

## Chapter Coordinator Newsletter

July 2010

What are chapters doing to get young people interested in Model A's? The Mohican Model A Ford Club recently had an Auto Technology Tour. The photo appearing with the article shows the instructor helping three students who are working on a 1933 Hot Rod "give-away" car, which the Morrisville College students are assembling for the 2011 Syracuse Nationals. The article also mentioned some Mohican members attended a College Auto Club meeting and toured the facilities of the Auto Tech and Body Shop buildings. It is activities such as this that can attract interest in Model A's by students and instructors. Is there a technical college that your chapter can visit?

MAFCA's Diamond Tread Chapter ran a feature article about a car and the man who built it. It was about Greg Cunningham and the car a Model A Ford speedster, which has competed in the Great Race. The article mentioned that many youngsters were excited about the car and not shy about asking questions. One statement was, "It's great to see such enthusiasm from a kid which is sparked by simply driving a cool car". It doesn't take a racecar to spark interest. It just takes chapter members to visit...for example... schools, scout meetings, organizations or auto shop classes to spark interest in the younger generation of future Model A'ers.

I was pleased to read in a Tulsa Model A Club newsletter that a Model A was driven to a Junior/Senior prom. A young member of my local chapter, Great Lake A's, attended her prom in her Model A with her prom dress coordinated with the colors of the Model A. The next day, before attending another prom event, Kendal took some time to help in general maintenance on another chapter member's Model A fire chief's car. I have great pictures of her from the upper porch of my home as she changed the oil and greased the Model A while my husband and her father did other maintenance. It just shows that young people ARE getting involved in Model A's.

Ohio Valley members recently participated in two school's "vehicle days". It is reported that the kids really appreciated the "old cars" and were amazed that they had no radios, heaters, air conditioning or power windows. Some students thought the cars were as old as 1950. The stories of how parents walked to school up hill both ways in all types of weather can now be replaced with how parents drove cars without the luxuries of the automobiles of today.

Greater Baltimore Model A Ford Club recently had sixteen of their members attend a Ford/AAA Auto Skills Competition, which was held at the Community College of Baltimore. Nationwide, more than 8,000 high school junior and seniors competed in the contest with scholarships and prizes awarded in excess of six million dollars. The prizes included a Service Training Power train Package, a Ford Fact scholarship, A Ford Asset 24-month program (Associate Degree in automotive technology) and many other training programs and hand tools. Ford and AAA are amazing for putting so much time, effort and money into these student programs. Having Model A's at the skill day is a great way to interest the younger generation in the Model A hobby as well as perhaps their parents, siblings and all those attending this event.

I experienced interesting reading in a recent Charter Oak A's newsletter. It seems that about five years ago a scholarship was established for Automotive Technology at the

College of Sequoias. One qualified applicant per year receives a \$1,000 scholarship. Annually, the foundation awards approximately \$130,000 in scholarships to deserving students. The scholarship fund came about because of the generosity of chapter members John and Debi Cook who donated a Model A Speedster. It was decided to sell the speedster. With a small monetary donation added by the chapter along with the profits from the sale of the Speedster, the Automotive Technology Scholarship was established with enough money for the Scholarship to last five (5) years. What a wonderful gift that is benefiting young people through 2012 that came about because of one couple's donation and continues because of the insight of members of Charter Oak A's.

I read with interest a Special Tour Report in the Minuteman Model A Ford Club's newsletter. Chapter members attended the Spring Camporee of the Knox Trail Council Boy Scouts who are celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of scouting in the USA. Member Tom Zappala picked up a group of scouts in his Model A Station Wagon. Tom with three other chapter members attending (John, Dick and Jack) spoke about their cars and the development of the auto industry by Henry Ford to a number of interested scouts.

Adirondack A's Model A Ford Club reported that their Youth Program has been completed with great success. The restoration of the Huckster went well and it looks and runs great. Within the Adirondack A's newsletter was information about the LeBaron Bonney "Hall of Fame". This is a program that recognizes individuals and their projects for outstanding achievement and accomplishment using LeBaron Bonney products. It seems that Adirondack A's and their youth program has been invited to become a member of their Hall of Fame. Congratulations.

The Columbus Chapter's newsletter *Going Places* asked for members interested in providing Model A rides to young kids at the Columbus Airport for an organization called Young Eagles. It seems like a good match, Model A's and airplanes. I wonder if these young eagles know about the Ford Tri-motor?

There will be so much Ford history for MAFCA members to enjoy at the 2012 MAFCA National Convention in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Wouldn't it be great to be able to share it with as many youngsters as possible that might become future Model A'ers?

Thinking about attending the convention? Superior A's, host chapter of the 2012 MAFCA National Convention has produced a calendar starting June 2010 and ending June 2012 for a cost of \$15.00. It has photos of areas that will be visited during the convention and of local chapter cars and members. It also has information on other interesting places to see in this beautiful area. The President of Superior A's is excited about members coming to visit this beautiful area filled with Henry Ford history.

Meadowlark Model A Club ran an interesting tidbit in a recent newsletter. Did you know (I didn't) that in Nebraska and Texas, a vintage license plate could be used on your car in lieu of the issued historical plate. All that is needed is to have the plate recorded and that the number cannot be in use currently. Perhaps your state offers something similar. Did you know that Nebraska also allow you to legally display only one antique plate? Even though two were issued in 1928-31, you can run the historic tag in the rear and something else in the front. What does your state allow?

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