

Orange County Model A Ford Club

THE DISTRIBUTOR

54 Years



Volume 55, Issue 2

February, 2015

Editor Tissy Smith-Hatcher

We have had three losses this month and gather together to support one another in this difficult time. Join us in offering our condolences to the family of John Graves; Drain and Doris Marshall in the loss of their son, Tom; and Ellie Pease in the passing of her father, Jack Long

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Don Ratzlaff
President

President's Message

Cant' believe the month of January is about over. It's been a pretty good year so far, don't you think? We had a good BS Breakfast early in the month; good attendance and good conversation. Also had a good turn-out for the General Club Meeting. Heard about driving tours starting with an January tour to the San Antonio Winery. And then there was the "Roster Raffle" which again went unclaimed and will roll-over to the February Meeting.

On a more somber note; it was learned that our friend and club member John Graves passed away on January 5th due to heart failure. John was a staunch supporter of the OCMAFC and will be missed by all who knew him. His funeral service was held on January 17th at Fairhaven in Santa Ana. John

surely appreciated all those Model A's that were brought. John touched many, many people's lives and will live on in their memories. He won't be here to remind us to bring the Model A's out for the Laguna Patriot Day Parade on March 7th so consider yourselves reminded now. Check the club's web-page calendar (www.ocmafc.com) for details.

Keep the upcoming April 26th, Pancake Breakfast, efforts in mind; what would you like to assist with? Karen Gaynor and Sheila Plotkin have obtained John Graves raffle-ticket-cutting apparatuses and have volunteered to organize a ticket-cutting activity at Sheila's home at a date to be determined. Check with them for what help you can provide.

If you were not there, it was the 4th Thursday of the month and you missed a good breakfast at Flappy Jack's. There was a good crowd and lots of conversation. Thanks Terry Collings!

The Big-3 swap meet will be held at Qual-Comm Stadium in San Diego the weekend of February 20, 21 & 22, 2015.

Don't forget; you now have a unique opportunity to host a technical seminar just by signing up with Pete Cruz. You can work out the topic and date with Pete. And guess what; a similar opportunity to lead an activity (i.e., a driving tour) is available just by signing up with Frank Reese. It's your club and you can do it!

Did you take your Model A out for a January roll through the neighborhood? Gas prices are down a bit so maybe a little fresh gas is just what "Henry's Lady" needs. Why not drive it to the BS Breakfast at the Katella Grill on Feb 7th, 8am? Now there's an idea!

See you there.

REMINDER—Save the Date for the annual Pancake Breakfast on April 26th. To volunteer, see Frank Reese or Mark Schwing or come to the General Meeting and sign up there.

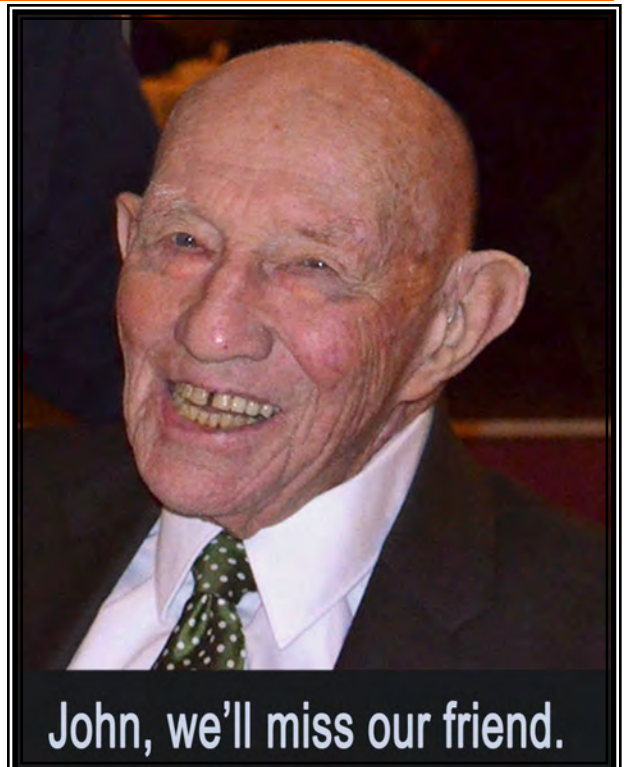
9th Annual Hubley Derby Day

Saturday, March 7th,
Test runs begin at 9am



Women's Club of San Bernardino
503 W 31st St, San Bernardino 92404.

Call to register Richard and Cheri
Bronstrup at 909-227-1853



John, we'll miss our friend.

Upcoming Tours and Activities Calendar



Feb 7 (Sat) First Saturday Breakfast BS Session ~ 8AM at The Katella Grill, 1325 W Katella Ave, Orange



Feb 10 (Tue) Funeral services for Drain and Doris Marshall's son, Tom, to be held at 9am, Inglewood Cemetery, Manchester Chapel, Inglewood



Feb 12 (Thu) General Meeting will be at 7:30PM. Guests always welcome. Board Meeting at 6:45PM. All members are invited to attend board meetings.



Feb 21 (Sat) Tour of the ARTIC (Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center — new travel station across from the Honda Center), includes

tour and lunch lead by Don and Carolyn Ratzlaff. More info at the General Meeting.



Collings (714)970-7194



Feb 26 (Thu) Fourth Thursday Breakfast Brunch ~ at 8:30am, For info contact Terry



Mar 7 (Sat) First Saturday Breakfast BS Session ~ 8AM at The Katella Grill, 1325 W Katella Ave, Orange
Mar 7 (Sat) 9th Annual Hubley Derby Day, 9am at the Women's Club of San Bernardino.

To register, call Richard/Cheri Bronstrup 909-227-1853

Mar 7 (Sat) Laguna Patriot Day Parade, for info go to lagunabeach-parade.org



Mar 12 (Thu) General Meeting will be at 7:30PM.

Guests are always welcome. Board meeting at 6:45PM



Mar 21 (Sat) Tour of member Leonard Nettles' residence of

World War II memorabilia lead by Leonard Nettles and Frank Reese



Mar 26 Thu) Fourth Thursday Breakfast Brunch ~ at 8:30am. Loca-

tion to be determined. For info contact Terry Collings (714)970-7194

July 11 (Sat) SCRG Meeting, Vicky Barlett's home, 1625 Fletcher Ave, South Pasadena, 10AM. Info 626-799-6338



*Share your good news or sad times
with your club friends*

Contact Marilyn Hawkins
714-730-4026/Hm
714-914-7371/Cell

Swap Meets/Car Shows

Feb 20-22 - Big 3 Swap Meet, Qualcomm Stadium, San Diego

Mar 28 - Driving for a Cure for Alzheimer's Disease, 7th Charitable Classic Car & Truck Show, 9am-12:30pm, \$10 for spectators/kids under 12 free, 18631 Chapel Ln, Huntington Beach, 92646

Jun 6-7 - 8th Annual Friends of Steve McQueen Car & Motorcycle Show, Boys Republic in Chino Hills; info www.stevemcqueencarshow.com

Jun 13-14 - Model T Club of Riverside Swap Meet, Western Little League Headquarters, 6707 N Little League Dr, San Bernardino 6AM Free

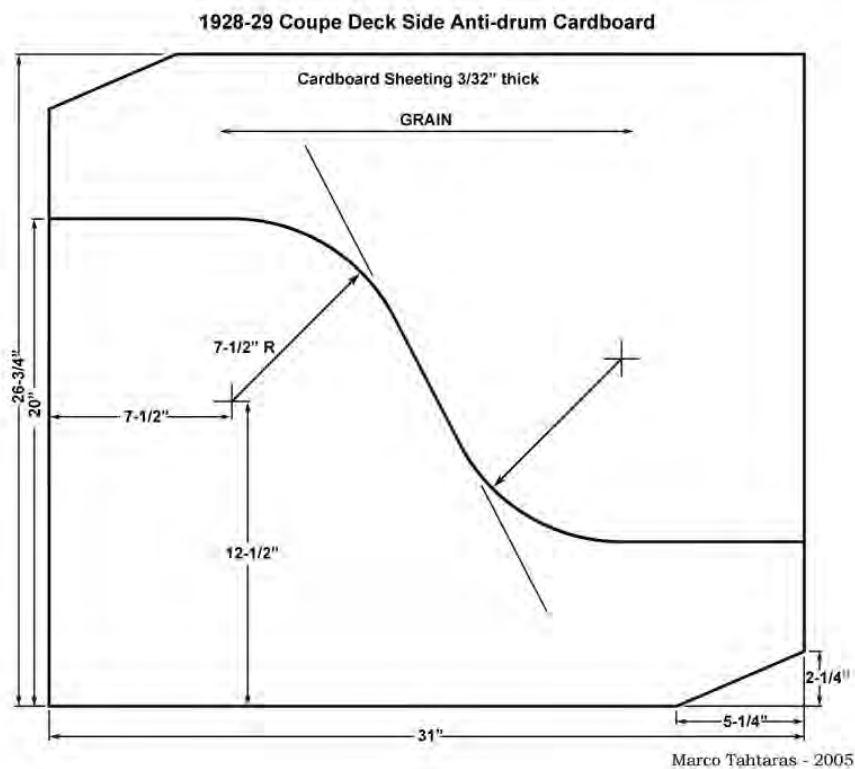
Rumble Seat or Trunk?

By Pete Cruz
Technical Director



For decades people have been converting Model A's from trunk's to rumble seats. Recently there has been a growing trend to move from a rumble seat to a trunk. Model A's I've owned have had rumble seats. Personally I like the idea of a rumble seat but I'll have to admit I've found them fairly useless. For one thing I'd never let anyone ride back there because honestly they seem to be a bit of a death trap. Also you really can't keep much back there. I've looked and passed over a few tool boxes because they were too tall to fit under in area in front of the seat. The problem is there doesn't seem to be a whole lot of consensus in the Model A community as to how to go about making the conversion accurately.

Some of the questions asked revolve around the cardboard interior side panels (Deck Side Anti-Drum Cardboard) in the trunk area. I found the pattern below posted on Ford Barn:



It would be great if we could figure out all the parts and procedures it would take to complete this conversion for coupes and roadsters for all four years. If you have any input that could help in this effort by all means send them along to me at pete-cruz2715@gmail.com or let's chat at the next monthly meeting!

Deadline for submissions for the next **Distributor** is
February 25, 2015
Submit all articles and ads to
tismith@cookseylaw.com
or mail to P.O. Box 10595
Santa Ana, CA 92711

2015 BOARD MEMBERS

President – Don Ratzlaff
714-529-5062/wadedon@pacbell.net
VP/Activities – Frank Reese
714-970-6262/Rfrtrust34@yahoo.com
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714-633-0946/dkmcclall@socal.rr.com
Treasurer – Tom Weaver
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Editor – Tissy Smith-Hatcher
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Immediate Past President – Rick Hall
714-282-0499/rickandlouis@socal.rr.com

COMMITTEES

ACCC Representative – David Knapp
(949) 243-5210/dknapp@dslextrreme.com
Breakfast Committee – Terry Collings
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Club Greeter – Doris Marshall
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Election Chairperson – Joe Goff
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949-770-6847/modeladick@yahoo.com
Merchandise Director – Cathy O'Brien
714-777-0771/yglsrden@aol.com
Pancake Breakfast Setup & Coordination –
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yahoo.com and Mark Schwing, 714-970-
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Refreshments – Esther Goff
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Regional Representative, SCRG -
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dcratzy@gmail.com
Sunshine & Sorrow – Marilyn Hawkins
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Web Master – Chris Enright
949-481-8780/webmaster@ocmafc.com
Website Info Entry – Pete Hyland
714-633-5797/prhyland@att.net

Mystery Person—Do You Recognize Me?**By Esther Goff**

Our mystery person was born in the colder part of the US. Home was Warsad, Minnesota hugging onto the Canadian border. Having had enough of snow, his mother left and his father raised the six of them. They were a very close family. Three siblings were sent to an orphanage, as raising all the children was difficult, but his father would not allow them to be adopted...they were family.

At the age of 18, while in Denver, Colorado, his quest to join the military was declined due to asthma and osteomyelitis, but he did serve as a "guinea pig" for penicillin testing trials. The osteomyelitis came about from his love of roller skating, but he was really clumsy and never did accomplish the skill and found himself falling down most of the time!

While in Colorado, he started working for a roofing company until the snow started falling and he said to himself: "I'm out of here. California here I come!"

In California he went for schooling in industrial electronics; later starting his own business. He loved tinkering with things and was always curious how this or that worked, which led to his interest in his chosen field. His oldest son now runs the business, which fabricates printed circuit boards.

He and his wife had three boys and adopted a daughter who was only 10 weeks old. Sadly his wife passed.

His passions are fishing and his cars. He was an avid hunter but no longer. He belongs to 3 Mustang clubs and a Corvette club plus our group. He met his current "significant other" on a cruise to China with his brother.

Our featured guest believes communication is critical in all walks of life and considers himself a positive thinker. His church and faith are very important to him and play a part in his everyday living. He celebrated 80 years of a wonderful life October 2014.

Answer on Page 10.



*Our deepest and most
heartfelt condolences go out to
Drain and Doris Marshall
on the loss of their son Tom*

Historian's Corner

By: Dick Smith
Club Historian/Librarian

In this issue we honor the life of John Graves

John, born August 23, 1927 - passed on January 5, 2015

Alice, born March 1, 1931 - passed on July 7, 2001

The following is a partial reprinted article by Richard Parish, first published in 2005.

The Car Named Alice

John and Alice Graves joined the Orange County Model A Ford club in 1990 and immediately fit right in, joining tours and seminars. At that time John was working on a 1930 coupe and as often happens, ran out of steam. The coupe found another home.

A nice 29 Town Sedan belonging to one of the members came on the market and they went to look at it with a friend who was supposed to know about these things. John and Alice "fell in love" and bought "Clara". Whose name was appropriately the same as Mrs. Henry Ford.

After the usual "nuisance" problems and installation of an overdrive, they were soon touring with the big kids even to the extent of *Deluxe Road* in a blinding rainstorm.

Alice and John took on the challenging job of editor and publisher of *The Distributor*, the club newsletter. Alice became treasurer and there was seldom a tour they didn't attend. As fate would have it *Clara* broke her overdrive repeatedly. The timing couldn't have been worse. They were registered for a NW regional meet in Surry Canada. Oh, what is a person to do?

Three days before the scheduled departure, with *Clara* out of commission, they bought *Henry*, who forever more shall be called "*Hank*". *Clara* was later adopted and is leading a warm and fulfilling life with Dick and Carmen Smith.

Hank made the trip to far away Surry Canada and back without a hitch. The Graves were a committed Model A family and decided *Hank* needed a sibling.

The sibling was in the form a huge load of parts, some appropriate and some in need of swapping and restoration. John referred to the "pile" as a '28,'34 roadster pickup. A spare bed was swapped, a stray body was exorcized and the frame was "blasted and primed".

Alice's talents were now in great demand and she was elected president for the year 2002. Alice wasn't feeling well at the installation banquet and started a series of doctor evaluations. The final diagnosis was devastating. Cancer.

In late June a large group of us put together a "tour" to drive by and "Ahooga" outside her home to show support. A phone call to John conveyed "she is asleep" but to come up anyhow and stop.

Memory fails me as to how many of us stopped that day but there were many. Alice was awake and alert. She spoke to each of us for a moment and when my turn came, she took my hand and told me "Keep John focused on the roadster pickup". I promised.

Only 3 days later, Alice left us, with an empty spot in our club and an empty spot in our hearts. The funeral was somber but the number of members and their Model A's told John we cared for Alice and we cared for him. There was little we could do but be here for him.

At the next club meeting, I revealed my promise to Alice and asked for help to fulfill that covenant. At that moment The Car Named Alice became the club's goal.

Through his grief, John worked to create The Car Named Alice. Day after week after month Alice came together and she took her first outing to *Las Brisas* for brunch. No top, no bumpers, no confidence. Time and the club helped John through the worst of times and in 2004 he took on responsibility of the meeting raffle.

Today March 13, 2005 at the famed OCMAFCA pancake breakfast The Car Named Alice took her place among her peers and was awarded the best commercial award by popular vote.

Our lady named Alice can look upon her namesake with pride and her husband and (Cont'd on Page 9)



General Meeting Minutes

Orange County Model A Ford Club Meeting, Annual Banquet
December 14, 2014

Location: Angelo's and Vinci's Restaurant, Fullerton

Minutes of club business during the banquet.

Following a social hour from 5:00pm to 6:00pm, President Rick Hall welcomed the guests and led the flag salute.

Invocation by Mark Schwing

6:30 to 7:30 Buffet Dinner

The roster drawing was for \$190.00, unfortunately the member was not in attendance.

Dollar hat drawing was won by Frank Reese (design by Sheila Plotkin) Ed Cote' conducted the "steal a gift exchange" along with many jokes, and his colorful demeanor.

Karen Gaynor and Sheila Plotkin provided more entertainment with a table game competition of Christmas song trivia, which proved to be very popular.

Presentations and announcements were made by Rick Hall.

Outgoing Board members were acknowledged and presented with awards: Vice President Frank Mowrer was absent, but applauded for the 3 years he served as Tour Director. His award will be presented at the next general meeting. Secretary Pam Heiland was thanked and awarded for the 2 years she served. Treasurer Joe Goff was recognized with a "world clock" having served for 5 years. Past President Richard Parrish was absent and will be recognized at next meeting. Pete Cruz is continuing as Technical Director and recognized for his many contributions with seminars, research and useful video presentations and newsletter articles.

Tissy Smith Hatcher is continuing as newsletter Editor and also applauded for her clever and interesting journalism. Joe Goff then presented a beautiful gavel and plaque to outgoing president Rick. Rick thanked and recognized the many committee volunteers and in particular Frank Reese for his work on the pancake breakfast. Several others will be presented similar awards for years of service at the next general meeting.

The new Board of Directors was then introduced:

President: Don Ratzlaff (absent)

Vice President: Frank Reese

Secretary: Kathie McCall

Treasurer: Tom Weaver

Technical Director: Pete Cruz

Editor: Tissy Hatcher

Past President: Rick Hall

Thank you to ALL who helped make this event a success, those stated above and also Don & Carolyn Ratzlaff who made the bookmark agendas even though they couldn't attend, and Joe Goff for the centerpieces. Another faithful member, Doris Marshall can always be counted on to provide a joke or a song during a lull in the program. Karen Gaynor and Sheila Plotkin for the background music.

Submitted by Kathie McCall

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Orange County Model A Ford Club General Meeting

Thursday, January 8, 2015

Location: Children's Hospital Wade Center

70 people were in attendance.

7:30 PM. Outgoing President, Rick Hall welcomed everyone and led in the flag salute.

Doris Marshall club greeter, provided a couple of funny stories and then introduced returning member Scott L. and his friend Dick B. Scott has a 1928 coupe and Dick is looking for a Model A.

Rick presented a gift to Richard Parrish (outgoing Past President) and Frank Mowrer (outgoing Vice President) since they were not at the Installation Banquet. Rick also reviewed the elimination (Cont'd on Page 8)



(Cont'd from Page 7) of the Member of the Year Award previously approved. In place of this award will be recognition throughout the year of those members who go above and beyond in contributing to the well being of the club, many times unseen. Don Ratzlaff, Domonic Cimarusti and Frank Reese were recognized with a mounted certificate of appreciation.

Kathie McCall, Election Chairperson then installed the new Board of Directors:

President Don Ratzlaff; Vice President Frank Reese; Secretary Kathie; Treasurer Tom Weaver. Pete Cruz Technical Coordinator and Tissy Smith Hatcher Editor are continuing in their positions. Rick will serve as Past President.

Don Ratzlaff then assumed leadership of the meeting as incoming President.

Don announced the death of long time member, John Graves. Memorial service will be Sunday 1/18/15 at Fairhaven Memorial Park.

Minutes: Report of the Installation Banquet and short meeting will be printed in next newsletter.

Treasurer: Tom Weaver reported on the club finances. A formal audit will be conducted on 1/9/15 and the report made available to members. Tom reminded members 2015 dues are due no later than 1/15 to be included in the new roster.

Hard Luck Trophy. Ken Blankenshain returned the trophy from having received at the last meeting, and will take it home again with his tale of problems with his thermostat. No one else admitted to having any issues with their "A".

Vice President/Tours: Frank Reese reviewed several upcoming tours, which will be listed in the newsletter. Ideas for future tours are encouraged.

Frank also discussed the pancake breakfast with confirmation of April 26 as the final date. Frank and Mark Schwing are working on raffle prizes and will have sign ups for various work stations at the next meeting.

Technical: Pete Cruz provided a slide presentation of Model A's in the snow, very foreign to those of us in Orange County.

Newsletter: Tissy welcomes contributions and pictures. Deadline 1/25/15.

ACCC Representative: David Knapp has written a thorough report for the newsletter and was pleased to report that gas prices are going down instead of up as predicted.

Election Chair Vacancy. Joe Goff has volunteered to take over this responsibility.

Sunshine/Sorrow: Marilyn Hawkins provided update on Pete Hyland who is still unable to drive due to recent foot surgery. A letter was received from the wife of Irv Womack who passed away several months ago 4th Thursday Breakfast: Terry Collings. Flappy Jack's in Orange (8:30 am) on 1/22.

Membership Drawing is now at \$200.00. Frank Brown's name was drawn; however, he was not present, so the kitty rolls over to \$210.00 for next month.

Dale McCall and Ken Blankenshain were the only ones to drive their "A" tonight, so they split the \$10.00.

Drive your Model A, wear your name badge, come to the meeting...monetary incentives wait.

Thank you notes were received from the Alzheimer's Foundation and MAFCA Youth Scholarship Committee for OCMAFC donations.

We continue to support Ronald Mc Donald House with contributions of toiletries and personal hygiene items.

Refreshments were provided by Diane Runyon and Pam Heiland. Esther Goff and Carolyn Ratzlaff can be contacted for future needs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Submitted by Kathie McCall, Secretary



OCMAFC thanks you for your
continued support for the
Ronald McDonald House Charities

Don't miss out on the
great camaraderie that
happens at the

BS Breakfast
February 7th 8:00 am

Katella Grill
1325 W Katella Ave
Orange, CA

(1st Saturday of Every Month)

Join us for good food
and company

Fourth Thursday
Breakfast Bunch
February 26th 8:30 am

Ham n' Scram
5871 Westminster Blvd, #A
Westminster, 92683
714-899-9100

Info: Terry Collings
714-970-7194

Sunshine and Sorrow

By: Marilyn Hawkins

Ellie Pease's Dad – Jack Long passed away from lung cancer. His Celebration of Life was in New Jersey on January 24th. Card was sent to Ellie and donation made to the Mayo Clinic per family's request. Members, please give Ellie a call or send her a note.

John Graves – long-time member and friend passed away January 5th. Many members attended his funeral with their Model A's on January 18th. The club is making a donation to LaPlaya Center, Laguna Beach in his memory.

Irv Womack – received a note from Darlene "...decided not to renew membership. My husband passed away last year from COPD. Thank you for the friendship you showed us." I mailed her a sympathy card.

Stay healthy and happy!

(Cont'd from Page 6) friends who make it possible. Our club can also look with pride on The Car Named Alice and never forget our "lady" Alice Graves.



"Alice" will be offered "For Sale" by the family at the appropriate time.

Orange County Model A Club Members will be notified and will have first chance at owning this nice 29 roadster pickup.

John's annual Pancake Breakfast raffle ticket cutting party needs a new home this year. We will all miss you John!

John's family members: David (son) & Kathleen Graves, 3 Grandchildren, from Tustin CA.; Rhonda (daughter) & Steve Reilly, 2 Grandchildren, from Ohio.

Upcoming Tour the ARTIC (Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center)

When: February 21

Come to the February General Meeting for more info

The City of Anaheim started planning for the development of ARTIC in 1992. Its vision was to build a transportation facility where people would seamlessly move between transit services to reach Southern California activity centers and business districts. Transit oriented development in the immediate area would integrate with ARTIC to form a vibrant Southern California community. Together, it would represent Orange County's continuing transformation from rural farmland and suburban community to a thriving urban center.

On Tuesday, September 18, 2012, with shovels in the ground, elected officials, City leaders past and present, and travel enthusiasts witnessed the symbolic turning of the dirt signaling the start of construction. With ARTIC's grand opening in December 2014, the City's vision is coming true.

Mystery Person Answer: **Frank Reese**



The City of Anaheim has relied on many amazing partners to make ARTIC a reality.

ARTIC's vision is to transform travel and deliver memorable experiences

through an iconic, ingeniously designed hub that centralizes transportation, choice dining, specialty shopping, unique events and convenient access to all of Southern California's renowned destinations.

ARTIC is a state-of-the-art transporta-



tion hub that connects all points to Orange County's thriving activity centers via train, bus, shuttle and more. With its innovative open-space design, contemporary restaurants and shops, charging stations and more – you may not believe your eyes.

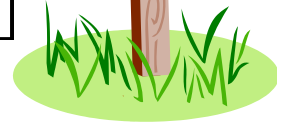
Join Don and Carolyn Ratzlaff as they lead this tour.



FOR SALE: Model A engine, stand and PISTONS. Long block and head. Has pan (oil-pump accessible). No manifold. \$300 OBO. Contact Bev Marsh at 714-373-9769 or cell 714-397-4593 or email : onebootscooter@yahoo.com.



WANTED: 1930-1931 Model A Coupe. Contact Dan Christenson at 909-636-1365,



Thanks Neil Mylar
for switching to email



Reasons YOU should receive YOUR newsletter by email:

1. Your newsletter is delivered quicker and in COLOR
2. You may print in black/white (saving toner)
3. You may enlarge your favorite pages, articles or pictures
4. You can email the newsletter to friends and family
5. You are helping the environment and saving postage for the club
6. You can save all issues for future reference

FOUND!



ELECTION CHAIRPERSON

MODEL A

Roster Raffle

CURRENT JACKPOT

210

DOLLARS

**ORANGE COUNTY
MODEL A FORD
CLUB**

Post Office Box 10595
Santa Ana, CA 92711

E-mail: info@ocmafc.org

Next General Meeting

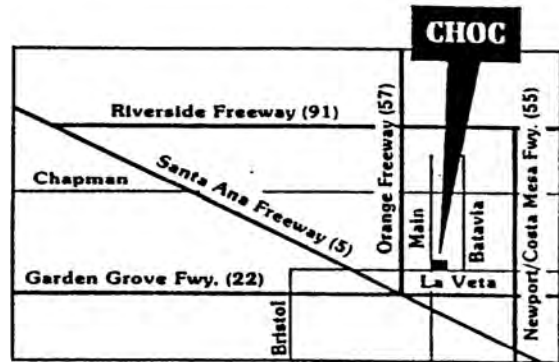
7:30 PM

[Second Thursday of every month]

February 12, 2015

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 meeting room through the double door entry off the 2nd Floor parking structure



Return Address:
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Santa Ana, CA 92711

First Class Mail

We are on the Web!
www.ocmafc.org