

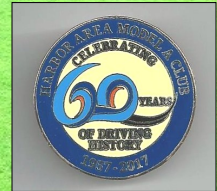
# Harbor Area Model 'A' Club

Dedicated to preserving and driving the 1928-1931 Model 'A' Ford since 1957  
Torrance, California

## November 2017



Harbor Area Model A Club  
Cars on display at the  
60th anniversary picnic



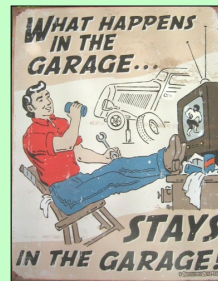
# HARBORLIGHT



### Tour

Our next adventure is a progressive on **Saturday, November 11th**. Still working the details. See info on page 7.

Super bowl is Feb 4th. Keep the date open. It's party time!



### Technical Activities

More work on Steve's Deluxe Phaeton. Making progress on the wiring. Lookin' better! Solved Al's ignition problem. AA runs great now.

Come on by each Saturday morning 10-12 and check it out!

Al's Garage, 907 Van Ness, Torrance CA

### Upcoming Business Meetings

The **October** business meeting is **Friday, October 27th**. This is a pot luck meeting & Nominations for **2018 Board**. A-M Salads; N-Z Main. Club provides dessert.

The **November** meeting will be **Friday, the 17th**, at 7:30PM, a **week earlier** due to Thanksgiving. Come a little early and help set up. Meet and greet your Model A friends!

See you there!

### Next Board Meeting

The **November** Board meeting is **Tuesday, November 7th, 2017** at 7PM. It will be at new location at Torrance Memorial Hospital, West wing.

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

### Things Left to Do

As we wind down 2017, we still have few things to do. Elections of officers for the next year comes to mind, planning for the banquet next January, and taking a little time to remember our Vets this November 11th.

We lost a dear member recently. **Dick Lusk** passed away at age 84. He was a kingpin in our club for many years serving as Safety guru, Technical Director, raffle custodian, all-around go-to guy for Model A related info. Dick was a Korean War vet and also served in Italy. Dick worked at the El Segundo Chevron refinery for 34 years where he met his wife Ursula. Dick survived most of his depression era family of 17 kids and left 74 nieces and nephews. Dick and his humor will be missed.

The October meeting will be both a pot luck event and we will be taking nominations for next year's Board. Up for election is President (2 years), Vice President (2 years), Secretary (2 years), Technical Director (1 year), and Tour Director (1 year). Please consider running for one of these offices. The pay ain't all that much, but the rewards are many. Final nominations and elections will be in November. (Note: The November meeting is a week earlier due to Thanksgiving holiday).

The 2018 banquet will be a little different this year. It will be at the Proud Bird restaurant in Westchester, but it will be from noon to 4PM. The date is Saturday, January 27th. The cost is \$50 per person. The menu items offered are beef, chicken, fish, and a veggie dish. More info forthcoming.

November 11th is Veteran's Day. Take a minute and thank a Vet for his/her service.

*Monty*



### **Model A Items for Sale:**

- Borg-Warner **Overdrive**, includes 6v and 12v solenoids. Complete drive shaft with switch and cable pull. \$350. Nice unit.
  - Model A **transmission**, new rebuilt: Sell for \$300
  - Sparton **horn**—Original horn with new brushes and wire leads. \$225
- Contact Joe Freitag: 310-377-0135 Palos Verdes CA

### **For Sale:**

- Miller Syncrowave 180 SP **Heliarc Machine/Arc Welder**. Like New. Comes with full bottle of Argon. Only needs 50 amp service. Made for home use. 220volts. \$1200 obo.
- Keith Tucker: 310-508-2656 Carson CA



## November Birthdays

- 8 Linda Simpson
- 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

### Editor's Corner By Dick Wyckoff

Each year in November I take a couple minutes to thank all the veterans for their service. As the saying goes, "All gave some, some gave all". As a 25 year Navy vet, I have seen both sides of the saying. I will never forget. . .

We just lost a long time member and Korean War vet, **Dick Lusk**. He was 84 and we all will miss his Model A expertise and his sense of humor. A depression child in a family of 17 kids, he learned the value of family and hard work. I remember something he said about his family at their supper table when his Dad would ask the kids, "What did you do today to make your Dad proud".

At his memorial, his wife Ursula and family joined 100 of his closest friends to bid farewell. Fair winds and following seas, my friend. We'll meet again. RIP.

Again, a great job by Weeg Thompson and crew at the 60th anniversary picnic. I tried to get lots of pictures in this issue.

**Dick**



Dick Lusk and Liz Fitzgerald receiving their Member of the Year awards in 2004



Long time club member downsizing his inventory. Selling recently restored (2015) late '31 AA Stake Bed truck. Solid roof, indented firewall. Runs great. New tires. 4-speed trans. Lots of extra parts. 12 volts, LED taillights. Current registration.

Asking \$25,000 OBO. Located in Torrance, CA

If interested, contact : Al Avoian at 310-328-3350.



### Welcome our newest member!

Please welcome **Michael Klyde** #1064. He lives at 2879 Tulane Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815.

His telephone # is: 310-881-4780. email: Ibecarguy@me.com.

He has a beautiful, award winning 1931 Deluxe Roadster. Welcome, Michael!

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



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

The summer car show at Ruby's is over for this year. Larry and his crew did a great job of promoting the event. It will start up again next April when the clocks get changed to daylight savings time.

Just because we don't have this car show doesn't mean we stop driving our cars! Living in Southern California allows us to drive almost all year around.



### 2017 Membership, Roster and Club Merchandise Items

Gloria and Jim have a selection of new **Club merchandise**. We have hats, shirts, patches, t-shirts and we have added 60th anniversary items. More to come.

The **2017 Harbor phonebooks/rosters** is 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**.

### Annual dues are due

It is time again to send in your annual membership dues.

The dues for Harbor M.A.R.C. are \$30 a year.

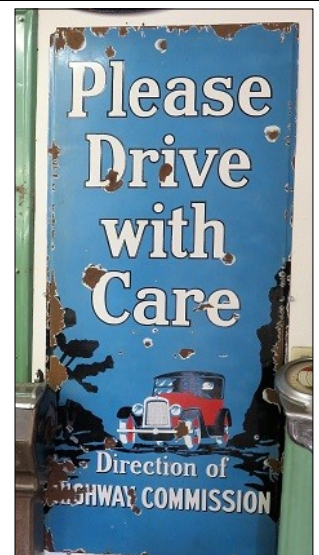
If you would also like to pay the national MARC dues at the same time, add \$45 and make the check out for \$75.

**Note:** If you wish to receive the Harbor Light newsletter by regular mail, add \$10 to cover printing and mailing costs. Email version is no cost.

Make the check out to **Harbor MARC**.

You can give the money to me, Ursula, at the Club meeting or mail it to me at: 26419 Pineknoll Ave., Harbor City, CA 90710. I will then forward your \$45 to MARC in Michigan.

Thanks,  
Ursula Schmidt, membership

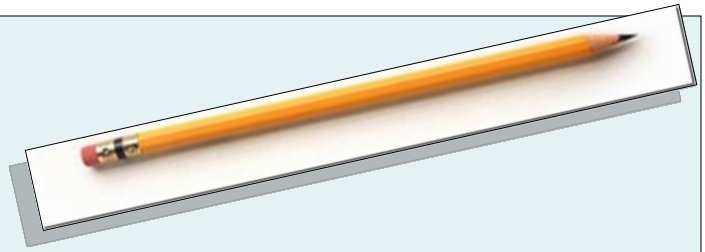




## HARBOR AREA MODEL 'A' CLUB MEETING

Date: September 29, 2017

Location: WALTERIA Clubhouse



**President:** Monty Bates called the meeting to order at 7:41PM

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

**Recognition of Past Presidents:** Dick Wyckoff, Doris & Drain Marshall, Tim Harrison & Monty Bates. We had 11 past presidents at our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic and we have a great photo of the group.

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

**Vice President:** Tim Harrison ♦ We had many very nice donations for our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary picnics opportunity drawing, thank you all for your generous support. We will be sending out Thank You letters to all who donated ♦ Pat and I will be out of town for the next business meeting, Dennis Simpson has volunteered to run the opportunity drawing in our absence. Thank you Dennis.

**Treasurer:** Daffy Wagner ♦ We are still receiving receipts and have outstanding bills to pay from our picnic expenses.

**HarborLight Editor:** Dick Wyckoff ♦ When the Harbor Light is received via e-mail it is published in full color, if you want to receive it via e-mail contact Dick with the best e-mail address for you ♦ Our newsletter is circulated all over the country. Remember if you have something to sell, trade or give-away the Harbor Light is a great place to advertise. Contact Dick with your information ♦ This weekend is the Concours d'Elegance. This year it is being held at the Torrance Municipal Airport - Zamperini Field. It will be 10:00 - 4:00 this Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be antique cars and aircraft. More information at [www.pvconcours.org](http://www.pvconcours.org). ♦ Our picnic this year was a great success. Great big congratulations to Weeg Thompson and her staff for a job well done. We served lunch to 104 adults and 4 children; there were other attendees that did not have lunch and a flock of 73 geese. It was a lot of fun!

**Historian/Webmaster:** Sue Hankins ♦ Not present

**Membership:** Ursi Schmidt ♦ Not present ♦ 49 members present this evening ♦ Welcome again to our newest members: Dale & Karen Barry - they have a 31 Ford ♦ We have one new visitor this evening Rob - welcome, we hope you enjoy yourself this evening ♦ We have two past members Mike & Charlie Plessner visiting this evening as well - it's good to see you again.

**Membership Drawing:** No one won the women's prize and No one won the men's. They both increase to \$10.00 next month

**Technical & Safety:** Cliff LeFall ♦ We will be at Al's garage (907 Van Ness, Torrance) this coming Saturday. We meet from 10:00AM - 12:00PM, lots of group participation, with donuts and coffee. Tomorrow we are starting 30 minutes early; the garage will open at 9:30AM ♦ Bring your short term projects for the group to work on. Sorry we don't have bays where you can leave your car, so please plan to take it home with you at the end of the day.

**Sergeant at Arms (badge money):** Jack Gordinier collected \$8.99

**Sunshine:** Doris Marshall & Theresa LeFall ♦ Doris has a new assistant for Sunshine; it is Theresa LeFall. If you can't reach Doris with any information on our members give Theresa a call. Her number is (323) 687-8718. Doris expressed her gratitude for such a great co-chair and how glad she is that Theresa is on the team ♦ Ruxella Speights had her knee surgery. She is doing OK, but is still in a lot of pain ♦ Noralene Porper is suffering from a case of severe allergies, and is recuperating at home ♦ Dick Wenker slipped and fell cracking some of his ribs. He is still recuperating, but he came to dinner last Monday night at Hoff's Hut, it was good to see him out and about ♦ Mary Ann Friedrich had a bad accident when she was on vacation and injured her tibia. She missed the picnic, but we are so glad she is well enough to join us here this evening, great to see you again ♦ Bob DeCrescenzo missed the picnic this year, he was under the weather and his presence was greatly missed ♦ Sue Hankins had hip surgery about a year ago but is recovering nicely. They are out and about traveling the countryside ♦ The Doctors have advised Ursi that Dick Lusk will not be with us much longer. We will certainly miss him.

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

**Tools Coordinator:** Bobby DeCrescenzo ♦ We have about 35 tools ♦ We loaned out two tools this month

**Refreshments:** Ruxella Speights ♦ Weeg & Steve Thompson supplied the refreshments this evening. Thank you both ♦ Our next meeting is a potluck - A-L Salad & Sides, M-Z Main Dish

**Clock Prize:** 'Mistress of time' Joan Gordinier - winner of our clock prize is Drain Marshall (8:13pm)

**Advertising:** Jim Huizdos ♦ We have many photos from our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic. They will be available to all - we may be offering them on a thumb drive or other digital option for you to have your own photo's printed. The board will be discussing the best way to get them to you and a possible offering of a video and an overall photo of the cars. More information to follow.

**Merchandise:** Gloria Younkin ♦ Nothing new to report

**Tours:** Elaine Pisu ♦ **October 13<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>** our tour will be to 'Feed the Firemen' in San Pedro. We are waiting for confirmation from the department. It is always a great day. We have had the pleasure of going on a fireboat ride each time. Please indicate on the sign-up sheet which dates you are available to attend ♦ **October 14<sup>th</sup>** Car Show at Redondo Union High School. It is a fundraiser for the school, the entry fee for cars is \$20. See Dennis Simpson for more information ♦ **November 11<sup>th</sup>, Progressive** - If you are available to host any of the stops please let Elaine know and she will work with you to coordinate the event ♦ Next year (2018) the Knott's Berry Farm Ford Days will focus on the Model A Ford. Elaine is contacting them for more information ♦ Emergency contact cards reviewed for new members

**Old Business:** ♦ Fund Raising - Bottles & Aluminum Can Drive (Ongoing) See Monty Bates with your contribution. So far this year we have raised \$257.00 - thank you all for generous support ♦

**New Business:** ♦ Monty read a wonderful letter that we received from one of our founding members. He has the membership number 10, his name is John Cephas Spear JR. He lives in Arkansas and still has his '31 deluxe roadster' ♦ Monty Bates and Art Wagner presented the following awards from the picnic: **HUBLEY AWARDS** - Men's: First Place - Jack Gordinier, Second Place - Steve Thompson, Third Place - Steve Newton. Women's: First Place - Sydney Kwasizur, Second Place - Joan Gordinier, Third Place - Judy Nunes ♦ The following car awards were announced by Monty (In case you missed them at the picnic) - **People's Choice:** First Place - Jim Huizdos, Second Place - Jim Runyon, Third Place - Gloria Younkin. **Car that needs most TLC:** First Place - Gary Guttormson, Second Place - Leonard Funk, Third Place - Steve Newton. **Most original:** Leonard Funk. If we had a 'Best of Show' it would have gone to Jim Beardsley's 31 Slant Window Town Sedan ♦ **COLLAGES FROM THE PICNIC:** The club is going to scan these and if you would like to have a copy please let Weeg or Donnis know and we will get back to you with the cost for your approval ♦ **60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PICNIC PHOTOS:** please get digital copies of any photos that you took, to either Weeg or Donnis so that we can include them in our video ♦ Joe Freitag reminded us that there is a lecture/panel discussion Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at ADM 10:00 - 11:30. The presentation will be about autonomous driving. It should be an interesting presentation ♦ Next month's business meeting starts our nominations for the following offices - President, Vice President, Secretary, Technical and Tours. Please think about volunteering for one of these jobs. They are fun and have lots of support from our board of directors and members. We will be having our vote at the November meeting ♦ Joe Freitag is selling his Model A Ford accessories and car parts. He is generously donating 10% back to the club. Thanks Joe.

**Refreshments hosted by:** Weeg & Steve Thompson - Thank you

**Next General Meeting:** Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> - Potluck prior to meeting - set-up at 6:00, eat at 6:30 (7:30 meeting @Walteria Clubhouse)

**Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>-7:00pm at Torrance Memorial Hospital-West Tower Room C

**Meeting adjourned:** Daffy Wagner moved that the meeting be adjourned; it was seconded by Elaine Pisu. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM for refreshments

Respectfully submitted; Donnis Bates, Secretary



### FROM THE BENCH

BY CHRIS WICKERSHAM

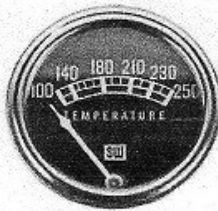
#### The Best Operating Temperature for Your Model A Ford

Years ago, most Model A owners did not give much thought to the temperature of their engine just as long as the radiator did not boil over. Henry did not include a temperature gauge in the Model A so unless an accessory temperature gauge had been installed, the only way the driver knew if the engine was running too hot was the appearance of steam from the radiator cap or water on the windshield when the radiator started to boil over.

Today a lot of owners have installed a temperature gauge that allows easy monitoring of the engine temperature. This is especially important for those who use their cars for long distance touring.

A temperature gauge is also very useful for knowing if your Model A is running too cold. On a cold day, especially when using a heavy duty radiator, the engine may not come up to a good operating temperature. Now, you may ask "What is the problem with the engine running too cold? As long as the radiator is not boiling over, that should be good enough." Model A engines run best if the coolant temperature is between approximately 160 and 180 degrees. The carburetor can be run a little leaner which promotes more complete combustion and a cleaner more efficient engine. It is also very important, the oil will get completely warmed up so the accumulated moisture within the engine will be evaporated. Allowing moisture to accumulate inside the engine will promote the formation of sludge and cause corrosion.

Along with a temperature gauge, a thermostat is strongly recommended. Good quality 160 deg. thermostats are available from most parts suppliers. Now, some people say that the addition of a thermostat will make the engine overheat. This is not true. If there is a problem with your Model A running too hot, adding a thermostat will not make the problem worse. The problem is with the cooling system itself and not because a thermostat had been installed.



Temperature gauge with "short sweep" dial



Thermostat for installation in the upper radiator hose

A thermostat will help maintain a more even coolant temperature, especially on a cool day. When going uphill, the engine has to work harder and the coolant temperature will increase. When going downhill with little load on the engine, the coolant temperature will go down. A thermostat in the system will help even out these changes in the coolant temperature.

You will find that installing a 160 degree thermostat and a good temperature gauge will allow your Model A engine to warm up quicker after a cold start and operate more efficiently. A good quality temperature gauge will allow you to monitor the temperature of the coolant.

Happy motoring in your Model A.



Water outlet with "boss" for installing water temperature sensor

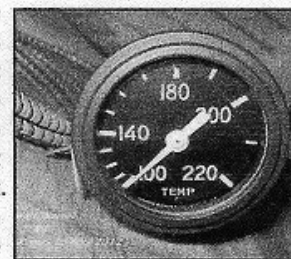
#### Tech Tip

##### The best temperature gauge to use

A good quality mechanical gauge is preferred for your Model A. Mechanical gauges are more accurate and have better resolution than most electric gauges. Temperature gauges with a full 270 Deg. sweep of the dial offer a longer scale which makes it a lot easier to see the actual gauge reading. Some gauges have such a short scale you cannot tell if the temperature has changed by just a little or a lot.

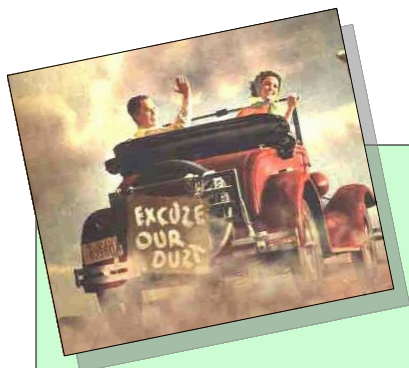
Thermo gauges in the radiator cap (Moto-Meters or Thermo Quails) are not of much use. To operate correctly, the sensing bulb must be in the coolant, not just positioned above it. Most of the time, when these devices indicate the engine is running hot it is too late as the coolant is already boiling.

Knowing the temperature of your engine is a good thing. If you do not already have one, install a temperature gauge in your Model A.



Mechanical temperature gauge with a 270 degree "sweep" dial

Thanks to Santa Anita A's Spoken Wheels  
For this Article



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



### **Hard to Believe we are Headed into the Holidays**

First off I would like to apologize to the working members of our club that were unable to attend the Feed The Firemen tour that we had in October. I moved the tour to a Friday since there were issues with Saturday and Sunday and unfortunately it eliminated some of our members that I know would like to have attended. I won't be having tours on week days in the future to avoid this issue.

Our Feed the Firemen tour ended up being a big success in spite of the information that I was given about us not getting a boat ride. The Captain on duty took us on an hour and a half boat ride. I was quite certain that we were not going to get a boat ride so it was a VERY PLEASANT SURPRISE!!! We had 10 cars and 18 members attend the event and the weather was perfect.

On **Saturday November 11, 2017** we will be having our Progressive/Poker Run. Cost is \$10 per person and we will meet at the club house at **8:30 AM**. The progressive will consist of 5 stops, a breakfast stop, a tour stop, a lunch stop, another tour stop and a dessert stop. This is one of our best events and you don't want to miss out on this one. The winner of the Poker Run will win  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the \$\$ proceeds. Bring your Model A's and come hungry!!

Keep **June 24th—29th of 2018** open. MAFCA is having it's **National Convention** in Reno. It's close enough to drive your modern, trailer your A, or drive the A, it is an event to remember. National conventions are a lot of fun and you get to meet lots of people.

Ciao! **Mama Pisu**

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<http://www.ncrmafca.com/2018MAFCAConvention/2018Index.html>

**MAFCA National Convention**  
**June 24 -29, 2018**

### **Sunshine Corner**

**Jan Wyckoff** was recently diagnosed with a small cancer growth in her large intestine. She will be operated on to remove the growth on Friday, October 27th. Outlook is good but keep your fingers crossed. She will be at Torrance Memorial hospital.



### **Other Car Events of Interest for 2017 & 2018**

**December 10, 2017—** El Segundo Christmas/Centennial Holiday Parade—1pm to 3pm. Contact: Dick Wyckoff

**February 4th, 2018 —** Super Bowl Sunday. More to come.

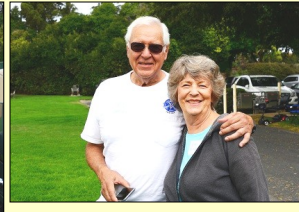
**April 8-10, 2018 - CCRG Cambria Pines** hosted by Cuesta Crankers, San Luis Obispo. Host hotel Cambria Pines Lodge. 805-927-4200

**April 13-14, 2018 - Bakersfield Swap Meet.** Kern County Fairgrounds 1142 South 'P' St. Ming St. off-ramp

**June 24-28 (Sun-Thurs) - MAFCA National Convention,** Reno-Sparks, Nevada. More to come.



# Our 60th Anniversary picnic





## Some more pictures from the 60th Anniversary Picnic



Photo by Jay Skinner



Past Presidents





## *Other happenings*

Eighteen members got to participate in a '*Feed the Firemen*' adventure in San Pedro earlier this month. Tour Director Elaine Pisu arranged a tour of the harbor fire station around lunch time where members brought food to share with our men in blue. Afterwards, they were treated to a tour of the Los Angeles harbor on the fireboat.



**The fireboat**



**Recovered Space X  
rocket booster after  
a launch**



**Club members attending the  
"Feed the Firemen" tour**

## *Work continues at Al's Garage*



**Steve's engine compartment**



**Workin' the wire harness**



**Was Jan stopping or 'Peeling out' ?**



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El Segundo, CA 90245

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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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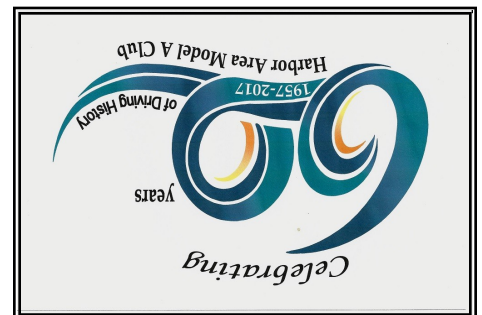
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November 2017

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The Harbor Light

