

It's September. It's about time. The summer has been hot, rainy and humid. Fall is on its way and I can't be more pleased. What else does September mean to you? I hope it means that you are driving your Model A(s) as many miles as you can as MAFCA wraps up the Million Mile Challenge at the end of the month. My local chapter has planned a daylong trip on International Model A Day on September 18. We can celebrate the day while we add on our final chunk of miles. This month is your last chance to add up the miles for MAFCA's challenge.

Did you know that International Model A Day coincides with Henry Ford's trip to Europe in September of 1930 to internationalize the Model "A" Ford by establishing Ford plants in Dagenham, England, Holland and Cologne, Germany?

Don't miss the seminar at the MAFCA tent at Hershey presented by MAFCA Director **Alex Janke** titled "Model A Steering". The seminar will be presented at 10am, 1pm, and 3pm daily and will cover rebuilding and adjustment of the 2-tooth steering – a cut-a-way model of the steering will be on hand. The seminar will also discuss common steering problems. Lots of chairs will be available to rest those tired feet. You can also purchase MAFCA merchandise, chat with MAFCA Directors and spend some time getting answers to your technical questions. I'll look for you at Hershey.

Is there someone in your chapter deserving of the Chapter Service Award? If so, download the policy with form to nominate your deserving chapter member. You can find the information at <http://www.mafca.com/policies.html>.

Everyone should have received their MAFCA membership renewal by now. Renewals can be mailed back to the MAFCA office or you can pay by credit card in the **MAFCA STORE** section of our web site. You can also stop by the MAFCA tent at Hershey and pay your 2011 membership dues. Did you notice that you also need to vote on the by-law changes? Included with your renewal form are the ballots to vote for members to serve on the MAFCA Board of Directors. Cast your votes for those that you feel will best serve MAFCA for 2011 and 2012. Also enclosed is a short biography of each candidate. Ballots must be postmarked by October 15th to be counted.

The Pikes Peak A's are hosting the MAFCA Membership Meeting December 8 to 11th in Colorado Springs. I hope to see many of you for the weekend. This event is my favorite event of the year and a great way to kick-off the holiday season. There are information and reservation forms at <http://pikespeakmodelaclub.org/resources/Registration.pdf>.

How many of you can remember May 7, 1931? That question was asked in a recent issue of the newsletter from the River Cities Model A Ford Club. The article continued with, "Probably not many of you do, but that is the date that my odometer read 'zero'. My name is Jo-Ree. I am an 80-year-old 1931 Ford Model A Roadster. The author, Robert Jackson wrote an entire article as his Model A Roadster who saw lots of things happen in the world. Jo-Ree also gave some history about himself and how he was built to last. I like the sentence that said, "When a cute little mustang passes me on the road, I just smile and honk, knowing I will still be going strong when it is a rusty old junk yard dweller". Jo-Ree plans to still be running for his caregiver's grandson, Adam. It was a great article.

Did you know that in the early 1920's a taxicab company owner John Hertz (who would later go on to start a rental car business) funded a University of Chicago study to

determine which color in the spectrum was most visible from a far distance? When the answer came back “yellow”, he had all of the cars in his fleet painted exactly that, beginning a tradition that would catch on nationwide and carry over to school busses and traffic signs. It’s amazing that I learn so many things that I find in newsletters. I found this in the newsletter from the **New Jersey Model A Ford Club**.

In the September issue of **Chicago Southland Chapter** of MAFCA, I read how chapter members helped young cancer patients. Any child age 5 to 17 who has cancer can attend Camp Quality at no charge to their families. **A’sRus** participated in a night out with the kids on August 3rd with 9+ A’s in a group that totaled 87+ cars who took the kids for a ride and ice cream in nearby Frankfort, Illinois. How wonderful and caring. I’m sure the kids all enjoyed the Model A’s and were able to forget about their cancer for a while.

How long have you owned your Model A? I read a newsletter from the Greater Baltimore Model A Ford Club about a 1928 Rolls Royce Piccadilly P1 Roadster received as a graduation gift in 1928. Allen Swift of Springfield, MA received the car from his father and drove it up until his death in October 2005 at the age of 102. He was the oldest living owner of a car from new and is a legend among Rolls-Royce collectors. Mr. Swift made arrangements for the Rolls Royce to be donated to the Wood Museum of Springfield History after his death. The car has 170,000 miles on it, runs like a Swiss watch, is dead silent at any speed, and is in perfect cosmetic condition at 82 years of age.

The website for the history channel had an interesting piece of trivia. On April 25, 1901, New York became the first state to require license plates. Owners of automobiles were obliged to register their names and addresses, along with a description of their vehicle, with the Secretary of State. The State sent each owner a small license plate, at least three inches high, which bore the owner’s initials. The fee to register an automobile was one dollar. In 1901, New York received \$954 in registration fees.

My home office has a Model A Era wallpaper border. I had paper left over and remembered reading about a chapter that used the Model A border paper to decorate hat boxes. It worked beautifully on a plain paper hatbox that I purchased from a local craft store. I’m so glad that I remembered this idea for left over border paper.

I mentioned in an article earlier in the year about a Kentucky couple that was driving their Model A on a trip to Alaska. Did you know that the MAFCA website has their travel blog? There is a link on the website to their blog or you can go to <http://ckmarc.com/alaskatrip>.

MAFFI, the Model A Ford Foundation, has taken a big step and signed the paperwork necessary to build the Model A Museum at the Gilmore Automotive Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan. To see more about the Gilmore, go to <http://www.gilmorecarmuseum.org>. They have a great interactive website that lets you view the grounds...and more. Support the building of the MAFFI museum through the raffle to win a 1930 Tudor and other ideas that are in the works. Supporting the Model A Museum is insuring that the car, fashions and history of this era never die.

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2010 Chapter Coordinator*