

# HARBORLIGHT

## Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Torrance, California

### March 2009

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### Next Business Meeting:

- The next regular **March** club business meeting will be **Friday, March 27th, 2009** at the regular time, 7:30PM in the WALTERIA Clubhouse.

We will be having a White Elephant sale at the meeting. So bring your treasures. Model A related parts are welcome, too. Proceeds go to the club.

##### Next Board Meeting:

- The **March** board meeting will be at Pat and Sue's home, 821 W Clarion Dr., Torrance CA 90502. Ph: 310-533-8155.

The date is **Tuesday, March 10th**, the time is 6PM. All are welcome.

Visit: [www.Harbor-MARC.org](http://www.Harbor-MARC.org)

##### Next Tours and Events:

- **Thursday, March 12th.** Tech-tour to Brassworks Radiator in Paso Robles. One day trip in moderns. See details page 7.

- At the **Friday, March 27th** meeting, we will have a **White Elephant Sale**. Save your treasures, Proceeds go to the club. Model A related items would be welcomed also.

- **Sunday, March 29th.** Orange County pancake breakfast. We leave from Mills at 7AM. Be at Mills at 6:30AM. It is a 45 min drive to OC.

##### Technical Seminar

- Safety seminar meeting at Dick and Ursi's **Saturday, April 25th**. Pot luck and business meeting event. More to come.



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*Notes  
from the  
President*  
*By Steve Preston*



As I write this, I am multi-tasking. I have FaceBook on another screen and I am chatting with a young man in Springfield Missouri (at our Seminary there). He is coming here to L.A. to plant a church and we are working on his next visit .He is 1500 miles away and we are chatting via computer in real time. In a few weeks, he will board a jet with his wife and in 4 hours they will be at LAX.

Times have changed. 80 years ago, it was Mines Field and the trip from Missouri was “daylight only” flight that may have spanned 2 or 3 days. OR, they could have jumped into their brand new Model A and taken the “mother road.” That would have taken a week, maybe. Plans would have been via mail, and not air mail at that (too expensive).

Today, if we DID decide to take Route 66 in our As (a dream of mine!!!), we would be carrying GPS units and cell phones. We would have radios to keep in contact with the rest of our “convoy” and we would have great hotels and food stops along the way. It is a different world we live in, 80 years later.

Have you ever thought that for the most part the folks that bought our As originally were probably not as well off as we are? The A was in all likelihood their only car and there would certainly not have been time and money for a hobby restoring 80 year old cars. Of course there were no 80 year old cars in 1929...but you get my drift. Life spans were much shorter and health was not as good. Families were larger and houses were smaller. Many children didn’t make it to adulthood due to disease. And there were no retirement plans.

We live in a CRAZY world, but we are living blessed lives. We live longer and healthier than our parents did. Our kids live through childhood and most of us have lots of tools and gadgets that make life “easier.” Social Security is shaky and our 401-ks have been hit hard in recent months, but we have the time and money to enjoy our beloved As. And we have a club full of friends who like us and enjoy Model As as much as we do.

So, let’s take advantage of living in 2009 and not 1929. Let’s make it a point to join our HMARC friends on the road following Tour Director Pat as she leads us through the year. Let’s put the club meetings on our calendars now, and be there!

A representative of the USO at LAX will be with us in our February meeting. She promises to bring us some yummy cookies and treats and to tell us about their work “ministering” to our service personnel as they come through LAX. I propose that we respond to her presentation as a blessed people, who are thankful to those who have placed their lives on the line to secure our blessings. Come prepared to give thanks in a very tangible way, thankful that you live in a day when a Model A is a hobby and not the only way to get from Missouri to California.

Blessings!!

## Sunshine Secretary's Report . . . By Doris Marshall



- **Paul Larquier** is still have trouble walking. He is seeing specialists to trace down the problem. Looking forward to seeing you and **Rhoda** soon! We are thinking of you both.
- **Jeff Webb** needs our thoughts and prayers. **Jeanne** is doing her best to keep healthy herself and also keep an eye on Jeff. It was mentioned that they have sold both of their As. That is a good thing because they could no longer drive them and the new owner is properly caring for them. We are thinking of both of you and hope you get better soon.
- Former president (1960), **Bob Moser**, is not feeling up to par. He hopes to visit us from Lake Forest if he can. Enjoyed your visits last year, Bob. Hope to see you again soon.

### 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.

### March Birthdays

- 4 Donna Heise
- 8 Richard Parrish
- 12 Margaret Gott
- 17 Ellen Peterson
- 21 Bill Gaugler
- 25 Diana Murphy
- 31 Al Avoian



### March Anniversaries

- 7 Jan & Dick Wyckoff
- 10 Donnis & Monty Bates
- 20 Daffy & Art Wagner
- 24 Janice & Ted Dalton
- 31 Joy & Dave Pierson

### Editor's Corner by Dick Wyckoff

I am always looking for interesting Model A related articles and items for the 'Wheels and Deals' section. If you have an item for sale, let me know. The newsletter is distributed to other clubs all over the local area and many parts of the country.

Also, if you would like to receive the HarborLight by email, let me know. The club saves one dollar each month per email subscriber. I have a distribution now of 28 people from the club and 14 other clubs. This is over \$300 per year savings. AND it is in color! Just let me know your email address.

Thanks, and keep driving those As.



## *Our First Tour of the Season* by Dick Wyckoff

Tour Director, **Pat Yacklon**, prepared a great tour to the local Griffith Park Observatory. The Observatory has recently finished a two year renovation and was now open to the public. The only problem was the weather was not co-operating.

We all met at the usual spot, Mills Restaurant, for a great 25 mile drive. When it came time, there was a whole lot of rain in the area and all 26 of us showed up in our moderns. Not to be deterred, we took off. About 10 minutes down the road, the rain stopped and



the sky cleared up.

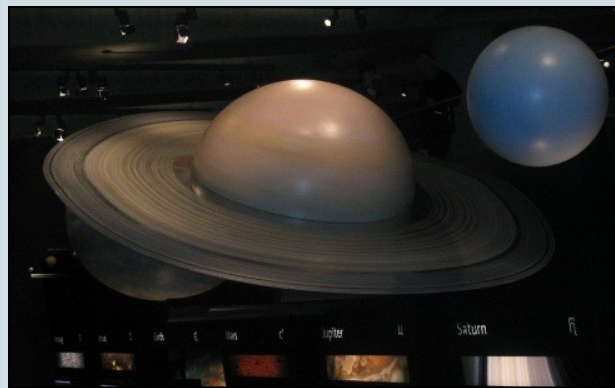
What great timing, Pat!

Not having been to the Observatory in many years, the drive up the hill was interesting as we passed historic ,

early LA mansions and the



Greek Theatre. At the top of the hill, it was a bit chilly, but the view was spectacular.



We gathered up the clan, took a few pictures, and headed for the observatory.

The group took in two 35 minute shows about the universe and the night sky. It is interesting to see what



beauty the heavens hold without all the city lights. Truly magnificent.

Of course, by the time the tour was over, we took off to eat. (A guy's gotta eat, ya know!) Due to parking problems in Hollywood,



some had to find alternate locations, but it was well worth while.

We are looking forward to the next tours and hopefully we can drive the Model As!



## Technical Talk with Dick Lusk



### *The Brain of the Model A Ford*

This month's topic will be on safe driving the Model A Ford. It is a remarkable machine. It moves by the power produced by the combustion within. It is self-propelled, self-moving, -no horse required - It is a mechanism which is constantly being improved by member's upgrades. But is never complete until the driver is added.

Let us consider this: Every year we add new safety devices to our Model A Fords, such as turn-signals, added volts, mirrors, safety belts etc. Then why does it not become completely foolproof on the road? Can it ever become completely foolproof? No, not once the fool is added behind the wheel! It would have to be able to learn from experience, to be able to deal with new and ever-changing situations and react to emergencies and to act with a conscience. But it can never be made to do these things because it can never be given a brain.

The driver is the brain and the controlling force of the Model A. Without a driver the Model A could do nothing. He is responsible for what his car does as he is for anything else that he does himself. In fact his car can be thought of as an extension of himself whenever he is behind the wheel. The Model A can be a useful tool to man, just like all the other inventions.

But the automobile is the most complicated tool used by the majority of people. Moreover it is potentially the most dangerous. For this reason any effort which man expends in mastering this tool, before attempting to control it in involved activity of highway traffic, is effort well-spent. The Model A is an unreasoning irresponsible instrument with awe-inspiring 40 horsepower. The capable driver applies its power and releases it whenever he desires. He alone checks and controls the Model A at will and converts it to a safe instrument of good motoring.

Happy trails!

Your tech- and safety director

Dick Lusk

### *Keeping It Original or Upgrading* by Dick Wyckoff

Many of us love our Model As as original as we can make them. Others like some upgrades for their own personal reasons. I happen to be in both camps. My '29 Roadster PU has been brought back to it's condition as it was in 1962, modifications and all. The '30 Cabriolet is as stock as I can make it, with one change. I have an alternator.

This may not seem like a big thing, but I like an alternator. I just don't like how it looks.

At the swap meet in Turlock in January, I happened on a booth manned by a fellow A'er from Simi Valley, Russ Evans. He has come up with a clever compromise. Russ has installed the guts of a modern Toyota alternator into the housing of a Model A generator. It looks absolutely stock with pulley, relay and everything. Over a period of two years, he and an electrical engineer friend worked out the machining and wiring problems and are now fabricating 6 and 12 volt alternators that look great. They are 45 amp output, fully tested, and have, so far, been run trouble free on Russ' car for over 8000 miles.

So, if you are in the same predicament as I am, here is a chance to fix it. The cost is \$280. Kinda pricy but a lot of manufacturing time and engineering goes into the project.

You can contact Russ on his cell at 805-813-0480 or in the shop at 805-583-4221. Call him. Check it out. It makes the engine compartment original looking again.

# Ursi's Uptown Lowdown



By Ursula Schmidt  
Membership Chair



## *Grandma's Apron*

Author unknown

The principle use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a holder for removing hot pans from the oven. It is wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the Chicken-coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

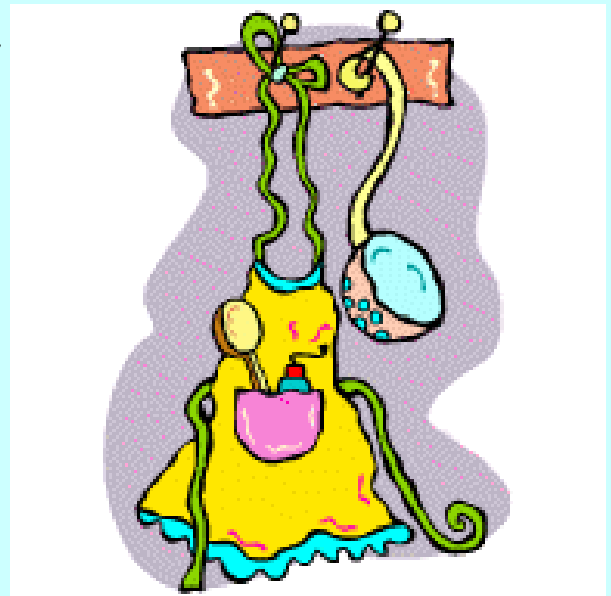
When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. And when the weather was cold, Grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron. From the garden, it carries all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron'



## *2009 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.



## **TERRIFIC TOURS** by Pat Yacklon, Tour Director

Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

**Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>** - Orange County Pancake Breakfast We will leave Mills (190th and Western) at 7AM. Be there at 6:30AM. The trip is freeway at 45MPH and takes 45 minutes. Fun time!

**Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** - Will Rogers State Park. More to come.

**Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** - Huntington Library



Here are some touring safety reminders.

1. Please keep enough space between you and the "A" in front of you so that other cars can pass between you, especially at on and off ramps.
2. If you have a problem, flash your headlights.

Please bring your walkie-talkie and/or cell phone if you have one.

Our cell phone will be on one hour before each tour: **310-245-1996**

### **Tech-Tour** by Dick Lusk

Dick Lusk has arranged a Tech-Tour of Brassworks radiator in Paso Robles CA on **Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**. The 220 mile trip will be in moderns, car pool style. We want to be there by about 10:30AM so we need to leave Mills (190th and Western) at 5:30AM. Dick will work up a list of people that are interested and travel arrangements. We will return the same day. Brassworks is one of the premier custom and antique radiator manufacturers. Several of our members use their radiators in our cars.



### **Tool Talk** by Rick Black, El Paso Texas

The original tool kit supplied with the Model A and AA vehicles consisted of the following 13 items:

- |  |  |                            |
|--|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Adjustable wrench                           | 2. Engine crank and wheel lug wrench           | 3. Grease Gun              |
| 4. Instruction/Owner's Manual                  | 5. Jack and Handle                             | 6. Oil can (thru May 1928) |
| 7. Open end wrenches—7/16 x 1/2 and 9/16 x 5/8 | 8. Pliers (screwdriver blade on end of handle) |                            |
| 9. Screwdriver                                 | 10. Spark plug/ Cylinder Head Nut wrench       | 11. Tire Iron              |
| 12. Tire Pump                                  | 13. Tool Bag                                   |                            |

Many people see old tools with FORD script on them and assume they're for a Model A or Model T. What I've found interesting is that few, if any, Model A tools had part numbers on them! Model T tools did, most of the time. And beginning in 1932, almost all Ford tools had a part number on them that also identifies the first year they were used. The same numbering system is in still used today.

## Excerpts from Harbor Meeting Notes:

**February 10th, 2009 Board meeting:** The board meeting was held at the home of **Pat Yacklon** and **Sue Hankins**. 14 people present. President **Steve Preston** presiding. Treasurer **Daffy Wagner** reports the treasury is healthy. VP **Bill Younkin** reported the raffle at the banquet made \$580. Great raffle. HarborLight editor **Dick Wyckoff** reminds everyone to submit their articles by the 10th. Safety Czar **Dick Lusk** reports combined safety/business meeting in April at his house. Sunshine Secretary **Doris Marshall** kept us informed of the health issues some of our members. Keep them in your thoughts. Tech Director **Dick Lusk** is leading a tech-tour to Brassworks on March 12th. Tour Director **Pat Yacklon** reported that 26 people went on the Griffith Park Observatory tour. Membership Chair **Ursi Schmidt** reported 86 paid members. 12 have not renewed yet. Webmaster **Mike Wright** is working out the details on his new web site. Old Business: Discussion about tour mileage credit generated interest. Committee to define rules better. New Business: Give thought to changing board meeting to before the business meeting. Board voted to donate prize to Orange County pancake breakfast. Next board meeting at Pat and Sue's again on Tuesday, March 10th, 6PM. Submitted by **Jan Wyckoff**, Secretary.



New 1928 Sport Coupe on display in Ford showroom. Car includes rumble seat and pin striping. Pictures of other new model cars are also on display.



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## Long Distance Events 2009

**May 1-3, 2009.** Central California Regional Group Jamboree. Porterville Holiday Inn Express. Hosts: Happy Honkers.

**May 22-25, 2009.** Northern California Regional Group Roundup. Lake Tahoe CA. Hosts: Spark 'N As.

**June 14-19, 2009.** Breckenridge, Colorado. The Colorado High Country Tour. Hosts: Model A Ford Club of Colorado.

**June 21-26, 2009.** MARC National Meet, Merrillville, Indiana.

**July 11-12, 2009** Wings and Wheels in Solvang, CA. More info to follow.

**July 19-24, 2009.** Northwest Regional Group Meet. Cottage Grove, Oregon. Hosts: McKenzie A's of Eugene, OR.

**September 11-13, 2009.** Quincy, California. 'Roundup at the Ranch'. Hosts: Feather River As.

## 2009 Treasure Hunter's Calendar

- **Friday—Sunday, 27, 28 February and 1 March** is the giant Swap Meet at Qualcomm (3M) Stadium in San Diego. This is the largest swap meet in So Cal each year.
- **Friday—Saturday, 17 and 18 April.** Horseless Carriage Club of America National Swap Meet. Location: Bakersfield, CA Fairgrounds. 1 mile East of 99 hwy off Ming. Follow the signs. 7AM gates open. \$2 admission. Good event.
- **Saturday-Sunday, July 11th & 12th.** Riverside-Corona Model T Ford Club swap meet. More info to follow. Greg Hill 951-681-5346



## 4# Pressure Radiator Cap Discovery by Dick Wyckoff

Some of us run pressurized radiators in in our Model As for whatever reason. One of the problems we have had is finding a 4 lb radiator cap designed for a fluid recovery system. This would be similar to a modern car with a 17 lb system. While at the swap meet in Turlock this last month, I had a chance to walk through a store called Tractor Supply Co. In there was a section with radiator caps for Ford 4-cyl tractor engines. On a hunch, I bought a 4 lb cap and guess what, it is exactly what we have been looking for. It is designed for low-pressure, overflow recovery cooling systems.

So, for those of you looking for such a cap, go on-line to [TractorSupply.com](http://TractorSupply.com) and in the top corner is a place to search for parts by number. Type in **0237958** and it will come up with the 4 lb cap that fits our needs. The cost is about \$8.

While your at it, you might check item # **4020963**. It is a collapsible, bright orange safety cone that could be carried under your seat in case of emergency. I got one of them , also. It is \$7.

## **Wheels & Deals:**

### **For Sale:**

- **1913 Model T Touring.** New wood and metal. Original '13 engine. Good tires and wood wheels. Great project car. \$4000 or?

Location: Corona CA. Contact Bob Younkin at 951-735-5807.

- **10" Craftsman Table Saw.** Near new. \$150. Location: Corona CA.

Contact: Bob Younkin at 951-735-5807.

- **Late 1930 Model A Coupe.** Owned since high school. 75 miles on \$2100 engine rebuild but has developed a knock. Stock except for 16" Kelsey wheels. Older restoration. Must sell. \$4000 OBO.

Contact Greg Tuttle 310-318-9739



### **Wanted:**

- Door pull-garnish moldings for 28-29 Tudor Sedan. Need for both front windows and left rear.

Contact Art at 310-374-6113


- Used greeting cards (complete cards please). We will recycle them.

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



AA flatbed truck delivering three new Model As on a trailer: a Tudor Sedan, a Special Coupe (with spare rim with no tire), and a Roadster with a quail radiator cap!





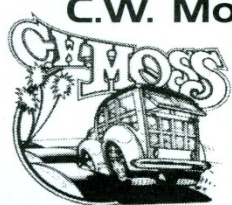
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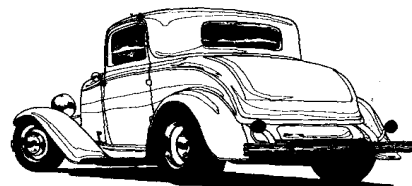
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The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the Walteria Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and 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 (562) 428-3451

Email: [Steve@Preston53.com](mailto:Steve@Preston53.com)

##### Vice-President:

Bill Younkin (310) 316-8722

##### Secretary:

Jan Wyckoff (310) 322-8863

##### Treasurer:

Daffy Wagner (310) 374-6113

##### Tour Director:

Pat Yacklon (310) 533-8155

##### Technical Director:

Dick Lusk (310) 539-5391

#### 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

##### Master Sergeant-at-Arms:

Monty Bates (310) 516-0468

##### Webmaster:

Mike Wright (310) 516-9309

[www.Harbor-MARC.org](http://www.Harbor-MARC.org)

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# THE HARBOR LIGHT

Harbor Area MARC/MAFCA  
6055 Walnut Ave  
Long Beach CA 90805

*March 2009*



Orange County pancake breakfast  
March 2008