

Chapter Coordinator Newsletter

August 2010

The most interesting items in all the chapter newsletters that I read each month are the reports about young members. As an example:

MAFCA's Bakersfield Chapter feels their chapter will be okay for the next 50 years or so. Why? They have **Tyler Weeks**. Tyler is their youngest club member with a passion for the Model A hobby. Tyler once said that he wants to save all the Model A's he can. Bakersfield Chapter can be very proud that he is one of their members. Tyler writes in the latest edition of the chapter newsletter that what he enjoys most in the hobby is finding and searching for those hard to find parts for himself and friends. Tyler, at less than 25 years old, has been fairly successful in finding a lot to help people out with in their restorations and projects. When Tyler finds a person with a Model A, he loves to hear the story about the car. Even when he finds a parts he has been looking for, he asks questions of the seller to gain as much knowledge and history as possible. Tyler likes to be educated and knowledgeable about not only the Model A but all its many parts. Tyler sounds like a treasure...just like the Model A's he loves.

Another tidbit I read in the Bakersfield Chapter newsletter was titled *The Great Pony Express Adventure*. **Dan** attended the MAFCA 150th Anniversary Pony Express Tour with his grandson Blake. It sounds like they had a wonderful time traveling 2850 miles round trip. One of my 5-year old granddaughters is hopefully my future Model A'er. She had enjoyed parades and various events and I look forward to many more as she gets older. She also receives A World...do your children or grandchildren?

Shade Tree A's have two young Honorary Youth Members **Michael Gordon** and **Houston Barbee**. Recently Michael gave a very informative program on tips to prevent overheating, many of which were from personal experience. Houston followed with a thoroughly researched program on spark plugs, covering their purpose, types, operation, construction and maintenance. I'd like to see Michael and Houston's program put in writing and sent to *The Restorer* for publication. These topics both sound interesting and informative for all MAFCA members.

Old 96 District Model A Club recently had an article called "Nate's First Model A Driving Experience. Chapter member **Ralph Roub** and his 16 year old grandson **Nate Hisson** attended a local event. Nate had never driven a straight shift but after two lessons, Ralph declared Nate was ready, and drove Ralph's Sedan Delivery. The photo that was included with the article was Nate behind the wheel with a huge smile. I see a future Model A'er.

As I have mentioned before, I find lots of attention-grabbing things in chapter newsletters. This is my 5th year as Chapter Coordinator and during that time I have gained a collection of chapter cookbooks. Each is different and filled with great recipes. I have added two more to my collection and another is in the process of being compiled. Please feel free to contact me with the cost (plus shipping) if your chapter has a cookbook for sale.

When reading a recent issue of the Harbor Area MAFCA newsletter there was a paragraph about a member, **Dick Wyckoff** who is celebrating the 50th anniversary with his high school sweetheart, his 1929 Roadster Pickup. It was the first car he bought in 1960 when he was a senior in high school. He used it for seven years as his only car

going to college and work. I love to hear stories like that. My husband acquired his first Model A at age 14 and had it restored by the age of 16 using it while attending school. It is still a big part of our Model A “family”. There are other cars in our family but there is nothing like your “first love”.

Electronic publishing of newsletters has expanded throughout MAFCA. The financial cost of printing and mailing newsletters keeps rising. Chapters find that they can use funds to benefit chapter members with more events as well as more costs paid by the chapter. Henry’s A’s is intending to publish their newsletter on the NCRG website, eliminating mailing out hard copies to the other chapters they exchange newsletters with. With that said, I want to mention again that if you send your newsletter to chapters@mafca.com, there is no need to also send a hard copy to the MAFCA office. Hard copies are forwarded to me. That means that not only are chapters spending money on printing and mailing but MAFCA is spending money on mailing them to my home in Wisconsin.

I am a true believer in helping save money but also our planet. I have three rain barrels that are used for watering our plants, trees, and garden. Composting is so easy and you get a great benefit in soil that is used around the yard. When visiting Vancouver for the MAFCA National Convention, I noticed that Canada is far ahead of the USA in saving our planet. They do composting at the restaurants in a couple of attractions we visited. Many of their rooftops are green and when I was talking to a teacher, I learned that recycling is taught in schools starting in kindergarten. In turn, they will teach their parents. I even recycle chapter newsletters after I read them. I share them with other chapters in my area; take them to the facility where my mother lives (residents love to see the pictures of the cars that many of them drove in their younger years) and I share them with my daughter-in-law who used them in her classroom.

I read other books and publications as well as chapter newsletters. A recent article in *Old Cars Weekly* was about a gentleman named **Vic**. Vic was a Ford man through and through. He adored Model T’s and Model A’s and respected anything Henry Ford turned out or that son Edsel Ford dreamt to make. The article talked about Vic’s collection of Model T’s and how he amassed parts to see and advised restorers how to get their T up and running, even into old age. However, Vic also loved Packards and the article went into great detail about Vic and his Packards. Vic slipped away peacefully just shy of his 100th birthday. He sounded like an interesting man who loved Fords...and more.

I have also read in more than one publication about a local Coffee Cruise-In. These informal “cars and coffee” gatherings are becoming very popular around the country. Car enthusiasts gather for coffee, camaraderie and stay for the knowledge at local bookstores. There just might be one near you. As an example there is Houston Coffee & Cars at Uptown Park near Starbucks on the first Saturday of every month; Cars & Coffee at Ford Motor Company P.A.G. Headquarters in Irvine California every Saturday around 6:00 am; Cars and Coffee Charlotte at Panera Bread Company in Charlotte, NC the first Saturday every month at 9:00 am; and Cars and Coffee Las Vegas at Sansone Park Place Shopping Center in Las Vegas every Saturday at 8:00 am. Reports indicate you will see many cars and interesting people. Recently Autobooks-Aerobooks in Burbank, California had an impromptu visit from Jay Leno.

Stephanie Grundman, 2010 Chapter Coordinator