



September 2015

Celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Year - 1975 to 2015  
**Santa Anita A's**  
Arcadia, CA

# Spoken Wheels

## FICTION AND FACT

### General Meeting

Friday, September 25 - 7:30 PM  
Arcadia Red Cross, 376 Huntington Dr., Arcadia

### Program

Our program for the 25th of Sept. Will be titled "Life on route 66". The author of the book, Claudia Heller, will have an entertaining power point presentation regarding this 2,451 mile journey from Chicago to Los Angeles.

### It's Election Time

by Joe Wilson

At the time of our September meeting there will be only 91 days left until Christmas, 56 days until our club's elections and only weeks left for you to look for a new opportunity to participate in making things happen at the Santa Anita A's.

Don't let those other members have all of the fun, join in. Look at page two of this newsletter where you will find list of positions; opportunities to participate in "club operations". There is an opportunity for advancement and openings in top management positions. Don't worry about experience, we have on the job training and experienced advisors.

A nominating committee has been appointed and will be preparing a slate of Officers and Board Members which will be announced at the October meeting. The committee will also be looking for members to serve as committee chairs.

You will be receiving a list with a short description of all elected positions and committee chairs. Take a look and pick the job you want before someone nominates you for a job you prefer someone else have. The nominating committee members are: Ken Mallory, Mickey Fruchter, Sheri Johnson, Elaine Perry & Nancy Stancil. Give them a call.

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 660904, Arcadia. Web Site [www.santaanitaas.org](http://www.santaanitaas.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - BOB TRAVIS

By the time you are reading this issue of Spoken Wheels we will have officially entered the fall season which I hope will bring some relief to the unusual hot weather we have been have been experiencing. Speaking of the Spoken Wheels, I can't tell you how proud I am of our club newsletter. Joe Wilson is doing a great job and if you agree please tell him so. In my opinion it is the "heart" of the club.

After our next meeting and in this issue of the newsletter the members of the nominating committee will be announced and begin work on preparing a slate of Officers and Board Members along with selecting chairpersons for the numerous committees. Now is the time for every member to "give back" to the club by volunteering to serve. It is time to step forward and say, "here I am, take me".

The fall season will be a busy time for the club as its calendar is full with tours: A special gala celebration dinner, Christmas Party and elections. Let's join in for the fun.

I close with sad news of the single car accident in which club members, Frank and Cristina Izbinski lost their lives. They were driving their Model A on a residential street a mere mile from their home when it struck a large tree. Frank and Cristina had been members since June of 2011. Our sympathy goes out to the family.

### Every veteran has a story to tell

We are continuing our series of stories on club veterans. Last month's story on Joe Giocomarra about his experience with being on sinking ships during WWII drew many comments.

Tom Endy has been in contact with many of you requesting your help in continuing this series. He wants to present these stories in chronological order by the years served. When you receive an invitation from Tom to work with him on a story, please respond. Give him a call (714-897-5861). Do you remember your dog tag number? We do.



John McDannel presents Joe Giocomarra with a life vest "just in case".

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September

- 25 - Pot Luck Dinner Meeting, see page 4
- 26 - Battleship U.S.S. Iowa tour, see page 4
- 27 - Paradise Valley Club Swap Meet, San Bernardino

### October

- 3 - Homestead Museum, Ticket to The 20's Tour, see page 4
- 12 - Ladies' Brunch, Annia's Restaurant, El Monte Airport, 11:00 AM
- 14 - Board Meeting, Temple City City Hall, 7:00 PM
- 15 - Men's Breakfast, Annia's, El Monte Airport, 9:00 AM
- 17 - Temple City Fall Festival and Car Show, see page 4

### November

- 7 - Graber Olive House Tour, Details TBA
- 20 - General meeting - Note date change, one week early
- 21 - Spectacular Ruby Anniversary Gala, see page 4

### December

- 6 - Arabian Horse show tour at Cal Poly
- 12 - Christmas Party, Details TBA
- 27 - Holiday Motor Excursion Tour

### Ted Bruns Says Thank You

Ted Bruns called and asked that I print a Thank You note in the newsletter in response to all of his Santa Anita A's friends that called and sent him cards following his kidney replacement surgery. He is home, feeling good and sounded as ornery as ever.

### Frank and Cristina Izbinski die in auto accident

Club members Frank and Cristina Izbinsky were driving their 1931 Model A coupe near their home in Temple City on August 31 when they struck a tree and died.

Frank and Cristina joined the Santa Anita A's in June of 2011. Their 1931 Model A Tudor was one of several "collector cars" they have owned.

Services were held at Rose Hills Mortuary in Whittier on Friday August 11.



## OFFICERS, BOARD & CHAIRS

### OFFICERS

<b>President:</b>	
Bob Travis	626-574-0665
<b>Vice President:</b>	
John McDannel	626-791-3221
<b>Secretary:</b>	
Elaine Perry	626-443-0638
<b>Treasurer:</b>	
Sheri Johnson	626-446-3367

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Carol Emanuelli	626-286-5267
Mickey Fruchter,	626-797-2048
Immediate Past President	
Jerry Lampassi	909-899-6015
Don McBride	626-792-8652
Rick Phillips	626-447-0611

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<b>Accessories:</b>	
AC Byrd	323-721-1996
<b>Activities:</b>	
Elaine Perry	626-443-0638
<b>Advertising:</b>	
Dick Canzoneri	626-358-8182
<b>Club Liaison:</b>	
Don McBride	626-792-8652
<b>Fashion Coordinator:</b>	
Bonnie Nelson	626-614-0528
<b>Ladies' Day:</b>	
Carol Emanuelli &	626-286-5267
Bonnie Nelson	626-614-0528
<b>Low End Boys:</b>	
Marlin Perry	626-443-0638
With Brad Balmot, Ted Bruns,	
John Emanuelli, Louie Formia,	
Mickey Fruchter, Dick Homet, Gene	
Reinhardt, Randy Gross, Larry	
Rummens and Chris Wickersham.	
<b>Membership:</b>	
Randy Harper	626-357-6442

### Participation Record Keeper:

Jim Frick	626-303-5233
<b>Phone Committee:</b>	Board of Directors
<b>Raffle – Ladies':</b>	
Bea Fruchter	626-797-2048
<b>Raffle – Men's:</b>	
Jack Dawson	818-790-6592
<b>Raffle - 50-25-25:</b>	
Josie Byrd	323-721-1996
<b>Refreshment Host:</b>	
Nancy Stancil &	626-448-0457
Nancy Sharpe	626-359-1751
<b>Refreshment Sign-ups:</b>	
Carolyn McBride	626-792-8652
<b>Restorer Articles:</b>	
Keith Smith	661-298-0625
<b>Roster:</b>	
Joe Wilson	818-790-0995
<b>Seminars:</b>	
Marlin Perry	626-443-0638
<b>Southern CA MAFCA Regional</b>	
<b>Representative:</b>	
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<b>Spoken Wheels:</b>	
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Proofers - Olive Moore & Elaine Perry	
Mailers - Elaine Perry & Sally Baquet	
<b>Sunshine Lady:</b>	
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<b>Technical Director:</b>	
Bob Travis	626-574-0665
<b>Tours Director:</b>	
Jim Kroeger	26-710-6592
<b>Webmaster:</b>	
Eric Sandberg	818-330-9311
<b>Youth Outreach:</b>	
John Emauelli	626-286-5267
<b>Santa Anita A's Mailing Address:</b>	
PO Box 660904 Arcadia, CA 91006	
<b>Web Site:</b> www.santaanitaas.org	

### Think About It

I knew it was on the schedule, but old age is coming at a really bad time!. I think I'll ask for a deferment.

### SUNSHINE LADY - JOYCE TRAVIS

Sympathy card sent to the Izbinski family.  
Get Well /Recover cards sent to Ted Bruns & Bob Moore.

### COOKIE BRINGERS ALERT - CAROLYN MCBRIDE

Carolyn who is out of town called everyone but can't remember who she called. But, you know who you are.

### PHOTO DONORS

This month's photo donors are: Carol Emanuelli, Bonnie Nelson and a mystery person.

## NEW MEMBERS

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



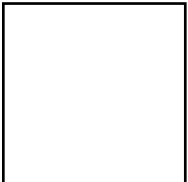
**Dave Galassi & Deborah Symons**  
626-390-3492 Cell  
2174 Crary St., Pasadena, CA, 91104  
restyourcase@live.com  
Joined June, 2015



**Joss & Regina Rogers**  
626-403-3324, cell 626-862-4400  
525 Grand Ave., S. Pasadena, 91030  
srogers413@aol.com  
Joined July, 2015



**Mark & Karen Gollhardt**  
626-335-2003  
1155 E. Plymouth St., Glendora, 91740  
[gollhardt@aol.com](mailto:gollhardt@aol.com)  
Joined July 2015 1929 Closed Cab PU



**Larry & May Pare**  
818-951-3215 cell 818-389-1885  
10843 Delibon Ave., Tujunga, 91042  
[Filonkideca@it.com](mailto:Filonkideca@it.com)  
Joined July 2915 1931 Victoria



**Marco Marquez & Mayrena Ocha**  
Cell 626-318-1070  
375 Parke St., Pasadena 911010  
[onemarcomarquez@yahoo.com](mailto:onemarcomarquez@yahoo.com)  
Joined Sep. 2015



**Garry & Trang Weber**  
626-799-8135 cell 626-862-3721  
2059 La France Ave., S. Pasadena  
[Blumustang65@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Blumustang65@sbcglobal.net)  
Joined Sep. 2015 1931 Coupe

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### October Birthdays

1 Tony Catroppa	17 Chuck Davies
2 Kathy Catroppa	17 Ann Peterson-Pam
2 Toshiko Favela	21 Vicky Bartlett
7 Larry Butkus	22 Trang Weber
7 Ruth Ann LeVay	25 Sue Chandler
8 John Chandler	27 Gary Weber
12 Alan Bennett	28 Lisa Henzel
16 Mary Ann Sepulveda	30 Jim Frick

### October Anniversaries

4 Pete & Gloria Henderson	20 Eric & Jennifer Sandberg
4 Gary & Trang Weber	22 Chuck & Myriam Davies
19 Gordon & Helen Johnson	

## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT BY BOB HARBICHT

### Kevin Brown



Kevin is a native Californian, having been born and raised in El Monte, where he currently lives. He's always liked old cars and has done quite a bit of work on cars. "While I was in high school I worked on my car every weekend. Had to, to keep it on the road."

He finally realized his dream of owning one by buying a '29 Tudor from fellow Santa Anita A's member Marlin Perry. Actually, Marlin still has the car, the final transition not having quite happened yet. This is a two-owner car, so Kevin will be only the third person to have owned it.

When he does take possession of the car, he will have the expert help of Bob Travis (you may have heard of him, our club President) to take care of some issues with it. "I don't know too much about Model A's, but I'm ready and willing to learn."

Kevin has a business of restoring natural stone. What that means is, if you have a granite countertop or marble floor or any other natural stone that is worn or dull, Kevin is the man to see!

In rough (no pun intended) terms, the process is that Kevin will use diamond abrasive of ever finer grits to begin with. He then puts the stone through a polishing process to bring back its shine. Finally he seals and protects the stone.

Kevin has been in this field for about 25 years. He learned on the job at such places as the Desert Springs Marriott and various other hotels in Las Vegas and other places. About 18 years ago he opened his own business.

He's an active guy. He keeps a boat at Lake Havasu and likes to fish. He also hunts big game and birds. His other motor hobby is riding dirt bikes.

Hopefully he'll have his "new" Model A on the road soon and we'll see him at some of our club outings.





## COMING EVENTS

### Meeting and Dining at the Cross

Friday, September 25, 2015

by Mickey Fruchter

It is the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "Pot Luck" dinner at the September 25<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting. The dinner will start at 6:00 PM and the meeting will begin at 7:30 PM. Hot dogs, chili, drinks and chips will be provided by the club.

Those attending are asked to bring either a hot dish or a salad.

- If your last name begins with the letters A through J bring a hot dish for 10.
- If your last name begins with the letters K through Z bring a salad.

We will have a special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake for dessert at the break. "Cookie Bringers", please bring your cookies as well.

### Deadline for U.S.S. Iowa Tour Approaching

Saturday, Sep. 26

by Jim Kroeger

Yes, you have taken many photos of your Model A but do you have one with your car next to a WWII battleship? That answer would be no, but we will have the opportunity to do so when we tour down to the U.S.S. Iowa on Saturday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>.

If you choose to drive your Model A to the event, complementary parking will be provided along with the opportunity to park right next to the ship and take as many photos as you'd like. A personal tour guide will then lead us through the battleship to be followed by lunch down the street at the Acapulco restaurant.



We will meet in the parking lot at Clearman's North Woods Inn on the corner of Huntington Drive and Rosemead Blvd. at 9 AM. This will be a freeway only tour for Model A's and modern cars.

It is not too late to sign up, but the deadline to purchase tickets is **Tuesday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>**. If you are interested in attending, please make a check out to the Santa Anita A's and call Jim Kroeger at 626-710-6592 to confirm your participation. The cost for adults (12-61) is \$13.50 and seniors (62+) \$11.50. Your ticket will be presented to you in the parking lot at the ship.

Don't miss out on this rare opportunity to have your Model A photographed in front of this historical WWII battleship.. Hope to see you on tour.

### Ticket to the 20's - Homestead Museum Tour

Saturday, October 3

Nancy Stancil

This is one of our yearly traditional tours which takes us back in time to the "good old days". Our cars will be featured as part of the festivities set in the theme of the 20's. Bring chairs, drinks, food and any thing your heart desires. Usually they have food trucks there.

We will meet at Marlin and Elaine Perry's at 1:30 PM on Sat., October 3. Departing at 1:45 PM, we will make a short drive on surface streets to the museum in the City of Industry. If you chose to go there directly, the address is 15415 E. Don Julian, City of Industry. Once in the park, go North on Tarrot to the parking area. If you wish, dress for the 20's.

### Temple City Classic Car Show

Saturday October 17, 2015

by Marlin Perry

The Santa Anita A's will again assist the City of Temple City with their annual car show. Members are requested to help Marlin with set-up, car check in and teardown. If you are available to help please call Marlin at 626 443-0638 or sign up at the September meeting. This is our way of thanking Temple City for the use of their facilities for our board meetings.

There is a registration fee for entering your car, however this fee will be waived for Santa Anita A's club members registering their cars. Check-in for cars begins at 9:30 AM. All cars must be in place by 12:00 noon.

### Ruby Celebration

November 21

by Janet Beggs

The Santa Anita A's, established in 1975, will culminate the celebration of their 40 years as a club with a Ruby Anniversary Gala to be held in the Ballroom of **The Shakespeare Club of Pasadena** on Saturday evening, November 21, 2015. The event will include a cocktail hour, a seated dinner with tri-tip buffet and musical entertainment. The Board suggests that the evening's attire is "dress to impress" and that Model As are the transportation of choice. RSVPs will be required for this event.



*A ruby Model A in front of the Shakespeare Club.*

More wonderful details will be announced at the September meeting.



## PAST EVENTS

### Ladies' "Hat Day"

August 19

by Carol Emanuelli

This year's Ladies' Day was held on August 19 at Almansor Court, in Alhambra. Ladies' Hat Day was an opportunity to see many faces we have not seen for a while. Each lady was invited to wear a hat for fun. We had a total of 28 members and 8 Guests participating.

Danielle Smith and Robert Carrillo from Goorin Bros. Hat Shop in Pasadena brought in an arrangement of many hats for all to see and even try on for a new look!

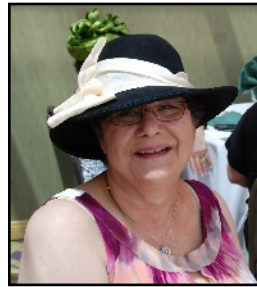


Ladies started to arrive around 11:15 am and the conversations began early with everyone happy to see each other before we settled down to our lunch, around 12:00 noon.

We found out that one of our members was celebrating her birthday and, of course, we all sang Happy Birthday to Paulette Bruns.

We enjoyed a very nice deli buffet lunch and visited with each other while the two models, Danielle and Robert, set up their table with hats. They gave us a brief history of the hat store and of the hats they brought with them. We were invited to try on any of the hats and had a good time experimenting with the different styles.

Bonnie Nelson and I just want to say, "Thank you to all who participated in our Ladies Hat Day". We so enjoyed putting this event together.





**PAST EVENTS -MORE**

**Pancake Breakfast**

August 22

by Joe Wilson

It was just another good time event for the 70 or so members and friends who attended the annual SAA pancake breakfast at Wilderness Park in Arcadia. For those of you who care about this sort of thing, each person there consumed an average: 1.33 eggs, 2.2 oz of pancake mix, 1.25 pints of orange juice and 1.25 cups of coffee. We had a new pancake flipper this year, Bob Travis. This may account for the difference in flavor.



After the meal the ladies adjourned to a rough game of "Poceno" and the men went into the woods for a technical presentation on various topics including a discussion on liquids, namely gas and oil.



There were no reports of lost people or cars.





## IMPORTANT OTHER STUFF

### 40<sup>th</sup> Decal Application at General Meeting

by Jim Kroeger

For those of you who have not applied your 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary decal to your Model A, bring your car to the September, October or November general meetings and we will do it for you. Our club is celebrating 40 years by attaching small decals to the right corner of our front windows. If you have been having trouble applying your decal, lost yours or just haven't had time to do it, bring your Model A to a general meeting and we will take care of the rest. We want to get as many decals as possible applied leading up to our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala at the Shakespeare Club. Remember, you can also win money by bringing your car to the general meeting.

### The First Forty Years

by Joe Wilson

The last of the four part series on the 40 year history of the Santa Anita A's, researched and written by Bob Travis, appeared in the August issue of the Spoken Wheels. We all need to thank Bob for taking on this job. It involved considerable time researching all of the Spoken Wheels from the club's archives which have been carefully stored in the Perry Warehouse.

A composite of the the series will be made available to members upon request. I can send it to you either by email or as a printed document. If you prefer, I can provide a printed version in our optional leather bound cover with a small additional handling and shipping charge. The series will also be added to our web site for our national and international viewers.

Thanks Bob. Job well done. We are looking forward to an update at our 50<sup>th</sup> celebration.

#### 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](http://www.mafca.com))



### SAA General Meeting Minutes August 28, 2015

- The meeting was called to order by Vice President John McDannel at 7:31 p.m.
- The flag salute was led by Joe Giocomarra.
- Membership: Randy Harper introduced guests and said he has badges on back order and if you want to order a replacement badge see him tonight.
- Tours: Jim Kroeger gave an update on the following tours:
  - Sept, 18<sup>th</sup>- International Model A Ford Day hosted by MARC. Sign up tonight. Bring chairs, salads or snacks to have with hot dogs & hamburgers.
  - Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> - Tour of Battleship Iowa Leave Northwoods parking lot at 9:00 AM.
  - Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Ticket to the 20's. Bring chairs and drinks. Meet at Perry's 1:30 PM.
- Spoken Wheels: Joe Wilson thanked contributors to the newsletter each month.
- General Announcements:
  - John McDannel asked Joe Giocomarra about his service in the Merchant Marines & presented him with a Life Saving donut around his neck.
  - Tom Endy said he has finished the work on shifting towers and needs someone to mill the forks before the seminar can be held.
  - John Mc Dannel thanked John and Carol Emanuelli for coming early to turn on AC.
  - Vicky Balmot is having a fund raiser for the Red cross for the Armed Forces. The event is Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> and they hope to raise \$50,000 in one day. Donations can be made at [www.crowdrise.com/dutycalls](http://www.crowdrise.com/dutycalls). The event on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> is a corporate event, however you can donate tonight or on the web site. The money is to be used to provide assistance to service members and their families.
- Elaine announced the nominating committee for this year they are: Mickey Fruchter, Ken Mallory, Nancy Stancil, Elaine Perry & Sheri Johnson. Contact one of them if you are interested in serving the club as an officer or board member.
- John McDannel introduced Wilbert Smith who presented the second part of his program tonight. He covered different types of insurance and what to look for in a policy.

#### BREAK then Recall to Order

- Randy introduced new members: Marco Marquez & Mayrena Ochoa and Larry & May Para.
- Marlin said he has some free metal boxes for any one that would like them. Mel Foye said he has some polishing rags also for free.
- The minutes of the July General meeting were approved as corrected.
- The treasurer's report was approved as read.
- Thank you to:
  - Cookie bringers Carolyn McBride, Josie Byrd, Bonnie Nelson and Ruth Ann LeVay
  - Nancy Sharpe and Patti Lutz for refreshment set up
  - Patti Lutz for ladies raffle prizes and Marlin Perry for purchasing men's raffle
- 50/25/25 winners: Gerry McKinney & Kevin Brown - \$25.00 ea
- Name badge winner - Gerry McKinney
- Drove Model A to the meeting winner - Chris Wickersham
- Men and Ladies' Raffles
- Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM

Respectfully submitted, Elaine Perry, Secretary



# Santa Anita A's Veteran



## Robert L. Travis Colonel US Army (Ret.) 1952-1982

In June 1952 I entered the Army as an enlisted man. After completing infantry OCS, basic airborne training, and the Jump Master Course, I was assigned to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division where I served as Regimental Ammunition officer and Aerial Equipment Officer in the Service Company of the 325<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment.

In September 1954 I was assigned to the 60<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in Germany, where I was Regimental Ammunition Officer and later Executive Officer of Company E, 2nd Battalion of the 9<sup>th</sup> Division. Later that year I was a member of the Advanced Party of the 60<sup>th</sup> Regiment for Project GYROSCOPE in which the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division returned to the states with our duty station at Fort Carson, Colorado. Soon after arrival at Fort Carson, I assumed command of the Service Company, 60<sup>th</sup> Infantry regiment. In June of 1958 I attended the Infantry Officer Career Advancement Course at Fort Benning, Georgia and upon completion transferred to the Ordnance Corps and assumed command of 539th General Automotive Support Maintenance Company.

In 1961 I was assigned to the US Training Mission, Saudi Arabia as an Ordnance Advisor. Returning to the States in 1962 I was assigned to Field Command, Atomic Support Agency, Sandi Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico, where I was initially a student in Nuclear Weapons maintenance and Supply, and later served as instructor in this field.

In 1965 I attended the Associate Command and General Staff College Course, and upon graduation was selected as an Inspector General on the staff of Headquarters, US Army Alaska. In 1967 I returned to the lower 48 for assignment to Ordnance Career Branch, Office of Personnel Operations, headquarters, department of the Army.

In July 1969 I was assigned to Vietnam, where I commanded the 191<sup>st</sup> ordnance Battalion (Ammunition) and served as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Ammunition Headquarters, US Army Support, Cam-Rahm Bay. During this tenure of command the 191<sup>st</sup> was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation. Returning to the US in 1970, I attended San Jose State College where I earned a BS degree in Industrial Management. Upon graduation, I was reassigned to Headquarters, Department of the Army, Office of Deputy Chief of Staff for logistics, where I initially served as Logistics Personnel Staff Officer, and later as Chief, Logistics Personnel and Training Division.

In August of 1973 I entered the National War College, graduating in June 1974. During this attendance I earned a Master of Science degree in International Relations from George Washington University. In January 1975 I assumed command of the 46<sup>th</sup> General Support Group, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. From April to November 1975 this command established and operated two resettlement camps for Indo-China Refugees, first at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, and later at Fort Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania. In July 1976, I was assigned to the US Military Personnel Center, serving initially as special assistant to the Director, OPMD for logistics, personnel matters, and later as Chief, Warrant Officer Division.

In September 1978 I was assigned to headquarters, US Army Armament Material Readiness Command (ARRCOM) as Director of the Defense Ammunition Supply Directorate, and in October 1979 became Director of Weapons Systems Management. In August 1981 I assumed the position of ARRCOM Chief of Staff from which I retired on November 1, 1982 with over 30 years of service. My awards include the Legion of Merit (four Oak leaf Clusters), Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal.

I was born January 18, 1934 at MacDougall, New York. My wife is the former Joyce Hayward of San Jose, California. We have three daughters, Cheryl, Cynthia, and Christine.



Colonel Robert L. Travis 1974



The following article was written by Jim Johnston but the name of the publication is unknown.

## Balancing Model 'A' Wheel/Tire Assemblies

When it comes to balancing the tires on our Model A's the conventional way (installing wheel weights), most of us have a 'go to' tire store where we are satisfied with the end result. This method has been proven over the years as a reliable and efficient way to accomplish this task. There is a small downside to this method as it applies to the Antique Car and the Street Rod communities, and that is the weights used detract from the aesthetics of our wheels.

There is another way to balance wheels that was originally developed for the trucking and RV industry. This method uses "balance beads" installed in the tire, or inner tube, in the case of our Model A's. These high-density ceramic beads, when installed, continuously balance your tires as you drive. The beads are distributed via centrifugal force to counter balance the imbalance in the tire/wheel.

I had wanted to try this method for some time, and as our Tudor was in need of new tires I decided to give it a try. There are several manufacturers of these beads, the most popular probably being Dyna Bead, to the point that the term 'DynaBeads' has become synonymous with balance beads. I ordered the Wheel Balancing Beads from Snyder's (\$31.75) for the four wheel kit. These beads are manufactured by, and named, 'Counteract'.

The instructions suggest using a 9/64" drill bit to slightly widen the opening in the valve stem. I did this prior to installing the tube in the new tires.

I mounted up the new Firestone's, and although my old tubes were serviceable, I went with new tubes sourced from Bratton's. I let them sit overnight to insure there were no leaks from a pinched tube. Installation is pretty straight forward. The tire is deflated, the valve core removed, and with the valve stem at the bottom, the beads are installed using the furnished bottle and tube, (see photo).

The valve core is reinstalled and the tire is inflated to the desired pressure. Ready for a road test!

My initial impression is good - no feedback through the steering wheel or my backside to indicate any tire/wheel imbalance at speeds up to 50 mph.

Second thoughts: I typically do a lot of pre fitting and fiddling when I do something new just trying to prevent the "Oh S... I wish I had thought of that before". The instructions recommend the use of the included valve core and cap. When I enlarged the hole in the valve stem to 9/64" the valve cores provided leaked when the tube was inflated. The valve cores that came with the tubes worked fine so I used them. If I had it to do again I would have tried to install the beads before enlarging the valve stem as the stem measured 1/8" (8/64). I don't know if the 1/64 made that big of a difference and I would have been able to use the furnished valve cores.



First, this is a sad time for our club as we lost the Izbinski's, Frank and Cristina, in a car crash in Temple City. Many of our club members along with our President Bob Travis and his wife Joyce attended their funeral at Rose Hills.

This month has found the Low end Boys helping our club members. Chris Wickersham is coming over to Elaine's and my house to get our station wagon going. Thanks Chris.

This year, so far we are booked to do one half time football game for South El Monte High School. Also, I hope to see everyone at International Model A Day at Legg Lake. This event is sponsored by San Gabriel MARC. The Diamond Tread Chapter as well as SAA A's will attend. Should be a fun day.

I will close and get ready to go to our apartments to finish working on the empty one as it is rented to a new tenant. Good news. Happy Model A'n.

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