

The Distributor

Orange County Model A Ford Club
Model A Ford Club of America

Chartered August, 1961-Santa Ana, California

March 1998
Volume 38, Issue 3

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



A Oct. 1927 Ford New Car Showroom (recreated by the late Reid Miles)

Introducing the Model A to the public. (Can you find Glenn Johnson)

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!



Time to put my two cents in for this month.

The Pancake Breakfast is coming right along but there still is lots to be done. Please call Lee Jackson and offer to help wherever needed. Half of the fun of the Pancake Breakfast is participating and really being part of your club. Time is running short so be sure and get some raffle prizes together.

I have been told our next technical will probably be a safety check to make sure our cars are ready for the longer tours coming up. Be sure and participate.

We are looking forward to our boat trip to see the whales and we have ten cars going up to Reedley. We hope to represent our club with our "World Renown Kazoo Band".

Our membership is at 135. Some members are missing so if you haven't sent in your dues, you better get busy.

Don't forget to sign up for Laughlin and Santa Barbara. We have extra entry forms for Laughlin and as always we'll be at Motel 6 in Santa Barbara. It's always a fun event.

Hope to see you all at the meeting (maybe a review of our Kazoo Band.)

Your Prez

O. H.

Notice*****

Last month in the *Restorer* was an article about the advantage of wearing an orange glove when making signals in your A. John Riggs had ordered and received some which will be available at the next meeting for \$4 a pair. First come first served!

Board Meeting

Orange County Chapter Model A Club of America

February 19, 1998

The meeting was called to order by President John Riggs at the home of John & Alice Graves at 8:00PM. Other members present were: Gwen Riggs, Colleen Schmidt, Diana Stewart, Mike Kuester, Greg Carcerano, Lee Jackson, Bev Marsh, and Gary and Sandy Wilson.

Secretary's Report: The following is a brief summary of the General Meeting at Santiago Elementary School on Feb. 12. There were approximately 66 members present. Minutes of the Jan. Board meeting were reviewed and approved as published in the Distributor. Activities canceled due to poor weather have been rescheduled and a sign-up sheet was passed around for the Laughlin-Mitchell Caverns tour. Lee Jackson reported that we have our insurance binder for the pancake breakfast and donation letters have gone out. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Larry Conkol and Bill Robinson. The Feb. General Meeting was announced as the deadline for changes to the roster.

Treasurer: Our account is in good shape and we now have 138 members. See attached Feb. Month-end account itemization.

Activities: It was decided that the 1928 Model A 70th Birthday picnic on April 26, would be a women's driving tour (men too). Greg is looking for a tour leader for the Reno National Meet in June.

Technical: After some discussion, it was decided to have a Safety Check seminar in March to prepare drivers for some of the longer trips coming up.

Editors: Articles for the *Distributor* are due Feb. 26.

Special Events: Things are falling into place for the Pancake Breakfast, but there are still some

loose ends. T-Shirts have been ordered. Raffle donations are still needed and trophies and buttons were discussed.

New Business: A motion by Alice Graves to send a door prize donation for the Reno National Meet as requested was carried.

Old Business: Colors for the new roster were discussed.

Next Board Meeting will be March 19, at the home of Mike Kuester.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

Submitted by Colleen Schmidt



WANTED

El Nino

Last seen everywhere you look. Can be easily identified by a very liquid appearance.

Has been recently found guilty of destroying two Model A tour plans, and has stolen the Graves backyard! Can be dangerous.

If you lead to his capture before March 29th (Pancake Breakfast) Lee Jackson will reward you with an extra sausage on your breakfast plate.

Our Birthday Car of the Month

John and Gwen's '28 AB Coupe



We first saw our version of "Henry's Lady" at a wrecking yard in Perris, California. John's father had called and said he had better bring a trailer as she wasn't exactly running. She also wasn't a raving beauty either-holes in her top, rust on her body and no sign of paint-really a mess!

We brought her home to Compton, put her in the side yard and covered her up. We took one ride in her, over to Don and Pat Judkins, who now have the Ace Motel, and ran our of has on the way home. She did run at that time. She sat there for about twenty years-sometimes used as a jungle gym for the kids.

When we moved to Seal Beach, she got on another trailer and this time her new home was inside the garage-to be restored when John retired. She made an excellent storage area. Years passed and John was no closer to retiring, so, we decided to have her professionally restored-our first mistake. After zillions of dollars and not too much progress, we decided we had better get her out of there. She was towed back home to her garage where she was finally finished.

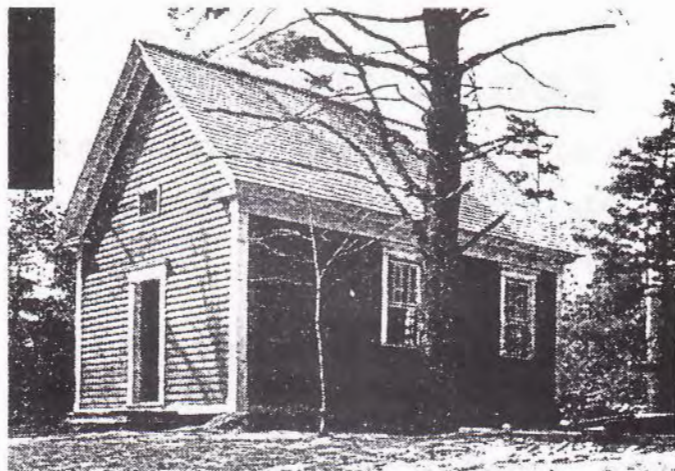
In February of 1993 for her 65th birthday, we had a combination coming out and birthday party. She stole the show and everyone was thrilled to get a ride in her rumble seat.

With an engine number of 10120, we were amazed to find out she was one of the first five thousand "A's" made. She has many "T" parts-including brakes.

In her first two years in the club she put on almost 10,000 miles and did herself proud climbing Dante's Peak in Death Valley-no overdrive at that time.

She has really served us well and is dearly loved.

John & Gwen Riggs



School Lunch

(this is from an article in the 1928 Modern Priscilla Magazine)

On the day when Mary's little lamb followed her to school she doubtless carried a small tin dinner pail, and goodness knows what was in it. Today, the children who live on Mr Ford's estate, go to the same school, sit in the same seats-but their lunch is brought to them. Some thing hot and nourishing from the famous Wayside Inn, where Henry W. Longfellow wrote his "Tales".

The little old schoolhouse was removed from its original location, twenty miles from where it now stands, to the present position, as part of Mr. Ford's plan to restore and preserve precious and historic treasures. It is visited by thousands of people each year



Betsy's Older Sister

Technical Talk

By Mike Kuester

The Model a is truly a symbol of simplicity and reliability. Every part was designed to function just the way Henry wanted it to. And one part, which is subject of the article, deserves its share of attention, the generator. This little dynamo will faithfully keep charging for years if properly maintained and serviced. Not only that, but they're fun to work on!

No Two Are Alike!

Four different types were used on the A, but this time we're only going to focus on the later ones, referred to as the "long type, cylinder, or L1/L2 style". The L1 was introduced in October, 1928 and was produced until about April, 1930. This type is easily recognized by the ball bearing recess at each end, as well as the output terminal located near the front. Only the longer, 7 9/16" armature with the 7/8" tapered end shaft will work in this unit. Also, there were at least 5 different pulleys produced. Just make sure you have one with a 7/8" long tapered hole and you use a 1/4-28 X 7/16" hex bolt and lock washer. The second type, the "L2" was introduced around April/May, 1930 until the end of production. It has only one ball bearing in the front and a porous bronze bushing in the rear. The output terminal is located towards the rear of the unit. The armature for this model is only 3/16" longer, but will not work in the earlier model. It can be identified by its 1/2" tapered shaft end, which also uses only the later 1/2" tapered pulley and a 5/16-24X7/8 bolt.

Make It Hum!

Disassemble the entire unit and clean all parts except the armature windings in solvent. I have found that most existing windings are serviceable and can be reused. If they look frayed or burned, then it's best to replace them. Armatures usually need turning in a lathe to restore the commutator to

perfect roundness. Irratic charging is usually caused by this problem or "brush bounce" due to weak brush springs. Don't forget to replace the bearings with the newer, sealed type and the rear with a fresh bronze bushing (L2 only). Also replace the three brushes if worn. I have an excellent "exploded" view of a generator and all its parts which details the entire assemble. I would be happy to provide a copy to anyone interested.

Cheap Insurance!

I strongly recommend converting an original style cutout to use a modern diode. This combined with an in-line fuse (usually mounted on the starter), is cheap insurance and will prevent nasty little surprises. Set the charging rate at about 10 amps by moving the third brush (use a small wooden stick) at a fast idle and call it a day.

Bargain Prices!

Replacement parts are readily available from most suppliers. I'm sort of partial to Brattons because their parts fit right, the prices are excellent and you can order via Internet. Check out their site at:

www.modelatrader.com/brattons/brattons.html.

Keep your eyes open at swap meets because sometimes old, cruddy looking generators can be acquired very cheaply. I've picked up several complete ones for only \$1-\$2, only to open them up and find a host of brand new parts inside!



Classified

For Sale:

Two Model A Fords. 1931 Coupe, 1931 Victoria.

1931 Victoria Leatherback

Hyd brakes, stone guard, 31 plates, \$7,500

1931 Coupe

Rumble seat. \$5000

Chuck Beasley 562-420-1020 Long Beach

Tom Endy Note:

I have looked at both of these cars, each is a very solid restoration project. The Victoria has a very sound body and a usable interior. Neither car has run in years. Neither has suffered any damage, only neglect. Every thing is there on both cars. Both are titled and have Calif. registrations.

For Sale: 1928 Fordoor 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:

Borg-Warner overdrive \$350.

Mel Collings

(714)970-7194

Congratulations!

Our own Gloria Jackson was recently the recipient of the Honorary Service Award from the PTA of the McAuliffe Middle School!



Technical Seminar Stuff!

Greetings from Paul the Tech. Guy!

All of you that attended our last seminar on frames, got to see first hand where the start of the "A" restoration process should begin-with a straight frame, tight rivets-no bolts, no welded cross members. We straightened frame rails, redid rivets, and checked for square. I would like to thank Bob and Patty Ferrazi for opening their house and garage and house for the seminar. There were 25 members present.

March's seminar will be on tune-up and general service to get ready for all those great summer tours.

Date: Saturday March 21st

Location: Paul Steed's Garage

18081 Hallsworth Circle

Villa Park, Ca. (See map)

Happy Motoring Paul

Schedule of Activities

March 1998

8th-Sunday

Peter's Landing whale watching
Depart South Coast Plaza (Sears) 9:00AM

12th Thursday

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

13th-15th Friday- Sunday

Reedley Tour
6th Annual C.C.R.G. Jamboree
Meet at the Citadel 8:30AM

19th Thursday

Board meeting 7:30PM
Mike & Robyn Kuester
3142 N. Hearthside St.,
Orange, Ca. 974-3329
(see map)

21st Saturday

Get those "A"s humming!
Technical Seminar
Paul & Diane Steeds
18081 Hallsworth Circle
Villa Park, Ca.289-0931
(see map)

29th-Sunday

Pancake Breakfast and a
Sunny day!

April 1998

17th-19th Friday-Sunday

Laughlin Tour

19th Sunday

Knott's Classic Car Show

26th Sunday

Ladies Drivers Tour! (Men too!)
1928 Model A 70th Birthday and round of
miniature gol

May 1998

2nd-Saturday

Orange County Model A Swap Meet

3rd-Sunday

Old car parts exchange
Charter Oaks "A"s, Visalia

17th-Sunday

Fun Day-Sante Fe Dam

June 1998

7th Sunday

Henry Ford Picnic
Diamond Tread Club

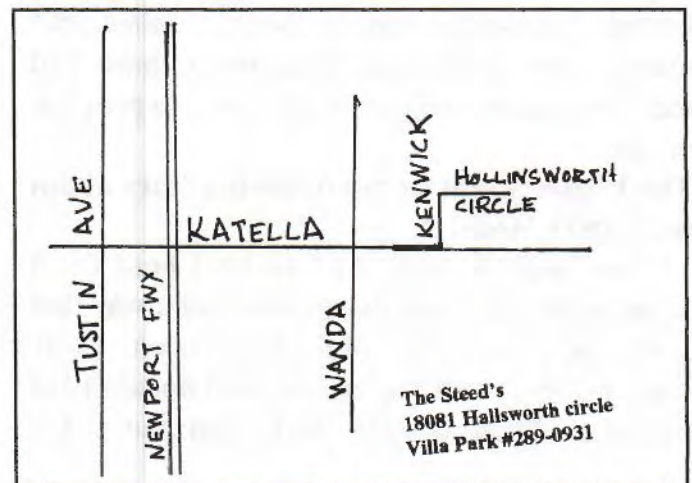
28th-July 2nd

National meet & Convention at Reno
Get reservation in and make plans now!

July 1998

9th-11th Thursday-Saturday

Wings & Wheels



An update on the Benslers & a 45 Year Old Dream Comes True

Pat Bensler was in a very freaky accident way back around Thanksgiving. Now to let you in on the interesting way we found out about her accident.

We went to the Post Office Box to be sure we had any important mail as Board Meeting was on the 19th. Among our mail was a postcard from Mr. & Mrs. Dave Pastor of Chelsea, Michigan. They

are the parents of Pat Bensler and reported that they get the *Distributor* every month and they read all the news and find it very interesting. They wanted to let us know that Pat had an accident with her eye and thought we would like to know.

We put a call in to Joe and Pat Bensler and had a nice informative talk with Pat. It seems that their 1931 Sedan originally belonged to Pat's Dad in Michigan. Joe and Pat's daughter was being married here and the grandfather was unable to attend so the car was sent to be the marriage carriage-which made the grandparents part of the wedding. Pat was in her van and had shut off the engine and noticed her phone card on the floor. She tried to pick it up but somehow, the card was stuck. To make a long story shorter, the card slingshotted and hit her in her right eye, causing eighteen stitches and four days in the hospital. She has had several surgeries, had a cataract removed-caused by the trauma and is still awaiting further healing to have a special contact lens made. She feels very fortunate to have had excellent doctors and eventually hopes to get clear vision.

The Benslers sent us the following story about their 1931 Model A.

When I was 18 I wanted a New 1931 Ford Town sedan with a slant windshield the worst way, but it was not to be because of the Depression. I only was paid \$8 a week wages and could not afford to buy one. Then in 1976 we bought one and I,

along with my wife refurbished it. The motor had to be rebuilt, the roof had to be replaced. At that time they did not have a metal roof. My wife helped with the upholstering inside the car. The car had to be repainted, it was rusty. We hauled it on a trailer from Illinois, it originally came from Colorado.

We worked for 3 years on it on and off to make it drivable. We get a great kick out of driving in parades. It brings back great memories of the 1931 era. We also take our friends for a Sunday drive, they are all thrilled about riding in a 67 year old car. In 1931 you could but parts for the Model A car at all gas stations, sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward stores, even at the 5 and 10 cent stores. Gas was 10 cents a gallon.

At one parade the car stopped and all the people along the street came and helped push it to get it started. We enjoyed it so much but it did not change our life--*too much*.

Joe & Pat Bensler



Ford

CB Antennas

By Pieter Dwinger

I will be ordering some more CB antennas on March 16th. The Hustler antennas have a stainless steel mast with a small tunable coil located at about the roofline of a Model A. The whip or top part of the antenna (which goes into the top of the coil) is above the roof which makes these antennas work perfectly on a Model A. The antennas come with a solid stainless steel quick disconnect and coax cable connector. I order these antennas directly from the factory in Texas. The cost for the antenna, quick disconnect and cable connector is \$50.00.

If you have any CB questions or want a new antenna, give me a call before March 16th at 633-1921 or 639-4767.



Letter to the Editors!

(The Godfather threatened to put out a contract on us if we didn't print this....)

We owe these fine people a debt of gratitude for the excellent work they have done with the *Distributor* this past year. They surely have followed in the footsteps of Tom Endy, our last Editor and sonsumator of Good friends. Tom, I do not know what Consumator means but it sure sounds impressive. Thanks Alice and John.

Vincent, The Godfather

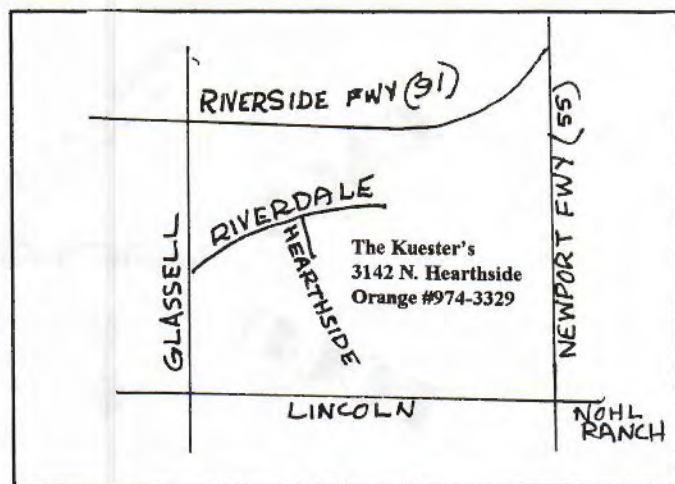


We Need Your Help!

Be sure and sign up to help on the Pancake Breakfast.

One of the things that makes it even more fun is the raffle. There are many ways you can help:

1. Places you patronize may be willing to supply a raffle prize, IE: dinner for two at your favorite restaurant.
2. Something you personally can contribute. Things are needed beyond car parts that would be interesting for the ladies or kids.
3. Contribute money so things can be purchased.



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>



REGISTRATION

OFFICE ONLY

R
D
C
CN

~ 20th ~
MAFCA

National Meet & Convention

JUNE 28TH THRU JULY 2ND 1998 ~ RENO, NEVADA

HOSTED BY

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL GROUP, INC.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE CLEARLY

	Last Name	First Name	
Member	_____	_____	
Spouse	_____	_____	
Child under 18	_____	_____	Age _____
Child under 18	_____	_____	Age _____
Child under 18	_____	_____	Age _____
Address	_____	City _____	State _____
Country	_____	Zip _____	Phone () _____
Email Address	_____	Chapter _____	
FAX #	_____		

Will you bring your Model A to the meet? Yes _____ No _____ More than one? _____
 Will your Model A be judged? Yes _____ No _____

Would you like to be a Car judge? Yes _____ No _____
 Would you like to be a Fashion judge? Yes _____ No _____

Would you like a M.A.F.C.A. Youth Driving Award entry form? _____
 Would you like a Hill Climb entry form? _____
 Would you like Model Car / Hubley Derby entry form? _____
 Would you like information on indoor swap space? Yes _____ No _____
 Would you like information on selling Era fashions? Yes _____ No _____

LODGING: Reservation cards will be sent with your reservation confirmation, for the Reno Hilton or the Reno Hilton RV Park. No reservations will be accepted without the reservation card. Hotel _____ RV Park _____

To participate in any meet event you must be registered. Please be aware that some events are limited, so may not be available at a later date.

I hereby release and hold harmless MAFCA - NCRG - The Super Committee, all participating chapters and members from any and all liabilities. No registration will be granted or confirmed without the submittal of a signed registration form, which shall constitute acceptance of this release, signed on behalf of all family participants.

Name _____ Date _____

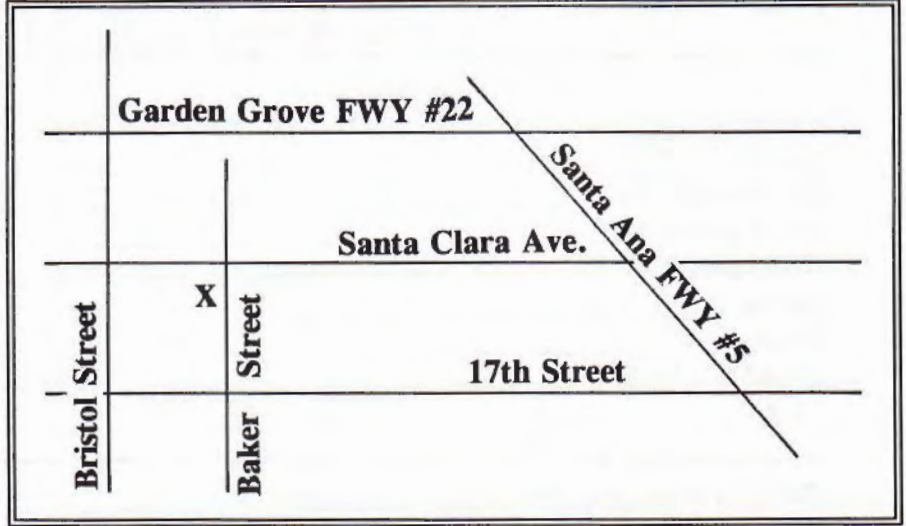
NOTE: AN UNSIGNED REGISTRATION FORM WILL BE RETURNED.

GENERAL MEETING LOCATION

(Second Thursday of every month.)

March 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

