

# HARBOR AREA MODEL 'A' CLUB

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

Torrance, California

# JULY 2025





# Hell

# 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

(in the alley)

CA



# Next Club Meetings:

The June meeting is at the Walteria Clubhouse on Friday, June 27th 7:30 PM.
The July meeting is July 25th

Next Board Meeting
The next Board meeting
will be Saturday,
July 20th
Al's garage, 9:30 AM





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A Note from
Harbor President
Dennis Simpson



# ... The Second Gear Grind

Not much activity with the Harbor Area Model A Club in June. Several members put on our creative hats and assembled Humming Bird Feeders at Joan's house. What a great time we all had! A BIG thank you to Steve Thompson for putting together the "kits" so we could make them. Also, thank you to Weeg and Donnis for getting the paint and other supplies to decorate our Birdfeeders after assembly. Some of us didn't finish so we are planning a "make-up" get together to finish them.



I like to get the Ol' Girl out on Friday Morning for a drive and what a beautiful morning this last Friday was. When I park to take pictures I enjoy answering questions from people who show interest in the Town Sedan. I hand out my business cards and hopefully attract some new members. Unfortunately, I didn't have any Club Tri-folds to hand out this time. So let's get them out and drive 'em. Model A's spread Smileage wherever they go!

Till next time, remember you'll never have an ounce of regret for being a little too kind.

Dennis



Editor's Corner By Dick Wyckoff

It's summertime and that means driving our A's. I went to the summer car gathering that just started up at the old Ruby's parking lot in Redondo Beach every Friday afternoon at about 3pm Lots of begutiful cars of all kinds. I was the only Model A the

3pm. Lots of beautiful cars of all kinds. I was the only Model A there and it got a lot of attention. Maybe we could start attending the event like we use to. I even won some raffle prizes!

I want to thank Dr. Steve for his effort in the hummingbird feeder event at the Gordinier's home. What a fun time.

Repeating what Dennis said, let's get those Model As out and drive them. It's summer time!

# July 2025 Happenings

| <u>SUNDAY</u>  | MONDAY   | <u>TUESDAY</u> | <u>WEDNESDAY</u> | <u>THURSDAY</u>   | <u>FRIDAY</u>                                    | <u>SATURDAY</u>   |
|--|--|----------------|------------------|---|--|---|
| JULY 2025<br>HARBOR A HAPPENINGS                       |  | 1              | 2                | <u>3</u>  | Wishing you a great<br>Fourth of July!           | 5<br>STAY TUNED<br>GARAGE OR<br>NO GARAGE<br>TBD                    |
| 6  | CHICKEN DINNER  DINNER 4:30 *Location TBD                        | 8              | 9                | ACTIVITY COMMITTEE  MEETING 1 pm                        | 11   | UNION STATION See additional information below                      |
| 13   | DINNER 4:30 *Location TBD  | 15             | 16               | ROCK AROUND THE BLOCK BLOCK  Meet 3:15 @ Post/Arlington | 18   | MODEL A TECHNICAL<br>SUPPORT<br>Al's Garage<br>9:30-12              |
| Relay For Life  And Board Meetina Meet @ Simpson's 7am | DINNER 4:30 *Location TBD  | 22             | 23               | 24  | MODEL A CLUB MEETING Walteria Club House 7:30 pm | MODEL A TECHNICAL SUPPORT Al's Garage 9:30-12                       |
| 27   | Happy National Eat What you Want Day!  DINNER 4:30 *Location TBD | 29             | 30               | 31  |  | *Contact<br>Jim Huizdos or Gloria<br>Younkin for dinner<br>location |

### TOURS & ACTIVITIES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

# Union Station Tour & Lunch Saturday, July 12th

Location: Union Station Los Angeles, 800 N. Alameda Street

Time of Tour: 10:30am (at Union Station)

Cost: Parking - \$2.00 per 15 minutes or \$16.00 for 24 hours period. Car pools

are encouraged.

Meeting Time: 9:15am, leave at 9:30am

Meeting Location: Harbor Freight, 4310 Artesia Blvd, Torrance, (Moderns)

Lunch: Philippe The Original, 1001 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles

Price for Lunch: \$10-\$20 per person. We have the option of driving or walking to Philippe's. There is a parking lot behind the restaurant.

### Relay For Life – Car Show (American Cancer Society), Sunday, July 20th

Location: Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center, 1935 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Redondo Beach

Time of Event/Car Show: 9am -3pm

Meeting Time & Location: 7:00am, at the Simpson's, 2402 Burritt Avenue, Redondo Beach - for continental breakfast, leave for event at 7:45

## Rock Around The Block, Thursday, July 17th

 ${\bf Location:}\ \ {\bf Old\ Town\ Torrance,\ Hosted\ by\ Torrance\ Historical\ Society\ \&\ Museum,}$ 

1345 Post Avenue, Torrance

Time of Event/Car Show: 5pm - 8pm

Cost: Free to participate (Please call and register with Joann Miyamoto at

(310) 717-2566 by Monday July 7<sup>th</sup>).

Meeting Time: 3:15pm leave at 3:30pm (We drive in together, we park together)

Meeting Location: Corner of Post and Arlington

Dinner: No food will be sponsored this year by the city. You can either bring your own or you can purchase from the local restaurants that are in Old Town Torrance.

# We will have a guest speaker on July 25<sup>th</sup> at our July business meeting

Name and organization: Strat Maloma with AARP Outreach

He will speak to us about Fraud Protection – with such sophisticated scams currently taking place, his information should be of great interest.



August  ${\bf 16}^{\rm th}$  – Honda Museum – American Honda Motor Collection Hall September  ${\bf 6}^{\rm th}$  – Walteria Elementary School – Centennial Celebration September  ${\bf 14}^{\rm th}$  – Harbor A's annual picnic

Check back here next month for more fun times ahead! Driving our A's!

# 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.



A little off topic . . . A recent event at the El Segundo Police Station.

Harbor Club member Dick Wyckoff was recognized in May by the El Segundo Police Department for his 25 years of service as a volunteer with the department.

# Racer Phil's Garage Tour

"Gentleman Start your Engines" Our activity committee scheduled this tour prior to the running of the 109th Indy 500. Our host Phil Caliva raced at the Brick Yard (1979-1982) and qualified twice, only to be bumped during the last minutes of qualifications. Our group of 23 was treated to Phil's collection of cars, trucks, racing memorably and detail stories of Phil's racing days. Phil discussed in detail crashing into the wall at over 200mph and having to be cut out of the mangled mess of a race car. Back in the day, Driver Safety Measures were not as they are today! We all enjoyed the day, leaving with a renewed interest in the upcoming race and a deep appreciation of racing from a drivers prospective, then & now.





# Feeding the HUMMINGBIRDS

It was a beautiful June day to spend some time with 24 of our favorite people. We descended on Jack & Joan's back yard to set up all the fun parts and pieces of the upcoming creative endeavor. We had kits with the wood hummingbird feeders ready to assemble, our club logo to attach, and fun stickers

to make it our own, along with about 20 paint colors to get all over us and the tables. Thankfully, the tables were covered with craft paper so they were safe! Please check out the picture with many of the feeders hanging and our excited selves behind. It was a fun day! We also were able to celebrate a few birthdays, Weeg June 10th and

Joan the 13<sup>th</sup>. A rousing version of Happy Birthday was heard by the neighboring dogs and who knows who else? Even though we are primarily a car club, it is nice to take the time to get together and experience things we might never take the time to do. I know I enjoyed it . . . . If you were not there Saturday, June 7th, I hope you can join us next time we get together. Thanks to all - The Gordiniers, great hosts, as always. Thanks to the committee for the idea, and thanks to Steve Thompson for all his work designing and creating our kits. Also, we need to thank Weeg for her ability to find and supply all the extras to personalize our creations

Hope to see you next time!

Donnis Bates



Steve Thompson

Photos on next page

# Let's build some hummingbird feeders!



Building supplies



Cliff and Theresa with their feeder



Gordinier's garage assembly area



Finished basic assembly





Linda Simpson adding finishing touches to feeder

### HARBOR AREA MARC/MAFCA BUSINESS MEETING

DATE: May 30th, 2025 LOCATION: Walteria Park Club House

<u>PRESIDENT:</u> Dennis Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:31 P.M. Dennis asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting as appeared in the Harbor Light, Steve made the motion and Dick second the motion. All approved.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Lead by Jack Gordinier

RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS: Drain Marshall, Dick Wyckoff and Tim Harrison.

PRESIDENT: Dennis Simpson introduced visitor Kate King, a teacher at Walteria Elementary School. Walteria Elementary is having a 100 year celebration on Sept 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 12-4PM. They will have games, food trucks and at least five old cars. Several members were interested.

<u>VICE-PRESIDENT: </u>Tim Harrison reported nine club members attended the Clear Lake Tour. It was a fun tour. Jack and Joan Gordinier attended N.C.R.G AT Sacramento. Jack said approximately 200 people and 100 cars were there.

TREASURER: Daffy Wagner reported the current balance .

HARBOR LIGHT EDITOR: Dick Wyckoff -- Send articles and pictures from events for the Harbor Light. Dick reported he has been with the El Segundo Volunteer Police Department for 25 years.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Cliff LeFall - Shop will be open Saturday May 31st.

TOUR DIRECTOR: Open Position

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE: Donnis Bates reported she got a horn for "Alice" from Jack and was installed at the shop. Donnis said that we will have a speaker from AARP on fraud at the June meeting.

Upcoming events.

June 7<sup>th</sup> - Crafts at Gordinier's 1pm

July 12<sup>th</sup> – Union Station Tour

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

July 20<sup>th</sup> - Relay for Life. Continental breakfast 7am at Simpsons.

Aug 16<sup>th</sup> - Honda Tour

Sept 6<sup>th</sup> – Walteria Elementary Event

Sept 14<sup>th</sup> - Save the Date

<u>HISTORIAN</u>: Janet Winter - Working on an article about the clubs 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Using a CD from Gloria for information.

TOOLS: Bob DeCrescenzo --- Absent.

MEMBERSHIP: Ursi Schmidt - Nothing to report.

<u>SUNSHINE:</u> Theresa LeFall --- Reported she has been contacting members who have not been feeling well. Theresa reported that Mirco's progress is slow.

WEBMASTER: Steve Thompson—Website is up to date.

ADVERTISING: Jim Huizdos--- No Report.

MERCHANDISE: Jim Huizdos—Merchandise available.

<u>REFRESHMENTS:</u> Weeg Thompson --- Daffy Wagner, Gloria Younkin and Kate King provided the refreshments for tonight.

OLD/ON GOING BUSINESS: Women's drawing will be \$5 in June. Men's drawing will be \$10 in June. We have tabled the discussion on a donation for the Santa Anita A's fire victim. We will discuss at the board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: June 27<sup>th ,</sup> 2025, 7:30 PM at Walteria Club House

NEXT BOARD MEETING: June 7<sup>th ,</sup> 2025, 9:30 AM Al's Garage

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:36 P.M. <u>RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED</u>: Gloria Younkin, Secretary



# July Birthdays

- 1 Dr. Steve Thompson
- 10 Mike Wright
- 13 Mirco Pisu
- 18 Donnis Bates
- 25 Noralene Porper
- 27 Pat Harrison
- 27 Bill Kealey

# July Anniversaries

- 3 Mirco & Elaine Pisu
- 9 Ron & Sandy Ragon
- 13 Jack & Joan Gordinier



# 1930 Era Fashions



# It Stalls at a Stop

by Tom Endy

This is a common complaint often heard from Model A owners. My experience has been that it has to do with the Zenith carburetor. On most forums numerous theories are offered; many of them contradictory.

Every once in a while I encounter a Zenith that defies being fixed so that it does not stall at a stop. It can be very frustrating. However, I think I may have hit upon the problem.

I recall attending a Zenith seminar years ago at a MAFCA meet conducted by Herman Reise, who was an old fellow since passed away, that knew quite a bit about Zenith carburetor restoration. He made a statement that stuck in my mind. He said that "there hasn't been a decent throttle plate produced in 50 years". Unfortunately he did not elaborate.

Occasionally I find a throttle plate where someone has filed a groove in it right where it approaches the hole in the throat of the carburetor for the idle circuit. I have never figured out why this is done. I think that doing this would upset the flow of the proper amount of air to the idle circuit.

Snyder's Model A catalog has an interesting statement concerning the reproduction throttle plate they offer. "Made of brass as original with correct angles on the edges. USA".

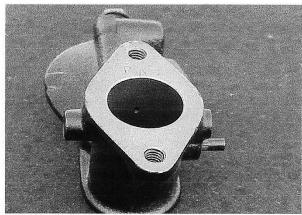
Recently I was rebuilding two Zeniths that road tested perfectly until I came to a stop, then the engine stalled. Nothing I did to the Zeniths resolved the problem. The float level was set to different heights a number of times, the throttle shaft was replaced, the throttle bosses re-bushed, the float replaced. The float valve was replaced with a Viton tip. Flow tested jets installed. All the passage ways were open. It was then I began to think about the throttle plate itself.

If the throttle plate does not close on the idle circuit hole in the throat properly it could adversely affect the flow of air to the idle circuit and the transfer from run to idle would be disrupted. Maybe old Herman was on to something. Maybe back in the J.C. Whitney days the Model A Kingdom was flooded with throttle plates with the angles not ground correctly, that has continued to the present day.

I ordered two throttle plates from Snyder and installed them in the two Zeniths that both stalled when coming to a stop. **Problem resolved!** 

This was quite a revelation. It could be that there is a multitude of incorrectly ground throttle plates floating around, or it could be that some of the originals that have survived have become worn such that they do not close on the idle hole properly.

Whatever is the case, when rebuilding a Zenith I will be installing new throttle plates from Snyder. I suspect some of the other better suppliers, such as Bratton's, are offering the same throttle plate. However they don't say so in their catalog.



The small hole in the throat of the upper casting allows air to flow into the idle circuit when the throttle is closed. The throttle plate closes such that half of the hole just peeks above the closed throttle plate.

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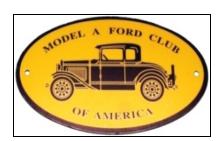
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For MAFCA info and membership, see www.MAFCA.com

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

### 2025 Board of Directors:

### President:

Dennis Simpson (310) 343-8227 Email: OldFordor@gmail.com

### Vice-President:

Tim Harrison (310) 920-3319

Treasurer:

Daffy Wagner (310) 374-6113

Secretary:

Gloria Younkin (310) 316-8722

Activities Committee:

Donnis Bates (310) 713-5830

Technical Director/Safety:

Cliff LeFall (323) 715-3153

# **Appointed Officers:**

## Membership:

Ursula Schmidt (310) 561-4895

Historian:

Janet Winter (310) 251-6673

Sunshine Secretary:

Theresa LeFall (323) 715-3153

Advertising:

Jim Huizdos (310) 529-7515

Refreshments Coordinator:

Weeg Thompson (310) 346-6409

Regional Correspondent:

Sue Hankins (310) 357-5233

Web: HarborAreaModelAClub.com

# Appointed Officers:

# Tool Custodian:

Bob De Crescenzo (310) 540-3690

Merchandise:

Jim Huizdos (310) 529-7515

M/Sergeant-at-Arms:

Jack Gordinier (424) 263-2397

Webmaster:

Steve Thompson (310) 346-6143

### Harbor Light editor:

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:OT



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