

Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Founded in 1957. Torrance, California.

November 2011

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

Upcoming Business Meeting

The **October** business meeting will be **Friday, October 28th**. This will be a pot luck meeting with business meeting after. Pot luck at 6PM, meeting at 7:30PM. A-L brings Main Course and M-Z brings Salad. Dessert is supplied by the club. Also, nominations for next year's Board will be taken. President, VP, Sec'y, Tours, and Tech are up for election in Nov.

The **November** business meeting will be held on **Friday, November 25th**. Elections for 2012 Board will be held.

Just a note: The **December** meeting is Friday, Dec 16th.

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!

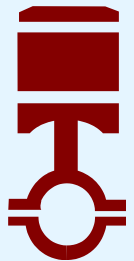
Upcoming Tours

Mike has set up an interesting evening tour to **Woody's Diner** in Sunset Beach (just south of Long Beach) on Pacific Coast Hwy.

The tour will be **Saturday, November 12th**. We will meet at Mills at 4PM. Mike will have directions. All surface streets. Should be a fun and interesting drive with our friends in the Long Beach Model T Club.
More info on page 7.

Technical Seminar

Charlie is still looking for some ideas for technical seminars. If you want to host one or even suggest one, call him at 310-997-8094.

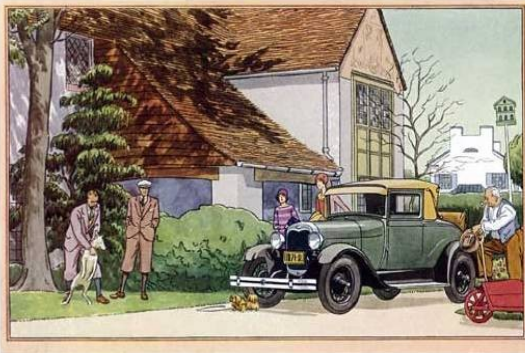


Next Board Meeting



The next board meeting will be **Tuesday, November 1st** at 7PM at the home of Pat and Sue, 821 W. Clarion Dr., Torrance CA 90502.
Phone: 310-782-0082

All are welcome.



The new Ford has been built to endure

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Notes
from the
President
By Bob Speaks



The President Speaks!

It is time to start supporting your club. You can do this by getting involved and running for some of the positions that will be opening up on the Board of Directors this coming year.

The positions which are up for election are President, Vice President, Secretary, Tour, and Technical.

This Club needs change and to get change we need new ideas. To keep the status quo would be like going back in time instead of moving forward. As we debate what we did in the past, other clubs are debating what to do in the future. We must do the same.

Bob Speaks
President

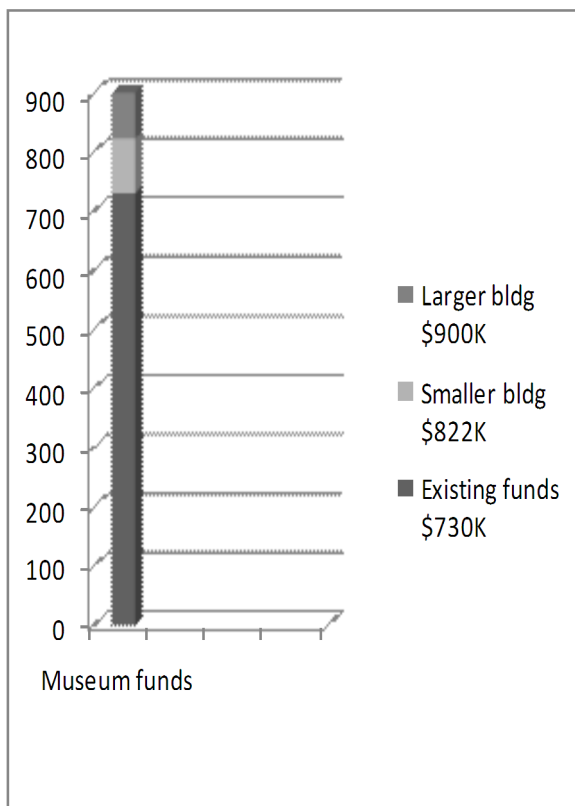
Model A Museum News

It's an exciting time for the Model A Museum - ground can potentially be broken in the spring of 2012. Between now and then the Model A community needs to finish raising the design and construction money needed. The fund raising target is based on the \$75/sf actual cost of the Franklin Museum which is across the street from the site of the Model A Museum. Using that cost, the available funds are less than the amount needed. The choice may soon be to delay the construction to raise more money, or reduce the building size to match a level of funding more within reach. The original target was a building 12,000 sf (150' x 80'). This resulted in a fund raising goal of \$900,000 for the construction phase but the current museum fund is now \$730,000. One solution is to reduce the building to 137' x 80' or 10,960 sf. The estimated cost for this smaller building is \$822,000.

Two major fund raising initiatives are underway. The first is the sale of engraved walkway bricks. Clubs and individuals are encouraged to buy their own \$150 piece of the museum, choose a 60 character message to have engraved on the brick, and have their own legacy, or a memorial to a friend, at the Model A Museum forever.

The second initiative is to encourage Model A'ers to match the offer of a generous Model A'er who has offered to donate \$50,000 if five other donations of \$50,000 are made. The donations can be made by individuals, clubs, businesses, or combinations of up to four donors per \$50,000. The donations can be made in two increments, the first in 2011 and the second in 2012. For example four individuals could each donate \$6250 in 2011 and again in 2012 to meet the challenge.

Another effective way to increase the available funds is for every individual and every club to donate what they can. One person has calculated that if everyone who owned a Model A would donate the cost of 5 gallons of gas, it would put the museum over the top - it would *top off the museum tank*. Please do your part to help preserve the Model A and its era. Send tax deductible donations to Model A Museum Fund, PO Box 95151, Nonantum, MA 02495. More info at MAFFI.ORG.



November Birthdays

- 5 Paul Jamesson
- 6 Bill Younkin
- 10 Dick Lusk
- 11 Joe Jankiewicz
- 12 Steve Newton
- 17 Wilbur Richardson
- 26 Pat Yacklon
- 28 Jan Wyckoff



November Anniversaries

- 6 Bob & Phyllis DeCrescenzo
- 21 Joe & Linda Freitag
- 25 Rhoda & Paul Larquier
- 28 Al & Georgette Avoian

Editor's Corner by Dick Wyckoff

• 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.

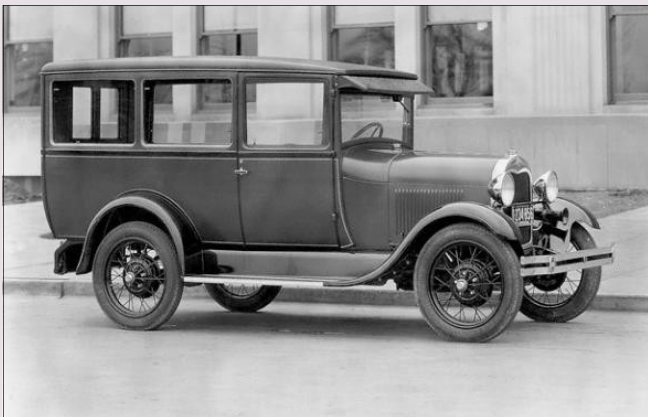
Organizations don't run by themselves. They need constant attention, sometimes just a little to keep them on track, while other times it takes some extra effort. The Harbor Club has, for the last few years, rotated some of the same basic people through the different positions. Like President Bob said, we need some new ideas from new people. Please give some serious thought to running for an office, or at least, assisting those in office already.

I have been encouraging new members of the Harbor club receive the HarborLight by **email**. I encourage you to do the same. 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 43 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.

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.

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

Some Unusual and Interesting Model A Trucks



'29 Tudor Delivery with Windows



AA Ladder Truck



Technical Talk with Charlie Plessner



Oil Leaks

Probably the No.1 question people in the club ask me about the Model A is how to stop the oil leaking out the rear of the engine on their nicely restored A. Usually asked under the pretext of [How much would Charlie charge to tighten my rear main?] In the first place, normal wear resulting in some slight excessive bearing clearance is only one possible cause and usually not the whole cause. There is always great disappointment after tightening the mains to the point where the crankshaft will barely turn only to find out that the engine still deposits huge puddles of oil on your driveway. Secondly, not everyone realizes that this is a somewhat "normal" condition for the Model A and B due to design or, more specifically, the lack of.

Let's take a closer look at the rear main bearing oiling system. The oil gets fed to the main bearings from a chamber containing oil above them via tubes pressed into the eng. block. The oil drains down the tubes feeding all three mains including the rear main lubricating them and, in the case of the rear main, gets passed out the rear of the bearing. The oil is then received by the crankshaft oil slinger where it is thrown around by centrifugal force in to a small channel where it is supposed to drain along a second tube located in the rear main cap. Finally the oil enters a third tube, quite small in fact, screwed into the main cap itself and submerged in the oil sump or pan. As quirky as it sounds, this system almost controls oil from escaping most of the time. The problem is there is no seal of any kind stopping the excess oil from overcoming this drain system, and oil often escapes onto the ground or street. Things like excessive thrust of the crankshaft, loose main bearings, or any blow-by usually from driving hard on the freeway can and do aggravate this condition dramatically, resulting in you-know-what, more mess to clean up. Furthermore, since there is no seal, what happens when you climb a steep hill? You guessed it, as the front of the engine is raised, and the car accelerates, the oil in the pan climbs up the back of the inside of the engine, and all that oil draining system for the rear main actually reverses direction and there is no place for all that oil to go but out the engine, all over the fly-wheel and, in some cases, ruining the clutch.

Now, before you give up hope and opt for that 1916 Studebaker to replace your Model A, there are some modifications that can be made. The best one is to install a neoprene seal which will require almost complete disassembly of the eng. People have been stuffing graphite rope into the slinger area of the block since the 50's with excellent results most of the time. I even remember this one old dude back about 1968 or so wiring a canned ham container to his coupe's radius rod to catch the dripping oil from his engine.

We really got a laugh out of that one!

Hope this helps,

Mike (sitting in for 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.

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

Date: Sept.30, 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: Pat Yacklon, Doris & Drain Marshall, Duane Nead and Dick Wyckoff.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Approved as printed in the Harbor Light.

Vice-President: Dick Lusk on vacation, raffle run by Tim Harrison. Thanks for contributions to the Gordiniers, Wagners, Avoians, Bates, Wyckoffs, Parrishs and Bill Newell. Over \$200 taken in on raffle.

Treasurer: Current balance is normal for this time of year.

HarborLight Editor: Needs articles by Oct. 15th for Nov. HarborLight. Dick told about the passing of a good friend, Dave Lopes at age 56 from cancer. Dave had two 'Henry' cars, the top award in MARC judging and several 'Best of Show' awards at national meets. He brought his '28 Phaeton to our 50th anniversary club picnic in 2007. He was also a former member of our club back in the '70s.

Historian: Sue shared a DVD of the pictures she and Pat took on their Alaska adventure. Sue has written articles for Chapter Chatter and Reporter News in the national magazines.

Membership: Ursi on vacation. We had two guests who want to join, Jim Speights and Bob Gorman. We had 50 in attendance.

Membership Drawing: No winner in Woman drawing, \$5 Man drawing went to Bill Gaugler. Clock prize went to Mike Wright.

Technical & Safety: Charlie Plessner had nothing new to report.

Sergeant at Arms (badge money): Monty Bates collected \$2.59.

Sunshine: Jamessons, Paul on oxygen, Rose not well. Dot Knott has health concerns, Rhoda sounds good, goes to her Oncologist on the 13th to see if she will have chemo. Bill Younkin still having blood problems and Joe Jankiewicz is on chemo.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: Sept. birthdays: Rhoda Larquier, Darlene Funk, Jim Beardsley, Bob Olsen, Ursula Schmidt and Art Wagner. Anniversaries: Bob & Laura Pahls, Carla & Walt Hibbard, Steve & Becky Preston, Gwen & Dick Valot, and Acela & Conrad Garcia.

Tools Coordinator: Bobby D. intends to buy a distributer cam wrench for ease of cam adjustment, and a spark and coil tester.

Tours: Mike Plessner: this Sunday is the tour to Frazier Park, meet at Mills at 7:00 am and leave at 7:30 am. Trip is 100 miles each way. We make a stop for coffee, etc. Get there at about 10 a.m. This is the 48th anniversary of the event. Good food, raffle and warm hospitality shown by the Bakersfield group. Edwina Barnes has been there for every year. We're expecting 6 Model As and a few moderns to make the trip. In November, Mike hopes to have a tour to an engine rebuilder, more info later.

Old Business: Installation banquet, same room at Proud Bird. \$34 each and choice of Marsala chicken, sirloin steak and a salmon dish. Daffy is collecting money and food preference. There will also be a veggie dish available. Date is Sat., Jan. 21st. We need to spend \$300 at the bar so there will not be a charge.

New Business: Elaine Pisu looking for sponsors for American Diabetes walk/run. Mike Wright also walking another 5 mile walk/run. We passed the hat and collected money for both.

Richard Parrish announced that the Orange Co. club is having a Poker Run on Oct. 22nd with stops at a car museum, Mall of Orange, Art & Olive's house. Also includes manifold cooking! \$5 per poker hand.

Several have registered to attend the MAFCA Membership Meeting Nov. 30-Dec. 4 in Santa Rosa.

Refreshments hosted by: Daffy Wagner

Next General Meeting: Oct. 28, a pot luck with A-L a main dish, M-Z salad. Dessert to be provided by the club. Nominations for Pres., Vice President, Secretary, Tour & Technical take place that evening.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 4th, possibly at the Automobile Driving Museum.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:25 pm

Respectfully submitted; Jan Wyckoff, Secretary



2011 Membership, Roster and Club Items: by Ursula Schmidt

The 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*. Printed right above your name on the mailing label is your membership number. 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!

Annual Club and national MARC dues are due. Club dues are \$25 per year and MARC dues are \$38. Total of \$63. Give cash or a check made out to 'Harbor MARC' to Ursi Schmidt. She will also handle MAFCA dues of \$40, if you wish. Starting last year, if you don't pay MARC national dues by December, the Jan - Feb issue of the *Model A News* will no be mailed and will cost an extra \$5 for special shipping and handling to receive it. Get your dues in on time!

Harbor 'deLights' or Happenings Around the Club

Bill Younkin has been hospitalized with an unknown cause of 'out of wack' red and white blood count and some other unknowns. They're still working on him. He is at Little Company of Mary Hospital. Give him a call and maybe even send him a card. He could use a 'pick-me-up'.

Rhoda Larquier is waiting for more info on chemo treatments. She and Paul are working through some tough times. We're thinking of you both!

Paul and Rose Jamesson are working through some tough health issues, also. Both are in wheel chairs and Paul is on oxygen. We miss you at the Monday gatherings.

Dot Knott has some heart issues that are slowing her down. Stents in some arteries are in order. Keep up your fighting spirit, Dot. We want you back at our meetings.

Sue Hankins wrist surgery is healing. She broke it while on vacation in Alaska.



Doris Marshall with MAFCA's 2011 Service Award

Attached to the **2011 MAFCA Service Award** is the following letter:

Dear Doris

The MAFCA Board of Directors has approved the Screenland A's nomination of **Doris Marshall** to receive the MAFCA Service Award for 2011.

It is with great pleasure I am forwarding this award to you for presentation at the appropriate ceremony.

Yours truly,

Stephanie Grundman
MAFCA Chapter Coordinator
10/18/2011

The Harbor Club is proud of you Doris. You are always an inspiration to us to continuously strive to achieve new goals. We love you!

Terrific Tours

By Mike Plessner

Woody's Diner Evening Tour

Our club tour for November will be a sunset drive-and-dine tour to Woody's Diner, 16371 Pac Cst Hwy., Sunset Beach, CA 90742. We will also be touring with the Long Beach T club on this one. Woody's is very charming, left over and unchanged from the days of old. The food is absolutely fabulous and reasonably priced. The waitresses are very reminiscent of the car hop era as well.

So let's all get our A's out and take a nice tour with the Model T club to Sunset Beach for some great food and wonderful fellowship.

Meet at Mills (190th and Western) **Sat. November 12, 4:00 PM.** We'll leave at 4:30 PM. Approx. 50 miles round trip no freeways.

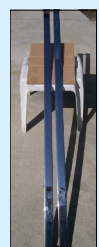
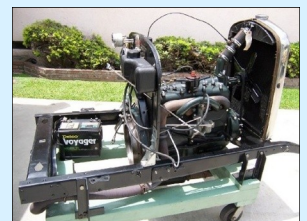
Mike 1-310-619-9181 cell



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.
- **Slow Moving Vehicle** signs. I have been asked by several members, if I would get more of the bright red triangle SMV signs. I purchased a lot of 10 signs and will sell them at cost, \$12 each. They are aluminum. Call me. I will bring them to the next Club meeting. Dick Wyckoff 310-322-8863.
- **Five (5) 1935 16" Wheels and Tires.** Wheels (16") are Power Coated Black with (5) stainless steel Hub Caps, (5) Beauty Rings, and (20) cad lug Nuts.
New Tires are: two (2) Dunlop Gradtrek 215/70/R16 M&S Tubeless and three (3) Good year Wangler ST P235/75 R16 Tubeless. Radial tires are balanced and mounted, ready to be installed on car. TERMS: Firm: \$1000 Delivery: Pick-up (Downey, California)
For more information call: Greg Earhart 562-869-0870
- One complete **engine test stand.** Everything included for testing. NOTE: ENGINE NOT INCLUDED. Terms: \$700 Firm. Delivery: PICK-UP ONLY. For more detailed information, Call: GREG EARHART 562-869-0870
- One (1) Front/Rear Bumper. Length 62-7/8 inches (measured between the center of the eyes in a straight line). Rare - can be hard to find. Most bumpers are 60 inches center of eyes in a straight line. Applicable to August 1930. TERMS: \$50 firm (trades considered). Delivery: Pick-up only. For more information contact: Greg Earhart 562 869 0870



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.

Frazier Park Tour

Bright and early Sunday morning, October 9th, six Model As and five moderns with 22 people made the 90 mile trip to Frazier Park from Torrance. The weather was perfect for the drive. About 75 miles into the trip we all meet at a McDonalds in Costaic for a coffee stop and a



leg stretch. Ahead is a long 6-7 mile climb to the 4142 foot level of Tejon Pass. From there it is an easy downhill to Frazier. All the cars made the grade with no trouble and arrived about 10:15AM. The friendly Bakersfield greeting team met us and directed us to the parking area. All together, there were 21 Model As from several

clubs and probably 85 people. Meeting with other clubs and swapping Model A stories is what it is all about.



About noon, the dinner bell sounds and we all line up for a fantastic pot luck. No one goes away hungry!

Then there are the awards. Things like the worst engine compartment, or the worst oil leak, or the worst wheels. Things like that. Harbor won a couple of them! Go team. . .

There were lots of raffle prizes and Harbor got their share also.

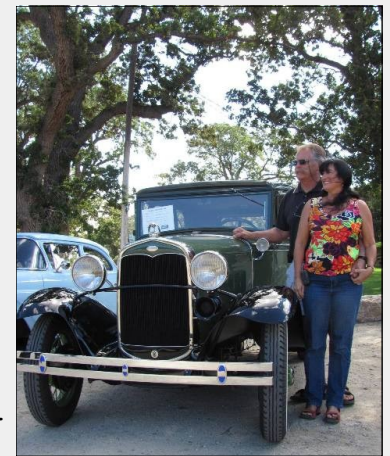


This year, three couples stayed over night in Frazier Park and drove home Monday morning. They got to avoid the afternoon heat in the Valley and probably some traffic, too.



Members driving their As were the Pisus, Wyckoffs, Avoians, Beardsleys, Parrishs, and the Marshalls. Also joining in were the Plessners, Gordiniers, Earharts, Jessie Dykes, and the Wagners. A great showing.

Next year's date is October 7th, so mark your calendars.



Harbor Area A's Annual Awards Banquet info

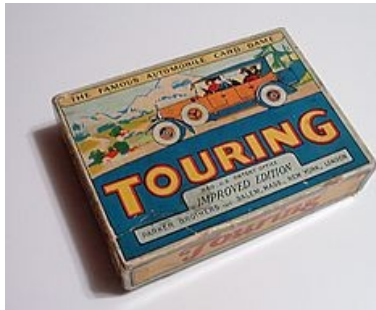
Harbor's annual awards banquet will be held again January 21st, 2012 at the Proud Bird Restaurant in Westchester right next to the LA Airport. It is a great venue and the food and service are great, too! The cost per person is \$34. The choices for dinner are Marcella chicken, sirloin steak, salmon, or a vegetarian dish. Please send or give your checks to our Treasurer Daffy Wagner before the end of December. The sooner, the better. Include your choice for dinner on the check. More info later.

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

- November 30 - December 4 **MAFCA National Awards Meet & Banquet** in Santa Rosa.
- December 11th, Sunday El Segundo's 48th Annual **Christmas Parade**. Dick Wyckoff is contact.
- December 11th, Sunday Wilmington's Annual **Christmas parade**. Bob Speaks is contact.
- January 21st, 2012 Harbor Area Club **annual awards banquet**. To be held at the Proud Bird restaurant. Same as last year. Great food and a fun venue.
- 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.
- June 11-15, 2012 **MARC National Meet**, in Oshkosh WI.
- June 18-22, 2012 **MAFCA National Convention**, Marquette MI (upper peninsula).
- July 13-15th, 2012 **Wings and Wheels** in Solvang. Always a fun weekend.
- October 7, 2012 **Frazier Park picnic** hosted by the Bakersfield Model A Club.

An Interesting Find

Tim Harrison uncovered an interesting item in his 'treasures'. He discovered a 1926 card game called *'Touring'*. It takes you on a car trip where you meet obstacles along the way. The game first came out on 1908 and was periodically updated as cars improved and changed. The last issue was in 1965. Here are some pictures of the cards:



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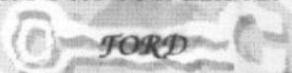
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The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the Walteria Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and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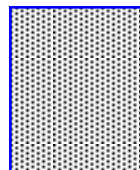
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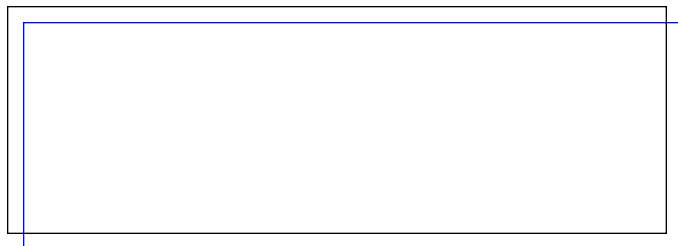
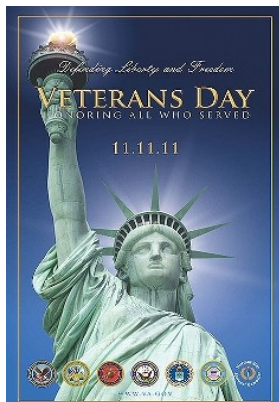


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November 2011



"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude."
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