



# **GRA-NEVA GRAM**

**GRASS VALLEY/NEVADA CITY  
CALIFORNIA**

ISSUE 4

GraNeva A's Model A Ford Club of America

May - June 2022

## **Model A Touring Can Be An Adventure Sometimes**



**REMEMBER THE BOY SCOUT MOTO.....BE PREPARED**

This is the newsletter of the Gra-Neva A's, the Grass Valley/Nevada City Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA). Feel free to use information here, with credit.

Club members may place a business card size advertisement in this newsletter for a small fee; contact the Treasurer.

#### **OFFICERS 2022**

President	Aaron Johnson	530-477-5856
Vice-President	Bill Mitchell	530-273-1620
Treasurer	Jan Elliott	310-809-2438
Editor	Bill Yanko	530-432-2579
Secretary	Sandy Yanko	530-432-2579
Membership	Gary Spencer	530-477-5570
Tour Directors	Vern Harms	530-272-4683
	Ryck Johnson	530-268-8813

#### **SERVICE CHAIRPERSONS - 2022**

Asst. Editor	Vacant	
B'days/Anniv.	Jennifer Johnson	530-477-5856
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Publicity	Bobbie Whiting	530-470-9191
Sunshine	Jennifer Johnson	530-477-5856
Sheriff	Steve Straw	530-432-9132
Technical	Vacant	
Webmaster	Bill Yanko	530-432-2579

### **GRA-NEVA GRAM**

Club meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. We welcome all guests.

**Check our Newsletter for location.**

If you are interested in membership in MAFCA, write to MAFCA, 250 S. Cypress, La Habra, CA 90631 or go to <https://www.mafca.com/membership.html>.

\*Not affiliated with Ford Motor Company

Items for the newsletter can be emailed to:  
[byanko@mac.com](mailto:byanko@mac.com)

**Check our Website at: [granevaas.com](http://granevaas.com)  
for club information and past newsletters**

## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

**FOR MAY-JUNE 2022,**

Did you know that old cars survive best if they get driven? Heck, even new cars do better if they get out and stretch their legs. The best way to do this, new or old, is to get out and drive. I just sold a vintage car that the new owners flew in to buy and then drove it home 1,000 miles in 48 hours. It had one hiccup and needed a distributor cap replaced 700 miles in. I coached the couple through questions along their journey. They sent pics and videos and called and texted along the way. They weren't upset at the hiccup as they wanted an adventure. Two people that traveled 1,000 miles on the sense of adventure. They knew little about the car and even less about what they would do, but they had each other and a desire to have a story to tell their kids. They took videos and pictures so they could put it on youtube in the near future. My point is this. To have an adventure you don't have to drive 1,000 miles, but you do have to get in your car and turn the key.

I have had many an adventure in old cars, all that ended with me and the car, usually, safe. I know that no matter what, I can get to the finish line. Sometimes on a tow truck but 99% of the time under it's own power. Don't fret the small stuff. Travel in packs. Carry spares, or at least a credit car and a AAA card. Don't be afraid to explore, push the limits, or go where you've never gone. But get out there. There is an ancient African proverb that says: "If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together." So let's go far. Plan a tour, new car or old, but just do it.

Godspeed,  
AJ





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**Bold & underlined** print dates show official club events.  
Italic print dates show events of general interest

## **Penn Valley Rodeo Parade Saturday May 21.**

Parade begins 3:00 PM. Staging begins at Gateway Park at 1:30 PM. See more information on p.14 and be sure to read the President's message in this issue! We need cars there to show off our club!!

**Monthly Meeting Thursday May 26** - Meeting at Sierra Star Winery, hosted by new club member Phill Starr. Arrive at 6:00 PM for picnic dinner (bring your own) & social hour. Wine available to purchase. Meeting begins at 7:00 PM. What a great place for a meeting. 👍

**Watch for emails or check website (granevaas.com) for June events.**

\*\*\*\*\*

- \* *Cars and Coffee - **every** Saturday at Target (Kmart) GV from 8-10 AM*
- \* *Also at Mel's in Auburn on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm. And you get your **dinner discounted**. Outdoor and indoor seating. It's fun!!*
- \* *Saturday May 7 - NorCal F.A.S.T. Spring Hillclimb. Auburn CA, Steve Straw indicated a discount for GraNeva A's group attending together. It's down to the last minute. Contact Steve.*



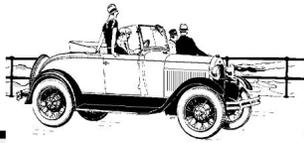
## EDITOR'S NOTES

Well, we got some news this past month that I didn't want to hear. You've probably already guessed from the heading change above. Sharon made it official and let us know she is not returning as the Gra-Neva Gram editor. She did an amazing job for the club for many years and I know her personal touch will be missed. She will be staying on with us as a contributor to "Sharon Says", a short personal observation or reflection each month. So don't fret, we'll still get our regular dose of friendly emojis. 😊 But looks like you are stuck with me for a while. Maybe sometime down the road the newsletter bug will bite again. Sharon knows the door will be open. Or maybe someone else would like to be Assistant or Co-Editor and share the job. Don't be bashful. More is better.

For now this necessitates a change. Being both newsletter editor and webmaster is proving to be more time-consuming than I can commit to indefinitely. To accommodate this, the club Board voted to switch the newsletter to a bi-monthly publication. We advanced this issue date one month and the current issue is designated the May-June issue. Future issues will come out on or about the first of the month every other month. We regret making this change, but we're a small club and simply don't have the resources and help available as some of the larger clubs. We will try to keep the GraNeva Gram both informative and entertaining.

Enjoy,  
Bill Yanko





# Member's Page

## HAVES & WANTS

Bill Yanko, your fearless new newsletter Editor, but rookie with a Model A, wants some help assessing his car, and some guidance on what needs to be done for it to be a good driver. Any help will be appreciated.



*Sharon Says...*



I think a lot of you GraNeva members are missing the boat! There's pizza at the meetings once a month on Thursdays. And the great tours!!!! You are missing out on all your friends. They will all fade away sooner or later. Please participate ❤️❤️

# Sunshine

**whoever is happy  
will make others  
happy** *Anne Frank*

## Happy Birthday



### May

- 5/8 Myra Clampitt
- 5/16 Cathy Corliss
- 5/24 John Burnside
- 5/30 Vern Harms
- 5/30 Sharon Pierce
- 5/31 Dennis Westcot

### June

- 6/10 Kelly Stevenson
- 6/16 Ted Baerresen
- 6/16 Calvin Campbell
- 6/23 Bob Whiting
- 6/27 Linda Johnson

## Anniversary Celebrations



### May

- 5/8 Ted & Louise Baerresen
- 5/21 Gary & Janet Spencer

### June

- 6/10 Dale & Barbara White
- 6/13/ Vern & Kay Harms
- 6/25 Phil & Anne Starr

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Gra-Neva Model A Club Board**  
**April 28, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Aaron Johnson called a special Board meeting to order at 6:00 PM at Trailblazer's Pizza. Attending were Aaron Johnson, Ryck Johnson, Bill Mitchell, Gary Spencer, Sandy Yanko & Bill Yanko. Jan Elliot and Vern Harms voted by proxy. Only one question was under consideration, whether to change the issue frequency of the Gra-Neva Gram newsletter from monthly to bi-monthly (every other month). This was necessitated by the change in newsletter editor to Bill Yanko, who was already the webmaster. He was finding both jobs were more time consuming than he could commit to. After brief discussion, the Board unanimously voted to change the newsletter to a bi-monthly schedule. Bill will remain Editor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Gra-Neva Model A Club**  
**April 28, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Aaron Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm at Trailblazer's Pizza. He noted Les and Bobbi Andrews were present and 2-year-old, Isaiah, the Spencer's grandson, was a guest. AJ announced that there has been a decision to change the newsletter from every month to every other month. This will work better for New Editor, Bill Yanko as he is also the club Webmaster. Phil Starr, our new member, offered to have the May meeting at his winery and vineyard in Grass Valley. This was accepted enthusiastically by all members.

**REPORTS:**

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Bill Mitchell had no report

**SECRETARY:** Sandy had no report. Aaron asked for any corrections to minutes, there were none and it was moved and seconded by Sharon Pierce and Gary Spencer to approve and all approved.

**TREASURER:** Jan Elliott was absent. Aaron gave her report: we have \$3,574.75 in our bank account.

**EDITOR:** Bill Yanko reported that the Newsletter will be issued bimonthly after this month's edition. The next at the beginning of May will skip April and will be the May/June issue.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Gary Spencer no new members to report. He gave a name tag to Phil Starr.

**PUBLICITY:** Bobbie Whiting had no report

**SUNSHINE:** Aaron asked if there was anything for Sunshine other than the birthdays etc. Sharon Pierce shared that Larry Hubbard; a former member had passed away and that cards to his wife Denia Pearson from those who knew them would be appreciated.

**TOUR CHAIRMAN:** Ryck Johnson told us the **Washington tour** on April 9 was a lot of fun. The tour went to the Washington Hotel for lunch and had a great drive there and back. They had 6 Model A's and 2 modern cars. He asked for anyone who took photos to upload them to the Cluster Application to share with Club members.

**The Transportation Day event** at Hennessey School was a great event to introduce students to the antique cars. They were very interested and liked climbing in a seeing how it felt.

**Penn Valley Rodeo:** John Burnside had flyers and asked if members could be in the Rodeo parade on May 21 in Penn Valley.

**Future tours:** No dates yet: Wine Tour at Phil Starr's winery; Bernhard Museum in Auburn; Black Chasm Cavern in Volcano in Amador County, CA. was mentioned as a possibility, but there were no commitments.

Ryck told us that he and Linda and the Campbell's will be going on a *National Model A Club* Tour starting May 7. They will trailer their Model A's to Washington State and take the tour with the group all around Washington and then trailer the cars back home.

**Technical:** Wayne Buti said he finally had his Blue Roadster running and not leaking oil after a long time trying to remedy the leak. He found a rebuilt engine that had never been put in. Built by Don Bennett 30 years ago he was told. That engine went in the Roadster. That was the fifth time the engine was out. Then he took the leaking engine to be rebuilt. When it comes back he is putting in his tudor.

Ryck Johnson had found a great article about Model A heaters. It was noted in a previous newsletter. He also had new information about brake floaters and will get the information to Bill for the Newsletter.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Bill asked for Gots and Wants to publish in the Newsletter.

Aaron checked with his friend about printing Club sweatshirts with 60-year anniversary logo. It will cost \$40 per adult shirt and we need to order a minimum of 20 for him to print them.

Calvin Campbell reported on the Christmas dinner for 2022. It is set for Dec. 17 and we should have the menu by October to choose and pay in November if we want to attend. He said the prices are up.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The Mother Lode Swap Meet will be June 5 in Auburn.

The Empire Wine and Dine Tour will be held July 29. Admission \$125. Fundraiser for the Empire Mine.

It was announced that everyone who has a Gra-Neva Model A Club magnetic sign should use it when we tour.

Les Andrews noted that we should not leave the signs on the car too long as it will damage the paint.

**ATTENDANCE AWARD/50-50 RAFFLE:** No attendance award or raffle since the Harms were not in attendance.

The Sheriff was not present so some name tag scofflaws got away scot-free.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Sharon and Calvin moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Aaron Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:45.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy Yanko, Secretary

**ATTENDEES:** Sandy & Bill Yanko, Janet & Gary Spencer, Linda & Ryck Johnson, Jerry Dorville, Bobbi & Les Andrews, Sharon Pierce, Joseph Stinson, Bill Mitchell, Aaron Johnson, Roy Lebeck, Bobbie & Bob Whiting, Tish & Wayne Buti, Virginia & Calvin Campbell, Kristi Turnsk, Donna & Don Lichti, John Burnside

♥ To All the Mom's in the Club ♥



Gra-Neva A's Website at: [granevaas.com](http://granevaas.com). Since the newsletter will be bi-monthly, check out our website once in a while for updates on club news.

# WHAT'S IN A NAME

Nationwide Insurance did an online survey of more than 1,000 U.S. car owners and found out some really interesting facts about naming cars. On average 25% of Americans have named their ride. Here are some more interesting facts that their study revealed:

- Car owners ages 18-34 are significantly more likely to nickname their cars (36 percent).
- Women are more likely to have a nickname for their cars than men (27 percent vs. 17 percent).
- More than one-fourth (26 percent) of those surveyed think of their car as a girl, with women more likely to have a “baby” girl.
- Men are more likely than women to name their car after a famous/historical person (9 percent men vs. 4 percent women) or character in a movie (10 percent men vs. 4 percent women).

People have emotional connections to their cars and for good reason. We spend a good amount of time with our cars. They are there to take us to work and are waiting for us when we are ready to go home. They are packed with memories of the family vacation road trip. When you turn 16 and can finally drive, the car gives teens and young adults the freedom to venture out and explore the world. If you give it some thought, you can easily see the major part that vehicles play in many of life’s milestones.

Many vehicles deserve names because they can often possess personality and other human-like traits. They breathe, bleed, leak and can get run down just like their owners. Every car has its own unique attitude. There may be some days it won’t cooperate and then there are days when man and machine can work together in perfect harmony.

October 2nd is now officially National Name Your Car Day. We couldn’t come up with the reasoning or the origin of this national holiday, but we certainly support it.

Upon further, research we were able to discover the top names that men and women give their street machines. Infographics at cheatsheet.com show the results of a 2,500 person survey conducted by AutoNation. The top 9 car name results are as follows.

- |               |                |                      |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Betsy      | 4. (The) Beast | 7. Lucy              |
| 2. Bessie     | 5. Sally       | 8. Big Red           |
| 3. Baby/Betty | 6. Bertha      | 9. Buddy/Fred/Stella |

Many of these names sound fitting. I can easily close my eyes and imagine a car named Bessie, Bertha or The Beast. There are other names I could mention that would also instantly strike images in your mind. The Duke Buys outran the Hazzard County sheriffs in the General Lee, Batman fought crime in the Batmobile, Scooby and the gang had the Mystery Machine, Knightrider could call on Kitt, and of course there is always Herbie the Lovebug.

Sometimes there is just no explanation for why we do the things we do. Others might shake their head at us for naming an inanimate object. For those of us in the know however, we understand that the car is not just an object, but is instead a loyal companion and member of the family.

**Did you name your car? If you did, let us know. We'll publish your car names in the next Gra-Neva Gram issue. If we get enough, we might even make it a game...which car name goes with which person. It would be fun.**



# RON'S TECH TIP PAGE

Jim's Tech Tips from MAFCA: "Grease Fitting Added to 7-tooth Steering Gear". The Ford Service Bulletin from September, 1928, has a brief mention of adding a grease fitting to the sector shaft housing of the 7-tooth steering gear. Today's Tech Tip is a reprint of that little article from that bulletin.

FORD SERVICE BULLETIN for September

PAGE 281

## NEW LUBRICATOR FITTING IN STEERING GEAR HOUSING

The drilled hole in the steering sector shaft, through which the lubricant in the steering gear housing was carried to the sector shaft bushings, has been discontinued. Sector shaft bushings are now lubricated by means of a lubricator fitting placed in the steering gear housing. (See A, Fig. 570.) Lubricant should be forced into this fitting every 2,000 miles.

Should an instance arise where it is necessary to install the present design sector in an old steering gear assembly, it will be necessary to install a lubricator fitting in the housing. This is done by drilling a  $21/64$ " hole  $2-3/32$ " back from center line of flange where housing is bolted to frame. (See Fig. 571.) The hole should be drilled through housing and sector bushing and then tapped with a standard  $1/8$ " pipe tap. When tapping the hole, do not tap too deep. The hole should be tapped just deep enough so that when the lubricator fitting is screwed down tightly approximately two threads on the fitting will remain above the surface of the housing. (See Fig. 571.)

You fill the steering gear box with the very heavy and thick 600W oil, and you squirt a little grease into this fitting that you are adding. The grease will lubricate the sector shaft, and it will form a little bit of a barrier that will slow down (not stop) the 600W gear oil from seeping out the sector shaft.

Have a Model A Day!  
Jim

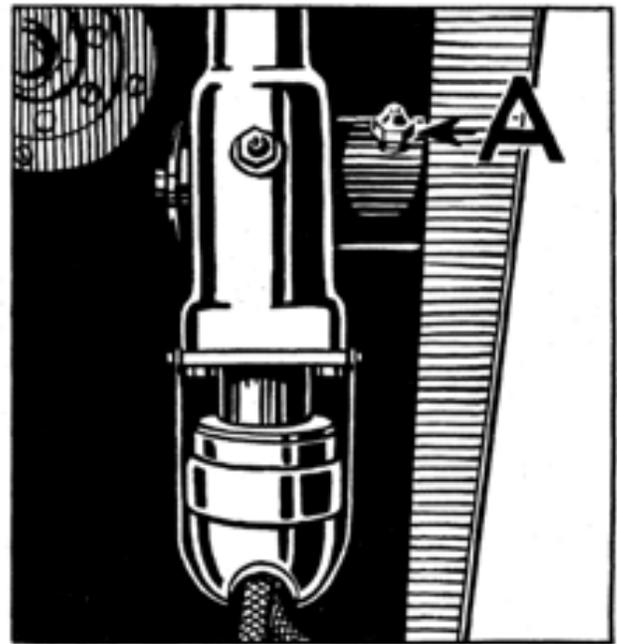


Fig. 570

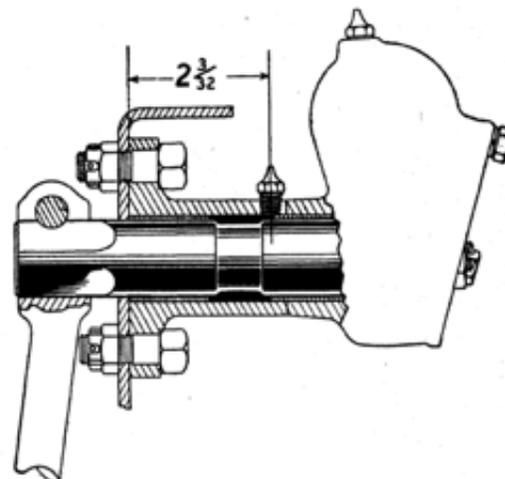


Fig. 571

# NEVADA COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL VISIT



Steve Straw led a group to Nevada County Charter School (Home school division) to help the kids experience some vintage cars in support of a unit on transportation. On this gray and threatening day, about 100 students in four groups came out from their classrooms and listened to our talk on the old cars and what conditions were like when they were new. As you can see, getting in the cars was definitely a highlight. There were many cute questions, but the best part was blowing the ahooga horns. In addition to Steve, Ryck Johnson, and Jerry Dorville from GraNeva A's and friend Terry Horlick brought cars. All found it a very rewarding day.



# More Smiling Faces The Model A's Were a Hit



# Gra-Neva A's Go to Washington...CA, not DC

It was a very pleasant spring day for a tour in the Sierra foothills. The White House we visited was the Washington Hotel, built in 1857. I don't think it's changed since then. Vern Harms was our tour leader. In addition to Vern & Kay Harms, the other members braving the Washington canyon road in their Model A's were Steve & Vicki Straw with stupid car, Jerry Dorville, Steve Halverson, Ryck & Linda Johnson with Bill Yanko in the back seat, & Calvin & Virginia Campbell with friends Jerry and Shauna Baker. Sharon Pierce & son Joseph joined with a 65 Mustang and Bob & Bobbi Whiting in a modern car. No brakes overheated on the drive down into the canyon, and no radiators overheated on the uphill drive back out. It was a good day. After a successful return to Grass Valley, a stop at 31 Flavors seemed just right to cap off the day.



Arrived in Washington. Our group will increase the population of town by 10%.



We got to town about 11:30 AM. Thank goodness the bar was open!



As the sign says, we were here for Food, and Spirits were high.



It was a steep and curvy canyon road on a windy day. But the sturdy little Model A's were all up to the task. The ladies comfort each other after arriving from the harrowing drive.



I don't want anybody to think the group was ready for lunch, like really ready for lunch. Hey, you guys on the left side, get your feet behind the white line. Ok, that's better. Now get ready...on your mark...get set...GO!

## Washington Tour Continued



Top Row: Happy ladies enjoying the sunshine after lunch. Virginia Campbell, Kay Harms & Sharon Pierce & son Joseph. View from the restaurant deck where we had lunch. Virginia Campbell told us her Grandfather taught her to swim in the river just below the restaurant deck.

Second Row: Model A's in front of Hotel. On right side, the Model A's are proudly pointing to their adopted Mustang. It's all in the family.

Bottom Row: How is it this group of guys always seems to find something to rebuild? Fortunately this one wasn't for sale. More photos can be viewed on the Cluster website.



## Penn Valley Rodeo Parade!



Saturday, May 21, 2022

Presented by the **Penn Valley Area Chamber of Commerce**

### **Staging:**

- 1:30 pm at Western Gateway Park (18560 Penn Valley Drive, Penn Valley, CA 95946)
- Parade Starts Promptly at 3:00 pm ~Rain or Shine~



**GraNeva A's - Did you read the President's message? Did you hear Les Andrews at our last meeting? Spring is a great time to get our cars out and show them off. And what better place than a parade. Our Club plans to participate....that means we need member's to join in. Call or email Vern Harms if you can participate (530-272-4683, [harmsfarm64@gmail.com](mailto:harmsfarm64@gmail.com)). AJ said he might bring two cars!! Let's do it!**

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