

The Distributor

Orange County Model A Ford Club

www.ocmafc.com

Southern California, Founded 1961

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Wade Roberts

January 22, 1944 - August 22, 2013

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The deadline for submitting articles to *The Distributor* is the 25th of each month.

Ads will run for two months. Submit in writing to the club's mailing address or e-mail to: newsletter@ocmafc.org

Ottomatic Tales

by Walt Otto, President

Elections are coming up and we have a candidate for technical director, which is an elected board position. At our September meeting, Pete Cruz volunteered to serve as Technical Director for the next year. Frank Mower has agreed to continue for another year as Vice President/Tours if there are no volunteers by voting time.

We did not yet get a volunteer to take Kathy McCall's position as Election Chairperson but we are hoping we will by next meeting. Contact Kathy or myself if you are interested in serving in the position.

Rick Hall, Frank Mower, and Kathy McCall have all done an outstanding service to the club and the members for their efforts. We hope to continue the tradition of outstanding service to our club. Please consider getting involved as much as possible.

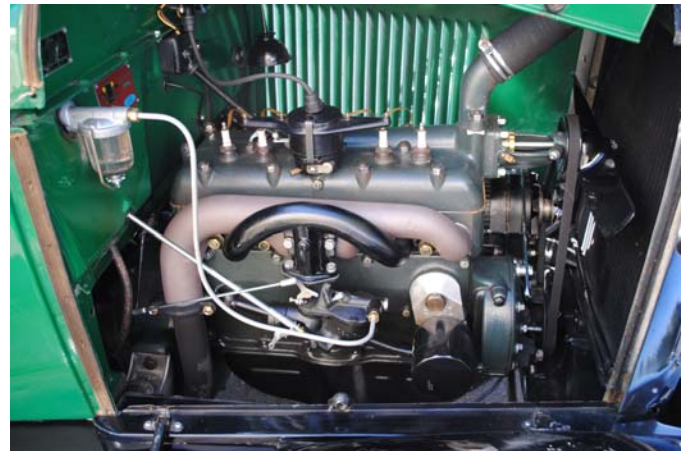
Don Ratzlaff suggested that the Tour Director (VP) could have a signup sheet each month where volunteers could choose a month to organize and direct a tour with the help of the Vice President/Tour Director. The director would oversee each month's planning. This could also be applied to Technical Activities in order to make those two positions much more enjoyable as well as involving more members in the operation and planning of all of our activities. Of course, this depends upon volunteers from club members. Four or five members signed up for tours in our October meeting. Good ideas get good responses.



Her name is Emily

My car's name is Emily I am the third owner. It was built at the San Francisco Factory in October 1929, and sold in North Fresno County to a farmer named E. Carlson who owned it for 31 years. The second owner was C.W. Trotter who owned it 50 years 1960-2010. I became the third owner when I bought it in June 2010. I have pictures of the two previous owners, the original bill of sale, license the original plate, and records from the second owner.

The car got my attention in the Aug/Sept 2010 issue of the Restorer. There were two pages with photos. I liked it so much I called the owner and offered to buy it. He told me it was not for sale. However, three weeks later he called me and told me his doctor would not let him drive anymore. So I drove up to his house just south of San Jose and bought it. I drove it my house in Laguna Beach. The trip took 13-14 hours. It was a difficult trip as the engine was not in good repair. The brakes were not good either, but the body and everything else was in good condition.



The engine is in good condition now

General Meeting

Minutes Highlights

September 12, 2013\CHOC Hospital

Board meeting:

Did not have enough members present to form a quorum. Absent were Pam Heiland-Secretary, Rick Hall-Technical, and Joe Goff-Treasurer. The meeting proceeded as a discussion only.

Installation banquet: Walt Otto suggested the outgoing board receive pancake spatulas on plaques or certificates in glass frames. Kathie McCall says we need a commitment of 60 people attending the event. She will provide a flyer for the next general meeting. **Model A Ford Day:** There was a discussion concerning details of the event. Lisa Bannister presented the insurance coverage certificate for the event. **The Follies:** Walt Otto reported Tom Endy will be handling the Follies tour in November. All tickets have been sold, however we can buy more. The Saguaro Hotel provided a Group Sales contract, which was signed by Walt Otto. Joe Goff has already signed for the tickets.

Member of the Year: Kathie McCall spoke about the voting. It is always the same recipients every year and some of the people are embarrassed to receive it. Many club members have a difficult time identifying individuals to select, she suggests we eliminate the Member of the Year category. This will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Newsletter: Tissy Smith-Hatcher has resigned as Editor of The Distributor. Tom Endy will be taking over effective with the October newsletter, conditional upon his attending board and general meetings. **Adjourned at 7:15pm.**

General meeting:

Visitors: Doris Marshall introduced our guest, Tom Needle from the Capistrano Valley A's. Bryan Thompson is a new member to join the club and has a 1930 town sedan. **Minutes:** Pam Heiland was ill and unable to attend tonight's meeting. A motion was made by Jerry Neat and seconded by Derrel Gollighugh to approve the Minutes of the General Meeting for August as published in the newsletter.

Tours and Activities: Richard Parrish discussed the 9/28 Model A Ford Day picnic at Mason Regional Park in Irvine. On 9/26, Fullerton College is having their 100th Anniversary. There will be morning and evening events and they have requested Model A cars in attendance.

The Walk to End Alzheimer's: Will be going forward on 11/16 at Anaheim Stadium. Tom Endy provided information on the November tour to the Palm Springs Follies. The Follies tickets have all been sold, but more can be purchased. Tom will be getting an account number for the block of rooms from the Saguaro Hotel. Each person will have to make their individual hotel reservations by 11/1. Send money for the purchase of Follies tickets to Joe Goff. Tickets are \$50 each. The Follies performance is Saturday evening 11-23. A dinner is planned at a Mexican restaurant Friday 11-22. **Oktoberfest:** Frank Mowrer is looking into having a tour for Oktoberfest. **Election Chair:** Kathie McCall advised Frank Mowrer has agreed to continue as Vice-President/Activities for another year if no one steps up. Pete Cruz said he would volunteer for the technical position if club members would attend a charitable event for Orangewood Children's Foundation on 9/21. It will be a movie screening of The Wrecking Crew session players with 200+ songs in the movie. Donations go to the Foundation and filmmaker (50/50 basis) so the film can eventually be released to a larger audience. Cost is \$20 per ticket with \$5 off with promo code (Model A) or \$40 for VIP at 5pm, with screening to begin at 6:30pm. For additional information go to www.orange4orange-events.com.

Installation Banquet: A private room is reserved for 12-8; the cost to club members is \$30 per person. Kathie McCall will need a firm commitment as far as the number attending by the November meeting. **Bev Marsh** was awarded a certificate and gold pin for 50 years of membership from MAFCA. **Model A driver winner:** Was Tom Weaver. **Monthly Roster Drawing:** was won by Gerald Rapp. Unfortunately, he was not present, so the next month's drawing will be for \$60. **Frank Reese** expressed his appreciation to two members, Don Ratzlaff and Bob Jeffries, who came over and fixed Frank's steering unit and adjusted his brakes in 100-degree weather. **Hard Luck Trophy:** Dick Smith won with his story of his 1929 Town Sedan. Gravity was not his friend when it came to the fuel shut off valve. **Club Historian:** Dick Smith announced past Distributors and books are available to you; just call him.

Joanie Harris, Bev Marsh, and Carolyn Ratzlaff provided tonight's refreshments.

Activities Calendar

October 5 (Saturday) 8AM

First Saturday breakfast BS session, The Katella Grill 1325 W. Katella, Orange.

October 10 (Thursday)

Board Meeting 6:30 PM, General Meeting 7:30 PM
CHOC Hospital, White elephant sale.

The Great White Elephant Sale

Will be held at the October 10th general meeting. Bring those things that you can't bear to throw away. Someone else might want it and be willing to buy it. Proceeds go to the club. It is a way to make a little money for the club and have some fun also.

October 19-20 (Saturday - Sunday)

Centennial Celebration car show, Atascadero
Info: atascaderocentennial.com.

October 24 (Thursday) 8:30 AM

Fourth Thursday Breakfast\Brunch
Gourmet Cafe' and Pie Company
5350 Katella, Los Alamitos 90720
562-546-0055 (across from the racetrack)

October 26 (Saturday) 10AM

Technical Seminar, Upholstery restoration at
Don Geisen's upholstery shop.
23011 Moulton Parkway Bld. H-1 Laguna Hills

November 7 (Thursday)

The November general meeting will be held on November 7th, which is the first Thursday of the month.

November 21-24 (Thursday - Sunday)

Palm Spring Follies Tour, contact Tom Endy for information and to sign up for the tour. Purchase tickers for the Follies from Joe Goff, Tickets \$50.

December 8 (Sunday)

Annual club installation banquet at Angelo & Vino's Ristorante, Fullerton. Commitment for the dinner is encouraged and a sign up list will be available at the October and November meetings.

The cost is \$30.00 per person; checks should be made out to OCMAFC. We need a minimum of 60 people, but the restaurant can accommodate up to 130 in our private dining room. We will also have a private parking area, so drive your Model A. For questions, call Kathie McCall 714-633-0946.

Swap Meets

Hi Performance\Auto Parts Long Beach Veteran's Stadium

October 13 (Sunday)

November 10 (Sunday)

December 1 (Sunday)

Military veterans

Beginning in 2005 a series of articles ran in the *Distributor* honoring members of the Orange County Model A Ford Club who served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The club has decided to run the articles again in the same sequence and exactly as they were originally presented. We will begin this month with Ted Loeffler. Each month the continuing series will appear on page 8.

Sunshine & Sorrow

by Jeanne Parrish

Dick Blosser has been dealing with cancer treatment for several years with moderate success but cancer is a tough advisory. I am sorry to report that he lost his battle with cancer on Wednesday, 9/25/13. Services are pending.

Bruce Harris is still in the hospital as of 9-21. He is in Respiratory Unit 5th floor west at Long Beach Memorial. Joanie reports that he is "fighting another infection with inspirational pneumonia in his lungs and chest". In addition; Joanie "appreciates all your support and get well cards. She takes them up to Bruce and shows them to him; it makes him feel good to know you care, and she does too". Please say some prayers and keep good thoughts for him.

Tech Tips from Rick

by Rick Hall, Technical Advisor

Be Prepared!

In my youth I was a Boy Scout. As an adult I am a Model A driver. The motto still applies-be prepared. When you drive your Model A, at the very least, have ½ tank of gas (or more), a cell phone, your AAA card, last year's club roster and air in your spare. If you are able and willing to do roadside repairs here are lists of tools, parts and supplies. I keep an inventory list in my door pocket so I know what I have on board.

Tools

Jack & handle, block of wood
Starting Crank
Flash light
Circuit Tester w/ wiring diagram
Box/Open end wrench set
Screw Drivers - small, medium, large
Adjustable wrench (medium)
Ball peen Hammer
Drift Punch
Socket wrench set
Pliers (regular & needle nose)
Feeler gauge, small file & distributor cam wrench
Wire cutter/stripper
Pocketknife
For long trips add:
Tire pump
Tire irons

Parts

Fan belt
High-tension coil wire
Muffler clamp w/bolts
Condenser
Generator cut out
Gas cap
Light bulbs (brake, running, headlight)
Distributor timed to your motor
For long trips add:
Carburetor w/ gasket
Radiator hoses & clamps
Generator/alternator
Ammeter
Timing gear

Bendix drive (starter)
Fuel line
Water pump w/ gasket
Lug nuts
Engine gasket set
Ignition cable jumper
Wheel bearings-front w/races, greased

Supplies

Tape (electrical, duct)
Bailing wire
Gasket material & RTV
Copper wire (insulated #12, #10)
Rags & hand cleaner
Sand paper
Assorted nuts, bolts, screws, washers, & cotter pins
For long trips add:
MAFCA club roster
Water
Oil
Les Andrews' Troubleshooting and Diagnostics guide

The September Seminar

Was all about the installation of seat belts in Pete Hyland's 1930 coupe. The effort was a rousing success. Each Model A body style offers an installation challenge. Bob Daniels of **Buckle-Up Seat Belts** demonstrated the various types of installation hardware available. They offer a complete line of retractable seat belt options to better suit a Model A Ford. Seat belts are their only business.



Buckle-up is located at 1889 W Commonwealth Ave. Unit N, Fullerton, CA 92833.

HISTORIANS CORNER

By Dick Smith, Club Historian/Librarian

October 2013

This month the “**Historians Corner**” will feature the 1931 Model **160B** DeLuxe Slant Window Town Sedan. The purpose of this series of articles is to highlight the differences between the 160 A, B, C. To accomplish this we looked last month at **Gerry and Sherry Reid’s** restored 160 A Standard Sedan. This month we will feature **Dick and Carmen Smith’s** restored 160B. We will then finish the series in the November issue featuring John and **Dorothy Knox’s** restored 160C Fordor, 2 window or Blind Back Sedan.



1931 Model 160 B Slant Windshield

In 1931 Fords sales were plummeting, Ford was losing about \$75 every time it sold a car. Ford tried desperately to cut his losses. He tried styling changes to some models. He decided to introduce more Deluxe models and expand its truck and commercial lines. **The 160 A Std** interior came with front rubber floor material, no interior sun visor. All window trim was painted a maroon color. There were no arm rests, the upholstery was a check wool and did not have a seat strap for rear passenger lap blankets. The dome light was in the ceiling center.



160 A front seating compartment

The 1931 Model 160A was the economy standard model and was probably a higher seller back in a troubling economy. The exterior featured no cowl lights, limited body colors, black spoke wheels. No side mounts.



160A Std Sedan exterior

The 160B Town Sedan has additional exterior features. It features cowl lights, and many additional color combinations. In June, Ford began to offer colored spoke wheels to match the body stripe on all DeLuxe closed passenger types, but not including the Victoria, Town Sedan or Cabriolet. On those models, as well as the Standard types, a charge for color was \$5.00. The standard colors were black, Chicle Drab, Kewanee Green, Maroon, Brewster Green Medium, some other colors were available thru the dealer, the 160 B on the left is shown in Rubelite Red.



The interior now featured mohair upholstery, Arm rests, lap robe strap on the rear of the front seat. The dome light was moved to the rear. Front and rear carpet.

OCMAFC Military Veterans

Reprinted from *The Distributor*, September 2005

Ted Loeffler U.S. Army 1950-1952

In 1947 at age 16 I joined the California National Guard. I was assigned to “communications” at Headquarters Company, 224th Infantry Regiment, 40th Division located in the San Bernardino area. The incentive was the money, which mostly went to keeping my car running. My father also thought it was a good discipline experience for me. Two years later I re-enlisted. In June 1950 the Korean War broke out and the 40th was activated into the U. S. Army for two years active duty. On September 1st 1950 we were shipped to Camp Cooke (which is now Vandenburg Air Force Base) for basic training. In March 1951 the 40th was shipped out to Camp McNair, Japan (on the slopes of Mt. Fuji) for “occupation duty”. Later we were shipped to Hachanoe in northern Japan for field exercises. My duties were to set up radio and telephone communication equipment. By February 1952, many of the original National Guard enlistees, including myself, were rotated back to California as our individual enlistments were up. The 40th was then sent to Korea. By June 1952 all of the original National Guard enlistees were back home. I arrived in Alhambra, CA, where my parents then lived, on February 13th, 1952. The next day, Valentines Day, I met Helen, my wife to be. I also purchased a 1939 Buick convertible with my separation money, and I still had \$500. left over. Six months later I sold the Buick and almost doubled my money on it. However, I did keep Helen.

Several years ago the Orange County Model A Ford Club went on a tour of Vandenburg AFB. When we entered the base parking lot I had a scary flashback. Fifty years earlier that very same parking lot held the Camp Cooke Military Police security offices where two friends and I, in my car, were escorted after we were allegedly seen on a restricted game preserve beach armed with military weapons. We were searched and questioned for about three hours. Finally we were released when no evidence could be found. It seems I had lost the key to the trunk of my car and they were not able to open it. That same night there was a military funeral for several deceased ducks in an unmarked grave. I can't say too much more about it as I'm not sure of the statute of limitations and they may still be looking for the culprits.

Looking back, there is no question that my military experience gave me the incentive to prosper, and even though I did not foresee it at the time, more good fortune was to come my way than I could have expected.



Ted Loeffler 1950

Wade Roberts

1944 - 2013

by Tom Endy



The passing of Wade and Jan Roberts this past summer was very sad news to all us old timers in the Orange County Model A Ford Club, as well as anyone else who knew them. Wade served on the club's board of directors in several capacities including president, and chairman of the annual pancake breakfast.

I first met Wade when I joined the club 25 years ago. At the time he was serving as treasurer. What early on impressed me about Wade was a presentation he made at a club meeting one night right after the Christmas Holidays.

That year Wade was a member of the Tournament of Roses Association in Pasadena. As a Botanist, Wade was a judge of the floral arrangements on the many floats that were in the parade.

During the pre-parade activities Wade had the privilege of meeting Shirley Temple Black who was the Grand Marshall that year. Wade's two children were teen-agers at the time and were included in the activities. During the event the two children shot a number of 35mm slides that Wade organized into the presentation he gave to the club.

Wade's presentation that evening was one of the more enjoyable club meetings I ever attended. I was impressed with the professionalism Wade displayed. And a professional he certainly was. His occupation was that of a Botanist, a person who has knowledge of things that grow from the soil. His only job during his adult years was that of curator and director of Sherman Gardens in Corona Del Mar. He held this job from the time he graduated from college in 1966 until his recent death.

Sherman Gardens and Library is located at 2647 E. PCH just south of Macarthur Boulevard.

It is a 2.2-acre horticultural retreat with many exotic plants and flowers. It has a gift shop and it is a venue for weddings and other special events. On several occasions Wade and Jan hosted the Model A Club to a botanical seminar on the premises.

Wade and his family lived on the premises. There is a very small well-kept house directly behind the gardens that was their home for all their years together.

A story I was told is that when Wade and Jan's two children were little he lectured them on the fact that they were not wealthy as were the people who lived in their neighborhood. This is not exactly true, for Wade and Jan were rich in far many ways other than accumulated financial wealth. What he was trying to teach them was a sense of themselves and not the wealth that surrounded them.

Wade had a tremendous sense of humor. A story he told about himself occurred in the early 1990's when he read in the paper one day that a formal dedication was to take place upon the opening of the last stretch of the 55 freeway. With that in mind he climbed into his Model A and drove to the location to watch the activities. As he neared the area there was a mob scene and uniformed guards were turning people away. As he was looking for a place to turn around a guard motioned him forward, opened the barricade and directed him to park next to a tent that had been set up. Several dignitaries came out and welcomed him and invited him into the luncheon that was about to take place. They apparently thought he was part of the program. He didn't want to embarrass them so he went right along with the program. And you have to know that he fit right in.

Like many old timers in the club Wade drifted away from Model A club activities as other interests in his life directed his attention. However, Wade never lost his interest in Model A's. The last time I saw him was early this year one very early Saturday morning at the famous Donut Shop in Huntington Beach. He and his friend and fellow Model A Club member Ted Loeffler were wandering around looking at the many vintage cars present.

Wade was a community leader, a friend to everyone he met, and a true gentleman.



A perfect example of a loaded shotgun

And with the safety off. The rear spring on a Model A Ford is under a tremendous amount of tension when it is expanded and attached to the shackles. When secured to the frame with the U-bolts it is safely captured. When the rear axle assembly is removed from the car with the spring still attached the only thing holding the top leaves together is the 3/8" center bolt, which was never meant to hold that much tension. In addition to that, the bolt may be 80 plus years old, rusted, and with the head ready to pop off. Should the head come off the bolt the top leaves will fly 20 feet in the air and take you head with it if you are standing over it. If that doesn't happen, run like the devil because they are coming back down.



A new top being installed on Bryan Thompson's very original 1930 Town Sedan. From left to right: Bryan Thompson, Rick Hall, Tom Endy, Sam Thompson, and Wayne Wiedle supervising.



Larry McKinney's 1931 Victoria masquerading as a 1932. When was the last time you saw a Model A with suicide doors.

The Palm Springs Follies



This is the last chance to see the follies. At the end of this season, their 23rd, they will be closing down.

For Sale:

Back Issues of *The Restorer*:

I have 227 issues, date 1959 to 2006. These are sorted in binders or file boxes, usually covering three years, such as 1971 to 1973. The whole collection in sixteen binders and file boxes is \$90. Individual issues are 50 cents. A 3-year binder is 45 cents per issue times the number of issues in the binder. Let me know what you want. Phil Joujon-Roche, 714-747-0163
p.joujon-roche@roadrunner.com

1930 Model A Coupe with rumble seat:

Excellent mechanical, body, and interior. It is now, and was, garaged when I bought it. Asking \$13,000 OBO. Tom Forth 714-914-8014

Car Lift:

Will lift a solid axle car, front or rear, up to five feet in height in a safe\slip proof manner, a three inch ram has a full width ratchet and a dog that will prevent any slippage. The lift has a 12" hydraulic cylinder that is operated by compressed air and is designed to store vertically and takes less floor space when not in use; has casters and wheels to easily move. Used, but looks new. \$650. Scott 818-951-1314.

1930 Coupe with trunk compartment

EZ Steering Kit installed, Flathead Ted Brake Floaters installed, Paint and Body in Good Condition.



\$12,000 obo 714-871-7997

1931 Coupe with rumble seat

Mitchell Transmission, Mitchell Overdrive, H&H Engine, Mallory Ignition. Leather Upholstery, Body, paint, and tires in good condition. Frame-off Restoration 5 years ago Runs and drives well.



Price negotiable: 949-366-2470

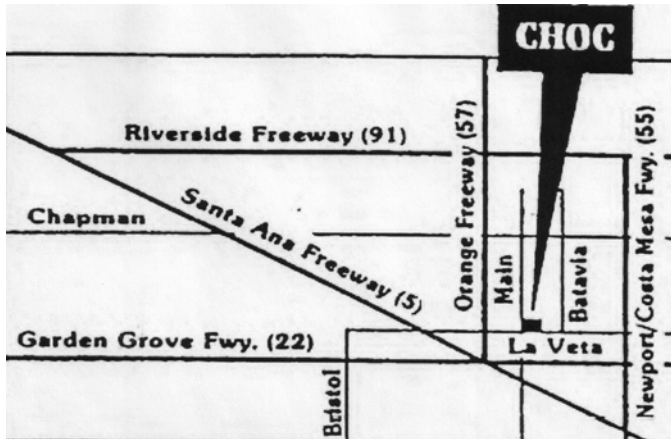
Club Restoration Effort



1930 Tudor owned by club member Sgt Sam Thomson USMC ready for an engine and drive train installation, including a Mitchell overdrive.



Sgt Sam and girlfriend Niki heading for some pancakes.



General Meeting

7:30 PM

[Second Thursday of every month]

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. Meetings are held in Building 2 in the Wade Education Center-2nd Floor. Access the meeting room through the double door entry off the 2nd Floor parking structure.



Orange County Model A Ford Club

Post Office Box 10595
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First Class Mail

To: