

Harbor Area Model 'A' Club

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

March 2018



Incoming
and
Outgoing
Harbor
Board of
Directors
and
Appointed
Officers

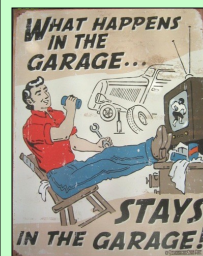
HARBORLIGHT



Upcoming Business Meetings

The February meeting will be **Friday, February 23rd** at the Walteria clubhouse. Meeting starts at 7:30PM. Come a little early an help set up and meet your Model A friends.

The **March** meeting will be the **Safety Inspection** meeting **Saturday March 31st (note change)** at Dennis Simpson's home in Redondo Beach. More to come. . .



Technical Activities

The big upcoming technical event is the combined **Safety inspection/business meeting**. Date: March 31st, Time: 9:30AM. It will be at Dennis Simpson's home, 2402 Burritt Ave., Redondo Beach. Pot Luck event.

Al's Garage, 907 Van Ness, Torrance CA
Every Saturday 10-12. Come on by

Tours

Our next tour is a Malibu tour on **March 10th**. Mike Plessner is leading this one. We did this several years ago and it was spectacular! More to come.



Next Board Meeting

The **March** Board meeting is **Tuesday, March 6th, 2018** at 7PM. It will be at Torrance Memorial Hospital, West wing. Exact room TBD.

We will be planning upcoming events. All are welcome.

Please visit our awesome website
Check it out:

www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com



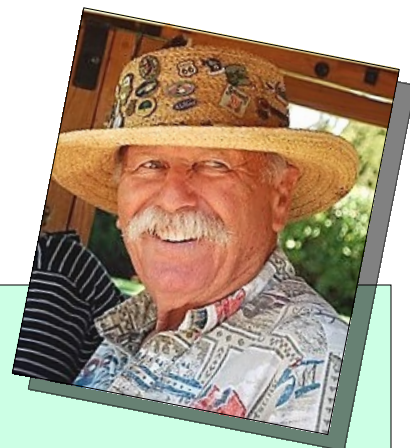
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Tim's Team Talk
A Note from our President
Tim Harrison



A View From the Slow Lane

As I look back on our January HarborLight and our 60-year celebration, I ponder the makeup of our club in these areas as an entity moving forward:

Our leadership and officers keep us connected, engaged, and informed of many programs, activities, and the history of the Model "A".

Our national organizations (MARC) and (MAFCA) help guide us in our club activities, regional directories, technical questions and answers, history of the Model "A" as well as a calendar of upcoming events.

Our diverse membership of age and interests gives us a multitude of ideas, experiences and technical skills to drive the machine we call the Harbor Area Model "A" Club.

As we start our Club's next decade, let us all evaluate our assets and liabilities so that we may meet the needs and expectations we will set for our future. I look forward to your ideas and input so we can all be a "DRIVING" force to our Club's continued success.

Tim



Sunshine Corner

Theresa LeFall & Doris Marshall

Rhoda Larquier is in a care facility dealing with kidney stones. Cards to her at her home would be appreciated. She is a long time member and needs our support.

Mirco Pisu is doing fine after knee surgery.

Elaine Pisu is dealing with sciatica problems in her back. Hope to see her at our next event. Get well, Elaine

Dot Knott had two more stents inserted in her arteries. She is feeling much better.

Don Knott is working through some back problems, also. Hang in there, Don. Hope you're doing better.



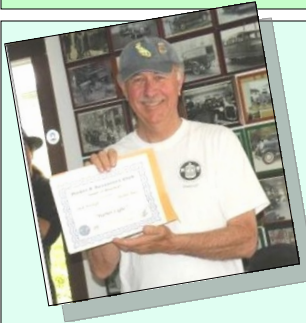
March Birthdays

3 Dianne Runyon	24 Jay Skinner
4 Mary Ann Friedrich	25 Diana Murphy
4 Bruce Montgomery	25 Jack Goldberg
8 Richard Parrish	28 Jim Perreten
12 Margaret Gott	31 Al Avoian



March Anniversaries

7 Dick & Jan Wyckoff
7 Tim & Pat Harrison
10 Monty & Donnis Bates
20 Art & Daffy Wagner
24 Ted & Janice Dalton



Editor's Corner By Dick Wyckoff

The Installation banquet was fun and both Jan and I liked the noon timeframe. We drove the Cabriolet along with half dozen others to the event. I know the new Board and appointed members will do an outstanding job.

Looking forward to a family trip to Oregon in April. We will visit Dick's sister, Peg, and her family in McMinnville, home of the Evergreen Air Museum where the Hughes' "Spruce Goose" is displayed. Always a fun time.

Around the corner in June is the MAFCA National Convention in Reno. We'll be there and hope others from the Harbor Club will be there too. Love the beautiful cars and great people.

Jan is a die-hard fan of the General Hospital TV series since her granddaughter, Hayley, plays the part of Kiki on the show. Hayley is such a sweetheart in person and it is fun watching her perform on TV. Check her out!

The Model As are ready for the new touring season. Let's get it on!

Dick



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 tail-lights. Current registration.

Asking \$25,000 OBO. Located in Torrance, CA.
If interested, contact : Al Avoian at 310-328-3350.



Christmas Cards. I recycle them for use again next year. Please give them to me at the next Club meeting in February. Thanks. Ursi Schmidt



Original pair of 1929 California **license plates** for sale. Good condition and DMV clear. Asking \$350 OBO. Contact Paul at 310-328-1026 or 310-218-7266 (cell) Torrance CA

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.



2018 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 **2018 Harbor phonebooks/rosters** will be available March/April. 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**.

The Model A Ford Club of America 2019 National Tour, October 7-11, 2019



This hub & spoke tour will be based out of spectacular Kanab Utah in the center of Utah's stunning Red Rock Country. Daily drives to the Grand Canyon, Zion and Bryce National Parks and other sites being planned. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see these sites from inside your Model A.

Watch for more information in The Restorer Magazine.

Benefits of National Club Memberships

- *Membership in **MAFCA** includes the following:
 - A one year subscription to The Restorer, our award-winning bi-monthly magazine including free classified ads.
 - The right to register and participate in all National and Regional MAFCA meets
 - Voting privileges in National elections of officers and by-laws revisions
 - Free classified advertising on the MAFCA web site and posting of photo of your car in the Photo Album section
 - Technical advice to help restore your Model A and keep it in top shape
- *National **MARC** Membership Includes:
 - Six issues each calendar year of our award winning, international, bi-monthly Model 'A' News magazine.
 - Includes detailed technical and Era fashion articles, Model A historical articles, coverage of National Meets and Region News, classified ads, and vendor ads - a great source of information for parts and services.
 - From 64 to 72 pages each issue. Excellent quality coated paper with color, and black and white photography.

HARBOR MARC/MAFCA AWARDS BANQUET

Date: January 27, 2018 Location: The Proud Bird - El Segundo CA

11:00-12:00: Members arrived and socialized. Opportunity drawing tickets were sold.

12:00: Lunch was served.

PRESIDENT: Monty Bates welcomed everyone to the banquet.

Presentation of awards and installation of officers began at 1:00 p.m.

APPRECIATION AWARDS: Presented by Monty Bates & Tim Harrison

Model A Restorers Club Plaques were awarded to Appointed Officers and Board of Director members

MEMBERSHIP & PARTICIATION: Ursula Schmidt

82 current memberships (137 people)

Members we lost in 2017

Adeline Bates, Barney Clayton, Harvey Goldberg Sr., Dick Lusk, Robert Pahls,
Dolores and Jerry Strosnider

New membership

Dale and Karen Barry, Lance Cryan, Michael Klyde, Bruce Montgomery & Judy Nunez
Mike and Andrea Plessner, Wayne and Tomo Sterling, Larry Sterling

Longest history in Harbor MARC present at banquet

Certificate of appreciation for **55 years** went to **Pat Tucker**

Membership Anniversaries:

5 years: Dick Wenker, Jim Huizdos, Peggy Wishon

10 years: Bill and Joann Moore

15 years: Monty & Donnis Bates, Gary Guttormson, Dick & Jan Wyckoff, Jerry and Joann Reine

20 years: Drain & Doris Marshall, Jim and Elyse Beardsley, Joe Jankiewicz

Bill Younkin Award for most participation: Art and Daffy Wagner

Participation Patches - 32 events including Club Meetings & Tours

20 members participated in 21 or more events earning the award

SAFETY AWARDS: Cliff LeFall

13 cars were checked for safety

Al's garage Saturdays from 10-12

10-12 A's rewired

gas gauges repaired, brakes adjusted

you name it, it's been done

Awards will be coming

This year's safety check will be on March 31, 2018, at Dennis & Linda Simpson's

HARD LUCK AWARD: Tim Harrison

Thumb got an overhaul by Dennis Simpson and is now worthy of prominent display

Drain & Doris Marshall the current recipient for having to be towed

TOURS & MILEAGE AWARDS: Elaine Pisu

Club accumulated over 30,000 miles this year driving our Model A's

16 members earned the Road Runner patch by driving over 500 miles and having their cars safety checked

Top Road Runner Participants

3rd place—tie with 1025 miles: Steve & Weeg Thompson, Jack and Joan Gordinier

2nd place—1050 miles: Art & Daffy Wagner

1st place—1201 miles: Drain & Doris Marshall

2017 WOMAN OF THE YEAR: Pat Harrison presented this year's "Woman of the Year" to **Weeg Thompson**

2017 MAN OF THE YEAR: Phil Bonneau presented the award for "Man of the Year" to **Tim Harrison**

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President - Tim Harrison

Vice President - Dennis Simpson

Secretary - Pat Harrison

Treasurer - Daffy Wagner

Technical Director - Cliff LeFall

Tour Director - Elaine Pisu

NEW APPOINTED OFFICERS FOR 2018

Refreshments - Weeg Thompson

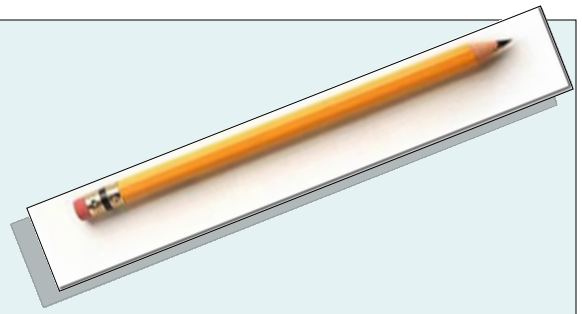
OPPORTUNITY DRAWING: Monty Bates, Tim Harrison, Dennis Simpson, Pat Harrison & Sammy

CLOSING REMARKS & CENTERPIECE DISTRIBUTION: Monty Bates

NEXT GENERAL/BUSINESS MEETING: February 23, 2018 - Waleria Club House - 7:30PM

NEXT BOARD MEETING: February 6, 2018 - Torrance Memorial-West Wing - 7:00PM

Respectfully submitted: *Pat Harrison*, Secretary



Distributor Failure Tips

by Brian Treserdm

From *The Reflector*, Palomar A's

On any long club tour sooner or later one of the Model A's will pull over to the side of the road and up will come the hood. The first component to be attacked is the distributor, and it is probably the most likely source of the problem. For this reason it makes sense to carry a spare distributor with you that has been rebuilt with the points already set, and most important, tested on the same running car. It is a lot easier to swap out the distributor than to be standing along side the road fooling around trying to determine what's wrong with it and to attempt to change out numerous parts. You do not have to reset the timing as long as you do not disturb the cam screw and you are installing it in the same car it was tested on.

Distributor failure: The three most likely things that tend to go wrong with a distributor are (1) the condenser failing, (2) the lower plate wire breaking or shorting, or (3) the points gap closing up.

The points: The point gap should be the first thing to check and they can be easily set without changing the distributor. Points tend to close up as the rubbing block wears. This is especially true on a new set of points. The points will close up considerably during the first 100 miles, until a glaze is worn into the rubbing block. So if you just installed new points before starting out on the big tour, be prepared to have to reset them sometime soon. After that you only need to reset them at about 1,000-mile intervals. Points are set at .018 to .022, so be sure to carry a set of feller gauges with you.

Henry's wayward wire: The wire that connects the upper and lower distributor plates together is also prone to break and/or short out. The arrangement wasn't one of Henry's better



ideas. The wire is supposed to be a very flexible 80-strand wire to be able to better withstand the constant movement imposed by the driver's use of the spark advance lever. Most distributors by now do not have the proper wire installed, and even with the proper wire, they will still eventually break due to the constant flexing. Be wary of the "modern" lower plates being offered by most suppliers. They will eventually fail (after about 1,000 miles) because of the constant sparking and erosion of the contacting parts. The correct 80-strand wire is really the only best solution.

The condenser: The condenser is usually the first thing everyone wants to replace. I have seen countless numbers of them replaced over the years, but I have only seen one that actually failed. Many years ago era condensers were susceptible to failure due to heat, and in the present day due to inherent poor quality. The condenser is located in the close proximity to the exhaust manifold where it is extremely hot under normal conditions. If your engine becomes overheated due to high ambient temperatures and/or running out of water, or driving around with the spark handle all the way up you could do damage to the condenser. The poor quality of many condensers on the market is the bigger problem though. Look at the end of the condenser where the strap is attached. If it has a 1/4" round circle and is soldered on to the base of the condenser, don't use it. Temperatures can get high enough to melt the solder. Look for a condenser that has the strap tack welded on, they will have three small dots on the strap where it attaches to the base of the condenser. These are the better quality condensers.



A guy pulled up at the gas station in a very near new Model A Fordor, "would have cost you an arm and leg," the admiring attendant said.

The customer a man of few words simple replied "Hertz"

"I bet it does" replied the attendant!

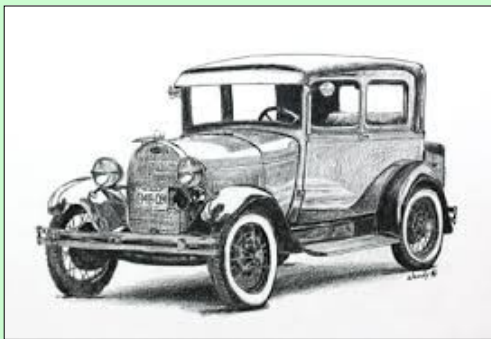


Touring with Elaine By Elaine Pisu, Tour Director



Here we go again. 2018 Full speed ahead!

Well it's hard to believe but we just finished putting away the Christmas decorations and it's already March. We had a wonderful banquet at the Proud Bird and in spite of some of the wait staff, we had a great time. Thanks to Donnis, Daffy and all that helped make it happen.

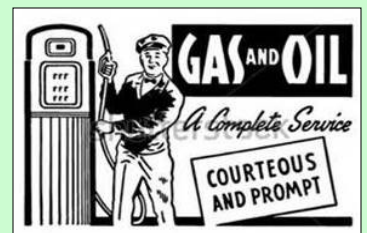


This month we have a wonderful tour planned which will be led by Mike Plessner. We will meet at Harbor Freight on **Saturday, March 10th** at 8:45AM and leave at 9:00 for a tour of our Malibu Mountains. We are planning on a lunch stop and with the weather we have been having it should some great views and a wonderful day. If by chance we have rain on the 10th we will reschedule the tour to March 17th. Drive your A's and plan on a fun day.

As you know we will have our safety check on **Saturday, March 31st** at the home of Dennis and Linda Simpson.

Since the Model A is 90 years old this year, we have decided to participate in the Fabulous Fords Forever Car Show at Knotts Berry Farm on April 15th. Please sign up for the Fabulous Fords show at www.fabulousfordsforever.com. We are planning on having the Chicken Dinner after the show ends. Our plan will be to meet up and caravan out together. More details to follow.

Elaine



Other Car Events of Interest for 2018

February 23- 25 (Fri-Sun) - Big 3 Parts Exchange (Swap Meet) Qualcomm Stadium San Diego. 8am to 5pm

April 8-10 (Sun-Tues) - CCRG Cambria Pines Lodge in Cambria CA. 805-927-4200

April 13-14 (Fri-Sat) - Bakersfield **Swap Meet**. Kern County Fairgrounds 1142 South 'P' St. Ming St. off-ramp

April 22 (Sun) - Orange County Pancake Breakfast

July 21 (Sat) - Long Beach Model T Club **Swap Meet**. Long Beach Vet Stadium. Info: Jeff Hood 562-597-5936



Tim Harrison (L) receiving the 2017 Man of the Year award from Last year's winner, Phil Bonneau



Last year's WOTY winner, Pat Harrison (L) presenting the 2017 Woman of the Year award to Weeg Thompson

MARC Discount Membership Program Has Been Extended!



Following the success of the 2017 MARC 1/2 price sale (\$22.50 for NEW members who also join a Region), the Board of Directors has voted to extend the program for 2018! This is great news for MARC, your Region, and NEW members!

Just \$22.50 buys a NEW member who also joins a Region a full year membership in the best Model "A" club on the planet.

Recruit now!

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I've been to a lot of places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently you can't go alone, you have to be in Cahoots with someone. I've also never been in Cognito, either. I hear no one recognizes you there. I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport, you have to be driven there. I have made several trips.

The Latest from Al's Garage



Steve Thompson cleaning parts for the '31 Deluxe Phaeton



Steve Friedrich's Roadster and Jan Wyckoff's Cabriolet At Al's Garage



Jim and Cliff installing new battery on-off switch in the Roadster

AL'S GARAGE



Search ID: abr1907

"I'm looking for a longer dipstick for my Model A. This one doesn't reach the oil anymore."



Work crew discussing switch installation



More discussion



AA Flatbed truck delivering a Tudor Sedan, a Coupe and a Roadster in 1928.

Pictures taken at the
2018 Installation Banquet



BIZARRO: By Dan Piraro



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For MARC info and membership, see
www.ModelARestorers.org



For MAFCA info and membership, see
www.MAFCA.com

The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the Walteria Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and one block south of Pacific Coast Hwy.) We'd like to invite all interested parties, even if they don't own a Model A Ford, to come and join us. Our goal is to educate the public about Model A Fords and have fun while doing it.

2017 Board of Directors:

President:

Tim Harrison (310) 318-5920

Email: HarisonPat@gmail.com

Vice-President:

Dennis Simpson (310) 343-8227

Treasurer:

Daffy Wagner (310) 374-6113

Secretary:

Pat Harrison (310) 218-9014

Tour Director:

Elaine Pisu (310) 793-1789

Appointed Officers:

Technical Director/Safety:

Cliff LeFall (323) 715-3153

Membership:

Ursula Schmidt (310) 539-5391

Historian:

Sue Hankins (310) 782-0082

Sunshine Secretary:

Doris Marshall (310) 378-5061

Theresa LeFall (323) 715-3153

Advertising:

Jim Huizdos (310) 375-2737

Refreshments Coordinator:

Weeg Thompson (310) 346-6409

Appointed Officers:

Tool Custodian:

Bob De Crescenzo (310) 540-3690

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Gloria Younkin (310) 316-8722

M/Sergeant-at-Arms:

Jack Gordinier (310) 328-7333

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Some restoration required



March 2018

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 El Segundo CA 90245

The Harbor Light

