

# *The Distributor*

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

*Chartered August 1961 – Santa Ana, California*

Editors: Peter & Ana Hyland

Email to: [newsletter@ocmafc.org](mailto:newsletter@ocmafc.org)

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**WINGS & WHEELS**  
**JULY 10-12, 2009**

## 2009 BOARD MEMBERS

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mschwing@earthlink.net

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### ACCC Representative-

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### Breakfast Committee-

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mtcollings@sbcglobal.net

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### Historian & Librarian-

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rcp1937@aol.com

### Merchandise Director

### To Be Announced

### Pancake Breakfast setup &

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mschwing@earthlink.net

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Gail Perlmutter-949-388-2815

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onebootscooter@yahoo.com

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### Swap Meet-Larry and Gerry

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webmaster@ocmafc.org

### Web Site Info Entry-Lew Lewis

949-916-6622

## Notes From Your President Mark Schwing. . .



2009

### President's Letter

One of my favorite Model A body styles is the rarest of all, the 140- A Model A Town Car. No, not the 160-B Town Sedan but Town Car. It is so rare that book "*The Ford Model A As Henry Built It*" by George DeAngelis did not include it until the second edition.

The Town Car was designed by Briggs in the summer of 1928 after a body style design by Le Baron and being sold by Briggs. Its deluxe appearance and appointments far exceed any other Model A body style. In December 1928, Ford placed a purchase order to have 2500 Model A Town Car bodies produced by Briggs Manufacturing Company with the first 1500 to be completed by April 1, 1929.

Ford branches were told of the car in December 1928 and the sales price would be \$1400 or more than double other Model A body styles.

Approximately 90 bodies were completed by the end of 1928 and shipped to the branches for sale initially at Lincoln dealers. Hence came the nickname "Baby Lincoln" for the Town Car. Initial sales were dismal at best and in February 1929, sales expanded to select Ford dealerships.

Even with expanded dealerships offering the model and a price reduction to just \$1200, sales continued to be poor and in September 1929, Ford cancelled the contract with Briggs. 1143 had been delivered at that point and an additional 55 bodies were in process. Some of these were reworked as 1930 models with last Town Car delivered to Ford in February 1930 making a total of 1198 production cars.

The Town Car design is quite unique with the driver or chauffeur's compartment upholstered in leather and separated from the passenger compartment by two fixed and one sliding glass window. The top of this compartment was removable leather and could be stowed under the chauffeur's seat. The interior of the passenger compartment was done in brown broadcloth and include two floor hassocks, a vanity set and a cigar lighter with ash tray. The style and the appearance of the upholstery look very formal.

If you have an opportunity to see one of these Town Cars in person, please take some time and look it over carefully. Many of the knobs and trims are unique to this model only. Our club had a chance to see one a few years ago in the General William Lyons collection. There were three at the recent Merrville, Indiana MARC meet with one on display indoors and the other two being driven.

Several years ago, *The Restorer* had an article on a collector who had a number of these unique cars. I can't recall the exact number but I believe it was five or six. I understand he has since passed away and the collection was separated.

Of the original 1198 cars produced, it is said that there are less than 20 still in existence. If you really interested trading your Model A sedan for the Town Car there is one for sale in Temecula that is reported to be in excellent, original, unrestored condition. The price? Oh, just a mere \$200,000. Or you could by a stable of 5 or 6 restored 160-B Town Sedans and build the stable to store them for under \$100,000. It is fun to dream.

Don't forget the Pot Luck dinner at our August meeting. See details on what to bring elsewhere in this newsletter.

**LET'S KEEP DRIVING THOSE  
MODEL A's!!!**

**Cover Photo information on Page 7**



## Activity Schedule

John Riggs  
562-431-8783

(NOTE: \* = UPDATED INFORMATION)

NEXT MEETING---Aug 13, 2009  
7:30 PM at CHOC  
Pot Luck Starting at 6:30  
Please see last page for details

✓ **Deadline for next *Distributor* is:**

**Aug 25, 2009** Type or write all articles and ads  
and e-mail to: [newsletter@ocmafc.org](mailto:newsletter@ocmafc.org) or  
[prhyland@att.net](mailto:prhyland@att.net)

Or mail to: 244 No. Goldenspur Way,  
Orange, CA 92869-4422

**\*Indicates Change**

### 2009 TOUR/ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

**Aug 12 (WED) "FREE CLASSIC CAR SHOW"** Please see flyer on Page 9

**\*Aug 29 (SAT) Poker Run**

**MORNING AT THE MUSEUM(s)**

*Can you find the clues??*

*Will victory be yours??*

*We will meet at the Mall of Orange to begin our adventure*

*Kickoff will be at 9:00. Come early to start early. We will be sent off in groups of two. Don't tell anyone. (except all those you think should join the fun)*

*Be sure to check the August Distributor for more clues.*

*To find your way you will need to bring a mirror.*

*Drive your car. Life's more fun in a Model A*

**SEPT 11-13 (FRI-SUN) Feather River Tour**

**Sept 12th (SAT) Progressive Brunch**

Progressive Brunch begins at 10 a.m. at Don and Colleen Schmidt's for appetizers. Next, the main course will be served at Ed and Susan Heins' home. We will end up at Sheila Plotkin's for dessert.

**SEPT 27 (SUN) International Ford Fun**

**Day** Santa Fe Dam in Irwindale. Registration is from 8:30 to 9:30 AM. There will be a gymkhana, raffle, bingo, and a free lunch. The \$8.00 entrance fee will be waived for all model A's. It is a freeway tour. Bring chairs. Tour leaves Orange Mall at 8 a.m. Be sure to pay Bev Marsh \$6 at the meeting or mail it to her for the lunch. The money will be refunded at Fun Day.

**Oct 7 (Wed) The Fairview Development Center**

in Costa Mesa needs a few Model A's for a noontime 50th anniversary parade. It will be a short parade around the grounds. More details later.

**Oct 11 (Sun) Frazier Park**--This is a pot luck event so be sure to bring a dish. There will be a nice raffle along with the good food. We will leave Coco's on Valley View at 9:00AM. Bring chairs. Let's see if you can go up the grapevine in high gear.

**Oct. 18 (Sun) Pumpkin Tour** to be led by Karen and Jeremy Gaynor. Details to follow.

**Nov.5-8 (Thurs- Sun) Palm Springs**

**Follies.** The Follies is Sat. night at 7:00PM. You must sign up and pay for your tickets by our Oct. 8 meeting. Tickets will be \$47.00. Be sure to make your motel reservations at the Royal Sun Inn 800-619-4786 or 760-327-1564 Rooms have been reserved around the pool for model A guests. We need ideas for a tour on Friday and Saturday.

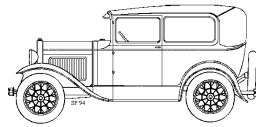
**Nov. 15 (Sun) TENTATIVE tour to Lomita Railroad Museum** and lunch afterwards. Tour to be led by John Riggs.

Continued on Page 10



# TECHNICAL 2009

By Don Ratzlaff



## July - August Technical Session

Didn't we just do this? Has a month passed already? In summary, heeers what happened.

### July Technical Session

The rumor was that some member's Model A's weren't performing up to expectations so; the goal of the July session was to look at the symptoms, diagnose the suspected cause and, if possible, fix it. So with that in mind we arranged to meet at Paul Steed's home the morning of July 25<sup>th</sup>. The weatherman promised to provide plenty of sunshine and temperatures into the high 90's and boy, did he deliver. Not to worry though, we had a shade awning! There was a good turnout of members present; maybe it was the hot weather or perhaps the donuts and coffee. I guess I would bet on the latter. Anyway, we managed to look at 3 model A's that were having problems ranging from timing, braking, carburetion, to clutch adjustments. Some of the activity is shown in the photos below. By the end of the morning a good bit of Model A stories had been traded, a few adjustments were made, all the donuts and coffee were consumed and 3 model A's left with "improved" performance. (At least, I think they did.)



### August Technical Session

There will not be any planned technical session for August-----There are two other events scheduled to be enjoyed by the membership.

### Technical Clue (for those of us that are clueless)

Recently we had the opportunity to drive our 1929 Tudor up to Buellton, CA for the "Wings and Wheels" event held at the Santa Ynez Airport; approximately 140 miles one-way. As you all know it isn't unusual to have your Model A get a little overheated on hot summer days and long uphill excursions. Well, our A is no exception and this worried us a bit so, we put together a little device that is the topic of this month's "clue". The idea was not invented here but rather implemented here. Wouldn't it be nice to have a simple method of spraying a water mist on your radiator so as to provide some additional evaporative cooling to combat those "Model A hot flashes" when they occur? To this end we purchased a simple 1 ¼ gal garden sprayer at harbor freight for \$10, placed it in the corner near the rear seat, ran a length of Tygon tubing from the sprayer on/off valve to the front of the radiator and attached the spray nozzle to the rock guard in front of the radiator (see photo). A gallon of distilled water, a couple pumps to pressurize the sprayer and a passenger to push the trigger provides an effective spray onto the radiator cooling tubes. The effect was readily observable since you could watch the Motometer temperature decrease.



## ***OCMAFCA General Meeting***

July 9 2009

Submitted by Jeanne Parrish for Alan Perlmutter

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Mark Schwing at 7:30 pm.

Minutes of June meeting were approved as printed. Doris Marshall is absent and Joanie Harris welcomed Patti Coté. We are so very happy to hear Christy is doing much better and getting stronger everyday. We are all very thankful.

Activities Report was given by Bev Marsh. The Progressive Brunch hosts will start with Don/Colleen Schmidt, first course, beginning at 10:00 am. Main course will be Ed/Susan Heins, and dessert will be at Sheila Plotkin's.

The International Fun Day will be held on Sunday, 9/27/09 at Santa Fe Dam (Please see Calendar of Events in "The Distributor".)

Fairview Hospital will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Wednesday, October 7. They are requesting several Model A's to be on display for the event. Please sign up if interested.

Technical report was given by Don Ratzlaff on the generator seminar held at Paul Steed's home.

Terry Collings announced the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Breakfast will be held on 7/23/09 at John's Place in Orange at 8:30 am.

No scholarship report. Dorothy Knox is absent. Sunshine & Sorrow report was given by Jeanne Parrish.

Wayne Wiedle gave a talk on the Mitchell overdrive and installation of the gear shift.

Short discussion on whether a speaker at our general meetings would be wanted. No decision.

Members Joan and Lew Lewis will be moving to Missouri in August. They bid their good-bye and we will miss them. We wish them good luck in their new home.

Potluck again at the August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 pm.

## **150th Anniversary Pony Express Model A Tour**

June 19-27, 2010

Sponsored by Model A Ford Club of America

MAFCA's exciting National Tour in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the famed Pony Express is well underway. To subscribe to our free 150th Anniversary Pony Express Tour E-newsletter, *The Pony Express Post*, send an email to [ponyexpress150@mafca.com](mailto:ponyexpress150@mafca.com). Write "Subscribe" in the subject line and include your name and address.

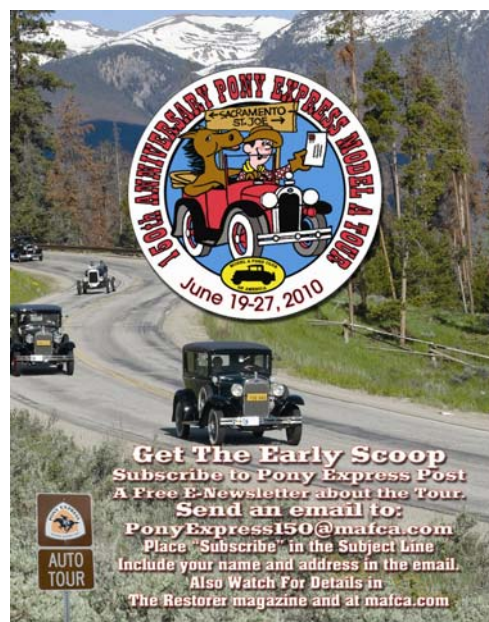
You'll receive:

- Early information and details about the tour
  - Historical tidbits about things to see and do along the way
  - Be among the first to receive the registration packet.
- The 150th Anniversary Pony Express Tour is a MAFCA-sponsored event.

Teams will leave St. Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento, California and will meet in Casper, Wyoming for a special celebration there. The Tour will be structured so you can go all the way, part of the way, or just for the day! Yes, we'll actually be carrying very special mail during the event.

Lead cars from both ends will be equipped with live GPS sending units and the teams will be able to be tracked via a unique Web site. Visitors will know where the lead cars are within five minutes.

Watch *The Restorer* magazine and [mafca.com](http://mafca.com) for more details. Better yet, subscribe to *Pony Express Post* for the earliest and latest information.



# Orange County Then & Now

## Santa Ana



A view looking southeast toward the proposed site for construction of a new post office in Santa Ana. The location is the corner of Seventh and Bush Streets. Seventh Street was changed to Civic Center Drive in later years. The photo was taken in 1930.

Photo from the historical collection, First American Title Insurance Company of Santa Ana, California #2433



The same view in 1993. The Spurgeon Station Post Office was built in 1931 and named in honor of W. H. Spurgeon, Santa Ana's founder. It is located at 92701 Bush Street. Photo by Tom Endy #2433



## The Famous Orange County Meets

Our famous Orange County Pancake Breakfast which has now been going on for 48 years was once put it on Spring AND Fall each year and included a gymkhana event after the breakfast on the top deck of the Union Bank parking structure on Main Street.

Keeping this in mind, we also put the famous Model A Roundup in the fall each year.

It began demurely as a small car show in 1963 at the old Santa Ana Community Center where the stadium is now.

It was started by early club pioneers Harold and Tillie Jones and Les Scott.

The second roundup was an absolute coup in Model A circles. It was held at Knotts Berry Farm and included a drive through ghost town, free coupons for attendees, combined car and clothing judging with 50% car and 50% clothing. The grand finale trophy awards in the covered wagon circle awarded 5 place trophies in 5 classes plus a best club participation trophy.

The judging of cars consisted of a walk around, look under the hood, open the door and peek in and maybe a casual stoop to look under the fenders or running boards. The clothing judging brought a smile to everyone's faces. A costume may consist of a "boater" and bow tie, an era bathing suit, a three piece suit, or a complete formal outfit complete with top hats, furs, knickers for the kids, and sometimes costumes more appropriate for the 1890's.

With 25 trophies and such a generous judging attitude, big families with era clothing almost always walked away with a trophy. This was the meet that everyone couldn't miss and over a hundred Model A's participated way back in 1964.

These meets brought out the crowd's, the fun seekers and the attitude that brought all of us to the hobby. Walter Knott invariably made a showing in a golf cart and wore a grin as big as the rest of us. He kind of reminded me of Henry Ford.

As time progressed, the ghost town tour was discontinued for liability sake. Soon the park was fenced and admission charged, the coupons stopped, we moved across Beach Blvd and had our meet near Independence hall.

By 1986 The meet had moved to the old Lion Country Safari in Irvine. It was planned as a great extravaganza and included pewter plates commemorating the meet with extravagant spending to attract the crowds that failed to appear and spend the money. It proved to be the last Roundup and is now but a memory in the hearts of old time SoCal Model A enthusiasts.

*Agent Orange*

Join us for good food and good company...

### **Fourth Thursday Breakfast Bunch**

**August 27...8:30 a.m.**

### **Schooner or Later**

**241 N. Marina Drive**

**Long Beach 90803**

**562 430-3495**

**Info: Chris Foster--562 987-2225**

**Terry Collings--714 970-7194**

## **This Month's Cover Photo**



**Taken at Wings & Wheels by Don Ratzlaff  
Please see Page 8 for more photos etc.**

## Wings and Wheels Tour to Solvang

Sheila Plotkin and Bev Marsh

Photos (Most of them!) by Don Ratzlaff



hour." Saturday morning we headed for the airport to begin our tour of the beautiful countryside. Just as the tour was pulling out of the airport, two transplanted O.C. members pulled in. It was



On Friday, July 10th, Don and Carolyn Ratzlaff, John Riggs and Maria drove their Model A's and Sheila Plotkin and Bev Marsh (in their modern) met in Norwalk to tour to Solvang. We left at 9:30. Curtis Buck and his friend Andy took the scenic route. We lunched at the Santa Barbara Wharf at Bryophyte's. Yammers! We arrived at Split Pea Anderson's at 5:30 and then toured out to the Santa Inez Airport to register. Back at the motel, we hooked up with Drain and Doris Marshall. Curtis and Andy joined us around the pool for "happy



Doug and Gisele Marsh in Harriett and Dean and Pam Berto in their "A". Perfect timing for their trip from the SLO area. We stopped along the way and had coffee and doughnuts at an old tractor farm. We continued our tour to the Purisma Mission for a box lunch in their picnic area. We then walked the beautiful grounds and mostly

unrestored mission. Following this, several of us headed to the beautiful Foley's Winery to check out their wines. The Ratzlaff's headed back to the airport to see if they could hitch a ride on one of the vintage planes. At the airport they got to see a flyby of about 18 Piper Cubs in V formation. On their way back to the hotel, they smelled serious smoke within their car. Couldn't find the source nor their fire extinguisher. Carolyn ran into a nearby building to get help and that was when Don discovered that the dome light had started to burn. They got the fire out and headed safely back to the hotel. At 6:00 p.m. we had a wonderful BBQ at the hangars. Don finally got to go up in a vintage airplane and it was the ride of his life! The plane was a 1935 "Tiger Moth" bi-plane that was used as a "spotter Plane" during the war. I wish you could have been there to see the look on his face, he was absolutely beaming! As many as wanted to ride in the planes got rides. They flew Saturday night and Sunday. Sunday morning we headed, once again, back to the hangars. We had a great breakfast and headed over the Cachuma Pass at 10:00 a.m. After spending 2 hours stuck in traffic in Malibu, we arrived home at 4 o'clock. We had a great time and the weather, food and camaraderie was outstanding!





# Free Classic Car Show



(Pre 1980)

**Plus: Food - Fun - Fellowship**  
**6:15 p.m. August 12, 2009**

**La Habra United Methodist Church**  
**631 N. Euclid**

**Car owners eat free.** All others bring a salad or dessert to share and give a donation for your entrée of a burger, chicken or a hot dog and beverage.

Owners – pre-register before August 4 by phoning John Knox at 562-697-2545

Please have your car at the church by 5:45 p.m.

**Come Join In On the FUN**

## **OCT 3-4 (SAT-SUN) 2009 Concours**

**d'Elegance** We just finished the new web site of the 2009 Concours d'Elegance At The St.Regis in Dana Point. Here is the link:

Shortcut to: <http://www.nbconcours.com/>

This year's event on the weekend of October 3, 4 will be double the size of any previous years, which an estimated 400++ amazing cars on display.

Let me know if you have any questions.

**Pieter 714-322-1437**

## **SWAP MEETS**

### **Aug 1 & 2 (SAT-SUN) The Long Beach Model T Club 55th Annual Vintage & Classic Parts Exchange**

Place: Los Alamitos Race Course, 4961 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos, CA 90720

General Admission: \$5.00 per person

Hours Sat: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Sun: 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM

For more information call: (310) 542-3315

**Aug 11 (SUN) Long Beach Swap Meet** at Veterans Stadium

**Sep 13 (SUN) Long Beach Swap Meet** at Veterans Stadium

## **Bits and Pieces**

**New Member**

**Steve & Judy Dahle**

2977 Teakwood Place  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
Tel: (H) 714-545-9159  
Tel: (W) 949-631-8366

1931 Roadster Pickup

**Glad to have you with us!!!**

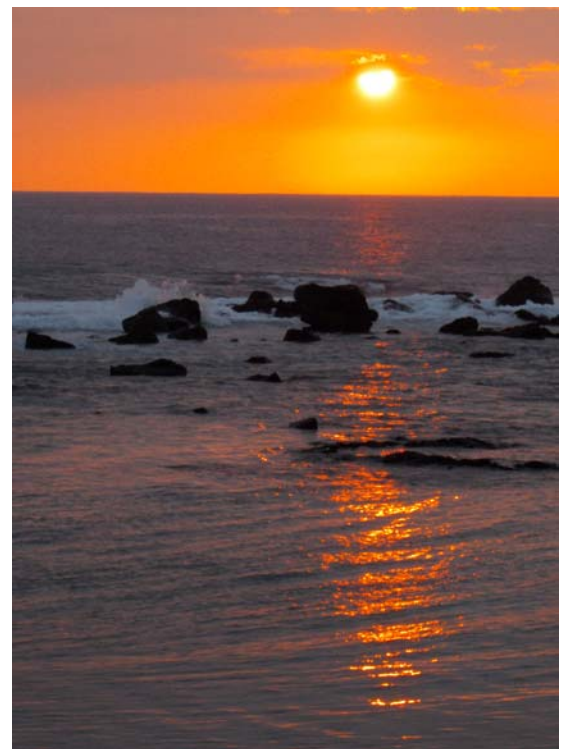
## **CRUISE PARADISE JUNE 26-JULY 5**

**Just a taste of what was seen by participants  
visiting Hawaii**

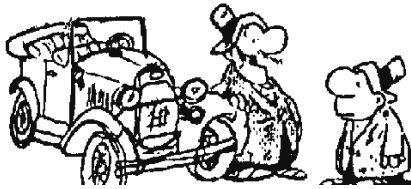
**(Photos sent by Patti Ferazzi)**



**Shipman House**



**Kona Sunset**



## CAR BARN SPECIALS

*Member ads will run two months unless renewed. Non member ads will run one month unless renewed. All ads must be submitted in writing to: prhyland @att.net or OCMAFC Editors 244 No. Goldenspur Way, Orange, CA 92869-4422*

**Visit MAFCA's Web Site:**

[www.mafca.com/classifieds.html](http://www.mafca.com/classifieds.html)



### FOR SALE: 1930 Model A Ford Panel

**Delivery.** Engine rebuilt by Taylor Engineering a number of years ago. Snyder head, electronic Ignition, Ryan overdrive. Very good condition, excellent interior, wood. Many extra parts included. The car is located in Hilo, Hawaii. Cost about \$1,000 to ship to Long Beach. \$27,000.00

**Wayne Krug**

**808-962-6383**

**firechief17a@hawaii.rr.com**

08/09



**FOR SALE: 1929 Coupe**-Sitting in garage for ten years. Has rebuilt engine, new tires and brakes.

Needs to be cleaned up!!

06/09

**Stephanie Butte---310-540-7689 \$6,000.00 OBO**

### FOR SALE: Tires tubes & liners:

Two 21" white sidewalls, brand new (from Lucas) cost me \$394. Make offer. Contact

**Keith Smith (661) 298-0625**

06/09

### FOR SALE: 1931 Tudor Sedan

Frame off restoration 12 years ago, complete engine overhaul, heavy duty radiator, beautiful vehicle. Weekly driven. Excellent condition. \$13,000 firm, cash only, no checks. San Jose, CA **408-386-4964 leave message- serious only.** Buyer responsible for delivery.

06/09



### FOR SALE: 1930 Cabriolet

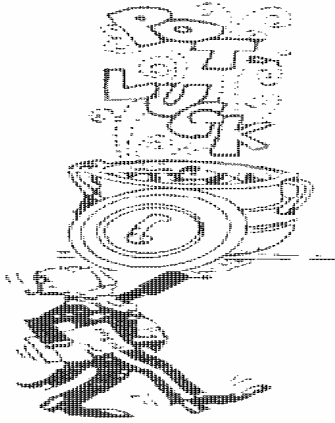
Older Restoration, New radiator, New head gasket, New convertible top, New luggage trunk, New alternator, New gas line & accessories, hydraulic brakes, New speedometer, New spark plugs, New distributor & wires. Drives beautifully.

**\$28,500.00 If interested contact:** 06/09

**Larry Rule, Dillon, MT. Cell 406-925-1221**







## General Meeting

[Second Thursday of every month]

**Aug 13, 2009**

(Pot Luck at 6:30 PM in the regular meeting room followed by the meeting at 7:30pm)

*Bring your favorite dish*

*A-L bring a main course*

*M-Z Bring Salad or Desert*

**CHOC Hospital Complex**

**455 South Main St. Orange CA**

**Drive your A's!!!**

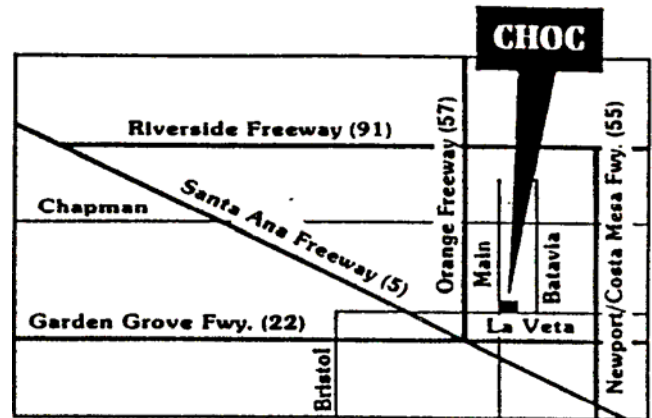
From Main Street, turn east on to Providence Ave. and immediately, on your right, enter the structure and park on the second level. Meeting room is accessible from the parking structure.

- **Deadline for next *Distributor***

- **\*\*\*Aug 25, 2009\*\*\***

- Type or write all articles and advertisements and e-mail to: [newsletter@ocmafc.org](mailto:newsletter@ocmafc.org)

Or 244 No. Goldenspur Way,  
Orange, CA 92869-4422



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