

Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Founded in 1957. Torrance, California.

November 2012

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

Upcoming Business Meetings



Our October meeting will be on **Friday, October 26th**, at the WALTERIA clubhouse. Nominations for next year's officers will be taken.

This is also a **pot luck** night. **A-L** entre, **M-Z** salads. Club provides the desert.

The **November** meeting will be **Friday, November 30th**. Election of officers.

Come early, help set up and talk Model As with your friends.
See you there!



Doris Marshall won the bingo prize crown at the 55th anniversary picnic. Our president, Monty, was relieved that he didn't win it!



Tours

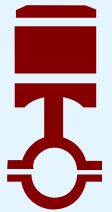
See your pictures in the newsletter.
When you go on the tours, take pictures, send your good ones to the editor and he will try and fit them in the *HarborLight*.

Lots of tour activity in October. Check the tour pages for pictures of our fun events!

More tours 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. We had a 'tune up' seminar on Sue Hankins' car. Solved some problems and she says the car runs great!



Next Board Meeting



The next board meeting will be **Tuesday, November 13th** at **7PM** at the El Segundo Auto Driving Museum, Lairport St, El Segundo, CA 90245. We're 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



Have We Been Having Fun, or What!

An often used military term in our country's history is "esprit de corps", meaning a sense of unity and common interest. The first couple of weeks of October have certainly demonstrated that. We have been running since the first with fantastic participation at both the club's 55th Anniversary picnic and the following week with a "Progressive" Tour. *By the time we get finished with Sue's car we can have a club rest period.* I can't promise anything, but we're sure getting requests for our cars. Parades, dedications, displays, car shows. You name it. The Frazier Park picnic, sponsored by the Bakersfield Model A Club, was a success according to all the folks attending. Always a fun event.

Our October business meeting will be a busy night. Nominations for next year's officers. Up are Treasurer (two years), Tour director, and Technical director (each one year). Also a Pot Luck event, guaranteed to be a delicious. A-L brings entre, M-Z brings salad. The club provides the desert. Good food and great friends...all that and a raffle, sounds just fine with me.

My special thanks to Daffy Wagner and Georgette Avoian for their outstanding work in making our picnic so great!!! The "Progressive" was a "HOOT" and we all know that was a "labor of love" by Elaine Pisu and friends. There should be some great pictures from both events and I am looking forward to sharing.

We continue to meet on Monday night at Billie's. (190th and Anza). We get a chance to get caught up on current events; family and friends are always welcomed. We're on the move into the month of November. It looks like we're in for more adventures. All ideas are welcomed and you just never know what can happen in a Model A.

Also, let's all remember Veterans Day, November 11th. Be careful out there.

Monty



Some of the As at the 55th Harbor anniversary picnic.
20 As and 50 people helped celebrate the event.

November Birthdays

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



November Anniversaries

- 6 Bob & Phyllis DeCrescenzo
- 15 Andy & Sandra Soto
- 21 Joe & Linda Freitag
- 25 Rhoda & Paul Larquier
- 28 Al & Georgette Avoian
- 30 Dick Lusk & Ursi Schmidt

Editor's Corner by Dick Wyckoff

This last month many of us have done a lot of touring with our As. This is what it is all about. Of course we always find time to eat. It started with the Frazier Park picnic. Continued to a week-long event in Oakhurst CA with tours to Yosemite and the Gold Country. A different food venue each day. Next was the 55th Harbor As anniversary picnic. Great sandwiches and games. The crown jewel of food in October was our Progressive tour run by Elaine Pisu. Wow! Breakfast at a car collection in Gardena, gourmet lunch at the Pisu's, and lots of desert at the fantastic garage of Pat Tucker. We finished the month with spaghetti at Sue and Pat's during the Tech seminar and, guess what? We have a Pot Luck at our next meeting! Weight Watchers, here we come

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 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. 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 . . .



Thanks for the Technical

Thank you to everyone who attended the technical seminar and a SPECIAL THANK YOU to those who worked on my car. Greg Earhart and Dick Wyckoff adjusted the alternator and tested the electrical system; Dick adjusted the timing and carburetor; Monty Bates got the greasiest by crawling under the car, and with the help of Bill Newell replaced the old hood latches. Thanks to Mirco and Elaine for bringing the desserts, and Fran Earhart for bringing her delicious brownies. And thanks to Pat for her delicious spaghetti lunch. What wonderful friends we have in the club. You guys are awesome! And Babe is running great!!
Sue



Harbor 'Sunshine Status' by Doris Marshall

Paul and Rose Jamesson are doing better. This 'feel-bad' stuff ain't fun. Both were at Billy's recently. Give Paul a call if you might be interested in a '29 Sedan. He is thinking of selling his project.

Gary Guttormson has had his second knee replaced. He is doing much better. Its tough driving his Model A with a bum knee. He did our progressive tour just fine. I think food motivates Gary!

Thom Marshall is trying to schedule a follow-up surgery for a serious hernia. Thom has been to Ruby's a couple times and did one leg of the progressive tour. Go Thom!



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.

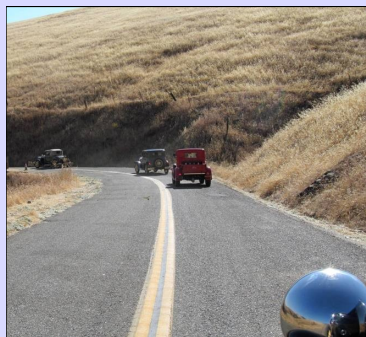


A Trip to the California Gold Country by Dick Wyckoff



Can you picture driving your Model A through some of California's most scenic and historical back roads? Well that is what the Marshalls, the Gordiniers, and the Wyckoffs did. A week of touring the south end of California's 'Route 49' at Oakhurst was the stage. It was a combined tour sponsored by the Palomar As and the San Diego Model T club and led by Judy and John Burrell. It was a well organized event with different tours each day of 80 to 150 miles.

Included were places such as Yosemite, Bass Lake, Mariposa, back country garage tours and steam engine train rides. A great adventure. By my count, there were 11 Model Ts as old as 1911, and 20 Model As.



Harbor MARC / MAFCA Business Meeting Minutes

September 29th, 2012

Location: Walteria Clubhouse, Torrance CA

President: Monty Bates called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

Salute to the flag: Led by Bill Newell.

Recognition of past Presidents: Present was Pat Yacklon.

Minutes of previous meeting: Approved as written.

Vice President: Tim Harrison had nothing to report.

HarborLight Editor: not present

Historian: Sue said that she has a lot of old club papers stacked in her garage, (i.e.: newsletters, photo albums, and secretary and treasury records). She asked if anyone had an area to store these for the club.

Membership: Ursi reported 38 people in attendance.

Advertising: Bill Newell has a new advertiser, Charlie Cool, who specializes in air conditioning. He can convert a car with 12 or 6 volt battery. Bill announced that he has four extra tickets for Saturday, September 29th Moonlight Magic at the Marsh. It is \$50 per person. The event starts at 4:00 pm. All benefits go to the Marsh.

Attendance prize: Man - Wilbur Richardson, not present. Woman - Doris Marshall, not present.

Ursi wants to know if it is okay to put the advertisers in the back of the club phone books. Elaine Pisu made a motion to put the advertisers in the 2013 club phone books. Motion passed.

Technical/safety: Not present. Monty asked Sue if she was still up for electrical seminar on her car. She said she was. It was decided that the seminar would be at Sue and Pat's home on Saturday, October 20th at 10:00 am. Pat announced that she will serve spaghetti lunch to those in attendance.

Sergeant-at-arms: Bill Newell collected \$2.25.

Sunshine: not present. Monty said it was wonderful that we had such a great group of people who sent cards and thoughts to our members when they are sick.

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Monty read off the list from the Harborlight.

Tools: Bobby D. said no tools are taken out at this time. The club has 24 or 25 tools that members can borrow with a \$20 refundable deposit upon return of the tool. Bobby will bring the Hubley track to the picnic. Monty wants to know what other activities to do at the picnic.

Tour Director: Elaine said we cannot get into the Rancho Los Cerritos until 1:00 pm. So we will go to an estate sale first and then go over the bridge into Long Beach. She passed out a list of the future tours and events. Sunday October 7th is Frazier Park picnic. Meet at Mills at 8:00 am. Call Drain if you are going. Oct 13th is the Progressive Luncheon/poker run. Elaine had a sign up sheet and will be collecting \$10 per person.

Clock prize: 8:07, won by Al Avoian.

Old Business: The club's 55th Anniversary Picnic is Saturday, October 6th at Columbia Park. You can order a Guiliano's box lunch for \$10/person. Contact Georgette, Daffy or Monty to order the box lunch. Or you may bring your own lunch. The club will furnish drinks.

New Business: Georgette said the Oct. 26th business meeting will be preceded with a potluck. A-L bring main dish. M-Z bring salads. Do not bring desserts.

Monty said Daffy, Donnis and Joan researched about fifteen places for the Banquet and ended up with Proud Bird as best choice. Dinner will be \$37.95 per person with two choices. The club members voted to have salmon or beef. Date of the banquet is Saturday, January 26th, 6-7 pm cocktails, 7:00 pm dinner. Monty wants to do activities between now and the banquet to offset the banquet cost. \$300 minimum bar sales to prevent any charge. Gratuities and tax are included in the dinner price.

Refreshments: Provided by Pat and Tim Harrison. A special cake was presented to Jim and Ruxella Speights for their 50th wedding anniversary.

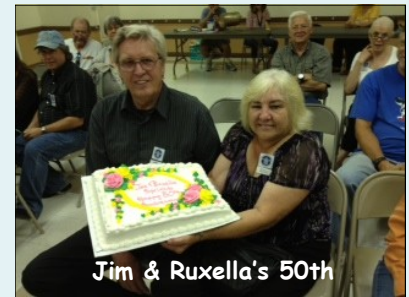
Raffle by Tim Harrison.

Sue showed a 30 minute slide show of her and Pat's recent National Parks travels.

Next meeting: October 26th, potluck at 6:00 pm, business meeting at 7:30 pm. Nominations will be taken for Technical, Tour Director and Treasurer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm

Respectfully submitted: Pat Yacklon, 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.



Technical Talk

From Les Andrews' book
"Model A Ford Mechanics Handbook", Volume II

ADDED GROUND CABLE INSTALLATION

INTRODUCTION

A good ground is essential for proper operation of the electrical system and the ignition system. A poor ground potential at the engine block and distributor can cause a poor running ignition system and rough running engine. A poor ground in the electrical system causes higher than normal currents to flow, resulting in burned out light bulbs. A poor ground to the Starter Motor causes a slow starting engine.

The ground post on the battery is connected to the main cross member of the frame. The ground potential of the frame is not always the same at the engine block due to rust buildup, paint, grease, and dirt build up over the years at the connections between the frame and engine block. The frame is electrically connected to the engine through the front and rear spring connection and through the rear motor mounts. These connections develop a high resistance from rust and dirt buildup, reducing the electrical ground potential between the frame and the engine. The addition of Float-A-Motor rear motor mounts also reduces the electrical ground potential between the frame and engine block due to the rubber mounts.

The metal engine pans, located on each side of the engine, provided a good positive ground connection between the frame and the engine block. Many times the engine pans have been taken off for removal of the oil pan and not replaced. This removes the main ground connection from the frame to the engine block.

An added ground cable, directly connected from the frame cross member at the battery ground connection, and attached to the transmission housing will ensure a good ground potential between the frame and the engine. A good ground to the engine will result in a smoother running engine, a faster turning Starter Motor for quicker starting, and improved lighting and longer burning light bulbs.

Installation

1. Use a 19" General Purpose #4 gauge battery cable. (This cable has a bolt eye at both ends).
2. Remove the frame bolt for the battery braided ground strap. Attach one end of the new ground cable, and the braided ground strap, to the frame bolt and reattach to the frame cross member.
3. Route the new ground cable next to the center cross member and attach to the top of the transmission housing on the right side of the transmission (Figure 4-15). Ensure all connections are tight.

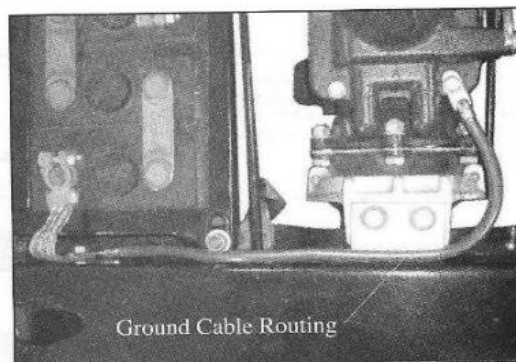


Figure 4-15 Added Ground Cable

Editors note: I have done this on both my cars and have never had an electrical problem. Model As have marginal ground paths after all these years and this eliminates the problem.

Tours and More Tours

By Elaine Pisu

Tour Director

October was a very active month for the Harbor A's. If you haven't driven your "A" this month you missed some great opportunities. Our first tour was to the Rancho Los Cerritos Adobe House in Long Beach. This house is a National Historic Landmark and was built in 1844. The gardens were relaxing and had one of the largest trees in So. Cal. We actually saw a wonderful antique wooden horse in an upstairs bedroom called a velocipede that you pedal with your hands and steer with your feet. Before arriving at the adobe house we had breakfast at SNAX. We then went to an estate sale in RPV and found a few treasures. We continued across the Vincent Thomas Bridge into Long Beach. After visiting the rancho, we stopped for lunch at Eatalian in Gardena. Everyone really enjoyed the day.



Our next outing was our 55th Anniversary Picnic which we held at Columbia Park in Torrance. By my count, there were 20 Model As and 50 people at the picnic. Georgette coordinated the sandwich orders. Our fantastic president got there early and made sure the facilities and the giant gazebo that we used were clean. Really above and beyond the call of duty, but greatly appreciated. Bobby D brought the club's Hubley track that he built and everyone really enjoyed the races. I brought a Bingo set and Daffy and Gloria brought prizes for the Bingo games. Amazing how much fun a bunch of adults can have with



Elizabeth working the track

such a simple mindless game. But we laughed and kidded and complained that Bobby wasn't calling our numbers. All had a great time!! Thankfully even the Skinners grandson won twice. The Preston's granddaughter Elizabeth is my new best girlfriend and we sent her home with a prize as well. Gary was holding 50/50 raffle tickets for Jerry and he took home the \$112 from the 50/50. Thanks everyone for making it a success!!



Dorothy Wood

Some of our members went to the Frazier Park get together that was sponsored by the Bakersfield club. Most of us couldn't handle another day of fun since our picnic was the day before and we were worn out.

Last but not least this month, we had a fabulous progressive lunch/poker run, if I do say so myself. 13 Model As and 35 members participated in the Progressive. Mirco and I coordinated a breakfast stop at Cornwell and Sheridan Motors in Gardena. Dave Simon and his brother allowed us to see their collection as we had our coffee, bagels and muffins. Dave shared some of his stories with us telling us all of the non-adult rated movies that his cars had been in. His Woody has been in several swimsuit editions of the Playboy magazine, one of his Rolls Royces is used in the Victoria Secret ads. My favorite story was about the first car he had when he was 14 and met his 13 year old girlfriend. They dated in that car until they married at 18 & 19. They sold the car and years later decided they wanted one again. They searched high and low nation-wide and finally found one in Palos Verdes. Come to find out the car he bought turned out to be his original car. It is back with them again and the 13 & 14 year olds are riding in that car some 60 years later. Our lunch stop was back at the Pisu home and, of course, we had lots of Italian music and a wonderful lunch prepared by my wonderful husband Mirco, our nephew Antonio and myself. Our son Angelo delivered the desserts to Pat Tucker's house where we had the final dessert course. It doesn't matter if you have been there or not, you always see something new and wonderful to enjoy. A big thanks to Donnis for her help, Pat and her son Keith, and Dave and Ron Simon for making this a huge success. Oh yeah, Pat won \$130 in the Poker Run.



Wheels & Deals:

For Sale:

- 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
- Four brand new Goodyear 21" blackwall tires won at the last pancake breakfast. Cost new: about \$780. Will sell for \$600. Call Bobby DeCrescenzo at 310-540-3690.

Wanted:

- Rear spare tire guard assembly. Need one for my car. If you know of one for sale, call Tim Harrison at 310-920-3319.
- **Used Christmas and greeting cards.** (Complete cards please). We will recycle them.
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Progressive Lunch / Poker Run



Lots of Car Events of Interest for 2012

- 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
- October 28th (Sun) and Nov 18th (Sun) Elks Lodge #2046 **Automotive swap meet**. 7212 Melrose St., Buena Park CA 8AM - 1PM.
Info: Gary 714-299-1776
- December 1st (Sat) A **Santa's Arrival Parade** is planned at the Peninsula Shopping Center for Saturday morning, 1 Dec 2012. To bring some of those involved in the event, 4 - 6 open car Model A's are requested. More to come. Dan Fitzgerald to coordinate. Call Dan at 310-373-8060
- December 9th (Sun) El Segundo's **49th Annual Holiday Parade**. Line up starts at 11:30AM. Parade down Main Street starts at 1PM. Contact person is Dick Wyckoff. 310-322-8863
- December 30th (Sun) New Years **Horseless Carriage Club tour** moved to the Irwindale Motor Speedway. More details as they become available. This is a fun event. Lots of brass.
- July 26-28, 2013 (Last Weekend) **Wings 'n Wheels** in Solvang. Save the date. Fun weekend.

Additional Upcoming Events

- On November 17th, Saturday, we will be seeing another wonderful private collection in Gardena. We have 2 warehouses to see and will then be having lunch at Eatalian in Gardena. Meet at SNAX's for breakfast at 8:30AM and we will leave there at 9:30.
-
- Save the Date: December 8, we are going to a Christmas play in Long Beach at 2:00 rain or shine.
- Save the date: December 15th at the Western Museum of Flight in Torrance. We are having an antique car show with the grand marshal Santa in conjunction with Dick Smith and the history of the Travelair.

Some More Progressive Pics



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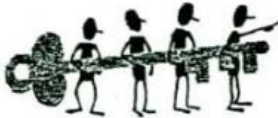
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For MARC info and membership, see
www.ModelARestorers.org



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.

2012 Board of Directors:

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Email: BatesX3@aol.com

Vice-President:

Tim Harrison (310) 318-5920

Treasurer:

Daffy Wagner (310) 374-6113

Secretary:

Pat Yacklon (310) 782-0082

Tour Director:

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Appointed Officers:

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November 2012



Be sure and Vote!
Presidential election is
Tuesday, November 6th