

# Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Founded in Aug 1957. Torrance, California.  
57 years of driving history!

## February 2014

The HarborLight Newsletter  
was awarded the **MARC**  
*Newsletter Award of Excellence*  
2009, 2010, 2011, 2012



Your new 2014  
Board of Directors  
L-R

Donnis Bates, Sec'y  
Cliff LeFall, Tech. Dir.  
Elaine Pisu, Tour Dir.  
Daffy Wagner, Treas.  
Monty Bates, VP  
Tim Harrison, Pres.

Let's make this a  
great year!

### Tours

Elaine is always looking for  
new ideas for tours. Give  
her a call with your  
thoughts.

Some ideas: Museums,  
collections, scenic rides,  
car meets, weekend  
events, picnics, etc.  
Don't be afraid to drive  
your Model As. That's  
what this is about!



### Technical Activities



We are still working on Al  
Avoian's AA truck (or any  
other projects) at Al's ga-  
rage. The truck bed is com-

ing along.

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.

### Upcoming Business Meeting

The next business meeting will be  
**Friday, February 28th at 7:30PM** at  
the Waleria Clubhouse.  
New year, new members, new ideas . . . .  
Come by and join in the fun.  
Doors open at 7pm for set-up.

### Next Board Meeting



The **February** board meeting  
will be on Tuesday, **February**  
**4th** at 7PM at the Auto  
Driving Museum in El Se-  
gundo.  
All welcome.

Please visit our awesome website  
Check in it at:  
[www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com](http://www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com)

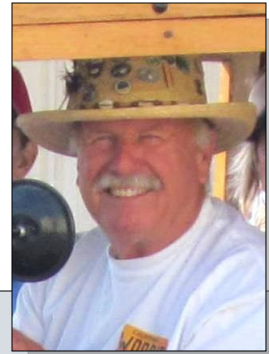
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*Tim's Tidbits*  
*A Note from our President*  
*Tim Harrison*



*"A" View from the Slow Lane*

As I embark on a new term and a new position, I look forward to working with the Board and officers to continue our legacy and meet the challenges of the future.

Thanks to our active members, we will continue our agenda of meetings, tours, workshops, car functions and various community based activities in 2014.

Our cars, all being over 80 years old, have passed middle age. These antiques seem to always garner interest and enthusiasm wherever we go. I hope we can turn this interest into new members and continued educational opportunities and at the same time increase our knowledge of these amazing automobiles.

One more thing. . . . Thanks to all that made the Awards Banquet a success. We had 70 people there and we all had a great time. Looking forward to more good times in the future.

*Tim*



*Some pictures taken at the HCCA Tour in Irwindale, Dec 2013*





## February Birthdays

2	Laura Pahls	15	Elaine Pisu
3	Don Knott	20	Frank Lusk
5	Ron Ragon	23	Liz Fitzgerald
5	Phil Bonneau	23	Don Knott
6	Sheree Wright	24	Dick Wyckoff
9	Gloria Younkin	25	Acela Garcia
14	Steve Preston	25	Daffy Wagner

## February Anniversaries

14	Jim & Anita Perreten
20	Sheree & Mike Wright



## Editor's Corner by Dick Wyckoff

My thanks to immediate Past President, Monty Bates III for a great job over the last two years. We have seen growth in the club and new comradeship amongst the members. Our new President, Tim Harrison, has promised to continue to make the club grow and prosper. He and his wife, Pat, are active participants and add much to the leadership of the Harbor As. As a past president, I offer my assistance where needed. Tim has a great Board to work with. Looking forward to a great two years.

Oh, don't forget Mondays, 5pm at Hof's Hut, 237th and Crenshaw in Torrance. Can't forget the food!

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 43 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 . . .



Vintage Model T race car seen at Irwindale CA racetrack December 2013



Model A Ice racer seen in Minnesota recently

## Harbor 'Sunshine Status' by Doris Marshall

**Jeannie Parrish** was at the banquet and was looking great! She is recovering nicely from her stroke.

**Thom Marshall** had another hernia surgery and is recovering well.

**Doris Marshall** still has neck pain but her back is much better.

**Dick Lusk** - From Ursi ; this morning Dick had his angiogram. For sure he needs a new heart valve and possibly a bypass. Robotic surgery can not be done and he will need open heart surgery. I assume that in about two weeks from today we will be informed of a surgery date.

### 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.



### Monday Supper at Hof's Hut

We have been meeting for dinner on Monday at Hof's Hut on 237th and Crenshaw for a while now. The food is good and Norma takes good care of us. Come on by and join in the festivities. Time: about 5PM.



## 2014 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 \$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. Let Dick Wyckoff know, too. He'll put the info in the HarborLight.

**Jan Wyckoff and Jim Huizdos** are working on new club golf shirts with collars and embroidered Harbor logo. She will be taking orders for shirts at the February meeting. Estimated cost will be about \$20. Choice of colors will be grey and royal blue in both men's and women's sizes.



### 2014 Harbor As Annual Dues time:

Ursi Schmidt is collecting annual dues. She collects club dues, \$25, and national MARC dues, \$38, at the same time. She will mail in the MARC dues for you. If you are writing a check for the \$63, make it out to **HARBOR MARC**.

You can mail your check to Ursi at: 26419 Pineknoll Ave., Harbor City CA 90710.

### Welcome our new members!

The club welcomes Rhoda Larquier's two sons,

#1046 **Paul Larquier**, 1034 N. Lincoln, Burbank CA 91506 and

#1047 **Michael and Teri Larquier**, 3710 W. 172nd St., Torrance CA 90504.

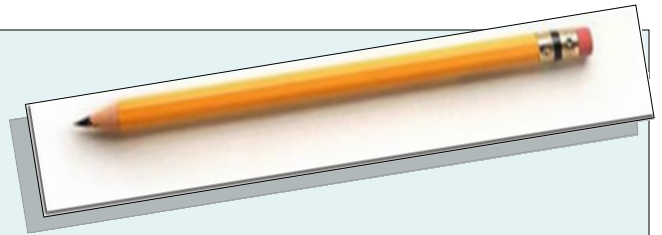
Mike and Teri have a '30 Model A Coupe



## **Business Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** December 20, 2013

**Location:** Marie Calendar's Restaurant



**President:** Monty Bates called the meeting to order at 5:12 PM.

**Salute to the flag:** Led by Jack Gordinier.

**Recognition of Past Presidents:** In attendance were: Dick Wyckoff, Pat Yacklon, Doris & Drain Marshall and Steve Preston.

**Secretary:** Minutes were approved as written in the Harborlight.

**Vice President:** Tim Harrison said he has received raffle donations. If anyone has more donations, give him a call.

**Treasurer:** Daffy Wagner reported all bills are paid

**Harborlight Editor:** Dick Wyckoff will issue the next newsletter after the banquet, late January

**Webmaster/Historian:** Sue Hankins wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Special award:** Monty awarded 'the Thumb' to Jim Huizdos. He needed assistance with a dead battery.

**Woman's prize:** Winner was Sue Hankins.

**Men's prize:** Winner Jim Huizdos

**Clock Prize:** None issued.

**Technical Director:** Jim Speights said to bring any car projects to Al's garage on Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM.

Monty read the list of January birthdays. There were no anniversaries.

**Sunshine:** Doris said Jeannie Parrish is doing ok other than being tired.

**Tour Director:** Elaine Pisu told us, when the dinner was over, we were going to meet with other members at Sepulveda and PV Blvd at Woods Ace Hardware and then proceed to the Holiday Lights. She said to get the word out, if anyone cannot drive at night and wants to attend the banquet, call Elaine to arrange a ride. Elaine would like suggestions for next year's tours.

**New Business:** Monty thanked everyone for all their help. A special birthday wish and song, complete with lighted candles, was presented to Amy and Georgette.

With 32 members in attendance, the meeting adjourned at 5:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Pat Yacklon, Secretary



### **The Passing of Mel Gross:**

by Tom Endy

A giant in the Model A hobby, **Mel Gross**, passed away Sunday January 12, 2014. A great many Model A hobbyist knew Mel, especially those residing in Southern California. For many years Mel operated a cottage industry offering quality rebuilt Model A parts. His specialty was F-100 steering box conversions and cast iron brake drums. Mel was also a very generous man. Each year he would make a very generous donation of Model A parts for the raffle at the annual Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Orange County Model A Ford Club.

Mel's Model A cottage industry will be carried on by his son Randy, who lives in Huntington Beach, California 714-292-8660.

### **Former member Floyd Carr passed away**

By Dick Wyckoff

**Floyd Carr** died of natural causes in his sleep January 17, 2014. Floyd was 92 years old and lived his entire life in El Segundo. A Rotary International member for 60 years as well as Mayor of El Segundo, He was a great man and I was proud to call him my friend. I inspired him to restore his Model A pickup and when it was finished, it was a fixture in the local parades. Floyd and his wife Helen were on the club's 50th anniversary committee.

I will miss Floyd and his positive attitude right to the end. In the words of the dearly departed, "Have a good lifetime."

## Technical Talk

### The Model A Cooling Fan

Several articles have been written about keeping the Model A temperature under control. Several items play a part in the process, one of which is the cooling fan. Not many people realize that the fan is turning  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the engine speed. That means it better be in good condition to take the engine speeds we see today. Remember that the original propeller fan made in 1930 is close to 85 years old and has been around the block a few times!

It is important to check the fit of the fan on the water pump shaft. It is a taper with a key and a slotted nut with a cotter pin. If this assembly is in any way loose, it must be fixed or replaced. Failure to fix this problem will result in unwanted vibration and eventually the fan will fail. A fan failure on the road can result in damaged hoods and radiators and make a real mess out of engine and electrical parts. Many of us use four-bladed fans. The preferred ones are the original Ford replacement fans that are riveted. There are also four-bladed fans that are bolted together. Make sure the bolts are tight.

Original fans are required for fine-point judging but not for the everyday driver. There are aftermarket, two-bladed aluminum fans and six-bladed plastic fans that would serve our needs better. This could be a real safety issue. Exploding fans can be very dangerous. In a article in the 'Model A Times' magazine, an air flow study was made on all these fans. The newer, multi-bladed fans pulled a lot more air than the original fan and they were recommended replacements for the stock fan.

Bottom line is use the original fan for show cars only. Change it out to a modern one for safety and cooling performance improvement. The cost is about \$50 and could save a lot of grief sometime in the future.

### BAD GAS OR E-10?

Do you really have an ignition problem or is it bad fuel? Never has fuel been a bigger problem. The villain is E-10, the ethanol-gasoline mix that is now standard issue at most fuel pumps as the government seeks to decrease air pollution and reduce America's reliance on imported petroleum. E10 means 10 percent ethanol, which is basically corn alcohol. The mix seems to work fine in modern cars, which burn through a tank in a hurry. **But it poses problems in Model A's which sit a lot.**



**Why?** As E10 sits, the ethanol and gasoline start to separate. Ethanol goes to the bottom of the tank. If there's water there, or if water vapor exists, the ethanol absorbs it. Before long, you've got a clump of watery ethanol at the bottom of the tank. When you crank up the motor, the crud is sucked into the carburetor and plugs things up. The next thing you know is your Model A isn't running very well. That's not all. Ethanol is a solvent, so when it gets into older fuel systems it can clean out the gunk and varnish that's accumulated over the years and send it downstream to clog tiny carburetor jets. It also breaks down rubber gaskets. This one's for real. So what to do?

The two most popular stabilizers are **StarTron** and **Sta-Bil** (Marine Formula), both of which help keep ethanol from separating, and as a result keeps water that gets absorbed in the fuel from accumulating in troublesome concentrations at the bottom of the tank. But you must put the stabilizer in when you fuel up. It doesn't do any good to do it afterwards. Stabilize the fuel in the recommended amount and leave the tank 95% full of fresh gas. Follow the directions on the container.

You can purchase a 32 oz bottle of **Sta-Bil "Marine Formula - Ethanol Treatment"** (which treats 320 gallons) at Wal-Mart in the boating section and add it on every fill up. The nice thing about **Sta-Bil** is that it has that neat dispensing bottle that the **StarTron** does not.

**Touring with Elaine**  
By Elaine Pisu, Tour Director



**Looking Ahead to 2014**

We've had lots of fun events this last year. Looking forward to some more fun in 2014.

Have you ever been to a national Model A meet? Cars from all over the country will be converging on Puyallup Washington this July for the MAFCA National convention. Even if you don't bring a Model A to the event, it is well worth the time. A week long immersion in events involving these old cars is a lot of fun. Meeting new friends is worth the drive.

Also, if you have some ideas about a fun tour or visit this next year, let me know. We like new ideas.

**Happy 2014!!**

Our banquet was a huge success, with Donnis Bates as Woman of the Year and Art Wagner as Man of the Year. Al and Georgette Avoian won our Road Runner with the most miles driven in 2013, 1088 miles. As a club I recorded over 25,000 miles by our club members in 2013.

This year we will have 2 mileage categories:

For the first category, **I need your starting mileage this year.** We are going to have a prize for the most miles driven whether they are club events or personal outings. Just get out and drive those A's. Please email me your mileage as soon as possible to [meapisu@aol.com](mailto:meapisu@aol.com)

The second category will be mileage accumulated on club tours. To be eligible you must have your car safety checked. I will try and bring the event tally sheet to the monthly business meetings so that you can check and be sure you got credit for attending our club events.

Our first outing will be March 15, 2014. We will meet at Harbor Freight on the corner of Hawthorne Blvd and Artesia. We are going to attend a Girls in the Garage car show at El Camino College and of course we will go to lunch after the show.

**FYI:**

February 21-23 (Fri - Sun) is the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Big 3 Auto Parts Exchange at Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego. This is always a favorite for many of the club's members. I am sure you can find someone that wants to go with you.

Feb 23 is the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Times Mid-Winter Rod Run. Meet at 1452 Caspian in Long Beach. The run will be leaving at 8AM. We have done this before and had a great time.



Error codes recently seen on editor's computer. Is it trying to say something?



## *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
- A set of **21" wheels** and useable tires (50%). Also, a parade (exhaust whistle) horn. If interested, contact Richard Thompson at 310-245-3343. Redondo Beach CA

### Wanted:

- **Used Christmas and greeting cards.** (Complete cards please). We will recycle them. Ursi (310) 539-5391 and Doris (310) 378-5061.

## *The December Christmas Light Tour*

The December club meeting was a bit different this year in that we had dinner at Marie Callenders beforehand and then took the light tour around the nearby Sleepy Hollow. 32 members in 10 model As and a couple moderns participated. The food was great and the service was wonderful, too.

After the light tour, we were all invited to the home of Bob and Phyllis De Crescenzo for a 'cookie exchange'. We all brought some cookies and enjoyed the decorations that Bobby and Phyllis displayed. I think Bobby spends two weeks setting up his Christmas decorations.

The tour was a lot of fun and a big **Thank You** to Bob and Phyllis for their warm reception.





## Lots of Car Events of Interest for 2014

**February 22-24, 2014 (Fri-Sun) - Big 3 swap meet** at Qualcomm Stadium, San Diego. Fri: 12-4pm.  
Sat-Sun: 8-4pm

**March 27-30 (Thur-Sun) - The Laughlin Meet** sponsored by the Pomona Valley Model A Club. Held at the River side Hotel in Laughlin NV. Contact Barbara Branam at [Barbara.branam@gmail.com](mailto:Barbara.branam@gmail.com).

**April 4-6th, 2014 (Fri-Sun) - CCRG in Paso Robles CA. Host hotel is Holiday Inn. Info on MAFCA website.**

**May 23-26, 2014 (Fri-Mon) - NCRG in Malpitas CA**

**July 11-13, 2014 (Fri-Sun) - Wings and Wheels in Solvang CA.**

**July 14-18, 2014 -2014 MAFCA National Convention.** Puyallup Washington. Website: [2014mafcanational.org](http://2014mafcanational.org)

**July 26th (Sat)** - Long Beach Model T Club 60th annual **Swap Meet**. Los Alamitos Race Track. Free admission.

**Sept 13th (Sat)** - Orange County MAC will host the **International Model A Day** event. More info when available.

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## Some Memories of 2013



AA assembly in Al Avoian's garage



Orange County pancake breakfast winners



Ronald Reagan museum, Simi Valley CA



Wings 'n Wheels, Solvang CA



Mystery Tour, LAX museum



Feed the Fireman, LA Harbor



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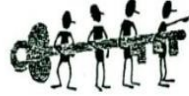


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For MARC info and membership, see  
[www.ModelARestorers.org](http://www.ModelARestorers.org)



For MAFCA info and membership, see  
[www.MAFCA.com](http://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.

#### 2014 Board of Directors:

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Tim Harrison (310) 318-5920

Email: [Harisonpat@gmail.com](mailto:Harisonpat@gmail.com)

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Sue Hankins (310) 782-0082

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Jan Wyckoff (310) 322-8863

##### Sergeant-at-Arms:

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[www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com](http://www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com)

##### HarborLight Editor:

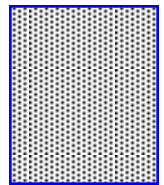
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# *The HarborLight*



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

**February 2014**



Al Avoian's truck  
before restoration

TO: