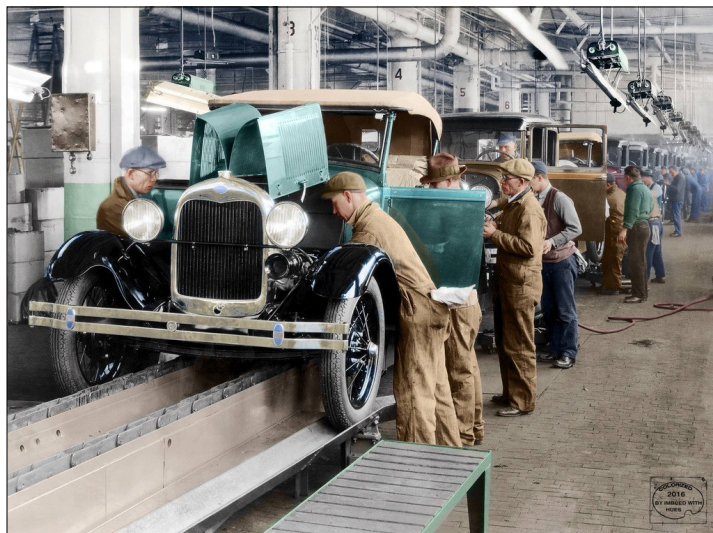


Harbor Area Model 'A' Club

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

February 2019

2017 MARC
Award of Continuing Excellence
for Harbor Light newsletter



Model A Assembly line
in 1928



Upcoming Business Meetings

The **January** Annual Banquet/
Business meeting will be held at the
Bluewater Grill, 665 North Harbor Drive,
Redondo Beach 90277 on **Saturday,**
January 26th, 2019. Time: 11am to 4pm.



The **February**
meeting will be back at
the Waleria Clubhouse
on **Friday, Feb 22nd** at
7:30pm.
Come early and help set
up and chat with your

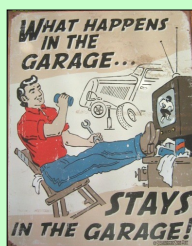
Model A friends.

Tours

No planned tours, however, drive your
Model A to the January meeting at the
Bluewater Grill. It's a daytime event and
parking had been set aside for our As.

See you at the Bluewater Grill!

Technical Activities



We're back in business!
We meet from about 10am
to noon to work on Model A
projects. Bring you're Model A
by and we'll work on it.

Al's Garage, 907 Van Ness, Torrance CA

Next Board Meeting



It will be at Torrance Memorial
Hospital, West wing, On **Tues-**
day, February 5th at 7pm.
Exact room TBD.

We will be planning up-
coming events. All are welcome.

Please visit our awesome website
Check it out:

www.HarborAreaModelAClub.com



inside...

- 2 Tim's Team Talk — Dues info
- 3 Birthdays/Anniversaries—Editor's Corner
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- 6 Tech Talk— Harbor's tool list

- 7 Touring with Elaine
- 7 Local car events & swap meets
- 8 MAFFI info—For Sale items
- 9 Tech info
- 10 Complete the phrase. . .
- 11 Our Advertising Friends
- 12 Officer List & Mailing Info



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



A View From the Slow Lane

As I was preparing my welcome address for our Banquet Program, I stopped to ponder our mission state and how it has applied to our car in regards to preservation and restoration of the Model A.

My car has always had overheating problems, and I have received assistance from fellow members with various pressurized radiator caps, different thermostats, washer restrictors, had the radiator boiled out, put on new water pumps, and finally re-worked the cracked heads and put on new head gaskets.

Safety is important and the Model "A" station wagon, being a commercial vehicle, did not come with back bumpers. Pat and I sought out different people who had bumpers added to their cars. This project turned out to be an engineering, drafting, welding, and mounting fiasco. The end result turned out great and functional thanks to other wagon owners and some of our own club members. (Yes, we also had seat belts added in the front.)

The car always rode rough and shock arms were always coming off. After consulting other members, we changed to Stipe Shocks.

There was also a time when the car would not always start. The solenoid would go on and off and overheat. I tried various self-starting, push button and non-push button solenoids and decided it wasn't the solenoid after all. This elimination sent us to the starter which needed to be rebuilt and two days later the car was back running again.

Steering the car was always "shaky" so we had all five wheels balanced and replaced the old steering damper shock. This greatly reduced all the former vibrations.

One thing leads to another:

- Had to remove engine to R & R heads, head gaskets, and entire engine.
- Checked transmission and repaired worn king pins.
- New clutch and throwout bearing.
- Took off front fenders and radiator apron to repaint.
- Loose steering. R & R drag link.
- R & R plugs, wiring, distributor and we will be ready to reassemble the front half of the car.



Well, it sounds like preservation and restoration to me. Looking forward to getting back in the "slow lane."

P.S: Pat hopes we are back in "any lane" soon!

Tim

NOTE: Annual Dues are due

Please send in your Harbor MARC membership dues for the year 2019.
Make the check out to "Harbor M.A.R.C ." and send it to:

Ursula Schmidt
26419 Pineknoll Ave.
Harbor City, CA 90710 .

The annual dues for Harbor Area M.A.R.C. are \$30.

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

(I will then forward your \$45 to MARC).

If you are getting the Harbor Light Newsletter by regular mail, please add \$10 for postage and printing costs.

Thank you for supporting your Model A Club!!

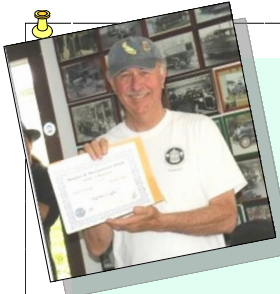
Ursula Schmidt

February Birthdays

3	Don Knott	9	Gloria Younkin
5	Ron Ragon	15	Elaine Pisu
5	Phil Bonneau	23	Liz Fitzgerald
5	Laura Pahls	24	Dick Wyckoff
6	Sheree Wright	25	Daffy Wagner
8	Dale Barry		

February Anniversaries

4	Bill & Anne Kealey
14	Jim & Anita Perreten
20	Mike & Sheree Wright



Editor's Corner By Dick Wyckoff

Welcome 2019! Looking forward to some more fun times this year. With all the rain we are having, I'll bet the wildflowers will be over the top this spring. Is this a tour idea?

Al's Garage has been busy. I think we got a half dozen Model As back on the road. We can't thank Al Avoian enough for the use of his garage to perform our Model A repairs. Thanks, Al. . . .

Several car shows and swap meets coming up soon. My favorite swap meet is the San Diego meet at the Qualcomm Stadium Thurs-Sat (note change) Feb 21-23. I don't need anything, but I love the thrill of the hunt. You never know. . . .

Jay Skinner is offering a seminar on rebuilding Model A shocks using original KR Wilson tooling. (He's a KR Wilson collector). A date hasn't been set yet. We will work out the details and let you know. Jay always has very informative seminars.

Dick



Gary test driving his '28 Phaeton. Runs great!



Gary torquing head after gasket replacement. Steve and Monty supervising. . .

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.



Notice about Supper at Hof's Hut!

You probably have heard that Hof's Hut will be closed for remodeling for the next 6 months or so starting early February. The president's staff has been looking for another location for our weekly Monday night supper. (We do have to eat, you know!) We'll keep you posted.



2019 Membership, Roster and Club Merchandise Items

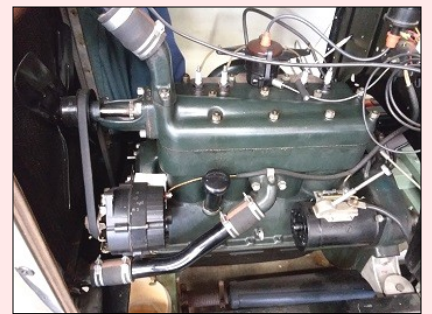
Gloria and Jim have a selection of new **Club merchandise**. We have hats, shirts, patches, t-shirts and we still have 60th anniversary items for sale at a discount. More to come.

The **2019 Harbor phonebooks/rosters** will be available soon. 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 **Harbor Light**.



1. Running, stock **Model A FORD Engine** Asking \$2,000.
2. 1930 / 1931 **Steering wheel** (excellent Condition) \$100.00
3. New set of **Seat springs** for 1930 / 1931 coupe. \$300.00

Please call **Greg** at: 562-869-0870 for details.
Fob Downey, Ca



Price Reduced Again!

Long time club member downsizing his inventory. Selling recently restored (2015) late '31 **AA Stake Bed truck**. Solid roof, indented firewall. Runs great. 6 New tires. 4-speed trans. Lots of extra parts. 12 volts, LED taillights. Current registration.

Asking **\$17,500** OBO. Located in Torrance, CA.

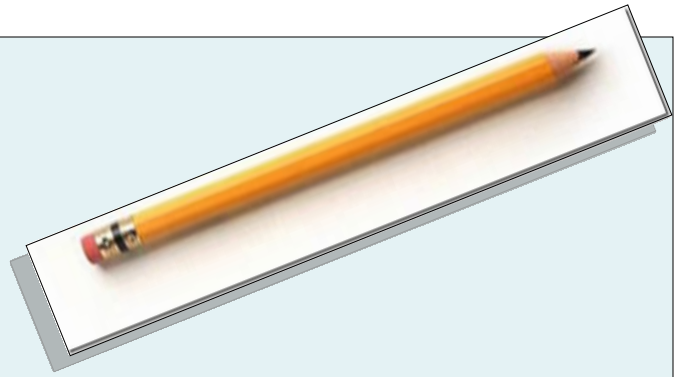
If interested, contact : **Al Avoian** at 310-328-3350



HARBOR AREA MODEL 'A' CLUB MEETING

Stone Fire Grill, Torrance CA

December 14, 2018



Our regular December meeting was a little less formal this time. About 35 of us had dinner at the Stone Fire Grill in Torrance with a 'cookie exchange' at the Pisu's home afterwards. The food was great at the restaurant, lots of homemade goodies at the cookie exchange, and Santa surprised us at the Pisu's. Thanks Santa!

The only real 'business' discussed was preparations for the annual awards banquet at the Blue Water Grill in Redondo Beach on January 26, 2019 from 11am to 4pm. Parking will be set aside for our Model As so drive yours to the affair. Also, contact VP Dennis Simpson if you have a donation for the 'opportunity drawing'.

See you there!



It's Better to Give.

We had many local businesses and Model A parts vendors help make the opportunity drawing at our Installation Banquet, held on January 26th 2019, HUGELY successful with their generous gifts. I would like to thank Leo's Mexican Restaurant, Scardino's Italian Restaurant, Lomeli's Italian Restaurant and Hof's Hut for Gift Certificates to their fine restaurants. Please frequent these local restaurants to show our thanks and support.



I would also like to thank Snyder's, Bratton's, Mike's "A" FORD-able, Performance Plus, FS Ignitions and CW Moss for their support and generous gifts. Without these vendors the maintenance and restoration of our cars would be greatly hindered.

And finally, I would like to thank The Comedy & Magic Club in Hermosa Beach for donating 5 admittance tickets for two for a fun filled night, and the Aquarium of the Pacific for an admittance ticket for two.

My first year as Vice President of Harbor Area Model A Club comes to an end at the Installation Banquet. As always, a BIG thank you to the Harbor Area Model A Club members who donated items to support our club throughout this past year. Looking forward to a great 2019!

Dennis Simpson, V.P.

Technical Talk

The Harbor Club maintains a Model A tool inventory.
Bob DeCrescenzo is the 'Tool Guy'. Contact him if you need to borrow a tool.

MODEL "A" RESTORER'S CLUB- HARBOR AREA

LIABILITY RELEASE

User assumes all risk of personal injury and damage to property in use of tools. All tools to remain the property of HARBOR M.A.R.C., and will be returned in 5 (five) consecutive days from the time of check out and in good condition as user (member) will be responsible for damage to tools. A \$20.00 dollar per tool deposit is required and refunded when tools are returned in good condition.

MEMBER _____ DATE _____

AMOUNT RECEIVED, CHECK OR CASH _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> RATCHET NUT WRENCH | 17. <input type="checkbox"/> VALVE GUIDE REMOVAL TOOL |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> FRAME SPREADER | 18. <input type="checkbox"/> GAS GAUGE REMOVAL TOOL |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> FRONT SPRING SPREADER | 19. <input type="checkbox"/> CLUTCH DISC ALIGN TOOL |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> REAR SPRING SPREADER | 20. <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRIBUTOR PULLER TOOL |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> SPREADER WRENCH | 21. <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGING STANDARDS BOOK |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINE LIFTING TOOL | 22. <input type="checkbox"/> STATIC WHEEL BALANCER |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> REAR AXLE HOUSING SEAL DRIVER | 23. <input type="checkbox"/> CHAIN FALL HOIST |
| 8. <input type="checkbox"/> PINION PULLER | 24. <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINE HOIST |
| 9. <input type="checkbox"/> (2) PINION NUT WRENCHES | 25. <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRIBUTOR BUSHING REAMER |
| 10. <input type="checkbox"/> SHIFT LEVER SPRING COMPRESSOR | 26. <input type="checkbox"/> LIGHT SWITCH SPIDER INSTALL TOOL |
| 11. <input type="checkbox"/> STEERING WHEEL PULLER | 27. <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINE STUD REMOVAL KIT |
| 12. <input type="checkbox"/> CAM NUT WRENCH | 28. <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRIBUTOR TIMING "Z" WRENCH |
| 13. <input type="checkbox"/> REAR HUB PULLER | 29. <input type="checkbox"/> VOLTAGE TESTER |
| 14. <input type="checkbox"/> KINGPIN REAMER | 30. <input type="checkbox"/> IGNITION SPARK TESTER |
| 15. <input type="checkbox"/> BRAKE SHOE RIVETING TOOL | 31. <input type="checkbox"/> PILOT BEARING PULLER (2 PIECES) |
| 16. <input type="checkbox"/> BRAKE PEDAL ADJ. TOOL | 32. <input type="checkbox"/> DOOR HINGE PULLER |

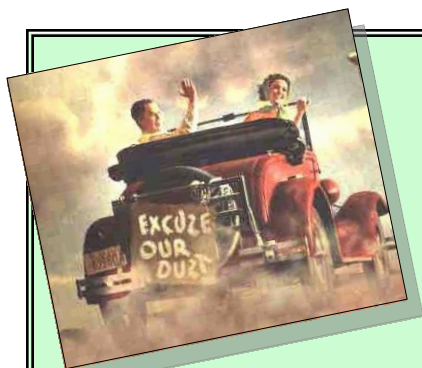
Note: Two new tools have been added to the club's inventory:

1. Engine block flushing block-off plates (Thanks to Rob Hernandez)
2. Cylinder head removal tool (Thanks to Jim Runyon)

____ TOTAL NUMBER OF TOOLS CHECKED OUT

TOOLS RETURNED DATE: _____ CONDITION: _____

DEPOSIT RETURNED DATE: _____



Touring with Elaine By Elaine Pisu, Tour Director



Overview of Things to Come in 2019

Ok, things are starting to come together for 2019. Now that the LA Rams are in the Super Bowl, the Pisu's are hosting a Super Bowl party at their home on Feb 3rd. Pot luck affair. We've done this before and always had a great time.

Sunday, March 24th is the Orange County Pancake Breakfast. About 250 Model As show up with a few other treasures on display also. Add the date to your calendar. We meet at Harbor Freight at about 6:45am and leave at 7am. It's a 45 minute drive at 45mph to Hart Park in Orange CA. Some take the back roads instead of the freeway. We all meet there and have a great time. More to come.

For those that take in the Regional Meets, March 29-31 is the CCRG in Merced and two months later on May 27-30, we have the NCRG in Santa Rosa.

Between the two regional meets is a 'Treasures of California Tour in Cambria CA. April 7-10. More to come.

A date has been settled on for the Downey Chapter's 'Henry Ford Picnic'. It is Sunday, June 9th.

Weeg is already looking into entertainment for our Solvang 'Drive 'n Dine' to Solvang July 12-14. It is a fun weekend touring, eating, shopping, eating, visiting, eating, etc. I hope the fires this last year didn't destroy the beautiful countryside.

So you can see, we are lining up some fun events for 2019. Get those Model A ready to roll.

Elaine

PS: With all this rain, is there a possibility of a great wildflower show this year? Could be a possible fun drive.

Other Car Events of Interest for 2019

January 26-27 — Turlock Swap Meet. Stanislaus County Fairgrounds. 7am to 5pm

February 21-23, - (Thurs-Sat) Big 3 Swap Meet Qualcomm Stadium, San Diego CA. Must see event.

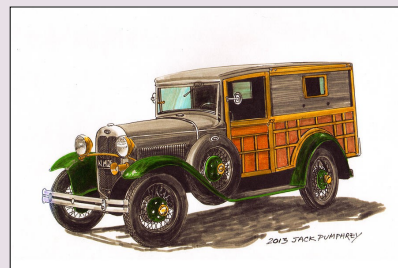
March 24— (Sun) - Orange County Pancake breakfast. 45 minute drive for a fun time!

March 29-31, 2019— CCRG in Merced, CA. More info to come

May 4 (Sat) - Edelbrock Car Show in Torrance CA. Lots of awesome cars!

June 9, 2019 (Sun) - Henry Ford Picnic in Downey. More to come.

July 20th (Sat) - Model T Swap Meet at Long Beach Vets Stadium



MAFFI Newsletter Minute

January 2019



"Happy New Year from the Board of Trustees at MAFFI! We hope you had a great 2018. Reflecting back, we are very pleased with the progress and additions made to the museum over the course of the year. During 2018, through donations, we added 10 vehicles and an elaborate tool display to our collection. In addition, 3 vehicles were placed on loan to the museum. We have a partnership with NATMUS in Auburn, Indiana in which 4 Model A vehicles and a cutaway chassis are on display in a vintage gas station environment. Our balance sheet improved and we remain debt free. Model A Day at The Gilmore saw the largest attendance to date and we were grateful to have Tim Kelly's Town Car and Town Car Delivery collection on display.

For 2019 we are working on a new theme for our annual Model A Day at The Gilmore. We also plan to have new displays completed in our showroom and service garage as well as an educational display showing the inner workings of a Model A chassis. Thanks to all that made 2018 such a success and help support the museum as we jump into the New Year!"

Marsha Quesnel, MAFFI Trustee
clubcontact@maffi.org



- * Five original, used Dill VS 127 tire valve stems \$150.
- * Five original, used Dill VS 127A tire valve stems \$150.
- * Four original, used, engine tested Champion 3X spark plugs \$200
- * A set of good repo shock links \$80.
- * One original, used 1931 gas cap \$65.
- * Original, used, very useable and presentable Model A car jack A17080 C-1 used Aug. 1930 to the end \$125.

Contact Leonard funk @ 562-425-8747
 Long Beach CA

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.
- FREE 40 word Classified Ad in each issue for club members - buy and sell Model A parts and services to a target audience.

A Technical Tip

FROM THE BENCH

BY CHRIS WICKERSHAM

The Spark Lever and What to Do with It

We all know that it is necessary to move the spark lever all the way up to fully retard the ignition timing when starting the engine, and to advance the igniting timing by pulling the spark lever down when driving the car; but how far down should the lever be for optimum performance. If you read the Instruction Book (Owner's Manual), Henry says "For average driving the spark lever should be carried about half way down the quadrant". Now, if you have the timing adjusted correctly, the ignition should have 0 degrees of advance when the lever is all the way up and 40 degrees of advance when the lever is all the way down. So when Henry says to pull the lever about half way down for average driving. This would only be 20 degrees of advance.

From experience and actual tests we find that the Model A engine will produce maximum power between 2000 and 2250 RPM with a spark advance of 30-31 degrees. We also know the engine requires less timing at lower engine speeds. However, most owners just start the car, pull the spark lever down and drive off.

For those who like to work with the controls find the engine seems to perform better if you start the engine, pull the lever about half way down (20 degrees) for idle and slow speed around the neighborhood driving and increase the timing to three fourths the way down the quadrant (30 degrees) for highway diving. Operating the spark lever in this manner definitely improves engine performance below 2000 RPM, but by how much?

I recently found the answer to this question when I ran across an old Secrets of Speed Magazine from July of 1995. Ron Kelly had written an article about tests he conducted using a dynamometer to investigate how different modifications affected the performance of the Model A engine.

The first test was for base line purposes using a stock Model A Ford engine with the timing fixed at 30 degrees This would simulate just leaving the spark lever in one position as the car was driven.

Test #2 used the same engine but the stock distributor was replaced with a Mallory distributor with centrifugal advance which would continuously adjust timing as the engine speed changed. The Mallory distributor was set up with 16 degrees of total centrifugal advance. The ignition timing was adjusted for 15 degrees of advance at 700 engine RPM and 31 degrees at 2,000 RPM.

These tests showed horsepower at 1,000 RPM increased from 14.7 HP with the timing fixed at 30 degrees to 21.9 HP when timing was automatically adjusted for engine speed. The 50% increase in power was the result of using the Mallory distributor which automatically adjusted

the timing to 19 degrees at 1,000 RPM. This advantage decreased as engine speed increased. At 2,000 RPM, when the Mallory distributor reached its maximum overall advance, power output was essentially the same because the total timing was essentially the same, 30 degrees for the stock distributor with fixed timing and 31 degrees for the Mallory.

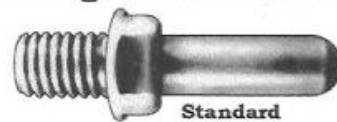
In conclusion, if you are using a stock Model A distributor with manual spark control, you will experience better engine performance by manipulating the spark lever so the timing more closely follows what is required by the engine for optimum performance.

Tech Tip

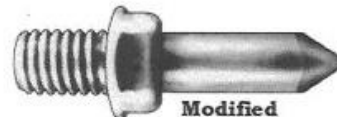
Timing of the Model A Ford engine with a stock distributor is accomplished when the piston of #1 cylinder is at the top of its compression stroke. This occurs when the timing pin inserted into the front cover falls into a recess in the timing gear while the engine is being very slowly rotated. Sometimes the recess is very shallow and it is difficult to determine when the pin drops into the recess. A modification to the end of the pin will make it easier to find this recess and make it easier to check ignition timing.

Illustration below courtesy of Marco Tahtaras, at MarcoT@abarnyard.com.

Timing Pin Modification



Standard



Modified

© 1999 Marco Tahtaras

A 1st grade school teacher had twenty-six students in her class. She presented each child in her classroom the 1st half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. It's hard to believe these were actually done by first graders. Their insight may surprise you. While reading, keep in mind that these are first-graders, 6-year-olds, because the last one is a classic!

2.	Strike while the	bug is close.
3.	It's always darkest before	Daylight Saving Time..
4.	Never underestimate the power of	termites.
5.	You can lead a horse to water but	how?
6.	Don't bite the hand that	looks dirty.
7.	No news is	impossible.
8.	A miss is as good as a	Mr.
9.	You can't teach an old dog new	math.
10.	If you lie down with dogs, you'll	stink in the morning.
11.	Love all, trust	me.
12.	The pen is mightier than the	pigs.
13.	An idle mind is	the best way to relax.
14.	Where there's smoke there's	pollution.
15.	Happy the bride who	gets all the presents.
16.	A penny saved is	not much.
17.	Two's company, three's	the Musketeers.
18.	Don't put off till tomorrow what	you put on to go to bed.
19.	Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and	you have to blow your nose.
20.	There are none so blind as	Stevie Wonder.
21.	Children should be seen and not	spanked or grounded.
22.	If at first you don't succeed	get new batteries.
23.	You get out of something only what you	see in the picture on the box.
24.	When the blind lead the blind	get out of the way.
25.	A bird in the hand	is going to poop on you.
And the WINNER and last one!		
26.	Better late than	pregnant.

The *Harbor Light* is a monthly publication for the Harbor Area MARC/MAFCA. All articles or want ads must be received by the 15th of each month in order to appear in the following month's publication. Neither the *Harbor Light* and its staff, nor the Harbor Region of the Model A Restorer's Club Inc. and Model A Ford Club of America, Inc. will assume any liability for errors or omissions, or for any liability or resultant damages for products, opinions or services listed herein. Some information contained in our newsletter has been reprinted from other newsletters; we thank and acknowledge them. Editor

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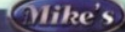
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The Harbor Area A's meet monthly on the last Friday of every month at the Walteria Park Clubhouse, located at 3855 W. 242nd St. in Torrance, California. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM (The park is located about 1-1/2 blocks west of Hawthorne Blvd. and one 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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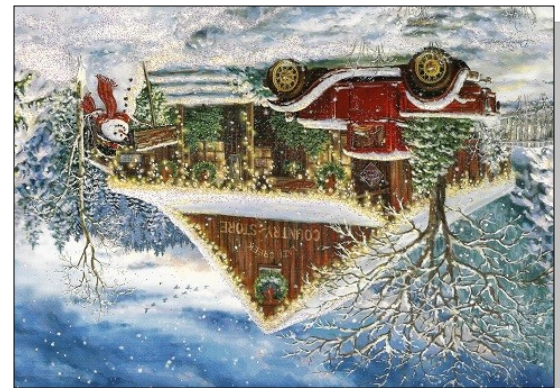
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February 2019

From:
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The Harbor Light

