



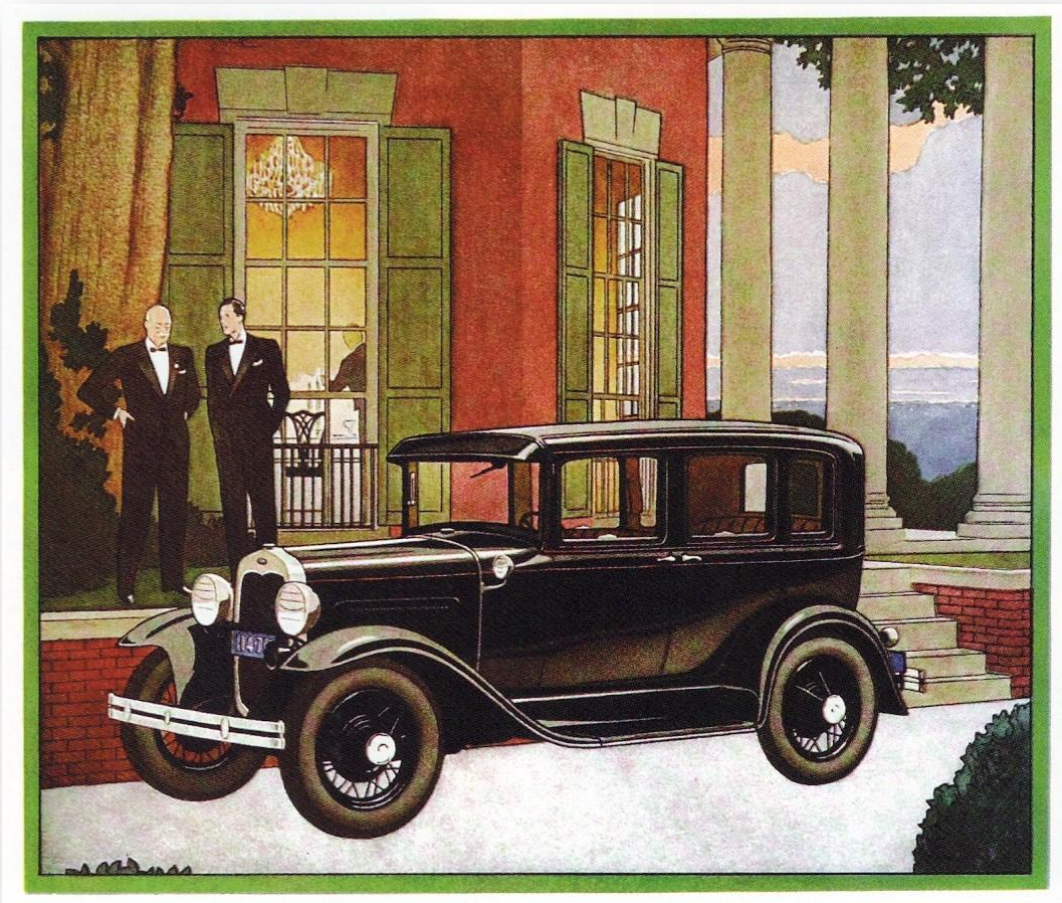
THE  
SOUTHSIDE  
A'S  
MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB  
CHARTERED MARCH 1989

# Newsletter

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHSIDE A'S – MARC REGION

June, 2011

Volume 4, No. 6



“Dinner party at the Carne’s.”

**Southside A's**  
**2011 Board of Directors**

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Director: Phil Meyers 770-487-4220  
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Vice-Director: Tom Romine 770-461-2507  
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Rec. Secretary: Teri Besch 770-487-9215  
[besch105@comcast.net](mailto:besch105@comcast.net)

Treasurer: Jim Hunter 770-487-0140  
[ytguy@aol.com](mailto:ytguy@aol.com)

Corr. Secretary: Eugene Willingham  
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Past Dir./Advisor: Tom Miller 770-502-8131  
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**Committee Chairpersons:**

Activities: Dick Carne  
 Newsletter: Mike & Gwyneth Shotwell  
 Mileage keeper: Eugene Willingham  
 Membership: Jackie Johnston  
 Historian/Scrapbook: Ann Hunter  
 Tech Activities: Tom Romine  
 Phone Tree: Merle Bennett  
 Fashion: Teri Besch

**2011 Club Events**

**\*\*May Board Mtg.: Wed., June 1 at IHOP in Fayetteville, 705 N. Jeff Davis Dr. Meeting starts promptly at 7:00.**

**Southside A's 2011 Calendar of Events**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| June 3-5      | Chattanooga Tour<br>Joint w/Central Alabama A's |
| July          | TBD   |
| August 20     | Moonlight Tour - Restaurant TBA                 |
| September     | Rome Tour                                       |
| September 10  | Int'l Model A Day                               |
| November 19   | Business Meeting                                |
| December -TBD | Christmas Party                                 |

**2011 Events of Interest**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| June 4         | Cruisin' For a Cure - Car & Truck Show<br>LaGrange Mall                    |
| June 4         | Grandfather's Day Car Show & BBQ at<br>Mike's "A" Ford-ables in Maysville. |
| June 27-July 1 | National MARC Meet in San Diego  |
| October 21-23  | Sweet Home Alabama (CAMAFA)  |

**Editor's Notes:**

In compiling this month's issue we realized that May was filled to the brim with Touring activities! We have a total of four tours and appearances to tell you about, with the help of our reliable contributors.

You'll also see news about our Club's MAFFI donation, as well as recently presented mileage awards.

And last but not least, we bid Bon Voyage to the Besch's, who declare, "Alaska or bust!"

For those of you who are not joining us in Chattanooga, we know you'll want to head to Mike's Annual Grandfather's Day BBQ and Bash on June 4<sup>th</sup>!

**The Southside A's  
 currently has 42 active families  
 on our roster.**

## June Birthdays

10<sup>th</sup> Sally Jones  
20<sup>th</sup> Ray Crisp  
26<sup>th</sup> Drena Miller  
27<sup>th</sup> Teri Besch  
30<sup>th</sup> Don Filippone



## June Anniversaries

6/14/1969 Ray & Teri Besch  
6/18/1988 Bentley & Pam Bohanan  
6/22/1968 Tom & Betty Miller  
6/25/1983 Jack & Drena Miller  
6/25/2004 Don & Arlene Filippone



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## Notes from Our Director

In the last two months your club has been very active and has offered some great opportunities to get your "A" on the road! In mid-March the club had the Antebellum Tour Pilgrimage; in May we had a great time on the HCCA Social Security Run; and also in May we had a great Day-tour to Douglasville to see a couple of car collections and some beautiful Roses. AND, at the beginning of June we are going to tour to Chattanooga for great sightseeing, including the excellent collection of cars owned by Harold Coker ( the founder of Coker Tire Co. ), a trip over to Soddy-Daisy, Tn. for a visit with Bud Ellis, an expert wood carver, to see his very special hand carved carousel animals, and then a trip to the North shore to visit a beautiful town and all the shops there. After all this, on Sunday we will have a beautiful scenic drive back home. If you have never joined in on one of our tours, please do and join in on the great fun that we have going down the road in our Model A's.

Looking ahead, we have our annual mini-tour and Club picnic on July 16. Details for this day will come to you via a special e-mail.

With all of these fun things to do, don't wait any longer; come along and join in on all of the fun. The Southside Model A Ford Club is for the members to enjoy while using their great Model A cars. Won't you come along?

Phil Meyers

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## **Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting**

May 4, 2011

The May 4, 2011 meeting of the Southside A's Model A Club was called to order at 7:00PM by Phil Meyers at I Hop in Fayetteville. The following members were present: Ray & Teri Besch, Liz & Tom Romine, Tom & Betty Miller, Jim & Ann Hunter, Merle Bennett, Eugene & Kathleen Willingham, Phil Myers, & Mike & Gwyneth Shotwell.

The minutes were approved.

Secretary, Teri Besch, read a letter received from Director Fred Huey. Due to family illnesses, Fred had to resign but wanted to remain active in the club whenever possible. Motion was made & seconded to accept Fred's resignation. National MARC will be notified. According to the by-laws, Phil Myers will assume the position of Director. Board members voted to accept Phil as the new Director. Tom Romine agreed to serve as Vice Director. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

*(continued on next page...)*

Treasurer Jim Hunter reported a balance of \$1,135.08. Motion was made & approved to accept the treasurer's report.

Committees:

Membership: There are 42 members.

Corresponding secretary: Eugene continues to submit articles to the MARC national newsletter. He noted that many clubs write about future events and the SSA's articles are about past events.

Fashion: Articles have been submitted through September, 2011 for the newsletter.

Newsletter: May newsletter will be sent out tomorrow.

Recording secretary: no report.

Tom & Betty Miller reported that they had a great Natchez Trace Tour & want to plan a similar tour for the SSA's.

Scrapbook: Ann needs pictures from the Milledgeville/Washington Tour.

Tech: Accessory tech article will be the next column written.

Phone: Merle will call members that do not have e-mail to remind them of upcoming events.

Activities:

May 12-15: Social Security Run in Madison, GA. Contact Phil Myers if you need more information.

June 4-5<sup>th</sup> The June tour to Chattanooga will be planned by Tom & Betty Miller. Please RSVP to Tom & Betty Miller NOW if you plan to go on this trip. Only ten cars are going as of tonight.

July tour Dick has suggested that we do a Roswell Tour of Historic homes.

August is the moonlight tour. Details will follow later.

September: The Goldmine Region is planning a Sept. 16-18 tour.

Phil suggested another tour idea: to go for a short drive but driving different club member's cars. Then return to his home for refreshments.

The May 7<sup>th</sup> tour to AL is not an official SSA event but several member plan to meet up with our AL car friends. Eugene is heading this up. Ray & Teri Besch asked that someone take over the dinner organizing, ice cream nights & general information put out through e-mail for the months of June & July. They will have a blog to follow their adventures.

MAFFI: Mike Shotwell presented the artwork for the two bricks to be purchased for the MAFFI Museum. As of 5-4-11, \$1,330 has been collected. Club member, Rick Horne will give a matching contribution. The two bricks purchased will say "Members of the Southside A's of GA" and Southside A's in appreciation to Rick Horne." Motion was made and passed to accept the artwork for the bricks.

Old Business: Touring rules committee is on hold for now due the Dick Carne accepting a job out of state.

No new information about the SSA website.

New Business:

Mike Shotwell asked if anyone was going to the San Diego, CA meet this summer.

Jim Hunter passed out flyers about a Rotary Club car show May 14<sup>th</sup> at SAMS Club in Sharpsburg.

Tom Miller noted that in June 11-15, 2012, MARC National Meet is in Oshkosh, WI followed by a MAFCA meet in Marquette, MI on June 18-22. It was suggested that we plan a long tour & go to both events.

Teri reported that 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at Oak Grove Elementary enjoyed seeing all of the Model A's at their school. Phil commented that we need to reach out to students to keep interest in the old car hobby.

Director Phil announced that since everyone seems to enjoy the IHOP Fayetteville location for our board meetings we will "often" meet there when their meeting room is available. Everyone is encouraged to attend. At next months' meeting at IHOP, **we will have a drawing for at least one nice door prize.** So



come on out with us, you just might be a winner. The next meeting date is June 1, 2011.

Motion was made by Eugene and seconded by Ray to close meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Teri Besch,**  
**Recording Secretary**

## Treasurer's Report

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Balance as of<br>March 31, 2011 | \$1116.96  |
| Deposits                        | \$23.00    |
| Expenses                        | \$4.88     |
| Balance as of<br>April 30, 2011 | \$1,135.08 |

**Featured Photo of the Month:** (Editors note: Each month we'll feature photos that glorify the Model A in all its varied styles, and enhanced by beautiful or intriguing settings. At the end of the year we'd like the members to vote for their favorite Month, and we'll publish the results in the January, 2012 Newsletter.)



**JUNE**

## Social Security Run



Heritage Park where we enjoyed a Bar-B-Que Supper.

That evening there was a driver's introduction ceremony. This was this writer's 13th annual SSR and I have enjoyed all of them.

The second day of touring - The Medicare Tour - was a drive to Stone Mountain Park to enjoy the sights there. We broke out into different groups after arrival and enjoyed all of the attractions as we saw fit to do. At lunch time we all enjoyed a good chicken lunch

The HCCA Atlanta Region this year hosted the 16th annual "Roam around Georgia" Social Security Run. The SSR means that your touring car of choice must be old enough to collect Social Security. This year we had 71 cars - down from up to 100 cars in past years. Of these 49 were some year or form of Model A Ford!

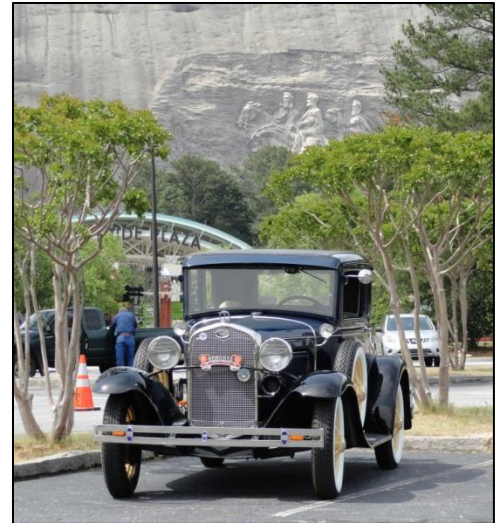
Tour dates were May 12 thru the 15th. You do not have to be a member of the HCCA to participate in this great annual tour so start now planning to join in next year. Leaving from here in Fayetteville and driving to the meet and back we logged 525 miles in the four-day event. The weather prediction was not all that friendly but as sometimes is true, we had a great weekend of driving in really nice weather. Our club had 10 members go on the tour, all in model A's except for Jack Miller who drove his 1930 Rolls Royce Phantom.

The Thursday to Sunday tour this year was based in Madison, Georgia and this was the last time we will be based



there having gone there for the last three years. Just a few days ahead of the tour, Madison and surrounding areas were hit with a number of tornadoes and it was sad to see some very old trees had come down in this historic town. There was more serious damage that we witnessed in the Griffin area when we passed through there.

Our first day of touring Thursday involved driving to Madison, checking into our hotel and then on to



from Chick-Fil-A and as always, it was good. They delivered our lunch to a picnic area where we had the whole area all to ourselves. That evening we gathered by the Hampton pool area for some fun and games hosted by Kenny Wright the tour director. But when this party ended, the real party started!



"Uh, oh. Is that a flat??"



As I was walking out of the pool area I was informed that my driver's side rear tire was almost totally flat! Well now, I have not had a flat tire in any car for over 35 years, so to say that I was surprised was an understatement. And, at this time I was running my 16" Ford wheels on my A with no spare tire. Fear not - good Model A friends, Ray Besch and Larry Peterson came to help in fixing the problem. Ray had a patch kit and Larry was ready to do whatever he could. Turns out that Larry is a champion stem and cap holder par excellence.

Ray dove in, and in no time Phil and Ray had the wheel off the tire and on the ground removing the tube for repair. Sounds easy, right??? Read on. We found a roofing nail in the tire, removed it and then broke the tire down to get the tube out. After inflating the tube we found the hole in it - patched it - and replaced it in the wheel. All done! -- Nope - When trying to put air in the tire it was coming out as fast as it was going in! Oh yeah - by now we had attracted a small crowd and they found our sincere effort very funny! So again the tube was wrestled out of the tire only to find that we had pinched TWO HOLES in it when putting it back in the last time! The crowd was just loving this!

The trio of repairmen - Phil, Ray, and Larry - pressed on, patched the tube two more times and returned it into the tire yet again. After inflating the tire AGAIN, I picked it up to finally put it back on the car AND -- -- the towel that we were working on was stuck between the rim and the tire!!!! At this time the crowd went wild with laughter and the "repairmen" looked at each other hoping to blame it on each other.

Well, we finally removed the towel from the tire and put the repaired wheel back on the car to cap off the evening. I think that the gathered crowd would have rather we somehow kept this show going but we really had done all we could to entertain them. My sincere thanks to "Patch man," Ray Besch and Larry, the Stem holder" Peterson, as this would not have been possible without them.



Saturday was supposed to be a rain day and turned out to be just beautiful for our tour to Dauset Trails Nature Park. This is a beautiful park with hiking trails and a really nice collection of animals, naturally found in Georgia, displayed in cages that looked good in the surroundings. We saw a bear, deer, buffalo, raccoon, owls and two kinds of foxes. A large pond, where we could feed the fish, held some of the largest catfish, brim, and carp that you have ever seen! For lunch that day we were treated to fresh grilled burgers that were great.



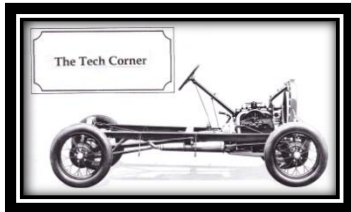
**Who is that "baaad dude??"**

Saturday evening is reserved for the annual banquet and entertainment. This year the food was good but the entertainment was great based on a 50's sock hop theme. We were all asked to come dressed in our best 50's costumes and some were amazing. Ray Besch won the best men's costume and only the pictures of him can tell the story, so I will not try!

The other entertainment provided by the HCCA club and the Augusta A's was just great and a good time was had by all.

Sunday we drove back to our homes in yet again nice weather. What a great way to enjoy our Model A Fords!

**Phil Meyers**



## The Tech Corner

### Accessorize Your Model A

By Phil Meyers, Guest Tech Contributor

Whether you are a new Model A owner or you have had your A for a long time it can be difficult to know which accessory or upgrade should come first. I offer here my personal experience based on what I have learned from my car the what others have shared with me.

Side note : My 30 A Sedan required some healthy repairs and a fair amount of work just to get it on the road when purchased. This included engine removal for repair, a new radiator , and extensive work to the steering system. At one point almost everything from the firewall forward was off of the car all at once. This was a little heavy for a guy that had never owned a Model A before. I was grateful for the Les Andrews book ! For these reasons I started out with some upgrades from the get go. These included, modern motor mounts, A heavy duty radiator, modern water pump , all new steering balls, rebuilt steering box, and Teflon steering bushings.

Once your car is capable of around town driving, I then suggest that you cover basic safety items first.

1. Tires must have a safe depth tread and are not over ten years old. Old tires are not safe to drive on. Tubes need to be checked too.
2. Brakes must be in excellent order and include the parking brake. Running down the road is good, while "kinda stopping" good is a bad thing.
3. Your car should not have gas leaks while driving or when parked. Putting out gas fires on a car is a very hard thing to do and can cause a fire in your garage as well. It can cost a bit to make it right, but well worth it.
4. A battery cut off switch can save your car and possibly a fire at your home. More on this in "upgrades".

5. Unsafe wiring must be replaced in the Model A. Replacement wiring harnesses are not all that expensive and will save a lot of grief in the long run. The 6 volt model A needs all of the 6 volts to perform well. Old and bad wiring robs the system of needed current.

Once basic safe driving is achieved, it would be good to decide just what you want and expect of your Model A in the long run. If you only plan of ever using your car in and around town, you will not need the same equipment that someone that intends to use their car for long distance will. But again -- SAFETY FIRST ! Be sure that your car is safe to drive in and is safe for the cars that will be driving around you.

Often safety checks will determine some upgrades that you might choose to do. These can include steering and brakes, such as cast iron brake drums. If your car has old worn brake drums that are marginal at best, do yourself a favor and buy cast iron drums. Cutting corners and pinching pennies in your brake system is not a good idea for you or for others. Do this job once and do it right. You do not want to learn how fast steel brake drums will fade on a LOOONNNGG downhill grade like I did. Trust me, you can stand on the A brake pedal when steel drums are red hot and feel the car pick up speed!

Model A steering also requires a careful check to be sure it is safe. After all this equipment is over 80 years old and has covered who knows how many miles. Not being able to steer at a very smooth running 48 miles per hour would ruin your day. If you do not know how to do this seek professional help or the recommendation of a club member that has experience with Model A steering.

My check of my A's steering found all of the steering balls worn out and the steering shaft that the steering wheel attaches to broken almost all the way through ! This was a bad wreck looking for a place to happen.



Now that your A runs , drives and stops when you want it to, and you have built up some enjoyable driving time, you may be considering some new "stuff" for your car. Lets see ----- a luggage rack and a trunk? ----- a heavy duty radiator? ----- rear view mirrors? This is where it can become confusing. My suggestion-- lean toward reliability and safety items first.

#### **UPGRADES FOR RELIABILITY AND SAFETY**

1. Turn signals will help others clearly see when you signal for turns. These are almost a must for night driving. Easy kits are available from all of the A suppliers.
2. LED Brake lights really make your car visible in daylight and at night. They also take little to no power to operate and do not take needed power to run the motor and headlights. A second tail light makes your car more visible. Looks good, too.
3. Rear view mirrors really help you see better when driving the A. Check out what the other A club members are using and get some good tips from them.
4. Electrical system fuse. These are low cost and high security. And they could save your car from a costly electrical fire.
5. Halogen headlight bulb conversion is a great addition for the A. You will see much better at night and you will be seen better as well. Your front turn signals can be added into the new headlight reflectors for a few bucks more.
6. A battery cut off switch is a great addition to any A. This nifty item can be purchased in a kit that even includes a neat switch mount that puts it next to your starter under the hood. This switch also adds a little theft proof to your car, while protecting your battery from rundown while sitting.
7. A modern water pump will last for years and keep your coolant in your radiator where you want it at all times. My first one lasted a bit over 12 years and over 14,000 miles. These are very good money spent. Be sure to replace the pump mount studs with water pump bolts to make the next change or repair a bunch easier.
8. Modern shocks are a really good upgrade for the A while adding safety while driving as well. Yes, some purists will raise eyebrows at this obvious "modern" change to your A but, the added ride quality and safety are worth it in my opinion. I decided to make the switch after a LARGE Dog ran

in front of me one day while driving at about 45 MPH. I swerved to the left -- then right -- then left -- then right -- each time getting worse until I was lucky enough to regain control. At one point I think I had less than four wheels touching the ground, GULP. It was then and there that I decided to switch to modern shocks and I have enjoyed the difference since. You can buy this change over in kit form and the job is not too bad. Best completed on a hoist.

9. A heavy duty radiator is just a good idea for the A. If your car needs a new radiator don't even consider the basic thin unit. It is not worth the money verses the heavy duty unit especially if you have any plans for summer touring. The cooler running HD unit will also add more miles to the life of your motor. Very good money spent!

10. There needs to be two (2) fuel filters on every Model A. The first is OEM equipment and mounts into the top of your fuel shut off valve in the gas tank. This stops most "stuff" from entering your fuel system from the gas tank. I like to add a modern type disposable second filter between the sediment bowl and the carb. The one that I use is often used on small John Deer tractors and costs very little. These filters get all of the trash that you do not want going into your carburetor.

They are good "small bucks spent."

OK! Your Model A runs well -- stops well and is basically safe. What more could you want? A little chrome flash? --- A little more power? ---- How about more speed or comfort? Let's look at items that fit into this area. I will list these from the most desirable to least as I see it. Some will see these differently but that is just fine.

1. A luggage rack and trunk is a grand addition to the Model A -- except for the pickup. If you are going to travel it is just amazing what all you can get into the trunk. If you want to see a real wonder, be around some time when Ray Besch gets into his trunk and you will marvel at how much he can get into the trunk. He has saved many A drivers "on the road" during our travels with parts that magically appear from that trunk! Believe it. The trunk also adds a nice touch to the looks of the Model A.

2. The high compression head is another nice addition to the Model A. Our little 4 cylinder motors work hard to carry just one of us on flat road. When you load them up with more people and luggage the little motor really has to work hard. Add hills to the picture and the job really gets hard. It takes the average guy a

day's work to make this change and the result is very gratifying. A little higher cruising speed-- more hill climbing power and adding some passengers to the car is not as tough. I would not be without one on my car. This one change will add more power to the A motor than any other modification that you will likely ever do. One caution here! If your motor is in marginal condition save this upgrade for rebuild time as it will sometimes cause oil to bypass piston rings.

3. High speed gears in the rear end or an overdrive unit will add a lot to your driving experience. Either of these will add a higher speed to the A, better gas mileage, more use to first and second gears and a longer engine life due to a lower engine rpm at highway cruising speed. Some day ask for a ride in a friend's car that has either to see the difference.

4. The radiator stone guard adds a nice look to the A while protecting that high dollar heavy duty radiator that I suggested you buy. If you are going to tour this is a even better idea due to the many more miles that you will ever drive. Money well spent.

5. The shortened pitman arm adds easier steering to the A at parking lot speed and makes the A respond to steering wheel turns at a faster rate. This upgrade is a low dollar treat.

6. Modern ( Float-A-Motor) motor mounts . These are a nice addition to the Model A as they reduce engine noise in the cabin, while adding a more secure mount "system" for the Model A motor.

This upgrade is most often done at rebuild or major repair time when the motor is removed from the car for another reason.

This is another change that some purists will shun because it is highly visible when viewing your motor. I really like them in my sedan and also like the firm feel that it adds to the front of the car.

7. Firewall insulation is a really good addition to the A. I think that the firewall blanket available from A parts companies are the best, but they can require a good amount of work to install. These REALLY cut heat transfer from the engine to the passenger compartment. You will be glad that you did the work during a hot summer drive ! This insulation can also be done with a easier glue in insulation. However, one type is almost impossible to remove once glued in, so be very certain of what you are using. Your wife will really thank you for insulating the firewall in your A!

8. A muffler heat shield is another way to keep heat out of the A. These come in kit form and quite easily bolt on to the exhaust system over the muffler to keep heat from transferring to the floor board of your car. This will keep your wife's feet cooler during summer driving.

9. A Moto Meter or Flying Quail is a crowning touch to the handsome A radiator shell. Either looks great and you will like the classy touch that they add to your car.

And so on -- and so on---. Some of the fun of owning the Model A Ford is making it uniquely yours, in performance or in its looks. Have fun with your A and it will give you years of fun in return!

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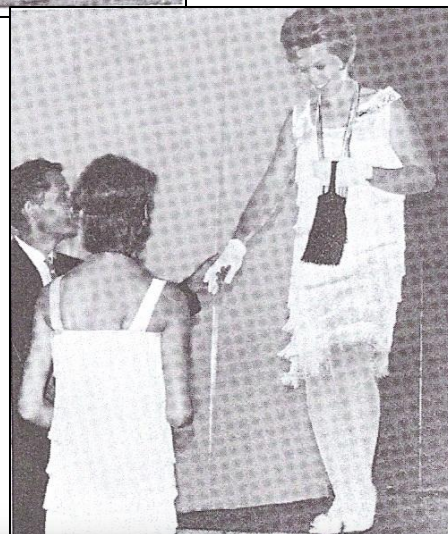
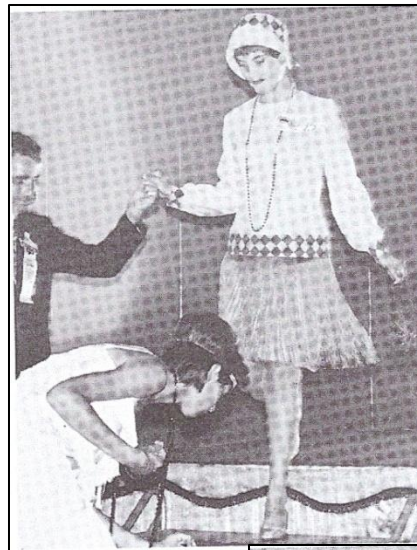
**Tech Meet News:** On Saturday, May 14, Ben Bohanan graciously held a tech meet at his garage for anyone not attending the Social Security Run in Madison. Members from the Southside A's included **Fred Huey and Mike Shotwell**. In all, a dozen persons attended. Ben covered several areas, including rebuilding steering columns, and the technical aspects of shortening Pitman arms for better steering. As always, the attendees enjoyed the camaraderie, coffee and Krispy Kreme donuts as well as perusing the always interesting conglomeration of cars in the main shop and outbuildings. Mike Shotwell , in the orange shirt, took particularly good notes on the intricacies of worm gear interfacing, the metallurgical differences between alternate configurations and welding techniques. If anyone has any technical questions contact Mike...the more technical, the better.





## Model "A" Fashions

I was looking at pictures of the MAFCA fashion show in June of 1968 at the national meet. Since June is the month for the MARC National Meet in California, it seemed appropriate that I write about this event for the month of June.



There were 74 contestants who modeled for over 400 dinner guests. The fashion show observers from the West Coast were envious of the Midwesterners who were able to find vintage clothing in their area. Of course, the Midwesterners felt like the West Coast ladies had all of the best finds.

For the amusement of guests, a 300+ pound man danced around the stage as Baby Huey. Two more men danced in a burlesque show. They "brought down the house."

There was an award for the best dressed family. This family, by themselves, won seven of the twenty awards.

(Thanks to Tom & Betty Miller for loaning me their library of *The Restorer* Magazines.)

**By: Teri Besch**



O'CAIN FAMILY, from left: Bob, Colleen, Karen, Casey and, in front, Pat.



## Report: Tractors, Roses & Chevrolets Tour

On Saturday, May 21, members and guests enjoyed a wonderful mini-tour organized by **Jim Johnston** and his fellow auto enthusiast, **Greg Marshall**, dubbed “Tractors, Roses and Chevys.”

Seven cars, lead by **Tom and Betty Miller**, filed out from Mt. Zion Church in Newnan and heading north-west into the beautiful Georgia back roads. Georgia in the springtime is something wonderful to behold: the rolling hills, quaint towns, the green farms and pastures surrounded by cross-hatched white fences, beguile even hard-nosed veterans of travel.



After about 30 miles of easy-travel, we were at our first stop - the 91-acre parcel owned by Phil and Peggy Martin, that is the setting for their impressive collection of antique tractors, and other farm equipment, mostly dating back to the 1930's. The Martins had moved some of their choicest, restored vehicles to the front of the pasture for easy viewing and photo opportunities.

We rendezvoused with four local A owners, **Bill Crowley**, **Jim Nichols** and **Donald and Cheryl Brookins**. The Brookins' 1928 Tudor sedan was originally purchased by Donald's father in 1934 and was used throughout the depression and after as a converted “farm-car-truck” which hauled corn and supplies around their rural Georgia farm. The lovely restored example is a far cry from the car it had once been.

The next stop took us to Linda and Mark Schuppener's rose garden where we were given a short presentation about rose cultivation, snacked on cookies, and enjoyed the colorful hybrid varieties. Within an hour we were off again to the “Chevys” part of the tour. We detoured briefly to Greg's garage, where we viewed his collection of cars, his wonderful license plate collection, and other wide-ranging memorabilia.



The Chevrolet collection, owned by James and Ella Collier, is located in South Fulton County, and ranges from spectacular vintage varieties, to 70's- era Monte Carlos. Of particular note to the Model A aficionados were the dark blue, 1925 Superior K Roadster, a 1932 confederate DeLuxe Roadster, and a 1929 Fordor Landau.



The Landau sedan with the convertible cabriolet section behind the rear seat is particularly rare, as only a handful are still in existence. All three vintage models are former Grand National winners. The Colliers provided a tasty lunch which we enjoyed, surrounded by cars.

We are so appreciative of the many days it took for Greg and James to move and arrange the cars, both inside and out, for our viewing pleasure. The exhibit and the company were wonderful.

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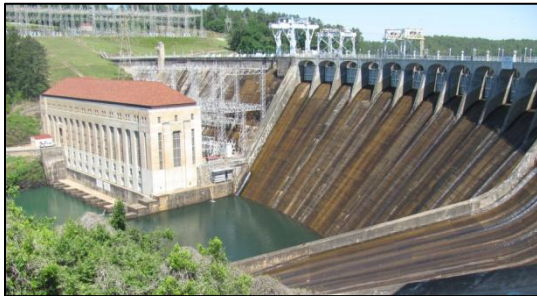
**Present were:** Tom & Betty Miller, Eugene & Kathleen Willingham, Mike & Gwyneth Shotwell, Larry & Jackie Peterson, Jim & Ann Hunter, Jim & Jackie Johnston, Rick Horne & Liz Enney, and Phil Meyers. Guests included Greg Marshall, Donald & Cheryl Brookins, Bill Crowley, and Jim Nichols.

## Martin Dam Tour

On Saturday, May 7, the Southside A's rallied 6 cars for a long, one-day tour to the Martin Dam in Alabama, with our friends from CAMAFCA.

**Eugene and Kathleen Willingham** led the entourage southwest into the Alabama interior, taking us through Franklin, GA, then Roanoke, Wadley, New Site and Dadeville, AL. The spring countryside was lovely and the weather just about perfect.

We were given pause, however, near New Site, as we passed tangled evidence of the recent tornadoes; broken and fallen branches, huge 100 year-old trees snapped like matchsticks, and damage to homes along the road. Work crews with cranes, and laborers, were at work demolishing the unsafe structures and cleaning up the debris.



We arrived safely at Martin Dam, a true engineering marvel. In two or three groups, we toured the property. This reporter's group was led by "Wallace," a cheerful and knowledgeable font of information, who also enjoyed handing out good-natured ribbing to his guest; Judy Brandon was the lucky focus of the fun.



The dam was built in 1927 to generate electricity for the surrounding area, and has functioned perfectly in that capacity, going from all manual monitoring of equipment, to the present where computers do the heavy lifting. Our resident electrical expert, Tom Romine, helped fill in some of the blanks in one's understanding of how water and turbines combine to make the lights come on!



After our tour, we converged on Oskar's Restaurant for a tasty lunch, including the editor's first taste of fried pickles; something new for the Southern California transplants.

(Mike tried to sidle up to **Cecil Freeman** to hear some juicy gossip and tall tales, but alas, time ran out and we had to leave for the long journey home. We'll have to pick up that thread in Chattanooga, or possibly Mobile in the fall.)

Our return route, planned carefully by **Eugene and Kathleen**, took us on a different path, through LaFayette and Lagrange. In Lafayette, we took a stop in the town square to enjoy the architecture of the old court house and in Lagrange, we stopped again to sample some of Wendy's best ice cream.

One minor mishap took place on the return when **Meryl's** brakes quit working. **Tom Romine** jumped into the fray, ordered the floor boards pulled, and within minutes had filched a bolt from the rear license plate, installed it where necessary, and we were back on the road. Hail to Tom, hero of the day. In total, we had a long, wonderful day at the wheels of our trusty Fords.

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The Southside tour group included: Eugene & Kathleen Willingham, Hugh & Judy Brandon, Jim & Ann Hunter, Tom & Liz Romine, Merle Bennett, Bobby Kirby, and Mike & Gwyneth Shotwell.



## The Besch-Donaldson Alaska Trip, June & July

Don and Sandra Mims from the GA Region MARC had this idea of an Alaskan adventure in our "A"s. After a few years planning an Alaskan trip by *six* couples, we are now down to Ray & Teri and Jim & Rose Donaldson. We will be getting underway on June 2nd for roughly a 10,000 mile round trip to Alaska and back.

The Besch's are spending the night with the Donaldson's at their Marietta home on the first of June so they don't have to conquer the Atlanta morning commute and we can get an earlier start. We will move fairly quickly to our Canadian entry point near Glacier National Park in order to spend more time in Canada and Alaska. We plan on averaging 250/300 miles per day with some days to be much more and some less. Our first major stopping point and points of interest visit will be around Rapid City, SD where we'll spend an extra day or two to visit sites like Wall Drug, The Badlands, Mt Rushmore, Deadwood City, check cars and wash clothes and rest up!



Then we'll head on up to Montana to Glacier Park where we will enter Alberta, Canada heading to Calgary, Jasper, Banff park then make our way to pick up the Alcan Hwy to Fairbanks at Dawson Creek. We hope to ride up to the Arctic Circle then later down to Anchorage taking the sites along the way and hopefully pick up a ferry ride from Whitter to Skagway to keep from backtracking too much and make our way to Vancouver, BC and enter the states in Washington. The ferry or "Alaska marine Highway," also called (The Blue Canoe) is booked until August and we could not reserve due to the length of our travel, unpredictability of an "A" and so forth ...so maybe we can catch some cancellations or just beg our way on!

The trip is to last 8 weeks, and on the route back we will spend the time we can in the states visiting what we can in order to get Teri home in time to start her teaching year which begins August 1st.

Roughly we'll each burn 650 gallons of fuel at 15 mpg taking mountain driving into consideration and hopefully no more than \$4.50 average per gallon which will cost around \$3,000. Motel stay for 8 weeks or 56 nights around \$5,000, meals and entertainment around \$7,000.

Barring anything major problems, we should make Fairbanks in 15 or 16 days which will give us plenty of time to enjoy the local attractions and then we can say "we did it"!!!!

Teri Besch has created a blog site which we'll be posting along the way.

<http://beschdonaldson2011.blogspot.com/>

Ray & Teri

PS: Please do not post the blog on Facebook or any other public type website.



## The Southside Spy



(**Editor's Note:** this section reports rumors, sightings and other miscellaneous pertinent data. Factual information is always sought, however, misstatements, distortions and outright fabrications will also be strongly considered).

**Insider news:** At a recent visit to **Truett Cathy's** estate, Mr. Cathy was spotted coveting Bud Shelton's Woody for his collection. He came across the car while being chauffeured on a spin in his new Model A powered golf cart.

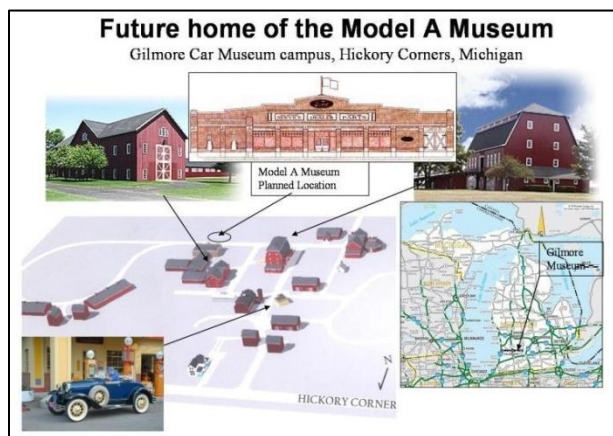
It is reputed the beloved restaurateur offered Bud \$250,000 cash money for the car, but Bud just smiled and shook his head. "No Mr. Cathy," he was reported to have said, "the Southside A's would rise in protest if I were to give up that car and I just can't bear to hurt them like that."

**Confucius say:** "Man who run behind Model A get exhausted."



## Bits and Pieces

### MAFFI Club Donation:



MAFFI club liaison, **Mike Shotwell**, is pleased to report that the Southside A's recently completed its fund-raising efforts, sending in a total donation of **\$3,000.00** toward the museum's future construction. This contribution was made up of a combination of raffle ticket purchases, commemorative bricks (2 of which were donated by the club), and a generous matching of funds by members **Rick Horne and Liz Enney**. We were informed that they will be remembered at the museum with a special brass plaque, as Lifetime Members of MAFFI. Thanks to everyone who has participated, and let's start planning the road trip to the new museum!

*(continued next page)*

## Mileage Awards:

At the April Board Meeting, Eugene Willingham gave out the following 2010 Mileage Awards:

|                   |        |                          |        |
|-------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| <b>Ray Besch</b>  | 30,000 | <b>Tom Miller</b>        | 10,000 |
| <b>Dick Carne</b> | 5,000  | <b>Jim Hunter</b>        | 5,000  |
| <b>Tom Romine</b> | 5,000  | <b>Eugene Willingham</b> | 5,000  |
| <b>John Nowak</b> | 5,000  | <b>Fred Huey</b>         | 2,000  |



## Members spotted around town:

**SCHOOL DAYS:** Several members of the Southside A's enjoyed taking their cars to Teri Besch's school, Oak Grove Elementary, recently, as a special addition to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class learning about the Industrial Age and one of its greatest figures, Henry Ford! **Jack Miller, Phil Meyers, Eugene Willingham, Mike Shotwell, and Ray Besch** talked to two groups of eager and interested 5<sup>th</sup> graders, about some of the history and inner workings of their cars. Ray did double duty by driving and showing **Jim Wingo's** Roadster, as well his and Teri's.



Ray Besch filling in the kids.



Mike Shotwell enjoying the admirers.

There appeared to be future interest sparked in the hearts of several of the youngsters. From among the many thank-you notes were these quotes: "My favorite car was the Deluxe Coupe!" "I liked the rusty black car." "I really like the horns. I had never realized it sounds like AWUGAH!"

**CHAUFFER DUTIES:** 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation saw **Mike Shotwell** acting the chauffeur for three lovely young ladies as they went to their "Formal" at the Coweta County Fairgrounds, riding in style in the Shotwell's "Lady V." Parents were in attendance at the send-off, with cameras clicking.





## Items For Sale

**FOR SALE:** 1929 Ford roadster. Rumble seat, luggage rack, stone guard, quail, side curtains. Completely restored. \$24,500.00

Call Tommy Davis. 770-634-6113 or email me for pictures. [todavis@bellsouth.net](mailto:todavis@bellsouth.net)



**FOR SALE:** 1929 Cabriolet – Great looking car, runs very well. Changed to 12-Volt and has an F100 Modified Steering – Asking Price \$25,000.

Contact Mike's "A" Fordables - 706-652-3866



**FOR SALE:** 1930 Dlx. Roadster – This car was built by Mike @ Mike's 10 years ago. It is an all steel Brookville Body. The color is Bumper Clamp blue and has very little mileage since built. Asking Price \$25,000.

Contact Mike's "A" Fordables - 706-652-3866



**FOR SALE:** Several 17 and 18 inch Ford spoke wheels, sand blasted, powder coated, cream in color, \$135.00 each. Call James Stewart: 706-846-2157 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** 1931 Coupe – We know very little about this car but it looks good and runs very well. Asking Price - \$14,000.

Contact Mike's "A" Fordables - 706-652-3866



**MODEL A's FOR SALE:** Roadsters, Coupe, Sedans, Victoria's, even a T model.

[todavis@bellsouth.net](mailto:todavis@bellsouth.net) or Call Tommy Davis @ 770-634-6113 or email for photos.

**FOR SALE:** 1931 Model A Tudor with C engine, trunk rack, cowl lights, Pawnee tan with black fenders in good condition. Older restoration of car, engine and running gear by Harold Bennett --\$12,900 OBO.

Contact June Bennett 706-654-1683

## Items Wanted

**WANTED:** 1930/31 Rumble Seat Lid wanted. Need the inter panel but will take any 30/31 rumble seat lid. A trunk lid might work also. Call Wayne Mandeville, River City Model A Club @ 205/655-8641.

## Club Items

**Name Tags** are available by contacting Teri Besch at 770-487-9215 or [besch105@comcast.net](mailto:besch105@comcast.net)



## Shirts and Hats

We have Vendors that supply embroidery for hats and shirts. If you are interested contact Eugene Willingham @ 770-253-6518 or [eewill@numail.org](mailto:eewill@numail.org)

**Note:** There is almost no limit to what you can have embroidered. Use your imagination, talk to Eugene and see what you can come up with.



**Club Banners:** We have designed a Club Banner to display on your car when touring or just to hang in your shop. Call Jim Johnston @ (678) 423-4344 or [john8191@bellsouth.net](mailto:john8191@bellsouth.net)



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### **The Southside A's Newsletter:**

The **Southside A's Newsletter** is published monthly by the Southside A's Model A organization, members of the Model "A" Restorers Club, and is distributed by the club's members and selected others. Non-copyrighted materials contained herein may be reprinted if credited to The Southside A's Newsletter. Reprints of copyrighted articles must have the approval of the original author. Views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Southside A's Board of Directors or the National Model "A" Restorers Club.

### **Model A Restorers Club Purpose:**

The purpose of the Model "A" Restorer's Club is to encourage its members to acquire, preserve, restore, exhibit, and make use of the Model "A" Ford vehicles (models 1928-1931) and all things pertaining to the historical information, and to promote the introduction of ideas and fellowship among its members.

### **Advertising Notice:**

The **Southside A's Model A Club**, members of MARC, does not sponsor or endorse any paid advertisements in the Southside A's newsletter.

