

Here Today, Gone Tomorrow

Rachel d'Entremont

I have a routine when I park my Model A in the garage. I pull the emergency brake, close the under-dash fuel shut-off valve and let the car run until it burns everything in the carburetor, put the spark and throttle levers up, turn the key to the off position, raise the hood, and flip the battery disconnect. The next time I go out to start it up, I check the oil.

Since having my engine reinstalled in May after a total rebuild, I have faithfully checked the oil in my 1928 Roadster before every outing. For a long while, it was slightly overfilled but since my first oil change, it's been right on the "F" mark as it should be. The reason for my sudden engine rebuild was that the rear main bearing seal gave way while I was driving about 45-50 mph - not the recommended way to drain the oil! So, I have been especially careful to check it regularly.

On September 18th, I participated in the Edgefield prohibition reenactment and the very next day took the Model A to our International Model A Day celebration in Aiken after which, because of busyness, cold weather, torrential rain, and other excuses, it mostly sat in the garage for the next month.

On October 17, two Model A's, one being mine, traveled from Aiken to Olar SC (92 miles round trip) for the Olar Model T Festival (there were more Model A's and antique tractors than Model T's). Following lunch and a short parade, we returned to Aiken where the car went back into the garage.

The next morning I went out to check the oil. Just as I pulled the dip stick out, the garage phone rang. Tom was on the line and heard my aston-

Shade Tree A's News

ished reaction when I realized that the dip stick was bone dry. Tom suggested that perhaps the oil was very clean and therefore didn't show up...nice try, Tom. It was dry.

Now I could not recollect if I had checked it after the back-to-back outings in mid-September. But since it had not lost a drop in the previous 3 months, I had, perhaps, gotten a little lax about checking, but this wasn't just a little low, the stick was dry!

The car drank over 2 quarts that day. Now I may be a little distracted at times but I certainly would have noticed two quarts of oil on my garage floor.

After leaving the car overnight with a fresh clean white pad underneath, I came out the next day to find a still-perfectly clean white pad underneath. I let the car run for 30 minutes and afterwards again found a perfectly clean white pad underneath with the exception of 5 small dots of oil under the bellhousing.

Where those 2-plus quarts of oil went is a mystery to me but I'm going to be more diligent about checking the oil. I've hung a sign under the garage light switch that reads "CHECK OIL".

ABOUT THE SHADE TREE A'S

<http://www.shadetreeas.org>

The Shade Tree A's is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and the restoration of the Model A Ford automobile. Shade Tree A's annual dues (\$65) include membership in the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA, \$40) and a subscription to *The Restorer Magazine*. Members are also urged to join the Model "A" Restorers Club (MARC, \$38) which includes a subscription to *Model "A" News*. The club also is a member of MAFFI, the Model "A" Ford Foundation, Inc.

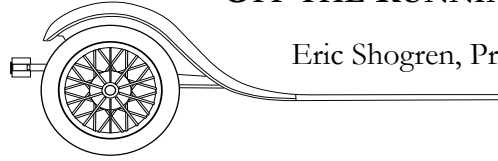
About This Newsletter

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Please contact Rachel d'Entremont (Newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org) concerning reprinting of articles, illustrations, or photos.

OFF THE RUNNING BOARD

Eric Shogren, President



BENEATH THE WHEEL

(With apologies to Hermann Hess)

As I sit down to write this column I can't help but think about our two members who passed this month; Don Neal on the 22nd and Bobby Brandon on the 26th. Don has been a member since 2003 and Bobby since 1998. I'm so pleased at the number of fellow members who were able to celebrate these guy's lives and help send them off on the final tour home. As I've said before, the Shade Tree A's are one big extended family and it is so good to see us supporting our fellow members. So let's honor their memories by keeping these cars on the road.

Though keeping them on the roads can sometimes be a challenge as Abbie Prince found out recently. Please see Abbie's write up later on in the newsletter. Suffice it to say his battery shorted out after washing his car. One of the contributing factors appears to be the use of the square battery-hold-down frame over the top of the battery. They were used Aug. '28 till May '29. But even the Model A vendors note that "You might want to add a rubber insulator on the top of the frame to keep the starter cable from rubbing and shorting out." Something to think about.

As for me, tonight I found out the difference between driving in rain and having the car sit out in a soaking rain all day. I took the '31 Fordor to work one day and it poured. I've had it out in the rain before, with no real issues. Well, I wound up working late and I was leaving work at 7:30 when I realize the engine compartment was totally soaked. Not to mention that I learned my head rail leaks in an all-day soaker; a lot. The reluctance to start wasn't surprising, but she finally fired up. The fact

that my alternator did not want to charge was a little disconcerting, especially since I was out in the middle of the Savannah River Site at 7:30 at night. But after idling for about 10 minutes, apparently the alternator dried out in the right places and started charging. Next came trying the head lights. The ammeter buried itself in discharge. I turned off the headlights and continued the engine warmup. After about 15 minutes everything decided to cooperate. So all in all I think the Fordor was just letting me know she was not happy being left out in the rain. So while she didn't leave me stranded, she did voice her displeasure.

Also, I want thank Shelia McPherson and Theresa McMullin for volunteering to coordinate this year's Christmas Party. It was decided at the last meeting that the Christmas Party will be the afternoon of Saturday, December 12th at Richard's Garage!

So let's get those cars out on the road and just remember a day broke down on the side of the road in your Model A is better than the best day at work!

MEETING TIME & PLACE

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at Richard Dunevent's garage, 4338 Owens Road, Evans, GA. Meetings begin at 7p.m. and are followed by refreshments.

MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2015 @ Richard's Garage

President Eric Shogren called the meeting to order on or about 7pm. Eric welcomed all in attendance. There were 23 members present and no visitors or guests.

A detailed financial report was provided by treasurer, Richard Dunevent. The minutes for the September 2015 meeting were approved as printed in the STA Newsletter.

National Director Jim McPherson reported that our blurbs sent to the national magazines continued to be printed. MAFCA has published a book on Tudor Sedans which is the first in a series of publications. The newest MAFCA Directory will be out in April 2016. This publication is updated every two years and is a handy resource for club members who enjoy touring. If members are interested in obtaining a copy of this directory, they should pre-order now.

Those who are working on projects, have completed projects, have attended any events or who have knowledge of events or anything related to Model A's that they think would be of interest to our club should send your articles and photos to Rachel d'Entremont, our newsletter publisher, for inclusion in upcoming newsletters.

Eric advised that club member Misty Hooker is scheduled to undergo knee replacement surgery on October 13th at University Hospital. The surgery would be followed by an estimated two weeks of physical therapy. We had no other members ill or facing a surgery.

We had no Show and Tell. However, club members reported on several Model A's for sale in the vicinity: a black coupe in Washington, GA (Don), a Phaeton in Aiken SC (Eric); a Coupe thought to be a 1930 in Augusta, GA (Robbie); and a 1929 Model A being raffled off at St. Teresa's (Ernie). For additional information, please contact the mentioned club members.

Old Business

Craig McMullin provided some highlights of the Edgefield Moonshine & Prohibition Re-enactment. It was reported that the Palmetto A's Swap Meet had about 9 vendors. The turnout this year was light; however, the Meet was worthy of attendance. The International Model A Day Event, celebrated with the Aiken Model A Club, Aiken, SC, was a huge event which received attention from all three news channels and the local press. Don Turley reported on Hershey. The weather was perfect; lots of good stuff was presented

for sale but not as much as in previous years. Model T's had a greater presence at Hershey this year than Model A's.

New Business

Eric reminded us the dead line for nominating a member for the Monroe Wade Award is Nov. 9th, our next meeting date. Also, it is time to remit STA and MAFCA dues for 2016. STA Officer candidates for 2016 are being recruited. The MARC Meet in 2016 will be in Toledo, OH from June 27 to July 1. It was noted MARC dues will be increased this year.

The following upcoming events were discussed: Morningside Senior Living display on Oct. 15; Boshears on Oct. 17 and 18; Steak Cookout on Oct. 24; Richland Creek Antique Fall Festival, Saluda, SC, on Nov. 7; Christmas in Edgefield on Dec. 19 and Dec. 12 STA Christmas Party.

Theresa McMullin provided details concerning the Dec. 19 Edgefield event. This event will be held from 10am to 4 pm. Event organizers would like the A's parked around the square. Crafters will give demonstrations of their work and some crafters will have their handiwork for sale; other entertainment will be provided and Edgefield restaurants will be open.

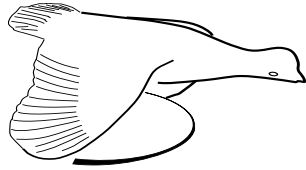
Shelia McPherson and Theresa McMullin are putting the Christmas Party together. It will be a catered affair at Richard's Garage on Dec. 12 as decided by the membership at the Oct. meeting. The membership will be asked to provide Happy Hour libations, finger foods and desserts. The price per member will be in the \$12.50 to \$20.00 range. The menu is being fine tuned. Ham, turkey, dressing, gravy and potatoes is the considered fare at this time. More details will be forthcoming. Having the party at First Baptist Church was considered to be too expensive.

Denise Turner received her "This Lady Drives a Model A" patch. Congratulations, Denise.

Greg Jones, Vice President, was absent due to a family event and no formal program was presented. By way of a program, Eric started a discussion on problems and issues surrounding Model A's. Club members provided situations and solutions.

There being no further New Business, Eric adjourned the meeting to refreshments.

Kathy Poole, Secretary



LOOKING AHEAD

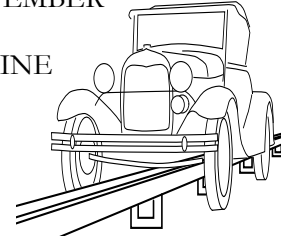
CLUB EVENTS

- Nov. 7 - Richland Creek Antique Fall Festival
- Nov. 9- Monthly meeting
- Dec 5 Graniteville Parade
- Dec 12 - Christmas Party
- Dec. 13 - Aiken Christmas Parade
- Dec 19 - Christmas in Edgefield

FROM THE NOVEMBER

ASSEMBLY LINE

- 3 - Margaret Towe
- 5- Mary Jones
- 13-Steve Young
- 16- Henry Jones
- 17 - Walter Smith
- 18 - William Gordon
- 25 - James Beck



NEWS FROM UNDER THE SHADE TREE

- ◆ Misty Hooker is recovering from knee replacement surgery
- ◆ Walker Crosby's Allstate Agency received the Premier Agency Designation and the Honor Ring Award from Allstate.
- ◆ Don Neal died October 22
- ◆ Bobby Brandon died October 26
- ◆ Anne Neely-Beck is dealing with health issues

If you have news to share, let me know at newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org

PARADES

Aiken Christmas Parade

Dec 13 at 2 pm, Lineup at 1 pm. The theme is "Christmas Melodies."

Graniteville Christmas Parade

Dec 5 at 3pm with lineup at 2pm

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

November: G. Jones, Neal, Bryant, Mason
December: Christmas Party-Catered

Page 1

Sketch 1930 Model A Tudor Sedan
Steven Brown

HERSHEY

Larry Komp

Another fine Hershey event has come and gone, and eleven Shade Tree A members made the annual pilgrimage to that great AACA flea market and car show in Hershey, PA. This event is held the first week in October and consists of one of the worlds largest flea markets, antique car sales corral, and car show beginning on Tuesday and running through Saturday. Actually the car show is on Saturday. The cars begin entering the show field at about 6am all being driven under their own power, and this parade goes until 10am filling the large grassy show field. There are a total of five flea market fields plus the mile long car corral loop where antique cars are displayed for sale. Model As and Model A parts are plentiful as are more rare and older makes of cars and trucks. Sadly, there were no Double Model A (AA) trucks displayed this year, and strange enough, there were more Model T's in the car show than Model A's. Many parts and treasures were acquired by the usual Shade Tree A suspects including a quartered sized Model T Ford gas powered kiddie car.

And that's the news from this years Hershey.

Space C3B-28, Chocolate Field



Henry Jones & Gerald Melchioris



Dan Perla, Frank Knapp, Gerald Melchioris Henry Jones, Larry, unknown customer and Sheila McPherson.



Henry Jones & Gerald Melchioris

MORNINGSIDE SENIOR LIVING
Evans GA, October 15
Robbie Jones

Several Shade Tree A members drove their Model A's to the Morningside Assisted Living Home in Evans, Georgia. Richard Dunevant drove a 1930 Deluxe Fordor, Larry Duvall drove his 1931 Coupe, and Robbie Jones drove his 1931 Deluxe Fordor. The three were later joined by a 1955 pink and white Ford Victoria. Kelly Pugh from Morningside was dressed the part in her pink and white outfit. Many of the residents and staff came out to view the cars and reminisce about days past. Some were born before the Model A was born so they remembered the Model A very fondly. Most of them must have had very fond memories of experiences in the rumble seat since Larry's Coupe got a lot of attention. Our attendance and participation was greatly appreciated by the staff and residents.





Don & Roz, in December 2012

DONALD RAY NEAL

1930-2015

McCormick SC-- Donald Ray Neal, 85, resident of 118 Barksdale Ferry Road, husband of Rosalind Rabun Neal, died October 22, 2015, at Self Regional Medical Center. Born June 9, 1930, in Tallahassee, Florida, he was a son of the late John Gray Neal and Minnie Hamilton Neal. He was a US Air Force Veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving in the US, Japan and Korea, and retired from law enforcement, having first achieved retirement status from the Polk County, Florida Sheriff's Department as a Lieutenant with the Criminal Investigation Division. He later moved to South Carolina and worked for the S.C. Department of Corrections as a Special Investigator, a position with

which he would also achieve retirement status. Donald served the County of McCormick as Magistrate for many years until his retirement in 2002.

Mr. Neal attended the South Carolina Police Academy to become certified as a SC Law Enforcement Officer and maintained that status until his passing, having served as a SC State Constable. He was a third degree Mason of the Mine Masonic Lodge No. 117, A.F.M.

Surviving, in addition to his wife of 45 years, are eight children, Cindy (Calvin) Buxton of FL, Laura Catrett of FL, Kelly (Gail) Neal of GA, Kevin Neal of CO, Kris Neal of FL, Tim Neal of FL, Faye Neal of SC and Marie Sheffield of FL; twelve grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Mr. Neal was the last member of his immediate family.

Graveside services with Military Honors and Masonic Rites were held at 3 p.m. Oct 25 at Overbrook Cemetery in McCormick, with Rev. Doug Kauffman officiating. The family received visitors at the cemetery immediately following the service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the charity of one's choice.



ROBERT T. (BOBBY) BRANDON, JR

1948-2015

Hephzibah, GA. - Robert T. Brandon, Jr., age 67, passed away Monday, October 26, 2015 at Select Specialty Hospital.

He was born August 20, 1948, in Augusta, GA., to the late Robert T. and Ollie Mae Godman Brandon, Sr. He retired as a Maintenance Supervisor at the Augusta Regional Airport. He was a member of the Shade Tree A's Model "A" Club and was a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Deana; his children, Shawn (Tara) Brandon and Melinda (Jessy) Willmon; one grandson, Dylan Brandon; and one sister, June Brandon.

Family received friends Thursday, Oct 29th at Poteet Funeral Home, 3465 Peach Orchard Rd, Hwy 25, Augusta and the funeral services were held Friday, 11 am at the funeral home with Rev. Wally Hoyle, officiating. The burial at Hillcrest Memorial Park included Military Honors.

ABBIE'S CLOSE CALL

Abbie Prince

If this has been mentioned before it did not register and is a very dangerous issue. I am thankful to still have my car.

Saturday, I was cleaning the A, in hopes to attend Don's funeral. Keep in mind I had surgery less than two weeks ago and probably did not need to be doing what I had planned.

Almost forever, I had been aware how close the terminals of my battery were to the hold-down frame. I always insulated an area between the battery cable and the hold-down to prevent an arc. Saturday I opened the hood after washing the car and reached down to check the connection on the starter and heard an arc or spark under the floorboard. I imagine water had gotten under the battery terminals and the hold down, allowing a short. Getting the floor board up takes some time and here is what I found; it even burned the battery.

Maybe my setup is too far from what Henry had in mind, I could care less. Certainly I am not the only 12-volt Model A user.

Maybe we should have a technical program on this topic.



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Cooler Weather is Coming... Are you Ready?

It's been a great summer, with lots of fun Model A activities, but these cooler evenings remind us that winter is coming. Time to get those cars ready for the changing seasons.

Get Prepared for the Season with these helpful tips



Tires: Keep those tires inflated to 35 PS I. Keep an eye out for cracking on the sidewalls. This indicates an old tire, which should be replaced. We can install new tires when you are ready, and also have your wheels beautifully powder coated.

Oil Change: Before you put your car away for the winter, be sure to change the oil. Old engine oil can contain moisture and contaminants which can damage your engine while in storage



Battery: Cooler temperatures can demand more from your battery. 6V batteries only last about five years typically, get the most life by keeping the battery fully charged, especially during storage.

Stay Warm: Consider installing a manifold heater kit for the ultimate in comfort on those cooler evening's. Bentley's can get you ready for winter.



MAFCA RENEWAL

The MAFCA renewal forms are coming in and the STA dues for 2016 will soon be due. As Tom Roberts is leaving the club at the end of the year, he will no longer be collecting the dues. The MAFCA dues (\$40) and the STA dues (\$25) may be combined into one check made payable to the Shade Tree A's. Please send/give the blue renewal form and check to Eric Shogren.

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DEAR MISS CRANK



Miss Crank has very little expertise on a great many subjects. She is here to answer Model A questions relating to manners, relationships, home, pets, and more.

Dear Miss Crank,

Whenever I'm out in my Model A, people approach me to tell me about their experiences with Model A's. Their father, or grandfather, or uncle, or boyfriend had one and they have fond memories of riding in one. And almost always, someone says "You could get them in any color as long as it's black". They're standing there looking at a row of beautiful Model A's in a rainbow of colors (usually none of which is black) yet they don't seem to notice the obvious discrepancy.

What do I say to these ignorant people?

Sincerely,

Seeing Red

Dear Red:

While it's tempting to make a smart-aleck reply, we are ambassadors for the Model A hobby and must be polite. (We are not, after all, Chevy drivers.) So, we need to straighten them out on the difference between Model A's and

Model T's without rudely correcting them: "I can understand your confusion, as Model A's and Model T's do have some similarities. But these cars are Model A's. Model T's were produced from late 1908 through early 1927 and it was those Model T's produced between 1914 and 1926 that were only available in black."

Dear Miss Crank:

More than once while I've been stranded on the side of the road in my two-seat Model A Roadster someone has stopped to tell me that they plan and organize weddings and want to know if "y'all do weddings". It's been a long time since my wedding and while I can understand the charm of having Model A's in a wedding, I cannot imagine seeing a broken-down car on the side of the road as inspiration for wedding transportation. What kind of wedding planner is this?

Sincerely,

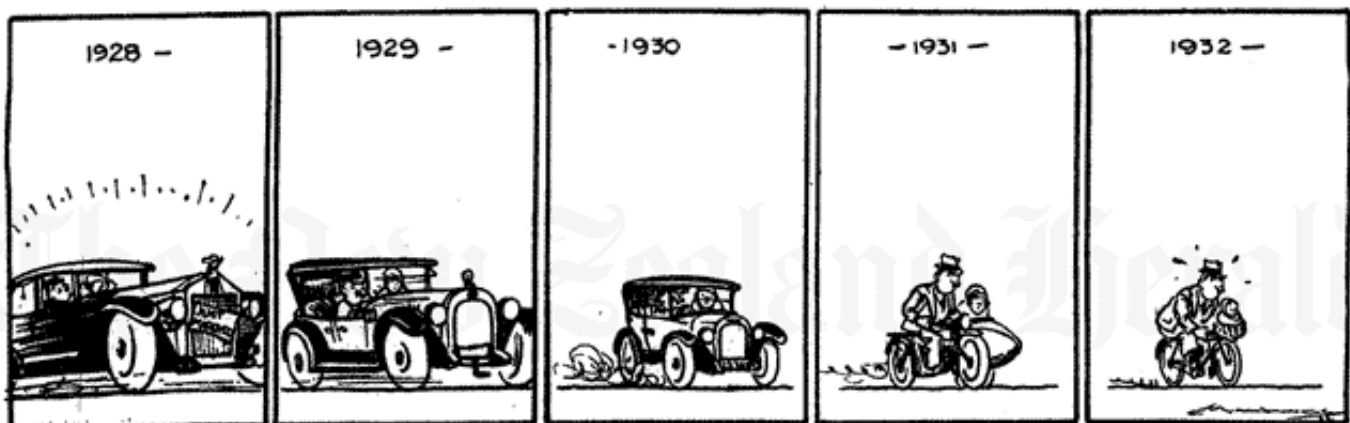
Stranded

Dear Stranded,

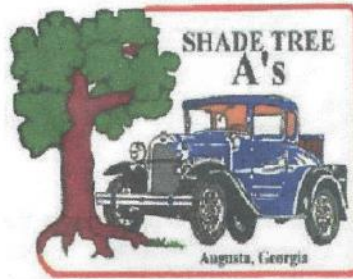
I, too, wonder about the judgement of the wedding planner who would approach you when you cannot even get yourself to your intended destination without a time-consuming and perhaps messy (greasy) delay. Even more interesting is the fact that you say your car is a two-seater. Who goes in the trunk, the bride or the groom?

Send your questions to Miss Crank at:

Newsletter@ShadeTreeAs.org or to
Miss Crank
PO Box 992,



**A SHORT HISTORY OF THE DEPRESSION
WEDDING TRANSPORTATION**



THE 2015 MONROE WADE AWARD

The purpose of the Monroe Wade Award is to honor a current Shade Tree A's member who promotes and encourages the furtherance of the Model A hobby. The member can have accomplished this in *any* of the ways listed below:

- 1) A club member who goes out of his or her way to help other members repair or maintain their Model As.
- 2) A club member who:
 - a) Writes an outstanding article for the Shade Tree A's Newsletter regarding repair and restoration, or who brings to light new information about the Model A.
 - b) Presents an outstanding program regarding repair and restoration or who provides new information about the Model A at a club meeting.
- 3) A club member who shows dedication to the Model A hobby and to the club by:
 - a) Driving his or her Model A on a substantial number of club tours and events.
 - b) Driving his or her Model A great distances, demonstrating that the Model A is not only fun but a worthy means of transportation.
 - c) Is an outstanding representative of the Shade Tree A's at national meets and tours or local community events, thus serving as a Shade Tree A's Club ambassador.

Club members may nominate any member in good standing by **submitting the member's name and a short paragraph with their reasons for nominating the member.** The winner will be announced at the annual Christmas meeting. The award winner's name will be added to a permanent plaque located at the club's meeting place and a second plaque will be given to the winner.

The winner will be chosen by a committee made up of the past three winners: Rachel d'Entremont, Eric Shogren, Larry Komp, and by Betty Wade. You may give your nomination one of the committee members. All nominations must be received **not later than the November meeting (November 9)** to be considered.

TECH TIP: LEAKING VALVE STEM

Jim McPherson

Jim Dover recently bought a new set of tires and inner tubes for his Model A. After mounting the tires and tubes, he experienced all the inner tubes leaking down, from the valve stem. He called the supplier, and they sent him another set of inner tubes (good for them). He installed the second set of inner tubes and experienced the same thing, leakage from the valve stem.

Upon closer examination, the valve core was not seating tight enough to prevent air leakage from the tube. Jim removed the valve cores and soaked them in brake fluid for a couple of days, then reinstalled them. **NO MORE LEAKAGE.** The brake fluid swelled the rubber ring on the valve core, which makes the seal, just enough to get a proper seal.

DRIVING LESSON



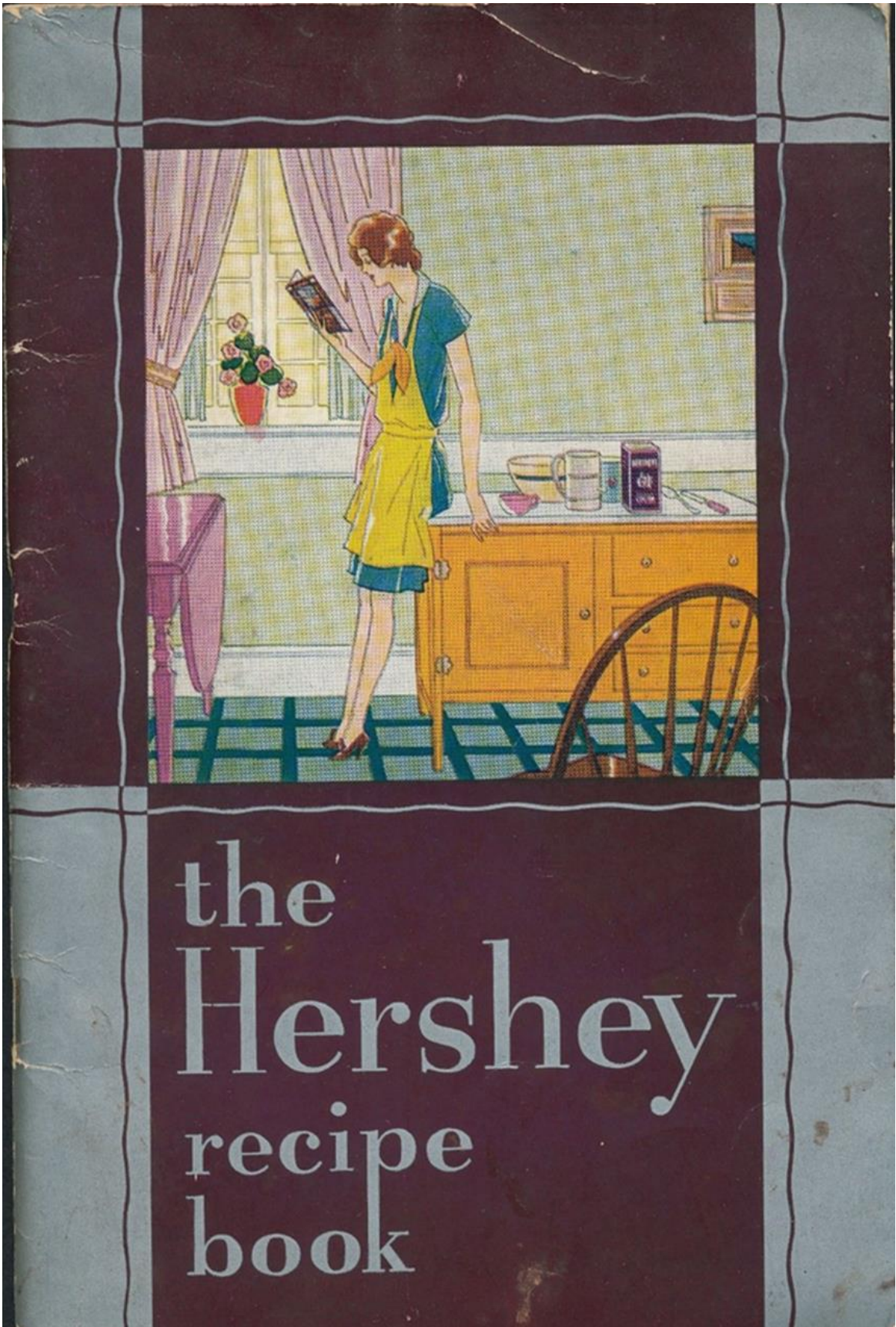
Frequent STA's visitor and new Model-A owner Denise Turner got a driving lesson at the International Model A Day picnic. She borrowed Rachel's gas-pedal extension and pillow for the lesson and was therefore able to reach the pedals! Denise's car, which she inherited from her brother, is in Richard's garage being prepared for its new owner. Daughter, Stephanie, is in the rumble seat.

CONTACT INFO

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STILL AROUND AFTER ALL THOSE YEARS



BOSHEARS FLY IN

October 17

Daniel Field, Augusta GA



THE CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Vehicle located in Eatonton, GA
at Lake Oconee Golf and Archery
601 Oak St, Eatonton, GA
706-484-0070

Owner is Lillie Crowe
706-453-6450
lilliecrowe@yahoo.com
Asking \$17 K, negotiable



WANTED

Used Parts. Here at Bentley's, we go through a lot of parts and we often find ourselves needing re-buildable Zenith carburetors and parts, along with re-buildable Sparton Horns and parts. If you have Carburetors, Horns, or other parts you think I may need, please drop me an email at benny-pam@windstream.net I am always willing to pay fair prices for good usable parts. Thanks, Bentley