

Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Founded in 1957. Torrance, California.

September 2011

The HarborLight Newsletter
was awarded the **MARC
Newsletter Award of Excellence**
2009 and 2010

Upcoming Business Meeting

The **August** business meeting will be **Friday, August 26th** at the Waltheria Clubhouse. Time: 7:30PM.

The **September** business meeting will be held **Friday, September 30th** at the Waltheria clubhouse

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.

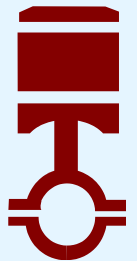
Upcoming Tours

Sunday, September 4th, Cars and Cockpits tour with Orange County MAFCA. Mike Plessner is getting a sign-up sheet together to caravan to the Lyons Air Museum near the John Wayne Airport. This would be an all day affair. See pages 7 and 9.

Also, **Saturday September 10th** is International Model A Day. Let's have a local tour and a picnic at a nice park nearby. We get to display our cars and educate the public at the same time. More to come.

Technical Seminar

Good job by those that helped install Dot Knott's Mitchell overdrive in her 1930 sedan. According to Don Knott, it works great. Now, about the hard steering. Another seminar?
See page 8.



Next Board Meeting



The next board meeting will be **Tuesday, September 6th** at 7PM at the home of Dick and Jan Wyckoff. 337 Lomita St., El Segundo CA 90245.

Other possible meeting place is the Automobile Driving Museum. Bob Speaks to notify board of location.

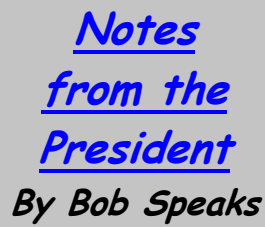


Dorothy Wood presented with plaque commemorating 50 years with Harbor MARC

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*Some fun
advertisements
from 1929.
Many appeared
in the Saturday
Evening Post.*



September Birthdays

- 1 Rhoda Larquier
- 6 Darlene Funk
- 6 Jim Beardsley
- 8 Bob Olsen
- 11 Ursula Schmidt
- 17 Art Wagner



September Anniversaries

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

Editor's Corner by Dick Wyckoff

More and more members of the Harbor club 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 41 people from the Harbor Club and 24 others. This is more than \$700 per year savings. AND 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? Did you take a neat picture at a club event? Email them to me or, if you have pictures, I can scan them and put them in the newsletter.

Also, if you have an item for sale, let me know. I will put it in the '**Wheels and Deals**' section. The newsletter is distributed to many other clubs locally and other parts of the country.

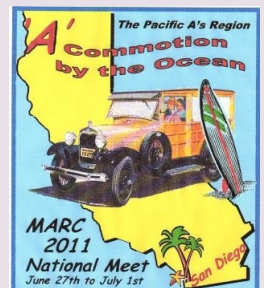
• One more thing: **Election of Officers** is in November with nominations starting in October. Give some thought to running for an office. Open are: President, VP, Secretary, Tours, and Technical.

2011 MARC National Meet Follow-up by Dick Wyckoff

Below is a nice email from the editors of the MARC national magazine, the *Model A News*:

Subject: RE: San Diego MARC Meet 2011 Volunteers

Date: Jul 23, 2011 10:03 AM



I must also say thanks to all who ran this wonderful convention in San Diego. As a young person, I was inspired by Bill Friar who attended a MARC meet in San Diego in 1963 and thought if they ever do that again I would hope I could make it.

I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to not only attend but to be a small part of it in coverage with Helen for the Model A News.

But we also had such a great time!!!! Wow what a beautiful town with so much to do! Those club members who could not attend missed one of the best Model A Meets ever.

As a former member of Navy Fighter Squadron VA 727 it was a thrill for me to tour the USS Midway and to take pictures of a Model A in front of it. I could go on and on about the Zoo and Hotel del Coronado, etc.

Great time, great people. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make it possible.

Now it is "GREAT MEMORIES".

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Ken and Helen Ehrenhofer



Technical Talk with Charlie Plessner



First, I would like to thank everyone who came and helped out at the overdrive installation in Dot Knott's sedan on August 6th.

Model "A" Springs

Springs suspend an automobile from the axles to isolate the impact of uneven parts of the road. The Ford Model "A" was equipped with two leaf type springs (one for each axle). Other makes at that time used four springs (two for each axle) but Ford argued that two works better.



Spring problems

People have reported problems with their Model "A" springs squeaking, locking up, and even leaning. All are problems caused by age and use. Squeaky springs have an obvious cause, dry and/or rusty spring leaves (no oil or grease in them). "Locking up" is caused by the edges of the spring leaves wearing grooves in each other. The leaves can't pass the edge of the grooves, so it keeps the spring from moving. Leaning to the left side is common with old cars because it's the heavier (driver) side.

Fixing and restoring springs

The way I restore Model "A" springs is

1. Disassemble the springs. A Safety item: Wrap the spring with rope and use C-clamps before removing the center bolt to prevent the leaves from flying and possibly hurting someone.
2. Get each leaf sandblasted on both sides.
3. Grind down the parts of the leaves where the worn grooves are to make them smooth again. If the grooves are worn too deeply, I usually fill them in with welded metal.
4. Chamfer the bottom edge of each leaf end slightly upward to prevent further wear.
5. Paint each leaf.
6. Put a layer of grease between each leaf, and reassemble them. I usually reverse every other leaf to avoid leaning.

This usually solves all spring problems. Let me know if you want to know more, or have any other questions.
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 trophies each month. The next 'cruise' is **September 10th**. 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.



Excerpts from Harbor Meeting Minutes

HARBOR MARC/MAFCA CLUB MEETING

Date July 29, 2011

President: Bob Speaks called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Salute to the flag: Led by Monty Bates

Recognition of Past Presidents: Present were Doris & Drain Marshall and Dick Wyckoff.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Approved as printed in the HarborLight.

Treasurer: Balance is in good shape.

Vice President: Dick Lusk thanked all those that contributed to this evening's raffle.

HarborLight Editor: Needs articles by Aug. 15th for Sept. issue. Gave an update on San Diego MARC National Meet. Dick and Dan F. with three others planned the Meet which was very successful; 275 registrations, 575 people in attendance, and 150 Model As. We had 18 registrations from Harbor with 35 people attending. Dick Lusk managed the parking of cars. There was a great swap meet and a 35 mile grand tour that included a stop for a delicious lunch. Judging scores for the Touring class were announced with Joe Freitag earning a score of 398; Jim Beardsley got 471, Bobby D. got 474 and Richard Parrish topped with 482. And --- Linda Freitag was the big raffle winner getting the H&H engine. Wings & Wheels in Santa Ynez was a big success with 35 Harbor members in attendance with 11 cars. The Sat. tour was to a lavender farm and to the Danish Museum in Solvang. Those that drove to the event put 400 miles on our cars that weekend. Several stayed over an extra night to avoid 'carmeggenden', making it possible to have breakfast and plane rides Sunday morning at the Santa Ynez airport. We were served sausage and the famous Danish pancake, aeblesdkivers - ummm good!

Historian: Not present. Looking forward to her presentation of the Alaska trip.

Membership: 45 present at the meeting. Ursi presented 91 year old member, Dorothy Wood, with a 50 Year Membership plaque. We had a special cake to celebrate this event. Congratulations Dorothy!

Membership Drawing: Fran Earhart was a \$5 winner. The man name drawn was not present so the award will go up to \$15 next month. Dan Fitzgerald won the clock prize of \$5.

Technical & Safety: Charlie Plessner said that on Sat. Aug. 6th there would be a technical in Al's Avoian's garage at 9 a.m. to install an overdrive in Dot Knott's car.

Sergeant at Arms (badge money): Monty collected \$3.93.

Sunshine: Pat Tucker fell and dislocated her shoulder, may take 1 year to heal. Ken Kolby passed away, services TBD. Fred Griffins also passed away, services Aug. 14th at Torrance YMCA, time TBD. Sandy Avoian had knee replacement surgery, is staying with Al & Georgette. Doris called to check on Paul Larquier and found out that Rhoda had a lesion on her pancreas that turned out to be cancer. More later on Rhoda.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: July 1 Doris Marshall and Steve Thompson, 5th Mariano Deogracias, 10th Mike Wright, 13th Mirco Pisu, 18th Donnis Bates, 20th Joe Freitag and 27th Pat Harrison. July anniversaries were: 2nd Beverly & Vince Migliazzo, 3rd Elaine & Mirco Pisu, 9th Sandy and Ron Ragon, 13th Jack & Joan Gordinier, 23rd Bob & Carol Olsen.

Tools Coordinator: Bobby D. showed us a brake shoe riveting tool. This is a club owned tool.

Tours: Mike Plessner said there would be a tour on Sat. July 30th to the Nethercutt Museum with a lunch stop, Meet at Mills 9:00 a.m.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Neil Maken of *Skinned Knuckles* magazine gave a presentation about clubs non-profit tax status, stating that some clubs have been audited and that we need to have more educational events and have them advertised in the local newspaper.

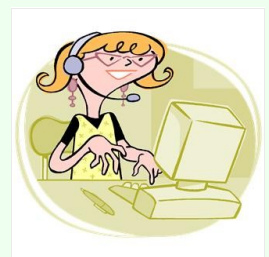
Refreshments hosted by: Linda & Jay Skinner

Next General Meeting: August 26, 2011

Next Board Meeting: August 2, 2011 at Dick & Ursi's home.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted; Jan Wyckoff, Secretary



2011 Membership, Roster and Club Items: by Ursula Schmidt

The new 2011-2012 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.



Just a note: We regularly update the roster. If you have any address changes or email changes, let Ursi know.

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, and two cookbooks still available, too. Please call **Ursula** at (310) 539-5391 to place your order.



If you ever need to know your MARC or MAFCA membership number and can't find your membership card, just look at the *Restorer* magazine or the *Model A News*. Right above your name on the mailing label is your membership number printed there.

Also for **2012**: Ursi will accept and forward to MARC and MAFCA the national dues for each organization. More work for Ursi but easier for you! Thanks, Ursi.

Roster Corrections (2011/2012 Roster): Page 4: Georgette Avoian, 310-371-5732, is our Refreshments Chair; Page 11, Hibbard's email is: twnsedan@yahoo.com; Page 13, delete Moore's cell number.

Harbor 'deLights' or Happenings Around the Club

Dorothy Wood was presented with a nice plaque commemorating 50 years as a member of the Harbor Model A Club. At 91, she still attends meetings and joins us regularly at our Monday supper gatherings. Congratulations, Dorothy!

Pat Yacklon and Sue Hankins are on their way back from a three month camper vacation to Alaska. They have driven almost 7000 miles. On the way home near Seattle, Sue fell and broke her wrist. With a little surgery, she is doing fine. See you both soon. Looking forward to some great pictures of your trip.



Thom Marshall has had a couple serious health episodes and is recovering in Torrance Memorial hospital. Some quick work by the doctors got his breathing back in order and he is improving. Still some 'fix-it work' to be done, but making progress. Be strong, Thom. See you soon.

Doris and Drain Marshall were given a surprise 60th anniversary cake at the Monday supper at Bob's Big Boy. 60 years. Wow. Hope you have many more!

Wheels & Deals:

For Sale:

- **1931 Tudor Sedan.** asking \$12,500 or best offer. Everything is included, spare parts, original seats...lots of new parts. In Torrance CA. Contact Monty at 310-516-0468.
- **Model A racing equip,** 2bbl ANSEN manifold \$150, 2bbl ANSEN manifold with 94 carb \$200, dual 2 bbl ANSEN manifold \$150, 1bbl WINFIELD manifold with adapter and later carb (probably Ford 6). Email for pictures: charlesdstephens@sbcglobal.net. Charlie Stephens (310) 837-2950. Culver City CA



Wanted:

- **12v. alternator** (used is fine as long as it works). Call Steve 310-701-5542.
- 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

Wow, what a fun summer it has been so far. The MARC National Meet in San Diego, Wings and Wheels in Sovang, two great seminars, and a very enjoyable tour to the Nethercutt museum. We are truly blessed as a club with so many talented hard working people holding it all together.

For Sept, Don Ratzlaff of Orange County MAFCA has invited us to a Model A display at the **Lyons Air Museum** located near the John Wayne airport. "Lyon Air Museum is a showcase for vintage military aircraft and autos". The museum is hosting a **'Cars and Cockpits day'**, Sunday Sept. 4th 9am. Entrance fee is \$9. Afterwards, Don is making reservations at an upscale restaurant and a tour of Crevier Classic Cars. If interested contact Don at 714-529-5062. I will try to arrange a tour at the next meeting for those interested

Sept. 10th is **International Model A Day** so let's get our cars out that Saturday and have a nice local tour. Let's meet at Mills Sat. Sept. 10 at 9am and take in some of the local sights and have a picnic lunch afterwards at a local park.

There has been some interest in having a progressive lunch sometime soon. I think it's a great idea. If you would like to sponsor a main stop or a desert stop, please let me know.

Mike 310-619-9181

Snuffy's Adventure with help from Dick Lusk

My name is Snuffy and I am Dick Lusk's black 1928 Model A Special Coupe. I am going to tell you what happened to me back in the fall of 1952, when I was still a young car and lived in the country in Michigan.

I was taking my owner's son, Dick Lusk, on a date. I wanted to have my dinner first at the gas station, so we were a few minutes late by the time we arrived at the farmhouse where the girl lived. Dick pulled up in a hurry and forgot to turn off my motor and headlights, but let me idle and rushed up to the entry of the farm house.

The door was opened, and because it was a chilly fall evening, Dick was asked to come inside and wait for the young lady. Meanwhile I was pattering on and on, but suddenly I noticed that things didn't seem quite right! In the hurry I was left sitting on a little bit of a slope and slowly started to roll backwards. The slope went all the way down to a freshly plowed field, with deep muddy furrows. Oh, I didn't want to roll that way, I had just been polished and made shiny all afternoon! But gravity took it's course and I was going faster and faster, bouncing over the frozen soil and mud, wobbling from side to side, finally arriving at the field where I finally got stuck. My poor tires had sunk to the rims into the mud! My headlights had been left on in the hurry too and so now I was sadly looking up towards the farmhouse on the hill.

After a while the door of the farmhouse opened and Dick, the girl and her father appeared. They all stepped outside in the approaching dark, wondered where I was! After all, Dick said that he had left me parked right there in front of the farmhouse door. Finally they noticed my feeble headlights shining up to them from way down in the field. What was I doing down there! How embarrassing, there I was, all dirty and stuck!

They all came down to look at me and I cringed under all the splattered dirt. Dick tried all my horse powers, but I didn't budge an inch. Finally the farmer had to get his tractor to pull me loose again. What a memorable evening!

Safety tips from Dick Lusk for all those young whippersnappers going out on a date this spring: Set those handbrakes! Turn the headlights off! Turn off the ignition! Leave car in gear! And . . . block those wheels!



Friday Afternoon at Ruby's Diner:

Since March, Ruby's Diner in Redondo Beach by the pier has hosted a weekly gathering of fun cars. This event can bring as many as 150 cars of all types. Classics, Concours, hot rods, antiques, sports cars, motorcycles, and Model As! Many Harbor Club members show their cars and enjoy a great meal in the diner. Check it out. Times are about **4PM to 7:30PM every Friday**. There is a nice raffle and trophies are awarded each week. Parking is free to participating cars.

This event will continue all summer until sometime in October.



Ruby and Dick



Overdrive Installed on Overtime by Dot Knott

A technical seminar to install a Mitchell overdrive in my 1930 Model A sedan was held on Saturday, August 6th at Al Avoian's garage in Torrance CA. Before we even got started, Georgette Avoian had a breakfast of bagels, raisin bread,



cream cheese and hot coffee to start the day.

Later on, Georgette even had luncheon sandwiches, chips and

salsa, and soft drinks for the participants. Thanks, Georgette, for all your help.



The seminar was very educational. I even learned a few things (It's a lot of work!). We had group of men who knew what they were doing and got a little greasy and dirty doing it. I won't list their names as I might miss someone, but about 10 guys helped out.

I can't thank you enough for your hard work and giving up your Saturday to install the overdrive. Thanks to all the wives whose husbands were there. Don drove the car home and said the overdrive was great. (Now I think I need power steering!). Oh well, you can't have everything. I took a lot of pictures which I will pass around for everyone to see.

I want to thank Al Avoian so much for letting us use his garage and his tools. He has a great place to work on our projects.

Thanks again to all who helped.

Dot Knott



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1960's era JC Whitney catalog with Model A parts

Lots of Model 'A' Events of Interest for 2011 -2012

- September 4, Sun Lyon Air Museum is having a '**Cars and Cockpits Day**'. The museum is a premier So Cal show case for vintage military aircraft and automobiles of WWII. Located near the John Wayne Airport in Orange County. The address is: 19300 Ike Jones Rd, Santa Ana CA 92707. Meet with the OC Model A club for a fun day. Time: 9AM to ?
- September 10, Sat **International Model A day**. Everyone should make an effort to drive their Model A this day. Lots of clubs have tours or shows. A local tour maybe?
- September 11, Sun 22nd Annual Belmont Shore **Car Show**. 2nd Street in Belmont Shores, CA. A tribute to the police & firefighters who lost their lives on 9-11-01. 9AM. Contact Jill: 562-429-2188.
- September 17, Sat 2nd Annual Sons of Italy scholarship fundraiser **Car Show**. Ruby's on the Beach, 245 N. Harbor Drive, Redondo Beach, CA. 9Am - 2PM. Contact: Annette 310-245-4502.
- September 18, Sun Palos Verdes **Concours d' Elegance** at the Trump National Golf Club, Palos Verdes CA. This year the theme is 'California Design & Style'. 10AM to 4PM.
- September 25, Sun Paradise Valley Model A Club **swap meet**. Held at Little League Hdqtrs, Devore, CA. 6AM to 3PM. Western Little League 6707 Little League Dr., San Bernardino CA
- October 2, Sun Annual **Frazier Park Picnic** sponsored by the Bakersfield Model A Club. Pot luck luncheon with great raffle. Hubley races and car prizes. Loc'n: 3717 Mount Pinos Way, Frazier Park CA. About 90 miles.
- October 23, Sunday 10th Annual Wings, Wheels, Rotors & Expo. Los Alamitos Army Airfield 11200 Lexington Dr., Los Alamitos CA. 9am - 4pm. Helicopter displays, classic and vintage cars.
- November 30 - December 4 **MAFCA National Awards Meet** & Banquet in Santa Rosa
- March 30 - Apr 2, 2012 **CCRG Jamboree** sponsored by Bakersfield As. More info soon. Save the date!
- April 20 -21, 2012 Bakersfield 21st National **Swap Meet**. Bakersfield Fairgrounds - 7am Fri and Sat. For info, contact Greg at 661-325-2840




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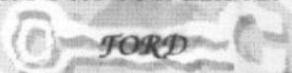
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The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the Walteria Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and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

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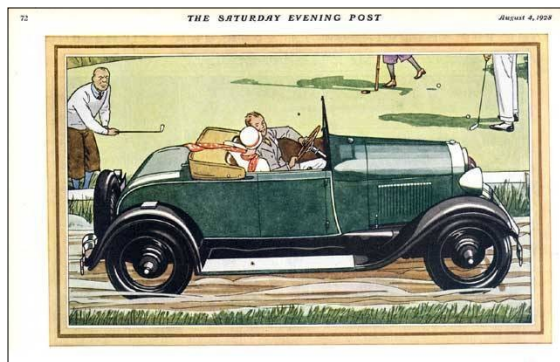
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