



February 2015

Spoken Wheels

Spoken Wheels is the monthly publication of the Santa Anita A's based in Arcadia, California. The organization is dedicated to the restoration, preservation and enjoyment of the Model A Ford. It is a chapter of the national organization, MAFCA (Model A Ford Club of America). Meetings are held on the last Friday of most months at the Arcadia Red Cross facility, 376 Huntington Drive, Arcadia California.

Mailing address PO Box 66904, Arcadia.

Web Site www.santaanitaas.org

FICTION AND FACT

General Meeting

Friday, February 27 - 7:00 PM

Arcadia Red Cross, 376 Huntington Dr., Arcadia

Program

Annual Club Auction Night.

Bring something and buy something.

Starts at 7:00 PM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - BOB TRAVIS

In last month's newsletter I announced that June 5th will be the Club's 40th Birthday and that the Board had declared this entire year a year of celebration. To that end the Board received and took action on a comprehensive plan as presented by the Anniversary Committee chaired by Past President Mickey Fruchter. By next month I anticipate that we will have the specifics ironed out, but for now you can count on a number of celebrations and special events.



At last month's general meeting I believe we had the largest attendance to date - 85 and welcomed 6 new members to the Club. Needless to say, things got a little crowded. The Board discussed the possibility of needing a new meeting place and reached consensus that I, as the President, should appoint a "select committee" to begin a search. If you would like to serve on such a committee please contact me.

I take this opportunity to thank our new Club Tour Director, Jim Kroeger for putting together a fine tour to the Nethercutt Museum. There were only a "few" cars lost on the way to the Museum but they were able to recover. On the way home several of us got to test our windshield wipers.

Jim has put together a very aggressive tour schedule for this year. Believe me, there is something for everyone. Take a moment to review the master schedule and select those events that appeal to you. I especially encourage our newest members to get their cars out so they may be enjoyed by all.

In closing I have what I hope to be one last item related to the change of our calendar year as approved by our change to the by-laws. I have already obtained the approval of the present slate of Officers and Board members to extend their term of service to 31 Dec 2015. I now ask all of the current committee chairs and associated volunteers to do the same. If anyone finds that this will work a hardship on them please contact me. **Remember, drive an A everyday.**

Ponder This

by Joe Wilson

New Spoken Wheels Newsletter Format

As you can see, the format of the Spoken Wheels newsletter has been changed, hopefully for the better. The intent was to improve the "look" of the paper using different graphics and to "reorder" the sequence in which information is presented so it appears in a more logical sequence. Suggestions for additional modifications are welcomed.

Era Clothing section added to in the newsletter

Our club "Fashion Coordinator" has kicked-off her era clothing program with an outline of her future plans to implement an "Era Clothing" activity as part of our club's offerings. Check it out on page seven.

Web site tip - Calendars of events

If you like car shows you need to check out a list published monthly by "California Car Clubs" which includes all types of car events in California. This web site can be accessed through our web site by clicking on "Calendar" in the heading on our home page. Several calendars will appear: Our club's, MAFCA's and the "California Car Club's. Click on the California Car Club title and you will find a list of car events for the next few months. Click on the MAFCA title and you will see a list of their activities.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

- 21 - La Verne Heritage Foundation, Orange Picking Tour
27 - Meeting - Auction Night, Starts at 7:00 PM , see page 4

March

- 1 - Arabian Horse Show tour, Cal Poly, see page 4
7 - Tech Seminar, Installation of modern steering, See page 4
9 - Ladies' Brunch - Annia's, El Monte Airport, 11:00 AM
11 - Board Meeting - 7:00 PM, Temple City City Hall
17 - St. Patrick's Day Dinner w/ MARC Club, see page 4
19 - Men's Breakfast - Annia's, El Monte Airport, 9:00 AM
21 - Ronald Reagan Library tour, see page 4
27 - General Meeting

April

- 9 to 13 - CCRG Tour Santa Maria, see page 5
18 - Welding Seminar, Details TBA
26 - Orange County Model A's Pancake Breakfast - Details TBA
30 - Wrightwood Circle Tour - Details TBA

May

- 7 - Mt. Baldy Tour
9 - Fullerton Airport Air Show , Diamond Tread Hosting
23 - Salute To Veteran's Music Concert & Dinner In La Canada
29 - General Meeting, 40 th anniversary, Recognize charter members
30 - Orange Railway Museum Overnight Tour

June

- 11 - San Gabriel East Fork Picnic Tour
28 - Henry Ford Picnic

July

- 4 - South Pasadena Fourth of July Parade
11 - Quakes Night Baseball Game Outing
25 - Santa Paula Balloon Festival Overnight Tour

August

- 1 - San Dimas Park 40th Anniversary Tour
22 - Santa Anita A's Pancake Breakfast
30 - San Fernando Valley Club Swap Meet

September

- 13 - Chapman University, Huell Howser Exhibit Tour
19 - International Model A Day
26 - Battleship U.S.S. Iowa Tour
27 - Paradise Valley Club Swap Meet

October

- 3 - Homestead Museum, Ticket to The 20's Tour
17 - Temple City Fall Festival and Car Show
24 - Vista Steam Engine Museum Overnight Tour

November

- 7 - Graber Olive House Tour

December

- 27 - Holiday Motor Excursion Tour

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Secretary:	
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Bonnie Nelson	626-614-0528
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Rummens and Chris Wickersham.	
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Jack Dawson	818-790-6592
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PO Box 660904 Arcadia, CA 91006	

SUNSHINE LADY

Nothing to report - The Sun is shining

COOKIE BRINGERS ALERT

Bringers for the next meeting are:
Diana Lohr, Elsie Johnson, Gerry McKinney, and
Lynn Neal(sugar free)

PHOTO DONORS

McBride, Kroeger, Wilson

NEW MEMBERS

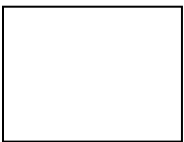
Here are the new members who joined in the last six months. Welcome them into our club.



Chuck Mauch & Maurine St. Gaudens
Pasadena
Joined Feb. 2015
29 roadster PU



Mel & Maria Foye
Azusa
February, 2015



Steve & Kathy Concidine
Glendora
Joined February, 2015
1931 Victoria



Terry Mills
Pasadena
Joined January, 2015
1930 Cabriolet, 1931 Wagon



Corky & Sharon Gray
Arcadia
Joined January 2015
1931 Tudor Sedan



Evalyn Ingram
Arcadia
Re-joined August, 2014
'29 Shay Roadster

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

March Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 - John Emanuelli | 22 - Larry Metz |
| 2 - Gordon Johnson | 24 - Nancy Stancil, |
| 3 - Josie Byrd, | Dick Canzoneri |
| Carolyn McBride | 27 - Warwick Nethercoat |
| 4 - Jim Constantian | 28 - Jennifer Sandberg |
| 5 - Ruth Harper | 31 - Steve Concidine |
| 6 - John King | |

- 10 - John McDannel
14 - Fred Weideman
19 - Carolyn Riker,
Randy Harper
21 - Frank Izbinski

March Anniversaries

- 12 - Jim & Jamie Frick
19 - Terry & Carolyn Riker,
Larry & Suzanne Rummens
21 - Mike & Kim Harryman
25 - Daniel & Jacki Boardman

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT BY BOB HARBICHT

Charles & Diana Lohr



Charles & Diana were both born and raised in California. While Diana was occupied with raising children and keeping house, Charles was originally a commercial banker.

He had a number of attorneys and law firms as clients and spent part of his time advising them on running their firms. Finally one of his clients lured him away from commercial banking to manage his law firm. And that's what he did for the rest of his career. He's now working three or four hours a month and trying to cut that down.

They have two Model A's, one they've owned since 1972 (a 1931 Tudor) and the other since 1962 (a 1930 pickup). So they've been in the hobby longer than most.

The 1930 pickup has an interesting story. In 1991 it was burned up in the Universal Studios fire (see picture). This was a tragic event that one would think would be the end of this car.

However, many years later Charles decided to rebuild the car. A frame-off restoration then followed, using all authentic parts. The result of this effort can be seen in the other picture. What a beautiful and unexpected job!

The restoration was finished in 2011 and they took the car to the San Diego MARC meet. It won first place! Think of it, a car that most people would have written off as totaled could be brought back to that level of excellence.

They are Ford people through and through. In addition to the Model A's, Charles & Diana own five others: (1937 coupe, 1942 Tudor, 1942 convertible, 1965 Mustang and a 1968 F100).

Charles does a lot of work on other people's cars, so he might be a good person to get to know. Say hello the next time you see them and welcome them to the Santa Anita A's.



Chuck's car after fire in 1991 and after restoration at San Diego MARC meet in 2011.

COMING EVENTS

Auction Night in Arcadia

Friday, Feb 27

Starts at 7:00 PM



Yes, it's closet cleaning time again. Yes, we know you have been collecting surplus "things" all year. And, yes we want to help you find a home for all those "Collectibles".

Load up the trailer and bring them to the annual Santa Anita A's Auction on Friday, February 27th.

Tour to the Arabian Horse Show - PLUS

Sunday, March 1

by Bob Moore



A good sized group from our club is taking advantage of the opportunity to tour to Cal Poly Pomona. We start with a tour of the Kellogg house at 11:00 AM.

Following that, we will have a buffet lunch at Kellogg West. After lunch, we will attend the Arabian Horse Show. The Cal Poly organizer has been informed of the 31 members of the Santa Anita A's who will be attending. We will meet at Marlin and Elaine's home at 9:45 AM. If you are signed up and cannot make it, please advise Bob Moore. In the event that the horse show is rained or muddled out, we will reschedule the tour.

Tech Seminar

Installing a Modern Steering

by Marlin Perry

When: March 7th Time: 9:00AM

Where: Marlin Perry's 5528 N. Lenore Ave. ,Arcadia
Coffee and treats in the morning and lunch after installation of steering. Will be working on Jin Constantian's truck and one other car.

Please make sure you sign up at meeting or call Marlin (626) 443-0638 if you plan to attend.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

March 17, 2015

by Bob Moore

The MARC club is inviting the Santa Anita A's to join with them for a traditional St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 17. Dinner will be at 6:00 PM in the banquet room of the Peppertree restaurant located at 1020 E. Rt. 66, Glendora. Soft drinks and dessert are included. Joe Principe, the organizer, needs to know in advance how many will attend, so if you would like to go and did not sign up at the January club meeting, please call him by March 6. The cost is \$17.00 per person including tax and tip which is paid at the restaurant. Joe's phone number is 626-453-6642.

Ronald Reagan Library Tour

Saturday, March 21

by Don McBride

Jeff Friend, of the Ventura Model "A" Club has arranged for a joint tour to the Ronald Reagan Library on Saturday, March 21. He has also invited the San Fernando Valley Club and the Santa Barbara Club.

There will be reserved parking for up to 40 Model A's. The entry fee is \$12 for seniors. Jeff also reserved a space in their cafeteria for us to eat together. Each person is responsible for his own lunch cost. Both box lunches and hot meals are available.

On display will be "Cars of the Movies" on loan from the Peterson Car Museum.

We will be traveling by freeway and will leave from the Sears parking lot in Pasadena no later than 8:30 AM.



The Ultimate Car Exhibit will run from October 28, 2014 through May 1, 2015. The first of a three-part exhibit is now open.

The exhibit is in partnership with the Petersen Automotive Museum to showcase some of the Petersen most stunning and memorable cars at the Reagan Library while the Petersen is closed to the public for renovation. Most of these cars come from the Petersen vault and are not seen by regular museum-goers.

MORE COMING EVENTS

CCRG Update

April 9 - April 13, 2015

by Bob Moore

We will be headed to Santa Maria and the Central Coast Regional Group (CCRG) Jamboree on Thursday, April 9 arriving in Santa Maria in time for a business meeting. The CCRG begins on Friday morning and most have opted for the tour of Vandenberg Air Force Base and lunch in the officer's club. Although the CCRG ends on Sunday morning, our group will spend Sunday in Santa Maria and attend the Great American Melodrama and Vaudeville in the Sunday evening.

There is still time to sign up if you would like to join in. Call Bob Moore.

Landing on a comet successful at club meeting

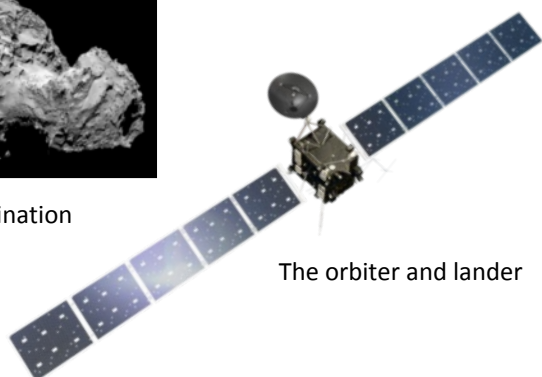
Art Chmielewski, Project Manager at JPL, provided a very interesting presentation on the *Rosetta* space mission and JPL's participation in this project. *Rosetta* was launched on March 2, 2004 and reached the comet 67P on August 6, 2014, becoming the first spacecraft to orbit a comet. The spacecraft consists of the *Rosetta* orbiter, which features 12 instruments, and the *Philae* lander, with nine additional instruments. The lander touched down on the comet Nov. 12, 2014 and began returning pictures and data.

Mr. Chmielewski's presentation included a series of fantastic photos and charts which compared the *Rosetta* space craft to our Model A's. The space craft exceeded the Model A's specs in weight, size, speed, distance traveled and required fewer service intervals. But, it came up short on seating capacity and lacked a horn.

His presentation was humorous, informative, and bless him, understandable to a group who still haven't grasped the concept of spark ignited internal combustion engines.



The destination



The orbiter and lander

PAST EVENTS

Mom and Pops Night Out

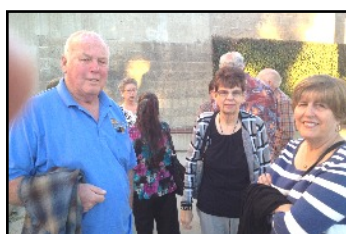
January 24

by Joe Wilson

This year the "Mom and Pop's Night Out" event featured a "Multi Media" performance by Mark Nizer at the Performing Arts Center at Citrus College in Azusa.



Mark's performance featured a variety of comedic juggling acts accompanied by sound and lights, frequently in 3D using special glasses.



Following the show we all gathered for buffet dinner at the Pepper Tree Cafe nearby in Glendora. This was a "modern car" tour with a total of 46 total participants.



PAST EVENTS -MORE

Nethercutt Tour Wrap-up

February 7

By: Jim Kroeger

Our busy touring month of February started off with a bang when we visited the Nethercutt Automobile Collection out in Sylmar. Ten model A's departed Pasadena for the 27 mile journey at 8:30 am and arrived in just over an hour for our 10 am guided tour.



We started the tour off in a re-creation of an Automotive Grand Salon of the 1920's and '30s. As we admired automobiles owned by Cecil B. DeMille and Fatty Arbuckle, music filled the salon with the song "Rhapsody in Blue" on a player piano. Ira Gershwin himself scored this particular player piano roll just for the museum.



Our tour moved upstairs to the music room where numerous orchestral machines from Europe played songs and melodies from long ago. As we gathered toward the center of the room, a Wurlitzer, 5000-pipe organ rose from the floor and entertained us with songs from Phantom of the Opera and, in celebration of our Model A club, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

We then headed across the street to a second building to view over 130 classic automobiles. As an added bonus on our tour we were able to walk inside a restored 1912 Pullman Private Car that was owned by Clara Baldwin Stocker, the eldest daughter of Arcadia pioneer "Lucky"

Baldwin. Attached to the rail car was a 1937 Canadian Pacific Royal Hudson steam locomotive complete with ringing bell.



After touring the museum our group was becoming ravenous so what better way to satisfy our hunger than at The Bear Pit Bar-B-Q. A man from Missouri started this restaurant in the 40's and it did not disappoint.



Over 33 people attended the Nethercutt Tour including: the Johnson's, Fruchter's, Wilson's McBride's, Travis', Harbicht's LeVay's, Lampassi's, Balmot's Jim Kroeger and Janet, Leroy Gilbert, Billie Cerovac, John Emanuelli, Don Dawkins, Charlie Lohr, AC Byre, and Hal Anthony See you on the next tour.



OTHER STUFF

Discovering The Joy of Dressing in Era Fashions

Occasions to wear Fashions that were popular from 1928 to 1931

by Bonnie Nelson , Fashion Coordinator

I am introducing a new column and some information about fashions from 1928 to 1931. My plan or intension is to interest the membership in participating in "dressing in the era styles" occasionally...at meets...on tours or for our parties and celebrations, such as parades, or attending heritage events.

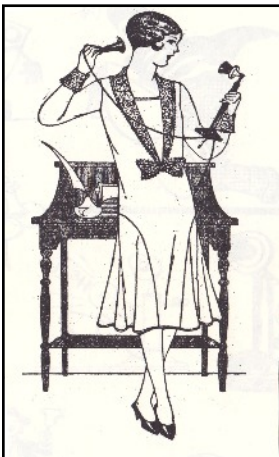
Not everyone will be interested in this aspect of car collecting, but I think it makes the club a bit more well-rounded and inclusive. I will try to plan a variety of informative outlets for this information. In this vein, perhaps I will create a brochure with sources useful to the members for finding era fashions.



A gathering at Ascot

Due to the economy I think many of the sources we used to have...antique stores, antique malls etc. have had to close. Some sources relocated to the Internet, with web sites or eBay to sell their fashions. I want to find as many local outlets for finding fashions, to find their locations, phone numbers and hours they are open.

I plan to organize a seminar or fashion show for era fashions. Perhaps we will plan one for Ladies Day. The Ladies Luncheons may be another venue for the dissemination of this information.



Ad from the late 1920's

I welcome information from the members of the Santa Anita A's. Also, if members would like to assist on my "committee", I will welcome suggestions.

Future articles will include specific fashion items for men, women and children. I plan to have one on hats of the era, on shoes, dresses, suits and accessories.

Please stay tuned. God willing, I will write an article for each issue.

Saving Small Things can Make a Big Difference

Collecting drink can tabs and small bottles

By Sheri Johnson

I started saving tabs for Ronald McDonald house after hearing a speaker from Ronald McDonald House talk at the club meeting. While delivering tabs, I found out that they accepted trial size bottles of shampoos, etc., so then I started saving them.

I asked my family and friends to save both tabs and toiletries for me. When I get my 7-3 lb coffee cans full, I deliver to the Ronald McDonald house in Pasadena.

I have taken toothpaste, floss, toothbrushes, soap and trial size bottles of shampoo, conditioner, lotions, etc. to: Foothill Unity Center in Monrovia Ronald McDonald House in Pasadena and Friends of Foster Children (this group make up a kit to give to each child when they enter the foster care system).

When I deliver these items, it makes me feel good to help out these worthwhile organizations and I thank everyone who helps me out.



Why Pop Tabs?

Unlike the urban legend states, pop tabs do not support medical treatment of any kind including chemotherapy or dialysis; however, pop tabs do support the operations of Ronald McDonald Houses across the country. This popular fundraiser benefits seriously ill or injured children by helping provide a "Home away from home" for them and their families while they are hospitalized or receiving outpatient medical treatment.

The Ronald McDonald House recycles pop tabs. The tab of an aluminum can is pure aluminum unlike the rest of the can which consists of mostly recycled aluminum and other residue. Recycled aluminum, at this point, pays a higher rate of return than just the tabs alone.

Fun Pop Tab Facts:

- 1 Pop Tab is approximately 1 inch long
- 1,267 Pop Tabs make 1 pound
- 1 pound of Pop Tabs can be sold for about 60 - 70 cents

This article on spark plugs originally appeared in the Orange County MAFC club's January, 2015 issue of its "Distributor" newsletter.



Sparkplugs

By Pete Cruz, Technical Director, Orange County Club

As a teenager and then into my early 20's I lived for my hotrod. In those days my knowledge of sparkplug reading was pretty basic. If you yanked the plugs and the porcelain was a nice brown you were looking good. If the entire plug end was wet you were either running WAY too rich, experiencing weak or no spark, or both. If the porcelain was too white you might be running too lean. That was really about the extent of my knowledge and it usually worked for street racing. Ensuring the plugs were ready for a race simply meant a few hard launches to "blow 'er out".



These days my goals are a bit different. Keeping a Model A engine running healthy for as long as possible is the main priority. That and having enough knowledge to at least hold my own at a Saturday BS breakfast with the guys is more than enough reason to do research on all things Model A.

So how do the big boys read spark plugs? Well the good news for me is that the basics I'd learned from my Auto Shop teacher and my experiences with street racing weren't TOO far off; they just lacked sophistication and detail. There are actually three main areas to look at:

The "Ground Strap" - This is the metal piece welded to the base ring that extends up and over to just above the inner electrode. The ground strap provides the forensic details that describe the heat within the combustion chamber during operation. Combustion heat is determined by two factors: 1) Heat range of the sparkplug and 2) Ignition timing.

During combustion the ground strap heats from the end over the inner electrode moving down to the end that is welded to the base ring. Once the new plug has been run for a bit you can read the strap to determine whether or not you are running HOT or COLD. The strap will discolor where it is being superheated leaving a mark delineating the point at which it cools. If the discoloration change is close to the end that hovers over the electrode, the engine is running too COLD which is, in turn, indicative of an engine with too little timing (retarded). If the discoloration change is too close to the end that is welded to the base ring that means the plug is too HOT, indicative of too much timing advance. If this latter condition exists the strap may remain too hot prior to the next intake cycle and detonate the mixture (knocking). The strap should change color at the middle of the "bend" it makes between its vertical positing leaving the base ring to the horizontal position as it floats above the electrode. If adjusting the engine timing just isn't working to correct improper heat conditions within the combustion chamber (as indicated by the ground strap readings) you may need to move up or down in the heat range of the plugs you are using.

The "Base Ring" - The base ring (the final ring of threading that the ground strap is welded to) is where you read the fuel mixture affects. Based upon what you see you can adjust the air/fuel ratio. If the ring has bits of crud stuck to it and is dark you're running too RICH (it may even be wet). What you want is a nice even layer of light soot. If the soot layer is too light it indicates you are running lean. Some engines will run a little better if they are a tad lean, others if they are a tad rich so you'll need to experiment!

The "Porcelain" - After running long enough to "break-in" the plug(s) the tip of the porcelain should be a medium reddish brown. If the porcelain is still bright white (and may even have broken pieces or is melted) you are running too LEAN, If the porcelain is dark or even black or wet you are running too RICH.

Tidbits - So how can you keep your plugs, and thus your engine, healthy? For starters make sure the engine is warm enough to maintain proper combustion chamber heat. Failing to allow the engine to warm up properly and constantly driving only short distances will foul plugs so, "you need to bum 'em properly to keep 'em happy."

Make sure to do your sparkplug analysis after you've let the engine warm up properly, running it fairly hard to put a good load on them! Happy Motoring, Ahhoogah!

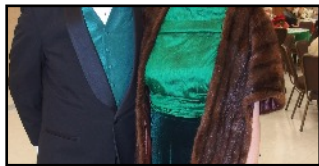


ODDS AND ENDS

Identity of Bodies Unresolved

Rear End Work Party Mystery Photo Still a Mystery

Last month I posted a photo of three SAA members hard at work installing a Mitchell overdrive, asking if anyone could identify the bodies. Although I posted the answer on page 13 of the newsletter I was told they did not receive their page 13, another mystery. Well, this month I have added another photo which includes the person who actually took the photo. If you still can't figure it out, the answer has been posted on page thirteen - for sure.



One of these bodies belongs to the person who took the photo below.



Model A Ford Club of America

Santa Anita A's is a chartered member of the Model A Ford Club of America, Inc. (MAFCA). It is a California not-for-profit corporation and a national historical society dedicated to the restoration and preservation of Model A Ford vehicles as manufactured from 1928 through 1931.



We encourage our SAA members to also participate in the MAFCA organization. Check out their web site. It contains a wide variety of information about the organization, activities, technical references and instructions on how to join the organization. (www.mafca.com)

Model A Parts for Sale

Call Marlin

(626) 443-0638

For Sale

Car Capsule – CC16T (16'x72"x80") indoor CarCapsule, barely used. \$200. The indoor CarCapsule is a clear vinyl "bubble" that completely covers and protects your vehicle from dings, dirt, dust, corrosion, mildew, musty odors, rust, rodents, and even fingerprints that slowly turn it from new to old.

<http://www.carcapsule.com/>
<http://garage-toys.com/carcapulcarc.html>

I used this for about two weeks and then we moved into a house with a dry and bigger garage. It went into storage. They go for \$350 – \$379 plus shipping. You will get two (2) fan motor/assemblies. It is missing the intake foam filter, but I know where you can get one for \$10 plus ground shipping. This one is the tall one (16') that fits a model A perfectly.



All for only \$200 or a good offer.

Pickup or local delivery only. all or email: Eric Sandberg (818-330-9311) (eric_roadster@hotmail.com)

For Sale

Tool Boxes

\$175 Cash or check

Fits all Model A's 28 thru 31. Comes complete with lock, 2 keys and mounting hardware. Gloss Black. No shipping. Available in Arcadia CA. Contact Bob Travis 626-574-0665






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NEXT GENERAL MEETING - Feb. 27 2015, ARCADIA RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS

Things to do:

1. Read the newsletter
2. Check your email for "Special Announcements".
3. Gather your goodies for the club auction in Feb. - see page 4

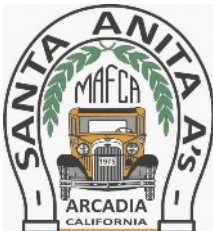
Mystery Photograph answer:

From left to right the bodies belong to Bob Moore, Randy Harper, Bob Travis. The photographer and car owner was Jim Kroeger.



Important

February meeting is Auction Night.
Bring you bodies and auction items.
It all starts at **7:00 PM**



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