

# HARBORLIGHT

## Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Torrance, California

### April 2009

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Next Business Meeting:

• The next regular April club business meeting will be **Saturday, April 25th** at 9AM at the home of Dick and Ursi. The address is 26419 Pineknoll Ave., Harbor City, CA 90710. Ph: 310-539-5391. This will be a combined Safety, pot luck, and business meeting. **AND** our new Hubley track by Bob De Crescenzo will be shown. Bring your Hubleys!

#### Next Board Meeting:

• The April board meeting will be at Art and Daffy Wagner's home, 2705 Carnegie Ln., Redondo Beach, CA. Ph: 310-374-6113  
The date is **Tuesday, April 7th**, the time is 6PM. All are welcome.

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

#### Next Tours and Events:

• 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.

• **Saturday, April 11th**. Tour to Will Rogers State Park. Details on Page 7. A nice drive in your As

#### Technical Seminar

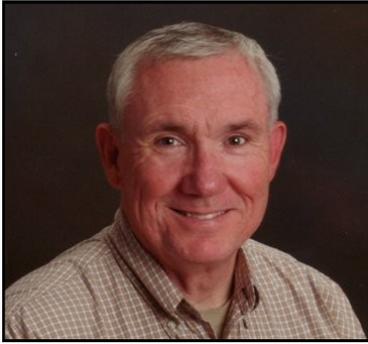
• Safety seminar meeting at Dick and Ursi's **Saturday, April 25th**. Pot luck and business meeting event. Safety inspection of your cars.



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Notes  
from the  
President  
By Steve Preston



Am I ever proud of YOU! Last meeting, Christina and Barbara from the Bob Hope U.S.O. @ LAX made a presentation, and I thought a few of us might give a little in an "offering" for their work. But you made a dramatic choice to bless them with 500 hard earned club dollars corporately. And THEN you followed up by dropping over \$500 more in the helmet that was passed. WOW! That's a lot of sandwiches and cookies for our service personnel that pass through the airport.

THANK YOU from the U.S.O. team, the service folks you have blessed, and from me. "You did GOOD!"

Christina Pong will be back in our March meeting to say thank you personally and to give us an "Army vs. Navy" rug for a special raffle prize. That should be FUN!!! And, of course the white elephant auction is a hoot, too. Be sure to bring a few items you want to unload for the auction and a wad for bills to buy the stuff you'll see that you can't live without.



That will be a fun weekend, launching with the meeting and white elephant auction and wrapping up with the O.C. Pancake Breakfast.

That is ALWAYS an amazing time to see more Model As than you can imagine all in one parking lot. Of course we have to get up before the sun rises to get to Mill's and then trek to Hart Park, but who cares? It's FUN to make a parade of As heading down the freeway to have a yummy breakfast and an over the top raffle!! Be sure to mark your calendar and to wear a mask...

Last year, I was sick as a dog and couldn't make the breakfast, so this year I plan to wear an anti-germ mask and overdose on vitamin C the week before so I will be able to join the fun. Well, maybe not on the mask. We'll have to see what Becky says about that one!

Blessings!!

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



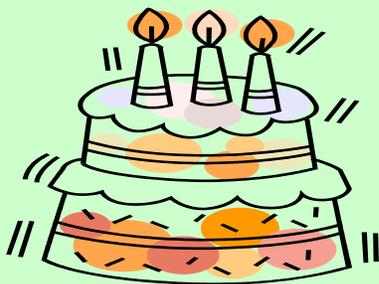
- **Paul Larquier** is doing better. He is using a walker to get around. The only problem is **Rhoda** can't find him! Keep on getting well, Paul.
- **Jeff Webb** needs our thoughts and prayers. He is limited in what he can do and has a tough time walking. **Jeanne** is doing her best to keep healthy herself and also keep an eye on Jeff. We miss you both.
- **Dorothy Wood** is back from the hospital. She is feeling much better. Dorothy is a 45 year member!
- **Bobby Younkin** had a fight with his car while putting in his trailer. It stalled and while jump starting it (it was in gear) it lurched and dragged him a couple feet bruising him pretty badly. He still made it to the Brassworks trip, tho. Don't do that again Bobby, OK? Hope you're doing better.

### 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.

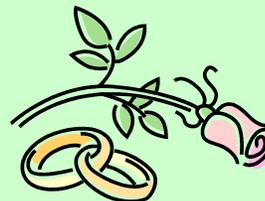
### April Birthdays

- 1 James Walker
- 7 Walt Hibbard
- 8 Bill Newell
- 12 Carol Olsen
- 14 Drain Marshall
- 14 Glenn Dean
- 19 Kathy Valot
- 28 Jack Ripley



### April Anniversaries

- 13 Gloria & Bill Younkin



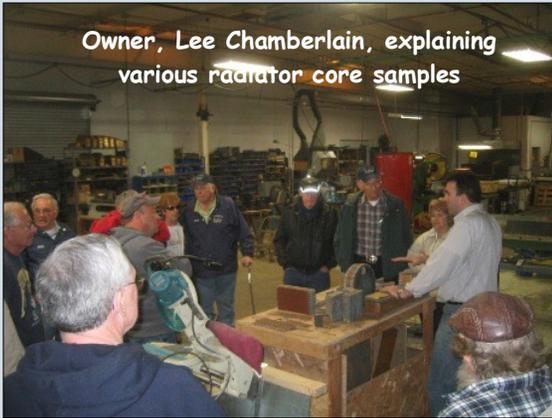
### Editor's Corner by Dick Wyckoff

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, also 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.

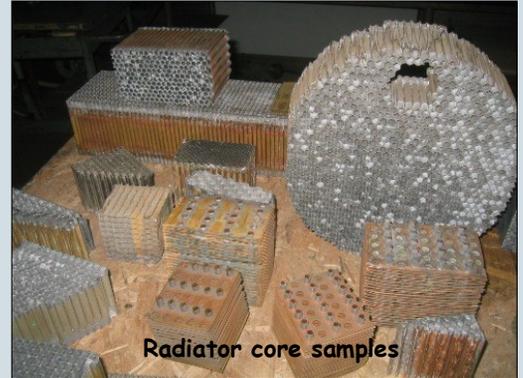
Thanks, and remember 'Keep the shiny side up!'

## Fantastic Brassworks Tour by Dick Wyckoff



Owner, Lee Chamberlain, explaining various radiator core samples

On Thursday, March 12th, 15 hardy souls left Mills at 5:30AM for a 220 mile drive to Paso Robles to visit the Brassworks radiator factory. With directions provided by leader Dick Lusk, we proceeded in the dark for the next two hours when we stopped for breakfast in Cupertino. After stretching our legs we proceeded to Paso Robles in time for our



Radiator core samples

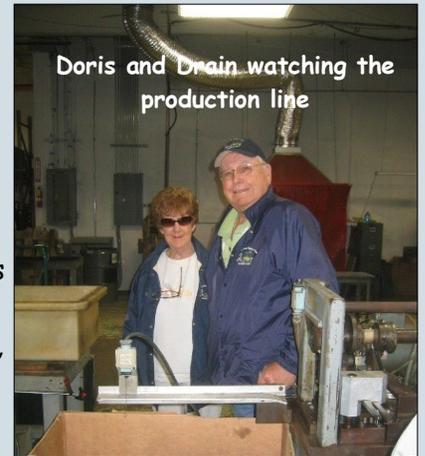
10:30 tour of the plant. We were greeted by Lee and Alexandra Chamberlain, the owners of the business.

Lee spent the next two hours with all 15 of us explaining the process of making the details of mably, soldering, And you thought Lee showed us lenges it takes to diator for an an-cour car. To help original samples of never heard of. from a collector fire. In a card-broken, melted in and wanted a



Jim and Cliff observing production of radiator parts

radiators for antique cars of all years and makes. He explained all terials of construction, forming processes, heat-treating, assem-cleaning, painting and shipping. this was going to be easy! examples of the many chal-make an exact replica of a ra-tique car, be it a driver or con-them get it right, they have radiators from cars we have One example of a challenge was who's car was destroyed by board box was tangled, warped, parts that the customer sent new radiator duplicated!



Doris and Drain watching the production line

After visiting with our hosts and getting to talk with the technicians, we all were very impressed with the of the many radiator types that exist in At the end of the tour Alexandra had showed us a local sandwich shop where wiches. Thanks to the Chamberlains for

On a separate note: After lunch riding with Cliff and Donna Heise and we home. With maps out and compass work-roads of the interior of Southern Cali-Monument and eventually stopped for



A brand new Model T radiator

Park way from over

mountains on a 50 mile road that I didn't even know existed. What a great drive with fun people.



Carrizo Park National Monument

quality of the product and Lee's knowledge our antique cars.

coffee and cake to munch on. They then all of us had great custom made sand-a wonderful visit.

most members went directly home. I was decided there must be a scenic route back ing, the three of us ended up on the back fornia. We visited Carrizo Plain National dinner in Frazier Park. We got to Frazier the long around the west the



Wildflowers at Carrizo Park



Technical Talk  
with Dick Lusk



A Letter to the Tech Guy

Dear Tech Director,

You asked for it this time, and here it is:

I certainly hope that you can answer these questions because I certainly can't.

Question #1: "Why are some Model A cranking-motor armatures (starter-motor-commutators) undercut and others are not?"

Question #2: "Where does the voltage that builds up in the condenser come from?"

Signed: Baffled 'Toad' Stonehocker

Dear Toad, be baffled no more:

Well, I guess I did ask for it - and you sure gave me the old one-two-three.

I am going to pick myself up and dust off my coveralls, though, and see if I can't give you some good answers.

#1: You got me when you asked why some motor-commutators are undercut and some are not., but I'll bet that manufacturers undercut all commutators. Because undercutting keeps the commutator cleaner (especially from oil vapors), and I know that armatures with undercut commutators give several thousand more miles service than those that are not undercut.

#2: Now we get down to electricity- and where the voltage in the condenser comes from. It's like this: When the contact points of the distributor close, the current from the battery or generator flows through the primary winding of the ignition coil. This causes a magnetic field to build up around both the primary and secondary windings. Then when the contact points separate, the energy from the coil unloads in a high-voltage surge. The condenser across the points provides a place for this primary current to flow - until the points have separated enough to prevent voltage from establishing an arc across them.

When the points open, the condenser brings the current flow to a quick stop and the magnetic field that has been built up, collapses quickly. It is this quick collapse of the magnetic field that puts the high voltage into both the primary and secondary windings. The induced voltage in the primary windings of the ignition coil may be as high as 250 volts. That's where the voltage in the condenser comes from.

Happy trails!

Your Tech- and Safety Director

Dick Lusk

# Ursi's Uptown Lowdown



By Ursula Schmidt  
Membership Chair



## Breakfast at the Lusk Farm

The other day Dick and I we were having breakfast with friends at Hot 'n Tot Cafe. On the big plates in front of us we had three eggs, four breakfast links and three pancakes and plates with toast. Looking at our breakfasts I was thinking what an effort it must have been to make breakfast back in the '30s on the farm in Michigan with Dick's family of seventeen kids to feed.



That would be 68 sausages, 51 eggs and 51 pancakes and who knows how many slices of toast, just for one morning of breakfast. They sure kept the hens busy laying eggs.

Considering the cost of the restaurant-breakfast at about six dollars, that would have added up to \$102; and this was only for breakfast! A few hours later the hungry hordes wanted lunch and then dinner. And this hap-

pened every day! No wonder they lived on a farm and hardly ever went out to eat.

This could probably be one of these weird statistics that we read once in a while, like if you put the sausages end to end, they could reach to the moon. But this was real life.



## An Invitation for a Visit

This morning I had a phone call from Don Ratzlaff, from the Orange County Model A Club. (714)-529-5062. He invited the Harbor MARC Club and the Screenland A's to join their tour to the **El Segundo Auto Museum**. The museum is on Lairport St, one block east of Sepulveda and just a 1/2 block north of Mariposa.

Date: **Saturday, May 9th**, meet in the museum's parking lot at 10:00AM.

Ursi

## 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! Great raffle!

Our April tour will be **Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** to Will Rogers State Historic Park in Pacific Palisades. They have done a major restoration of his ranch house. The ranch is 186 acres. It is a relaxing park setting. After our tour of the house and the grounds, we will a picnic lunch at their picnic tables. So bring a picnic lunch and plan on a fun get-together.

Meet at Mill's at 8:00 AM and leave at 8:30 AM.  
Cost per car is \$8.00 for adults and \$7.00 for seniors.

### Future tours:

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> - Huntington Library  
Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> - San Antonio Winery in LA  
Saturday, July 10, 11,12 Wings and Wheels



### Here are some touring safety reminders.

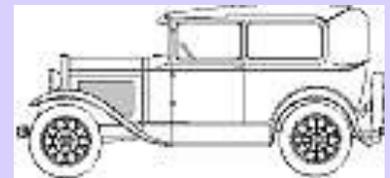
1. Please keep enough space between you and the "A" in front of you so that other cars can pass between you, especially at on and off ramps.
2. If you have a problem, flash your headlights.

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**

## Updates for your Roster

Harbor MARC welcomes new club members **Chris and Sylvia Craig**. They live at 4217 Cedar Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807. Their phone number is 562-424-9351. Their email is CC1865@hotmail.com. They have a 1928 Fordor Leatherback. Please update your rosters!



Also, **Greg Clayton's** new address is: 22013 Love St., St Claire Shores, MI 48082.

## Excerpts from Harbor Board Meeting Notes:

**March 10th, 2009 Board meeting:** President **Steve Preston** called meeting to order 6:15PM at home of **Sue and Pat**. Minutes of February meeting approved. **Ursi Schmidt** took notes in Jan's absence. Treasurer **Daffy Wagner** reports treasury healthy. At last club meeting, \$500 was donated by the club and \$505 cash was collected for the LAX USO. VP **Bill Younkin** reported revenue of \$142 at raffle last club meeting. The USO is donating an Army/Navy rug for auction next meeting. Advertising czar **Drain Marshall** reports 15 paid advertisers for the Harborlight. Editor **Dick Wyckoff** requests any articles should be submitted around the 10th of the month. AND don't forget the white elephant sale at the March 27th meeting. Membership chair **Ursi Schmidt** reports 98 paid memberships. 80 new rosters will be printed and 24 club hats will be ordered. **Elaine Pisu** has a full slate of refreshment volunteers. Sunshine Chair **Doris Marshall** reported that **Jeff Webb** is not doing well and needs our good thoughts. **Dorothy Wood** is back from the hospital and feeling better. **Bobby Younkin** was hurt loading his car on to a trailer. Got bruised up pretty badly but is getting better. Tech guru **Dick Lusk** detailed trip to Brassworks. Next safety meeting at his house April 25th. Pot luck and club meeting at the same time. Tour Director **Pat Yacklon** has tours to OC pancake breakfast, Will Rogers State Park and the Huntington Library all lined up in the near future. Club annual awards were discussed. We have the Roadrunner award, the Vic Pejchel award (most miles driven), and a Participation award for attendance at club events. A new, updated 'new members' booklet is being worked on. 10 Promotional MAFCA memberships are available, free. MAFCA insurance is being investigated. Meeting Adjourned at 7:50PM. Submitted: **Ursi Schmidt**.

### Member's 'Good Guy' Report

#### **TORRANCE TRANSMISSION SERVICE -Model A Repairs**

I bought my 1930 Cabriolet "as is" and the seller told me that car had all new stuff in it but the overdrive wasn't hooked up. During my test drive, the car continued straight when I was trying to steer left. I decided to have the car flat bedded to a shop that could make the overdrive repairs and give attention to the steering and any other conditions of the car at a later time. .

In 1989 I had a nice experience with Torrance Transmission Service located at 24009 S Hawthorne Blvd. (near PCH,), so I contacted them and asked them if they could hook up a Model A Overdrive. Much to my surprise, the owner, Mike said he has owned Model A's since he was in high school and would be delighted to look at it. (He currently has a hot-rod that is a beauty with monster power.)

They found the overdrive in good shape, but it needed a cable. But they also discovered other things requiring work: The steering box would have to be disassembled and a new two tooth sector shaft installed. The brake light switch was inoperative, not all the lights were functioning and the horn, (an aftermarket item,) was 12 volts and I have a 6 volt system. There was also an exhaust manifold leak.

Eric Bailey, put his crew to work. They found a cable for the overdrive and installed it. They checked out the electrical system, fixed the lights, found an original horn and installed it, replaced the manifold gaskets, fixed an oil leak and repaired the steering mechanism. Eric did a lot of the work and he is a very experienced mechanic.

I was impressed with the professional and workmanlike manner of their operation, which included the way I was treated, the way they worked on the car, and the overall impression one gets of their tidy and orderly shop. I noticed other collector cars in the shop, so I felt confident that they had a good reputation for handling the old, the loved, and the beautiful and treasured classic cars. Their charges were reasonable, they were willing to work with parts I had, and kept me up to date on their discoveries and the status of the repairs.

So the next time you want to spare your own knuckles, you might like to know that there is a repair shop in the area that welcomes Model A's. Give Eric Bailey a call at 310 378 9217. You won't even have to tell him "Joe sent me."

**Joe Freitag**

## Long Distance Events 2009

**April 2-5, 2009.** 21st Annual Laughlin Tour. Sponsored by the Pomona and Paradise Valley Model A Clubs. Held at the Riverside Hotel and Casino, Laughlin, NV. Email: Barbara.Branam@gmail.com.

**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. More info: www.sparknas.org

**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. Info: FeatherRiverAs@earthlink.net.

**October 4th, 2009.** Southern California Region presents Ford Fun Day '09. Hosted by the Santa Anita As. This is at the Santa Fe Dam, 15501 Arrow Hwy, Irwindale, CA.

## 2009 Treasure Hunter's Calendar

- **Friday—Saturday, 17 and 18 April.** Horseless Carriage Club of America National Swap Meet. Location: Bakersfield, CA Fairgrounds. 1-2 miles East of 99 hwy off Ming. Follow the signs. 7AM gates open. \$2 admission. Good event.
- **Sunday, June 14th, 2009.** 39th Annual Antique Nationals at Fontana. Nostalgia drag race and car show. Auto Club Raceway at Fontana, 9300 Cherry Ave, Fontana, CA 92335. Gate opens at 8AM. Admission: Adults \$25, Children under 12 free. INFO: Ron at 661/255-1931.
- **Saturday, June 27th, 2009.** 4th Annual Orange County A and T Club Parts Exchange and Car Show. El Dorado High School, 1651 Valencia Ave, Placentia, CA. 6AM to 2PM. More info: Ron Eliot 714/542-0905.
- **Saturday-Sunday, July 11th & 12th.** 42nd Annual Riverside-Corona Model T Ford Club swap meet. Saturday 11AM to 6PM. Sunday 6AM to 2PM. Take 91 Fwy to 215 Fwy exit Columbia Ave. Go west to Main St. Turn right on Placentia Ln. Watch for sign on right.
- **Sunday, August 23rd, 2009.** San Fernando Valley Model A and T Clubs Parts Exchange. San Antonio Boys Home, 21000 Plummer St., Chatsworth, CA. A good collection of original stuff.



## 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.

• **'30-'31 Cabriolet (68B) top hardware.** Triple hinges, Landau irons, upper and lower Landau pivot hardware, and more. All original. Fair prices.

Contact Dick at 310-322-8863. Located in El Segundo, CA.

• **Model A REAR END** - Complete rear end from backing plate to backing plate, including torque tube and radius rods. Brake parts are there, except shoes. I have never run this, so cannot guarantee condition inside \$65.00/offer. Call Steve Preston: 562-428-3451. Location: Long Beach, CA

• **Model A FRONT END** - complete from backing plate to backing plate. Includes wishbone, tie rod and brake parts except shoes. I know it needs rebuilding. \$65.00/offer. Call Steve: 562-428-3451

• **Model A ZENITH CARBS** - For rebuilding. 2 complete carbs. \$35.00 each or B/O. 562-428-3451.

• **Model A HEAT SHIELD** - brand new heat shield (between muffler and floorboard). I bought it, but it doesn't fit my Tudor (not enough clearance between floor and muffler). \$15/offer. 562-428-3451.



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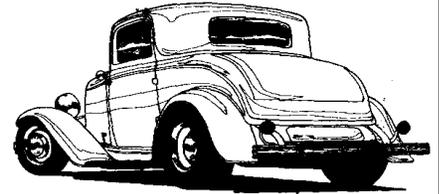
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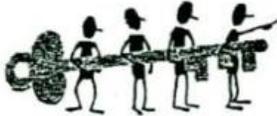
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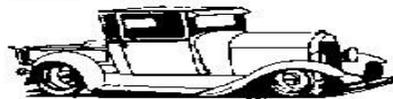


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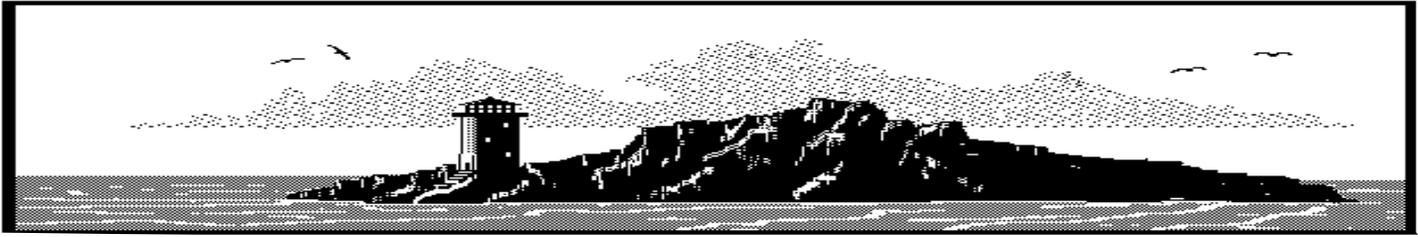


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The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the Walteria Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and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

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**Master Sergeant-at-Arms:**

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# THE HARBOR LIGHT

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Take it easy next time, young man!