

# HARBORLIGHT

## Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Torrance, California

### September 2008

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Next Business Meeting:**

- Friday, September 26th, 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, September 2nd, 2008\_7:00PM at the home of Cliff and Donna Heise. Their address is: 18425 Patronella Ave., Torrance, CA 90502. Their telephone is: 310-323-2186.

**Next Tours and Events:**

- Saturday and Sunday, September 20-21, Palos Verdes Concours d' Elegance. Road Rallye (Sat) and Concours (Sun). Trump National Golf Club Palos Verdes.
- Sunday, September 28th, Bakersfield Model A Club is having it's annual Frazier Park picnic. Fun event and tour. More to come.

**Check out the July tour pictures, Page 4.**

- Seven cars and 16 people made the 120 mile tour on 'International Model A Day' Saturday, July 26th.



inside...

2	President's Notes	7	First Person Report
2	Editor's Corner	8	Meeting Minutes Excerpts
3	Member Update	9	Tours and Things
3	Hot 'n Tot Monday	9	Treasure Hunters Calendar
4	Terrific Tours	9	Future Happenings and Events
5	Technical Talk	10	Wheels and Deals
6	Ursi's Uptown Lowdown	11	Advertisers
6	Roster info	12	Board Members



Notes  
from the  
President  
By Steve Preston



A few disconnected bits and pieces this month... First bit: I just installed a complete set of new cast iron drums with rebuilt hubs and new bearings from Mel Gross on our '29. Our Tudor stops on the proverbial dime, and Mel's prices beat all the catalogs. All I did was bring my old stuff to him as cores and he handed me the new drums all made up with the rebuilt hubs, shoes arced to match the drums, new studs installed and new bearings, seals and retainers ready to go. I recommend his services!

Piece 1: Wasn't the tour on International Model A day (July 26) a beautiful drive? Who could beat a drive with several Model A buddies up highway 1 around Malibu and through the farms in Oxnard. We saw some cool cars - including one that had an oak (as in solid wood!!!) chassis. Then we had a picnic with HMARC friends. That's what being in Harbor MARC is all about!

Bit/Piece 2: Becky needs your thoughts and prayers. The MRI/CAT scans show that the brain tumor has not grown, and so is not affecting her vision nor is it demanding the feared 4<sup>th</sup> brain surgery. THANK GOD! But her vision is still rapidly deteriorating...She has an appointment in a few weeks to see an ophthalmologist/neurosurgeon to see if THAT doctor can figure out what is happening. Thanks for keeping her/us in your thoughts and prayers!

Not even a complete bit or piece: Ask me about the CRAZY state of our Real Estate market. We have been FOUR months now messing with our impending home purchase. I hope we get possession before we have to move to the Retirement Home!!

Blessings!!

Editor's Corner: by Dick Wyckoff

I don't have an email address for all in the club, so send it to me or let me know at jandick@earthlink.net or you can call me at 310-322-8863. I have added a lot of **color** to the HarborLight and it really looks neat. Instead of mailing, I will email it to you. Then just print your own copy or two and enjoy. Emailing the HarborLight instead of mailing saves the club more than \$12 a year per copy.

If you need something or have items to sell, advertise them in the Wheels & Deals section. Email / call me / mail me with what you have. Thanks again and keep driving those As.

**NOTE:** If you have **before** and **after** pictures of your Model A project, find a way to get them to me. I would like to have a section in the HarborLight to show off your efforts and accomplishments. Email or snail mail some pictures with a little info and I will publish them. I will return them to you. Thanks.

## Member's Update . . .



**Jeff Webb** has good days and bad. **Jeanne** is keeping a close watch on him. Drop them a line or email at: [jjjw1234@charter.com](mailto:jjjw1234@charter.com).

'Skippy' **Art Wagner** has had his hip replacement surgery and is doing the physical therapy. Things are getting better all the time.

**Rod Gott** has good and bad days and is doing better. Rod is a Harbor 'founding father', you know, and lives in Vista. Jack Gordinier keeps in touch.

**Dorothy Wood** is doing better after surgery. Drop her a 'get better' card or give her a call. After all, she is practically a 'founding mother'!

Our thoughts continue with **Becky Preston**. She is checking with her doctors for further evaluations.

The 'bionic' **Jan Wyckoff** is looking forward to knee replacement surgery in the near future.

**Bill Younkin** is still trying to shake that nasty cold. Hurry up, Bill!

## New Members:

Make sure your rosters are updated with our two new families, #99 and #100.

### **Bill and JoAnn Moore**

1 Bridle Lane,

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275.

Telephone: 310-832-5921. They have a 1931 Sport Coupe.

### **Bob and Lowane Younkin**

373 Burr Street

Corona, CA 92882

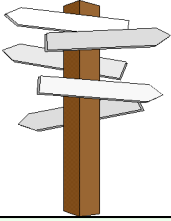
Telephone: 310-735-5807. They have a 1929 Ford Speedster and a 1915 Model T Depot Hack.

**Weekly Summer Car Gathering:** If you are looking for some place to go during the summer months on Fridays between 4 and 8PM, you might check out **Ruby's Restaurant in Redondo Beach** near the pier and lagoon. Anywhere from 50 to 150 cars of all types congregate and enjoy the beach weather. Several Harbor club members visit regularly, have a bite to eat and look at the hot rods, classics, and antique vehicles. Stop by and say hello.

## Weekly Family Food Festivities:

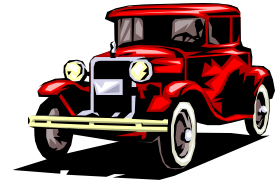
Many of the Harbor members meet at the **Hot 'n Tot** restaurant each Monday at about 5PM for dinner. Drain Marshall likes to call it 'Spaghetti Night' because the Monday night dinner special is all you can eat spaghetti with a salad at \$5.75. Join us for dinner. The Hot 'n Tot is located at 2347 Pacific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





## Terrific Tour

By Dick Wyckoff



### International Model 'A' Day Tour

A nice convoy of seven Model As took the 60 mile coastal route from Torrance to Oxnard, CA, July 26th, to visit the Murphy car museum. The drive was wonderful and easy and the scenery spectacular. Lots of people enjoyed the rolling display of our 80 year old cars.

The Murphy car collection is open for private groups and president Steve Preston made the arrangements for the visit. About 80 cars of all kinds are on display with five being Model As. The museum is very visitor friendly and the docents gave a great tour. A lot of the restorations are done there and we got to see the shops where the work is done. A picnic lunch right there at the museum was relaxing.

We then gassed up and started home, driving 40 to 45 mph along the beach. A warm sunny day was perfect for the first International Model A Day. Life is good!



Woody Collection with '29 Ford



Harbor members looking over some of the 80 cars



Some of the beautiful cars at the entrance to the museum

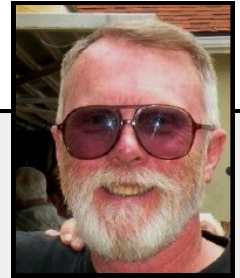


A beautiful Model T Touring car





## Technical Talk with Bill Newell



### Forgotten Lubrication Locations

Most of us are pretty conscientious about lubricating the well publicized lube locations such as steering and engine. But what about all those other little rub spots and wear points that could cause our cars to quit performing as well as they should.

Over the years, I have put together a list of some of the forgotten locations on the Model A that need a little assist once in a while.

- The accelerator linkage assembly attached to the rear of the engine block next to the firewall has two holes in the top. This is for a drop of oil once in a while. This keeps the gas pedal operating smoothly. While we are talking about gas linkage, how about a drop of oil at the ends of the spark and gas linkages. This spring loaded joint can wear the ball off the end of the control rods if it doesn't get some lube.
- How about a drop of oil at each end of the motor in the horn? It can make the horn spin more freely and give a true ahooga sound.
- A little lube on the distributor cam can extend the life of your points and keep them set much longer. The key word is 'little'. We don't want the points fouled by excess lube.
- Inside your distributor housing, the upper plate moves in grooves when you advance and retard the spark. This groove can become worn and cause difficulty moving your spark lever. Removing the distributor, then cleaning and lubing the groove will make things work so much easier.
- While the distributor is out, you might put a drop or two of oil where the upper distributor shaft bushing is located. Ford didn't provide a positive lube location for the upper bushing.
- Are your spark and gas levers hard to move? A drop of oil in each of the lever holes under the horn will make things easier. They never get any oil!
- Do you think a drop of oil in your hood latches will make them easier to use? It does. . . . .

#### LUBRICATOR FITTING ON STEERING GEAR CHANGED TO A PLUG

To eliminate the possibility of mechanics putting grease instead of gear lubricant in the steering gear, the Zerk fitting has been replaced with a pipe plug (see Fig. 776).

Never put grease in the steering gear. Complaints of hard steering can invariably be traced to that source. Use gear lubricant only in the steering gear—the same lubricant that is used in the axle and transmission.

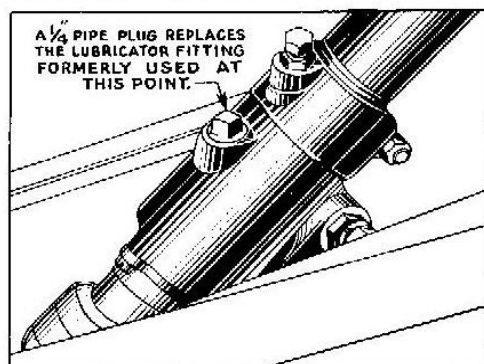


Fig. 776

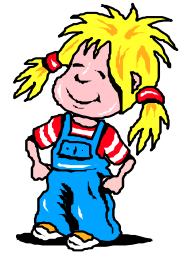


This important tidbit of information appeared in the October 1929 Ford Service Bulletin, page 383.

See what happens if you don't lube your car properly?

# Ursi's Uptown Lowdown

By Ursula Schmidt  
Membership Chair

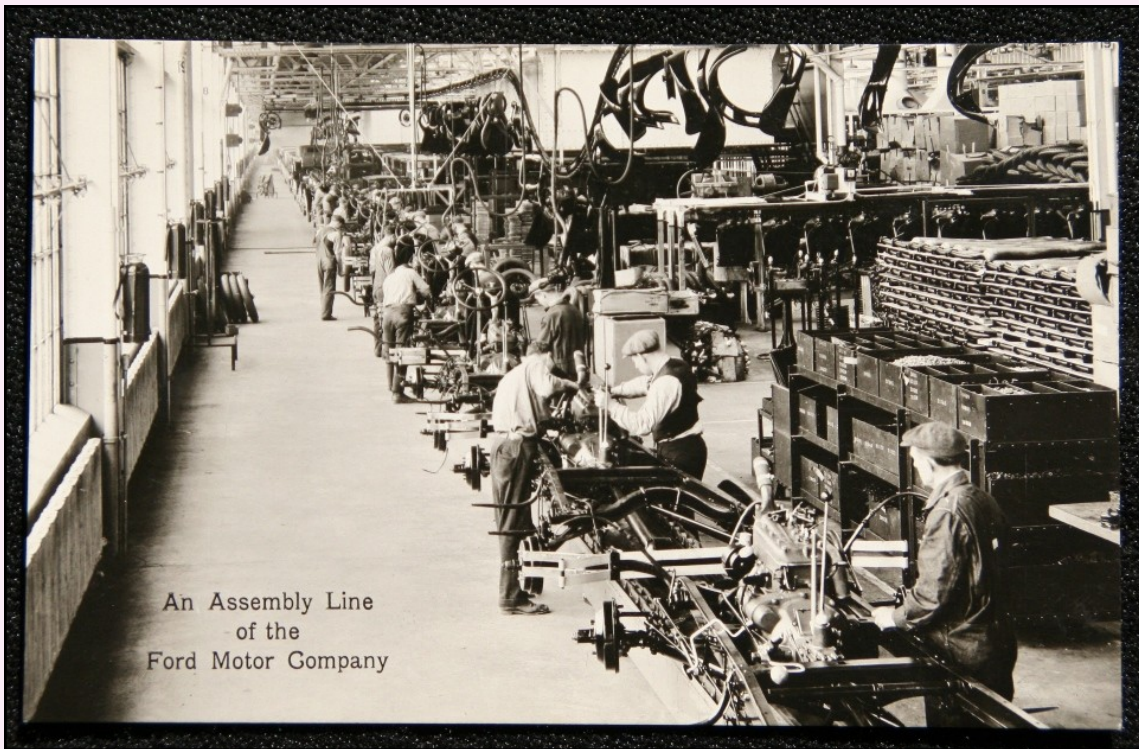


## Gas Prices Around the World

If you thought that last summer the gasoline was expensive, look again! Just be glad that you don't live in Sierra Leone, where one gallon of gas is \$ 18.43 per gallon. In Norway a gallon costs you \$ 10.37 followed closely by the Netherlands with \$ 10.11. Compared with the former, we still have a bargain!

In the countries with lots of oil reserves, a gallon of gasoline only sets you back 79 cents in Kuwait and 45 cents in Saudi Arabia. No wonder they can afford to fill up those Rolls Royces and Bentleys!

The cheapest three are Iran with 42 cents, Nigeria with 38 cents and Venezuela with 19 cents per gallon. Can you imagine paying over \$18 or only 19 cents for a gallon of gasoline?



## 2008 Membership Roster info:

• Phonebooks/rosters are available and are available at all 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.

• Make sure you noted our new members on page three. **Bill and JoAnn Moore**, and **Bobby and Lowane Younkin**. Bobby is Bill Younkin's brother. Welcome aboard.



## What were YOU doing when the Earthquake hit?

By Dick Wyckoff

When you ask around, people were doing the normal things on Tuesday, 29 July 2008 at about 1142AM. Some were going to lunch, others were in the office thinking about lunch, still others were having serious discussions about the important things in life. It was the last thing that that Drain Marshall and I were doing.

Drain had dropped by my garage in El Segundo where I was preparing Jan's Cabriolet for the upcoming car show in town. We were talking about important things like the merits of a Tillotson carb vs. a Zenith carb when I felt a little motion. I was standing at the time and didn't give it much thought. Drain was sitting on the shop stool and noticed the same motion, but it was a little magnified by the stool. Shortly thereafter, Drain said " I think we are having an earthquake!". By then, his car at the entrance to the garage was rocking and the overhead 8 ft fluorescent lights were swinging wildly back and forth. The telephone poles in the alley were swaying, the trees were shaking pretty hard too. Drain was in for the ride of his life on that stool! He was holding on to the workbench and I was standing there watching everything moving wondering if the lights were going to come down on my cars!

Soon it all stopped. The radio was on and the announcer was saying that we just had a 5.8 quake. Shortly it was revised to a 5.4 with the center about 30 miles east of Los Angeles, 8.5 miles beneath Chino Hills. Drain tried to call Doris, but, like the rest of Southern California, the phone system was jammed and couldn't get through.

Fortunately, nothing broke and the important discussion will have to continue at another time. Drain promised not to bring an earthquake with him the next time he drops by.

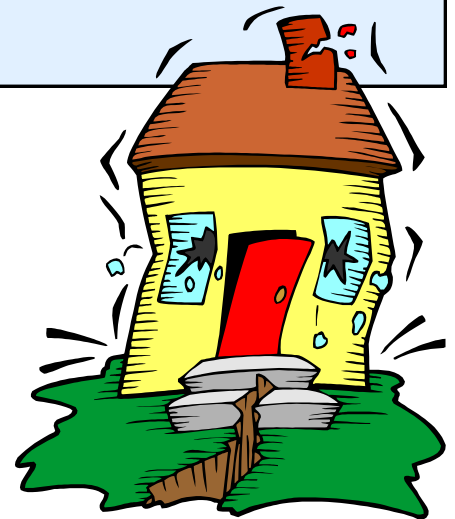
Quoting from the Southern California Earthquake Center bulletin, "Because this earthquake was widely felt but did little damage, it served as an excellent opportunity for Southern Californians to test their readiness in the event of a major earthquake. In November, people all across the region will participate in 'The Great Southern California Shakeout', the largest-ever earthquake drill in the United States. Please join us as we make history!"

### September Birthdays:

- 1 Rhoda Larquier
- 6 Darlene Funk
- 6 Jim Beardsley
- 8 Bob Olsen
- 11 Ursula Schmidt
- 14 Terry Marshall
- 15 Joy Pierson
- 17 Art Wagner
- 19 Thom Marshall
- 20 Vince Migliazzo
- 28 Helen Carr

### September Anniversaries:

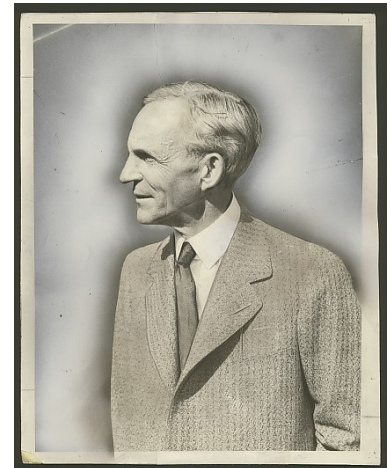
- 2 Bob & Laura Pahls
- 5 Carla & Walt Hibbard
- 6 Becky & Steve Preston
- 17 Gwen & Dick Valot
- 23 Acela & Conrad Garcia



## Excerpts from Harbor Business and Board Meeting Minutes:

**July 25,'08 Business meeting:** The meeting opened on time at 7:33PM with a flag salute and recognition of past presidents. Treasury is healthy. Historian Sue Hankins showed DVD of Orange County pancake breakfast (rain and all). Dick Lusk reported 31 cars safety checked this year so far. Drain Marshall gave lowdown on the tour to Oxnard. Dick Wyckoff gave details for picnic/car show August 23rd in El Segundo. Dick also gave report on the Dallas World Model A meet. He mentioned that he won the contest on the 1928 Ford mechanics exam. Bill Newell is looking for projects for technical seminars. Bill and Ellen supplied refreshments that evening. Doris is substituting for Donna as Secretary.

**August 5,'08 Board meeting:** The meeting called to order by president Preston. Past minutes approved. Treasury is healthy. Harborlight editor Dick Wyckoff requests articles in by the 10th. Also 25 people are getting the newsletter by email saving \$300/year. Membership chair Ursi Schmidt reports Bob Younkin family is 100th family member. Bill Newell is investigating the rebuilding of Sue Hankins steering box as a seminar. No info from webmaster as to startup of site. Contact made by president with San Pedro Elks for installation banquet in January 2009. Election of officers will begin at September meeting.



Henry Ford

**Bob Younkin** in his 1915 Ford depot hack with **Chip Foosse** in Huntington Beach. Bob is technical advisor on a Model T project with Chip. Chip is subject of many car designer television shows and talented artist. His shop builds custom cars.

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## *Tours and Things:*

- **Sunday, September 28th.** The Bakersfield Model A Club is again sponsoring a picnic gathering in Frazier Park, north of Los Angeles on the Grapevine. Many cars from several clubs show up and a great pot luck lunch is served. We usually start from Mills at about 7:30AM to make the two hour freeway trip. We make a couple stops for coffee and 'other'. Good time to put your 'slow moving vehicle' triangle on the back. It really keeps other cars at a distance!
- **Saturday, October 4th.** Harbor Club annual garage sale at the home of Bill and Gloria Younkin, 21233 Grant Ave., Torrance, CA. Ph: 310-316-8722. Start collecting your treasures now. Bill will collect items the Friday before. They must be priced. The sale starts at 7AM Saturday morning. This is a great money maker for the club. Please contribute and help out, too.

## *2008 Treasure Hunter's Calendar*



- **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 Headquarters, 6707 N. Little League Dr., San Bernardino, Ca.

## *More Future Happenings and Events:*

- **September 4—7** Labor Day 4th Annual Rally in Quincy, CA. Gold Country festivities NE of Sacramento, CA. Rustic, cowboy-like outing with BBQ and campfires. Feather River As hosting.
- **September 26th Business meeting:** Important: Nominations will be open for next year's Board. Openings include: Treasurer (2 years), Secretary (1 year), Tour Director (1 year), and Technical Director (1 year), Please consider running for one of these offices. (The pay isn't great, but the rewards are plentiful!)
- **Saturday, October 4th—**Annual Garage Sale to be held at the garage of Bill and Gloria Younkin in Torrance. Start saving your treasures now. Great money maker for the club.
- **Friday, October 24th—**Annual Fall Pot Luck business meeting. Also, nominations for next year's officers will continue to be open. Food at 6PM, meeting at 7:30PM.
- **Saturday, November 1st—**Annual Progressive dinner. Three secret stops with breakfast, lunch, and dessert. Cost: \$5/member. \$10/guest. Non-refundable.

## Wheels & Deals:

### For Sale:

- Harbor Model A Club 50th Anniversary pins. *Reduced price!* \$3 each or 4 for \$10.  
Dick: (310) 322-8863.

### Wanted:

- Model A frame for speedster project. Willing to take the old one off your hands or negotiate a price.  
Contact **Bill Newell** at 310-328-5560.

- Staples and canned food for a Food Drive. Nothing too old please. All goes to a very good Christian Transitional Housing Organization in Hollywood. You'll be doing a very good thing! **Sandy Ragon** is collecting the food at the monthly meetings. Thanks so much. Sandy (310) 532-7553.

- Used greeting cards (complete cards please). We will recycle them.  
**Ursi** (310) 539-5391 and **Doris** (310) 378-5061.



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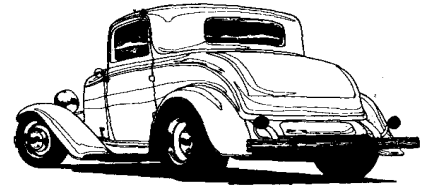
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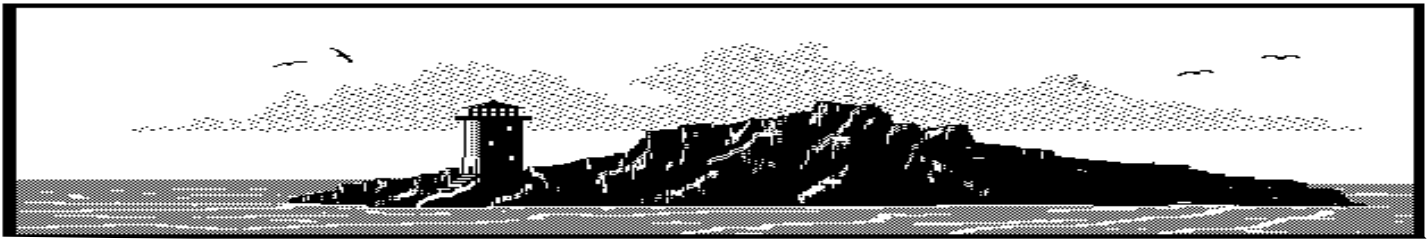


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The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the WALTERIA Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and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

**Board of Directors:**

**President:**

Steve Preston (310) 669-9902

Email: Steve@Preston53.com

**Vice-President:**

Bill Younkin (310) 316-8722

**Secretary:**

Donna Heise (310) 323-2186

**Treasurer:**

Cliff Heise (310) 323-2186

**Tour Director:**

Drain Marshall (310) 378-5061

**Technical Director:**

Bill Newell (310) 328-5560

**Appointed Officers:**

**Membership:**

Ursula Schmidt (310) 539-5391

**Historian:**

Sue Hankins (310) 782-0082

**Sunshine Secretary:**

Doris Marshall (310) 378-5061

**Advertising:**

Drain Marshall (310) 378-5061

**Safety:**

Dick Lusk (310) 539-5391

**Refreshments:**

Elaine Pisu (310) 793-1789

**Appointed Officers:**

**Tools:**

Bob DeCrescenzo (310) 540-3690

**Sergeant-at-Arms:**

Monty Bates (310) 516-0468

**Webmaster:**

Mike Wright (310) 516-9309

**HarborLight Editor:**

Dick Wyckoff

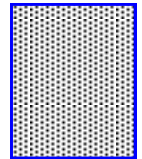
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Phone: (310) 322-8863

E-mail: Janndick@earthlink.net

# THE HARBOR LIGHT



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September 2008



Something can be said about this sign  
seen somewhere in the mid-west.

Forwarded by Jeanne Webb.