



Harbor Area Model 'A' Club

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

Torrance, California

April 2025



Food feast after Safety Check at the Gordinier's

Technical Activities

Saturday mornings.

We meet from about

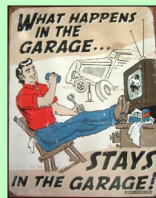
9:30AM to noon to work on Model A projects.

Bring your Model A by and we'll work on it.

Al's Garage,

907 Van Ness, Torrance CA

(in the alley)



Next Club Meeting:

The March meeting is at the

Walteria Clubhouse on

Friday, March 28th, 7:30PM.

Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be

Saturday, April 12th

Al's garage, 9:30AM



- 2 Dennis' Words — Looking ahead
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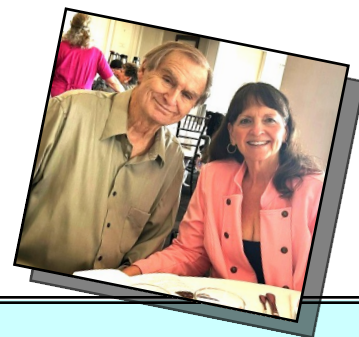


inside

HARBOR LIGHT



**A Note from
Harbor President
Dennis Simpson**



The Second Gear Grind

Here we are in the third month of 2025 and scams and fraud continue to increase since the first of the year. Every day I get e-mails and texts from someone who wants to take my monies.

The other day I received an e-mail from my bank on suggestions of how to protect your money and personal information from potential scammers, and I thought I would share some of it with you here.

Protect Yourself From Scams

Verify Phone Calls

If you receive a call and are not sure if the company is legitimate or who you are speaking with, hang up. Search for a verified number on the company website. If someone calls claiming to be from your bank and you feel uncomfortable, hang up and call the number on the back of your card before providing any personal or financial information.

Beware of Urgency

Scammers notoriously apply pressure by saying your account is compromised, claiming they will cut off your services or threatening legal action. Take a pause and tell a trusted friend or family member about the situation before making any financial decisions.

Be Cautious of Upfront Fees or Guaranteed Returns

If an opportunity seems too good to be true, it probably is. Look up reviews of the company to check its reputation and trustworthiness.

Do Not Be Pressured to Pay with Gift Cards

Utility companies, banks, the IRS or any other government agency will never request payment in the form of a gift card. Don't share the number on the back of the gift card with someone you do not know.

Scammers are continually devising new ways to take your monies or information. Your best defense is to stay aware at all times.

Til next time, remember, protect yourselves and the ones you love.

Dennis



Editor's Corner

By Dick Wyckoff


Time goes by quickly Looking back at my tenure as Harbor Light editor, I just started my 18th year beginning in April 2008! That adds up to over 200 issues of the newsletter. What makes it enjoyable are the contributions from the members. Pictures, write-ups, personal Model A stories, ads, new ideas, etc. Without contributions, it would be a difficult job. It also keeps me in touch with the members. Don't stop! Dr. Steve has a Harbor Area website where all 17 years of newsletters are shown (in color).



I am lucky in that there are several folks in the club that contribute articles and pictures of interest to me on a regular basis. The club is a family and we help others whenever possible. The physical and emotional support is very much appreciated.

In reading other club's newsletters, we all need help bringing in new members. Even the National clubs have the same situation. Keep some club's business cards handy in case you run across a potential new member. It worked for me a couple times over the years.

Again, keep the articles coming. . . .

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 2025 HARBOR A HAPPENINGS		1	2 <i>Arrive in Visalia for Thompsons' Three Rivers Pre- CCRG Trip on 4/3</i>	3 	4 <i>CCRG—Cont.</i>	5 <i>CCRG—Cont.</i>
6 <i>HOMEWARD BOUND</i> 	7 	8	9	10	11	12 <i>BOARD MTG—Al's Garage 9:30</i>  <i>MODEL A TECHNICAL SUPPORT</i> Al's Garage 9:30-12 <i>Passover Begins</i>
13  Happy Palm Sunday	14 <i>DINNER 4:30</i> *Location TBD 	15 	16  <i>ACTIVITY COMMITTEE MEETING</i> 1 pm	17	18  GOOD FRIDAY	19 <i>OLD TOWN MUSIC HALL</i>  <i>EASTER PARADE</i> Easter Parade Movie see below for additional information
20 <i>Easter Sunday End of Passover Orthodox Easter</i> 	21 	22 	23	24	25 <i>MODEL A CLUB MEETING—Walteria Club House 7:30 pm</i> 	26 <i>MODEL A TECHNICAL SUPPORT</i> Al's Garage 9:30-12
27	28 <i>DINNER 4:30</i> *Location TBD 	29	30			*Contact Jim Huizdos or Gloria Younkin for dinner location.

APRIL 2025 EVENTS – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CCRG
Date: Wednesday, April 3rd – 5th
Location: Visalia, CA
Host: Charter Oak Model A Club, Contact Phil Kneeland (559) 679-1980

SPECIAL – THOMPSONS' THREE RIVERS PRE-CCRG TRIP
Arrive on the 2nd in Visalia for a fun day in Three Rivers on April 3rd

We will be going to lunch at the Sierra Subs and Salads (This is rated #12 on Yelp's top 100 places to eat in the U.S.). Lunch ranges from \$10 – \$20. We will be visiting the historic Kaweah Post Office constructed in 1910 and the River Water Pottery, gallery and workrooms and we will experience the fun things these local artists create. If you would like, there will be opportunities to purchase some of their work as well as other souvenirs along the way. We will also be treated to the Thompson's home away from home. A great way to start the CCRG adventure.

EASTER PARADE (Movie - Judy Garland, Fred Astaire)
Date: Saturday, April 19
Location: Old Town Music Hall, 140 Richmond Street, El Segundo
Time: 2:30pm
Lunch: 12:30 at Richmond Grill, 145 Richmond Street, El Segundo
* Weather permitting, a drive in our A's is in the planning stages. If you have signed up for this event, we will email you prior with the exact tour information.

MODEL A BUSINESS MEETING
Date: Friday, April 25
Location: Walteria Club House, 3855 W. 242nd Street, Torrance, 90505
Time: 7:30pm
Guest Speaker from Chevron – For those who enjoyed Ursi's son Bruno's presentation on gas, he will be providing an encore with some additional information he did not cover when he visited us last.

Check back here next month for more fun times!

[Saturday Morning Coffee Gathering is Alive and Well!](#)

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. (at Artesia Blvd.)

Come on by and get your weekend started in true So. California style.



[2025 Membership, Roster and Club Merchandise Items](#)

Jim Huizdos has 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 updated **2025 Harbor phonebooks/rosters** are available from Ursi free of charge through e-mail. Club members that don't attend events can request a phonebook/roster by mail. Contact **Ursi Schmidt** at 310-561-4895. 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*.

Sue's Model A Story

Seeing Dick Wyckoff's story in the March Harborlight, sounds similar to my story. I bought my 1931 Coupe in 1963, right after I got out of Junior College. It was my first car and I paid \$400. I didn't know what it was or how to drive it but I just loved those "old cars". My brother had to teach me how to drive it, basically learning how to shift and double clutch. He drove it to high school his senior year.

When I moved to Northern California for my dental hygiene training and stayed there for 10 years, we put "Babe" in my mom's garage for 26 years. When I bought my house in 1994 and had my own garage, I joined the Harbor Area Model A Club and started fixing her up. Buying that car, joining the Club, and enjoying many years of Model A friends and activities has been one of the best things I ever did. That makes me an 82-year-old woman with a 94-year-old car that I have owned for 62 years!

Sue Hankins

1931 Model A Deluxe Coupe

Annual Safety Check

Our Annual Safety Check was held on March 1st at the home of Jack and Joan Gordinier. What a wonderful day it was! In addition to safety checking nine cars, we savored the plentiful and delicious food provided by club members for the potluck. The club provided three cakes from King's Hawaiian Bakery to celebrate the many club members' birthdays in February and March. We had a great group of 25 people (plus a brief visit from Tom and Sheri Johnson from the Santa Anita A's), and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Attendees included new members Eugene and Billie Gillingham (their beans were fabulous!), as well as Tek and Karla and Andy who are considering joining the club. Tim and Pat Harrison and Gloria Younkin were the winners of the 1/3-1/3-1/3 opportunity drawing. Tim and Pat were the big winners because they also won the distributor that Cliff Le Fall had donated for a drawing. Thanks to Jack and Joan for opening their home for us once again and to all the participants for making it a really great day!



Just "A" Mystery Tour

February 22 was a beautiful day for our Just "A" Mystery Tour and a chance to put some "smileage" on our cars. Even the weather cooperated by clearing the fog before we headed out. Twenty daring souls met at the Simpsons' house to begin the tour that took us north to El Segundo and then west for a drive along the coast. It was especially fun driving through the beach cities where so many people were on the streets and seemed to appreciate the sight of our eight-car parade. The route that President Dennis Simpson created for us was also timed perfectly.

Once the cars were parked at our mystery destination, we walked a short distance down Pier Avenue to Fritto Misto where we enjoyed a tasty Italian lunch. After lunch, we walked back to where our cars were parked for a docent-led tour at the Hermosa Beach Historical Museum which is housed in the former Pier Avenue Junior High School. The museum includes exhibits that range from the indigenous Tongva people, early Hermosa life, surfing, beach volleyball, and oil. The museum features a retired lifeguard tower and the shower from the movie *Carrie*. Club members who have a long personal history in Hermosa were able to provide additional insights. Another fun day with a great group of folks!



Welcome our new members

#1094 Eugene and Billie Gillingham

Address: 629 W. Oak Ave. in El Segundo, CA 90245

They drive a 1931 Tudor Sedan.

Their phones are: Eugene 219-384-1896

and Billie 219-789-6477

Their birthdays: 5-17 Eugene and 10-23 Billie.

#1095 Andy Spilsbury Jr. and Jonna Jerome

Address: 716, 36th St. Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Phone: 310-227-3905,

email: ATSPILSBURY@gmail.com

They have a 1929 Model A

Birthdays: Andy 12-27, Jonna 7-26 Anniv: 5-2-1997

Tiny Tip: Condenser problems

(by Joe Fox, Western Lake Erie A's)

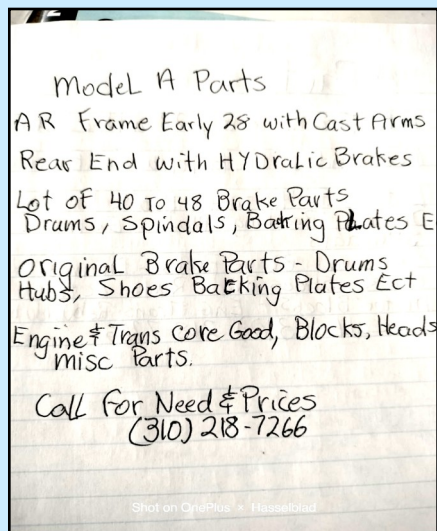
While driving my Model A recently, the engine abruptly shut off for a few seconds before starting back up again on its own. Weird, right! I was concerned, but everything seemed OK, so I kept going. Next time out, it happened again. I tried 'jiggling' the pop-out switch, etc... nothing. Then, after a few seconds, it started and all was OK again. I was really concerned now. I noticed that other accessories still worked, so that eliminated the fuse and wiring to the terminal box.



During a subsequent brake test (very close to home) it shut off and did not restart! Got out my VOM (always carry one!) and went through a logical test to find the problem. Boiled down to coil or condenser. So I removed the condenser and found that the ground tab had become unsoldered from the body of the condenser! I was able to pull it right off! Replaced it and it fired right back up. Could have gotten hot enough under the hood to loosen the solder, but my guess is that it was a 'cold joint' right from the start. Either way, it's a good idea to check that tab when installing a new condenser or when experiencing ignition problems. Also, you can check a condenser with your VOM! Some have a setting specifically for this purpose, and it will read directly in microfarads (μF). There is some question as to the acceptable reading, but somewhere between 200 and 300 μF is generally OK. You can also use the Ohm scale... check Youtube or Google to find detailed instructions for this procedure.

Hopefully there is one (somewhat hidden) takeaway here... If you have a problem with your car, don't just start guessing and 'throwing parts at it'. Use a logical progression of troubleshooting steps to pinpoint the problem, THEN fix it!

Parts for sale



Swap Meets



HARBOR MARC/MAFCA BUSINESS MEETING

DATE: February 28th , 2025 **LOCATION:** Walteria Park Club House

PRESIDENT: Dennis Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Dennis asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, Dick Wyckoff made the motion and Nathan Sherry second the motion. All approved.

RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS : Dick Wyckoff and Tim Harrison.

PRESIDENT: Dennis Simpson asked Donnis to introduce the speakers. She introduced Jason Sena and Mark Sandoval, motorcycle officers with the Torrance Police Department. They gave an interesting talk on braking procedures. Members asked a lot of questions.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Tim Harrison said the safety check will be tomorrow, 10 AM at the Gordinier's. Tim introduced visitors; Tek, Karla, Any and Jonna. Mirco Pisu is in the hospital.

TREASURER: Daffy Wagner reported the bank balance . We still have some outstanding bills.

HARBOR LIGHT EDITOR: Dick Wyckoff said to send pictures for the Harbor Light.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Cliff LeFall - Absent.

TOUR DIRECTOR: Open Position --- Donnis Bates, Pat Harrison and Weeg Thompson reported for the Activities Committee on upcoming events.

March 1st - Safety check at the Gordinier's at 10AM.

March 23rd - Orange County Pancake breakfast

April 3-5th --- C.C.R.G Visalia and trip to Three Rivers

April 19th - Movie at Old Town Music Hall in El Segundo. Lunch before at Richmond Bar and Grill.

May 2-4th - Lake County Tour.

June 7th - Crafts at Gordinier's

July 17th - Rock Around the Block in Ole Town Torrance

July 20th - Relay for Life

HISTORIAN: Janet Winter - She is doing an article on gas comparison.

TOOLS: Bob DeCrescenzo --- Absent.

MEMBERSHIP: Ursi Schmidt introduced new members Billie and Eugene Gillingham. Rosters are for sale.

SUNSHINE: Theresa LeFall --- Absent.

WEBMASTER: Steve Thompson—Website is up to date.

ADVERTISING: Jim Huizdos—Everything okay.

MERCHANDISE: Jim Huizdos—Merchandise for sale.

REFRESHMENTS: Weeg Thompson --- Janet and Weeg provided the refreshments for tonight. Weeg also spoke about her display of pottery. Pottery is from the pottery shop in Three Rivers and the items are all handcrafted.

OLD/ON GOING BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: March 28th 2025 at Walteria Club House

NEXT BOARD MEETING: March 1st 2025 at the Gordinier's

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:54 P.M.

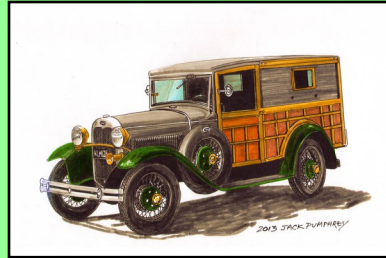
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: *Gloria Younkin, Secretary*



April Birthdays

- 3 John Hernandez
- 6 Mickey Fruchter
- 7 Walt Hibbard
- 14 Drain Marshall
- 19 Kathy Valot

April Anniversaries



1930 Era Fashions

Color-crammed color to look "COLOR-GRAPY" being first color ever

\$100

Practical HOVERETTE

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Practical HOVERETTE

Practical HOVERETTE

Flower—Daisy
4th Month

APRIL, 1929

Birthstone—Diamond
30 Days

				Northern States North of 41° N. Central Time	Middle States 36° to 41° N. Central Time	Southern States So. of 36° N. Central Time
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Days of Month	Days of Week	Moon's Place	THIS DAY IN HISTORY	Sun		Moon	Sun		Moon	Sun		Moon
				Rises	Sets	Rises	Rises	Sets	Rises	Sets	Rises	Sets
				h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.
1	M	♌	Battle of Five Forks 1865.....	5 42	6 26	1 16	5 45	6 24	1 9	5 48	6 21	0 38
2	T	♌	U. S. Mint established 1792.....	5 40	6 27	2 6	5 43	6 26	2 0	5 47	6 22	1 32
3	W	♌	Richmond evacuated 1865.....	5 39	6 28	2 49	5 42	6 27	2 43	5 45	6 22	2 17
4	T	♌	Chili & Peru at war 1870.....	5 37	6 29	3 26	5 41	6 28	3 20	5 44	6 23	2 58
5	F	♌	John Rolfe weds Pocahontas 1612.	5 35	6 31	3 55	5 40	6 29	3 51	5 43	6 24	3 32
6	S	♌	U. S. dec. War on Germany 1917...	5 33	6 32	4 32	5 38	6 30	4 28	5 42	6 24	4 16
7	S	♌	2,009,081 Slaves in U. S. 1859.....	5 22	6 33	4 43	5 36	6 31	4 40	5 41	6 25	4 33
8	M	♌	Clay & Randolph fought Duel 1826.	5 30	6 34	5 2	5 34	6 32	5 2	5 40	6 26	5 1
9	T	♌	Gen. Lee surrenders 1865.....	5 28	6 35	5 29	5 33	6 33	5 31	5 38	6 26	5 34
10	W	♌	First issue New York Tribune 1841.	5 27	6 36	Sets	5 31	6 34	Sets	5 37	6 27	Sets
11	T	♌	Queen Anne war ends 1713.....	5 25	6 37	8 54	5 29	6 35	8 52	5 35	6 28	8 35
12	F	♌	Fort Sumter bombarded 1861.....	5 23	6 39	10 14	5 28	6 36	10 10	5 34	6 28	9 49
13	S	♌	Thos. Jefferson born 1743.....	5 22	6 40	11 34	5 26	6 37	11 28	5 32	6 29	11 1
14	S	♌	Abraham Lincoln assassinated 1865	5 20	6 41	Morn	5 25	6 38	Morn	5 31	6 30	Morn
15	M	♌	Steamer Titanic wrecked 1912.....	5 19	6 42	0 47	5 24	6 39	0 41	5 30	6 30	0 13
16	T	♌	Confed. called 32,000 troops 1861...	5 17	6 43	1 52	5 22	6 40	1 46	5 29	6 31	1 17
17	W	♌	Virginia seceded 1861.....	5 15	6 44	2 43	5 21	6 41	2 38	5 28	6 32	2 11
18	T	♌	San Francisco earthquake 1906....	5 14	6 45	3 24	5 19	6 42	3 19	5 27	6 32	2 57
19	F	♌	Battle of Lexington 1775.....	5 12	6 46	3 55	5 17	6 43	3 51	5 26	6 33	3 34
20	S	♌	Tornado in Ala. & Miss. 1920.....	5 11	6 47	4 20	5 16	6 44	4 18	5 24	6 34	4 6
21	S	♌	Battle San Jacinto 1836.....	5 9	6 49	4 40	5 14	6 45	4 39	5 23	6 35	4 33
22	M	♌	War with Spain 1898.....	5 8	6 50	4 59	5 13	6 46	4 59	5 22	6 36	4 59
23	T	♌	Steven A. Douglas born 1813.....	5 6	6 51	Rises	5 11	6 47	Rises	5 21	6 36	Rises
24	W	♌	First Newspaper issued 1704.....	5 5	6 53	7 45	5 10	6 48	7 41	5 20	6 37	7 26
25	T	♌	J. Wilkes Booth capt. 1865.....	5 3	6 54	8 52	5 9	6 49	8 47	5 19	6 37	8 23
26	F	♌	Last Conf. Army sur. 1865.....	5 2	6 55	9 57	5 7	6 50	9 52	5 18	6 38	9 29
27	S	♌	Gen. U.S. Grant born 1822.....	5 0	6 56	11 0	5 6	6 52	10 54	5 17	6 38	10 28
28	S	♌	Pres. James Monroe born 1758.....	4 59	6 57	11 59	5 5	6 53	11 53	5 15	6 39	11 24
29	M	♌	200,000 refugees in Miss. Flood 1927	4 58	6 58	Morn	5 3	6 54	Morn	5 14	6 40	Morn
30	T	♌	Geo. Washington inaugurated 1789.	4 56	6 59	0 51	5 1	6 55	0 45	5 13	6 40	0 16

North of 41° North: New England states, Mich., Wis., Minn., N. D., S. D., Mont., Idaho, Ore., Wash., North parts of Calif., Nev., Utah, Wyo., Nebr., Iowa, Ills., Ind., Ohio, Pa. and New York.
36° to 41° North: N. J., Del., Md., Va., W. Va., Ky., Central Calif. Northern parts of N. C., Okla., N. M., Ariz. Southern parts of Nev., Utah, Wyo., Neb., Iowa, Ills., Ind., Ohio, Penna. and New York.
South of 36° North: S. C., Ga., Fla., Tenn., Ala., Miss., La., Texas, Ark. Southern parts of N. C., Okla., N. M., Ariz. and Calif.

Weather Forecast for April, 1929.

1st to 3rd—Cold Wave. Clear, fair days with chilly, frosty nights and mornings general. Temperature 20 degrees at Wichita, 22 at Cairo, 25 at Knoxville and 28 at Raleigh.

4th to 8th—Unsettled Period. Generally cloudy and foggy from New Mexico eastward to Georgia. Drizzly over north Pacific slope. Threatening over Lake region and New England.

9th to 13th—Storm Wave. Sleet and snow in states of the north and northwest and middle west. Thunder showers in Texas. High wind with sudden dashes of rain from Ohio eastward to New York and New England.

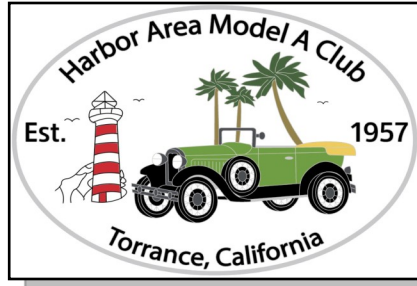
14th to 17th—Warm Period. Rising temperature at most points. Pleasant conditions over Gulf and south Atlantic states.

18th to 21st—Blustery Spell. Windy and backward weather in states of the north Pacific slope and the Rocky Mountain region. High winds in California, Arizona, Utah and Colorado. Cloudy and foggy in Gulf and south Atlantic states.

22nd to 25th—Thunder Showers. Lightning and heavy thunder and rainfall locally at many points. Tornado storms in Texas and adjoining states. Showers in states of middle west and over Lake region.

26th to 30th—Rain Wave. General rainfall in states of the south and southwest. Foggy and cloudy in states bordering on the Great Lakes and in Middle Atlantic states. Overflow waters in Ohio and Tennessee river valleys.

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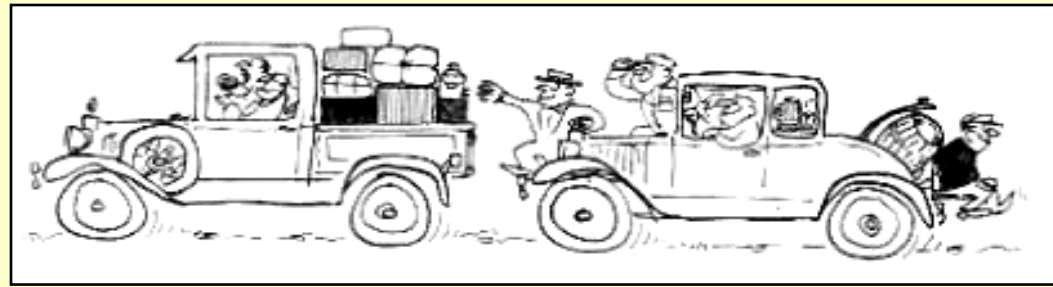
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For MARC info and membership, see www.ModelARestorers.org



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. 1242nd 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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Appointed Officers:

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Early experimental air bag



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TO:

April 2025

The Harbor Light

