

Checkmark

CKMARC — Central Kentucky Region, Model A Restorers Club

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Members mourn death of Charlie Cox

Charles D. Cox, a longtime active member of CKMARC, died February 18. He was 74.

Charlie was an Estill County native and a retired farmer. He and his wife, **Ruby**, participated in numerous club tours and enjoyed getting together with their Model A friends for backroad driving.

In addition to Ruby, survivors include a daughter, Charlotte Cox Gover and her husband, Cecil, and two grandchildren, Conor and Laura Gover.

Charlie said that hearing a



Ruby and Charlie Cox

Model A engine took him back to his boyhood days. He remembered his father using a Model A to transport goods they raised on the farm to market. Rural roads were rough in those days, and the Model A was well suited for the challenge. Being easy for the owner to make repairs was also a plus.

Charlie and Ruby owned various collector cars over the years, but the Model A was always his favorite. He enjoyed a good trade, and many of the Model As he once owned now belong to other club members.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Ruby and the rest of the family. Charlie will truly be missed.

(Thanks to Tammy and Danny Godbey for providing some of the information in this article.)

Mystery solved: Feb. tour 'lands' at Aviation Museum

Despite the cold temperatures and lingering snow, several CKMARC members got out their Model As — and others joined them in modern vehicles — for a mystery tour on Feb. 20. After a short backroads drive, the group arrived at the Kentucky Aviation Museum, where volunteers offered guided tours of the interesting

exhibits, including some in the adjacent outdoor hangar. Another scenic route led to **Grant and Jennifer Baker's** home to view their Model T restoration project, and finally to Winchell's Restaurant for a delicious lunch. Thanks to Grant and Jennifer for planning the tour.

Below: From left — Jennifer and Kate Baker and Hailey and Maggie Bowman checked out a helicopter display at the Aviation Museum. Right: Cassidy Wolff enjoyed the day with her grandparents, John and Becky Yates.



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President's message

Plans continue to develop in our bid to host the 2013 MARC national meet. **Jack Kubik** has agreed to serve as chairman, but with plans for approximately 500 cars, we'll need every member to pitch in and help. We're negotiating with the Hyatt and the Civic Center for event facilities downtown, and committees are beginning to form. Make it easier on Jack by volunteering — or if you're asked to serve, please say yes. If you'd like to serve on a particular committee, contact Jack or me.

We set a new standard when we hosted the membership meet in 2006, and with everyone's help, we can do an even better job this time. — **Jerry Baker**

Tour to Frankfort Mar. 27

It's time to get your Model A out of winter storage and limber it up for the many activities ahead this year, and **Herman and Nancy Butler** are planning a perfect tour to do just that. Join them on March 27 for a visit to the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History in Frankfort and lunch in Versailles or Midway. Meet at Turfland Mall at 8:30 a.m. Museum admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-18, and free for children age 5 and under.

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Editors' note

Members, we need your help to keep the newsletter interesting and pertinent.

Everybody has a story about their current Model A, a tour they've been on, or a childhood memory. Please share yours with us, either by writing it down and giving it to **Martha Baker** or **Jeff Rhoads**, or e-mailing it to Checkmark@ckmarc.com. If you prefer, just tell us your story and we'll be happy to write it for you.

We're also looking for Tech Tips like the one provided by **Grant Baker** in this issue. Maybe you've discovered an easier way of doing something, a tool that works well for a certain job, or a modification that makes your Model A safer or more reliable. Other members are sure to appreciate your expertise.

We look forward to sharing your stories and tips in the newsletter.

Remember, if you're interested in opting out of the print version of *Checkmark* and receiving it by e-mail only (beginning with the April issue), please e-mail Checkmark@ckmarc.com.

Tech tip: *Replacing tires or tubes at home*

by Grant Baker

Recently I had the pleasure of replacing a tube in one of my tires. It seems as though someone had been installing Model T upholstery in my garage and left a tack on the floor with the pointy end up. (I don't know how many times I've asked Jennifer to stop doing that!) Well, the tack poked into the tube during our mystery tour last month and caused an 11 minute, 28 second delay in the touring action. The stop was quick, thanks to Delmer Dalton — who generously loaned me his jack and wrench, preventing me from having to off-load three passengers, two children's car seats, four jackets, two toy bags, a diaper bag, a backpack, and various juice boxes in order to get under my back seat.

After we made it home on the spare tire, I visited our favorite local parts supplier and asked about his road hazard warranty. Once he finished laughing and collected 15 of my hard earned dollars, I was on my way back home with a new tube.

I know some tire shops can mount Model A tires, but being the independent, energetic, tightwad that I am, I laid out a blanket on the shop floor and went to work.

In all seriousness, changing tires and/or tubes by hand will not only save you a few dollars. It also poses less risk to damaging your paint or bending a wheel than the automated tire changing machines (especially if the machine is being operated by a kid getting paid \$8.50 per hour at a quick-change tire store). Follow the tips below to change your tire or tube by hand using simple tools that most of us already have in our workshops.

1. Prep work. Ask your wife for permission to change the tire on the living room rug, then go out to the garage and arrange a blanket on the floor. Let out the air in the tube, remove the hub cap, and place the wheel — hubcap side down — on the blanket. Starting anywhere on the tire, stand with your foot on the sidewall of the tire to break the bead of the tire off the wheel. Break down both beads all the way around the wheel.

Note: All Model A wheels are designed with a “drop center” — that is, a smaller-diameter section in the center of the wheel. This is designed to ease mounting and dismounting the tires.

2. Remove inner bead. Always remove the inner bead first to avoid scratching the paint on the outside of the wheel. Install a clamp on the tire to hold the inner and outer bead together. Do this about 90 degrees from the valve stem. This will allow both beads to go up into the drop center of the wheel. Go directly across from your clamp and

pull the bead up and over the flange of the wheel using a large flat screwdriver or other improvised tire tool. Once you get about one-fourth of the way around the wheel, you can remove the clamps and pull the rest off by hand.

3. Remove inner tube.

Pull out the valve stem first, and then remove the rest of the tube. At this point, you can replace the tube and skip to the assembly steps, or continue removing the tire.

4. Remove outer bead. Once the inner bead and inner tube are off, the outer bead can usually be removed by hand. Just place one part of the bead into the drop center of the wheel and pull it off from the opposite side.

5. Installation. Install one bead of the tire on the wheel, insert the tube, and then install the other bead. To ease the process, you can buy a can of “Rim Ease” to lubricate the tire. (Don't be tempted to use soapy water; it will rust the inside of your rim.) It's also best to coat the tube with baby powder to keep it from sticking to itself or the inside of the tire. The tube should be partially inflated when you put it inside the tire. The best way I've found to push the tire onto the wheel is to use a large rubber hammer and push the tire with the handle while holding the head of the hammer in your hand or pressed up against your shoulder. Remember to keep part of the tire bead in the drop center of the wheel and it shouldn't require too much force.

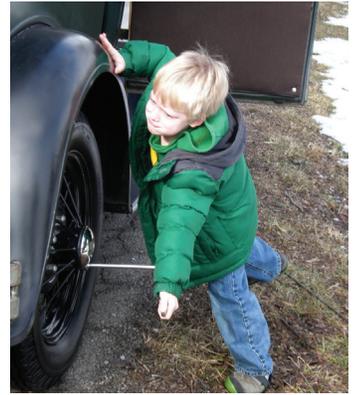
When airing up a new tire, I like to inflate it to about 20 PSI, then let all the air back out before inflating to the final pressure. This will help prevent the tube from being pinched in the tire. Watch the pressure for the next day or so to make sure it's not leaking. Or, just wait till the next tour and let Andrew kick it.

That's it. Now you have something you can be proud of for doing it yourself.

Treasurer's report

Thanks to those who have recently paid their 2010 dues. If you don't remember if you've paid, check the mailing panel on this issue of *Checkmark*. ***If there's an asterisk (*) beside your name, it means your payment hasn't been received, and this is your LAST ISSUE unless you send me your dues by March 31.*** My address is in the red box on the facing page.

— Mike Tearney



Andrew Baker helped change a flat tire on his parents' Model A during the February tour.

Mark these 2010 club events on your calendar

- ✓ **March 27** — Tour to Frankfort and Midway (**Herman and Nancy Butler**). See details elsewhere in this issue.
- ✓ **April 9-11** — MARC national membership meet, Terre Haute, Ind. (**Delmer and Linda Dalton**).

Spring overnight tour, April 30 – May 2

Darrell and Joan Webb have laid out a three-day, two-night adventure for April 30 through May 2 (Friday through Sunday). Please make your own reservations for Friday and Saturday nights, April 30 and May 1, by calling the Super 8 Motel in Florence, Ky. at (859) 283-1221. Mention “Model A group.” The rate is \$59.99 per room.

Please let the Webbs know as soon as possible if you plan to travel with the group. They need a head count to get a group rate for admission to the Creation Museum.

Current plans call for us to meet **Roy Williams** (cousin of CKMARC member **Mike Akers**) on Route 42 in Florence on Friday. Roy will guide us to the Union terminal, where we will park in the circle.

On Saturday, we will go to the Creation Museum. We then go to dinner; later that evening, we have reserved seating at the Red Barn to enjoy country music.

On Sunday morning, Roy will lead us through the backroads of Boone County via Rabbit Hash, Big Bone, and other attractions, and then will see us off on Route 43 as we head toward home.

- ✓ **April 30-May 2** — Weekend tour to Creation Museum and northern Kentucky (**Darrell and Joan Webb**).
- ✓ **May 22** — Car display at Thomas Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore (**Jack and Linda Kubik**).
- ✓ **June 13-18** — MARC national meet, French Lick, Ind.
- ✓ **June 26** — Model A/Model T combined event in Jessamine County (**Bill and Lee Baker**).
- ✓ **July 3** — Running board picnic and auction in Shelby County (**Burt and Rita Nation**).
- ✓ **July 17** — Keeneland Concours d’ Elegance, Lexington (**John Yates**).
- ✓ **Aug. 14** — Tour to Moyer Winery, Manchester, Ohio (**Walter and Judy Brumfield**).
- ✓ **Sept. 11** — Tour to Springfield (**Burt and Rita Nation, Bruce and Linda Bailey**).
- ✓ **Sept. 18** — William Whitley House display, Lincoln County (**Danny and Tammy Godbey**).
- ✓ **Oct. 21-24** — Long weekend in Monticello; joint event with western Kentucky and Louisville clubs (**John and Loretta Baker**). Hotel reservations: (606) 340- 8687. See the February issue of *Checkmark* for more details.
- ✓ **Nov. 13** — Tour to Berea (**Danny and Tammy Godbey**).
- ✓ **Dec. 11** — Christmas potluck and auction, Southern Heights Baptist Church, Lexington (**John and Karen Blair**).