



HARBOR AREA MODEL 'A' CLUB

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

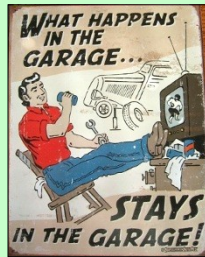
JULY 2026



Harbor A's at Tanaka Farms

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, July 31st
At 7:30PM
At the Walteria Clubhouse

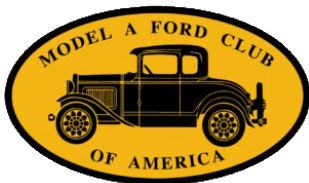
Next Board Meeting

July 11th
At "Al's garage"
9:30 AM



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A Note from the
Harbor President
Dennis Simpson



The Second Gear Grind

We are really getting into the Model A driving season now with the warm weather we are having.

As I have mentioned before, I try to get my Town Sedan out once a week to "exercise" the Ol' Girl. It is always fun to travel around town by yourself and get an occasional thumbs up. It is even more fun when we travel as a group or on tour and the public sees a bunch of old cars driving together. People honk their horns and cheer from the streets and give us a lot of thumbs up constantly! It reminds me of being in a mini-parade with my fellow members.

Sometimes people get too excited and want take it a step farther and take pictures of the cars... while they are driving!

Unfortunately, a month or so ago, a lady was doing just that, taking pictures "of your beautiful car for my son" and ran into the back of my Town Sedan. I was fortunate... kind of. We were both moving at the time so just the luggage rack and brackets took the hit. Tim and I survived.

Be safe out there, they are out to get you!

Looking forward, one of my favorite events is coming up soon, the Relay for Life Car Show, at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts. Check your calendars. We always have fun at this event, relaxing and hanging out with friends. Sometimes we even win "prizes." Relay for Life benefits the American Cancer Society. I believe most of our "regulars" have their cars ready and have signed up. Once again, Linda will host her World Famous Continental Breakfast before the show for all HAMARC entrants.

'Til next time, remember, give every day a chance to be the most beautiful day of your life.

*Stay safe out there!
Dennis*



Editors' Corner
By Weeg & Steve
Thompson



Last month, we shared the trials we had with both Steve's truck and the Phaeton. This month we want to thank our Club for doing what we do so well — helping out another member in an hour of need. Our Technical

Director Cliff Le Fall, President Dennis Simpson, Sergeant-at-Arms Jack Gordinier, and Advertising/Merchandising Jim Huizdos took on the task of getting the Phaeton back on the road. And what a big job it was: new intake and exhaust manifolds, new clutch plate and throw-out bearings, and a new transmission. Runs like a charm again thanks to the guys. So happy to belong to a club that is so giving, friendly, and helpful.

As always, be safe.

Weeg & Steve

Torrance Armed Forces Day Parade
By Rob Hernandez

Parades are always a fun way to share our amazing cars with the general public...especially the children in the crowd. This year, for the first time, the City of Torrance reached out to our club to have individuals drive their Model A's in the Armed Forces Day parade to transport various dignitaries. Harbor Area A's had nine cars and drivers participate. A good showing for our first year. Check out the Club's website to see a video of our cars in the parade.

If you have driven in a parade, you already know there is a good amount of staging (waiting) before the show gets rolling. I normally wear a big brim hat, but was wearing my Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) cap without sun block...so, yes, I did get too much sun on my face. LoL

This year marked the 65th annual running of the Armed Forces Day celebration and parade. The celebration spans several days with displays historically at the DelAmo Mall but now at the City Yard. A "few" years ago, I staffed the booth explaining the GPS constellation to folks. Each year the honored branch rotates and this year it was the US Marine Corps and the Grand Marshal for the parade was Brigadier General Omar J. Randall. The Torrance event is not only a Memorial Day recognition of those who made the ultimate sacrifice, it is also a celebration and recognition for those who have served, who are serving, and who will serve in the future. The parade includes a troop of new recruits who complete the oath of enlistment administered by the Grand Marshal. No doubt an exciting moment for the recruits and their parents.

It was my privilege to drive two Vietnam War veterans (Army and Air Force). It was great talking with them and they enjoyed the Model A. Considering the history of how Vietnam War service members were treated; celebrating the individuals' service to the nation outside of political positions is clearly the better choice.

It was a great event, so mark your calendar for next year. Maybe we can get a waiver of the no horns rule for our Oooga horns so we can respond to the excited children.



Nathan



Bobby



Steve



Rob



Donnis



Dennis



Cliff



John



Andy

Technical Talk

Several discussions lately about marginal lighting and poor charging, etc. prompted the republishing of a grounding article. The extra cable mentioned below is an excellent addition to our antique autos and could solve many electrical problems you may have. Editor.

Model A Grounding System*

A poor ground circuit can be an invisible troublemaker on the Model A, probably more so than most realize because it is usually intermittent. The original Model A battery ground cable is connected to the center frame cross member. With rusty, greasy, or even freshly painted components, the ground path to the engine can be interrupted. With the generator or alternator anchored to the engine, it is imperative that a ground circuit be there.

When the Model A was new, the ground path could travel along the frame rails and through the front or rear springs. The front spring connected to the wishbone assembly, which provided a path to the clutch housing which was a good connection to the engine. The rear spring provided a path through the differential housings, then up through the torque tube to the transmission and finally the engine.

With age, rust would form on the springs and a buildup of mud and grease on and between connecting components, the potential for ground interruption exists. Additionally, on a fresh restoration, if the springs are given several coats of paint, ground continuity can be interrupted. The rear engine mounts do not provide a good ground path because of the rubber pads that insulate them from the frame. Float-A-Motors are even worse because of the rubber donuts used. There is some grounding potential from the gas line to the gas tank and subsequently through the body bolts, but this path has a lot of room for deterioration. Aside from all these factors, all new Model A's came with engine splash pans. These pans provided an excellent path for ground to reach the engine.

If you choose not to install these pans on your Model A, then you should definitely install an extra ground cable for assurance that you always have ground at the engine. This can be accomplished by purchasing a 24" ground or battery cable with eyelets on each end. (A 12" cable is better but harder to find.) Attach one end to the center cross member using the same bolt that fastens your regular ground cable. Attach the other end to one of the bolts that holds the cover on the transmission. Or, fasten one end of the cable to a front frame rail in one of the holes provided for the engine splash pans and the other end to one of the engine pan bolts.

If you have had problems with generator or alternator failure, this is an easy and inexpensive supplement to your ground system and you can rest assured that your ground circuit integrity will always be secure.



* This article was published in the Wichita A's Model A Ford Club's "Rumbleseat Review."



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 HARBOR A HAPPENINGS 2026			1	2	3	4 (INDEPENDENCE DAY) USA 250 TH 
5	6  <u>DINNER 4:30</u> *Location TBD	7	8	9 <u>ACTIVITY COMMITTEE MEETING</u> 1:00 pm 	10	11 <u>BOARD MEETING</u> — Al's Garage 9:30  <u>MODEL A TECHNICAL SUPPORT</u> Al's Garage 9:30-12
12 <u>RELAY FOR LIFE</u> — 	13  <u>DINNER 4:30</u> *Location TBD	14	15	16  <u>Old Torrance 5-8</u>	17	18 <u>MODEL A TECHNICAL SUPPORT</u> Al's Garage 9:30-12
19	20 <u>DINNER 4:30</u> *Location TBD 	21	22	23	24	25 <u>MODEL A TECHNICAL SUPPORT</u> Al's Garage 9:30-12
26	27  CHICKEN DINNER <u>DINNER 4:30</u> *Location TBD	28	29	30	31 <u>MODEL A CLUB MEETING</u> —Walteria Club House 7:30 pm 	*Contact Jim Huizdos or Gloria Younkin for dinner location.

TOURS & ACTIVITIES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Relay For Life – Car Show (American Cancer Society), Sunday, July 12th

Location: Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center, 1935 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Redondo Beach, 90278
Time of Event/Car Show: 9am -3pm
Meeting Time & Location: 7:00am, at the Simpson's, 2402 Burritt Avenue, Redondo Beach, 90278 - for continental breakfast, leave for event at 7:45

Rock Around The Block, Thursday, July 16th

Location: Old Town Torrance, Hosted by Torrance Historical Society & Museum, 1345 Post Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501
Time of Event/Car Show: 5pm – 8pm
Cost: Free to participate
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.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday - August 16th – Harbor A's Annual Picnic
Saturday – September 12th – International Model A Ford Day – Worldwide

A Very Special Birthday Lunch

By Weeg Thompson

On June 18th, seven lady club members set out from Torrance and headed out east to Applebee's in Montclair to reconnect with two members who live out of our area whom we don't get to see often. Elaine Pisu drove Daffy Wagner and Gloria Younkin. Weeg Thompson drove Donnis Bates, Pat Harrison and Linda Simpson. Weeg's car stopped to pick up our two "birthday girls," Fran Earhart (June 14th) and Bea Fruchter (June 12th). We had a delightful lunch with plenty of time for visiting. Our waitress, Sai (front left of group photo), was phenomenal, not only memorizing all our names, but also getting all the orders right and delivering them to just the right person. At the end of our meal, when she learned that we were there celebrating birthdays (including Weeg's on June 10th), Sai brought us three complimen-



tary Brownie Bites (a nutty brownie with vanilla ice cream drizzled with hot fudge—yummy) and plenty of spoons. Probably the most amazing part of the day came as we were leaving. A woman approached Daffy, thinking she might know her, and, believe it or not, they had gone to high school together and hadn't seen each other since graduation more than 70 years ago! Quite a special day in so many ways!



HENRY "A" SEZ...



20 TIPS AND TRICKS
FOR THE MODEL "A"
OWNER!

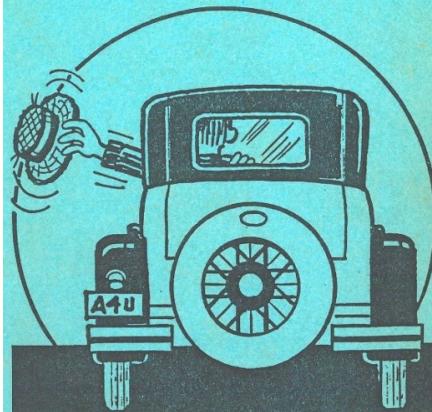
\$1.50

COMPILED AND
ILLUSTRATED BY GENE PATRICK

HENRY "A" SEZ...



TO CUT DOWN ON OIL FUMES, USE A
BRASS SCOURING PAD IN THE OIL
FILLER PIPE!



PUBLISHED BY
GENE PATRICK
7722 MIDFIELD AVE.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90045

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Many thanks to Gloria Younkin for providing the Editors with Henry "A" sez...

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



NOW AVAILABLE
Harbor Area Model A Club
Lapel Pins/Tie Tacks ~1"x1½" in size \$5.00 each
See Dennis

Fashion Corner

Now That It's Summer, Break Out Your Boater!

By Weeg Thompson

The boater is a quintessential symbol of summer from as far back as the 1860s. Initially, boaters were worn by women and children, but by the 1870s they were worn by both men and women during summer outings. They were commonly worn by men up to the 1940s. What made a boater a great summer hat? Constructed of straw, boaters were lightweight and much cooler than the usual felt hats of the period because the woven straw didn't trap the heat.

During the Model A era, boaters were relatively inexpensive making them an affordable option for many. In addition, they were considered a respectable fashion choice to be worn for both work and leisure activities with lighter weight summer suits. A boater might even be seen at semi-formal events (if worn with proper attire, of course).

Just like there used to be hard and fast rules about wearing white pants or shoes before Memorial Day and after Labor Day, in the early 1900s many communities set specific dates when straw hats were acceptable. The starting and ending dates varied by region, but September 15th became the unofficial date when men had to return to their felt hats. Believe it or not, in 1922 (before our Model A's came to be), this "rule" led to what came to be known as the Straw Hat Riots in New York City, in which young men knocked straw hats off people's heads and then crushed or trampled them in the streets. These riots were at their worst in 1922, but they continued for a number of years. The riots also resulted in the other name you may know for a boater: skimmer. Sometimes the hooligans who were snatching hats would fling the hats like a Frisbee to skim them under street cars. Fortunately, if you break out your boater or skimmer this summer, it's a pretty safe bet it won't be subject to such a fate.

Source: Gill, Peggy. "Boaters: A Summer Straw Hat." *The Restorer*. May/June 2025, pp.20-21.



2026 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 **2026 Harbor A's directory/roster** is available from Ursi Schmidt free of charge through e-mail. Club members who don't attend events can request a directory/roster by mail. Contact **Ursi** at 310-561-4895. Make sure Ursi has your latest information. **Just a note:** We regularly update the directory/roster. If you have any address changes, phone number changes or email changes, let Ursi know. Let Steve Thompson know, too. He'll put the information in the *Harbor Light*.

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. Car enthusiasts of all car types meet to talk cars. The address is 17400 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, CA.

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



July Birthdays

- 1 Dr. Steve Thompson
- 10 Mike Wright
- 13 Mirco Pisu
- 18 Donnis Bates
- 19 Jeanette Sherry
- 25 Noralene Porper
- 26 Jonna Jerome (Spilsbury)
- 27 Pat Harrison

July Anniversaries

- 3 Mirco & Elaine Pisu
- 9 Ron & Sandy Ragon
- 13 Jack & Joan Gordinier
- 19 Nathan & Jeanette Sherry



TANAKA FARMS TRIP By Pat Harrison

ALL ROADS LED TO TANAKA FARMS on May 28, and there were 17 club members on that road. Amazingly, our drive on the 405 during morning rush hour traffic to Irvine went without a hitch. But... we did have a hitch when we were loaded on a wagon hitched to a tractor for a tour of the farm (no trip is complete without one). Our favorite stop was at the strawberry area where we got to pick and eat as many strawberries as our stomachs could hold—yum! They don't grow the berries on the ground, but in elevated planters (see pictures) so we didn't even have to stoop over to pick the berries. In addition to all the berries we ate, we each got a bag with a few zucchini and squash and a pound of strawberries grown in the gardens to take home. Since our members are all about food, the produce market got our business, buying more fruits and vegetables, breads, sauces, jams, etc., before leaving the farm and heading off to, yes, you got it, more food: lunch.

Lunch was at Postino Park Place, a short drive from the farm. It was a hit! Everyone enjoyed their food, staff was accommodating and friendly, and they treated us all to one of their large, freshly baked donut holes complete with two dipping sauces. Another great adventure with the club!



Photos courtesy of Andy Soto and Steve Thompson

13th Annual So-Cal Early Ford V-8 Club Inter-Regional

Giant... Collector Car **Swap Meet** Lots of Ford Flathead Stuff

Saturday, August 8, 2026

The only place that you're going to find Early Ford stuff is at a swap meet like this - put on by Early Ford V-8 Club folks
Car & Truck Parts - Accessories - Tools - Literature, Books & much more

7212 Melrose Ave, Buena Park



*The Early Pickers
Get the Best Deals*

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•SWAP

All Makes & Models

At the Elks Club Lodge

EFV8 SWAP MEET LOCATION
Elks Lodge - Buena Park
7212 Melrose Ave.



Dealer
Set-up
7:00 AM

Open to
the Public
8:00 AM

Spaces \$25.00 each - Admission \$2.00 per adult at the gate

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

Call Tom McLaughlin Ph. 714 998-4528
or Gary Zimmerman Ph. 714 726-8384

coffee and donuts will be on sale

Sale of Automotive & Car Hobby Related Items
No pets, guns or weapons

**5th Relay For Life of Torrance
Car Show**

Sunday / July 12, 2026 / 9 AM - 3PM

Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center
1935 Manhattan Beach Blvd. Redondo Beach 90278

Proceeds help further the American Cancer Society's mission to
End Cancer as we know it, for Everyone.

Registration fee includes t-shirt and dash plaque.

\$45 - Car Entry before/ by June 28th / \$50 after an until day of event.

Day of event based on available space. Limited to 225 car entries.

Gates open at 7 AM - Cars parked by 9 AM

Join us for a day of Cars, Trophies, Raffles, Music and Fun. Open to
all Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles and Special Interest Vehicles.

*****No Alcoholic Beverages*****

Cut Here

Car Entry information by June 28th and receive 5 free raffle tickets. **\$45 - Pre-Registered by June 28th**

(Checks make payable to American Cancer Society)

Entry Paperwork Is Required. Please mail car entry and checks to the address below.

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Year _____ Make _____ Model _____

T-Shirt Size S M L XL 2XL 3XL **Additional shirt \$20**

Liability Release: In consideration of the inclusion as a participant of the RFL of Torrance Car Show, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the RFL of Torrance Car Show, City of Redondo Beach, the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center, the American Cancer Society, Relay For Life Torrance. All sponsors, vendors, employees and independent contractors of said entities. Participant(s) acknowledges he/she/they have liability insurance as required by the State of California Department of Motor Vehicles CVC 16020 Sections a.b.

Participant Signature _____ Date _____



Send Entry and Checks(ACS) to Annette Porter - 19310 Ronald Ave. Torrance, Ca. 90503
Email questions and concerns to Annette Porter - ampdynomom@aol.com - (310) 245-4502
501(c)3 Tax deduction EIN 13-1785491

**Semi - Annual
Antique Car Swap Meet**

Saturday - September 26, 2026

Little League Headquarters

6707 N. Little League Drive

San Bernardino, CA 92407

20 X 20 Vendor Space \$35.00

Vendor gate opens—Saturday by 6 AM

No overnight Parking,

No Pre-registrations & No Rain Date

Chairman & Contact person:

Richard - 909-658-5914

Event hosted by: Paradise Valley Model A Ford Club

2027 MAFCA National Tour

June 13-18, 2027

Durango, Colorado

The Model A Ford Club of Colorado is pleased to announce the 2027 MAFCA National Tour is coming to Colorful

Colorado in the Summer of 2027!

This will be a Hub and Spoke Tour out of the city of Durango, Colorado. Six days of activities are planned and include a Welcome Party, 3 or 4 driving tour

days, a day to ride the Durango & Silverton railroad, a day for car games, a Model A car display with a free ice cream social, Hubley Derby, and a Farewell Banquet.



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

HARBOR MARC/MAFCA BUSINESS MEETING

DATE: May 15th, 2026 LOCATION: Walteria Park Club House

PRESIDENT: Dennis Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Jack Gordinier led the flag salute.

RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS: Dick Wyckoff, Dennis Simpson and Tim Harrison.

PRESIDENT: Dennis asked for motion to approve minutes of previous business meeting, Steve made the motion, Linda second the motion, all approved. Dennis reminded members tomorrow, May 16th is the Armed Forces Day parade in Torrance. Nine club members will be driving their Model A's in the parade. Dennis introduced a former member's daughter (Marian Demeire), she is selling her parents cars, a 1929 Cabriolet, and a 1925 Model T. Steve will get her contact information and post it. Dennis recognized June birthdays and anniversaries.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Nathan Sherry reported he has a lot of raffle prizes and has his car ready for the parade.

TREASURER: Daffy Wagner reported the account balance. Tim is collecting recyclables in order to add to our balance.

HARBOR LIGHT EDITOR'S: Steve and Weeg Thompson: Thanks for sending articles, pictures and jokes. Next issue will be out soon.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Cliff Le Fall reported shop will be closed tomorrow because of the parade.

TOUR DIRECTOR: Open Position

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE CAHIR PERSON: Donniss Bates, Pat and Weeg reported on upcoming events.

May 16th : 64th Armed Forces Day parade in Torrance.

May 28th: Tanaka Farms Tour, \$20 per person, Meet there at 9:45, Tour begins at 9:30.

June 27th: Mystery Tour.

June 28th: Hemmings Great Race ends in Pasadena.

July 12th: Relay for life car show, 9-3pm, continental breakfast at 7am at Simpsons.

July 16th: Rock around the block in Torrance.

Dennis reported the Chevron newsletter stated the bus ride to dodger stadium is \$1.50 for seniors 65 and older.

HISTORIAN: Janet Winter, No report.

TOOLS: Bob DeCrescenzo reported all club tools available including the Judging Standard for Model A's. Peggy reported the MARC and the MAFCA clubs have different standards in judging.

MEMBERSHIP: Ursi Schmidt reported Tim Howard a former member has rejoined. We have three new members this month.

SUNSHINE: Theresa LeFall no reports on members. Let her know if any club members are not well.

WEBMASTER: Steve Thompson reported the website is updated.

ADVERTISING: Jim Huizdos, No report.

MERCHANDISE: Jim Huizdos, Merchandise available.

REFRESHMENT: Weeg Thompson, Daffy and Gloria furnished refreshments tonight. Have a couple spots to fill.

OLD/ONGOING BUISNESS: none.

NEW BUISNESS: Weeg reported she and Donniss were discussing if our club could help a Model A youth club, maybe see if a restaurant could give a percentage of the patronage on a specific day, will discuss later.

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: June 26th, 2026, at 7:30 PM at Walteria Club House.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: June 6th, 2026, Al's Garage 9:30 A.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:14 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Gloria Younkin, Secretary



In Loving Memory

It is with sadness and heavy hearts that we share with you all that we lost another loving member, Drain Marshall, on June 6, 2026.

Drain was a member of our club for 28 years and also a member of the Orange County A's. He was president in 2000-2001 and was Man of the Year in 1999. For many years, Drain placed telephone calls to members to remind them of upcoming events.

Drain's funeral service will be at Inglewood Park Cemetery on July 2, at 2pm as he is laid to rest alongside of his wife Doris and two sons, Thom and Teddy.

Cards of sympathy and prayers are appreciated. Rest in peace, our dear friend. You will be missed.






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 1-800-322-1932

Aquarium of the Pacific

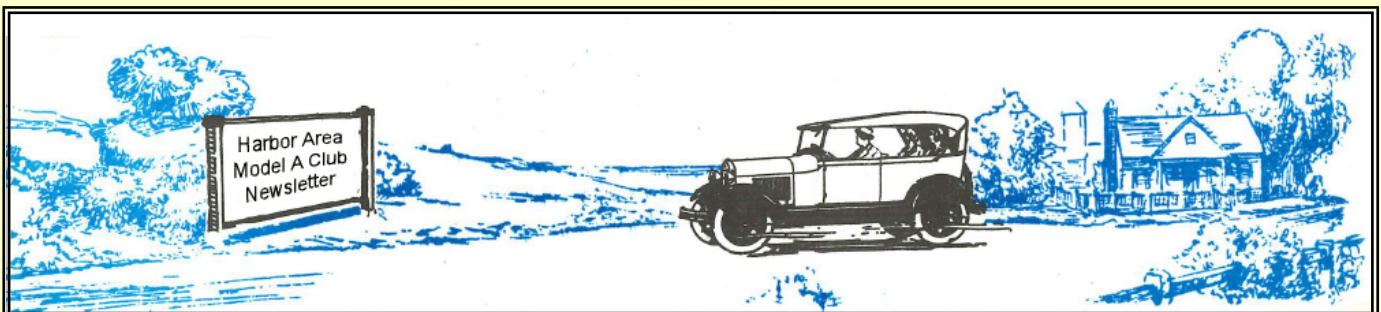
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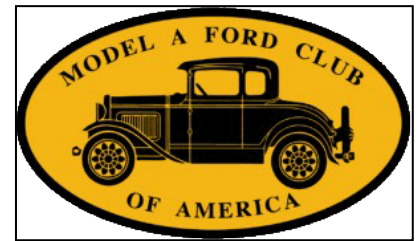
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Editors





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, generally on the last Friday of every month at the Waleria 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

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

Appointed Officers:

Membership:

Ursula Schmidt (310) 561-4895

Historian:

Janet Winter (310) 251-6673

Sunshine Secretary:

Theresa Le Fall (323) 715-3153

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