Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Torrance, California

June 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Business Meeting:

Friday, June 27th,2008, at 7:30PM at the Walteria Clubhouse. Come early and visit with friends. Swap/sell Model A car parts at our table-top swap meet.

Next Board Meeting:

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2008
6:00PM (note time change) at the home of Bill Newell, 2769
Monterey St., Torrance, CA
90503. Bill is providing pizza and soft drinks before the meeting on his back patio.

Next Tour(s) and Events:

- •Monday, May 26, 2008. Redondo Beach Memorial Day Parade.
- •Saturday, May 31, 2008. El Segundo Driving Museum.
- •Saturday, June 7, 2008. Nethercutt Museum, Sylmar.
- •Sunday, June 8, 2008. Antique Nationals, Fontana.
- June 22-27, 2008. MARC/MAFCA World Meet, Dallas, TX.Details on page 9

Next Technical Seminar:

Saturday, May 24th, 10AM at Bill Newell's. See May Harbor-Light for details.



inside...

- 2 President's Notes
 2 Editor's Corner
 3 Member Update
 3 Hot 'n Tot meeting
 4 Terrific Tours!
- 5 Technical Talk
- 6 Ursi's Uptown Lowdown
- 6 Membership info

- Bits and Pieces, Odds and Ends
- 8 Member Memories
- 9 Calendar of Events
- 9 Treasure Hunters Calendar
- 9 Other Happenings and Events
- 10 Wheels and Deals
- 11 Advertisers
- 12 Board Members



Notes
from the
President
By Steve Preston



Safety First

So, were you at Dick and Ursi's for the combined Safety Check, Monthly Meeting and (most importantly) POTLUCK? If not, you missed a GREAT day! Of course there was enough yummy food to feed two or three clubs. Dick said they Safety Checked many of the 20 Model As in attendance (one '29 Tudor in particular). Best of all we had a good time visiting with friends, talking about Model A's (the crew out front by Jan Wyckoff's 'way cool' Cabriolet and the two sharp cars owned by Dick and Ursi) and making important decisions about life in general. You know, doing what we do best: Eating and chatting!

Listening to Dick Lusk talk about the Safety Check made me think (which is sometimes difficult to do...). I always thought of it as specifically a check for the safety of our As, and that it is. But it occurred to me that this is also an excellent time to get a different set of experienced eyes to look at our old Fords. I try to do all the work on our A myself, as do many of you. But, I can miss something even after having many years experience. So, Dick and Bob checking out my car not only confirmed it's safety; they had the opportunity to point out other situations that I might have missed.

If you haven't had your car checked yet, give Dick a call. He even does house calls!!! As soon as we get Karen's '30 on the road, it is going to be headed to a Safety Check for both very good reasons. How about your A?

Hey, if you look at the passenger side of the dash in our Tudor, you will see a round plaque that we are very proud of. It is from MARC and is an award for driving 2,000 miles in our '29 last year. The program only costs \$1 per car, and is awarded on the accumulated mileage on your A no matter whether they were "tour miles" with the club or just a jaunt to Aunt Tillie's house. Easy? Just fill out one card to join and another at the end of each year. Then you can have a cool plaque like Becky and I do. All the cool kids are doing it...

Blessings on each of you!!!

Editor's Corner: by Dick Wyckoff

Thanks for all the positive comments on the last couple of issues of the HarborLight. Using the internet and email is making the editor's job much easier.

My effort to send the newsletter to you by email is showing early signs of success. As of right now, 22 people have signed up to get their HarborLight this way. At roughly \$1.00 per copy including postage, that works out to an annual savings to the club of about \$260! Don't be shy and let me know if this works for you. I don't have email addresses for all in the club, so send it to me or let me know at janndick@earthlink.net or call me at 310-322-8863.

If you have items to sell in the <u>Wheels & Deals</u> section, email / call me / mail me with what you have. Thanks again and keep driving those As.

Member's Update

Bill Younkin is recovering from a scare and a trip to the hospital. They said it wasn't a heart attack. Contractors will finish the kitchen, tho.

Jeff Webb is still working through his dizziness. Jeanne is keeping a close watch on him. It was good to see them both at the safety seminar.

'Hot truck' **Art Wagner** is working out the details for a hip replacement. **Daffy** knows a great surgeon. Hip replacement is a good thing. Ask **Jan Wyckoff**!

Doris Marshall took a tumble and has a few aches and pains and bruises. No more Charleston dancing for a while for her, right **Drain**?

If you see **Don Miller** with a back pack, it has an oxygen bottle inside. The doctor thinks a little supercharging will help the breathing. Hope it works out well, Don.

International Model 'A' Day

A number of Model 'A' Ford owners around the world have come together and proclaimed **Saturday**, **July 26**, **2008** as International Model 'A' Day. This first year is coincidental with the 80th year of the Model 'A' Ford's first model in 1928.

To celebrate the day, and their car's 80th birthday, thousands of Model 'A' Ford restorers and preservers will be taking their cars out for a drive, and to socialize with other Model 'A' enthusiasts. The specific activities will be determined by each local group found in all 50 states and about 30 other countries. Some groups will be driving to picnics; others will participate in 'car games', car shows and contests to help celebrate the day.

Many groups are expected to coordinate their activities with local Ford dealers, some of which will help support the day's activities. Local club leaders are encouraged to get both local members and non-members to participate in this event.

The our president, Steve Preston, is working on a great tour to help celebrate the birthday event. See page 9. More to come.

Just a little trivia, Henry Ford was born on July 30th, 1863.

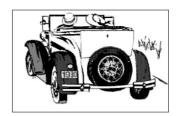
Our Tour Director, **Drain Marshall**, is still trying to put together a short-tour picnic somewhere locally. He is looking for ideas and locations for a fun outing. If you know of a nice, accessible location (preferably with a view), give him a call, 310-378-5061. The idea is to get members and their cars together for a scenic drive 'n dine.

Weekly Family Food Festivities:

Many of the Harbor members meet at the Hot 'n Tot restaurant each Monday at about 5PM for dinner. Drain Marshall likes to call it 'Spaghetti Night' because the Monday night dinner special is all you can eat spaghetti with a salad at \$5.75. Join us for dinner. The Hot 'n Tot is located at 2347 Pacific Coast Highway in Lomita, CA. It's about a half mile East of Crenshaw Blvd., North side.



Terrific Tours! By Drain Marshall



On the first weekend in May, 21 members of Harbor As descended on Clovis, CA for a Central California Regional Group (CCRG) gathering sponsored by the Sierra As. With over 150 families registered, it was quite a formidable event. With four tours to local points of interest, there was lots to do. The Sierra As know how to put on a great BBQ and everyone came away full. Raffle prizes were in abundance as well as events such as Hubley races, a swap meet, and car games. Thanks, Sierra As. Even a Barbershop Quartet entertained at the banquet.

Harbor had a couple notable awards and prizes come their way. Bill Younkin's brother, Bobby, won a 'peoples choice' award for his speedster and Dick Wyckoff came away with the grand prize of an F-150 steering conversion to fit a Model A. Congratulations!

The crowd from the South Bay consisted of the Pisus, Ragons, Hibbards, Parrishs, Valots, Marshalls, Gordiniers, Younkins, Wyckoffs, Millers, and Mike Wright. Extra credit goes to the Marshalls, Hibbards, Parrishs, and the Gordiniers for bringing their Model As.



Harbor A guys at the running board swap meet.



Lining up for the local tours. It was a beautiful day.



Jack and Joan Gordinier's Pick-up at the BBQ.



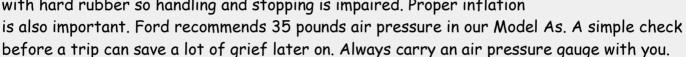
Some of the Model As at the Piccadilly Inn parking lot.



Technical Talk By Bill Newell

Tires

As we get into the touring season, it is important to check our tires for roadworthy condition. Many of us don't drive thousands of miles each year and without knowing it, our tires get old and develop age cracks yet have lots of tread left. Checking for splits in the side walls, damaged tread, chaffed valve stems, and hard rubber is an important step to safe travel in our old cars. Traction is greatly reduced with hard rubber so handling and stopping is impaired. Proper inflation



Another simple check to check front end alignment is to drag your hand across the tread of the front tires. If you feel other than a smooth tire, you might have an alignment problem. Misalignment will scuff your tires and cause premature wear and handling problems.

TOOL SEMINAR

I want to thank all the members who came to my home for the tool seminar. I hope it was informative to all. Thanks to Bill, Dick, and Mike who brought some things to share with the group also. The club now owns two new tools -- a torque wrench that reads in inch-pounds, graciously donated by Cliff Heise. This is a much needed tool when setting a pre-load for the rear end pinion bearings. The other tool is a 100 ft/lb torque wrench donated by Dick Wyckoff for all your engine work. Thanks also to the ladies that came. Phyllis had a great time talking to all. Finally, call me in the early evening to borrow any of the clubs tools when you are doing a job that requires them. Thanks again. Bob DeCrescenzo.



Some of the cars attending Bobby D's tool seminar





Bob DeCrescenzo with his tool display at the tool seminar

Ursi's Uptown Lowdown



By Ursula Schmidt

As usual every April, the Model A safety check, potluck and business meeting was held at our place. With everybody's help and lots of teamwork it turned into another fun event. We feel blessed to be part of such a great club and over the years have found such good friends

A big *Thank You* goes to Drain Marshall, who called lots of people and reminded them of the upcoming event.

Another big *Thank You* goes to Bob DeCrescenzo for assisting with keeping records of the cars that were checked by Dick Lusk.

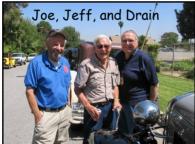
Dick has noticed that over the last few years the cars are being better maintained. People are more safety conscious and the club has travelled over 150,000 miles during the last five years without a major incident.

Extra tables and chairs were provided by Bill and Gloria Younkin and Mirco and Elaine Pisu. Dick Wyckoff, Toady Stonehocker and Jack Gordinier did some on-the-spot mechanical repairs.

Special Thanks goes to all the fifty club members and visitors that brought out twenty Model A's and made this another memorable event. Thanks to all those gourmet cooks in our club. We had lots of great food. Doris Marshall's trusted old coffee pot was again being put to good service.

Steve and Becky Preston thank everyone who made generous toy donations to the charity for needy children. Dick Lusk and Ursi Schmidt











Our hosts: Sammy, Dick and Ursi

New 2008 Membership Roster info:

The new phonebooks/rosters are available and will be distributed at future get-togethers. The first booklet is free, additional copies are \$2. They are also available free of charge through e-mail. Club members that don't attend events can request a phonebook/roster by mail. Please call Ursula at (310) 539-5391 to place the order.

Membership Updates: Please make note

Welcome to our latest new members: **Joe and Linda Freitag**. They live at 22 Via Capri, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90278. Their telephone number is: 310-871-2567.

Email: JandLFreitag@cox.net. They don't have a Model A <u>yet</u>, but they are looking!

<u>A Request from Ursi</u>: Please give her your email address. We can use this for fast notification of event changes and possible future mailings of the HarborLight <u>in color!</u>

Bits and Pieces, Odds and Ends

Researching the Model 'A' Police Head by Dick Wyckoff

In the December 5, 1930 Chicago Service letters, Ford announced the availability soon of a new 'High Speed Cylinder Head and Gasket', part number A-6050-B and A-6051-B. "The new head will give a compression ratio of 5-22 to 1 to be used only on motors where higher speed may be desired, such as Model A cars used for police work, State highway patrols, and Sheriff's offices. <u>In no case</u> must the cylinder heads be exchanged gratis on cars already in service or used on cars performing any other than the above mentioned type of work."

In the December 12, 1930 Service letter: " \dots we have received innumerable requests from our dealers for these heads for their own cars. \dots Our letter specifically stated that these high speed heads are intended for use on cars being used in police work <u>only</u> \dots your order must be accompanied with information as to the motor number, type of car, and for whom it is intended. All orders received without this information <u>will be returned</u>."

In the March 13, 1931 Service letter " innumerable requests for high speed heads without submitting sufficient bona fide evidence of the fact that they are to be used <u>only</u> for police work . . . each order to be accompanied by a requisition of the police authority on police department letterhead or requisition form."

In the April 3, 1931 Service letter . . . "Numerous requests have been received for the supplying of a high Speed cylinder head for individual owner's use as well as police work . . . it is preferred to supply these heads for police work only. . . Owner must exercise care in order to avoid objectionable 'pinging' noise. The engine is also not quite as smooth as original . . . We felt it would not be advisable to sell these heads to the general public. We will, however supply the high compression head in special cases where an owner particularly desires it, and fully understands in advance, the above mentioned conditions. . . The price effective immediately on A-6050-B High Compression Cylinder Head will be \$5.50 and the Gasket A-6051-B will be \$.35."



Stock Model A cylinder head combustion chamber with compression ratio of 4.22 to 1.



'Police Head' high compression combustion chamber with a compression ratio of 5.22 to 1.



The top side of the 'Police Head' with the letter 'B' showing indicating revision B to part number A-6050.

June Birthdays:

- 10 Weeg Thompson
- 11 Beverly Migliazzo
- 13 Joan Gordinier
- 23 Barny Clayton
- 23 Bob Moser
- 27 Becky Preston



June Anniversaries:

- 4 Jeanne & Richard Parrish
- 5 Diana & Marty Murphy
- 12 Helen & Floyd Carr**
- 14 Kathy & Jim Valot

** Note: **Carrs** celebrating **60** years in 2008

Member Memories . . . By Dorothy Wood

The following was taken from the **June 1973** HarborLight written by our long time member, Dorothy Wood, the 'A Reporter'.

Steve Salazar made the front page of the South Bay Daily Breeze with a picture standing by his 'A', which their reporter described as his "1930 Model T Ford"...oh well, Steve, you can't win them all. Torrance had a huge 'Youth Cultural Festival" and Steve arranged a small car show as one of the exhibits. Our own 'Cultured" young members showing their cars beside Steve were Tom Fortney, Lee Ashbourne.. and Ralph Wood! Woody almost blew it, tho'.. left his car parked out in front at 6:30AM for the Salazars to pick up, then put both keys in his pocket and went to work. It took a little doing by the Salazars to work that one out.

Mike Plessner bought Woody's '30 roadster body. So now he is going to turn his roadster pickup into a roadster. So Mike sold his top bows to the roadster pickup to Gordon Grabau for his roadster pickup. . . So Gordon sold the ones he had to to Frank Young who desperately needed some. Are you still with me?

There is nothing funnier, or sadder, than a Model A family which has to empty out its garage and move. The Wishons did that this week and the last I heard Glenn was still at it in the wee hours of the morning. Thank goodness for Barny Clayton who moved the sedan body for them in his pickup. They were wondering how to approach Bekins on that item!



Pat, Daffy, and Becky enjoying the festivities at the safety check meeting.



Dr. Steve Thompson and his dad



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Tours and Things:

- •Monday, May 26th. Redondo Beach Memorial Day Parade. Meet at Knob Hill & Catalina at 8:30AM. BBQ at the Pisu's after the parade. Bring a pot luck item.
- •Saturday, May 31st. 1st Annual Benefit Car Show at the El Segundo Driving Museum. See May issue of HarborLight for all the details.
- •Saturday, June 7th. Nethercutt Museum, Sylmar. Non-freeway route planned. Meet at 8AM at Mill's, 190th and Western. Lunch at Bob's Big Boy, Burbank. Pisu's to lead the tour.

2008 Treasure Hunter's Calendar

Saturday, **June 28th** 3rd Annual Model A & T <u>parts exchange and car show</u>. This is located at the El Dorado High School, 1651 Valencia Ave, Placentia, CA. Further info from Larry McKinney — 714-963-2724. Open from 6AM to 2PM.

Friday—Saturday, July 25 -26th. Long Beach Model T Swap Meet. Veterans Memorial Stadium, Long Beach. More info to come.

Sunday, August 24th. San Fernando Swap Meet. Rancho San Antonio, 21000 Plummer, Chatsworth. \$2 admission. Info: Dave at 818-347-3202.

Sunday, September 28th. Paradise Valley Swap Meet. Loc'n: Western Little League Head-quarters, 6707 N. Little League Dr., San Bernardino, Ca.

Other Future Happenings and Events:

- June 8th 38th Antique Nationals at the Auto Club Raceway, 9300 Cherry Ave., Fontana, CA 92335. This is a fun event that features nostalgia drag racing. This is where all the early 4-banger and flathead V8 race cars come to show their stuff. General admission is \$25. Info: Ron at 661-255-1931.
- June 22-27 MAFCA/MARC <u>Joint World Meet</u>. This is only the 3rd time there has been a dual meet like this. It is being held in Addison, Texas, near Dallas. Lots of information in the *Model A News* or *The Restorer*. Early estimates of 1200 or more Model As to be there.
- •Saturday, July 5th. <u>Local Tour</u>. Macarthur Park Museum, San Pedro. Marine Mammal Rescue Center. SS Lane Victory Memorial Museum (time permitting). Lunch at Acapulco Restaurant, Ports of Call.
- •Friday Sunday, July 11-13. Solvang 'Wings and Wheels'. More to come. This is a fun event. About a 140 mile drive along the coast.
- •Saturday, July 26th. National Model A Ford Day. Tour to Murphy's Classic Car Museum, Oxnard. The lead will be the Prestons. More to come.

9

Wheels & Deals:

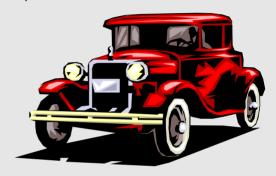
For Sale:

- * <u>CD</u> with great quality images taken at <u>Anniversary Picnic</u> for you to enlarge and print yourself. <u>Absolutely</u> <u>free!!</u> DVD slideshow taken at Picnic for sale. Each has about 213 photos with music. \$5. each. Sue: (310) 782-0082 (before 7:00 pm on workdays). You can email me: modelababe@dslextreme.com
- * Harbor Model A Club 50th Anniversary pins. Reduced price! \$3 each or 4 for \$10. Dick: (310) 322-8863.
- * Model A parts for sale: Panel Delivery doors, original. Each measures 21 $1/2 \times 48 1/2 \times 1-$450 Pr$. 1 set original 30-31 side splash aprons—\$135 Pr. 1ea. 30-31 Radiator clean and rodded out \$275. 1 ea. Sedan rear floor pan—\$125. 1 ea. 29 Windshield frame, no rust-\$225. 1ea. 30-31 Gas tank, \$245. 1 ea. RF Slant windshield door, \$225. Contact Frank at 310-463-3239.
- * Model A parts: '28-'29 Headlight bar. Chrome plated. Good condition. \$25 Dick: 310-322-8863

Wanted:

- * Model A ahooga horn. Contact Monty at 310-516-0468.
- * Used greeting cards (complete cards please). We will recycle them.

Ursi (310) 539-5391 and Doris (310) 378-5061







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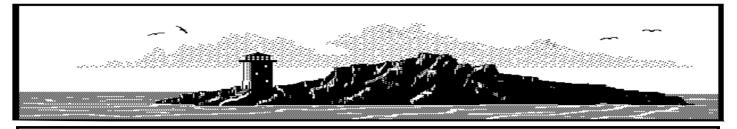
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The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the Walteria Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and 1 block south of Pacific Coast Hwy.) We'd like to invite all interested parties, even if they don't own a Model A, to come and join us. Our goal is to educate the public about Model A's and have fun while doing it.

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THE HARBOR LIGHT

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Happy Father's Day June 15th

