

As I have been reading chapter newsletters lately, I have noticed that there seems to be more and more chapters that are running **Ladies Drive Your A** programs. I am pleased that women are learning to drive and enjoy Model A'ing as drivers and not just passengers. It is fun and not that difficult to enjoy A's on a different level.

I was pleased to present a new MAFCA policy at our last board meeting – the **Youth Driving Award policy**. The policy was approved and is now available to all chapters. The purpose of this policy is to encourage young drivers to learn the technique and enjoyment of driving a Model A. The policy gives chapters the requirements for young drivers to earn a patch and also includes all the information needed by the chapters to teach their young members how to drive a Model A. It is my feeling that once a man, woman or youth learns the enjoyment of driving a Model A; they will be hooked for life. I drive a Model A and encourage all members to learn this pleasant experience.



Hagerty Magazine recently ran an article about the graying of the car hobby and the fears the various club have for the future of the hobby. Hagerty does a lot to encourage youth participation in the car hobby including what they call **Operation Ignite**. One new and interesting project is a youth reporter contest where kids compete to represent Hagerty in front of the camera at major events. They interview hobby leaders and owners. The winning youth will travel to four events including the Pebble Beach Concours.

Orange County Model A Ford Club attended a Youth Expo in their area. Different models of Model A's were on display each of the three days of the expo. Trading cards were made up and were a big hit with the parents and kids attending the expo. In fact, they handed out approximately 4000 cards as well as handing out membership applications. This was a great way to meet the younger generation and spark an interest in our hobby.

Have you hear about Warriors in Pink – powered by Ford? Ford and your Ford dealer are recruiting Warriors to help ramp up the fight against breast cancer. Ford is celebrating its 17th year as a National Series sponsor. At www.fordcares.com there is Warrior Gear, which Ford donates 100% with all proceeds going to Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. This site also has much more information. Check it out.

Don't forget that Revision 3 of the **Model A Restoration Guidelines and Judging Standards** is now available. It is used by those restoring an A for judging as well as those who need information while restoring their Model A. This revision has been anticipated for some time and is well worth the wait. A task worth doing is worth doing right, and Model A'ers won't be disappointed. Order from the MAFCA web site.

Two of my grand-girls are now school age and receive MAFCA's **A World Magazine**. This bi-monthly newsletter is written for school age children Kindergarten through 12th grade. Any MAFCA member may request subscriptions for grandchildren, children, neighbor's children or other school youth interested in Model A's. The newsletter has puzzles, quizzes, coloring pages, etc. The subscription is free and I cannot urge members enough to sign up any young person for this program. For details, click on <http://www.mafca.com/aworld.html>

Jim Ulrich of **Clark County Flying Eagle A's** wrote an article about his Model A that I thought you would enjoy as much as I did. "In 1944 I was in high school and bought a fellow student's Model A. At the close of WWII, a person was unable to purchase tires. As I was getting tired of patching inner tubes, I soon sold the car. In 1973 I was looking for a Model A and found one in a farm yard in Burley, Idaho. The farmer was using it for a "ditch-rider" with a rolled up bundle of burlap for a seat. We towed it home and as I was removing the paint I found one door one color and the other door a different color and each fender a different color, etc. I realized I had bought back the car I had in Twin Falls, ID in high school. Some girls club had "borrowed" and painted it all different colors before I bought it and the owner had painted over it with black. I am now driving the first car I ever owned." What a wonderful story.

Another person from **McKenzie A's** told readers "...how I came to own my Model A." It appears someone said "...to have coffee with the Model A boys at Allan Brothers, which is across from the County Jail (that should have given me pause), if I wanted to buy a Model A." It seemed that this gentleman needed to sell his Model A as his "...wife had given him an ultimatum to see one of his A's and give her a place to park, or else!" "...and the rest is history." I can understand the wife's feelings. My husband and I are to the max for parking our modern and antique cars. However, my car has its spot in a nice warm garage...and always has.

Queen City Model A Ford Club of Charlotte, NC recently did a wonderful thing. A fellow member of the chapter was scheduled to come home from the hospital on Friday April 22nd and would need to use a wheelchair and walker. Their home was not equipped to provide access using such items for mobility. So chapter members volunteered to provide labor and some funds to build a ramp. The chapter, wanting to make sure the project happened, voted to use treasury funds to purchase materials. On the day before the scheduled release date, ten men and three women arrived early in the morning to begin construction. By the middle of the afternoon the ramp was complete. When Friday came, the chapter members were on hand to greet the speechless couple that was filled with gratitude. It proves the chapters are extended families that help and care for each other. Way to go Queen City.

Although summer fun in your Model A is at its best right now, December is not that far away. This year's National Awards Banquet will be held November 30th to December 4th in Santa Rosa, California and hosted by **Sonoma A's**. They are planning so many great sites in this beautiful area. If you have never been at this annual event, consider attending this year. It is my favorite MAFCA event. The host chapter takes attendees to the best their city has to offer, you get to enjoy the weekend with Model A'ers from all over the country, and it is a great way to kick off the Christmas season. I hope to see many of you at "my favorite event".

Tom Jeanes, President of **El Camino A's**, ends his monthly newsletter article in part with "...Don't hesitate. Grab your keys – your Model A awaits. Life is a journey not a destination. Drive safely and remember to enjoy the view." I cannot think of a better way to end this month's newsletter. After all, what could be better than enjoying life in a Model A?

*Stephanie Grundman
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