Pack 183. The Pack had made four different posters of the event and posted them at the meeting of all the packs. In the future, chapter members will be including scouts at various other chapter events. This is a great way to generate interest in Model A's, gain new members and insure the future of the Model A Ford Club and the Model A.

Rogue Valley A's of Oregon had a follow-up article in their newsletter describing their recent Poker Run that was put on by Boy Scout Troop 535. Pictures showed scouts riding in Model A's. There are numerous patches that could be earned by scouts for

organizing such an event as the Poker Run as well as the Pikes Peak Chapter's event. It seems that scouts are a good resource for future Model A'ers.

The Ohio Valley Chapter enjoyed Vehicle Day at a local school introducing the wonders of the Model A era to almost 700 young people. They were delighted in their curiosity about the Model A and amused by some of their questions and observations. When young people enjoy this type of activity it stays in the back of their head and perhaps someday a few of the 700 will become Model A owners and members.

Wichita A's Model A Ford Club's newsletter featured their Notes from the Editor column by Editor Linda Kibbe. Linda told of plans to attend the National Convention in Vancouver. I sent her a quick e-mail in the hopes that I can have a chance to meet her. I am always interested in meeting chapter editors. I've been an editor of local newsletters for almost 30 years and enjoy reading all the many newsletters that I receive each month. I am also amazed at the talent within MAFCA and how different the style is of the editors. If there are others editors attending the convention, please look me up. I will be staying at the host hotel...leave me a message. We can make arrangements to find each other and meet.

Wichita A's also surprised me with a tour some members are taking to Wisconsin, my home state. In fact, their tour comes within an hour of my home. My husband and I plan on taking a road trip to meet them for dinner.

The Northwest Florida Model A and T Ford Club is celebrating their 50th year as a MAFCA chapter this year. I have no doubt they will be around for another 50 years. Why? This chapter has "hit the jackpot" because of Frank McCall who has three grandsons, Aaron, Austin and Justin who all have joined the chapter several years ago. Aaron is a very special member as he is the chapter's first member...younger than twenty when he joined...he was fifteen. In the May issue of their chapter's newsletter, Aaron was highlighted. His is an amazing young man. I wish I could share the entire article with you. Aaron has just finished his first year at Northwest Florida State College. He was awarded the Model A Ford Youth Scholarship in 2009 and the Model A Youth Restoration Award in 2008. Aaron is studying for a degree in Elementary Education. He has worked with his grandfather to restore his granddad's Model AA truck and they also worked to restore Aaron's 1931 Model A Slant Window Town Sedan. Aaron serves his chapter as the Assistant Membership Chairman. He intends to continue to be an active part of the Model A hobby. Aaron states that he has gained a lot of knowledge and made a lot of friends. The most important lesson he has learned is the 3 P's...Patience, Persistence, and Pride. When asked if he has any technical tips, Aaron stated that the best tip he has is to ask Jesse. The NW Florida Model A and T Ford Club is fortunate to have two of their charter members still very active in their chapter. Bruce Arnold is currently their chapter President and Jesse Holmes is their Model A Technical Advisor. Newsletter editor, Red Caudill is working with Jesse to write a book of his entire Model A memories. I sincerely hope he does...and I would like to purchase a copy. So, Jesse...start writing.

One final note, I was saddened to learn of the passing on April 7th of MAFCA member Barbara Vamvakias. Please keep her husband Nick and their family in your prayers.

Stephanie Grundman
2010 Chapter Coordinator