

Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

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November 2013

The HarborLight Newsletter
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Newsletter Award of Excellence
2009, 2010, 2011, 2012



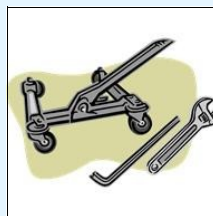
The Harbor Club members getting ready to drive to the International Model A Ford Day in Irvine on September 28th. Daffy Wagner taking pictures. Orange County MAC sponsored the fun event.

Tours

How about another "Feed the Firemen" event in Long Beach? **Sunday, November 10th** we will visit Station 112 in San Pedro. Meet at the Waleria Clubhouse at 10:30, leave at 10:45. Wear Red, White, and Blue as Monday is Veterans Day. **Saturday, November 16th** is the Progressive. It will be a toy drive, poker run, and progressive. Elaine will have more info at the meeting.



Technical Activities



We are still working on Al Avoian's AA truck (or any other projects) at Al's garage. We got the cab on the frame now. Meet there at 10am on Thursdays and we'll work on whatever projects happen to show up. Let's get Al's truck on the road again. Stop by and join in.

Busy Upcoming Business Meeting

The **October** meeting is **Friday, October 25th**. Officer nominations and a pot luck evening. A-L is main dish, M-Z is salad. Desert provided by club. Food at 6Pm, meeting time is 7:30 at Waleria Clubhouse. Nominations are open for President, Vice President, Secretary, Tours, and Technical. See you there!

Next Board Meeting



The next board meeting will be the El Segundo Driving Museum on **Tuesday, November 5th** at 7PM. We'll discuss current status and future events. All members welcome.

Please visit our awesome website
Check in it at:

www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com

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Monty's Message
A Note from our President
Monty Bates



A Time to be Thankful

October's big turn-out at Frazier Park...other folks will have to fill in the details as I didn't make it to the Park & party. I was lucky enough to join in the celebration of life tour on the 12th. The people with "Little Sisters of the Poor" couldn't have been more gracious. We had more fun than they did and they had a blast!!! Others will talk of that tour...my own car's electrical system went haywire that morning. I was able to catch a ride with Al Avoian. I had never ridden in the back seat of a Fordor...a real adventure for me.

Lawndale High School is still looking for "open" cars for their Homecoming event. I don't know how that will turn out.

By the way...our Friday night Business meeting on October 25th is a pot luck...

We need to start thinking about new club officers as the nominations for next year will be held then as well.

November will be busy with the Harbor Fire Department visit on the 10th. These firefighters really make us feel welcomed and we have a great feast. The Internationally Famous Progressive is happening...on the 16th...get ready for this one folks!!!

New members are reminded of current Model A projects and how they can get involved. Stay in touch.

Just a reminder, the November meeting date is Friday, November 22nd, a week early. Don't want to disturb the Thanksgiving festivities and shopping days! We'll be electing new officers then, also.

Be safe out there.

Monty



A visit by the Harbor Area Model A Club to the Little Sisters of the Poor senior facility in San Pedro. Six Model As gave rides to residents in a fun and rewarding day. Lots of "I remember when..." comments by the folks.

Photos by Elaine Pisu

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
- 28 Al & Georgette Avoian
- 30 Dick Lusk & Ursi Schmidt

Editor's Corner by Dick Wyckoff

In October, we start the nominations for next year's officers. At the November meeting we hold the formal elections. This is one of the larger elections where we elect a new President (2 years), Vice President (2 years), Secretary (2 years), Tour Director (1 year), and Technical Director (1 year). Also at the October meeting we have our pot luck dinner. Lots of great food and excitement. Oh, don't forget Mondays, 5pm at Hof's Hut, 237th and Crenshaw in Torrance. Can't forget the food!

I have to do this. . . November 11th is Veteran's Day. We give thanks to our vets for all their sacrifices, past and present. I can't help but get extremely upset with the present congress and the using of our fighting men and women and veterans as political pawns to make a point. Delayed family death benefits for those recently killed in Afghanistan and closing the WWII memorial to the vets that are the 'Greatest generation'. What a sad state of affairs. God bless our fighting men and women. Thanks for listening. Dick. (Retired Navy Chief)

Changing the subject a little, we editors are always looking for articles of interest to put in the newsletters. There must be some interesting Model A stories waiting to be told. 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 39 people from the Harbor Club and 34 others. This is more than \$800 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 . . .



Take a moment
to thank a vet.



Harbor 'Sunshine Status' by Doris Marshall

Doris Marshall ended up in Torrance Memorial emergency. She had chest pains and felt terrible all over. After a couple days, she was able to go home. Don't know what the problem was but is feeling better. We love you Doris. Stay well!

Jan Wyckoff got an epidural shot and she is doing much better managing her back/leg pain.

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.



"Cruise at the Beach" Friday afternoon at Ruby's Diner:

Ruby's 'Cruise at the Beach' event every Friday is closed for the season. It has been going on since April. It should restart again next year.



2013 Membership, Roster and Club Items: by Ursula Schmidt

The updated **2013 Harbor phonebooks/rosters** are available at all get-togethers. The first booklet is free to members. Additional copies are \$1.50. 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.

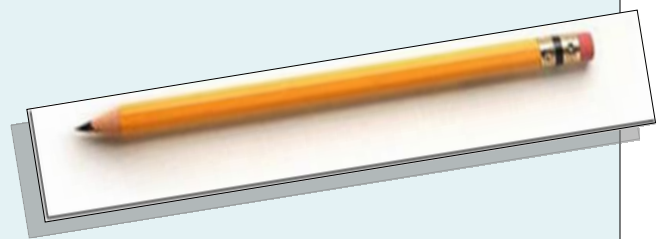


Welcome our newest members:

The club welcomes new club member # 1045, **Richard Thompson**. He lives on 1512 Bonnie Brae St. in Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. He has a 1930 Coupe. Ph: 310-245-3343. email: hbcdThompson@yahoo.com

The club also welcomes new club member # 1046 **Peggy Wishon**. She lives on 4416 Via Pavion in Palos Verdes Est. CA 90274. Ph. 310-373-2213, e-mail nordicandcelt@yahoo.com
Peggy was a former club member from 1979 to 1991. Welcome back to the club!

Business Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2013 Walteria Clubhouse



President: Monty Bates called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Salute to the flag: led by Jack Gordinier.

Recognition of Past Presidents: Present were Dick Wyckoff, Pat Yacklon, and Duane Nead.

Secretary: Minutes were approved as written in the Harbor Light.

Vice President: Tim Harrison thanked those members that donated prizes for the raffle.

Treasurer: Daffy Wagner reported all is well.

Harborlight Editor: Dick Wyckoff said the newsletter was mailed out and emailed. Dick and Dan Fitzgerald were Class Managers for the pre-war fire truck exhibit at the PV Concours. There is a swap meet Sunday in San Bernardino.

Webmaster/Historian: Sue showed a 20 minute DVD slide show of her and Pat's Canada trip to the Calgary Stampede.

Membership: Ursi announced two new members: Dick Thompson and Peggy Wishon. Ursi awarded Gary Guttormson with a 10 year membership pin.

Woman's prize: Pat Harrison Men's prize: Willy Duncan

Clock prize: Linda Skinner

Technical Director: Jim Speights said the guys installed a new battery on Al's truck. He said they need able bodies at 10:00 AM Friday at Al's garage to put the cab on the frame.

Sunshine: Doris was not present. Rhoda received a good report from her oncologist.

Tour Director: Elaine Pisu passed out a list of future tours. Saturday September 28th is International Model A Ford day tour. It is \$10/person. Bring your chairs. Meet at Harbor Freight Tools at 8:15 AM and leave at 8:30 AM. Oct 6th is the Frazier Park Meet. Oct 12th, Little Sisters of the Poor in San Pedro car show and cruise in memory of Paul Larquier. Meet at the club house at 9:00 AM and leave 9:30.

New Business: The Proud Bird is closing and we need a new banquet location. Donnis read a list of possible alternate restaurants. Joe Frietag suggested The Reef in Long beach by the Queen Mary. Mike Wright said Mel Gross sells cast iron brake drums. Sue inquired about the Board Meeting's change of date to Oct 8th. Elaine made a motion, which was passed, to change the November Business meeting from 11-28 to 11-22.

Advertising: Amy had nothing new to report.

Refreshments: Monty acknowledged Georgette for a great job. Georgette said our next business meeting will be preceded by a potluck at 6:00 PM. Desert will be provided by the club. A-L bring main course, M-Z bring salads. Monty said there is a list of people who bring the refreshments each month. Monty requested the club's reimbursement dollar amount be increased from \$25 to \$50. A motion was passed. Willy Duncan provided refreshments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Pat Yacklon, Secretary.



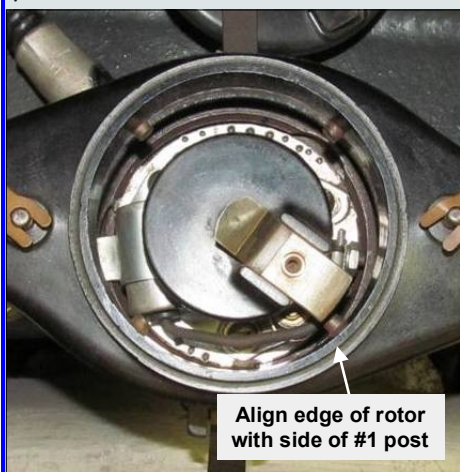
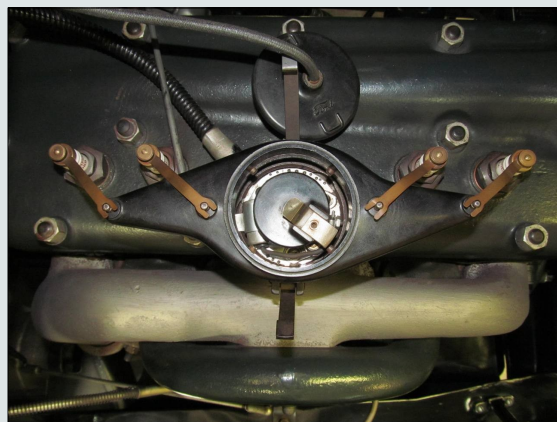
Technical Talk

Timing your Model A

By Purdy Swift, Alabama. Taken from Fordbarn.com

I think that the reason that so many have trouble with distributor timing is because they are trying to make too many things happen at once. With all of the spark plugs removed, turn the engine over until the timing pin drops in place. Trying to find the timing dimple with the spark plugs in place is difficult. As it gets near the dimple, compression increases and it will usually go past the dimple when having to fight compression.

Forget all the stuff about the spark and the points until you get the distributor cam tightened in place. The trailing edge of the rotor tip needs to point at the number one contact in the distributor cap as Tom has it pictured above with no clockwise backlash. There will be some backlash (free rotation) in the distributor shaft. When the cam screw is tightened, all of the backlash rotation should be in the counter clockwise direction. In other words when the cam screw is tightened it should look just like Tom's picture. When tightened there should be no backwards movement of the rotor tip. All of the backlash must be in the counter clockwise direction or the timing will be retarded. Marco has shown a picture of where the tip of the rotor should point.



After the rotor points as pictured with no clockwise backlash, move to the next step. Check for full advance and retard of the upper breaker plate in the window or cutout in the side of the distributor cap body. If you don't have full movement in both directions an adjustment of the steering column tube will be needed or a different spark control rod, if you run the seven tooth (early) steering column. If all is good with advance and retard movement, the next move is to retard the spark lever and check the points. The points should be just ready to open. The recommended points gap is anywhere from .018 to .022. If the points haven't already been adjusted, set as necessary. Points setting effects the timing, you've got .004 adjustment to get the points where you want them. More gap advances the timing, less gap increases dwell.

I run the improved distributor cam with 10 degrees more dwell so I'm not as concerned about less gap at the points. I prefer my timing to be a little advanced so I set my points at .022. The wider gap allows more time before the points will need to be re-gaped. With the improved distributor cam, I get the added dwell and the wider gap advances the timing, I call it best of both worlds. I get crisp throttle response, no starter kickback and I can crank the engine with the hand crank without danger of kick-back when the spark lever is fully retarded. Setting the timing isn't a black art. The rotor tip should always point exactly as Tom and Marco have shown it with no clockwise backlash and NO exceptions. The rest is a matter of breaker plate movement and points adjustment. When the timing pin drops into the dimple, the distributor rotor should be in this position.

Editor's note: The timing in my car is done exactly as described. It runs just great and idles beautifully. I highly suggest you check your timing and set it as shown.

Touring with Elaine

By Elaine Pisu, Tour Director



Harbor A's have had a busy time since our last newsletter. We went to the **International Model A Day** picnic hosted by the Orange County A's. What a beautiful day and we had a great turn out. 20 members enjoyed the day and we drove 7 Model A's to Mason Park in Irvine. (see the photos)

On October 6th 14 members made the trek to **Frazier Park** for the annual meet hosted by the Bakersfield club. High winds and expected high temperatures made our members opt for modern cars but we had a great time. Almost everyone won a prize and Jan Wyckoff won \$80 in the 50/50. She was a happy camper.

At Paul Larquier's memorial service, one of the nuns from **Little Sisters of the Poor** in San Pedro approached us and asked if we could bring our old cars back to the facility and take the residents for a ride. This was an event that Paul & Rhoda had organized several years ago. So on October 12 in memory of Paul Larquier, we went to San Pedro. Eight Model A's signed up to take the residents for a ride. Six actually made the trip, Monty had electrical problems and unfortunately Doris wasn't feeling well.



When we showed up at the facility the residents were waiting for us. As the group approached our cars one woman informed me that she was coming out to see the cars but not going for a ride. She had an accent and as we spoke I found out she was originally from Italy. Well that was all it took. I started to speak Italian with her, introduced her to Mirco and next thing I knew she was in our truck, telling him her life's story in Italian and ready for a ride.

Jim Valot had a lady that desperately wanted to ride in the rumble seat. Unfortunately stepping up into that seat was not as easy as she remembered it being so she had to settle for a ride in the front. We told her that next year we would bring a step stool and get her in the back. Art Wagner's passenger was

about to give up because climbing into the fered to boost her in, she threw her knew I had hoisted her into the passenger was riding in an electric scooter but any problems. She came back insisting wind blowing in her hair felt fantastic. took 2 residents with them. I understand in the car and Monty listened to his eld-Democrats. Bobby D had Sister Anthony When we arrived, Sister Anthony and Phyllis DeCrescenzo had a wonderful surprise as they immediately recognized each other and as it turns out they had gone to High School together.



After the residents went for a ride we were invited into the dining hall for lunch and had a wonderful meal. The smiles we put on those ladies faces were incredible. They thanked us repeatedly and hopefully this can become an annual event. When planning this event, I spoke to Rhoda and she said that Paul would be very happy that we were doing this in his memory. Hopefully he saw their smiles that day.

car was difficult for her but I of-arms around my neck and next thing I ger seat. Gary Guttormson's passen-jumped up and got into his car without that she had the best car and the Monty rode with Al Avoian and they they had a bit of a political discussion ers and didn't try to convert them to join him along with 2 other ladies.



Sunday, November 10th we are going to "**Feed the Firemen**" at Station 112 in San Pedro. This is a pot luck luncheon that we do to let our firemen know that we appreciate all they do for us. Meet at the Walteria club house at 10:30 and leave at 11:00.

Our **Progressive will be held Saturday, November 16th**. We will be signing up at our October meeting. If you can't make the October meeting and are planning on attending please let me know. Meet at the club house at 8:30AM. Bring a toy that we will be donating to a toy drive. This will also be a poker run. Should be an event that you don't want to miss.



Wheels & Deals:

For Sale:

- A pair of **29 Model A front fenders** with wheel wells. Great shape. \$350 for the pair.
Lots of other Model A items. Call Paul at 310-218-7266. Torrance CA
- **1931 Deluxe Coupe**. Second owner for 45 years selling beautiful rumble seat coupe with rebuilt engine (1800 miles). Has original paperwork and all the car's history. Mohair interior. Chicle/copra paint, straw rims, blackwall tires.



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Wanted:

- **Rear Deck Lid for 30-31 Model A** restoration. Contact Paul at 310-218-7266. Torrance CA
- **Used Christmas and greeting cards.** (Complete cards please). We will recycle them.
Ursi (310) 539-5391 and Doris (310) 378-5061.

Harbor Club at the International Ford Day

A nice day greeted the Harbor Club as we prepared for a 45 mile drive to Irvine CA and meet up with the sponsoring Orange County Club. Richard Parrish and his gang reserved a section of the city's 350 acre park for the National Model A Day event. 14 Harbor folks in six As made the one hour freeway drive.

Being the first year of such an event, we had seven clubs, 75 people and 35 cars showed up. A nice crowd of new and old friends. A monster hot dog feast with all the trimmings was enjoyed. Hopefully, next year we can do this again and more will participate.



Lots of Car Events of Interest for 2013 and 2014

November 10th (Sun) - 'Lunch with the Firemen' in Long Beach. This is a pot luck event. Meet at the Walteria Clubhouse at 10:30, leave at 10:45. Wear Red, White, and Blue. Vet's day is the next day.

Sunday, December 8th - El Segundo Christmas Parade. 1PM to 3PM. Line up at 11:30AM. Dick Wyckoff, contact.

January 18th, 2014 (Sat) - Harbor Area Awards Banquet at "The Reef" in Long Beach near the Queen Mary.
More info when available.

July 14-18, 2014 -2014 MAFCA National Convention. Puyallup Washington. Website: 2014mafcanational.org



Frazier Park picnic

Seven clubs totalling about 70 people, 14 from Harbor club, made the 90 mile trip to Frazier Park to picnic with the Bakersfield group. Great food and friends. Jan was the winner of the 50-50, Art won a gift certificate from Brassworks, Georgette won a beautiful comforter, the Pisu's won cash and towing LED lights.

Our visit to the Little Sisters of the Poor senior facility



YOM Plate Number Check

By Charlie Stephens

As most people know our cars can be registered using a license plate from the year of manufacture (YOM) of our vehicle. There are a few catches. The plates must be original (and, depending on who you talk with, cannot be "restored"). You need a pair of plates. Most importantly, the number cannot already be in use on any car, motorcycle, trailer etc. You can check if the number is already in use by calling the DMV at (916) 657-8035. A quicker 24 hour 7 days a week way to check the number is to go to the "Vanity" plate website for DMV (<https://www.dmv.ca.gov/ipp2/initPers.do>) and proceed as if you are applying for a vanity plate with the number you want to check. Without going through the entire application you will get a message back immediately if the number is already in use. If the number is acceptable as a vanity plate you can then proceed to go to the DMV and apply to use the YOM plate.

A special thanks to Dick Wyckoff of the Harbor Model A's for directing me to this web site. The application for the YOM plate can be found at <http://apps.dmv.ca.gov/forms/reg/reg352.pdf> in case you want to fill it out in advance. There is also a provision (of course with money attached) to put a number on retention if you want to reserve it for future use. If you buy a set of plates (usually \$200-\$500, ouch) be sure to get an agreement that the plates can be returned for a refund if DMV determines they cannot be used for YOM registration.



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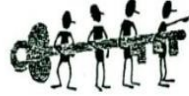


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Fax: (310) 539-9970



First Class Embroidery



Antonio y Maria Velazquez

Tel:(310) 326 - 7635
Fax:(310) 326 - 4468
email:lavaz103@aol.com
www.firstclassembroidery.com

1326 W. Anaheim St., Harbor City, Ca 90710



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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www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com

HarborLight Editor:

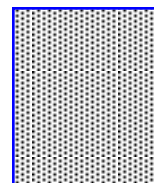
Dick Wyckoff

Phone: (310) 322-8863

E-mail: Janndick@earthlink.net



The HarborLight



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

November 2013



Take a moment to thank
a vet on November 11th

TO: