

Orange County Model A Ford Club

THE DISTRIBUTOR

Established 1961




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Volume 66 Issue 9

Sept. 2026

Editor Eric Engle

TOURING SO. CALIFORNIA

STYLE

Read All About It on Page 9



Shocking....

Absolutely SHOCKING!!!

READ ALL ABOUT IT ON PAGE 5

News From the President

By Mike Edmonson

Hey there everyone,

I hope everyone has had a COOL August. How do you spell SWEAT!!! Not sure if it belongs in Ripley's Believe it or Not category, but I read the other day that Southern California was the most humid spot on the planet -- not sure if those who have been to Okinawa, Japan would agree. But I digress...but for sure, weather does play a certain role in driving our Model A's around town and on the highways and byways. If you haven't flushed your radiator's recently, I would recommend you do so ASAP.

This past month we had a wonderful tour with about eight cars and 15 club members that headed south down the beautiful Pacific Coast Highway, through Laguna Beach (many AHOOGA moments), stopping off at Dana Point for a restroom break and a leg stretch. Unfortunately **Karl Bonham** became our most probable candidate for the Hard Luck Trophy as he ran out of gas at our rest stop! Never fear! **Gary Livesey** came to the rescue with an empty gas can, and yours truly headed back to the highway for a quick fill-up and we were off and running to San Juan Capistrano where we had a really nice lunch at the historic El Adobe restaurant followed by some browsing (and buying) at the Antique Mall.

This was a great tour, but if you missed, you have some cooler weather (praying this is true) and some awesome opportunities that you just don't want to miss (remember, we live with no regrets!!!). On Saturday, September 12th we are participating in a drive down PCH for the 100th Anniversary of that famous coastal route Starting at the "A" Restaurant (formally the Arches restaurant) in Newport Beach and down to Crystal Cove. A relatively short drive that only comes around every 100 Years, so don't miss it. A bit of trivia: PCH (Hwy 1) actually has several names. Per the map, and as we discovered last month, it's Pacific Coast Highway coming down from Long Beach and points north, then turns into W. Coast Hwy at Brookhurst, and then E. Coast Hwy. at Dover Rd (Lower Newport Bay), N. Coast Hwy as you hit Emerald Bay, S. Coast Hwy in Laguna Beach, and then back to Pacific Coast Hwy. at Crown Valley Pkwy. Confused? I sure am!

Your second opportunity for a drive will be our quasi-annual Progressive Brunch on the following Saturday, September 19th...which also happens to be International Model A Ford Day! So hop in your beloved jalopy and enjoy both some hospitality and a nice drive, as well as getting a patch to go with it. More details about the brunch and this month's Technical Seminar (I believe turn signals are up), and voting for Karl (he he he). Speaking of voting, we are on the hunt for new board members and a new newsletter Editor -- fresh blood, fresh ideas -- we don't want an idle club, I know we all want a vibrant club, so please put any fears you have and jump right in!

See you at our next meeting on September 10th....

Mike



2026 BOARD MEMBERS

President – Mike Edmonson
Vice President– Jennifer Ferrario
Tours- ???
Secretary – Debbie Parrish
Treasurer – Joni Terens
Technical – David Knapp
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 & Coordination
 - Aaron Magdaleno, Richard Bolls, Jennifer Ferrario, Kathy Glendinning, Steve Pavich
Raffle – Ed Cote
Refreshments – Gerry Reid
Regional Representative, SCRG - Jim Runyon
Era Fashions—Kaci Terens
Tours— Jennifer Ferrario

Sunshine & Sorrow – Marilyn Hawkins
Webmaster – Bruce MacIntosh

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.

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



The meeting was called to order and flag salute led by President, Mike Edmonson. Marilyn told a joke

MINUTES: A small correction is Progressive Brunch will end in Irvine NOT Mission Viejo. The minutes were provided. Sheila Plotkin made a motion to accept Joni Teren 2nd, with the correction.

FINANCIAL: Joni shared the financial report. Carole Howard made a motion to accept. and Pam Heiland seconded; all approved. Present membership is 126

ACTIVITIES: */15 will be a tour to Antique Barn in San Juan Capistrano and ending at El Adobe for lunch. 9/15 will be our Progressive Brunch starting in Anaheim at Richard Parrish's home, then going to Irvine for lunch and ending at Marilyn Singers' home in Irvine. 9/12

will be 100 yr anniversary for PCH

TECHNICAL: David Knapp has arranged many tech seminars. Next one will be moved to Sunday to accommodate tour on the 12th. Subject will be turn signals, Matt Pavich gave an excellent seminar on Shocks for the previous month. Good job Matt!! 10/10 will be hosted by Rick Hall at his residence. The topic will be YOUR favorite Model

A trick or bring your favorite tool.

SUNSHINE AND SORROW: Everyone is Healthy and happy Steve Pavich took home an award for Best Antique at the Elks club, Hot Summer Nights.

EDITOR: Eric Engle will be retiring his job as Editor for our Distributor at the end of the year. We are looking for new Editor, as well as President, Secretary, Treasurer. Please see Jennifer Ferrario if interested. **OUR CLUB** cannot continue without service officers.

HARD LUCK: NO HARD LUCK THIS TIME

RAFFLES: Dominique Cimarusti won \$10 for the attendance raffle and Nathan and Jeanette Sherry won \$10 for the membership raffle but were not present to grab the cash. Amount will roll over next month

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS- I was the only one standing out of all the August Birthdays.

REFRESHMENTS: Ron Andrews, Perry Wilson, David Knapp, Chrisanne Edmonson, Sherry Reid and Linda Tom for the drinks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 with 41 members.

Submitted by Secretary, Debbie Parrish, and pending approval.

Upcoming Tours and Activities Calendar



Sept. 5th (Sat),
Denny's BS Break-
fast—8:00am. 2314
17th Street, Santa
Ana., So many stories,

lies, and good informa-
tion are needed, Please come...and bring
your appetite along also.



Sept. 10th (Thur.),
General Meeting
7:30pm, First Chris-
tian Church—1130
E. Walnut, Orange.



Sept. 12th (Sat), 8:30,
100th Year Anniver-
sary PCH and "A" Res-
taurant tour, Meet up
at 3334 W. Coast High-
way, Newport Beach at

8:30am, leave at 9:30am, Contact
Jennifer Ferrario to register and for
more information.



Sept. 13th (SUN),
Tech. Seminar,
Subj: Turn signals
Time: 12 p.m., Wa-
ter & Snacks will be
available instead of

Donuts & Coffee. Seminar 9am.
Place: Bruce & Becky MacIntosh,
3652 Carmel Ave., Irvine
Cont: David Knapp or Eric Engle



Sept. 19 (Sat),
Progressive
Lunch

9:30am - about
2:30pm

Anaheim to Irvine - Appetizers,
lunch, dessert

Total driving - 24 miles,
non-freeway.

\$10 per person to **RSVP.**

Contact Becky MacIntosh

Limited to 50 people.

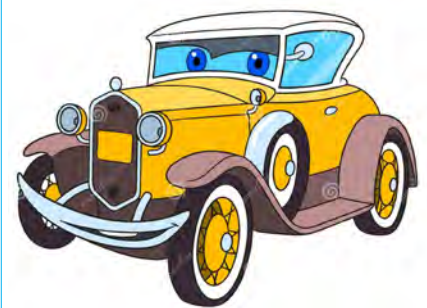


Oct. 3 (Sat)

Tustin Tiller
Days Parade,
Since 1957,
events include
a community
fair and carni-

val.
Parade starts at 10am to
noon, 2 miles long,
Where? 14712 Prospect Ave.,
Tustin.

Contact NEW members
Susan & Grahan Reid, They
are especially looking for
OPEN cars for VIP and digni-
taries to ride in.



Sept. 19th is
International
Model A Day.
FREE ...

Just go out and drive your
Model A !!!! Have a wonder-
ful day bringing some smiles
per miles to everyone that
you see.

We plan to have MAFCA
patches for driving your Model
A on this day. Contact Becky
MacIntosh.



Swap Meets/Car Shows

Every Sat. morning 6-9am, 9015 Adams Avenue in Huntington Beach, 9015 Adams Avenue
in Huntington Beach, come have a donut and a coffee from Adams Donut Shop (NOT free!) and enjoy
walking around all the classics and hot rods.

Sept. 26 (Sat), Annual Antique Car Swap Meet, Hosted by Paradise Valley Model A Ford Club,
FREE to buyers, 6am-3pm. FREE to buyers, Rain or shine, Cont: Richard—(909) 658-5914 or
<https://www.pvmafc.org>

Oct. 11 (Sun), The Pomona Swap Meet & Classic Car Show, 5am to 2pm, Rain or Shine,
\$15 CASH ONLY, \$21 parking (cards OK)

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

Highlights of the Aug. Tech Seminar

By David Knapp
Technical Director

Rebuilding Shock Absorbers

If anyone has ever attempted to rebuild Model A shock absorbers, then you know they can be very challenging at times. However, as with most everything, having the right tools usually makes the job much, **MUCH** easier.... Go figure!!

On Saturday, Aug. 8th, club members gathered at **Steve & Debbie Pavich's** home in Fountain Valley to be instructed by **Dave Knapp** and **Matt Pavich**, Steve's son, on some of the ins and outs of disassembling and rebuilding standard shock absorbers that came on Model A's.

Probably the most important tool one needs to have is a **GOOD** vice, mounted on a very sturdy, and well anchored, work bench. **VERY** important tool!!!!

Matt showed several tools that were brought by club members...some home made, others store bought. One set of tools that were brought, contained a special wrench strictly for loosening the jam ring that butts up against, and secures the outside reservoir, or cap. Then the other tool in the kit is used to remove that cap. To do all of this, the base of the shock absorber **MUST** be mounted securely. There will be a **LOT** of pressure exerted while loosening both of these parts!

Once the reservoir/cap has been removed, then the next task is unscrewing the inner body of the shock that the shaft rotates in. But first, make sure that the shaft fits through without any unnecessary wobble... If it wobbles, then the shock absorber is "wall art"... Dispose of it and find another.

Once everything has been disassembled, a thorough cleaning is required. Once that is accomplished, then reassembling everything, with new O-rings and packing, is a rather easy task.

Last thing on the **"To-Do List"** is to mount the shock in a vertical position, as it would be mounted on the vehicle, and tying a 15 lb. weight to the actuation arm, then timing how long it takes to pull the arm down from top to bottom of it's stroke. Properly adjusted, it should take approximately 6-7 seconds. The adjustment needle/bolt should be about ¼ turn out from being "lightly" bottomed out.

Many thanks to **Dave Knapp** and **Matt Pavich** for putting on this informative seminar. And a special thank you for **Steve and Debbie Pavich** for the use of their home.



Mount shock base to holding fixture, before clamping in sturdy vice.



Testing shock with 15 lb. weight. Should take 6-7 seconds to travel to bottom of stroke.



Loosening Lock Ring



Removing reservoir, by removing fill plug, then placing tool over cap, then screwing T-handle into fill hole, then remove cap.

Mark and Susan Svoboda are new members of OCMAFC. This article about their **Model A**, and written by **Susan**, was published in the “Neighbors of North Tustin” magazine.

Please be sure to say “Hello” when you meet them at one of our next outings.

Toolin’ Around Tustin

Article and Photos submitted by Susan Svoboda

Many years ago, when my husband Mark was about to turn sixteen and dreaming of his first car, his father reminded him of an old 1931 Model A sitting in the garage next to his grandmother’s house in David City, Nebraska. The woman who owned it had passed away nearly a decade earlier, and with no family of her own, she left everything—including the car—to her neighbor, Mark’s grandma. The estate attorney valued the dusty relic at \$150. Mark sold his minibike for \$100, his father added \$50, and off they went to Nebraska.

After politely evicting the family of mice that had taken up residence inside, they put new tires on the car, loaded it onto a trailer, and hauled it back to California. Mark tore it down to the chassis and rebuilt it piece by piece. Day after day, week after week, the old Ford slowly came back to life. The proudest moment came when he finally turned the key and the engine rumbled awake. He drove it to Tustin High School every day, quickly becoming known as “the guy who drove the old car.”

Fast forward fifty years—Tustin High sweethearts, now long married—and the Model A is running better than ever after some recent work. It’s not meant for long trips, but it’s the perfect companion for cruising around Tustin. We take it out for coffee at Larwin Square or breakfast at 85°C. We drive it to the post office on First Street. And when we roll through Old Town Tustin, it feels like the car has found its natural habitat—almost as if the town was built around it.

With a top speed of 35 or 40 miles an hour, the Model A forces us to slow down and look around.



Mark Svoboda in his Model A.



We notice what’s new, what’s changing, what’s blooming. And without fail, we get waves, thumbs-up, and cheerful honks from people delighted by the sight of a 95-year-old car puttering through town. Mark always answers with a blast of the old-fashioned “ahooga” horn. Sometimes people ask to take a photo.

Their joy adds to ours.

I’ve always said Tustin is a big city with the heart of a small town. In a world where everyone seems rushed, the Model A gives us permission to slow down and appreciate the small things. Every wave, every smile, every thumbs-up reminds us that kindness is still out there—waiting to be noticed.

And besides, it’s nice to have something around the house that’s older than we are.

Susan Svoboda is the author of the books: “I Hate the Color Pink” and “A Recipe for Life.”

COMMUNITY
CORNER

Sunshine & Sorrow



By Marilyn Singer
jmsinger@pacbell.net

Sunshine: **Norm & Lori Kredit** have made the move to independent living at Town & Country. Check the website for their new address. **Dennis Kliesen** bought a bronco and he is off to camping in the Sequoia National Park, including Hume Lake. He's eager to get on the road after four years of health problems. Stay safe and enjoy the great outdoors of California forests.

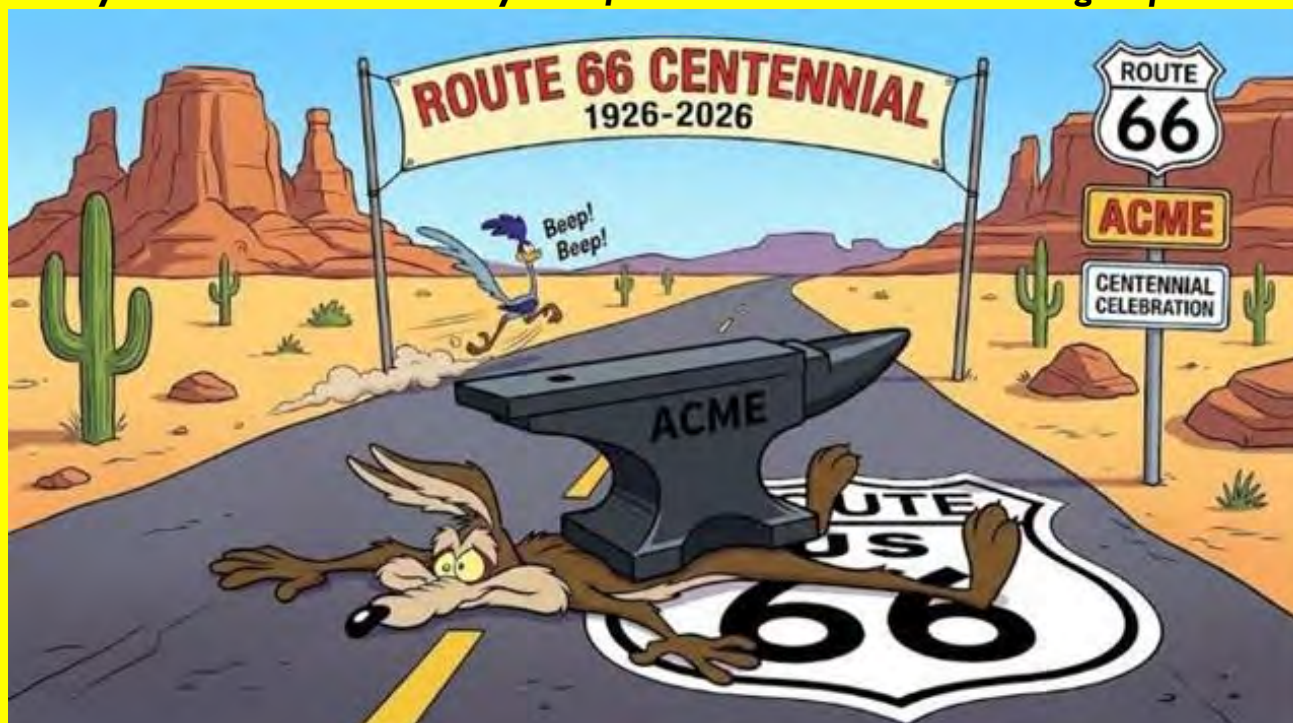
Sorrow: No report of illness or hospital visits this month...only "sunshine" news.

*September has come, it is hers whose vitality leaps in the autumn and
whose nature prefers trees without leaves.*

Happy Birthday – September

Sylvia Adelman **Louise Hall** **Brian Huffman** **Frank Mowrer** **Don Ratzlaff**

A Roadrunner movie "Coyote vs Acme" was just released (Aug 28). The Roadrunner characters were created in 1948 by Chuck Jones & Michael Maltese. They were based upon Mark Twain's "Roughing It" book from 1872's and the MGM "Tom & Jerry" movie from 1940. Have you noticed that many of the antics in this series take place along the desert roads of Route 66. Good history for our Model A hobby. Art from "Route 66 Centennial" group.



Tour of the So. Calif. Coast By Eric Engle

The O.C. Model A Ford Club members were treated to a tour along about 16 miles of the So. California coast line, from Newport Beach to Dana Point Harbor, then over to our destination in San Juan Capistrano. It was a lovely day to drive along our coast: really hard to beat the beauty of our coast line! Once again, our tour guide, **Steve Pavich**, came though with a very relaxing and enjoyable tour.... Thank you **Steve**.

As is not all that uncommon, there were a couple of “hiccups” during the tour. One member, **Mike and Chrisanna Edmonson**, had a serious “death wobble” occur in the heart of downtown Newport Beach, while on their way to the meet-up point, just a bit further down the iconic Pacific Coast Highway. I was following them and saw the front wheels wobbling every which way, but straight, before they were able to get over to the curb. It seriously looked as though their wheels were about to fall off. Upon inspection we found that the two bolts that anchor the steering box to the frame had loosened up. Luckily the two bolts were still there and easily re-tightened... Phew!! We’re back on the road within a few minutes.... The next minor problem was, one of the members cars ran out of gas in Dana Point. Luckily another member had a one gallon gas can for them to borrow. So, within about 30 minutes THEY were also back on the road. *(note to self: always fill up the gas tank BEFORE going on any tour !!!)* 😊

The final destination was to the Old Barn Antique Mall in San Juan Capo..... Interesting place with all sort of antique knickknacks...Something for everyone.

All the members also had a delightful lunch at the El Adobe restaurant. Great food... great friends....**GREAT DAY!!!** Again, thank you **Steve**..



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 Valley,
Ca., 92708

MAFCA is accept-
ing 2027 renewals.
Call 866-379-3619

or
visit

www.mafca.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES :

Sept. 18-19th, MAFCA Model A Days at the Model A Museum, Join us as we celebrate the Model A and the Model A Speedster. September 18 & 19 on the grounds of The Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan

<https://www.maffi.org/index.htm>

Sept. 19th is International Model A Day. FREE ... Just go out and drive your Model A !!!!
We plan to have MAFCA patches for driving your Model A on this day. Contact Becky MacIntosh.

Oct. 24th, 9am to 1pm., Vintage Cars and Warbird Birds, 6936 Flight Rd., Riverside, Ca.,

FREE...

<https://obamodela.wixsite.com/riverside>

1950's
1943
1930-40's
1920's
Vintage Car and Warbird Show



ANAHEIM FALL FESTIVAL AND HALLOWEEN PARADE

Since
1923

Anaheim Halloween Parade

Saturday, October 24th 2026

Downtown, Anaheim CA • Free to Attend!

The Anaheim Fall Festival culminates in our Halloween Parade, a beloved hometown tradition run by local volunteers. Each year, they come together with organisations throughout Anaheim to celebrate Halloween, Dia de Los Muertos, and the Harvest Season.

Contact Perry and Jenna Wilson for further details AND to RSVP

A Hidden Electrical Fault By Tom Endy

Reproduction Model A Ford firewall terminal blocks have been made in Hong Kong for at least the last 30 years that I am aware of and each has a potential hidden electrical fault that can be very difficult to locate and it could be disastrous, and actually cause a fire. The word Hong Kong is stamped on them, so there is no question where they come from.

In the photo, the back side of the terminal block seen on the right attaches directly to the fire wall with four screws. The originals were constructed such that the two terminal studs were molded into the structure during the manufacturing process and there is no way they could short out to the fire wall. The reproductions were manufactured by drilling two holes through the molding and inserting two screws into them from the back that form the two studs that are retained by a nut on each at the front. The two screws can easily back out and touch the fire wall. Both studs (screws) always have battery power on them, so there would be a direct electrical short circuit that is totally obscured.

It is prudent to do some modification to the Hong Kong terminal blocks before installing them. First, apply a little lock tight to the threads of the two screws where they screw into the nut at front and securely tighten. Next fill the hole behind each screw head with JB Weld. This will prevent the screw from backing out and shorting to the fire wall. JB Weld is non-conductive. The terminal block seen at right in the photo has had this done to it.



The Dust Bowl...by Diane Gaughen

On May 10 and 11, 1934, a dust storm blew 300 million tons of topsoil away from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas and Colorado. Farming had broken up the topsoil of the prairies, allowing the wind to do its devastation. Thus began the trek of the Okies and the Arkies from Oklahoma and Arkansas to California, resulting in John Steinbeck's great novel, *Grapes of Wrath*.

Because there was no air conditioning, Moms would hang wet dishtowels in the open windows and over the faces of their children. In the morning, red dirt covered everything. Most days, they couldn't even see the sun, the dust was so thick.

Many people couldn't raise enough crops under these conditions. They sold their land and became tenant farmers. When the dust became overwhelming, they packed up everything they could in their Model A's and headed west.

But some saw an opportunity and built businesses along Route 66 to cater to the needs of the flood of migrants moving west. They built motels and gas stations and grocery stores.

One gas station owner described these migrants as "those people with mattresses on top of their cars". But she said they were honest and would work for a dollar a day to pay for gas that was 12 ½ cents a gallon. The local shop-owners would offer some credit until the folks could pay. Some migrants decided to stay put in New Mexico and became leading citizens. So it wasn't all "*Grapes of Wrath*".



Just for Laughs



It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for 10 minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller!

**OUR TOWN IS
SO SMALL THAT
WE DON'T
HAVE A TOWN
DRUNK,
SO WE ALL
TAKE TURNS**



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 Sept. 10, 2026

Time: 7:30pm

Location:

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



Who is Patriots and Paws?

Patriots and Paws is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit charity.

Dedicated to helping Veterans, Active Duty, Reservists by providing practical home furnishings, like beds, sofas, chairs, tables, appliances, kitchen wares, plates and utensils, etc. **ALL FREE OF CHARGE.**

We have helped over 20,000 of these amazing Americans and their immediate families every year.

We unite our Veterans, Active Duty, Reservists with a dog so it can be trained to become a therapy, or service animal through our community partners.

Join them for their car show in October....

To find out more about Patriots and Paws, click on below link, or copy/paste into you search engine-

<https://patriotsandpawscarshow.com>