

Harbor Area MARC / MAFCA

Dedicated to preserving and driving the Model 'A' Ford

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

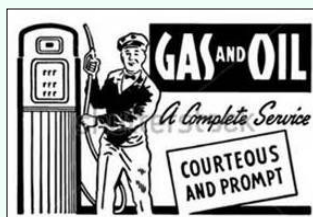
November 2016

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



Harbor Area Club's garage sale at the home of Jim and Ruxella Speights (on their anniversary!)

Tours



We are working on a Progressive tour for November. If you would like to host one of the stops, contact Elaine Pisu with your ideas.

Looking ahead to December, we will be doing the Christmas light tour again. Details to follow.

Technical Activities



Al's Garage is open again every Saturday morning about 10am to about noon. Bring in your project and let the experts have a look at it.

We did a head gasket the last time. Bring it by... See you there.

Upcoming Business Meetings

The **October** meeting is on **Friday, Oct 28th at 7:30** at the Walteria clubhouse. This is a Pot Luck dinner night. Set up is at 5:30 and food at 6PM. A-L Salads and Sides; M-Z is Main Dish. Come a little early and help set up chairs and tables. Nominations for 2017. Regular meeting at 7:30PM.

The **November** meeting is **Nov 18th, a week early** due to Thanksgiving. See you there!

Next Board Meeting

The **November** Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, Nov 1st** at 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



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



"A" View from the Running Board

Our great nation is on the verge of a very significant election. It is very important that we all get out and vote. This election will certainly enter the history books as one of the strangest but I am reminded that we must participate in the process to have a say in government at all levels.

My family came to the "colonies" in 1623 aboard the "Southampton" and is listed in the Jamestown Colony census as a merchant, John Bates. Life in Virginia was harsh and only the strongest survived. The family grew and prospered and ended up in the small southern town of Henning, Tennessee (also home to Alex Haley author of *Roots*). The family's history is complete with veterans of the Revolution, the Civil War, WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the Middle East conflicts. My elders owned slaves, we built homes and schools and churches and lived the American dream. I think we gave back to this country as a way of saying thank you for being lucky enough to be Americans.

Henry Ford was a very complicated man, a visionary industrialist that gave our country the gift of mass production allowing for all of us to own a Ford! We often forget about the folks who helped Mr. Ford co-create a great and mobile America.

As the U.S. presidential election draws near I want to thank all of you for allowing me to be your President twice. We have lots of activities forthcoming, good times are in front of us and 2017 will be a great year for the Harbor A's.

Be safe out there!!!

Oh, one other thing. . . Nominations for officers for 2017 are in October. Up for election are Treasurer (2 years), Technical Director (1 year) and Tour Director (1 year). Give some thought to being a club officer.

Monty

Sunshine Status with Doris Marshall

Dot Knott had a hip replaced recently and is home recovering. Please take time to drop her a card. Get well soon, Dot!

Ursi Schmidt had her second hip replacement surgery. She is home recovering also. (She said that she is glad she only has two hips!) All these hippies!!! Get well soon, too, Ursi.



November Birthdays

- 8 Linda Simpson
- 10 Dick Lusk
- 11 Joe Jankiewicz
- 12 Steve Newton
- 14 Jim Runyon
- 17 Wilbur Richardson
- 26 Pat Yacklon
- 26 Warren Brayton
- 28 Jan Wyckoff



November Anniversaries

- 6 Bob & Phyllis DeCrescenzo
- 12 Dennis & Linda Simpson
- 13 Andy & Sandra Soto
- 23 Joe & Linda Freitag
- 28 Al & Georgette Avoian
- 30 Dick Lusk & Ursi Schmidt



Chief Wyckoff

Editor's Corner By Dick Wyckoff

I have breakfast on a regular basis with some club members and we, of course, talk about cars but we also reminisce about our military service. It turns out we have three purple heart recipients, one bronze star recipient, a WWII vet, two Korean War vets, and three Vietnam vets. I only mention this because November 11th is Veterans Day and I salute all our military. Just for the record, I retired from the US Navy reserve as a Chief Petty Officer after 25 years.

Our September meeting White Elephant sale went off very well. I had the pleasure of being the auctioneer. With help from Monty, Jack and Sammi (Ursi's daughter) we added some nice cash to our treasury. Daffy was very pleased. The very next day, we had a garage sale and did very well also. Thanks to all that participated.

Just a reminder, nominations for officers for 2017 will be at the October meeting and voting will be at the November meeting.

Our thoughts go out to the family of member **Barney Clayton**. He passed away at age 88. RIP Barney. . . .



Auctioneer Dick

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 38 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



Well, all good things must come to an end. The weekly car show at Ruby's Diner has come to an end for the season.

Hopefully, it will open up again next year in April and we can continue the tradition. Always lots of fun and good food!



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 **2016 updated 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 latest 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. We have just about sold all of the 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. . . .

***We're working up a new order for denim shirts. Let Jan know of any special order requests.

Jan also 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 also!. Check them out.

Be sure and wear them to the club's events.

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

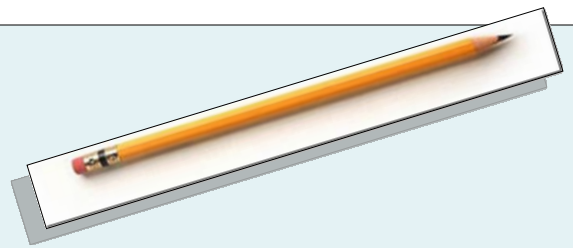
How about a ball cap to go with the shirt or vest? Jan has them, too. We just ordered some new ball caps.

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: September 30, 2016 Location: Walteria Clubhouse



President: Monty Bates called the meeting to order at 7:33PM

Salute to the flag: Led by Jack Gordinier

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

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Daffy Wagner moved that the minutes be approved as printed in the HarborLight; the motion was seconded by Dick Wyckoff

Vice President: Tim Harrison ♦ Reminded everyone about the upcoming Bakersfield MAC picnic & potluck at Frazier Park on Sunday October 2nd. Our club donated several prizes for the opportunity drawing

Treasurer: Daffy Wagner ♦ All bills are paid.

HarborLight Editor: Dick Wyckoff ♦ Please consider getting the newsletter via your personal e-mail, you will enjoy the colored images. If you have not already done so, get Dick your e-mail address and he will send you a sample to see how you like it ♦ Remember if you have something to sell, trade or give-away the HarborLight is a great place to advertise. It is circulated all over the country.

Historian/Webmaster: Sue Hankins ♦ Was not present - nothing new to report

Membership: Ursi Schmidt ♦ 50 members present tonight ♦ New member here this evening - Rick Solitaire. He owns a 30 Closed Cab PU. Welcome Rick!

Membership Drawing: Phyllis DeCrescenzo won woman's prize, Jim Huizdos won men's

Technical & Safety: Cliff LeFall ♦ The shop will be closed tomorrow Saturday October 1st for our annual garage sale.

Sergeant at Arms (badge money) Sammi (Schmidt) collected \$7.82

Sunshine: Doris Marshall ♦ Dot Knott had hip / back surgery on Wednesday, she is home now working on recuperating ♦ Sandy and Ron Ragon have both been under the weather. Sandy had complications from her fall with several infections, and Ron came down with Pneumonia while caring for her. They are both taking antibiotics and on the road to recovery. They are getting lots of rest ♦ On the sunnier side of life Phyllis & her sister are about to embark on a trip through California to visit all of the original missions from San Diego to San Francisco. Have a wonderful time.

Advertising: Jim Huizdos ♦ Has been advertising our yard sale and made many signs to post the day of our event, Saturday October 1st.

October Birthdays and Anniversaries: BIRTHDAYS: 9-Julie Goldberg, 13-Adeline Bates, 25-Tim Harrison ♦ **ANNIVERSARIES:** 1-Jim & Ruxella Speights, 3- Don & Amy Knott, 20 - Jim & Elyse Beardsley

Tools Coordinator: Bobby DeCrescenzo ♦ Nothing new to report. We have 32 tools for the members to use. See Bobby to check out these tools. If we don't have a tool that you need let us know and we can work at getting one ♦ Frank Young told us he has the original invoice for our tools. He will get it to us and we can keep it with our historical documents for the club

Tours: Elaine Pisu & Co-Chair Jim Huizdos ♦ October 1st (Sat) we will be holding a yard sale. Ruxella & Jim have generously offered to have it at their property at 2314 West 180th Place, Torrance, CA 90504. If you want to help come on by tomorrow between 7:00AM - 4:00PM ♦ October 2nd (Sun) Bakersfield MAC annual picnic /potluck at Frazier Park meet. This is a pot luck with great prizes in the opportunity drawing. Starts around 10:00 ♦ October 15th (Sat) Antique Engine & Tractor Show in Vista, we will meet at Harbor Freight at 8:00AM and leave by 8:30. We will stop for breakfast along the way ♦ Our progressive is 'under construction' - looking at the end of October or early November. If you are interested in hosting a stop see Elaine. We have not had anyone volunteer this year. We may forgo it and just have a tour that day.

Merchandise: Jan Wyckoff ♦ Since we are having our Annual White Elephant sale tonight we do not have merchandise to sell this evening. But there are some lightly used T- shirts from Model A events that are on sale for \$3.00 each.

Refreshments: Ruxella Speights - Thanked Art & Daffy for the refreshments this evening ♦ Our next meeting will be a potluck. A - L is Salads & Sides and M - Z is Main Dish. Set up is at 5:30PM: bring your dish early so that we can have it in place before we eat at 6:00PM. Thank you.

Clock Prize: 'Mistress of time' Joan Gordinier - Because of our abbreviated meeting we did not have a Clock Prize winner this evening

Old Business: None **New Business:** None

Refreshments hosted by: Art & Daffy Wagner - Thank you

Next General Meeting: Friday, October 28th is a meeting and a potluck. We will be eating at 6:00PM same place (Walteria Clubhouse) Come early and enjoy!

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 4th (7:00pm at the Toyota facility)

Meeting adjourned: Ruxella Speights moved that the meeting be adjourned; it was seconded by Dick Wyckoff. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m. for our 'White Elephant Sale' & refreshments. Auctioneer Dick Wyckoff performed a wonderful auctioneer poem for our enjoyment.



Respectfully submitted; Donnis Bates, Secretary

Brake Light Switch!

by Tom Endy

The Model A Ford has somewhat of a peculiar wiring system design. Power for the headlights, taillights, cowl lights, and brake lights is obtained from the connection at the cutout switch on the generator and routed to a buss connection inside the light bail at the bottom of the steering column.

The light switch on the steering column directs power to the headlights, taillights, and cowl lights, but not to the brake lights. A wire runs direct from the power buss inside the light bail to the external brake light switch.

There is really no purpose for the brake light circuit to be involved with the light bail. Should there be a short circuit in the light bail, the power lead to it can be disconnected temporarily from the cutout switch connection to accommodate operating the car without lights during daylight. Unfortunately it also disconnects the brake light switch, which makes it unsafe to drive the car.

It would have been prudent if Ford had run a wire direct from the starter switch (or the fuse) to the brake light switch. With this arrangement the power lead to the light bail could be removed from the cutout switch on the generator without affecting the brake light circuit.

It is easy enough to modify the brake light circuit to isolate it from the light bail. Locate the wire on the brake light switch that comes from the light bail. Disconnect it at the brake light switch and fold it back and wrap insulating tape around it. Connect a new wire where the wire at the brake light switch was removed and run it direct to battery power. The most logical place to make the connection is at the starter switch. If a fuse modification is installed connect it there.

This wiring modification now eliminates the light bail from the stop light circuit. Should a short circuit occur in the light bail, it can be disconnected from power at the cutout switch connection and the car can be driven during daylight hours with the brake lights functional.

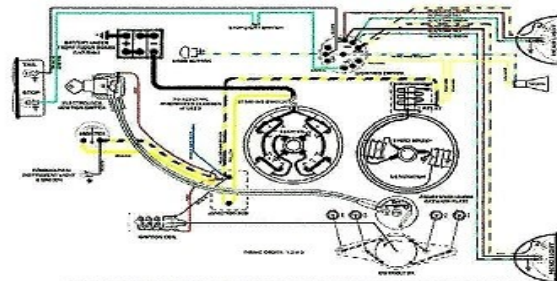


Fig. 144. Wiring diagram showing the internal circuitry of the Model A Ford car, not equipped with dual lamps, with two lights in each headlamp.

Model A Ford wiring diagram. Note second wire down from the top runs from the power buss inside the light bail to the brake light switch, then on to the brake light on the left.

Foreign made reproduction brake light switches are notorious for being of very poor quality and for shorting out. A good quality 1930-1931 brake light switch can be obtained from A&L Parts Specialties located at Canton Center, CT. The switch, which is a copy of the original, is a quality item manufactured by A&L. The switch includes brass bushings at each end of the operating shaft. ☺

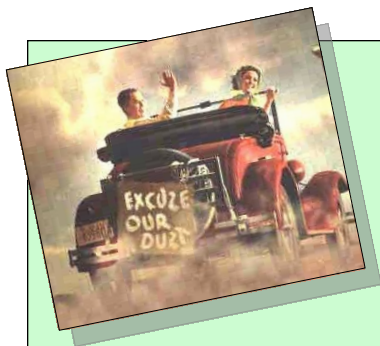
A&L Parts Specialties
P.O. Box 201
Canton Center, CT 06019-0301
860-693-0112
anlel@aol.com

Switch part number A-13480B



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Touring with Elaine

By Elaine Pisu, Tour Director

Some Fun October events



We had a busy month with the white elephant sale followed by the club garage sale. Both events were great successes. Unfortunately we were so tired that Drain & Doris were the only Harbor A's that made it to the Frazier Park meet. We usually have at least a dozen of us but not this time.

Harbor A's had a great time this month at the Fall Antique Engine and Tractor Show in Vista. Art picked **Tommy's** in San Clemente for a breakfast stop and all 13 of us were delighted with the choice. The Antique Gas & Steam



Engine Museum was one of the things to see but the highlight was Daffy and Elaine rode in the Antique Equipment parade in a wagon pulled by a tractor. Other highlights included a Weavers Barn full of great projects, a blacksmith's barn working away on interesting projects and an antique clock exhibit. For Art the highlight I think was what he called the "Hit and Miss," ask him and he can explain, but all in all it

was a great fun. The parade was like one you have never seen



before, lots of steam engines and watching Art's face was like a kid in a candy store. Fortunately the weather was perfect. . . . great fall weather. Round trip was 185 miles and believe it or not we hardly hit any traffic. (YEAH!!!)



We are planning a poker run for **NOVEMBER 19th meet at the club house at 8:30AM**. Cost is \$10 per person and we will have 5 surprise stops including stopping for lunch at a restaurant. Lunch is not included in the \$10, it will be on your own. Bring those A's and we will have a great time!!

FYI: So Cal Car Culture will be having their **swap meet - pancake breakfast** on **Sunday, October 30, 2016** starting at 6AM. It is located at Price Trucking on the corner of Del Amo & Santa Fe. The car collection will be open at 10 AM and at 11AM there will be a salute to Lions Drag Strip. If you are interested in going as a group talk to Jim Huizdos.

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

Car Events of Interest for 2016

Dec 11th (Sun) - El Segundo 53rd Annual Holiday Parade. Time: 1PM to 3PM. Line up on Imperial Ave about 12:30PM. More info to follow. Contact: Dick Wyckoff

Dec 11th (Sun) - Heart of the Harbor Holiday Parade in Wilmington. Lunch at Acapulco after. Contact is Elaine Pisu. More to follow.



Wheels & Deals:

For sale: Model A parts, motors, transmissions, rear end, mechanical brake set up, 21" wheels, used 19" Fisk tire, some sheet metal, original horn, etc. Neil Mylar, Lakewood, CA (562) 577-0612 or nmylar@aol.com

For Sale: 1957 Ford Thunderbird. 87K miles. California car. Not running due to long term (40 year) storage. \$15,000. Call/email for complete story and photos.
Charlie Stephens, charlesdstephens@sbcglobal.net, (310) 733-7907 Culver City, CA



For Sale: '31 Chrome radiator stone guard. NEW. \$125. Contact Joe Freitag 310-871-2567. Palos Verdes CA

For Sale: 2011 Carson tandem dove tailed car trailer with brakes. Added spare tire and mount, electric winch, tool box and front jack pivot wheel. Extra set of replacement lights and some tie-down straps, Buddy Bearings, 5yr. license. Only used 4 trips, 16ft. metal runners and 4ft. Tongue, open center. Wheel caulked for Model A's Asking \$1850.00.
Steve Newton, 310-837-3026

For sale: Rebuilt B/W. 5-speed transmission with Deluxe adapter kit for Model A 4-banger. Cost \$2300.00, asking \$1850.00 I have never opened the boxes since delivery. Cheaper than a Mitchell trans & overdrive !!
Steve Newton, 310-837-3026



• **Used Christmas cards.** (Complete cards please). We will recycle them. **Ursi** (310) 539-5391

Long time member, **Barney Clayton**, passed away on Wednesday, October 5th, 2016 at the age of 88. His wife, June, passed away in 2000.

Barney joined the club in May 1971 and was very active until health problems in recent years prevented him from actively participating. He did make it to our progressive tour last November with the help of his assistant and club members.

Barney's son, Greg, is a club member living in Montana. We will miss you, Barney. Rest in Peace. . . .



MAFFI Newsletter Minute October 2016

We had another fun Model A Day at the museum in September. The 'Around the World Model A Trip' was the special exhibit and what an adventure it told. There were also seminars and swap meet for all to enjoy. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the day and to all who attended. If you missed it, start planning now to attend next year's event on September 16, 2017.

Please note that MAFFI has a new address : MAFFI, **PO Box 28, Peotone, IL 60468-0028**, as John Marshall takes on the job of Executive Director following Art Callan's retirement after serving in that role for 18 years. Thank you Art, for the countless hours you have given to MAFFI through the years and the excellent leadership you have provided. And thanks to John for taking on these new responsibilities.

As always, we appreciate the support of local Model A clubs and Model A'ers everywhere.

Loukie Smith
MAFFI president

Pictures from the Garage Sale



View from the street while setting up



Young buyer checking out the merchandise



Busy time at the sale



President Monty checking out the recliner after a busy day!



Daffy and Monty working the cash register

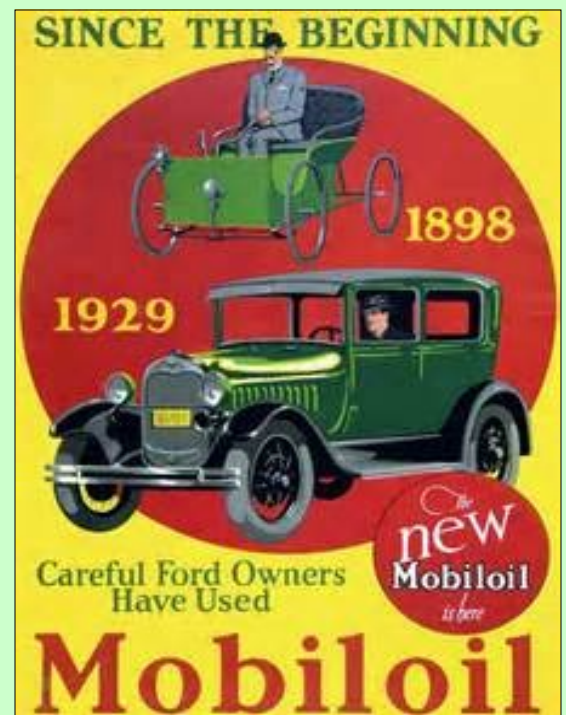


Brochure for Triplex shatterproof glass, which was standard equipment on Ford Model A windshields beginning in 1928.

Era Advertisements

In the late 1920s, automobile manufacturers became aware that mechanical and body designs contributed to accidents, injuries, and fatalities. Many car makers began installing four-wheel brakes instead of rear brakes alone. Some introduced shatterproof windshields so that glass would not break into sharp pieces in a collision.

A more effective solution to the problem of shattered windshields was a "sandwich" of glass and celluloid that held fragments together on impact. Triplex glass was standard equipment on the 1928 Ford Model A windshield and attracted attention because it was mass-marketed on a low-priced car.



PUBLIC NOTICE

DUE TO RECENT BUDGET CUTS,
THE RISING COST OF ELECTRICITY,
GAS AND OIL, PLUS THE CURRENT
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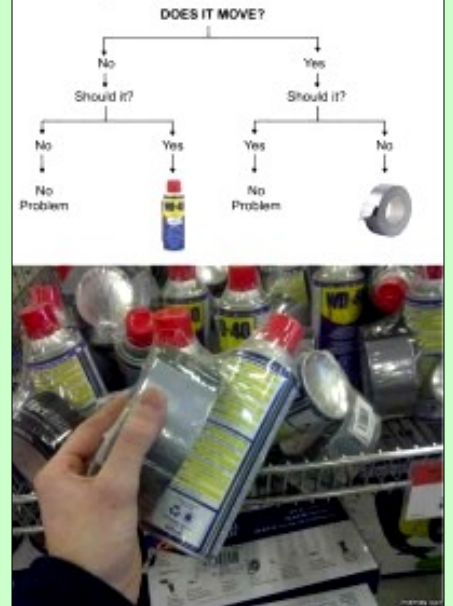
The New FORD TRUCK

Sense and Nonsense



Recent find.
Original Owner!

Engineering Flowchart



Al's Garage



Test drive after installing new
head gasket.



A LITTLE LAUGHTER ON A RAINY DAY

The rain was pouring and there was a big puddle in front of the bar just outside the American Legion Post.

A ragged old Army ground pounder was standing near the edge with a fishing line in the puddle.

A curious young Marine fighter pilot came over to him and asked what he was doing.

"Fishing," the old sergeant simply said.

"Poor old fool," the Marine officer thought to himself, and he invited the old Army soldier into the bar for a drink.

As he felt he should start some conversation while they were sipping their whiskey, the haughty fighter pilot asked, "And how many have you caught today?"

"You're number ten" the old Army sergeant answered. "2 Air Force, 3 Navy, and 5 Marines."

Thanks to Pete Peterson

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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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