

The Distributor

ORANGE COUNTY MODEL A FORD CLUB

Vol. 20
Issue 12.

Editor:
Dick McNabb

DECEMBER 1980



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

WHAT KIND OF YEAR WAS IT?

This month finishes one of the most active and fun years for our Orange County Club. The year ended with 110 members and families, and a large number of them were active in attending meetings, seminars, shopping center car shows and monthly events.

We started the year with a roller skating party in Orange, followed by our annual Poker Run in February. Our garage tour seminar in March was popular as was the tour to the Page Museum and La Bréa Tar Pits. The annual pancake breakfast brought out people from all neighboring clubs. In April, several members toured to Lake Havasu for the Arizona club's annual event. The Southern Calif. Region's Fun Day Gymkhana was a huge success in April and then we tried something new, dinner and horse racing at Los Alamitos race track. In May, the club held a semi-successful garage sale for a fund raiser. Also in May, we had our always popular wine tour and Larry Conkol led us on a back roads tour to the Trolley Museum in Perris.

The biggest event for June was the tour to the MAFCA National at Reno, while at the same time, some of the "stay at homes" toured to San Sylmar and the CHVA car show at Rancho Calif. July saw a bunch of O.C. members munching hot dogs at the annual Baseball night at Anaheim Stadium. The campout was held at Oak Glen Campground in Yucaipa and the usual good time was had by all our campers. August was the time for a warm summer's evening hayride out Corona way. It was great. The beach party at Doheny in August never fails to bring out both old and new members. A few participated in Whittier Chapter's Apple Valley weekend in Sept. and a few were in the annual Santa Ana Parade while others were at the So. Calif. Ford Show in Claremont.

Let's not forget the progressive dinner also in Sept. It was really a good one.

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US

Some of us went on the Jewel City Campout in the Valley, a few to the Paradise Valley Bar-b-Que in San Bernardino and ALL OF US went to our Eighteenth Annual Orange County Round-Up at Knott's Berry Farm in October. Just before that, Bev organized a new "scavenger hunt and pumpkin carving contest" that was both fun and challenging and that was followed a week later by our regular "Ghouls and Fools" Halloween party.

Rounding out the year was the always popular San Diego Club's Fun Meet and then in November, Bev planned a terrific tour, brunch and bay cruise at the Ports O' Call area in San Pedro. Upcoming is the Children's Christmas Party, the annual dinner-dance and of course, the New Year's Eve party.

What do you think folks, could this be considered a year well spent by all active members?

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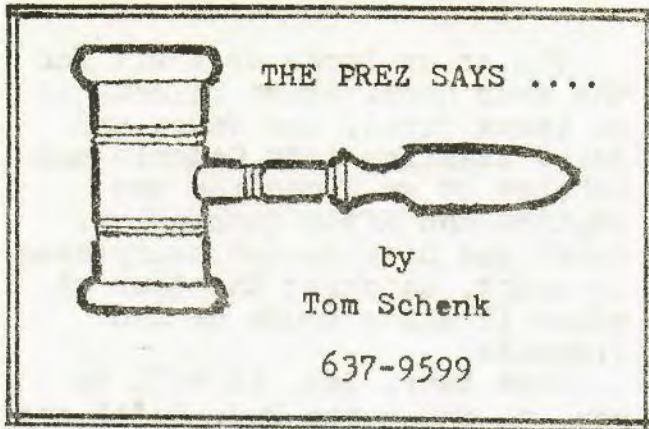
COOKIE REPORT

Thanks for cookies for the November meeting go to Penny Vaughn and Bonita Kelley. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

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HOW'S YOUR REAR END?

Want a quick way to tell what your rear end ratio is? Okay, try this: Make a chalk mark on the rear tire at the point where it contacts the ground, then make a mark on top center of the crank pulley. In high gear, roll the car forward carefully counting the number of times the mark on the pulley passes the starting point until the rear wheel makes one full revolution. A standard 3:78-1 goes three and three quarters revolutions, a 4:11-1 goes slightly more than four revolutions and a 3:54-1 goes three and one half revolutions.



NEXT MEETING:

DATE: Dec. 11
 TIME: 7:30 P.M.
 PLACE: South Jr. High School
 ACTIVITY: Children's Christmas Party

This is it - my last bit of verbiage as your President. As of this date, I can't congratulate the new leader, but I hope the club will give the new Prez at least as much help and positive support as you have given me. For all your many kindnesses, I am deeply grateful. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

I left out Jim Marshe's name last month. He brings to 39, the number of members who donated their time to show their car at one of our car shows during 1980. Sorry Jim!

Mileage patches were given last month to Bud Lacey - 4500, Joe Wavra - 6500, Steve Balmer - 4000 and Dick McNabb - 3000.

The club needs your help in serving as our official Host or Hostess at the meetings and also raffle prize leaders. Please help by volunteering for one of these jobs for 1981.

The Dec. Board meeting will be on Tuesday, Dec. 30, due to the Holiday falling on Thursday. All 1980 and new 1981 Board members are to attend this annual transitional meeting which is to be at the Lamp Post Pizza Parlor at Tustin and Katella in Orange.

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Finally, I have been thanking my Board members all year. It goes without saying (but I'm going to reiterate) I would like to give my deep thanks to all 1980 Officers. The 1981 club officers will have to work very hard to top you.

See you all (I hope) at the Christmas banquet. Remember that there will be no regular business meeting in December but we will meet briefly before adjourning to the Children's Christmas party and most of us going to our local pizza parlor while the kids have their fun at South Jr. High.

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DON'T FORGET NEW MEMBERSHIP DUES

As of the November Board meeting, we had 44 renewals for the 1981 club year. Send your check to Larry Boef, Treasurer, right away in order not to miss any National Restorer magazines and to be sure your name is included in the local club roster.

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PORTS O' CALL TOUR SUCCESS

The last "Model A" event of the year was a smashing success. A total of 52 people enjoyed the excellent food served at the Ports O' Call restaurant in San Pedro, after having been led to the area by Bud Lacey, with side trips through picturesque Naples and Belmont Shore.

After brunch, the group enjoyed browsing at the many shops and at 2:00 P.M. boarded a double decked paddle wheeler for an hour cruise throughout Los Angeles Harbor.

Highlights of the tour were a Model A trip across the Vincent Thomas bridge and the sighting of the "Love Boat" in dry dock.

Special thanks to Dennis Griffin, Tom & Doug Marsh, Lou Spielberger and Maynard Grunklee for keeping an eye on the A's in the parking lot.

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS MOST FUN ..

The San Diego Marc/MAFCA Club recently hosted their 4th annual Model "A" Fun Meet, this time at the Escondido Motor Hotel.in

This club puts out a real group effort, and it shows in the organization, pacing, judging, awards and overall involvement of a large number of hard-working people.

Orange county members who toured to Escondido were: Steve Balmer, Wavras, Sterlings and McNabbs. Dick McNabb showed some reservation in touring with all trucks, but since nobody else showed up, was forced to go along at some distance. Dick and Joe might have had an interesting test of "C" engines, Columbia and high speed rear ends, but Marion put the damper on it before both parties had hardly reached 65 MPH.

Bud Lacey had a mental lapse, due to old age, went to the Orange Mall, consequently had to tour to Escondido by himself.

Those already at the Motor Hotel and waiting with Model A's were the Kristts, Vaughns and Boeefs with the Schenks riding. Conkols and Beaumonts arrived the night before.

Saturday's registration was followed by judging of car and era clothing and an ever-different gymkhana which proved very difficult to drivers (with covered eyes) and co-drivers.

The awards banquet was fun, good food, good fashion show and introduction of visiting Model A'ers from Europe.

Awards went to the following Orange County members: Jerry and Georgia Sterling - a 4th place, Joe and Marion Wavra - a 3rd place, Dick and Dionne McNabb - a 2nd place, and Larry and Cheryl Conkol - a 1st place.

Following the banquet, some of the group enjoyed dancing at the Motor Hotel, the following morning a large group toured to the Bates Nut Farm and back in time for a delicious Champagne Brunch at the hotel.

The group broke up a bit for the tour home. Steve Balmer had to leave first, Joe Wavra and Jerry Sterling left Conkols and McNabbs at an Escondido gas station and after gassing up, Larry and Dick passed everything in sight, catching the tour at about 12 miles south of San Clemente.

Next tour, Joe, it will be you, me and maybe Bud. We'll see what those "C" engines will do. We'll go until something large or critical falls off. Want to join us Bill Vaughn? Your luck can't be all bad!

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JIM WILLETT TO EDIT DISTRIBUTOR

Jim Willett will be taking over as Editor of the Distributor for 1981. You won't have Dick McNabb to "kick around anymore". (I wrote that for Nixon a few years back). It has been a fun year for me, and if I have said anything that anyone has taken personally, well, believe me! Remember, "no news is good news!"

Dick McNabb

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NEW COOKIE AND REFRESHMENT PERSON

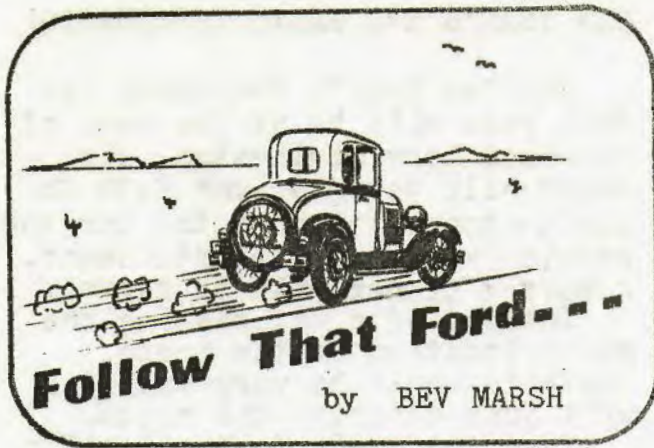
Pat Willett has volunteered for the job of coordinating refreshments for the monthly meetings. She will be asking for people to bring cookies as well as for people to help serve at the break times. Give her all the support you can.

A big thanks to Judy Griffin for doing a great job during 1980.

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NEW BABY BOY

Deric Justin Krist was born Nov. 14 to Rick and Michelle Krist. The baby weighed 8 lbs. and 15 ounces. The proud grandparents are Rak and Joan Krist.



Dec 6 National Banquet, Madonna Inn
 Dec 11 Short Gen. Mtg. Kid's
 Christmas Party.
 Dec.20 Our Christmas Banquet,
 Buena Park Hotel
 Dec 30 Board Meeting
 Dec 31 New Year's Eve Party at
 Livingston's, Newport Beach.

There are only 3 remaining club activities for this year. First, the Kid's Christmas Party is well under the control of Judy Balmer, next, be sure to get your tickets for the Banquet from Rick Krist. Last, but not least, this year's New Year's Eve Party will be at the home of Mike and Mary Livingston. Directions to their house on page 6. Mike will host the bar and buffet dinner will be served. RSVP to Bev at 531-7237 or Mary at 675-4071.

I want to thank all of the many people who helped me so much this year. My phone committee consisted of Darlene Stinnett, Mary Stockard, Dionne McNabb, Pat Douglass, Sharon Johnson, Cheryl Conkol, Debi Baker, Sylvia Berbiar and Linda Williams. These people were always very willing to take the time to do phoning when needed. Also, Mary Stockard ran copies (even made some maps) for our tours. I think everyone appreciates the "hosts" for the progressive dinner, parties and seminars. There are also the members who are there to give a "helping hand" either organizing, preparing, setting up or cleaning up after a club function. It sure made my job easier. Thanks again.

HOPE YOU DIDN'T MISS THIS ONE!

The November seminar struck at the heart of many Model A electric problems. The rebuilding of the distributor was the subject.

What good does it do to have a new set of points if the wire to your distributor points is frayed or loose enough to short out against the distributor housing? What good is it to take your distributor out and correct these areas without checking shaft wobble and replacing the bushings as well as "indicating" the cam for even lobe definition?

Well, we did the whole thing at the last seminar. Dennis passed out an information sheet which noted significant changes in distributors from 1928 to 1931 and then he demonstrated the use of special punches and back-up block for the removal and re-installation of new bushings. New wire was provided for the distributor plate, as well as new insulating washers and wire ends.

Many people present learned that rebuilding a Model A distributor is a relatively simple thing, in contrast to the problems you can encounter on the road by not having your distributor properly maintained and not having a basic knowledge of what to look for in case of trouble.

Basic "on road" problems are:

1. Loose screw holding distributor cam down,
2. Shoulder inside cam not allowing screw to be secured,
3. Uneven grind of cam (some reproduction ones),
4. Excessive wear in distributor plate, allowing wobble of point gap,
5. plate wire frayed or turned so that wire end shorts against dist. housing,
6. Bad condensor,
7. Bad rotor,
8. Possible bad upper housing (break in imbedded wire).

Carry extra parts, gap gauges, point file, lubricant, ignition wrenches and small screwdrivers and perhaps, a good, rebuilt distributor.

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NEW PHONE NUMBER for Marsh, Jim and Bev. 531-7237

GYMKHANAS ARE COMING

Each year our club holds a small gymkhana in connection with its Pancake Breakfast. In addition, we are asked to set up one event at the Southern Calif. Regional Fun Day.

Many of you have good ideas about possible events and we encourage you to make them known to the Board. We especially need to have volunteers to head gymkhana events during 1981 and lots of helpers.

Gymkhanas can be easy to plan and run if you keep in mind the following criteria:

1. The event should relate to the Model A in some way.
2. It should have sufficient scoring spreads so that there are a minimum number of duplicated scores.
3. It should require a minimum of set-up time and equipment.
4. It should conform to space allocated for the event.
5. And most importantly, it should be designed so that cars may be run through in the shortest possible time to avoid a "jam up" at the starting point.

Let's have some ideas and volunteers. Perhaps during the middle of the year, after you have all perfected your events, we might have our own gymkhana and picnic as a club event.

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CHUCK AND LINDA WRITE

Last month, after deadline, I received a postcard from Chuck and Linda Williams who left our club in mid-year to move to Placerville, Calif. They said, "Dear friends, we missed you at the Round-Up, hear you had a good number of cars and no rain. Hooray! We miss all the NAFCA activities as we haven't had a chance to join the club up here yet. When are we going to have a visit from some of you? Love, Chuck and Linda."

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY INFORMATION

The New Year's Eve party for this year will be at the home of Mike and Mary Livingston. The party will begin around 8:30. The Livingstons will host the bar and provide music and entertainment. A buffet dinner will be served.

Instead of a map showing the exact location of the house, (details would be very small) I will just describe the route.

Take any roads to the Pacific Coast Highway and Bayside Drive in Newport Beach. Bayside is the first street after you pass the Reuben E. Lee (going south) and Reubens Restaurant. Turn right and pass McFadden's Bayside Restaurant and another office type building. Then you will pass the entrance to Linda Isle. Three houses past the Isle entrance is the Livingston house, 415 Bayside. Just after you pass the house, you will see Harbor Island Rd. Turn right and keep turning into a small cul-de-sac which parallels Bayside Dr. Hopefully you will find parking spaces here. If not, proceed up Harbor Island or Bayside.

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December 21 to 27 is National Ornament Week. Don't forget to "hang one on" during that time.

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CLUB ITEMS FOR SALE

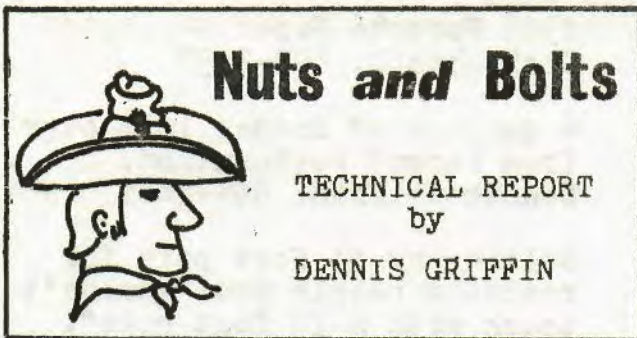
Jacket back patches	\$4.25
Iron-on T-shirt patches	1.50
Name badges	.75
Window decals	.50
T-shirts with emblems	4.50
Jackets (about \$13.00)	

can be purchased at Army & Navy store at 131 S. Glassell in Orange.

See Dionne McNabb or call her at 642-2137

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Rak Krist has been invited to Japan to star in a movie sequel to be called "Sawed Off Shogun".



Nuts and Bolts

TECHNICAL REPORT
by
DENNIS GRIFFIN

This is the last technical column for the year. I would like to say that I have enjoyed my year as technical chairman and I want to thank all of the people who helped with all the seminars as well as all of you who attended. Without you, it couldn't have happened.

Thanks this month to Dick and Dionne McNabb for the use of their house and garage and thanks to Pearl Spielberger for sharing her Christmas decorations with the ladies during the last seminar.

P.S. Who has the spring spreader? Please call me.

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DO YOUR THING, SAVE MONEY, HAVE FUN

Interest seems to be building in the area of hand-made gifts and decorations which are being brought to our recent seminars by distaff members. (look it up if you're not sure)

There is most certainly a vast, untapped source of ideas and inspiration among club members for those interested in saving a little money by learning to hand-make gifts and decorations for all occasions.

Needless to say, the fund-raising implications for the club are endless as well as the involvement providing a much-needed forum for new members and those persons "not allowed" to help in the restoration of the Model A!

Victims of Model A Chauvinism, arise. You've nothing to lose but your chains!

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There is no substitute for a reasonable facsimile.

HARD LUCK TROPHY HAS GOOD LUCK

Thanks go to Dennis Griffin for "overhauling" the Hard-Luck Trophy which has suffered much abuse during the years from disgruntled winners.

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BOARD MEETING NOTES

Secretary's report not read due to absence of secretary. Treasurer's report read by Larry Boef. Need \$225.00 for Christmas dance. Activities report by Bev. Bev asked about getting new P.O. Box, discussion of changing letterhead, business cards. Will pursue change of location for box. Ideas suggested for New Year's Eve party. Discussion preceded motion by Bev to give Mary Livingston \$250.00 for food for party, Dennis 2nd. Passed. Dec. Board meeting moved to Dec. 30 due to Holiday. Dennis gave technical report. Larry mentioned bill for Round-Up pictures. Brief discussion of raffle prizes at meetings and whether to build it up to be a fund raiser. Tom suggested we use pre-addressed post cards to acknowledge gifts donated to club for Round-Up. Tom will check into cost of L.A. Times ad. Dick McNabb suggested that each incoming Board member be encouraged to pick an assistant for specified duties, when practical, so as to allow those interested in helping the club to participate as well as to provide consistent help where needed. Dennis submitted a sea-food dinner for two which was received by Judy for Round-Up, now to be used as Christmas Banquet prize. Meeting adjourned, next (joint) meeting at the Lamp Post Pizza Parlor, Katella and Tustin at 7:30, Dec. 30.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Steve and Donna Sebastian
630 S. Knott, #45
Anaheim, Ca.

FAMOUS INVENTIONS OF ALL TIME

One winter day in 1765, a young man by the name of James Watt was whiling away a dark and stormy Saturday afternoon in the kitchen of his aging mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Watt.

Mrs. Watt asked young James to see if the water was ready for her afternoon tea, and in so doing, James was quick to notice a strange phenomenon whereby the lid of the teapot was lifted and lowered as if by magic. Upon closer inspection, James was able to fix the cause of the strange happening as steam pressure caused by heating the water within the kettle. He noted that the expanding steam was powerful enough to move the lid of the teapot in an up and down motion.

Unable to contain his joy and enthusiasm upon such a startling discovery, he quickly took the teapot into the library where his mother was resting in order to show her what he had found, thereby giving birth to one of the most important inventions the world has ever known - the pot holder.

MAFCA

Orange County Chapter
P.O. Box 5023
Santa Ana, Calif. 92704

FOR SALE

1962 Porsche Super 90, \$5,000
Dick McNabb, 642-2137

4 gallons of Bondo, left over from recent restoration.
Dennis Griffin, 894-7661

Selling my 11 foot pole for reaching people you "wouldn't touch with a 10 foot pole".
Lloyd Marcacci, 702 289-2624

New book entitled, "How to Get That Old Car Running", written by Dave Nelson 523-1311

WANTED

Want model C crank (let's go racing) Steve Balmer 751-4321

Buy or borrow rear spring, number of leaves or condition not important. Dick McNabb 642-2137

6 volt bottle warmer, must be NOS. Larry Conkol 533-7633

Need lots of rust remover, Roger Sowersby, 871-5849

FIRST CLASS MAIL

