"The Distributor"

Orange County Model A Ford Club Our 51st Year



Editor: Tissy Smith-Hatcher

November 2012 Volume 52 Number 11



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Web Site Info Entry-TBA

President's Letter November 2012

November, the month of Thanksgiving is an all American holiday. Pilgrims who survived the first harsh winter and blessed with a generous harvest gave thanks for their survival and their new life in a foreign land. They, with their Native Indian friends, celebrated the first Thanksgiving. We reflect on our own lives and give thanks for the many things we take for granted, especially this month.

The November 8th general meeting will be our last regular meeting this year. The December meeting will be very short and take place at our awards/holiday banquet. I urge all of you to attend. Call Kathy McCall to make your reservations. The club is subsidizing \$15 of your meal price so the cost to you is only \$30. If two of you attend, that is equal to your entire \$30 membership fee.

At the November 8th general meeting, I will present the 2013 budget submitted by Joe Goff for your approval. You will also vote for the open positions on the 2013 Board of Directors and submit your choice for Member of the Year.

The Battleship Iowa tour: We had a good turnout of 9 Model A's, a number of modern cars, and 25 plus

members. It was an excellent tour of a very historic ship. Lunch at the Mexican café was pretty good too. Thanks to Frank Mowrer for a well planned and well attended tour.

Our 4th Thursday breakfast and the 1st Saturday breakfast continue to be a good way to start the morning with friends. The new location, The Katella Grill, for the 1st Saturday breakfast turned out very well. We shall return. Thanks to Don Ratzlaff for organizing this gathering.

Rick Hall is keeping us up to date on restoration and maintenance of our Model A's with his meeting talks, newsletter information and frequent technical seminars. Thanks Rick.

Our Sunshine and Sorrow lady had surgery Oct 9th and was climbing ladders on the battleship Iowa on Oct 19th. Not bad for a great grandma. Take it easy Jeanne!

See you November 8th at the general meeting. Come early to chat or better yet, join those of us that eat at Polly's Pies prior to the meeting, just south of the hospital on Main St. We usually arrive about 5:30 or 5:45. This also helps the club treasury since Polly's returns 20% of what we purchase to the club. Last month it was \$39.

Swap Meets

Nov 25 (Sun) Long Beach Hi-Performance Swap Meet and Car Show ~ at Memorial Stadium Not many Model "A" parts, but a great place to buy tools, paint, polish products, fasteners and miscellaneous parts.



Activity Schedule

NEXT MEETING:-See Page 12 for Map November 8, 2012

Deadline for next Distributor is November 30th

Type or write all articles and ads and e-mail to: newsletter@ocmafc.com or mail to P.O. Box 10595 Santa Ana, CA 92711

<u>2012</u> <u>Tours/Activities Calendar</u>



Nov 8 (Thurs) Regular Meeting Reminder ~ This promises to be a fun and exciting meeting. We will hold a White Elephant Auction. The proceeds of the auction will go

to the club. Clean out your cupboards, closets, garages. Bring things that you no longer want and that someone else might. Remember, one man's (or woman's) junk could be someone else's treasure. Should be fun!



Nov 10 (Sat) Tour to Mount Baldy ~ Note tour changed from Nov. 3 If the weather is good, we'll be touring along the Glendora Ridge

Route to the Mount Baldy Lodge for lunch. See the website for details/directions. RSVP with Don Ratzlaff.



Nov 17 (Sat) Technical Seminar ~ Tom Endy's garage at 10:00 AM covering water pump rebuild. This seminar, led by Wayne Wiedle, will evaluate a water pump housing and show

how to build a leakless water pump. Donuts and coffee will be served.





Nov 17 (Sat) Peterson Automotive Museum Tour

~ leaving at 8:30am from Panera Bread in Orange and arriving about 10:30am; the museum is

one of the best car museums on the West Coast. After the tour, we can eat at Johnny Rockets at the museum. Adults \$12/Seniors (62+) \$8. Contact Walt Otto.



Nov 22 (Thurs) Thanksgiving ~ There will be no Fourth Thursday Breakfast this month



Dec 1 (Sat) First Saturday Breakfast BS Session ~ 8AM at The Katella Grill, 1325 W. Katella Ave., Orange, CA (714) 997-9191



Dec 9 (Sun) Installation Dinner to be held at the Tustin Banquet Center. Let's all get together to make this a big club event as we welcome our new club officers and directors. Contact Kathie McCall to RSVP.



Dec 25 (Tue) Christmas Day Place a holiday wreath on your radiator and drive your Model A around the neighborhood. It will put a smile on everyone's face.



Dec 27 (Thurs) Fourth Thursday Breakfast Brunch ~ we will be meeting at 8:30 AM at a location to be determined. Info call Terry Collings (714) 970-7194

Dec 30 (Sun) New Year's Horseless Carriage Club tour moved to the Irwindale Motor Speedway. More details as they become available. Lots of brass.

TECHNICAL TIPS

Fan Belt ... And a Spare

Submitted by Rick Hall, Technical Advisor



The first rule of fan belts for Model "A"s is to always carry a spare. Put it in a large zip-lock freezer bag to keep it clean and to help prevent it from drying out.

In the past few months, I have driven my Victoria on two long tours, one was about 500 miles, the other was over 1200 miles. The car ran beautifully, but on each trip, I lost a fan belt. My car has an alternator and I paid close attention to both pulley alignment and belt tension. My conclusion is that there are poor quality, foreign made fan belts being sold by some of the Model "A" parts suppliers. The belts that failed on my car were not old, worn or cracked. One was brand new! I guess you can't expect too much from a \$10 belt.

My solution was to purchase a high quality, American made fan belt. I found one at NAPA auto parts (#25 22434) for about \$17. This belt has the modern "cogs" on the inside of the belt, which is not the original look, but is more flexible and works better with the smaller pulley on the alternator. There are other styles, manufacturers and

retailers available. Next time you buy a fan belt, ask the retailer where it's made. If they can't tell you, go somewhere else!

When you install or check your fan belt, make sure all three pulleys are in correct alignment. Some alternator kits need adjustments to achieve alignment. Tension on the belt should be just enough to turn the water pump/fan and the generator/alternator without slipping or flopping when you rev up the motor. Usually, this is achieved when you can push the belt in about 1 inch on the longest stretch between pulleys. If the belt is too tight, it can cause wear on the water pump, generator bearings and the belt itself.

If your belt squeaks, rub some bar soap on it or spray it with a little WD-40. The WD-40 is mostly fish oil, so it won't hurt the rubber. Don't use any other type of petroleum based oil. Noisy belts usually are dry, cracked or worn so check it out carefully, and replace if necessary.

2012 Model A & Model T Yosemite Tour By Glenn Johnson

bout a month ago my friend Tom Endy from the Orange County Chapter emailed me regarding a Yosemite tour. Neither Sharon nor I had ever been to Yosemite, so we signed up. I decided to drive our '31 sport coupe that I've been restoring for the last couple of years. I made a list of things that still needed to be finished on the car and went to work crossing off one task at a time. Then I started driving it to put miles on it and adjusted a few minor problems before the trip. I removed the rumble seat cushion to make room for our luggage.

On 9/24, with about 800 miles on the sport coupe's odometer, we headed South on Hwy 49 headed for Oakhurst and our meeting place, The Oakhurst Lodge. Our sport coupe ran flawlessly at 45-50 mph all the way to our destination. The Oakhurst Lodge is just a mediocre motel but it has



lots of property to park the trailers that many of the cars came in. Car trailers arrived all afternoon, along with some folks who drove their Model A's and Model T's from home including our friends, Tom Endy and Rick & Louise Hall



who drove their '31 Victorias all the way from Orange County. That evening, Sharon and I met with a Class of 1960 high school friend of mine for a nice visit and dinner at a local restaurant.

The next morning 40 cars, evenly split between Model

A's and Model T's, lined up and left the hotel for Yosemite. We spent the entire day touring the sights in Yosemite, including an excellent, but expensive, lunch at the famous Ahwahnee Hotel.

Each morning we filled up our gas tanks and all left the hotel for very well organized tours in the countryside surrounding Oakhurst, Coarsegold, and Mariposa. Each day we stopped at local car collectors' garages to visit and see their cars and shops. They were all fabulously clean with some including complete machine shops and many interesting cars. Our evenings were also well planned with great activities including a pizza and socializing night, a show, dinner, and steam train ride at The Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railroad, a boat ride on Bass Lake, and a special dinner at the nearby Best Western Inn. The guest speaker was a John Muir impersonator speaking on his life as a naturalist.

Thanks to our friend, Tom Endy for bringing this event to our attention and especially to Judy and John Burrell for organizing this truly wonderful tour.

Orange County Model A Club General Meeting Minutes, CHOC Hospital

Date: Thursday, October 11, 2012

Time: 7:30 P.M

40 Members in Attendance

Meeting opened with flag salute led by President Richard Parrish.

VISITORS: Doris Marshall entertained the club as usual with some humorous jokes. She introduced Larry and Shirley Dowell who purchased a Model A that was advertised in *The Distributor*. They also became new club members.

PRESIDENT: Richard Parrish presented the club with a check of \$37.50 from Polly's Restaurant. Some members have dinner at Polly's before general meetings and with a special coupon they will refund 20% of the check to the club. Join the crowd for dinner, enjoy the food, companionship and enhance the club's treasury. President Richard Parrish introduced Pete and Trish Cruz. They have been members in the past and are back after short absence. Welcome back. Richard got notice from MAFFI Museum that our club brick has been laid. The museum opens on May 13, 2013 and is located about 2 hours driving time from the Ford plant in Detroit, MI.

TREASURER: Joe Goff is on vacation.

SECRETARY: Frank Reese noted corrections to last month's minutes that didn't make printing time of *The Distributor*. The correction was on the steering box oil. It's not re-bottled. It comes bottled by the case.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Rick Hall handed out a flyer to anybody interested in purchasing an alternator. He also brought in samples of ball joint replacements for \$25 per ball joint. There is a good article on this in Model A Times magazine. Rich is looking for suggestions to give technical seminars in the future. If you have any, give Rick a call. If you need a name tag, or repair of same, please see Rick. Next technical session will be on November 17, 2012 at Tom Endy"s home to show how to rebuild the Model A water pump. Donuts and coffee will be available. NEWSLETTER: Editor Tissy Smith was absent.

VICE PRESIDENT/ACTIVITIES: Walt Otto is absent. Frank Mowrer talked about the tour of the Battleship Iowa on October 20, 2012. They have parking space for our cars. Sign ups of 20 or more persons and we get a group discount price of \$15.00 each. The Mount Baldy tour is scheduled for Saturday, November 3, 2012. Discussion is to change the tour to a day during the week. Don Ratzlaff will let everybody know of change. Richard got word from McCoy Mills Ford of their celebration of 75 years in business. They would like to have some Model A's on display November 13, 2012. If interested contact Richard. Bev Marsh is planning a white elephant auction at our next meeting. She is requesting everybody bring in

items from home that are extra or not needed and they will be put up for auction. The money raised will go to the club bank account. Drain Marshall will be the auctioneer. Tom Endy brought in a Model A transmission all disassembled for show and tell display. Thanks Tom. Good job.

ROSTER RAFFLE: Don Ratzlaff supervised the Roster Raffle. Art and Olive Moore's names were drawn for the \$20 prize. Since they were not present, next months' drawing will be for \$30.

SUNSHINE & SORROW: Jeanne Parrish was absent. She had a surgery and is doing fine at home. Sheila Plotkin is recovering from eye surgery.

BANQUET CHAIRPERSON: Kathie McCall is requesting sign-ups for our December banquet. We have 50, however, we need 60 to break even. This looks like a great evening of fun and food, so don't miss out. Get signed up. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** They passed the "Drive Your Model A to General Meetings" motion, raising the raffle from \$5 to \$10.

MERCHANDISE: Jerry and Cathy was selling the normal club apparel, soluble oil, steering box oil and medallions. If you have committed to buying medallions, it's time to follow thru and purchase.

HARD LUCK TROPHY: The trophy moved from Richard Parrish to Frank Mowrer.

REFRESHMENTS: The club thanks Pam Heiland and others for refreshments.

BOARD MEETING: The next Board Meeting will be at Rick and Louise Hall's home on November 1, 2012. The December 6, 2012 Board Meeting will be at Richard and Jeanne Parrish's home.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M. Respectfully submitted by Frank Reese Temporary Secretary





Engine Dollies

by Tom Endy

teve Harker has been making and supplying engine dollies to the Model A hobby for many years. The fact that he does not advertise has made it difficult for someone to buy one. Swap meets are usually the only place where you would see Steve and his engine dollies.

Steve resides in Rancho Cucamonga, but has a business in Orange County. I recently bought several from him after finally locating him. The best news is he will deliver direct to your doorstep.

The price is \$60 and includes delivery anywhere in Orange County. Steve's home phone number is: 909-948-5608



Wood Constructed Model
A Engine Dolly

If you are interested in purchasing a very well built dolly to roll that spare engine around on, give Steve a call.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Dick Smith, Club Historian & Librarian



Have you ever wondered the history of your car? Who has owned it, what did they do to it and with it? How many owners have there

been? Why did they sell it? The final question, who owns it now?'

This month, the "Historians Corner" will honor a car previously owned by Greg Carcerano, a long time member and past president (1999). We're going to learn the history of "Toots", one of the finest Model A's in our club, a 1931 160-B slant windshield restored town sedan.

The Story of My Girl "Toots"

By Greg Carcerano

My love for the Model A came about the time I was around nine years old. My father happened to own a 1930 coupe with Rumble seat. He used to take us kids for rides in it. From that young age I was always amazed at the simplicity of the Model A and its graceful beauty. It was much different from all other cars from my childhood. It had its own unique sound as it putted down the street at its usual casual pace. On a summer's day, when the windshield was opened and the wind came rushing in the cab, it was like no other car around. To me it was something very special.

As the years went by, the thoughts of all the joy I had would always return. It was later in life I realized that I wanted to experience that joy once again. So I started off by learning all about the history of the Model A, and searching for the answers as to why this car was so special to me. Then after searching for a few years, I finally found just the car I wanted. The 1931 160B Slant Windshield. It slept in the garage/barn of a 40 acre ranch in the Descanso moun-

tain range. The owner (Jim) was an older retired gentleman who had owned it since 1968. Jim was an interesting old guy. He was a retired Navy man with lots of stories from the old days, and who let's just say, had an above average love affair with his moonshine. Originally the car was purchased in early 1932 by an Indian woman from Julian. She had the car until she passed away around 1968. Jim had purchased the car and had done an average restoration on it in 1972 and kept it parked in the barn/garage at his ranch. Once a year there would be a parade for the city of Descanso and that was the time when Jim would take the car out, drive it down the hill and in the parade. After the parade, he would drive it back up the hill and park it back in the garage and leave her there until the next year's parade.

After purchasing the car, I joined the club in 1995. A few years later, while driving on a club tour, I was involved in a small accident. Thankfully Toots sustained only minor injuries. That's when I decided to do a full ground up restoration. And so I began the task of taking her completely apart, restoring every square inch and putting her back together. It took about 7 months to complete. The color I chose was Rubalite red. Many of you probably never heard of it but it is an actual Ford Model A color. It came out in 1931 and was one of a few colors Henry introduced for commercial vehicles. But he also put a message out to dealers that if any customer wanted that color for their car, then Ford would paint it for them as well. After finishing the restoration, I started collecting era accessories. And so after a while of collecting, I decided that Toot's being a deluxe vehicle, that it would be fitting for her to wear her own jewelry. So I decorated her with a Spirit of St. Louis hood ornament, wig wam brake light, gold anodized clock mirror, oil pressure gauge, bud vases, Model A water temp gauge, driving light, and an oil change reminder shift knob.

Seems like everywhere she goes she is loved by all. And in her own way, she has this beauty and aura about her that seems to captivate people. To me, she was the most beautiful Gal I knew. I have had the privilege of owning Toot's for the past 17 years, and have cherished every moment I had with her. It has recently come time for the two of us to part, though I know she will still be in good hands, I will always cherish the memories we had together, and she will forever be in my heart. You were my girl and I was your guy. I'll always love you Toots......

"Toots", where is it today?



Currently, garaged in Lake Forest, California. Yes, I am now the proud owner of "Toots".

Dick Smith, Club Historian

2013 DUES INVOICE

Orange County Model A Ford Club

NAME:
AMOUNT: \$30.00 ANY ROSTER CHANGES? IF SO, PLEASE LIST BELOW
Cars:
Telephone number(s):
Address:
E-mail address(es):
Any other changes:
Please check the current Roster for accuracy!!!! Make your check payable to Orange County Model A Ford Club (OCMAFC) and mail to the club at: P.O. Box10595 Santa Ana CA 92711
Detach here

BALLOT President Walt Otto Write in Secretary Pam Heiland Write in Treasurer Joe Goff Write in Write in



Please complete your ballots, one per person, and mail to your club before November 30th at: P.O. Box 10595, Santa Ana, CA 92711

OR

Bring to the November 8, 2012 General Meeting at the CHOC Hospital Complex

Please be sure and VOTE!!

For further information, please contact Kathie McCall

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Soluble Oil

by Tom Endy

ost modern cars today use anti-freeze in their radiators. It primarily is protection from freezing that could crack the block and/or head when the ambient temperature falls below freezing.

In the event that a modern car boils over the boil over happens under the hood. Not so with a Model A. When it boils over with anti-freeze the boil over is on top of the hood and it can do damage to the paint.

Since freezing is not a concern here in Southern California a better solution is to use plain or distilled water in the radiator along with an anti-rust additive. Prestone sells a product called "Super Radiator Anti-Rust Inhibitor". A pint bottle generally sells for about \$3. What is in the bottle is 5-6 ounces of soluble oil, the rest is water.

Soluble oil not only acts as a rust inhibitor in a Model A; it also provides some lubrication to the

rear water pump bushing. Soluble oil is amber in color, however, when mixed with water it turns the water a milky white.

The Orange County Model A Ford Club has procured soluble oil in bulk and has broken it down into 16.9 ounce bottles as a service to its members. The bottles sell for \$4 each. Each bottle will provide three radiator fill-ups. Add about one third of the bottle (about 5.5 ounces) each time the radiator is drained,



One bottle of Prestone for one radiator fill-up

flushed, and refilled. The bottles of soluble oil will be available at the general meetings.

Monthly Roster Drawing

Winners (almost) were Art & Olive Moore. They lost out on \$20 because the meeting. Each not a winner, the to the next month \$10 is added to the

the meeting and you

they weren't at month there is prize rolls over and an additional pot. Come to are already ahead

of the game. You must be present to WIN! See you there.

Want to talk about your Model A? Meet others who share your passion

First Saturday Breakfast Scuttlebutt (BS) Session

December 1st 8AM The Katella Grill 1325 W. Katella Ave. Orange, CA (714) 997-9191

Frank Reese took over as interim Secretary for the OCMAFC. We appreciate his stepping in and volunteering.

Do you collect MAFCA's Restorer magazines?

If so, I have many copies from the mid-70's thru early 2000, that were donated by our members to



be shared with our Orange County Model "A" members at no cost. Just contact me with the issues you desire. I also have older issues at a minimal cost available from a member from another club.

Contact: Dick Smith, Club

Historian at modeladick@yahoo.com or call 949-770-6847

COME ONE, COME ALL to the

November 8th General Meeting. We will hold a White Elephant Auction. The proceeds of the auction will go to the club. Clean out your cupboards, closets, garages. Bring things

that you no longer want and that someone else ELEPHAN might.

Remember. AUCTION one man's (or

woman's) junk could be someone else's treasure. Should be fun!

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: OCMAFC, P.O. Box 10595, Santa Ana, CA 92711 or by email to newsletter@ocmafc.com

Visit MAFCA's Web Site: www.mafca.com/classifieds.html

For Sale

1967 MUSTANG 2-DOOR COUPE

Candy Apple Red. Red original upholstery. Automatic floor shift. Aftermarket steering wheel but origi-

nal is in trunk. Southern California car. Always garaged, minor wear. Completely original except replaced short block. Original license plates. Kept as original



not restored but in very nice condition. \$9,000 or best offer. Located in East Whittier.. For more info: **John Knox** (562)697-2545

HAUL MASTER ADJUSTABLE TOW BAR Per-

fect for Model A's. Bought new at Harbor Freight, never used still in the box. Harbor sells them (discount sale) for \$69.99+tax= \$75.41 Normal price 99.99. I will sell it for \$48.00. Harbor Freight product item#94696. Haul Master adjustable tow bar helps move cars and trucks up to 5,000 lbs.! The quick connection system featured can be bolted directly to the frame or bumper of many vehicles. The tow bar can easily fold for simple storage in your vehicle. This adjustable tow bar is a great way to move cars from the road to your garage simply, safely and easily!

- •5000 lb. towing capacity
- •Tow bar arms extend from 24" to 43"
- •Comes with 2" coupler
- •Quick connection to mounting brackets with two pull pins
- •Tow bar folds for easy storage perfect for Model A touring

Email or call **Pieter Dwinger** at 714-322-1437 10/12

The Model A was first launched on:

- A. 2nd of December, 1927
- B. 13th of August, 1927
- C. 14th of December, 1926
- D. 6th of January, 1928

Answer: A

MODEL A TRAILER—The frame and hitch are square tube steel that was professionally built with the axle, hubs to fit Model A wheels, springs etc. by Dico Trailer Co. in Anaheim. The rest of the trailer I built as follows: The wood is red oak. The wood can use some sanding and a fresh coat of spar vanish is all that is needed. The trailer barrel (covered wagon) shape is as follows:

I made out of 1 1/8" plywood the spars (bows)

The barrel is made out of one piece of galvanized sheet metal

The white covering is from automotive/boat material that a car/boat upholstery shop made and installed. It is easily washable.

The barrel is insulated w/weatherproof insulation between the plywood spars and the sheet metal.

The trailer is waterproof

it

The inside floor is plywood w/carpeting over



The inside of the sheet metal is painted white The door is made out of Texture 1-11 grooved plywood with brass hinges and a dead bolt lock The wheels are 21" Model A The tongue has been extended a bit so that in front of the trailer barrel is a matching wood flip lid cabinet that a tool box can be placed in an angle iron frame. You can carry oil and other stuff in it to. The hitch is a standard 1-7/8" ball hitch. 2 Model A tail lights on Model A tail light brackets with turn signal/stop/running light bulbs and a standard small trailer electrical plug. Asking \$900. Can't build it for this price! Questions please let me know. **Pieter Dwinger**/cell 714-322-1437 10/12



The Distributor

Deadline for next *Distributor*November 30, 2012

Type or write all articles and advertisements and e-mail to: newsletter@ocmafc.com
Or mail to: P.O. Box 10595, Santa Ana, CA 92711





Post Office Box 10595 Santa Ana, CA 92711

First Class Mail

Web Site: www.ocmafc.com

General Meeting

[Second Thursday of every month]

November 8, 2012

CHOC Hospital Complex

455 South Main Street, 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 (Conference Rooms A & B) is accessible from the parking structure.

