

# *The Distributor*

*Orange County Model A Ford Club*

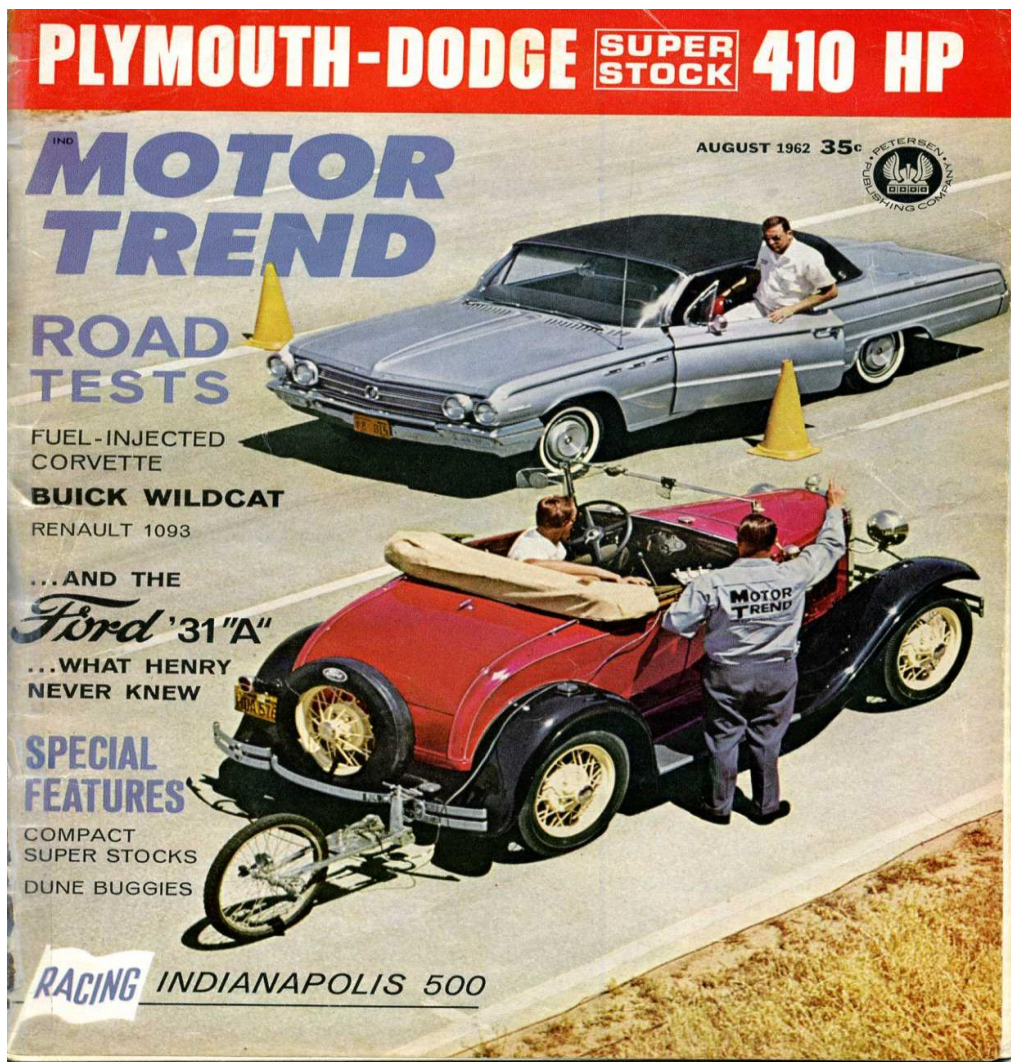
*Model A Ford Club of America*

*Chartered August 1961 – Santa Ana, California*

Editors: Peter & Ana Hyland  
Email to: [newsletter@ocmafc.org](mailto:newsletter@ocmafc.org)

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**"...AND THE FORD '31 A' ...WHAT HENRY NEVER KNEW"**

**PAGES 8 & 9 IN THIS ISSUE ARE THE FIRST TWO PAGES OF A SIX PAGE ARTICLE PUBLISHED WITH EXPRESS PERMISSION FROM "MOTOR TREND." THE REMAINING PAGES WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY. PLEASE NOTE THE CONDITIONS OF PUBLICATION AND, ABOVE ALL, ENJOY!**

## 2010 BOARD MEMBERS

**President—Mark Schwing**  
714-970-1696  
mschwing@earthlink.net  
**VP/Activities—TBD**  
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**Treasurer—Joe Goff**  
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## Notes From Your President

### Mark Schwing. . .



January 2010

#### President's Letter

Happy New Year to one and all. May 2010 bring a healthy and prosperous new year to all of us.

The December Installation Banquet was attended by 48 club members all of whom had a great time and plenty of excellent food from the Motherlode buffet dinner at the Fountain Valley Claim Jumper.

Several members were presented plaques recognizing their outstanding service to the club. These included outgoing technical director Don Ratzlaff and outgoing refreshments chair, Christine Foster.

Certificates for outstanding service were awarded to John Riggs, Bev Marsh, Pam Heiland and Bill & Tissy Hatcher.

The club welcomed new board members Tissy Hatcher, Secretary; Joe Goff, Treasurer; and a trio of Technical Directors: Gerald O'Brien, Bob Jeffries and John Knox. The position of VP/Activities Director is still open and we are still seeking a volunteer or several volunteers to help plan activities for the coming year.

Kathie McCall announced the 2009 Member of the Year Award. I was surprised, humbled and much honored to be voted that unique honor. Thank you all. Now I have to work that much harder in 2010 to get one of my Model A's out on the road. In December, I was able to take a few days off and attend the MAFCA national membership meeting in Brookfield, WI, just outside of Milwaukee. I don't know if it was the economy or the location with potential for bad weather, but this was the least attended MAFCA membership meeting that I have seen. I believe registration was only 51. Weather that week was below freezing with a light dusting of snow, but the week following was in the low teens with four to six inches of snow.

The small turnout made things a little more intimate in that there was always plenty of time to meet someone new or to renew an old friendship. My hotel room was only a few steps from the seminar and banquet rooms. One chartered tour bus was all that was needed to take everyone into Milwaukee for dinner at a German restaurant and an evening at the Pabst Theater for a performance of Dickens's The Christmas Carol. One of the tours included the Harley-Davidson motorcycle museum. The new MAFCA board is installed at the annual meeting each year. For 2010 the new President is Garth Shreading of Texas. Returning to the board after a one year absence are Chuck Christensen as Technical Director and Stephanie Grundman as Chapter Coordinator. Newly elected Alex Janke will takeover the duties of Publications and PR. MAFCA will consider returning to the requirement that all chapter members also be MAFCA members with perhaps different dues levels for widows/widowers and junior members. This was a requirement that was abandon about 1994 or so. I will discuss this at our next meeting and do an informal opinion poll of those attending. One of my OCMAFC goals for the coming year is to recruit and retain younger members. We are losing members to age and lack of exciting meetings and activities. Too many members sign up, attend a meeting or two and then they are never seen again. Don Ratzlaff has a committee working the issue and I'm sure we will hear more from Don in the coming months.



### Sunshine & Sorrow

By Jeanne Parrish

Our best wishes and get-well notes go out to John Riggs. He has taken 2 trips to the hospital over the holidays, after a dizzy spell and a fall at his home before Christmas. At this writing he is in the hospital and expects to be going home soon. We all wish him well and hope to see you soon, John.

Here's hoping all have a very "Happy New Year" and one filled with many blessings.





## Activity Schedule

(NOTE: \* = UPDATED INFORMATION)

**NEXT MEETING: Jan 14, 2010  
7:30 PM at CHOC**

✓ **Deadline for next *Distributor* is:**  
January 30, 2010 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**  
**2010 TOUR/ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**

**Feb 5-7 (FRI-SUN) 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Laguna Folkdance Festival** Please see the press release on Page 7 about an event in which I'm sure the membership will be interested. There will be lots of vintage American/European dancing at this event. Two of the participants are pictured with my Sport Coupe. Thanks.  
Dennis Baker

**Feb 11th (THURS) (meeting night)** Just in time for Valentine's Day! Richard Bolls and his long-time love, Malei, just got married! They have even gone on their honeymoon. Now it is time for a shower for the new bride. It will probably be before the meeting at CHOC. Details next month.  
Bev Marsh

**May 21-23 (FRI-SUN) NCRG Roundup-Jackson—Info to follow**

**Jun 19-27 (SAT-SUN) 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pony Express---Check MAFCA site and see flyer at right.**

## SWAP MEETS

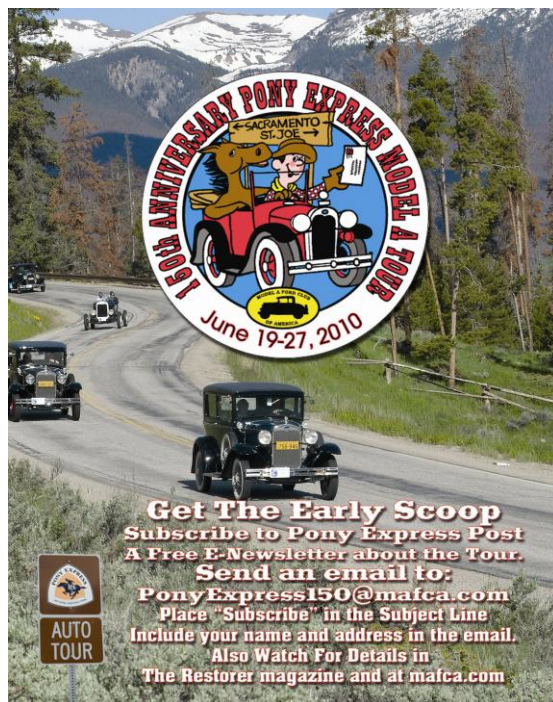
**Jan 10 (SUN) Long Beach Swap Meet** at Veterans Stadium

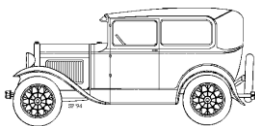
**Jan 31 (SUN) Long Beach Swap Meet** at Veterans Stadium

**Jan 30-31 (SAT-SUN) Modesto A's 44<sup>th</sup> Annual SWAP MEET** will be at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, Turlock CA. For information please call Gwen Barber at (209) 526-191 or visit their web site at: [www.TurlockSwapmeet.com](http://www.TurlockSwapmeet.com)

## **NEW CLUB MILEAGE RECORD SYSTEM**

At the November meeting the membership decided that mileage credit for each member will now be given by recording the odometer reading for each members Model A on January 1st of each year .Be sure to turn your mileage as soon as possible after the first of January. Mileage should be turned in to the VP/Activities or whomsoever is designated  
**DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR MILEAGE!!!!!!!!!!**





## TECHNICAL 2010

By Don Ratzlaff

### December Technical Ramblings

Guess this will be a non-technical article since we were all busy welcoming Santa and Christmas and planning the New Year Resolutions. I hope you all had a nice Christmas and were able to share it with family and friends. And since there is a New Year waiting just around the corner let me wish you all a very Happy New Year.

As you know, time flies and my 2 year stint as your “technical advisor” has come to an end but, never fear, word has it that “the do-some threesome” will be stepping up to fill the position. You will be in good hands: namely those of Bob Jefferies, Gerry O’Brien and John Knox. Let’s help the “threesome” by suggesting topics of interest and attending the resulting sessions; remember donuts are made to be eaten and they will always go good with coffee and conversation.

Before I finish this article I want to thank you all for the patient tutelage that you gave me, I learned a lot about the care and feeding of Model A’s. It has been fun and a real pleasure working with all of you and I hope I have managed to be of some help now and then. I would like to especially thank Paul Steed, Tom Endy, Greg Earhart, Richard Parrish and Bob Jefferies for the help and advice given me throughout the past 2 years.



### A technical clue for those of us that are “clueless”

Described below are a couple of things you can make that are handy when working with the oil pan. They are taken from the Cape Henry MAFCA Chapter Newsletter: The Grease Rag; **Volume XXX No. 10, OCTOBER 2008**



**Oil Pump Holder** – Used to temporarily hold the oil pump in the block when you drop the oil pan. You can purchase this from a Model A parts supplier (Bratton’s #9895) or you can make your own. To make one you will need an adaptor with a 1/8” pipe thread and hole for a 3/16” tube. These are somewhat difficult to locate but you can get one from NAPA. Ask for a Gates adaptor part # G60596-0303. You will also need a 1/4"-20 x 1” thumb screw and 1/4"-20 tap. The hole in the adaptor is the correct size for the tap. Cut threads in the adaptor and insert the thumb screw. To use the holder remove the plug screw on the right side of the block near the bottom of the oil pump and install the holder. Turn the thumb screw until it is snug against the oil pump shaft but do not over tighten.

**Oil Pan Alignment Pins** – Used to help align the oil pan and gasket when installing the pan. Cut the heads off of four 5/16"-18 x 3/4" bolts and cut a slot in the threaded shaft to accommodate a screw driver. Temporarily screw these pins into the block at the four corners of the pan opening, leaving about 1/2" protruding. Use the pins to align the pan and gasket while installing a few bolts to hold the pan in place. Remove the pins and finish installation of the pan bolts. This works particularly well when installing the pan from underneath the car.

## OCMAFCA General Meeting

December 10, 2009

Submitted by: **Kathie Mc Call**

The meeting began with the flag salute led by President **Mark Schwing**, particularly remembering Pearl Harbor Day.

**Visitors:** **Jeff Frank** who recently acquired a 1928 Phaeton, and **Natalie and Ted Weyand**.

**Minutes:** Approved as printed in the Distributor without comment.

**Election:** A motion was made by **K. Mc Call** to approve **Gerald O'Brien, Bob Jeffries and John Knox** as Technical Committee, with Gerald serving as the representative to the board. 2nd by **Dale McCall**, all approved.

**Financial Report:** Outgoing Treasurer **Pam Heiland** reviewed cash on hand and in the two Certificate of Deposits. Books open for perusal.

**Activities:** **Bev Marsh** reminded everyone of the Rancho Los Amigos tour on Friday 12/18 with lunch following. Meet at 0900 Garden Grove location or at the Rancho.

Mark announced the banquet for Sunday 12/13.

**Technical:** **Don Ratzlaff** thanked the membership for their interest and participation in the technical seminars and impromptu event throughout his 2 years of leadership. Don is still seeking pictures for the banquet slide show. He then conducted a brief question and answer session and passed out blank pages for members to write down at least 2 suggestions on how to improve and perk up the monthly meetings.

**Sunshine/Sorrow:** **Jeanne Parrish** reported on surgery. **Ed and Patricia Cote's** daughter is still waiting for liver transplant. **Drain Marshall's** recent knee replacement.

**Merchandise:** **Jerry O'Brien**, filling for Cathy O. has jackets, shirts and hats available.

**Newsletter:** No report: Pete is off on another trip,

this time to Hawaii.

**SCRG: Bev Marsh:** Next meeting Jan. 10. Pancake Breakfast: Mark announced the 3rd Sunday in April (18th) as the best date for the 2010 breakfast. Many volunteers are needed, start planning now.

**Refreshments:** **Chris Foster** in attendance for her final responsibility, **Colleen Schmidt** in the wings to take over. Members encouraged to sign up to bring goodies throughout 2010

**Charles Cohen** modeled the T-shirt depicting his "A" on the front and club logo on the back. Orders can be placed with him for \$20.00, \$2.00 goes back to the club as donation. Charles announced his neighbor has a 1929 Ford which has been garaged for 30 years, asking price \$5,000.00.

**New Business:** Mark reported on the National Membership Meeting in Milwaukee earlier in December. Only 51 attended and no Model A's, probably attributed to the weather. Garth Shreading from Texas was elected to the President position.

**Raffle:** **Tissy and Bill Hatcher** conducted their last raffle; the Parrish's will take over in January, as Tissy assumes the role of Secretary.

## Fourth Thursday Breakfast Bunch

January 21 --- 8:30 a.m.

**Norm's Restaurant**

102 E. 17th Street  
(Main & 17th)  
Santa Ana 92706

714-543-8273

Info: Terry Collings..714 970-7194

# Santa Ana Army Air Base

by Tom Endy

During World War Two Orange County California was host to one of the largest army air training centers in the country. It was an air base with no runways, hangers, or airplanes. Thousands of young men destined to become pilots, navigators, and bombardiers went through nine weeks of initial processing and training here.

Ground was broken for the facility on October 23, 1941 and it was activated on February 23, 1942. The base was located between Harbor Boulevard on the west, Newport Boulevard on the east, Baker Street on the north, and Wilson Street on the south.



**Ariel view of the Santa Ana Army Air Base**

Turnover of personnel was rapid so that by the end of 1942 23,470 soldiers had passed through SAAAB. By the end of 1943 that number jumped to 57,895. In the fall of 1942 SAAAB became an Overseas Replacement Depot (ORD) housing Army Air Forces personnel awaiting transportation overseas. In November of 1943 members of the Women's Air Service Pilots (WASP) began training at the base, followed shortly by members of the Women's Army Corp (WAC). In 1945 SAAAB became one of six Redistribution Centers in the country for airmen returning from overseas who were to be assigned stateside duty.

In late 1945 Japanese aliens from the internment camps who were being returned to Japan by the Immigrations and Naturalization Service (INS) were housed here while awaiting transportation back to Japan.

SAAAB continued as a redistribution and separation center for a short time after the war. On March 31, 1946, the base was officially deactivated. However, in 1956 elements of the 551st Antiaircraft Artillery Missile Battalion brought the Nike-Hercules system from Fort Bliss and temporarily installed and operated it at the old SAAAB site until their permanent installations (Site LA-88) in Chatsworth and atop Oak Mountain were completed.

In 1958 the base was declared surplus and soon afterwards the land was divided for many uses. In the postwar years private homes, apartments, Orange Coast College, the Costa Mesa Air National Guard Station, and the Orange County Fairground shared the land. Many of the base's original buildings remained in use for years by the college and the fair grounds.



**Soldiers of the 414<sup>th</sup> Air Base Squadron depart on a five-mile hike out through gate 3, which is believed to have been the main entrance on Harbor Boulevard. The date is recorded as April 23, 1944.**

It is interesting to note that a young John Riggs (Orange County Model A Ford Club) received his initial training here prior to advancing to pilot training, eventually to become a B-25 pilot and commissioned as a second lieutenant. At the same time a young Charlie Viosca trained here and became a B-17 pilot and was also commissioned a second lieutenant. Charlie currently lives in Frisco, TX (Dallas Model A Ford Club) and is the founder of the Victoria Association, the Model A Ford Youth Scholarship Program, and the Youth Restoration Program. ☺

Contact: David  
Carman  
949 586-2044  
949 945-8648

Lagunafolkdancers.org

**LagunaFolkdancers**

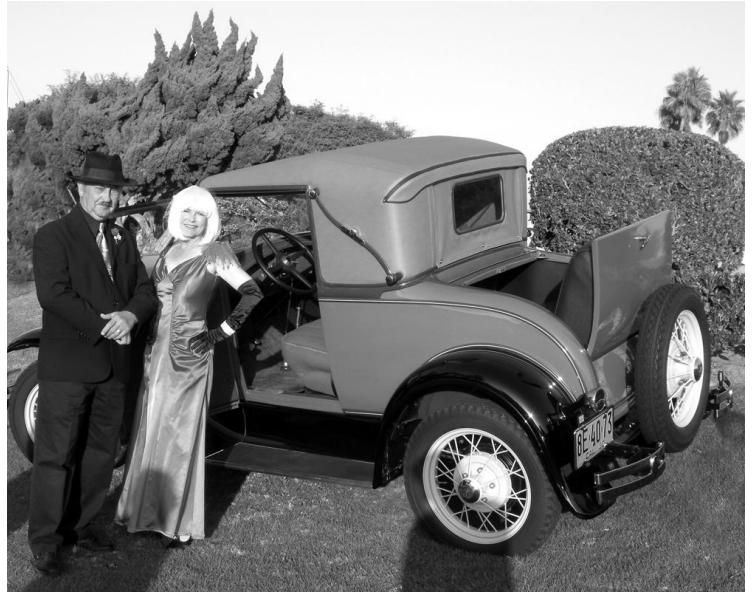
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Laguna Folkdance Festival  
February 5-7, 2010

Ensign School, Newport Beach

Festivities begin Friday February 5 at 7  
pm with a dance party until midnight.

Instruction takes place Saturday and  
Sunday mornings and Saturday  
afternoon. Saturday evening's party  
features performances by local dance  
troupes, ethnic snacks and the  
band Eastern Exposure playing favorite  
recreational folk dances. The festival  
concludes Sunday afternoon with  
another dance party.

Featured Mastered teachers are Tom Bozigian, dances of Armenia, and Richard Powers,  
Vintage Social Dances.



#### About the teachers

Richard Powers is an internationally known vintage dance historian and teacher. On the faculty of Stanford University, he consults on historical dance for the film industry and directs a vintage dance performing group.

Tom Bozigian studied at the Sayat Nova Choreographic School as an invited student and was awarded the diploma in dance choreography with a "Professional Dancer of the Soviet Union" certificate. He worked with both Armenian state ensembles, danced for an amateur group, and traveled into the Armenian interior to research village dances. He returns to Armenia annually to continue research in dance, music and folklore. Tom will teach dances from diverse regions of Armenia.

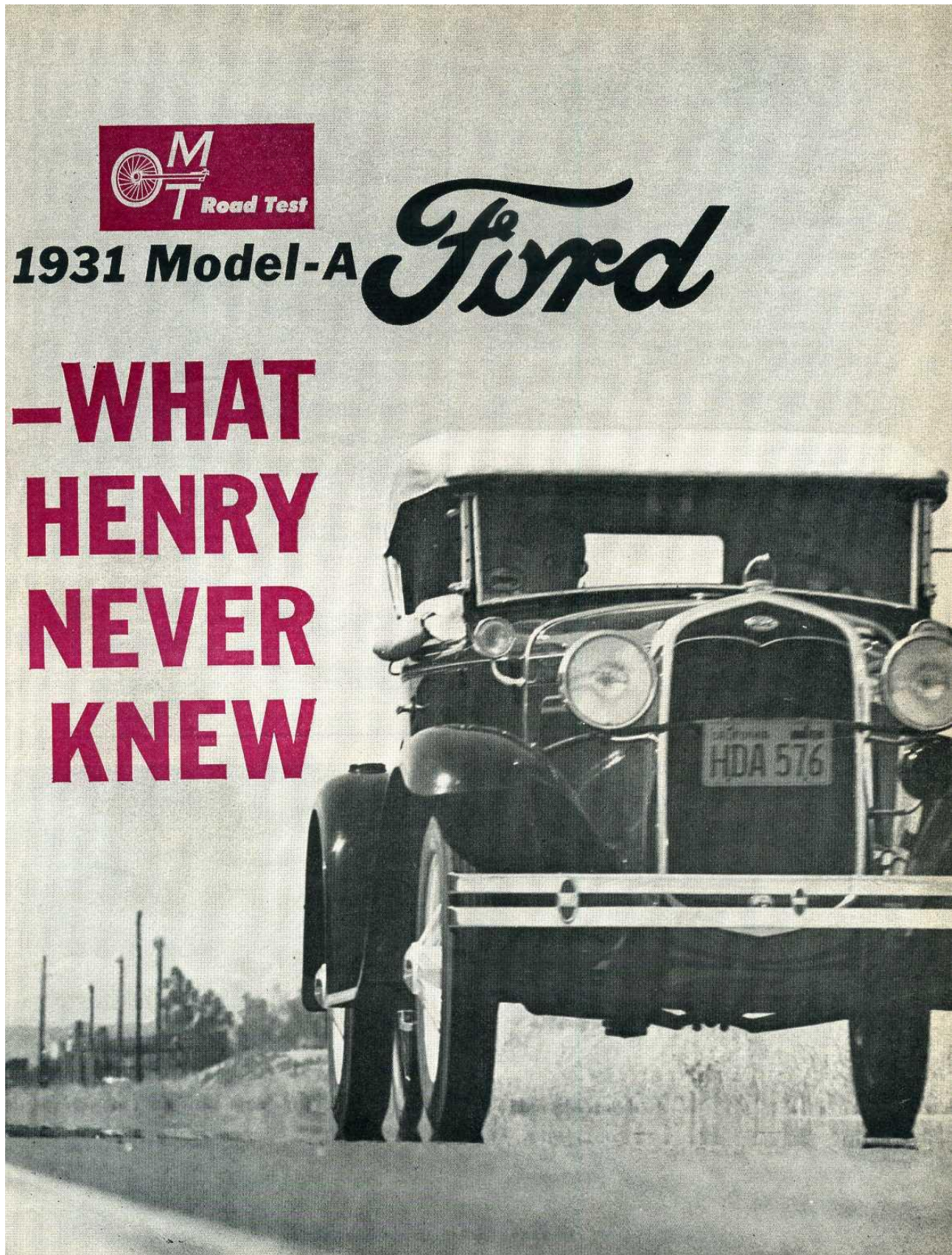
See website, [Lagunafolkdancers.org](http://Lagunafolkdancers.org), for complete schedule.

Ensign School is located at 2000 Cliff Drive, Newport Beach, Ca 92663.

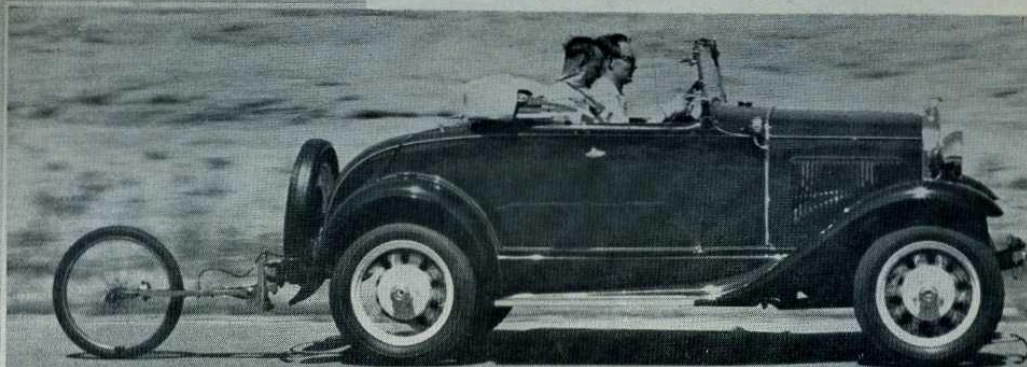
(Information furnished by OCMAFCA member Dennis Baker)



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## Motor Trend tests an all-time great that is still going strong after more than 30 years, worth many times original price

by Gene Creighton

**WHEN HENRY FORD** created the Model A in 1927 to replace the Model T, he felt he was offering the public only an "interim" car. The River Rouge genius wanted to give his customers a bigger, more comfortable car, with a gear shift, and a softer ride, and the engineers just about let it go at that. Ford was content, meanwhile, to watch the automotive winds blow, before shaping up plans for a bigger, and faster car in the future.

What followed was one of the success stories of the age. The Model A was not only successful to the tune of more than 4,000,000 from 1928 through 1931 (there were even 10,000 or so built in 1932 from parts), but it established longevity and value records which make it the most-often restored "antique" available today.

The Model A was a huge success, embarrassingly, even apallingly so, to Ford Motor Company. The public liked its low price, which got down to \$260 for a standard coupe, and ranged about \$500 only for such luxury models as a Sport Phaeton, Town Car and Victoria. Most of all, they liked the do-it-yourself simplicity, which meant that almost anyone with a handful of tools could keep his "A-bone" perking.

Most of all, however, the public liked the A's ruggedness — its ability to take abuse and hard work without breaking down. A-owners were delighted to find that where other cars rusted out, the A's thick steel body panel, screwed over hardwood frames, showed no such problems. The four-banger engine, with its 200.5-cubic-inch capacity, its one-bolt carburetor, and its ridiculously low four-to-one compression, proved it could spin up 100,000 miles, or 200,000 miles, with minor attention to valves and bearings. Never a bear for performance, averaging only 21 mpg under optimum driving conditions, the Model A won its spurs on sheer reliability.

The 50,000 or more Model A restorers in the country today frequently tell the story of how Henry Ford visited Sweden in

MOTOR TREND/AUGUST 1962 27



## MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2009

This year many people were recommended for the Member of the Year Award, which is presented in recognition of the person, couple or family that has most exemplified the spirit of the Orange County MAFC. It takes all of us to make our club function, whether it be simply attending the meetings and tours, or spending the many extra hours involved in leadership roles and various volunteer activities. So many of you help each year with the pancake breakfast, the progressive brunch, organizing tours and events, participating in parades and helping each other with technical and mechanical issues. We would have no newsletter without pictures or editorials, or our wonderful editor(s). All of this is what keeps us going and perpetuates the Model A hobby. This year one person has again received the majority of the votes and it should be no surprise to anyone who has observed the organizational skills and leadership of our president, now entering his fourth year.

It was a little bit of a trick to keep **MARK SCHWING** from knowing about this recognition since he was the one who ordered the awards and planned to pick them up. So hopefully he was truly surprised to be named **MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2009**.

## 2010 Dues

### REMINDER

Membership dues for 2010 are now due and payable and we urge that you remit as soon as possible to your Treasurer. Also, please take this opportunity to check your Roster listing so that it reflects your information accurately such as address, telephone

Thank you very much for sending your Dues in as soon as you can!!

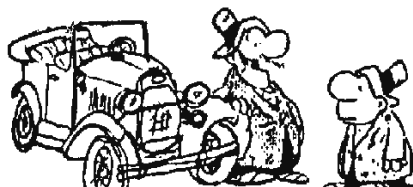
It really helps in getting the roster done on a timely basis!

## RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS TOUR

Charles And Harriett Cohen -Photos by Don Ratzlaff

What a terrific way to end the touring season for the Orange County Model A Ford Club. A fun and informative day was had by all. We met at 9:00 am on Friday December 18, and had a nice leisure drive to Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens in Long Beach. Charles Cohen led the six Model A's all in a row with two Moderns trailing behind. Bev March did an outstanding job arranging this tour. We met at a restaurant in Garden Grove, and after the tour we went to a local restaurant for lunch. Don and Sally Miller were catered to every step of the tour. They said they couldn't walk too much, so they were provided with wheel chairs. Next time, I think I will ask for one and let another member push me around. Carl and Sue Erickson told me they had to hurry and get home to their home alone dog. Don and Carolyn Ratzlaff were helpful with Model A information. Eileen sat quietly next to Mark Schwing as he reaches in his pocket and retrieved his cell phone while dropping \$20 bills on the floor which were returned. Louise and Rick Hall didn't say too much, but did say they had a great time. Kathie and Dale McCall offered to share their food with the rest of the crowd. Again, a great way to end the year. !!!





## 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**

### **FOR SALE:** 1931 Sport Coupe

Older restoration, Always Garaged, Good Condition.  
Includes: Dual Side Mounts and a Trunk

\$15,000.00

09/09

Jim Bailey

949-642-3353



**FOR SALE:** 1930 Phaeton, 458 miles on a  
flawless ground up restoration. Asking \$37,000



Joe Davis, 22400 Skyline Blvd. La Honda, CA 94020  
Voice: 650-948-6424, Fax: 650-618-1596

[www.aries-restoration.com](http://www.aries-restoration.com)

12/09

### **FOR SALE:** 19" Tires



4 used 4.75/5.00x19 white wall tires. These are to be used as spare or side mount only as they do not have DOT numbers so they are mid-70's manufacture. All have fair tread; side walls are yellowed but a few applications of "Bleach White" really brings out the white wall. Asking \$40 ea OBO + shipping from So Cal or pick up in Lake Forest. Additional photos of each tire on request.

Four excellent **Inner Tubes**, 4.75x5.00x19 long rubber stem. Bought news tubes to go with my new tires but when I dismounted my old tires I found that the tubes were in excellent condition but it was too late to return the new ones, good old procrastination!! Asking \$10 each plus shipping from So. Cal

**Mike Watson**

[Lexopolis@cox.net](mailto:Lexopolis@cox.net)

12/09

### **FOR SALE:** Tee Bucket Street Rod

1928 Ford Model A Frame, 394 Oldsmobile V-8 Engine, 1940 Front End, 1922 Model T Body Ross Steering System All work done except wiring needs to be completed. I have all records of work Done including names and addresses of companies. Asking \$25,000 or best offer

**JoAnn Lawson 714/842-3655**

10/09

**FOR SALE:** 1925 Roadster, 5 inch Buffalo wheels, \$12,500. 1916 Touring, 4 Buffalo wheels, Ruckstell, and Rocky Mountain brakes, \$16,000. Call Tom LeRoux @ 714/894-9603

11/09

### **FOR SALE:** Model A items

AA Transmission, Rebuilt Zenith Carb, Rebuilt Water Pump, Rebuilt Distributor, Oval Speedometer, Starters, Manifold set, 8-leaf Rear Spring, and miscellaneous small parts.

Call Jim English, Whittier, CA  
562-944-4726

01/10





## General Meeting

7:30 PM

[Second Thursday of every month]

[Board Meeting at 6:00 PM]

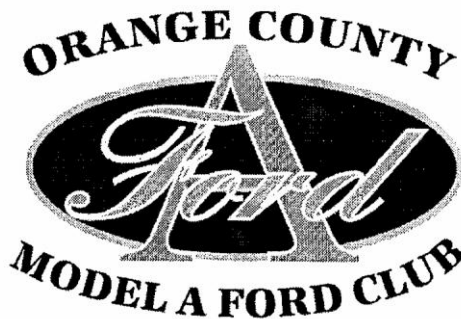
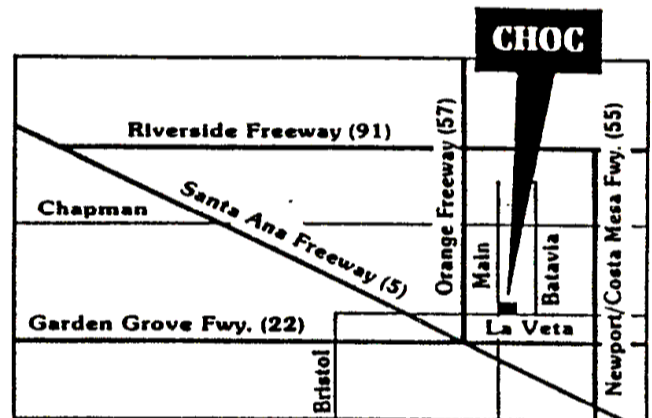
**January 14, 2010**

CHOC Hospital Complex

455 South Main St. Orange CA

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***
- **January 30, 2010**
- Type or write all articles and advertisements and e-mail to: [newsletter@ocmafc.org](mailto:newsletter@ocmafc.org)  
Or mail to: 244 No. Goldenspur Way,  
Orange, CA 92869-4422



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