

Orange County Model A Ford Club

THE DISTRIBUTOR

Established 1961



Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
Board Member Contact Info/	3
Calendar/Swap	4
Camp Pendleton Marine Base Toy Drive	5
Toy Drive Continued	6
Sunshine & Sorrow	7
We need YOU!	
Christmas Lights Tour	8
Upcoming Events	9
<u>Wanted</u>	
Dead Battery by Tom Endy	10
Arcadia Excursion Just for Laughs	11
Membership Renewal Form	12

Volume 66 Issue 1

Jan. 2026

Editor Eric Engle



Hear ye, hear ye...it's almost time once again for the Annual O.C. Model A Club's Pancake Breakfast. April 12th, 2026

Happy New Year 2026

Funimada GIFs



Camp Pendleton Marine Families Toy Drive
Pages 5 & 6

News From the President**By Mike Edmonson****Happy New Year!**

Welcome to 2026. I trust everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a safe welcome to the New Year's Eve as we all welcomed in the New Year with Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians as they played that sweet-sounding Scottish melody, Auld Lang Syne: Should old acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind....



So this venerable old melody set to the poem by the great Scottish poet Robert Burns really brings us around to our annual event taking place this coming Sunday - January 4th, 2026. Yes, the great Installation Banquet. I encourage everyone in our club, plus family and friends, to relive some of the "Good Old Times" of 2025, to thank everyone for their most wonderful contributions to our club, and to renew those old acquaintances that Robert Burns so eloquently "brought to mind". And as a reminder, if you are so inclined to bring an addition for the raffle table, don't be shy!

Some upcoming events include the annual swap meet in Turlock the last weekend of this month, and of course our First Saturday and Fourth Thursday (subject to change) Breakfasts. And we also have our 63rd Annual Pancake Breakfast planned for April 12th at Hart Park located in the beautiful City of Orange. Unfortunately not many other events planned in the way of tours or activities, as well as technical seminars. Until someone steps forward, these will all remain TBA's, so if you have an inkling to serve, please step forward as the Board can really use your ideas and enthusiasm...and I know our club will appreciate your service too.

..."We'll drink a cup of kindness yet, for Auld Lang Syne....."

See you at the turnaround point,

Mike

2026 BOARD MEMBERS

President – Mike Edmonson
 VP/Activities – **Presently vacant**
 Secretary – Debbie Parrish
 Treasurer – Joni Terens
 Technical – **Presently vacant**
 Editor – Eric Engle
 Immediate Past President – Louise Hall

COMMITTEES

Co-Editor/proofreader -
 Becky MacIntosh
 ACCC Representative – David Knapp
 Breakfast Committee – Aaron
 Magdaleno
 Club Greeter – Linda Tom
 Election Chairperson – Jennifer Ferrario
 Historian & Librarian – Bruce MacIntosh
 Merchandise Director – Perry Wilson
 Pancake Breakfast Setup & Coordi-
 nation – Aaron Magdaleno, Richard
 Bolts, Don Ratzlaff
 Jennifer Ferrario, Kathy Glendinning
 Raffle – Ed Cote
 Refreshments – Gerry Reid
 Regional Representative, SCRG - Jim
 Runyon
 Era Fashions—Kaci Terens
 Sunshine & Sorrow – Marilyn Hawkins
 Webmaster – Bruce MacIntosh

Orange County Model A Ford Club General Meeting Minutes on Meeting held at First Christian Church in Orange, CA



Normally this would be where readers would come to read the minutes of the monthly club meetings...but this isn't a "normal" month!!! This is the Christmas season, and things get changed up throughout the month in celebration of the Holiday Season.

Rather than having our normal club meeting, the O.C.M.A.F.C. members gathered together to share a Pot Luck meal and to enjoy one another's company and our shared love for the Ford Model A vehicles. It was indeed a grand evening.

While there was a short announcement of our upcoming elections for new Tour Director and Technical Director positions, time was mostly spent enjoying the meal and goodies. The subject of our next Pancake Breakfast was discussed also. The target date for that much anticipated annual event will be April 12th, 2026, and will be once again held at Hart Park in the City of Orange. This will be the 63rd year for this event, and the 38th year of holding at Hart Park.

Phew...has it really been that long?!?!.... Wow!!!

So, all in all, this month has been a great month for our club members to celebrate "Henry's Lady", culminating with the annual Christmas Pot Luck.

Finishing thought: Let us not forget that the O.C.M.A.F.C.'s Installation Banquet is coming up quickly, The annual event will once again be held at **The Villa in Orange on January 4th**, between the hours of 1 and 4 pm. Be sure to get your RSVP's in to **Joni Terens ASAP...**

We have removed all Committee members' emails and phone numbers in order to ensure their privacy. Members can find this info in your roster.

Please Note: Some information contained in our newsletter has been reprinted from other newsletters; we thank and acknowledge them.



Upcoming Tours and Activities Calendar



Jan. 3rd, (Sat), First Sat. Breakfast, 8:00am,
Denny's, 2314 17th
Street, Santa Ana.
Good food, good
friends, good stories...the

only thing possibly missing is **YOU** !!!
Don't miss it...



Jan. 4th (Sun), 1-4pm,
Installation Banquet, The
Villa in Orange, 510 E.
Katella, City of Orange.



Jan. 8th (Thurs),
General meeting, 7:30 pm,
First Christian Church of
Orange, 1130 E Walnut,
Orange (between Tustin &
Cambridge).



**Needs Tech. Director
position filled.**



**Needs Tour Director
position filled.**



**Jan. 22 (Thurs), 4th
Thursday Breakfast**
TBA

Swap Meets/Car Shows

Every Sat. morning, 6-8 am, Donut Derilicks car show. 9015 Adams Ave, Huntington Beach. Corner of Magnolia and Adams in Huntington Beach.

Jan. 24-25, 59 Annual Turlock Swap Meet, Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, 900 N Broadway, Turlock, CA.

IF YOU LEARN OF OTHER SWAP MEETS, PLEASE SEND THE INFO TO OUR EDITOR SO THEY MAY BE INCLUDED HERE.

**It's getting to be that
time of year again....
Time for the O.C.M.A.F.C.
Club's 63rd**

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

When? April 12th

**Where? Hart Park, City of
Orange**

**So mark your calendars and be
sure to not miss it...**

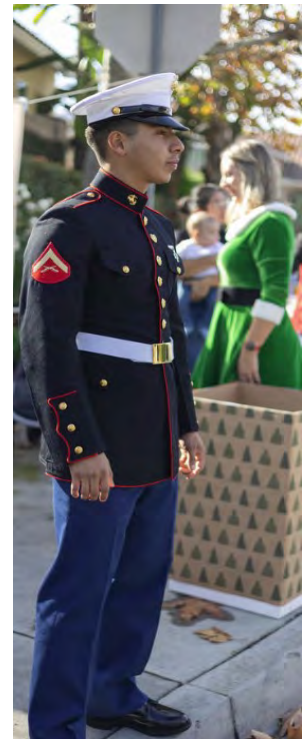
**Members should start thinking about
item they might like to
donated to the Pancake Breakfast
Raffle.**



Camp Pendleton Toy Drive

It was once again time for the annual Toy Drive for the Camp Pendleton Marine families, and what a great toy drive it turned out to be! Organized by Julie Wright, and with the help of friends, neighbors and Marines, this year's toy drive was a resounding success!

Over the two days of the event, several truck loads of toys were gathered from all the friends and neighbors at the Aliso Viejo street corner location, where several Marines in their "Dress Blues" stood waiving and greeting everyone who so generously donated to the cause. Along with the Marines "standing watch" were a number of other volunteers and O.C. Model A club members with their cars on display. Everyone involved, both the generous citizens, and participants, seemed to be having a great time. Good friends, taking the time to bring Christmas joy to the families of our Marines! Good job everyone and thank you so very much...

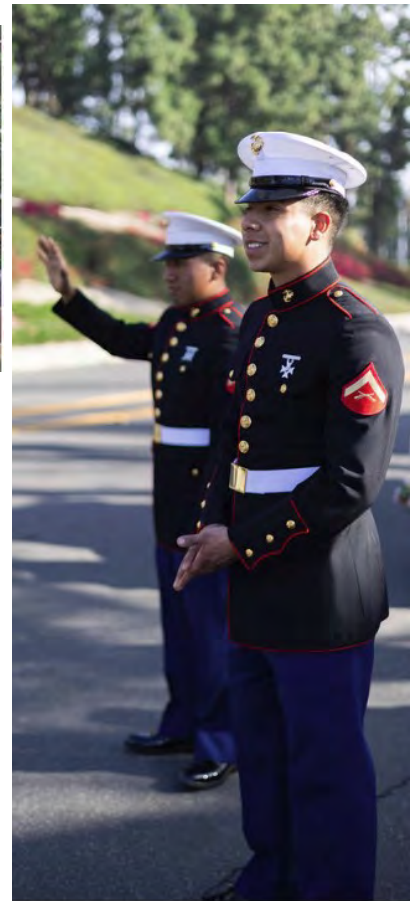


**Julie
Wright;
Der Toy-Mister.**

Julie is the organizer of this year's Toy Drive for the Camp Pendleton Marine Families. Great work Julie!

Cont. on Page 6

Cont. from Page 5



Sunshine & Sorrow

By Marilyn Singer
imsinger@pacbell.net

Sunshine: Congratulations to **Jim & Charlene Runyon** who were married in a quiet ceremony on December 6. May your love continue to grow stronger with each passing day.

Sorrow: Knee replacement surgery for **Toni Cimarusti** was performed latter part of December. Physical therapy scheduled for the next couple months .

*Another new year is here . . . Another year to live!
To banish worry, doubt and fear! To love and laugh and give!*

Happy Birthday – January

**Jason Franks, Jen Franks, Diane Gaughen, Kathy Glendinning,
Cindy Harris, Blake Hill, Jeffry Johnson**



WE NEED
YOU

**Our Model A Club Needs
volunteers for the Tour
Director and Technical
Director positions! These
are VERY satisfying and
necessary positions! So
don't hesitate...get in-
volved TODAY !!!
Help keep the O.C.
Model A Ford Club the
premier club that it has
been for so many years.**

Christmas Lights Tour by Eric Engle

It was a clear and cool evening: Perfect for the club's annual Christmas Lights Tour. Organized by **Doug Marsh** this year, it turned out to be a great tour of some amazing neighborhood yard displays. Thank you **Doug**.

And once again, **Ed and Patti Coté** opened their beautiful home to the group for all sorts of treats, hot apple cider, etc. And as a special treat, a Quartet singing acappella for everyone. Wow!! What a nice surprise!

And as if the evening wasn't special enough with all of that, a VERY special celebration took place for newlyweds **Mr. and Mrs. Runyon**, celebrating their "First-Day Anniversary". Yup, the happy couple had JUST gotten married the day before. And as a special tribute to the happy couple, the Quartet sang "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" to them. I think I may have spotted a tear of joy in the eyes of the new bride. It was all too touching and wonderful.

Thanks again to **Doug Marsh** and **Ed and Patti Coté** for an absolute wonderful Christmas event. Thank you, thank you, thank you...



Newlyweds **Mr. & Mrs. Runyon**



Deadline for submissions
for the
next Distributor is
25th of each month

Submit all Articles and ads
to
eengle@socal.rr.com
or mail to Eric Engle, 16732
Redwood St., Fountain Val-
ley, Ca., 92708

MAFCA is accept-
ing 2026 renewals.
Call 866-379-3619

or
visit

www.mafca.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES :

Sonora Model A Round-up May 22-24,
8am-5pm. pm. "Get Your Kicks in '26" in
beautiful Gold Country, at the Mother
Lode Fairgrounds, Sonora, California.
for more info. contact Mike deCesare at
mjdecasare@sbcglobal.net



2026 MAFC National Con- vention – May 31-June 7

Will be
held in Pendleton, Oregon at
the Convention Center.

Hosted by Blue Mountain A's.

A week of seminars, driving
tours, era fashions, raffle, Hubley Races,
judging, Gymkhana, and food.
Registration and all details are now open
online at:

www.2026MAFCNationalConvention.com

WANTED 1930 GRILLE

John Carter is looking for a
nice 1930 coupe grill that
he can purchase and get
polished if needed. Maybe
someone in the club has
one they can part with.

Thanks
714-310-3350

Snowman for sale, Needs some repair.

\$25



A Dead Battery!

by Tom Endy

A common occurrence:

It's not uncommon for a Model A Ford to incur a dead battery, especially those that are still operating on six volts. Model A's are usually not driven daily and prolonged periods of sitting around tend to run the battery down. It is usually discovered when you climb in to go somewhere. You push on the starter button, and nothing.

Modern inconvenience:

What a lot of Model A hobbyist may not understand is that we the modern day owners may be contributing to this phenomenon. In a modern car when you switch off the ignition it shuts off all the electrical systems in the car, except maybe for the digital clock. In a Model A Ford when you switch off the ignition, at least the original pop out type, all you are switching off is the power that goes to the ignition points. That may have been fine in Henry's day, but stop and think about what a lot of us have done to the Model A Ford to improve on Henry's design.

The cutout:

The cutout used with the generator disconnects the battery from the generator whenever the engine is shut down. Without it the battery would discharge itself through the generator and you would have a dead battery. The cutout has a simple set of contacts that are either open or closed. The problem with the cutout is that the contacts can sometimes become welded shut over a period of time and not open, thus draining the battery when the car is parked. This is highly likely with the poor reproduction cutouts that are on the market. Modern day advancements in electronics provided the world with the diode. The diode is like a switch (sort of) in that it has a high resistance to current in one direction and a low resistance in the other. The low resistance path allows the generator to flow current to the battery to charge it. The high resistance path is supposed to not allow the battery to drain itself through the generator. An abundance of diode mod kits were made available at all the Model A hobby stores. The cutout contacts are replaced with the diode (hopefully in the right polarity) and welded contacts are a thing of the past. However, that high resistance direction is still allowing a small amount of current to flow out of the

battery through the generator to ground. The amount of current is minute, in the milliamps, but over time it draws the battery down. Turning the ignition key off does not shut the circuit off. Only removal of the fuse on top of the starter (if one is installed) will open the circuit and prevent the drain.

The alternator:

Another modern convenience seen on many Model A's today is the alternator. It is much more efficient than the old fashioned generator. You can buy them in either six volt or twelve volt. In fact you can even buy a six-volt positive ground alternator. However, the alternator has six diodes in it and the high resistance path will eventually drain the battery. This arrangement is also not switched off with the ignition key and it sits there and draws a small amount of current from the battery.

A failed alternator:

It is also possible to have an alternator that from all appearances is working fine. You start the car up and the ammeter shows it is charging. However, you can have one or more diodes that are partially shorted. With this situation the current drain from the battery is considerably more and in just a day or so the battery is dead.

Good advice:

Whenever you park your car for the night or any other extended period of time. Pull the fuse out of the holder and stand it on its head in one end of the holder. This way everything except the starter switch is disconnected from the battery and there is no chance that a sneaky diode will ultimately cause you to have a dead battery. ☺

Arcadia "Holiday Motor Excursion"

On Sunday, Dec. 28th, our very own **Steve Pavich** and his son, **Matt**, took the long drive up to Arcadia to visit the 68th annual "Holiday Motor Excursion". The event started off as a car show at the Arcadia Regional Park that ended with a tour. Some fantastic classic cars were there for everyone to view... and BOY!!, what a line up of some very rare vehicles there were! Steamers, Packards, Pierce Arrows, a slew of vintage bicycles, and naturally, Ford Model A's. And guess who else was spotted there??? The man, the myth, the legend himself.....**Jay Leno. Mr. Leno** brought with him his VERY rare Chrysler Turbine Car. Wow!! I would strongly encourage all of our club members to mark their calendars for next year's event. What do you say? Let's show everyone there our very own classic vehicles.



Steve and friend

Just for Laughs



"Something's wrong here, Harriet. This is starting to look less and less like Route 66."

**You still
haven't
learned to
act your
age... and
hope you
never will.**



**Early experiments in
transportation**



Return Address:
OCMAFC
P.O. Box 10595
Santa Ana, CA 92711

We are on the Web!
www.ocmafc.org

Dedicated to the History and Preservation of the Model A Ford

Next General Meeting

[Second Thursday of every month]

Next Meeting Jan. 8th, 2026

Time: 7:30pm

Location:

First Christian Church of Orange
1130 E Walnut
Orange, CA
(Between Tustin & Cambridge)



Membership Dues MUST absolutely be received by Feb 13 to be included in the 2026 printed roster.

For Year: **2026**



www.ocmafc.com

Membership **RENEWAL** Application Orange County Model A Ford Club (OCMAFC) (A Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA))

OCMAFC Membership Dues Are: **\$30 per Year** for Family living at same address (with newsletter delivered via email)

Name: _____
Last First Middle B-day Mo. Day

— **ONLY ENTER INFORMATION THAT NEEDS TO BE UPDATED IN THE PRINTED ROSTER** —

To submit/update photo for Roster, please email photo to becky@genimage.com

Submit by February 13, 2026 to be included in printed roster

Spouse: _____
Last First Middle B-day Mo. Day

Anniversary: _____
Month Day Year

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Telephone #s: _____
Home # Cell # (for text message event reminders)

E-mail Address: _____

Names of children living with you: _____

Year and Body Style of Model A Fords owned:

(Example: 1929 Model 45A – Standard coupe – (Parts, WIP, Driver, Touring, Show))

MAFCA Membership Number (If Active): _____ Since: _____

Please Make Check Payable to: Orange County Model A Ford Club (OCMAFC)

Please Remit Application and Dues Payment to: Orange County Model A Ford Club
P.O. Box 10595
Santa Ana, CA 92711

Membership in our National Organization, the Model A Ford Club of America is recommended and encouraged for all Members. Payment can be made online at www.MAFCA.com

Membership Dues MUST absolutely be received by Feb 13 to be included in the 2026 printed roster.