

Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Founded in 1957. Torrance, California.

September 2012

The HarborLight Newsletter was awarded the MARC Newsletter Award of Excellence 2009, 2010 and 2011

HARBORLIGHT

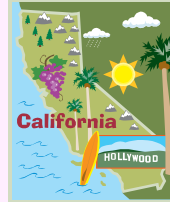
Upcoming Business Meetings

The August meeting will be **Friday, August 31st** at Walteria.



Our **September** meeting will be on **Friday, September 28th** at 7:30, again at Walteria. Come early, help set up and talk Model As with your friends. See you there!

Tours

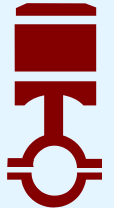


Our Tour Director, **Elaine Pisu** was on vacation in Italy this month so **Joe Freitag** had a fun tour for August. See pictures in newsletter.

When you go on the tours, take pictures, send your good ones to the editor and he will try and fit them in the newsletter. Speaking of fun events, reserve **Saturday September 29th** as a club's anniversary picnic at Columbia Park in Torrance. More to come.

Technical Seminars

Our Technical Director, **Drain Marshall** is looking for some projects for the club. They could include rebuilding Model A parts, installing new upgrades in your car, or just tuning up the 'ol Model A. Check with Drain with your idea.



Auctioneer Bill Newell trying to convince the White Elephant crowd that the bowl was a Model A headlight reflector! Great job, Bill.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be **Tuesday, September 11th** at 7PM at the El Segundo Auto Driving Museum, Lairport St, El Segundo, CA 90245. **Note new date!** Planning more fun events this year. All are welcome.



Our new website is up and running!

Visit it at:
www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com

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Monty's Message
A Note from our President
Monty Bates



Harbor As and Happy Days

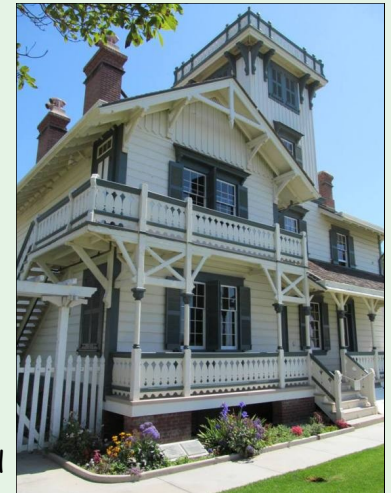
Howdy gang,

The happiest days of the year...the kids go back to school and peace is returned to those parents out there. August 2012 has been a great month for the Harbor A's and it sure looks like this Fall will be even better. Many



Greg Earhart and Joe Freitag
At Pt Fermin

thanks to Joe Freitag for the outstanding tour he facilitated, enjoyed by all who attended. There are great pictures of cars as we cruised around P.V. in 100+ degree heat. I personally had a wonderful experience at the Point Fermin Lighthouse as Dick Wyckoff and I were allowed to go "outside" at the very top. We all enjoyed a great lunch and then drove by the USS Iowa on our way home.



Pt Fermin lighthouse
In San Pedro

Our next Harbor A event happened on the 22nd of August as we helped the City of Torrance open the new \$23 Million East/West corridor of Del Amo Blvd. This showcased 12 of our Model As with Steve Newton and his 1930 Police Car leading the way. Everyone was invited to join in driving over the new bridge after the ribbon cutting ceremony ended. The Main Street car show in El Segundo on August 25th was a big success per Dick Wyckoff. The event had over 300 cars of all types and 10,000 people in attendance. Included were a couple As from Harbor.

September also means we start getting serious about the location of our annual Banquet and a committee of interested folks will be formed. This year's event will be a hoot, lots of great possibilities. We have our 55th anniversary on the 29th party/picnic at Columbia Park in Torrance. We have our Webmaster/Historian and Principal Photographer back and hopefully we will see some of Sue's vacation pictures to & from Mt. Rushmore & beyond. Lots of additional activities are being planned so stay cool and join us...we still have dinner on Monday night's at Billy's. Looking forward to sharing new adventures as the Harbor A's keep finding new adventures.

See careful out there... still lots of old people driving old cars...we need you!!!!

Monty

September Birthdays

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



September Anniversaries

- 1 Bill & Dot Knott
- 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

I have to write a little blurb about our tour around the Palos Verdes peninsula August 11th. When you live in the area, one tends to ignore the beauty of your surroundings. Joe Freitag put together a fantastic scenic tour through residential areas of Palos Verdes that I have never before seen. We stopped several times to take pictures and discuss a little history of each location. The weather was fantastic and we even drove by the church where Jan and I were married 30 years ago. I don't get to San Pedro often but when we arrived later in our tour at the historic Point Fermin lighthouse, my love for the sea came back and my love for historic buildings was rekindled. The docents love what they do and are always looking for contributions to their efforts. The club was asked to contribute as a sponsor and periodically display our cars at the lighthouse. I recommend that we do so. They only asked for \$100. Let's participate in the era programs that they put on. It's a worthy cause as we are in the restoration business also.

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 photos, I can scan them and put them in the newsletter. Either way, let me know.

I have been encouraging new members of the Harbor club to receive the HarborLight by **email**. I am also asking existing members 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 26 others. This is more than \$700 per year savings, **AND** it is **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. If you want a sample email version, let me know also. I will send you one.

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 . . .



Lunch at the Green Union in San Pedro after the Palos Verdes tour.
22 people for lunch

Play Causing the Front End to Shake?

One of the things that have helped so many Model A's survive all these decades is the fact that they are so forgiving. Nearly every system on the car can function seemingly "normal" with multiple deficiencies. For example your ignition system can have numerous weaknesses such as a weak coil, slop in the distributor shaft, and play in the upper plate, but it will run acceptably. The points may close up very slightly and the car then develop a "miss". However, fixing any one of the other three things may "fix" the problem enough for it to seem "normal" again.

A couple weeks ago Jim Boehmke found an article where what you describe was coined the "death wobble". This is much more severe and not the same as a shimmy although they do share similarities. It's been my opinion (as it was the author's of that article) that death wobble cannot occur without slop in one or more places within the steering and suspension linkages. It's VERY important to note that includes the ball and cups at the back of the front radius rod (wishbone).

With all that in mind, descriptions such as "new tires" or "adjusting toe-in" as a solution obviously worked for folks. However that type of change would simply be enough in those particular cases to make the symptoms lay dormant. As with Brent, I also believe proper investigation WILL locate one or more areas of slop. 10-12 years ago I posted about the pendulum effect at the shackles (spring hangers) with an excessively flat front spring as Brent mentioned but I believe that would also require other contributing factors.

The single most effective way to locate slop requires two people. The car must be on the ground. While one person lays under the front the other person grasps the steering wheel and forcefully rotates the steering wheel back and forth through it's free movement. Spend some time staring at EVERYTHING under there. You will likely see things like the Pittman arm and steering sector shaft moving up and down in the sector housing. If you don't that means either the steering had been at least partially rebuilt or you are NOT looking close enough!

It sounds like you've already checked front wheel bearings and king pins. These are the only checks I can think of that are done with the front end off the ground.

Friday Afternoon at Ruby's Diner:

Since April, 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. See you there.



Monday at the Deli

Billy's is the place to eat on **Mondays**. Club members have enjoyed the menu at Billy's for a while now and the staff treats us well. Located at 5160 W. 190th St, Torrance CA. (Near the corner of Anza and 190th). Come by and check it out. 5PM is a good time. A back room is ours for as long as we want.

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!



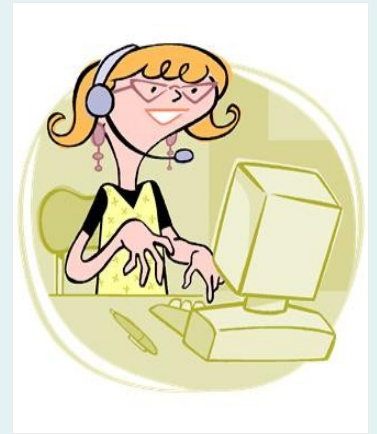
The address is 17400 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance CA.

Come on by, have a cup of Starbucks, and get your weekend started in true So. California style.

Harbor MARC / MAFCA Business Meeting Minutes

July 27th, 2012

Location: **Walteria Clubhouse, Torrance CA**



President: Monty Bates called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and said it would be a brief meeting so we could get on with the White Elephant sale.

Salute to the flag: Led by Jack Gordinier

Recognition of Past Presidents: Doris & Drain Marshall, Steve Preston and Dick Wyckoff.

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

Vice President: No raffle, having the White Elephant.

Treasurer: Daffy reported all is fine.

HarborLight Editor: Needs articles for next issue by the 15th, and encouraged those who haven't been getting their newsletter by email to do so. Can be printed out in color.

Historian: On vacation.

Membership: 37 present

Membership Drawing: Man's prize of \$10 won by Art Wagner, Ursi Schmidt won \$5 woman's prize and she also won the \$5 clock prize.

Technical & Safety: Nothing to report.

Sergeant at Arms (badge money): Jack collected \$2.10.

Sunshine: Doris said Georgette has a bad cold. Joe J. says he's doing OK, but we know he isn't. Jean Webb's two daughters trade off being ill, now Jann is doing better. Rhoda says that Paul mainly sleeps, eats breakfast and goes right back to sleep. Gary G. is doing better and is driving his car. Paul Jamesson is doing better, Jan W. is also better and Monty had the flu but better now.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: July birthdays were: Doris Marshall, Dr. Steve Thompson, Bill Moore, Mariano Deogracias, Mike Wright, Mirco Pisu, Donnis Bates, Joe Freitag, and Pat Harrison. July anniversaries were: Beverly & Vince Migliazzo, Elaine & Mirco Pisu, Sandy & Ron Ragon, Jack & Joan Gordinier and Bob & Carol Olsen.

Tools Coordinator: Bobby D. had a tool checked out and has been returned.

Tours: Wings & Wheels was a great success. July 29th is the 18th annual People's Choice Car Show; meet at SNAXs at 8:30 for breakfast and on to the car show. August 22nd is the Del Amo overpass opening. The city of Torrance would like for us to provide open cars for 9 dignitaries. Event will be covered by the Daily Breeze, good publicity for the club. Aug. 11th Joe Freitag will lead us in a tour around 'The Hill' and to the Pt Fermin historical lighthouse.

Web Master: Web site is up and running, tho the Web Master is in the Black Hills!

Old Business: None

New Business: The White Elephant sale made \$404.10 which will be used toward the cost of our Progressive to be held on Oct. 13th. Sept. 29th we will have a club picnic at Columbia Park in Torrance, will have our Hubley track set up there. Starts at 9:30AM. Monty has information on some cars for sale. He'll get that out to the club soon.

Refreshments hosted by: Joan Gordinier and Dot Knott

Next General Meeting: August 31st, 2012

Next Board Meeting: August 7th at the El Segundo Auto Driving Museum at 7PM.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:55 - on to the White Elephant sale with Bill Newell as auctioneer.

Respectfully submitted; Jan Wyckoff, Acting Secretary.



2012 Membership, Roster and Club Items: by Ursula Schmidt

The Harbor 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** at 310-539-5391.

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

Also available are embroidered ball caps with the club's logo. Available in many colors \$15. There are club T-shirts, pins, and 50th anniversary cookbooks still available, too. Please call **Jan Wyckoff** at 310-322-8863 to place your order.



Harbor 'Sunshine Status' by Doris Marshall

Edwin Buck, a longtime member has passed away. He died as a result of Parkinson's disease on June 22nd. His beautiful '29 Deluxe Tudor Sedan was shipped to his son in Battle Grounds, Washington where it is being driven and cared for. Rest in peace, Ed.

Dorothy Wood, our 93 year old, 51 year member was bitten by a 'friendly' family dog and had to spend 2 1/2 days in the hospital. Her arm was swollen and she was a bit uncomfortable. She is fine now. See you at the next club meeting, Dorothy.

Paul and Rose Jamesson are doing better. This 'feel-bad' stuff ain't fun. Both were at Billy's recently. Super!

Gary Guttormson has had his second knee replaced. Hopefully he is doing much better. Its tough driving his Model A with a bum knee. He did make it to Billy's last week!

MAFFI Building Dedication by Jerry Morrissey, Trustee

The Summer is flying by and so is the progress on the Museum. It is hard to believe that we are already in mid August. The dedication of the building is approaching fast. I hope to see most of you there. All of your hard work in planning and raising money and promoting the hobby is becoming a reality.



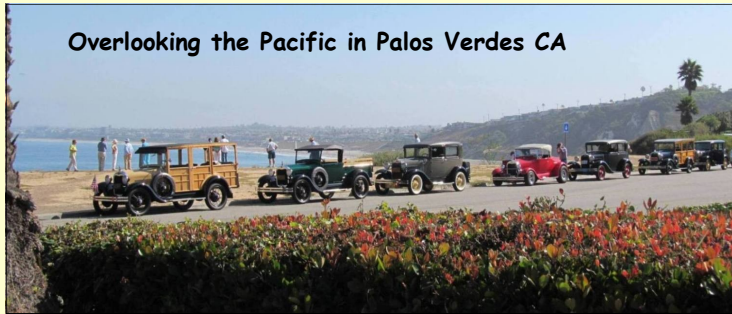
Cornerstone Construction is working hard to stay on schedule with the building. Most of the glass is now installed for the front of the building. They are starting to power wash the brick. The tile work on the floor is moving along nicely, but it is a big job! They had 2 weeks in the schedule to lay the tile. Gilmore personnel will seal the tile floor after the tile contractor finishes their work. This will also take two weeks so we are on schedule, but it will be tight for the drive through photos on Sept. 15th. The back wall is complete except for the cap on the roof and touch up painting. The electrician's have put in the maintenance fluorescent lighting, and the theater lights and were finishing outlets yesterday. The first order of bricks for the walkway have arrived!

I know many of you are watching the progress on the Webcam and over the next month there is going to be a lot of activity right up front. They are finishing off the canopy. Then the drainage trench will be dug across the front of the building and curb basins will be installed. The road will be widened and a sidewalk will be installed across the front of the building. Lastly, paving for our drive will take place and the brick walk will be installed. It is going to be a busy month. Have fun watching and continue to support the effort any way you can!

History Touring with the Harbor As By Dick Wyckoff

Terrific Tours
With Joe Freitag
Acting Tour Director

The Harbor Area club had the opportunity to take a tour of it's own backyard, so to speak. Our substitute tour director, Joe Freitag, put together a scenic as well as informational drive around the beautiful Palos Verdes peninsula and ending up at the historic Point Fermin lighthouse in San Pedro.



Overlooking the Pacific in Palos Verdes CA

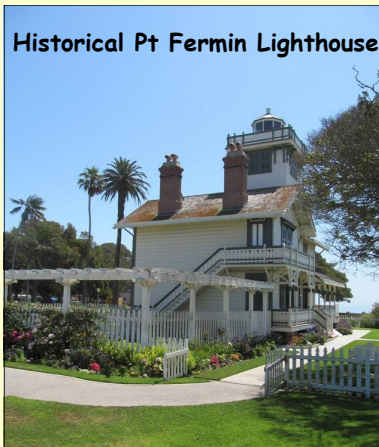
The tour started at the PV golf Club where seven As and three moderns met. Already I was in new territory. With elaborate instructions and information in hand, we took off and immediately found ourselves driving past the fountains of Malaga Cove erected in 1930. Stopping near the beautiful Neighborhood Church built in 1927 overlooking the Pacific Ocean, we saw sailboats

and fishing boats enjoying the beautiful day. Continuing along in some very exclusive neighborhoods, we enjoyed many beautiful homes and friendly people waving as we went by.

We stopped to test the facilities at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center. It is here that many come to watch for whales and other wildlife. Nearby is the Pt. Vicente lighthouse built in 1926. It is currently in service and is housing for Coast Guard personnel. Just down the street, we passed the famous Wayfarer's Chapel or Glass Church, the Portuguese Bend slide area, and the Trump National Golf Course (site of the Palos Verdes Concours d'Elegance).



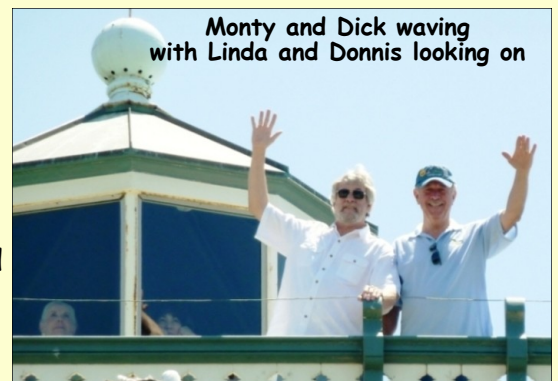
The group at Pt Vicente Interpretive Center



Historical Pt Fermin Lighthouse

PV Drive South becomes 25th St in San Pedro where we turn to onto Gaffey Street and into the Point Fermin lighthouse area. This is where I renewed my love for the sea and old, historical buildings. We were greeted by three docents led by Martha Austin McKinzie, a grand-daughter of one of the lighthouse very early keepers. She gave the crowd of 20 Harbor 'A' folks a history of the buildings and what has happened to it since the 1880's. Martha led a tour of the building that was filled with lots of era furniture and artifacts. Several of us got to go all the way to the top with Monty and I going outside the upper level. What a view! At the

end of the visit, the docents gave their story of maintaining the lighthouse and the need of support groups to preserve this historical place. Joe Freitag drafted a letter to the lighthouse association pledging Harbor Area As support. We might be asked on occasion to display our cars for certain events and I think we should do so. The money part is minimal and the time would be well spent.



Monty and Dick waving with Linda and Donnis looking on

Wheels & Deals:

For Sale:

- Set of 4 brand new **Goodyear 21" blackwall tires** won at the O.C. pancake breakfast. Cost new with tax is \$780 . For sale for \$ 650. Call Bob DeCrescenzo at 310 540-3690.
- 1928-29 **Stone Guard** - new in box \$125.00. 1930 Cabriolet **Windshield frame** - needs re-chrome. Make offer, **Transmission** in excellent shape no cover or tower, \$500. 1928-30 **Instrument panel** needs plating \$5.00. Other stuff: Motor mounts, wood headers, steering wheel, clutch plate, Make offer. Call Joe 310 377-0135
- **Model A speed equipment set-up.** Member Greg Earhart has a complete Weber carb setup with headers, Aries muffler and other equipment for sale. He is willing to discuss price and it is promised to be reasonable. Give him a call at 562-869-0970

Wanted:

- **Model A Tudor or Fordor Sedan.** Good Condition, fair price. If interested, call Al Koch at 805-492-7553 or email aoktile1@verizon.net
- **Used Christmas and greeting cards.** (Complete cards please). We will recycle them. Ursi (310) 539-5391 and Doris (310) 378-5061.

More Palos Verdes / Pt Fermin Tour Pictures



This image of the lighthouse is from an early stereograph. It was taken shortly after its construction, notice the absence of trees and the cleared land around the lighthouse.
From the collection of the Los Angeles Public Library.



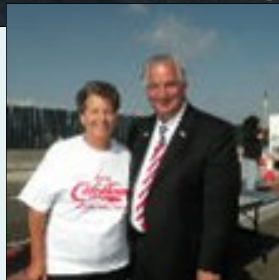
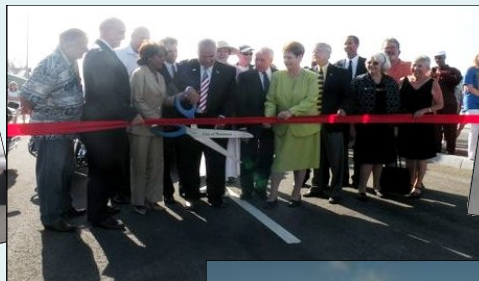
[Lots of Car Events of Interest for 2012](#)

- Sept 8 (Sat) Tromper's Hot Rod **Swap Meet**, Figueroa and the 134 fwy (exit Figueroa). Free admission.
- Sept 16 (Sun) Palos Verdes **Concours d'Elegance** at Trump Nat Golf Course. This year there will be a Model A Class with a display of 'Henry' award cars from Southern Calif. Save the date!
- September 23rd (Sun) Route 66 Hill climb, Devore, CA. Interested in some fast 4-bangers? Fun event. Call Art Moore at 909-982-7790 for more info.
- September 23rd (Sun) Tours of the Adamson House - Cars of the 1930's scheduled. 23200 Pacific Coast hwy., Malibu. Admission is free for Model As. Web: www.malibudamsonhouse.org
- September 30th (Sun) 51st Annual Antique **Swap Meet**. Paradise Valley 'A' Club. San Bernardino. Held at the Western Little League Headquarters 6707 Little League Dr., San Bernardino CA. Info: John at 909-875-4545
- October 7 (Sun) **Frazier Park picnic** hosted by the Bakersfield Model A Club.
- October 28th (Sun) Early Times **Swap Meet** & Pancake Breakfast. Pre '58 cars and parts. Loc'n: Price Transfer 2790 Del Amo at Santa Fe, Carson CA. Gates open at 6AM. Info: 310-339-3268
- July 26-28, 2013 (Last Weekend) **Wings 'n Wheels** in Solvang. Save the date. Fun weekend.

[New Del Amo Blvd Dedication](#)



Twelve Harbor Area As answered the call August 22nd by Torrance to participate in the opening of the new segment of Del Amo Blvd from Crenshaw to Maple. This two-year \$23Million project has been in the works for a long time and had finally come to fruition. Railroad tracks were moved and a bridge was built to make this happen. Lots of local, county and state dignitaries were present. Monty Bates coordinated the event with the city. Of course, it wouldn't be a true Harbor tour if we didn't eat something. Shakey's pizza was the place after the ceremony.



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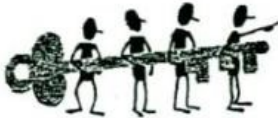


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For MARC info and membership, see www.ModelARestorers.org



For MAFCA info and membership, see www.MAFCA.com

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 PM (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and one 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 Fords and have fun while doing it.

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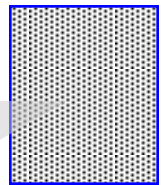
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The HarborLight



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September 2012



Al and Georgette Avoian at the dedication ceremony of the new Del Amo Blvd

