

Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Founded in 1957. Torrance, California.

March 2011

Upcoming Business Meeting

Meeting Date Change! For February only, the regularly scheduled meeting will be Friday, February 18th at the Walteria clubhouse. This is a week earlier than we usually meet. (There was a conflict with other clubhouse users). Come by a little early and help with the set up. This is a good time to chat with your

friends and catch up on all the latest Model A info! See you there.

The March meeting will be as usual, the last Friday, March 25th at 7:30PM.



The HarborLight Newsletter was awarded the MARC Newsletter Award of Excellence 2009

Upcoming Tours

Make sure you put **Sunday**, **March** 27th on your calendar. That is the annual Orange County Model A club Pancake breakfast. More details on page 7.

It is a 40 minute drive from Mills Diner. An easy drive on the freeway at 45mph. Surface street routes are about an hour

Technical Seminar

People are working on a seminar for March. The new Tech Director, Charlie



Plessner, is gathering information and ideas. If you have something you think would be interesting, let him know.



Senior snow plow spotted in Oklahoma. Go Grandpa!



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The President Speaks! MAFFI Editor's Corner 2011 MARC Meet Update **Birthdays & Anniversaries** Tech Article - Radiator upgrade Hot 'n Tot Monday Caffeine Cruisers Saturday Engine work Member and Roster Info

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, March 1st at the home of Ann Biesecker's home, 10504 McKay Lane, Redondo Beach. Time:

7PM.

8

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Parking is a little tough because there is a park nearby so plan accordingly.



6	Wheels & Deals,	Club Happenings
7	Terrific Tours	

- **Terrific** Tours
- Mulholland Tour pics
- Future Events of Interest
- 10-11 Our Advertising Friends 12
 - Officer List & Mailing Info







The President Speaks!

Well, members, we had our first tour of the year and it was a great success. The new tour director, Mike Plessner, had a well laid out plan and everything went very smoothly.

We had 10 cars turn out for the tour including a 1914 Model "T" and a 1923 Cadillac. The 1923 Caddy had trouble early and had to leave the tour so we were down to 9 Model As. We all made it to the first rest stop and I think all were surprised to see the Model T still on the tour. After an hour in the mountains on Mulholland Drive, we came to a nice park to have our picnic lunch. Some of the members went to the local watering hole to have a bite to eat.

Then it was time to get back on the road and head down the mountain to the next rest stop and have dessert. Some left the tour early while others stayed at the watering hole. Now we were down to 5 cars. After about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs, the 5 meet for ice cream and to say good bye. They talked about the fun we had on the tour. Know what? That **darn** Model T was still in the group and doin' just fine, thank you! The T Club is welcome anytime on our tours.

We will have more tours planned like this one. If you missed this tour, plan to go on the next one. Driving our antique cars is what this is all about.

Bob Speaks President

Update on the National Model A Ford Museum by Sue Hankins

MAFFI, Model A Ford Foundation, Inc., has been busy working on making the National Model A Ford Museum a reality. Since their beginning in the summer of 1988, their goal has been the preservation of memorabilia of the Model A Era. By November 2010 they had officially signed an agreement with the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan to build a 12,000 square foot facility. Now they need help from everyone with donations and contributions. One of the ways you can contribute is by buying a raffle ticket to win a 1930 Model A Tudor, which will be given away at the San Diego MARC 2011 National Meet in June. Tickets are \$10 for 1; \$25 for 3; \$50 for 9 tickets. I'll have tickets available at the business meeting. For those who would like to contribute a larger donation, you can send a check made out to MAFFI, Model A Museum Fund, P.O. Box 95151, Nonantum, MA 02495.

They are now giving a hat/lapel pin as a thank you for donations of \$100 or more. I'll have one at the meeting to show and also donor brochures.

You can see the pin and get more information at the MAFFI website: <u>www.maffi.org</u>.



- 4 Donna Heise
- Chris Craig 6
- Elma Polson 6
- 8 **Richard Parrish**
- 12 Margret Gott
- 17 Ellen Peterson



- **Bill Gaugler** 21
- Jay Skinner 24
- 25 Diana Murphy
- 25 Jack Goldberg
- 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

Many of the club members receive the HarborLight by **email**. I encourage you to do this. Just let me know your current email address. It's that simple. The club saves a little more than one dollar each month per email subscriber. I have an email distribution now of 40 people from the Harbor Club and 20 others. This is more

email subscriber. I have an email distribution now of 40 people from the Harbor Club and 20 others. This is more than \$700 per year savings. <u>AND</u> it is in color! You can print it out in B&W or color if you want, enlarge it, send it to your friends, or save it in your computer files. Again, just let me know your email address. Thanks. We editors are always looking for articles of interest to put in the newsletters. There must be some interesting Model A stories out there. For instance: How long have you had your car? Was it your first car? Have you driven it on some great journeys? Was it a family car? Did you restore it yourself? Do you have before and after pictures? If you have pictures, I can scan them and put them in the newsletter. Also, if you have an <u>item for sale</u>, let me know. I will put it in the '<u>Wheels and Deals'</u> section. The newsletter is distributed to many other clubs locally and other parts of the country.

2011 MARC National Meet Update by Dick Wyckoff

As you may know, Dan Fitzgerald and I are on the planning committee of the 2011 MARC National Meet this coming June 27th to July 1st in San Diego. The committee has been working hard to make the event a great success. Lots of great seminars, tours, sightseeing, and car judging to be had. A Commotion by the Ocean will be headquartered at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center in Mission Valley. Many fine attractions are within short driving distance or local trolley ride. Such attractions as the Old Town Market, the USS Midway aircraft carrier, Seaport Village, the Gaslamp Quarter, Hotel Del Coronado, the famous San Diego Zoo, and Balboa Park.

There are something like 29 different committees being formed and sometime soon, I will be asking for help with these committees. Our president Bob Speaks, has agreed to head the swap meet group and Dick Lusk

has agreed to head the parking. We are also looking for nice donations for the raffle. We have some 'headliner' raffle items already such as a complete H&H rebuilt stock engine and Dan Fitzgerald arranged a two night stay at a very nice Napa Valley resort hotel, the Meritage. The stay includes a case of Trinitas wine! You can buy H&H raffle tickets from me right now. The Meritage Resort tickets will be available with registration. The January-February issue of the Model A News has the latest registration information and list of events. Check it out and register now!

So, you can see, Dan and I have a lot on our plate and are looking forward to seeing as many of our Harbor friends in San Diego this summer. You can make hotel reservations now by calling the Town and Country Resort at 1-800-772-8527. Tell them you are with the Model A Meet and get the Meet room rate. The website is: www.2011MARCmeet.com. See you there!





<u>Technical Talk</u> with Charlie Plessner



THE FORD MODEL A TIMING GEAR

You are driving home from a tour on the 91 Freeway late in the afternoon when suddenly your Model A just shuts down like you turned off the key. You safely get to the emergency lane and you immediately start thinking. WHAT HAPPENED??? If you read the title you may already know.

1. What is the timing gear? The timing gear is a gear attached to the camshaft and is driven by a gear on the crankshaft.

2. What causes failure? The teeth on the timing gear are fibre <originally> and subject to breakage.

How do I know if it failed? Check to see if distributor rotor rotates while engine is cranking. If so, check ignition timing in specified fashion. If rotor points to number 1 your timing gear is likely not the problem.
Changing the timing gear.

Remove fan belt and generator, Raise the front of the engine slightly under oil pan and remove front motor mount. Remove timing cover and side cover. Remove timing gear nut with special wrench and carefully pry off gear from camshaft. Replace gear making sure to line up marks with crank gear. Torque nut to 90 ft. lbs. This should take 45 minutes to 2 hrs.

It is also recommended to remove oil pan to remove old gear debris, but I know of engines running tens of thousands of miles with more than 1 disintegrated timing gear in the oil pan and no damage to the engine occurring.

5. Replacements. Fiber, Laminated, or Aluminum. There have been reports of slight noise with Aluminum gears.

If you have any ideas for seminars, please let me know. Charlie

Second Saturday of Each Month

The Cruisin' Fifties of South Bay sponsor a 'Cruise Night' on the **second Saturday of each month**. It is held in downtown Torrance on Post Ave. between Sartori and Cravens. The time is 3PM to 7PM. Lots of nice cars (including some Model As). There is a raffle, some food, and trophys each month. The next 'cruise' is March 12th. Check it out. Another fun event.

Saturday Morning Coffee Gathering:

If you are looking for a little tire-kicking adventure on **Saturday** mornings between 7 and 9AM, check out the Caffeine Cruisers at the corner of Artesia Blvd and Hawthorne, in Torrance, CA. Several of the

Harbor Model A club members and other car enthusiasts of all car types meet to talk cars. There are some very nice autos and some nice people there, too! The address is 17400 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance CA. Come on by, have a cup of Starbucks, and get your weekend started in true So. California style.



Weekly Family Food Festivities:

Many of the Harbor members meet at the **Hot 'n Tot** restaurant each <u>Monday</u> 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 \$6.25. 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.



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<u>A Little Engine Work</u>

A couple phone calls and a hot cup of coffee is all it takes to get a team of 'motor heads' together to pull an engine out of a Model A and install a new one. Dan Fitzgerald did just that a couple weeks ago. With a new engine sitting on the floor, it was time to put it in his 1929 Station Wagon. Dick Lusk, Jack Gordinier, Art Wagner, Stoney Stonehocker, Drain Marshall, Jack Goldberg and Dick Wyckoff answered Dan's call. Dan's wife, Liz, invited the ladies to join her for a social gathering while the engine work was going on. Joining the circle was Doris Marshall, Ursi Schmidt, Nita Stonehocker, Joan Gordinier and Daffy Wagner.

The engine came out pretty quickly and the new on was installed shortly thereafter. After a few wires and hoses were hooked up, the engine was fired up. It ran nice a smooth but there was a noise coming from the transmission/flywheel area. After probing around and trying to figure out what the noise was, the new engine was pulled out. Fortunately, the engine was just fine. The culprit was a flywheel bolt that was just a bit too long and was hitting the rear engine seal making a deep thud sound. Another set of bolts were used and the engine was reinstalled. It sure runs sweet. Liz served up a great lunch for the gang.

Anyway, the engine is reinstalled and Dan is completing the cleanup details of installation.

Just a note: New member Jack Goldberg also has a new engine to install in his AA truck. Sometime in the near future, maybe we could have a club technical seminar at Al Avoian's garage and install Jack's engine. Stay tuned for details.



Art checking alignment of transmission



Drain doing the lifting



Jack contemplating the next move



Dick, Jack and Jack discussing the noise



Stoney, Jack, Dan and Jack working the details

2011 Membership, Roster and Club Items: by Ursula Schmidt

2010 - 2011 Phonebooks/rosters are available at all get-togethers. The first booklet is free to members. 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. Contact Ursi Schmidt.

Also available are neat ball caps with the club's logo. Available in many colors \$12. There are a few 50th anniversary T-shirts and pins still available, too. Please call **Ursula** at (310) 539-5391 to place your order.

<u>'Dues News</u>'

If you haven't renewed your Harbor Area MARC membership for 2011, please send me a check for \$25, made out to Harbor MARC (or bring it to the next business meeting). The March edition of the Harbor-Light is the last one unless you renew your membership.

Or, in case you want to pay both the Harbor MARC and the National MARC memberships with only one check, send me a check made out to '<u>Harbor MARC</u>" for \$63. Then I will forward \$38 to the National MARC for you. Send to: **Ursula Schmidt**, **26419 Pineknoll Ave. Harbor City**, **CA 90710**.

Note: Members pay <u>MAFCA</u> dues directly to MAFCA.

Harbor 'deLights' or Happenings Around the Club

Dan Fitzgerald and **Dick Wyckoff** are hard at work on the National MARC Meet in San Diego next year. Dick has created the advertisements in the *Model A News* magazine. The Meet registration forms are in Jan-Feb issue. Be sure to check out all the Meet information and send in your registration. It is going to be a great affair!

Jan Wyckoff had a scare while on vacation in Hawaii. Shortly after arriving, she had severe stomach pains and ended up in the hospital for five days. Intestinal blockage was the problem. After four days it unblocked and she was released the next day. Fortunately, she was able to extend the trip for three days and she and Dick got to see some of the north shore of Oahu. Some vacation, huh? She is doing fine. A left knee replacement in March is next.....

Wheels & Deals:

For Sale:

• Lots of **Model A parts**. Rebuilt front ends complete without backing plates, \$450. \$650 with. 21" and 19" wheels \$40. Generators \$125. Rebuilt starters \$185. Have lots of engine parts. Call me. Many other parts: fenders, rebuilt steering column, rebuilt carbs, rebuilt distributors, horns, etc. Dan in Palos Verdes 310-373-8060.

 Good running B engine and B transmission with flywheel and clutch. Asking \$3000. Call Dan Fitzgerald 310-373-8060.

Wanted:

- A 1928 Model A frame for a special restoration project. Contact Jay Skinner at 562-426-5478. Long Beach CA
- Used Christmas and greeting cards. (Complete cards please). We will recycle them. Ursi (310) 539-5391 and Doris (310) 378-5061.



Terrific Tours

By Mike Plessner

The Mulholland Drive tour Sunday Feb.13 was a really fun time enjoyed by all.

Motoring north on PCH, we stopped in Malibu at McDonalds for a light breakfast and then headed up Mulholland Hwy. We drove straight into the mountains, aggressively negotiating the tight twisty turns with 9 Model A's and 1 Model T, yes one 1914 Model T! The scenery was breathtaking, the weather was perfect, and no mechanical problems whatsoever. Stopping at Peter Strouse Park for a picnic followed by a dessert stop in Culver City (to discuss the events of the day) rounded out this super tour. We covered close to 120 miles this trip.

In attendance were Dick Wyckoff, Al and Georgette Avoian, Ellen and Bill Newell, Bob Speaks and Ann, Monty and Donnis Bates, Mirco and Elaine Pisu, Jeanne and Richard Parrish, Don and Carolyn Ratzlaff, Drain and Doris Marshall, Dick Lusk, Ursula Schmidt, and Mike and Charles

Plessner. We welcomed guests Jeff Hood and Mathew Seir in the Model T, and Phyllis in her 1923 Cadillac. She unfortunately had to leave early.

<u>March Tour</u>: Orange County Pancake Breakfast: Sunday March 27, 2011.

Meet at **Mills Diner** at 190th and Western at 7 o'clock. We will leave 7:15. See you there.

Michael 310-619-9181



Bill Newell offers a donut to the interested police



Some Pictures from the Mulholland Hwy Tour





Breakfast stop in Malibu, CA

Starting up the Mulholland Hwy. The fun is about to start.



A quick stop to gather up the cars and head for the picnic area.



An overhanging rock in the road as we make our way to the picnic area



Stopped for lunch break at the picnic area

Misc. Model A Events of Interest for 2011

February 25-27 The 45th annual antique and collector **car parts exchange and swap meet** will be held at Qualcomm (old Jack Murphy) Stadium on the weekend of February 25th, 26th & 27th, 2011. The BIG 3 Auto Swap is held annually and has grown to be the largest old car event held in the San Diego area. This auto swap attracts participants from all over the country. This entire event is totally operated by volunteers.

March 27, Sunday	The Orange County Model A Club's 50th anniversary pancake breakfast . A great gathering of Model As from all over Southern California. Don't miss this one. Located in Hart Park in Orange, CA. 8AM - noon.		
April 7-10	Laughlin Model A Meet in Laughlin NV. A fun weekend in Nevada.		
April 8-10	Central California Regional Gathering (CCRG) in Merced CA.		
April 15-16	Bakersfield CA swap meet by HCCA at Fair Grounds. Go East on Ming (on 99) about a mile.		
May 27-28	Northern California Regional Gathering (NCRG) in Vallejo CA.		
June 26, Sunday	Henry Ford Picnic sponsored by the Downey Diamond Tread Model A Club.		
June 27-July 1 by	2011 MARC National Meet in San Diego . A 'don't miss' week-long event sponsored in part by the Harbor MARC Model A club. Lots of fantastic cars and events. See you there!		
July 15-17	Wings & Wheels in Solvang CA. A chance to see some vintage aircraft up close. A fun weekend of touring, flying and BBQ.		
September 10	International Model A day . Everyone should make an effort to drive their Model A this day. Lots of clubs have tours or shows this day.		
September 25 Paradise Valley Model A Club swap meet . Held at Little League Hdqtrs, Devore, CA			
November 30 - December 4 MAFCA National Awards Meet & Banquet in Santa Rosa			

A 'Coffee & Cars' Event - The Place to Be!

The first Saturday of every month from 7:30AM to 9AM at the Peninsula Shopping Center at Hawthorne Blvd and Silver Spur between Burger King and Starbucks is the place to be. You are invited to bring your Hot Rod, Custom, Muscle Car, Sports Car, Antique, Classic, Exotic, or other Special Interest car or truck, (or just yourself) to the Peninsula Shopping Center.

Join us in the parking area to meet and socialize with current members of the Peninsula Seniors and their guests and other PV area car hobbyists and enthusiasts.











The *HarborLight* is a monthly publication for the Harbor Area MARC/MAFCA. All articles or want ads must be received by the 10th of each month in order to appear in the following month's publication. Neither the *Harbor-Light* and its staff, nor the Harbor Region of the Model A Restorer's Club Inc. and Model A Ford Club of America, Inc. will assume any liability for errors or omissions, or for any liability or resultant damages for products, opinions or services listed herein. Some information contained in our newsletter has been reprinted from other newsletters; we thank and acknowledge them. Editor





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:

<u>President:</u>				
Bob Speaks	(310) 542-3315			
Email: AudSpeaks@earthlink.net				
<u>Vice-President</u> :				
Dick Lusk	(310) 539-5391			
<u>Treasurer</u> :				
Daffy Wagner	(310) 374-6113			
<u>Secretary</u> :				
Jan Wyckoff	(310) 322-8863			
<u>Tour Director</u> :				
Mike Plessner	(310) 619-9181			
Technical Committee:				
Charlie Plessner	(310) 997-8094			

Appointed Officers:

Membership: Ursula Schmidt (310) 539-5391 Historian: Sue Hankins (310) 782-0082 Sunshine Secretary: Doris Marshall (310) 378-5061 Safety: Dick Lusk (310) 539-5391 Advertising: Bill Newell (310) 328-5560 **Refreshments**: Georgette Avoian (310) 371-5732

Appointed Officers:

<u>Master Sergeant-at-Arms</u>: Monty Bates III (310) 516-0468 <u>Tools</u>: Bob De Crescenzo (310) 540-3690

HarborLight Editor:

Dick Wyckoff 337 Lomita St El Segundo Ca 90245 Phone: (310) 322-8863 **E-mail: Janndick@earthlink.net**



Harbor Area MARC/MAFCA Dick Wyckoff, Editor 337 Lomita St. El Segundo CA 90245

March 2011



