



# HARBOR AREA MODEL 'A' CLUB

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



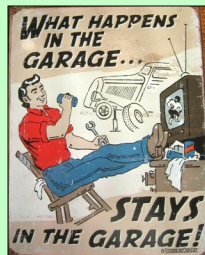
## MAY 2026



Harbor A's at Santa Ynez Valley Historical Museum & Parks-Janeway Carriage House

### 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,



### Next Club Meetings:

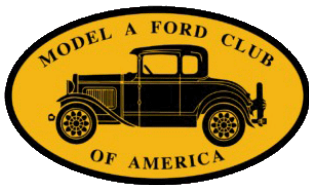
The next club meeting will be  
Friday, April 24th  
At 7:30PM  
At the Walteria Clubhouse

### Next Board Meeting

May 9th  
At "Al's garage"  
9:30 AM



HARBOR LIGHT



### What's Inside

- |   |                                    |    |                             |
|---|------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 2 | Dennis's Words — Second gear grind | 8  | Great Trip Pictures         |
| 2 | Editor's Corner — Thanks Dick      | 9  | Memorial and Technical      |
| 3 | Harbor Happenings in May           | 9  | Birthdays & Anniversaries   |
| 4 | Coffee Gathering                   | 9  | Tiny Tips from MAFCA        |
| 4 | Membership                         | 10 | Rainy Day Adventure         |
| 4 | Relay for Life                     | 10 | Armed Forces Day            |
| 5 | Business Meeting                   | 11 | Our Advertising Friends     |
| 6 | WHAT A GREAT TRIP!                 | 12 | Officer List & Mailing Info |





*A Note from the  
Harbor President  
Dennis Simpson*



*The Second Gear Grind*

As we travel through this adventure we call life, there comes a time when we wish to make changes, shift to Second Gear, so to speak. Recently, our editor, Dick Wyckoff, has decided to retire after 18 years and 220 issues publishing the Harbor Light. Dick has won numerous awards at a national level for his work as editor. He also helped hold us together during the pandemic, keeping us informed of the Model A community. Thank you, Dick.

I would like to thank Steve and Weeg Thompson for temporarily stepping up to continue publishing the Harbor Light, until we can entice another member to join the officers of the Harbor Area Model A Club to be our editor. I hear the pay is low, but the benefits are outstanding, knowing that you help keep our members well informed of tours, events, car shows and even period fashion.

'Til next time, remember, the best place to find a helping hand is at the end of your arm.

Enjoy the ride!

*Dennis*



*Editors' Corner  
By Weeg & Steve  
Thompson*



For our first attempt to put out this newsletter, we would like to extend our thanks to Dick Wyckoff for all of his hard work over the past 18 years of our newsletter. He did a fabulous job keeping us all informed and connected. He will surely be missed as our editor. Many thanks, Dick, and we only hope that we can do half as well as you did. Remember, May is **Model A Youth Month**. We'd like to suggest you take a young person in your life for a ride in your Model A. Keep driving those cars!

*Weeg & Steve*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>HARBOR A HAPPENINGS 2026</b>		<b>CCRG</b> Bakersfield	<b>CCRG</b> Bakersfield 
3 <b>CCRG</b> Bakersfield	4 <i>DINNER 4:30</i> *Location TBD  Eating Sandwiches with Friends is Joe Cool 	5   <b>LAKE COUNTY</b> Spring Opener	6 <b>LAKE COUNTY</b> Spring Opener  <b>LAKE COUNTY</b> CALIFORNIA	7  <b>LAKE COUNTY</b> Spring Opener	8	9 <i>BOARD MEETING</i> —Al's Garage 9:30   <i>MODEL A TECHNICAL SUPPORT</i> Al's Garage 9:30-12
10  Mothers Day	11 <i>DINNER 4:30</i> *Location TBD 	12 <i>ACTIVITY COMMITTEE</i> <i>MEETING</i> 3:30 pm 	13	14	15   <i>MODEL A CLUB</i> <i>MEETING</i> —Walteria Club House 7:30 pm	16 <i>ARMED FORCES DAY</i> <i>PARADE</i> —11-3 
17	18 <i>DINNER 4:30</i> *Location TBD 	19	20	21	22	23 <i>MODEL A</i> <i>TECHNICAL SUPPORT</i> Al's Garage 9:30-12
24	25  <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Remembrance &amp; Honor</i>	26	27	28 Tanaka Farms Strawberry picking 	29	30 <i>MODEL A</i> <i>TECHNICAL SUPPORT</i> Al's Garage 9:30-12
31						*Contact Jim Huizdos or Gloria Younkin for dinner location.

**TOURS & ACTIVITIES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE**

DATE: Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>  
 LOCATION: Torrance  
 TIME: 11 AM to 3 PM  
 INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING? Please text or call Donnis Bates at (310) 713-5830.  
 Additional Information will be sent to all members who sign up for this event.

*Check back here next month  
for more fun times ahead.*

**TANAKA FARMS**

DATE: Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>  
 LOCATION: Tanaka Farms, Irvine  
 TIME: 10:00 AM at Tanaka Farms  
 COST: \$20 per person (Minimum of 15 people to get this special pricing)  
 Includes a 45-minute to 1-hour guided tour beginning with a tractor ride around the farm, led by a tour guide. You will learn about farming methods and the history of Tanaka farms. There will be two stops - one to pick a seasonal vegetable and one to pick strawberries. You will be given a one pound container to fill and take home, in addition to all the sampling you want as you pick. Plus there is a barnyard exhibit to experience once the tour is complete. We will need your reservation by Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> to finalize our reservation. Additional information will be provided as it gets closer to the event.



## HARBOR AREA MARC/MAFCA BUSINESS MEETING

DATE: March 28th, 2026 LOCATION: Gordinier's House

PRESIDENT: Dennis Simpson called the meeting to order at 11:30AM. Dennis asked for motion to approve previous business meeting minutes. Weeg made the motion, Sandy second the motion, all approved. Dennis thanked the Gordinier's for hosting today's safety check and pot luck. Dennis thanked Cliff for doing the safety check on the Model A's. Dennis reported that he sends out emails to keep members updated.

RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS : Drain Marshall, Leonard Funk, Pat Yacklon, Dick Wyckoff and Tim Harrison.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Nathan Sherry- Glad to see so many members attending the safety check and pot luck. We are having a 50-50 raffle today. Nathan reported that Gary's Model A is for sale, check with Ursi.

TREASURER: Daffy Wagner reported a balance of \$14,557.32.

HARBOR LIGHT EDITOR: Dick Wyckoff –He will no longer be publishing the Harbor light after 18 years.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Cliff Le Fall – Safety checked several Model A's today.

TOUR DIRECTOR: Open Position

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSON: Donniss Bates reported on upcoming club events.

April 12<sup>th</sup> --- Orange County Pancake Breakfast.

May 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> --- CCRG in Bakersfield

May 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> --- Lake County Spring Opener

May 16<sup>th</sup> --- Armed Forced Day Parade in Torrance.

Mat 31<sup>st</sup> - June 7<sup>th</sup> --- MAFCA National Convention in Pendleton Oregon

HISTORIAN: Janet Winter – No Report.

TOOLS: Bob DeCrescenzo ---No Report..

MEMBERSHIP: Ursi Schmidt –We have a new member, John Zimmerman.

SUNSHINE: Theresa Le Fall --- No Report.

WEBMASTER: Steve Thompson—Website updated.

ADVERTISING: Jim Huizdos---No Report.

MERCHANDISE: Jim Huizdos—No Report.

REFRESHMENTS: Weeg Thompson--- Dessert was furnished by the club today.

OLD/ON GOING BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Leonard Funk reported the Long Beach swap meet will be held at Veteran's Stadium in Long Beach on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: April 24th, 2026. WALTERIA Park Club House 7:30PM

NEXT BOARD MEETING: April 11th, 2026, 9:30AM at Al's Garage.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:47AM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Gloria Younkin, Secretary



### *For Sale*

**1930 Model A Coupe** with trunk. Four-year old blue paint job. Hydraulic brakes. Package tray removed to give extra leg room.

Runs great. Asking price - \$15K.

Call Ursi 310-561-4895



## WHAT A GREAT TRIP!

Harbor A's Return to Solvang  
by Weeg Thompson

For the first time since 2022, seventeen members and friends of the Harbor A's had an overnight trip to the Central Coast, this time to Lompoc, Solvang and Santa Ynez. To keep the cost of the trip more reasonable, we made this a mid-week trip. Turns out the Santa Ynez Valley was running a promotion for mid-week stays which led to an added bonus for each room we booked – a crisp \$100 bill and a \$20 gift card for Whiskey 'N Rye BBQ!

This was a trip for our modern cars, with some of us caravanning and others setting out on their own. The vast majority of us converged at the La Purisima Mission State Historic Park in Lompoc where we had a brief introduction to the mission provided by one of the park rangers. We spent time in the visitors' center museum, and then visited the many mission buildings which had been built in 1787 and were restored by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Depression. The visit was a wonderful opportunity to step back in time to the Spanish and Mexican periods of California history.

With our club being known for its serious interest in – you guessed it – food, we returned to one of our favorite Solvang establishments for dinner: Chomp. It was a nice chance to enjoy our meal with great conversation around the table. Upon our return to the hotel (a new one for us, the King Frederik Inn), most of us got down to business with our game night. We had a rousing game of Left-Center-Right which Tim won and a couple of rounds of Bunco which saw Steve win the prizes for last bunco of the night as well as most wins. A really fun time!

The next morning, we started with the continental breakfast provided by the hotel and then got serious with brunch across the street at Brekkies by Chomp. From there, we went the short distance to Santa Ynez where we visited the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Museum and the Parks-Janeway Carriage House. The museum gave us insights into the pioneer period of this area through the extensive collection of historical artifacts and photographs; information on the development of Solvang, beginning in 1911, by a group of Danish Americans seeking to avoid the brutal Midwestern winters; and one of the best carriage collections west of the Mississippi. They also had an amazing exhibit of pen-and-ink and mixed media images by a local artist.

During the afternoon, folks had time to check out the local shops and the farmers' market that was held just down the street from our hotel. We drove to Buellton for dinner at the Hitching Post and returned to the hotel for another exciting game of Left-Center-Right. This time, Gloria came very close to winning, as did Donnis and Steve, but the spoils went to Rose, who joined us as the plus one of new member John Zimmerman and fit right in. The game was followed by a blind taste test of Kringles from three different local bakeries. For those who are interested, the Solvang Bakery and Birkholm Bakery tied overall, with Birkholm having more number 1 ratings.

For our last day, we went to the Santa Ynez Chumash Museum and Cultural Center. This new museum (less than a year old) was fabulous and well worth the 20 years it took from conception to completion. It does an outstanding job of sharing the rich history and vibrant culture of the Chumash people. With this museum, we rounded out our study of the peoples of this area: the indigenous Chumash, the Spanish and Mexicans, and the early pioneers.

You had to know there would be one more meal before we headed for home. This one was quite memorable and was made known to us by Jim Huizdos. Heading from Santa Ynez, past Lake Cachuma along Highway 154, we took a short drive along Stagecoach Road to a hidden gem, Cold Spring Tavern, a historic 1868 stagecoach stop nestled in the San Marcos Pass. What a treat!

All in all, everyone seemed to enjoy our mid-week adventure! Hope to see more of you next time!!



# Solvang, California



Dinner at Chomp



Our Fearless Leader after Rolling a Bunco



Always Eating with Great Company



More Breakfast



Breakfast at Brekki



Let the Hoodlums Out



Eugene Pulling the Stagecoach Full of Friends

# In Loving Memory

It is with sadness and heavy hearts that we share with you all that we lost another fun loving member, Mickey Fruchter, on April 12, 2026.

Our club had three Model A's and 15 members attend Mickey's funeral service at Mount Sinai Memorial Park on April 17.

Cards of sympathy and prayers are appreciated.

Rest in peace, our friend. You will be missed.



## Technical

On Saturday, March 28th, we had 30 people at our annual Safety Check held at the home of Jack and Joan Gordinier. Lead by Technical Director Cliff Le Fall, the guys inspected 11 cars. They identified a problem with the steering on Pat and Sue's coupe which was fixed at the shop the following week.



In conjunction with our Safety Check, we had a brief business meeting and a potluck. Thanks to all the members who brought such great food to share. Vice President Nathan ran a 50/50 drawing. Gloria picked the winner, Janet Winter, who won \$115. A successful day all around!

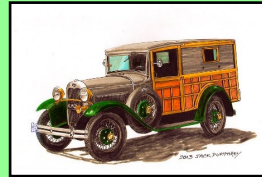


## May Birthdays

4 Leonard Funk  
10 Jim Speights  
15 Peggy Wishon  
17 Eugene Gillingham  
19 Steve Friedrich

## May Anniversaries

2 Andy & Jonna Spilsbury  
20 Leonard & Darlene Funk  
28 Stan Klein & Joan Wright



## Starter Button Extension

Idea submitted by Dennis Simpson, Redondo Beach, California  
Illustration by John Pratt, Urbana, Illinois

## Tiny Tips From MAFCA Members

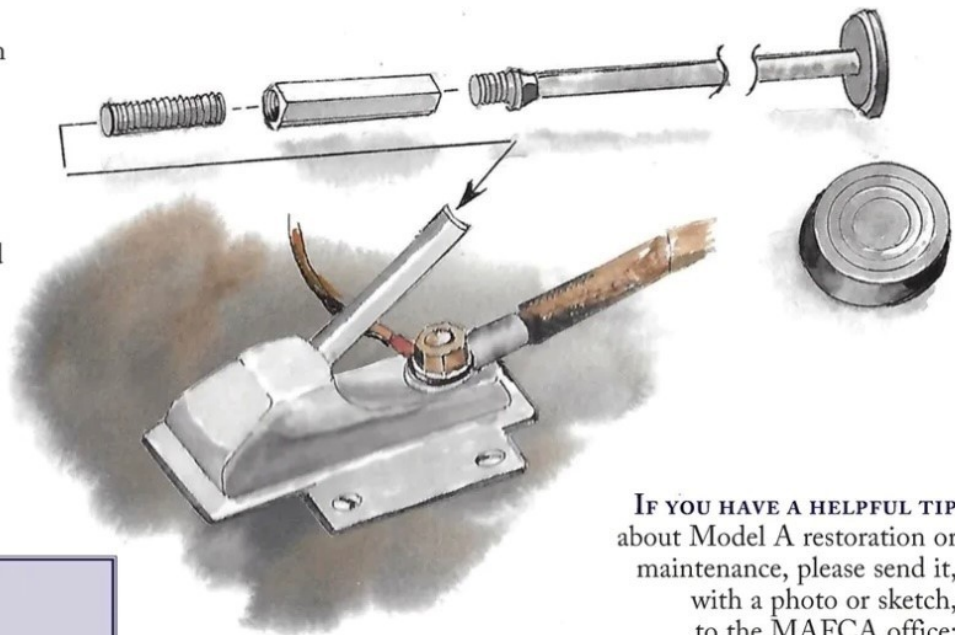
**I**RECENTLY HELPED teach two of our lady members of the Harbor Area Model A Club how to drive their Model A's. One thing I noticed was they had a hard time reaching and pressing the starter switch button down far enough.

I made a simple solution by extended the starter switch rod by adding a  $\frac{5}{16}$ -24 coupling nut and a short piece of  $\frac{5}{16}$ -24 threaded rod.

A rubber cover helps extend it a little farther and keeps their foot from slipping off.

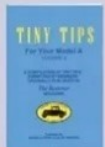
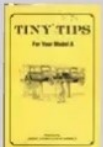
This extends the starter rod about one inch.

Now the ladies are happy ... and their starters are happy. ☺



**IF YOU HAVE A HELPFUL TIP** about Model A restoration or maintenance, please send it, with a photo or sketch, to the MAFCA office:  
250 S. Cypress St.,  
La Habra, CA 90631  
or email to:  
[Restorer@mafca.com](mailto:Restorer@mafca.com)

### Want More Tiny Tips? Get the books!



\$16 each (plus S&H)  
call 1-562-697-2712  
or visit the  
[MAFCA.com](http://MAFCA.com) store

## How Do You Arrange a Rainy Day Adventure?

by Linda Simpson

Well, you make it a “splash” at the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Orange County Model A Ford Club Pancake Breakfast, of course! That’s exactly what 16 Harbor Area club members did on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Due to the daily change in the weather forecast, calling for rain on Sunday morning, a consensus was made to drive moderns to the event. There were only about 40 Model A’s who braved the drive to show at the event. The OC organizers said it was the smallest turnout in the 63 years of hosting.



We were met with quite a down pour on the 405 until we reached Seal Beach and then the rain stopped. Once at Hart Park, we were able to enjoy the famous hot pancakes, scrambled eggs & sausage under protection of the Thompson’s pop-up canopy. Good thing, because the rain we were met with in the South Bay finally made its way to Hart Park. Thank you, Steve and Weeg! But, as the saying goes, “Being soaked alone is cold. Being soaked with your friends eating pancakes is an adventure.” No one melted, and we continued to enjoy our time together. ☺

The rain finally stopped about 10 am, giving us time to get a good look at the items available for the Opportunity Drawing, get our tickets put in the buckets, and wait in anticipation to hear our names called as declared winners. YAY...the Gordiniers, Janet Winter, Mike Wright, Eugene Gillingham and Jim Runyon were the lucky winners from our club.



We all enjoyed making a “splash” at the OC Pancake Breakfast, eating, sharing laugh, and making rainy day memories with each other. We had winners, we had losers, and we had rain! Through rain or shine... it’s always an adventure with the Harbor A’s. ☺

## ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATION CITY OF TORRANCE - 64th ANNUAL PARADE

The Harbor Area Model A Restorers Club will proudly be part of the celebration. We will be driving our Model A’s in the 64th annual parade. We have been working with the city’s planning committee and have been invited to take part in the day’s festivities.

### HERE IS THE BASIC INFORMATION:

**Date:** Saturday, May 16th

**Location:** Torrance

**Time:** 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

There will be additional specific information to follow.

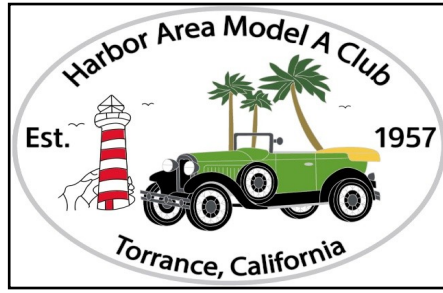
If you are interested, we need the following information from you:

- Your name (unless you will be driving someone else’s car, then they need the owner’s name, in addition to yours)
- Year, make and model of your Model A
- Number of seats for passengers.
  - The city would like to put riders in our cars during the parade.



If you would like to participate in the parade, please contact Donnis Bates (310) 713-5830 (call or text). We are excited about this upcoming event, and would love to have you be a part of the celebration.

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. Editors



  
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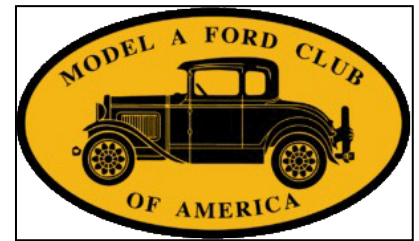
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For MARC info and membership, see [www.ModelARestorers.org](http://www.ModelARestorers.org)



For MAFCA info and membership, see [www.MAFCA.com](http://www.MAFCA.com)

The Harbor Area A's meet monthly, generally on the last Friday of every month at the WALTERIA Park Clubhouse, located at 13855 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.

2025 Board of Directors:

President:

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

Vice-President:

Nathan Sherry (310) 626-7799

Treasurer:

Daffy Wagner (310) 374-6113

Secretary:

Gloria Younkin (310) 316-8722

Activities Committee:

Donnis Bates (310) 713-5830

Technical Director/Safety:

Cliff Le Fall (323) 715-3153

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Membership:

Ursula Schmidt (310) 561-4895

Historian:

Janet Winter (310) 251-6673

Sunshine Secretary:

Theresa Le Fall (323) 715-3153

Advertising:

Jim Huizdos (310) 529-7515

Refreshments Coordinator:

Weeg Thompson (310) 346-6409

Regional Correspondent:

Sue Hankins (310) 357-5233

Appointed Officers:

Tool Custodian:

Bob DeCrescenzo (310) 540-3690

Merchandise:

Jim Huizdos (310) 529-7515

Sergeant-at-Arms:

Jack Gordinier (424) 263-2397

Webmaster:

Steve Thompson (310) 346-6143

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Harbor Light Editors:

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TO:

MAY 2026

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The Harbor Light

