

# Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

*Dedicated to preserving and driving the Model 'A' Ford*

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

## June 2016

The HarborLight Newsletter  
was awarded the MARC  
Newsletter Award of Excellence  
for six years. 2009 - 2014  
and  
2015 MAFCA Certificate of Merit



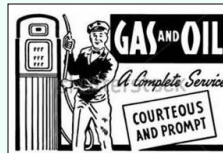
Inspection team getting ready to check  
Jan Wyckoff's Cabriolet and Dan Fitzgerald's speedster

### Tours

Sat, June 25th is an Antique Engine and Tractor show in Vista CA. Elaine will have more info on this at the next meeting.

The big tour will be to Solvang on July 15-17th. Elaine and Weeg are lining up all kind of events. More details on page 7. This is always a fun weekend.

Join Us!



### Technical Activities

The Safety Inspection meeting was a great event. We will start meeting again at Al's Garage each Saturday. Time: about 10AM to about noon. Lots of Model A projects to work on. See you there.



### Upcoming Business Meetings

The May meeting will be May 27th at Walteria clubhouse. 7:30 PM

The June meeting will be on Friday, June 24th at Walteria Clubhouse.

Come a little early and help set up chairs and tables. See you there!



### Next Board Meeting

The June Board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 7th, 7PM at the Toyota Auto Museum, 19600 Van Ness Ave., Torrance CA.

We will be planning upcoming events. All are welcome.



Please visit our awesome website

Check it out:

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



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## Monty's Team Talk A Note from our President Monty Bates



### "A" View from the Running Board

#### How we met 'Alice'

Each of us has a story about how we became the proud owners of a Model A. Here's mine; how I found our 1931 Tudor Sedan known as "Alice". In the Spring of 2003 I was employed with Northrop Grumman in El Segundo. The Worldwide Web was new and the Internet was just being implemented within the aerospace community. We had few restrictions in those days as to what we could do with the new technology and "surfing" was limited to a few sites. Ebay was one of the first large scale sites featuring antique cars for sale all over the country. My lunchtimes began to be filled with looking for cars, all kinds of cars in all kinds of places and in all kinds of conditions.

"Alice" was owned by a man named Bill who had recently retired and moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico with six (6) cars. He was a collector and had his sights on a new addition but could not do so until he sold one (according to his wife). He placed his notice for the Tudor on Ebay, asking a reasonable price and stating the car was in good condition...little did I know then. The obvious problem was distance...the solution rested with my brother-in-law David...a Sergeant with the New Mexico State Police. I talked David into going to see the car. He showed up in full uniform driving his State Police Cruiser, to impress the owner. Bill took him on a long ride and gave him a full sales pitch (David knew nothing about Model A's). David called and told me to buy the car ASAP as others were very interested and ready to buy. Money was exchanged, the deal was done. I was so excited and told David I would fly over and drive Alice back...he laughed and said "sure, you in a Model A and all the Semi's on Interstate 40" in other words he wasn't going to allow that to happen. We arranged for a car carrier to pick up the car and deliver it to Torrance. My neighbor, a retired Torrance auto shop teacher and I were like young school kids when Alice finally arrived...the rest is history. Donnis and I joined Harbor A's that summer and still remain so grateful for all Alice has given us.

Be safe out there, folks. Let us know how your Model A came into your life and be thankful each time it starts!!!

Happy Motoring,

**Monty**



#### Sunshine Status

**Ruxella Speights** broke her arm in a fall at home. Like a real trooper, she still did the food organizing for the Safety Meeting. She is doing better all the time. You do a great job, Ruxella. Heal quickly!

**Joan Young** had hip replacement surgery. When we talked to Frank and she was doing OK and healing. We're thinking of you, Joan.



## June Birthdays

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Joan Young       | 15 Frank Young    |
| 7 Joann Moore      | 21 Jim Huizdos    |
| 8 Michael Larquier | 23 Barney Clayton |
| 13 Joan Gordinier  | 23 Andy Soto      |
| 13 Larry Migliazzo | 24 Julia Duenes   |
| 14 Fran Earhart    |                   |



## June Anniversaries

- |                            |
|----------------------------|
| 2 Frank & Joan Young       |
| 4 Jeanne & Richard Parrish |
| 5 Dan & Liz Fitzgerald     |
| 5 Diana & Marty Murphy     |
| 7 Tim & Pat Harrison       |
| 14 Kathy & Jim Valot       |
| 22 Greg & Fran Earhart     |
| 25 Willie & Darlene Duncan |
| 26 Cliff & Theresa LeFall  |
| 26 Ed & Julia Duenes       |

## Editor's Corner By Dick Wyckoff

Every year the Harbor club has a Safety inspection and this year it was our regular monthly meeting and it was pot luck. Thanks to Pat and Keith Tucker and their beautiful garage facility, it was a great success!. We checked 12 cars and fixed a couple and, boy, did we eat! About 50 people in attendance. Good weather, good friends. . . Life is good!

Jan and I are looking forward to our trip to Loveland CO for the MAFCA National Convention. We'll be driving our modern because we will continue on to Sioux Falls SD to visit family. From there we will visit Yellowstone National Park and any other national park we can find on our trip back to So Cal.

Because of the extended trip, the July issue of the HarborLight will be a little later than usual. Should have some great pictures, tho.



## A little behind the scenes info and requests from the editor

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 about \$1.25 **each month** per email subscriber. I still have 43 snail mail subscribers with an email distribution now of 54 people from the Harbor Club and 34 others. This is more than \$850 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 . . .



### **"Cruise at the Beach" Friday afternoon at Ruby's Diner**

The event has started and all summer long, **Ruby's Diner** 245 N. Harbor Drive, in Redondo Beach (by the pier) will host 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 **4 to 7:00 PM every Friday**. There is a nice drawing and trophies are awarded each week. Parking is free to participating cars. This event will continue all summer until October 28th, 2016. Hope to see you there.



### **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 the staff takes good care of us. Come on by and join in the festivities. Time: about 5PM.



### **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.



### **2016 Membership, Roster and Club Items:**

by Ursula Schmidt & Jan Wyckoff

The new **2016 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. Make sure Ursi has your current info.

**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.

**Just In!** We have received a new order of long-sleeved denim shirts with the club's logo on them. Men's and Women's sizes. See Jan at the meeting. Price \$28. (XXL—\$30) These are going fast. . . .

**Jan Wyckoff** has a nice selection of Harbor polo shirts. She has blue, grey and some new white shirts available for sale at \$20 each. Hopefully she has your size as they are going fast! Jan just got a new order in. Check them out. Be sure and wear them to the club's events.

Warm Vests? We've got 'em. They run \$31.

How about a ball cap to go with the shirt or vest? Jan has them, too. We just ordered some new ball caps.

### **Merchandise Sale!**

Our 50th anniversary T-shirts have been reduced to \$10. We have 4 Lg, 2 Sm. See Jan. Other items available are vests, ball caps of many colors, and club patches.





## **HARBOR MARC/MAFCA CLUB MEETING**

Date: April 30, 2016 Location: Pat Tucker's Garage

**President:** Monty Bates called the meeting to order at 11:32AM

**Recognition of Past Presidents:** Dick Wyckoff, Doris & Drain Marshall, Tim Harrison

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Dick Wyckoff moved that the Minutes be approved as printed in the HarborLight; the motion was seconded by Tim Harrison

**Vice President:** Tim Harrison ♦ No opportunity drawing today ♦ Business cards available, take some and give them out. It helps to advertise our club. We are always looking for new members

**Treasurer:** Daffy Wagner ♦ All is well. Bills are paid.

**HarborLight Editor:** Dick Wyckoff ♦ Ursi received a letter and award certificate from MARC congratulating Dick on the great job he is doing as the Editor of our newsletter.

**Historian/Webmaster:** Sue Hankins ♦ Al Avoian has graciously agreed to store our Club historical materials in his garage. Monty and Tim will pick up the materials, help clear a spot in the garage and store it for easy access during the Saturday seminars ♦ There is also a slide projector screen that will be discussed further at the next board meeting

**Membership:** Ursi Schmidt ♦ Rosters available today, \$1.50 each

**Membership Drawing:** Theresa LeFall won woman's prize, Jack Gordinier won men's

**Technical & Safety:** Cliff LeFall ♦ Great turn out for the annual Safety Check. We have good cooks here today! Thank you! We have inspected 12 cars and made a few minor repairs. Seat belts are part of the items being included in our safety check today along with First Aid Kits and Fire extinguishers. We are still researching options for installation of seat belts. If you have information or a source to install seat belts please contact Cliff. Monty & Cliff both thanked Pat and Keith for hosting the Safety Check ♦ We will be at Al's garage this Saturday. "In by 10:00am, out by 12:00pm" for our weekly seminar ♦ Lots of group participation, with donuts and coffee ♦ Bring your projects ♦ The address is 904 Van Ness Avenue, Torrance, CA

**Advertising:** Amy Knott ♦ Nothing new to report ♦ Jack Gordinier used one of our advertisers to put a new clutch in his Model A - He told us what a great job they did. Autoplex Inc. 16015 S. Western Avenue, Gardena, CA 90247 310-323-0969 - Daniel

**Birthdays and Anniversaries:** **Birthdays:** 1-LeOra Combs, 4-Leonard Funk, 10-Jim Speights, 13-Larry Migliazzo, 15-Peggy Wishon, 19-Steve Friedrich & Pat Tucker, 20-Dolores Strosnider, 22-Jesse Dykes & 27- Willie Duncan ♦

**Anniversaries:** 5- Don & Liz Fitzgerald, 20- Darlene & Leonard Funk & 29-Bill & Joann Moore (1954)

**Tools Coordinator:** Bobby DeCrescenzo ♦ Not Present

**Tours:** Elaine Pisu & Co-Chair Jim Huizdos ♦ Not Present ♦ Sunday May 1st (tomorrow) - Flower Fields at Carlsbad. Meet at Harbor Freight @ 8:00

**Merchandise:** Jan Wyckoff ♦ Nothing new to report

**Refreshments:** Ruxella Speights - Thank you all for the food and help. It is fun enjoying each other's company

**Old Business:** None

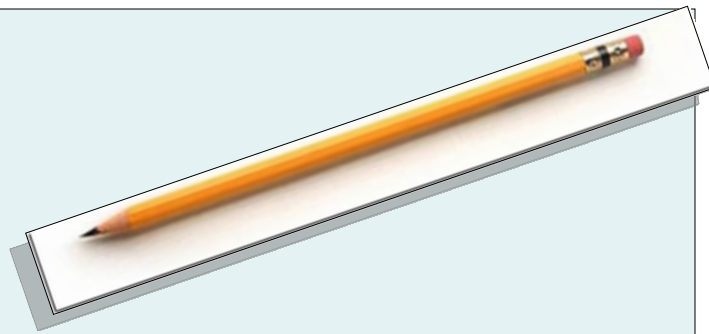
**New Business:** None

**Next General Meeting:** Friday, May 27th same time, same place (7:30PM @Walteria Clubhouse)

**Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, May 3rd (7:00pm at the Toyota facility)

**Meeting adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:45AM. Let's eat!

Respectfully submitted; *Donnis Bates*, Secretary



### Quick & Easy!

Isolating an electrical fault:

by Tom Endy

Most Model A owners today have installed a fuse mod on the top of their starter. This is certainly a prudent thing to do; a blown fuse is much better than having a fire in the car.

Once a blown fuse has occurred, the next step is to determine where the short circuit exists that caused it to blow. This can be accomplished rather quickly by a method of isolation. There are three areas on the car where a short circuit is most likely to occur.

1. **In the light bail located at the bottom of the steering column, which consists of all the switching circuitry for the car's lights. This is the most common fault area.**
2. **Inside the terminal box located on the firewall where a number of connections come together and can easily short out against the armored ignition cable.**
3. **Behind the dash panel where connections to the ammeter and dash light are located that can easily short out against the dash.**

The first effort to isolate the fault is to unhook the three wires attached to the terminal post on the cutout switch, which sits on top of the generator. If you have an alternator the three wires are attached to the output terminal post of the alternator. Disconnect the three wires and spread them out so they don't touch anything.

One of the three wires comes from the terminal box on the firewall and provides battery power. A second wire runs down to the light bail, and the third wire goes off to the ahooguh horn.

Install a new fuse. If it does not blow you have eliminated the terminal block on the firewall and the dash panel as the culprit. If there is a short in either of these two places it would have blown the new fuse. Next connect the wire from the terminal block to the wire that runs to the ahooguh horn. If the fuse does not blow you have eliminated the ahooguh horn. Next hook these two wires back onto the terminal post of either the cutout or the alternator. If the fuse does not blow you have eliminated the

cutout, generator, or alternator. This leaves only the light bail as the likely culprit.

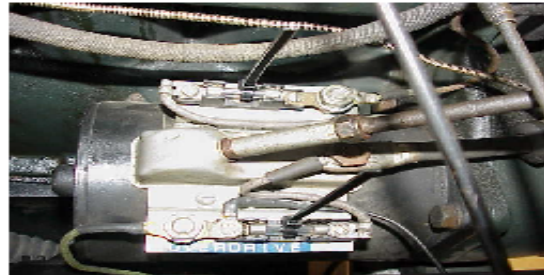
Inside the light bail is a rat's nest of wires and switch contacts that could be oil soaked from a leaking steering box. If the light bail assembly is a poor quality repo, chances are there are wire whiskers and poor connections involved. If you are out on the road it is best to fool with further trouble shooting of the light bail at home. You can drive the car with the light bail wire disconnected. Just keep in mind you won't have any lights, including brake lights.

If a new fuse blew when you installed it after disconnecting the three wires from the cutout, the fault is likely in the terminal block on the firewall or behind the dash panel, and not in the light bail, ahooguh horn, cutout, generator, or alternator.

Start with the terminal box. Remove the cover and inspect for loose and shorting wires. A poor quality repo terminal box can also have one of the terminal threaded shafts shorted out behind the box. It is possible for the threaded shaft to back off and touch the firewall.

If the terminal box appears to be ok, remove the dash panel and inspect for loose and shorted wires on the back of the ammeter.

If you follow this procedure you will quickly locate the fault 95% of the time. However, a subtle electrical fault could possibly be lurking somewhere else that may not be as obvious. ☺



**This particular Model A has a second fuse circuit to accommodate a Borg Warner overdrive. The tie wraps are to provide a means to easily remove the fuses when the car is not in Use.**

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### [Lots of Car Events of Interest for 2016](#)

May 27-29 (Fri-Sun) - NCRG Modesto CA

June 11-12 (Sat-Sun) - 47th Swap Meet. Western Little League 6707 N. Little League Dr., San Bernardino CA 6AM

June 18 (Sat) - Torrance Elementary School PTA Car Show. 2125 Lincoln Ave, Torrance CA 8AM-2PM. Info: 310-292-5405

June 19-24, - MAFCA National Convention - Loveland, Colorado. Host: Model A Ford Club of Colorado

June 25th, (Sat) - OC Model T club Swap Meet El Dorado High School, 1651 Valencia Ave., Placentia CA 92870 6AM-2PM

June 26 (Sun) - Henry Ford Picnic, Heritage Park, Santa Fe Springs CA. Diamond Tread Chapter

June 25-July 1, - MARC National Meet, Perrysburg, Ohio.

July 23 (Sat) - Long Beach T Club Swap Meet. Los Alamitos Race Course. Free admission

August 21 (Sun) - Parts exchange, San Fernando Valley MAC Rancho San Antonio 21000 Plummer St., Chatsworth CA 6AM

Sept 2-4 (Fri-Sun) - Hangtown As Apple Hill Meet ( More info when available)



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



### **Lots happening in the next couple of months:**

Harbor A's had a busy month of May. As always the safety check was a huge success!!

We had 2 cars and 9 members, attend the Long Beach K9 Officers Associations car show. The Pisu's, the Wagners and Pat Tucker and her son Keith came to check out all the beautiful cars. Steve and Weeg Thompson entered their car and so did Joe Brun, long time member (past president 92-93). I had not previously met Joe and it was fun seeing his beautifully restored 29 Fordor Blindback. He was parked near the Thompson's and as we got to talking he pulled out his Harbor A's Club hat. We found out he had a long history with our club. It's a small world in the Model A World. The K9 officers with their handlers put on a great demonstration and it was a really fun event.

The following day we were represented at the Muckenthaler Museum Car Show in Fullerton with 3 cars, Dick Wyckoff with 'Tootsie', a 30 Cabriolet, Al Avoian with his 29 Fordor Sedan, and Steve and Weeg with their 28 Sedan. President Monty also rode along so in total there were 5 members and 3 cars. More great cars to check out.

Since no one signed up for the June 4<sup>th</sup> LAPD show in Woodland Hills. You are on your own for this one.

June we will have 2 outings. The first one will be on **Sat., June 25<sup>th</sup>**. We are going to go to the Antique Engine and Tractor Show in Vista California. It starts at 9 AM so we will meet at Harbor Freight at **7:15 and leave at 7:30 AM**. We will make a breakfast stop on the way which should put us at the show around 10 AM. They are open until 4:30PM so it will be a full day. By all accounts it will be a great day!!

On **Sun., June 26<sup>th</sup>** the Diamond Tread A's are hosting the annual Henry Ford Picnic at Santa Fe Springs. Meet at Harbor Freight at **8:45 leave at 9:00 AM**. Tickets for lunch are \$12 per person. Members need to sign up individually. I will have forms at the meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Solvang is July 15, 16 & 17<sup>th</sup>**. Don't forget to talk to Weeg Thompson if you plan to attend the 'Theatre in the Round' performance of *Shrek* on Friday Evening. Saturday's tour is taking shape and I have a couple of leads to private collections that should be great!!

Come out and have some fun... See you soon!! We are working hard on our Solvang event. So if you haven't made your hotel reservations do it soon for **July 15 -17.**

Just a reminder: **Wear your Harbor shirts and jackets to these events!**

That's all for now. When some new fun events develop, we'll post them right here!

Ciao for now,

**Mama Pisu**







## **Wheels & Deals:**

Member Dan Fitzgerald has quite a collection of **Model A spare parts** from wheels to motors. He is trying to cut down on his 'inventory' and will negotiate prices. Give him a call at 310-344-2306 to see what he has. He is located in Palos Verdes CA.

**For Sale:** Model A trunk. Reasonable price. Check with Dick Lusk at 310-539-5391. Harbor City CA



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

## **The Muckenthaler Car Show**

The Harbor Club provided a small boost to the Model A population at the Fullerton Concours at the historic Muckenthaler museum. Steve and Weeg Thompson, Monty Bates, Al Avoian and Dick Wyckoff supplied three Model As to the annual event. After a small 30 minute drive down the freeway, we met up with about 25 other antique autos (mostly Model Ts and As). A donut stop to pick up Fullerton dignitaries and then we paraded to the museum. We met the concours cars already in place. Great show!



Monty, Weeg, Steve & Al



Donut stop at Fullerton City Hall



Beautiful 1924 Reo



Harbor Club's As at show



Steve, Dick and Al's cars

## **MAFCA presents 'The Fashion Files 1928-1931'**

### **The Fashion Files**

1928-1931

A Collection of Era Fashion Articles  
Written by MAFCA Members



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The Era Fashion Committee is VERY excited about our new publication, The Fashion Files 1928-1931. Available just in time for the National Convention in Loveland, Colorado this 212 page, full color book is a compilation of 118 fashion articles that were published in The Restorer between 2000 and 2015. Articles are written by MAFCA members and cover a variety of topics. This is definitely a book you will want to add to your library collection! Only \$25 plus shipping and handling! Pre-Order yours NOW through the MAFCA Store online at [www.mafca.com](http://www.mafca.com) or by phone (562) 697-2712 by June 16th and save on shipping if you pick it up at the National Convention. Books not picked up in Colorado will be charged s/h and will begin shipping mid-July.



## Harbor Club's Safety Inspection Meeting

Cliff LeFall and a gang of inspectors proceeded to inspect 12 Model As at our annual Safety inspection meeting. Safety is always a concern and safety was our focus. We looked for working lights, brakes, horns, mirrors, steering, tires, fire extinguishers, seat belts, turn indicators (if installed), etc. A few minor repairs were made and our cars are looking good. As mentioned, we are researching the proper installation of seat belts for a future meeting.

Ruxella Speights and crew provided a fantastic pot luck luncheon with all the trimmings. We sure do know how to eat! President Monty Bates conducted our monthly meeting after the food. Special thanks went to Pat and Keith Tucker for the use of their facilities. Thanks again, you guys!



## Carlsbad Flower Fields



This year has been a good year for flowers. Several members took a drive down to Carlsbad and enjoyed the view.



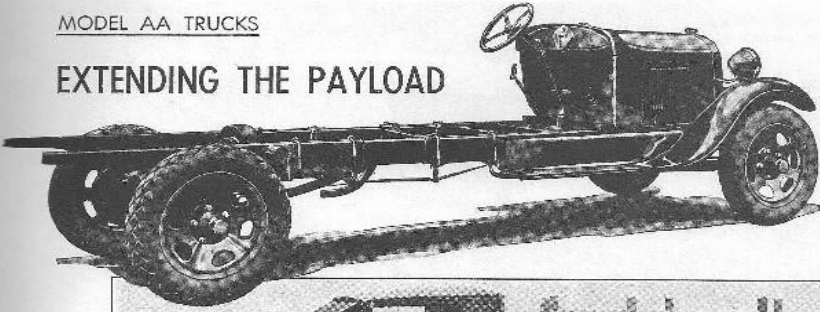
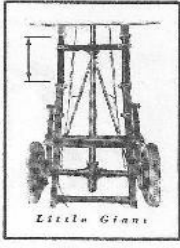
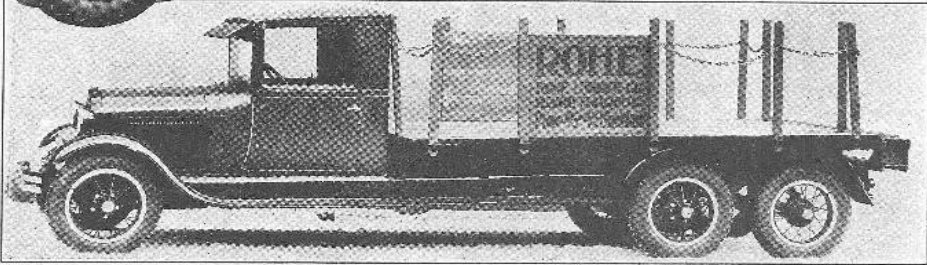
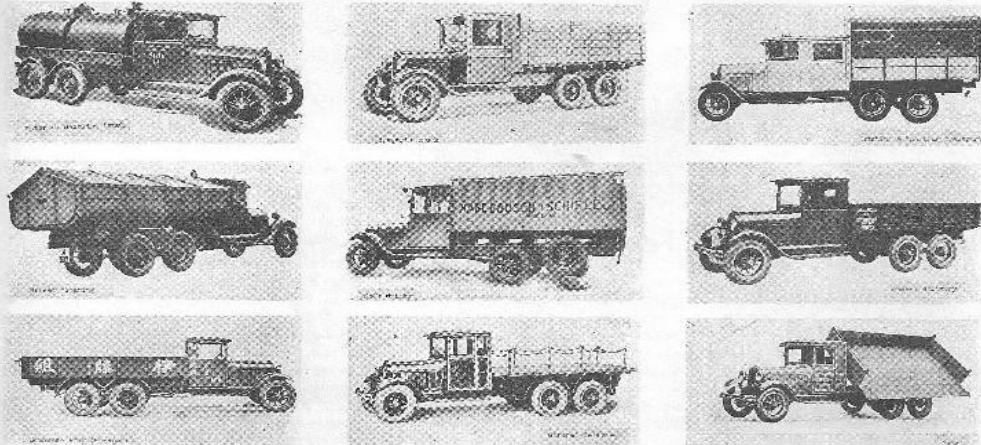
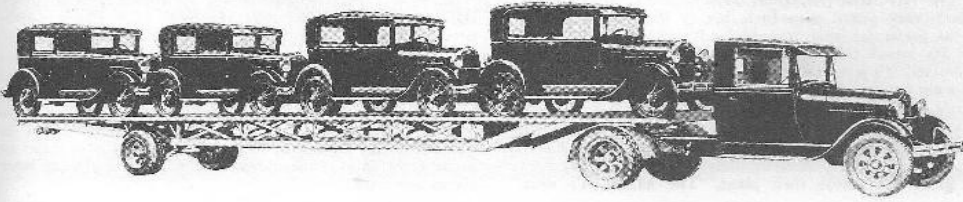


## Other vendors modified Ford AA trucks by extending the payload

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MODEL AA TRUCKS

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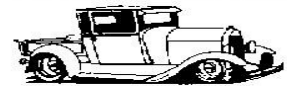
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For MARC info and membership, see  
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The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the Walteria Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 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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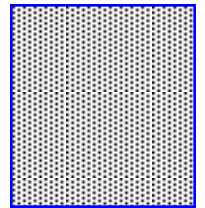
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# *The HarborLight*

From:  
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Dick Wyckoff, Editor  
337 Lomita St.  
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*June 2016*



TO: