

# *The Distributor*

*Orange County Model A Ford Club*

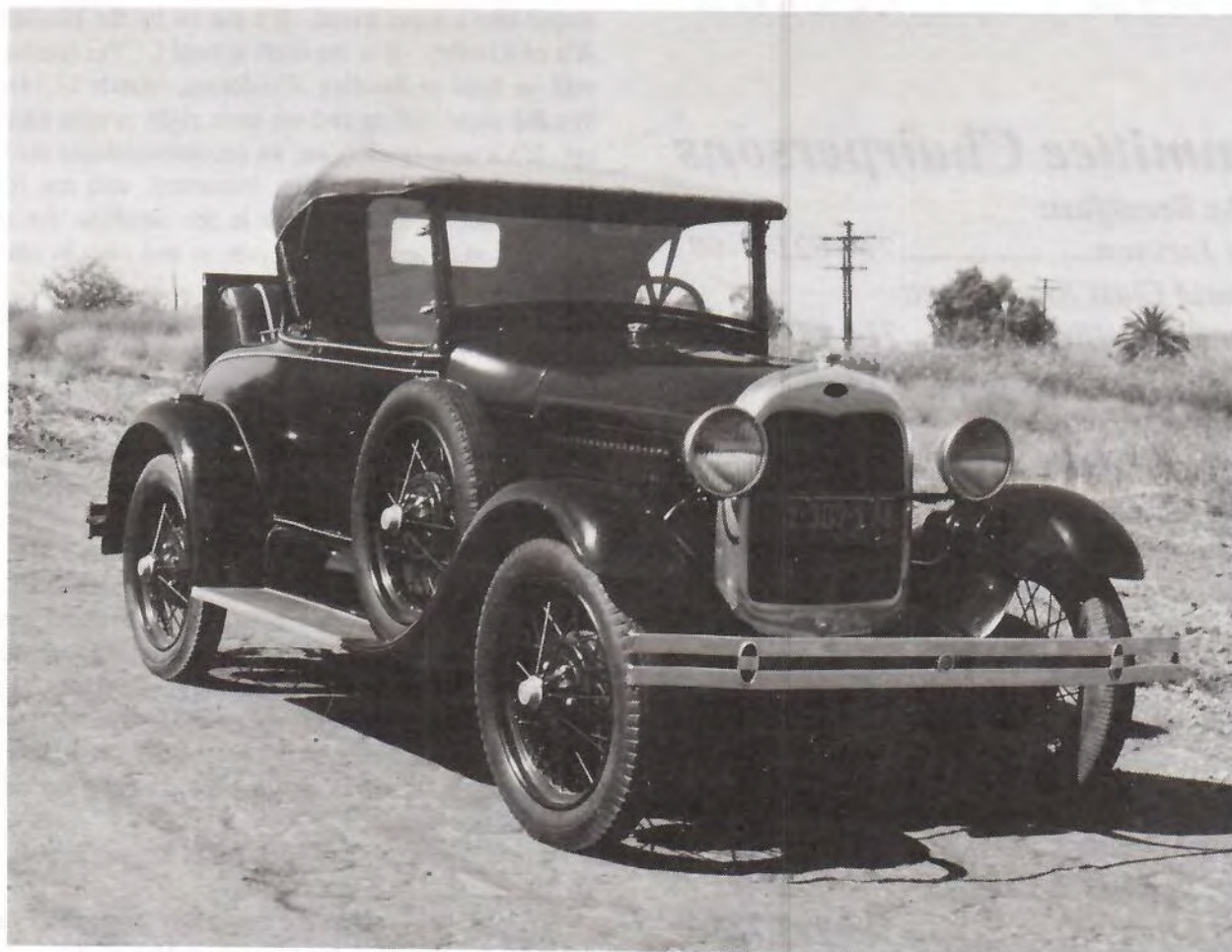
*Model A Ford Club of America*

*Chartered August, 1961-Santa Ana, California*

February 1998  
Volume 38, Issue 2

Editors: John & Alice Graves  
Publishers: Bob & Karyn Sitter

*Happy Birthday All You 1928 Model A's*



*Glenn Johnson's 1928 Unrestored Roadster*

*(see pages 6 & 7)*





## 1998 Board Members

### President:

*John Riggs.....562-431-8783*

### Secretary:

*Colleen Schmidt.....714-524-2659*

### Treasurer:

*Diana Stewart.....714-892-8612*

### Technical:

*Mike Kuester.....714-974-3329*

*Paul Steed.....714-289-0931*

### Activities:

*Greg Carcerano.....714-645-2254*

### Editors:

*John & Alice Graves.....714-497-3067*

### Special Events:

*Lee Jackson.....714-521-8460*

## Committee Chairpersons

### Pancake Breakfast:

*Lee Jackson.....714-521-8460*

### The World Class Swap Meet:

*Dennis Griffin.....714-832-4112*

*Larry McKinney.....714-963-2724*

### Sunshine & Sorrow:

*Jeanne Parrish.....714-534-8129*

### ACCC Representative:

*Larry Conkol.....714-535-1411*

### Regional Representative:

*Bev Marsh.....714-531-7237*

### Refreshments:

*Peter Mastro.....714-893-2029*

### Raffle:

*Gary Discher.....714-533-1973*

*Walter Deutsch.....714-693-1914*

### Buttons, Patches & Logos:

*Carl Erickson.....714-997-2854*

### Club Greeter:

*Jon Heiland.....714-836-4244*

## The Open Hood Prez!



Well, here it is time for me to let you in on some of our happenings. We had the first meeting of our new board and there were quite a few good new ideas.

Our trip to the Huntington Library was a beautiful day, good turnout of Model A's, no breakdowns, and lot to see-- beautiful gardens and the art was unbelievable.

Reading through other club papers, we ran across what sound like a super event. It's put on by the Blossom Trail A's of Reedley. It is the sixth annual CCRG Jamboree and will be held in Reedley, California, March 13,14 and 15. We did some calling and we have eight or nine cars signed up. It's a very small town, so accommodations are limited. If you think you might be interested, call me for more information. February 13th is the deadline for the \$30 registration. Hope you can join us and play in our Kazoo Band!

It's time to start preparing for some of our longer trips so be sure to check wheel bearings, and be sure you have a C.B.. Peiter Dwinger will be glad to help you get yours in good working order.

We have Reedley, Reno and Wings and Wheels coming up, besides our local club tours, so be sure and mark your calendars and join in the fun.

Our Pancake Breakfast is just around the corner (March29) and is good hands with Lee Jackson as Chairman. If you haven't signed up be sure and give Lee a call as we need lots of help. The breakfast is our main project so be sure to start gathering raffle prizes. They are a big part of our breakfast and Lee has letters, so if you have a favorite restaurant or business you can get a letter asking for donations. Cash is also accepted to buy car parts and make money hats.

There will be a parade March 7th in Laguna Beach. If you are interested, call Alice Graves.

Hope to see you at the meeting--Congrats to our new refreshment chairman for a good job last month.

*John*



# Board Meeting

## Orange County Chapter Model A Club of America

### January 15, 1996

The meeting was called to order by President John Riggs at the home of Greg and Leslie Carcerano at 7:38pm. Club members present were: John and Gwen Riggs, Don and Colleen Schmidt, Diana Stewart, Mike Kuester, Greg and Leslie Carcerano, John and Alice Graves, Lee Jackson, Carl Erickson and Pete Dwinger.

**Secretary's report:** The following is a brief summary of the General Meeting at Santiago Elementary School on Jan. 8. Minutes of the Dec. Board meeting were approved as published in the *Distributor*. Due to rain and muddy conditions, the Vista tour to the Antique gas and steam engine Museum scheduled for Sat. Jan. 10, would be rescheduled for a later date. Future tour were announced. Greg Carcerano took great pleasure in "roasting" Dale McCall when presenting him with his "500 Mile Patch Hat". Dates for San Diego Swap Meet are Feb 27th - March 1st. Alice graves requested stories or articles on the 1928 Model A in recognition of its 70th Birthday. New rosters will be coming out in Feb. Annual dues must be paid in order to have your name in the roster. The Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for March 29th at Hart Park. Lee Jackson asked for volunteers to sign up for one of the eight committees formed to handle this event. The Board suggested having our Annual Holiday Dinner on a Sunday V.s. A Saturday date. This would save the club approximately \$100/ A vote was taken and the majority of members present voted in favor of Sunday.

**Activities:** Due to parking conditions, the Getty Museum tour will be scheduled at a later date than previously planned. Greg is looking for volunteers

to head up future tours.

**Treasurer:** Our account balance is in good shape. The annual audit of the books will be conducted Jan. 27th by John Riggs, Carl Erickson, Mike Kuester and Lee Jackson.;

**Technical:** There was a discussion as to whether members would prefer seminars on components or something more general.

**Editors:** Articles should be in by one week after the board meeting.

**Special Events:** A motion to purchase a set of 5, 19" and /or 21" Firestone tires with black walls for the Pancake Breakfast raffle, was made by Lee Jackson and seconded by Alice Graves. Motion carried. Rental of equipment for the breakfast from Mission Viejo Rentals was discussed.

**Merchandise:** There is an excess of orange club jackets (size medium), vest and caps. Carl Erickson reported quotes on the cost of new T-shirts. It was agreed to restock our supply as approved in the November General Meeting.

**New Business:** A motion by Alice Graves to dedicate the 1998 Pancake Breakfast in memory of Joe Wavra in some appropriate manner was seconded by Diana Stewart. Motion carried. A motion was also made by Alice to buy as many T-shirts as last year for the Pancake Breakfast with logo front and back. Seconded and carried. Mike Kuester was assigned the responsibility for future scheduling of Car of the Month.

**Legal responsibilities** of the club as a Tax Exempt Public Benefit Organization were reviewed by Peiter Dwinger.

Next Board meeting will be Feb. 19, 1998 at the home of Alice and John Graves. Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm

Submitted by: Colleen Schmidt





## Huntington Library Tour

Our tour to the Huntington started out cool and overcast but quickly changed into a beautiful sunny day. We had 10 Model A's and 3 moderns. No "Hard Luck" trophies for this trip! We had lunch at the Rose Garden cafe. There was so much to see!

The Library has a display of nearly four-million items. Books and manuscripts of Anglo-American civilization., collections of Shakespeare's early works, etc..

The Huntington Gallery, which was originally the Huntington residence, contains collections of British and French Art of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Gainsborough's Blue Boy was especially exciting and interesting to learn about.

The Virginia Steele Scott Gallery of American Art and the Arabella Huntington Memorial collection was equally exciting.

The botanical gardens cover about 130 acres with 15 specialized gardens, including a rose garden showing the history of the rose over 2,000 years.

We are so fortunate to have such great cultural and educational centers so near to us.

*Leslie Carserano*



**Lunch at the Huntington Library.  
Outside on the patio and a great day for it.\**

## Tour Notes

As you all are aware, the Antique Gas & Steam Engine tour was canceled due to rain and will be rescheduled later this year. The Getty Center tour has also been put on hold for a later date due to it is very difficult to get parking reservations at this time. It has been replaced with the Peter's Landing Whale Watching tour (firm count already reserved). If you would like to go but didn't sign up, call Greg for possible openings. Just a reminder, you should have already made room reservations for Wings and Wheels by now.

Ladies, I am still waiting to hear from you on ideas of where you would like to go on our Ladies Drivers Tour. Now is your chance to take that tour you've always wanted to.

Volunteers needed-remember many events with this club takes the help of others to make them happen. Please volunteer a small amount of your time to make these upcoming events possible for all of us to enjoy. Contact Greg if you would like to help with any of the following. Solvang tour leader, Reno tour leader, a Progressive Dinner host, and a Poker Run helper.

Looking forward to a fun and exciting year. Hope to see you on all the upcoming tours this year.

**Hoods up!**

**Greg Carcerano**



**The best group picture we could get at the Huntington Library. Were they in a hurry to get to the exhibits or the bathroom?**



# **Schedule of Coming Activities**

## **February 1998**

### **8th -Sunday**

1928 Model A 70th Birthday Picnic and round of miniature golf.

Bring picnic lunch to share and if you wish, bring a wrapped present (not over \$10) for a 1928 owner. You may say who it is from but don't designate who it is to. Depart from Sears (South Coast Plaza) 11:00AM

### **12th-Thursday**

General meeting 7:30PM  
Santiago Elementary School  
(see map on back cover)

### **13th- Friday**

Technical seminar-7:00pm see article

### **19th-Thursday**

Board Meeting 7:30 PM  
John and Alice Graves  
970 Summit Dr.  
Laguna Beach  
(see map and car pool)

### **26th-Thursday**

All articles due at the Editors!

### **Feb 27th - March 1st**

San Diego Swap Meet  
Call Larry or Gerry McKinney if you need room reservations or info. (714)963-2724

## **March 1998**

### **6th and 8th-Friday- Sunday**

Midnight at the Oasis trip to Yuma  
Call Larry or Gerry McKinney for room or other information. (714)963-2724

### **7th-Sunday**

Participation in Laguna Beach Patriots Day Parade  
We will represent the low-income Family Learning Center of Laguna Beach who will ride with us.  
Call Alice or John Graves for info.(714)497-3067.

### **8th-Sunday**

Peter's Landing Whale Watching  
Depart south Coast Plaza (Sears) 9:00AM  
This tour was booked with a firm reservation count. If you did not sign up and would like to go call Greg for possible openings.

### **13th-14th-Friday to Sunday**

Reedley Tour--6th annual C.C.R.G.Jamboree  
\$30 sign up fee must be in by 13th of Feb. More info at meeting or call John or Gwen Riggs (562)431-8783

### **29th-Sunday**

## **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

## **April 1998**

### **17th-19th-Friday-Sunday**

Laughlin-Mitchell Caverns

### **19th Sunday**

Knotts Classic Car Show

## **May 1998**

### **2nd Saturday**

Orange County Model A's  
Swap Meet

## **June**

### **7th-Sunday**

Henry Ford Picnic  
Diamond Tread Club

### **28th-July 2nd**

National meet & Convention at Reno  
Get reservations in and make plans early.  
See last month *Distributor* for form, or the last *Restorer*.

## **July 1998**

### **9th--11th Thursday - Saturday**

Wings and Wheels, See Pieter Dwinger for reservations.



# Gorgeous Gussie

By Don & Colleen Schmidt

The first time we saw her was on a trip to Victorville for the opening of the Highway 66 Museum and car show in Oct. 1995. A gorgeous 1928 Model A Sports Coup. You may have noticed her on some of the tours, she is the only one with brown fenders. Don fell in love with her at first sight. The owner, Lee Bishop of Apple Valley, first purchased her in 1991. She was rusted out and in pieces on a farm in Idaho. The farmer had been planning on restoring her for about 20 years, but never got around to it.

Lee started work immediately, restoring her from ground up over a period of four years. This was his first restoration and he did a great job, winning several trophies, the last being Best of Show, losing points only for brown fenders.

We had no idea of buying a car that morning, but when Don got bit by the bug, Colleen said if you want it, buy it. I couldn't believe it! Lee hadn't planned on selling, but needed room for other restorations in progress. We're happy to say we were able to agree on a sale that evening and Lee was kind enough to trailer it to our home the following day.

I always wanted a car I could drive, but this one was stock and for show only. Our first trip was the Havasu/Laughlin Tour the following April. We kept up with the pack, but we realized that some changes would have to be made if we were going to continue to tour with the club. As we drove through the Cajon Pass, Colleen held the stick shift in gear while I fought with the steering wheel. Gussie started to shimmy and shake while going down hill at 65 mph. She definitely was a show car. The first change I made was to put in a 1956 Ford Pickup steering box. Recently we put in a four-speed synchromesh with overdrive. Some of the other improvements were to add a stock battery and a 6 volt heavy duty alternator for future addition of halogen lights.

I feel somewhat confident now when going on the freeway and longer trips. My ambition is to drive her to St. Louis one day.

Don



**Gorgeous (at this point grungy) Gussie when she was found in a somewhat unhappy condition. (It looks like the house could use some restoration, too!)**



**Gorgeous Gussie as she is today. (The house has improved, too!)**





# My 1928's



by Glenn Johnson

My 1928 Tudor Sedan has been a member of our family since November 1968. I disassembled the entire car in early 1969 and started a ground up restoration with the help of the *How to Restore Your Model A*, Vol. 1 book. We joined the OCMAFCA in January 1970 where we made new friends and learned a lot more about Model A's. I finished the restoration in September 1971 and we began going on tours and showing our new treasure. Over the years, I've done my best to maintain the car and have upgraded some of the areas that I was not satisfied with. In 1994, before the Tacoma National meet, I installed a better engine and a Volvo overdrive in the Tudor. Our twin girls Heidi and Holly drove the Tudor to Tacoma and Sharon drove it back home without any breakdowns.

I also have an unrestored 1928 Roadster that I've owned since 1975. I used to drive it often but it has been in storage since 1990.

My 1929 Station Wagon is a '29 model but was built in December 1928 and has some '28 features.

I am fascinated with the 1928 Model A's because they have so many unique features. Many 1928 parts are different from later parts and are often of better quality. Parts like fender braces, running board brackets, seat frames and many more are solid forgings on '28s instead of the less expensive steel stampings of later years. The multiple disk clutch, although more complicated, is a much smoother clutch than the single plate type. My favorite '28 parts are those beautiful fluted glass headlight lenses and that wonderfully functional looking drum taillight with the **big STOP** letters behind the dark ruby red glass.

1928 is definitely my favorite Model A year.

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from our  
NEW fashion  
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Fashion 1928



In 1928 all the *real* fashions came out of Paris. It wasn't until after the depression that eyes turned to some of the New York and London designers.

Most Model A families could not afford those anyway and if they wanted a special dress it meant a trip to get fabric and maybe a *Vogue* pattern. Then out came the Singer or a side trip to a dressmaker.

The twenties had changed women's fashions forever. From the well-covered and sedate "Gibson Girl", to the flapper who sped around in her newly acquired Model A--some times with the top down and her bobbed hair flying in the wind.

They could make that knee length dress, and maybe even that wrap around coat, but that cloche hat was the one item that literally topped off the new styles and that would be found at the millinery shop. Where did they all go?



# ***Big Island Carburetor!***

by Tom Endy

Most of the membership will remember Wayne & Jocelyn Krug who were very active members of the Orange County Model A Ford Club until May of 1997, when Wayne retired from Edison and they moved to the Big Island of Hawaii. I have been over there to visit them and they very happily live in a little town about 20 miles from Hilo, with a name that is almost impossible to pronounce. Wayne drives his 1930 Model A Ford Panel Delivery almost daily and has quickly become the Island character. Everybody on the Island knows him by now.

## **An Old Fellow In His Eighties!**

It wasn't long before an old fellow in his eighties befriended Wayne and told him about a stash of Model A Fords buried in the jungle on a section of his property. The old fellow told Wayne that if he wanted any of the stuff that was buried there he was welcome to it, if he could dig any of it out. It was not an easy task, but Wayne and a few friends dug what was left out of a very dense jungle. There were about six Model A Fords there. Most of the bodies and frames were rusted beyond salvage and had to be hauled off to the dumps. But many of the components that were shielded from the very damp Hawaiian environment were salvageable.

## **When Kennedy Was In Office!**

The old fellow had told Wayne that the cars had been back there in the jungle for about 20 years. When his wife heard this she rolled her eyes and said "twenty years my foot, he parked those cars back in there when Kennedy was in office".

## **The Phone Call!**

One evening Wayne called to tell me about his find and to also tell me that he had recovered a side bowl carburetor. Wayne knew that I had been looking around for one for a spare for my Model A Ford Victoria, which has an indented firewall and uses a side bowl carburetor. At any rate a few days later a package showed up on my door step. Inside was the nastiest looking Zenith carburetor I have ever seen. It wasn't so much that it was coated with rust, it also had a coating over the rust that can only be described as a patina of Hawaiian fungus. Also included was a heavy deposit of Gecko eggs packed in the throat of the carburetor. I'm not sure I know what a Gecko is!

## **The Restoration!**

A few days later I started the restoration project. One way to get a carburetor apart easily is to heat it and then drop it into a bucket of cold water. The metal expands when heated, then when quenched it has a tendency to loosen things up. I made the mistake of putting the carburetor in the oven at 500 degrees. The plan was to leave it there for an hour. After a half hour the house was so badly stunk up I had to remove it from the oven and dump it into the bucket of water. Cooked Gecko eggs don't smell too good. Whatever Geckos are! The surprising thing was that after I headblasted the carburetor I found it to be like brand new. There was virtually no pitting of the cast iron housings. The throttle shaft was in excellent condition with little or no wear to it, and the filter screen found inside was like new when it was cleaned up. The original jets were checked for size and found to be right on the money. I was able to put the carburetor back together using all the original parts except for the venturi, which was corroded, and the float which came apart because the solder melted when I put it in the oven. All in all, it became one of the best restored carburetors I have, and it came from the worst I have ever seen. There must be something to be said for the protection afforded by Hawaiian fungus.

## **Wayne's Living It Up In Hawaii!**

Wayne has joined the Volunteer Fire Department in the community he lives in. The fire station is just down the hill from his house. Wayne told me that the Federal Government recently bought them a new \$300,000. fire engine. Unfortunately there are six bridges in the area that they cannot drive the fire engine across, because it is too heavy. Their only alternative is to send Wayne across the bridge in his Model A Ford Panel Delivery with a garden hose in the back.

## **A Big Island Model A Ford Club!**

There is much renewed interest in Model A Fords on the Big Island of Hawaii. It is possible we may be hearing about a re-chartering of the Big Island Model A Ford Club over there before long. ☺



# Technical Seminars

## Fix that Front end!

The first technical seminar of the New Year was held at the home of Paul & Diane Steed on Jan 16th. The topic was front ends and several of the 20 or so in attendance had loads of fun getting greasy while trying to reduce a very tired front end to its basic component parts. There was also a very cool demonstration of how to remove an engine from a frame with only a flimsy piece of pipe and a small chain. Everyone held their breath as the engine quickly slid to one side of the pipe. We thought John Graves was a goner, but luckily more help arrived just in the nick of time! Aside from that, it looked as if everyone had a great time talking shop, watching Model A repair videos, grabbing refreshments and checking the yellow pages for a good chiropractor.

## February Seminar

Ever wonder why your doors don't seem to close right? Does the hood look like it would probable fir better on a Chevy? Could he you frame might not be exactly straight. Join us on **Friday, February 13th** at 7:00pm at Bob & Patty Ferazzi's home as we explore the Model A frame in its entirety.

*Mike Kuester*



New and *SERIOUS* technical guys.....



Engine removal by means of *flimsy* pipe!

## Classified

**For Sale: 1928 Fordor Leatherback Sedan:** Light and dark brown, Black fenders, Orange stripe. This car has a new engine, telescoping rack with trunk seat belts, CB radio, a heavy duty car cover and is registered with vintage '28 plates. \$11,500.

**For Sale: Sport Coupe:** With frame. Front end and rear end restored. Very nice body and fenders, etc Car is complete and ready for an easy restoration \$3,500

**OR** take both cars for \$13,500

**Wade Roberts**  
(714)675-5457

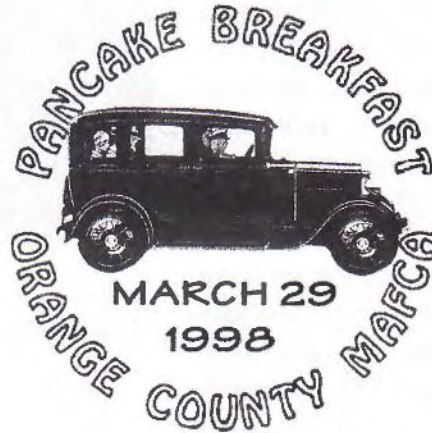
**For Sale: 1931 Sport Coupe,** only 65 made (*rare*), Show condition. \$18,000.

**Anne Burton**  
(714)892-1090



# ORANGE COUNTY MODEL "A" FORD CLUB CAR AND ERA FASHIONS JUDGING

**TROPHIES**



**RAFFLE**

Join us for our annual PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
Sunday March 29 at Hart Park, in the city of Orange  
8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

Pancakes, eggs, sausage, milk, juice and coffee  
Donation, Adults \$3.50, Kids \$2.00

**RAFFLE GRAND PRIZE**  
Set of 5 19" or 21" BLACKWALL TIRES



For Additional Information Call:  
Lee Jackson (714) 521-3240

<http://www.beachcombers.com/cars/ocmafca.htm>



# THANK-YOU

Dear Model A Club Friends,

Thank you so much for the lovely plant and cards sent to us upon the passing of my father. Your thoughtfulness and caring is greatly appreciated.

Thanks again,  
Helen Loeffler and family

Thanks so much for the donation. We touched approximately 210 children with Christmas this year and groups like your make it happen. We had our own "Toy Run" rained out this year but hope 1998 will be kinder to us. Hope you'll be able to make that run.

Thanks so much,  
The Roadrunners.

The Orange county Model A Family,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers. For all your thoughts, prayers and caring. Also, thanks for all the food. You are all a very special group and an important part of Joe's and my life. We love you and we have spent many happy hours with you. All of you driving your cars was a special tribute.

Marian Wavra

Thank-you for the lovely basket of plants the Club sent following the death of Jon's mother. It will brighten our home and remind us of your love and support each time we see it.

Jon & Pam Heiland and family

## Notices

Laughlin Days are coming up in April. Make your own room reservations by March 15th.

1-800-227-3849, tell them you're with the Model 'A's.

### DO YOUR DUES NOW!

Last call if you want to be part of the Roster.

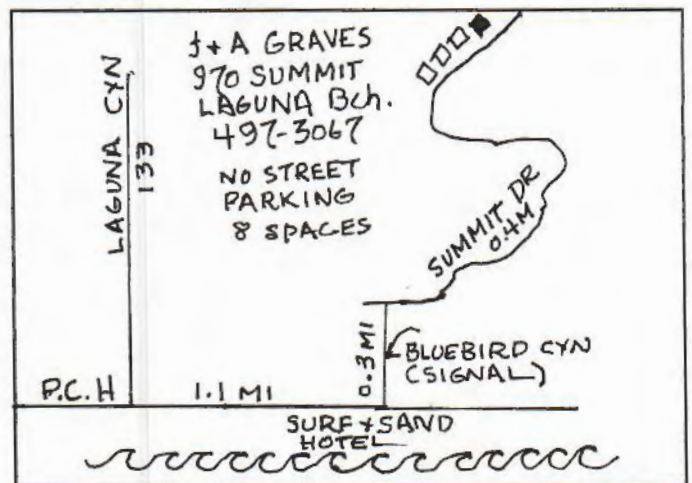
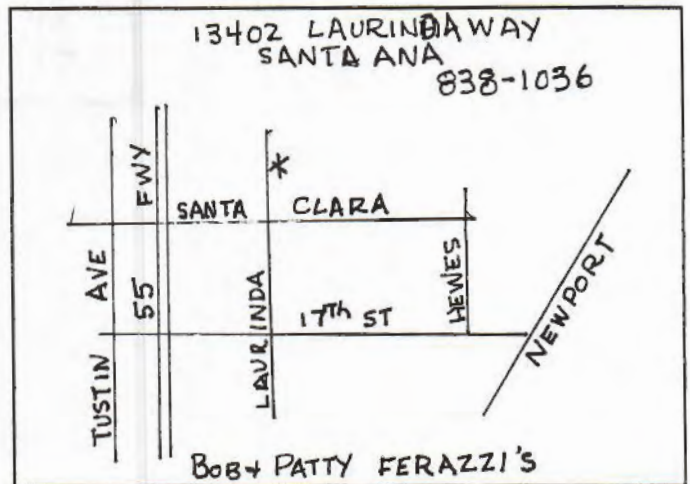
## Recipes.....

The following is from the Sept. 1928 issue of the *Modern Priscilla* magazine.

### Watermelon Pickles

- 3 pounds prepared watermelon rind
- 5 cups sugar
- 2 cups vinegar
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon stick cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon whole cloves
- 1 tablespoon allspice
- 1 lemon

Prepare the watermelon rind by removing the green skin and pink pulp and cutting in small pieces. Let stand over night in salt water (two tablespoons salt to one quart water), drain, cover with fresh water and boil until tender. Mix the sugar, vinegar and water, all the spices in a cheesecloth bag, and the lemon sliced. Boil five minutes, add watermelon and cook until transparent. Turn into clean, hot jars and seal, first removing the spice bag. Makes 4 pints.



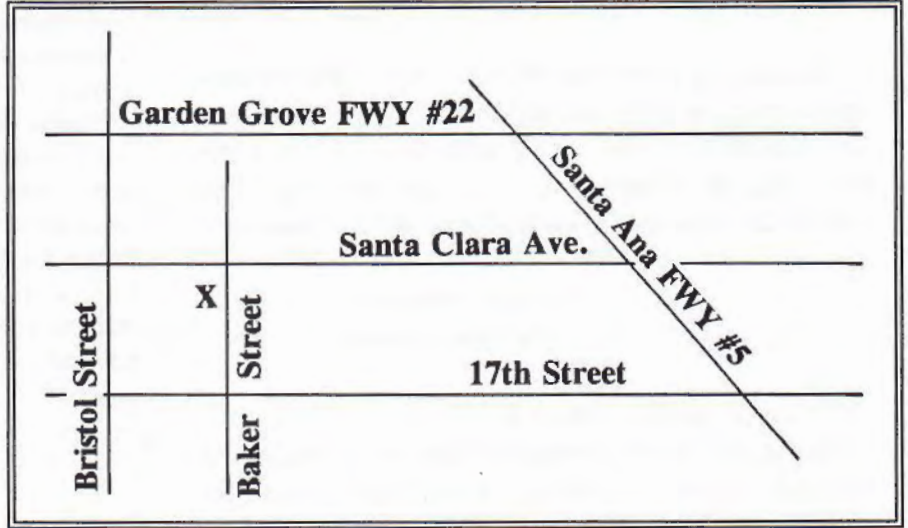


# GENERAL MEETING LOCATION

(Second Thursday of every month.)

February 12, 1998 @ 7:30 P.M.

Santiago Elementary School  
2212 N. Baker Street  
Santa Ana, CA



First Class Mail

Orange County Model A Ford Club  
Post Office Box 10595  
Santa Ana, CA 92711

