



March 2014

# SPOKEN WHEELS

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Bob Travis



Someone once said "Into every life some rain must fall". Well, the last week of February saw 4 inches of rain fall- much needed rain. In fact it fell on our club auction night. But, it didn't dampen our spirits. While we had a smaller than usual attendance, everyone opened their wallets to the tune of \$2,567.50 an all-time record. My personal thanks to the assistant auctioneers, Marlin Perry and Bob Moore, to the team who recorded the bids and collected all the money, headed up by Elaine Perry and to all those who contributed items to be auctioned. I think we all had a good deal of fun and should be proud of our club.

*Continued on page 9*

**YOUR DUES ARE DUE APRIL 1. BRING YOUR CHECK TO THE MARCH MEETING AND SAVE POSTAGE**

**GENERAL MEETING** - Friday, March 28 at 7:30 PM - Arcadia Red Cross, 376 Huntington Dr., Arcadia

### PROGRAM - Glass and the Sun

Club member Thurston LeVay will make a presentation on Glass in general and Glass in particular when used in Solar Power. Thurston owns a company that manufactures specialized glass products for scientific use. If you use products made from glass, or are familiar with the sun, this will be of interest to you.

**BOARD MEETING** - Wednesday, April 9, 7:00 PM - Temple City Hall

Come join us and see what is really going on.

### OFFICERS

**President:**  
Bob Travis 626-574-0665

**Vice President:**  
John McDannel 626-791-3221

**Secretary:**  
Sheri Johnson 626-446-3367

**Treasurer:**  
Carol Emanuelli 626-286-5267

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Mickey Fruchter 626-797-2048  
Immediate Past President

Jerry Lampassi 909-899-6015  
Ken Mallory 626-305-2418  
Bob Moore 626-358-2027  
Marlin Perry 626-443-0638

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Accessories:**  
John Spielmann 626-585-1359

**Advertising:**  
Elaine Perry 626-443-0638

**Activities:**  
Elaine Perry 626-443-0638

**Club Liaison:**  
Don McBride 626-792-8652

### Low End Boys:

Marlin Perry - Leader 626-443-0638  
With: Brad Balmot, Ted Bruns, John Emanuelli, Louie Formia, Mickey Fruchter, Dick Homet, Gene Reinhardt

### Ladies' Day:

Vicky Balmot 626-303-3111

### Membership:

Randy Harper 626-357-6442

### Participation Record Keeper:

Bob Moore 626-358-2027

### Phone Committee: Board of Directors

### Raffle - Ladies':

Elaine Perry 626-443-0638

### Raffle - Men's:

Jack Dawson 818-790-6592

### Raffle - 50-25-25:

Patty Lampassi 909-899-6015

### Refreshment Host:

Nancy Stancil, Nancy Sharpe

### Refreshment Sign-ups:

Bea Fruchter 626-797-2048

### Restorer Articles:

Keith Smith 661-298-0625

### Roster:

Joe Wilson 818-790-0995

### Seminars:

Marlin Perry 626-443-0638

### Southern CA MAFCA Regional Representative:

Marlin Perry 626-443-0638

### Spoken Wheels:

Editor - Joe Wilson 818-790-0995

Proof Reader - Bea Fruchter & Elaine Perry

Distribution - Elaine Perry & Sally Baquet

### Sunshine Lady:

Joyce Travis 626-574-0665

### Technical Director:

Bob Travis 626-574-0665

### Tours Director:

Bob Moore 626-358-2027

### Webmaster:

Eric Sandberg 818-330-9311

### Youth Outreach:

Bob Moore 626-358-2027

### Santa Anita A's General Meetings:

Last Friday of most months at 7:30 PM

Arcadia Red Cross,  
376 Huntington Dr., Arcadia

### Santa Anita A's Mailing Address:

PO Box 660904 Arcadia, CA 91006

**Web Site:** [www.santaanitaas.org](http://www.santaanitaas.org)

## **SAA'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **March**

28 - General Meeting

### **April**

9 - Board Meeting - Temple City - City Hall, 7:00 PM  
12 - Model A Maintenance Seminar - See page 4  
14 - Ladies' Brunch - Annia's, El Monte Airport, 11:00 AM  
17 - Men's Breakfast - Annia's, El Monte Airport, 9:00 AM  
24 - Tour to LA Times printing facility - See page 3  
25 - General Meeting, Election of Officers & Board members

### **May**

1 - Annual Mt. Baldy Tour - See page 3  
18 - SAA Installation Banquet - Monrovia Restaurant - See page 4  
29 - San Antonio Winery - SGVMARC sponsored tour - See page 4

### **June**

8 - Quakes Baseball Game - See page 4

### **August**

27 - SAA Pancake Breakfast

## **OTHER CLUB SPONSORED EVENTS**

### **April**

4-6 - Central California Regional Group Meet - Paso Robles  
If you are interested contact Alan Bennett (818-222-4432).  
27 - Orange County Pancake Breakfast - Information to follow

### **May**

11 - Mother's Day Monrovia Old Home Tour- Details coming  
23-25 - Northern California Regional Group - Milpitas. If you are  
interested see John Emanuelli at meeting or call him.

### **June**

29 - Henry Ford Picnic - Santa Fe Springs, Diamond Tread Chapter  
29 - Antique Nationals - Auto Club Speedway, Fontana

### **July**

14-18 - MAFCA National Convention, Puyallup, Washington

## **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

### **April Birthdays**

4 - Susie Lacey, Ted Bruns  
6 - Norma Canzoneri, Betty Mallory, Richard Favela, Mickey Fruchter  
12 - Tom Forbes  
14 - Leroy Gilbert, Terry Riker  
17 - Jackie Gross, Patty Lutz, Mike Harryman, Joe Farino  
19 - Evalyn Ingram, Helen Johnson  
27 - Art Moore  
28 - Jack Dawson  
29 - Tracy Perry - Butkas

### **April Anniversaries**

6 - Arthur & Sandra Killian  
9 - Jack & Barbara Dawson  
23 - Frank & Mary Ann Sepulveda

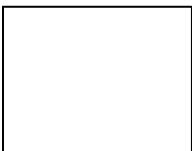
## **THE SUNSHINE LADY - JOYCE TRAVIS**

### **Get Well Cards sent to:**

John King  
Ted Bruns

## **NEW MEMBERS**

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



### **Larry & Gloria Metz**

Arcadia, Joined March 2014  
1929 Roadster Pick-up, 1930 Coupe



### **Tom Endy & Lynn Neal**

Westminster, Joined January 2014  
1931 Victoria



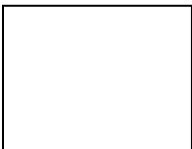
### **Charles & Myrian Davies**

San Marino, Joined February 2014  
1929 Tudor Sedan, 1930 Cabriolet



### **Stew & Catherine Levin**

Studio City, Joined November 2013  
1931 Pickup



### **Charles & Diana Lohr**

Sunland, Joined February, 2014  
1930 Pick-up, 1931 Tudor

## FICTION & FACT

### Ponder This

by Joe Wilson

#### So what do you have to say?

A long time ago, during my working years, every week I would receive a phone call from one of my good customers, not my biggest customer, but a good one. The conversation included comments about what we, as a company, were doing wrong. But, it was also interspersed with comments on those things we were doing right.



Although I always expected these calls, I received them with mixed emotions. They were usually quite long and detailed.

I really didn't appreciate the value of these calls until one day my customer, a good friend by then, said "Joe, please understand, I am giving you all of this feedback so that you can be a better supplier and I can be a better customer". He then added, "If I don't call you anymore it will probably be because I have given up on you and your company; either you aren't listening to me or I haven't done a good job of listening to you". My response was, "keep calling".

This past relationship with my customer came to mind recently when one of our club members commented, "We are not getting much feedback from our members". A good point. He asked, "What are we doing right, what are we doing well and what could we be doing to make a good club even better"? Good Questions.

So, I ask all of our members, how about some feedback? "Management" needs to know what you think. Now don't get mean, but share your thoughts and ideas. Grab one of our club officers, board members or committee chairs and have a sit-down conversation. Or, send them a note. They can carry this feedback to our club "management". They may not be able to please all of the people all the time, but everyone can sure benefit from your input. It's a good idea, give it a try.

**Think About It :** A wife asks her husband to go shopping for her and buy one carton of milk and said, "If they have avocados, get six".

A short time later the husband comes back with six cartons of milk. The wife asks him, "Why did you buy six cartons of milk?". He replied, "They had avocados".



#### This Month's Photographers Include:

Joe Wilson

#### Cookie Bringers of the Month Club

John Emanuelli, Joy Wilson and Rosemarie Gross

## COMING EVENTS

### Tour to the Los Angeles Times printing facility

Thursday, April 24

by Bob Moore

We are set for an interesting tour to the Los Angeles Times printing facility at 2000 E. 8th Street, just east of the corner of Alameda and 8th in downtown Los Angeles. The tour on April 24, will start at 11:00 AM. Following the hour long tour, we will have lunch at a nearby restaurant.

We will assemble at the rear of the Ralph's parking lot on the corner of Michillinda and Huntington Drive at 9:50 AM for a 10:00 AM departure. We will be on surface streets the entire tour.

There is on-site parking at the LA Times facility.

Sign up at the March meeting.

### Mt. Baldy Tour - Car Show, Brunch & Sundaes Tour prizes for First timers on this tour

May 1, 2011

by Bob Moore

Yes, it's that time again for the short trip to Mr. Baldy Lodge for brunch. Our day will start at 8:50 AM at Royal Oaks Retirement Center on Royal Oaks Drive North, Bradbury, home to Ken and Betty Mallory and others. Our cars will be the centerpiece of a very short car show for the residents. Actually, our cars will be the only ones in the show. Royal Oaks will provide light refreshments. May 1 is also the National Day of Prayer and the Royal Oaks minister will bless all the cars, drivers and passengers before we depart. And no offering plate.

At 10:00 AM, we will depart for Mt. Baldy. It is a 25 mile drive and freeways are not involved. We have always had a superb buffet brunch and if weather permits, we will sit outside on the patio. The brunch is scheduled to start between 11:15 AM and 11:30 AM, allowing for a leisurely drive up the hill.

After lunch, we will drive down the hill to Art and Olive Moore's who are hosting the ice cream sundaes. Art and Olive live in Upland, so it is downhill all the way to their home. Directions will be distributed at the brunch. What a day!

We are encouraging new members to get their Model A's on the road for this tour. Prizes will be awarded for new members on the tour. A new member is someone who has not been on a previous Mt. Baldy Tour.

The cost for brunch is \$20.00 per person. This is important. So that we have an accurate headcount, payment for the tour must be made in advance. April 25 is last day to pay. Carol Emanuelli will collect for the tour. Any questions call Bob Moore at 626-358-2027 or email [bobmoore1@aol.com](mailto:bobmoore1@aol.com).

## COMING EVENTS - CONTINUED

### Installation Banquet

Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

#### The Monrovia Family Restaurant

534 South Myrtle Ave. Monrovia, CA

No host Social Hour 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM

#### Entrée Choices:

Prime Rib \$42.00

Bone in Chicken Breast \$38.00

Salmon \$39.00

Entrees include a fresh green salad, appropriate starch, vegetables, dessert, regular and decaffeinated coffee, hot tea or ice tea.

Come and show your appreciation for this past year's officers, board members and committee chairpersons, and to support our incoming officers, board members and chairpersons.

**Sign up at the March or April Meeting. Reservations MUST be made and paid for before the deadline of May 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Make check payable to Santa Anita A's. Mail or give your check to Carol Emanuelli, Treasurer.

### San Antonio Winery Tour

May 29, 2014

by Nancy Stancil

This is the 2nd Annual Joint San Gabriel MARC Club and Santa Anita "A"'s Club Tour to San Antonio Winery.

Meet across the street from Colonial Kitchen Restaurant in San Marino. Departure from Colonial Kitchen will be 10:30 AM.

### Quakes Baseball Game

Sunday, June 8, 2014

by Sheri Johnson

I am again organizing a tour to see the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes (Class A affiliate of the Los Angeles Dodgers) play against the Bakersfield Blaze (Class A affiliate of the Cincinnati Reds) on Sunday, June 8.

The day will consist of a drive to the stadium, followed by an all you can eat BBQ lunch and a variety of sides and drinks. The cost of the BBQ and game is \$23.00 per person. There is no child or senior price. The BBQ will begin somewhere around noon and game time is 2:05 PM

There will be many special activities for kids to participate in, so bring them along.

I will have a sign up sheet at the next meeting. If you have any questions, please call me (626-485-3073).

### Tour to see the Arabian Horse Show At Cal Poly Pomona Canceled

by Joe Wilson

*Our tour to see the Arabian Horse show at Cal Poly was canceled due to rain. The event is held every month and there are plans to reschedule the tour later in the year. In the meantime, here is a little information on the horses we have yet to see.*

With a distinctive head shape and high tail carriage, the Arabian is one of the most easily recognizable horse breeds in the world. It is also one of the oldest breeds, with agrological evidence of horses in the Middle East that resemble modern Arabians dating back

4,500 years. Throughout history, Arabian horses have spread around the world by both war and trade, used to improve other breeds by adding speed, refinement, endurance, and strong bone. Today, Arabian bloodlines are found in almost every modern breed of riding horse.



The Arabian is a versatile breed. Arabians dominate the discipline of endurance riding and compete today in many other fields of equestrian activity. They are one of the top ten most popular horse breeds in the world. They are now found worldwide, including the United States and Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, continental Europe, South America (especially Brazil), and its land of origin, the Middle East.

### SEMINAR - Model A Ford Maintenance #101

April 12, 2014

by Mickey Fruchter

#### A Project of the Santa Anita A's "Low End Boys"

This is a course in basic maintenance for Model A Fords. It will include lubrication, timing, minor adjustments and overall things you should know to help you drive more trouble free and enjoy your hobby even more. Plan on wearing your work clothes, as you might get a little dirty if you want to get hands on training.

Lunch will be provided and we would like to see all members who want to learn more about keeping their car on the road attend this event.

Time: 10:00 AM.

Coffee and Donuts

Where: At the home of Marlin and Elaine Perry

5528 N. Lenore Ave.

Arcadia, CA 91006



## PAST EVENTS

### Auction Night

February 29

#### Club auction nets all time high in dollar sales.

Despite the heavy rain, a smaller turn out and moving the event from the January to the February meeting, it was a successful auction. Auctioneer extraordinaire, Bob Travis and his talented helpers, Marlin Perry and Bob Moore moved the bidding along at a rapid pace. With humor and intimidation they extracted top dollar from every item sold (well, there were a few no bids items). Many thanks to those who contributed items for auction and to those who bid mightily for all those goodies.

Here are the results from the last three years:

2012 - \$2,050

2013 - \$1,895

2014 - \$2,568



## OTHER STUFF

*Here is a little poem Bob Travis found from another club which poses an interesting question.*

### THINK IT OVER

Are you an active member,  
the kind who would be missed?  
Or are you contented that  
your name is on a list?  
Do you attend meetings  
and mingle with the flock?  
Or do you just criticize and knock?  
Do you take an active part  
to help the work along?  
Or are you satisfied to be  
the kind who "just belongs"?  
Do you ever work on committees  
to see there is no trick,  
or leave the work to just a few  
and talk about the clique?  
So come to meetings often,  
and help with hand and heart;  
don't just be a member,  
but take an active part.  
Think it over brother,  
you know right from wrong.  
Are you an active member,  
or do you.....just belong?  
(author unknown)



### An invitation to Join MAFCA

By John Emanuelli

The Santa Anita A's is a chartered chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America and one of over 280 chapters in the US. In California there are three regions, Northern California, Central California and Southern California. We are one of 20 in the Southern Region.

Our chapter encourages, but does not require, members to join the National organization. Some of our members do not realize the need to support MAFCA, nor the good that is done for the Model A Hobby. Please contact John Emanuelli if you would like to discuss becoming a member of MAFCA (626 286 5267).

## OTHER STUFF

### It's everybody's Job

You may not be a Club officer, Director or Committee Chair, but you do have an important assignment - **You Must Vote.**

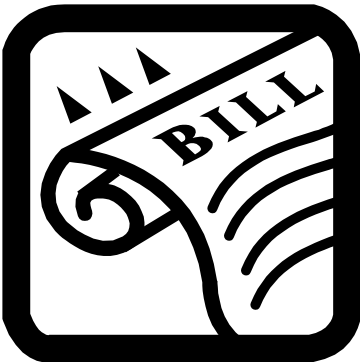


Carol Emanuelli and her nominating committee (Bob Moore and Patty Lampassi) have presented a slate of candidates to the SAA's board. It was approved and the slate will be announced at the March meeting.

Now comes your job - to vote for those who you want to lead our club for another year. But, remember, you have to have your dues for the year paid up by the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting- it's the law.

If you think you would like to vote for someone not on the slate, the ballot has a provision for a write-in vote.

In the unlikely event you can't come to the April meeting, absentee ballots will be available. Contact Carol Emanuelli. She will not only accept your dues, but has the capability of sending you an absentee ballot. Requests for absentee ballots must be received by Carol by April 14. Again, remember, both your dues and your absentee ballot must be in the hands of our treasurer by Thursday April 24 in order to be qualified to vote.



### It's Time

Yes, it's time to pay your dues. Every "Family Unit" is responsible for paying \$30. per year. A family unit includes a Single, a couple and any children under 18 years old.

The dues become due on April 1 and are delinquent on May 1. Best you have them paid by April 24. That's the Election meeting and you know they won't let you vote if your dues aren't paid. You also have to be current on your dues to qualify for a listing in the famous SAA's "Annual Membership Directory". If your name doesn't appear there you really don't exist.

You have received your membership invoice by email. Did you print it out and put it in the "Bills to pay" box?

## The Newcomb Ranch Story

Over the years we have, as a club, or as individuals stopped for a rest at Newcomb's Ranch on the Angeles Crest Highway. Bob Travis spotted this recent article which appeared on the KCET Website, written by Daniel Medina which describes the history of the San Gabriel mountain area and the Ranch. Last November, the club's Wrightwood mountain tour included a stop at Newcomb's Ranch for coffee and doughnuts. Interesting reading.

### Driven Out: Louis Newcomb, the Last Mountain Man of the San Gabriels

By Daniel Medina  
March 3, 2014

In late September 1939, the heart of the San Gabriel Mountains was breached. The aggressive might of the Angeles Crest Highway finally carved its way into the forested flatlands of Chilao, roughly thirty miles from the highway's origin in La Cañada.

Populated by flush strands of big cone spruce, incense cedar, and jeffrey pine, Chilao was host to plentiful picnic grounds and camping sites developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Upon reaching the major recreational area at the then-terminus of the highway, motorists undoubtedly marveled at the ease at which this former isolated wilderness was now accessible to the public.

Not everyone was celebrating the achievement. Louis Newcomb, a pioneer and former forest ranger who had settled in the area in the late 1880s, despised the crowds that the road brought to his once-quiet mountain hearth. Newcomb, in his late eighties by 1939, was a living legend in the San Gabriels. Few people have been a first-hand witness to the transformation of the mountains' wild interior over the past five decades.

Like outlaw Tiburcio Vasquez before him, Newcomb was drawn to the sheltered woodlands of Chilao when he first arrived from Iowa to Los Angeles in the late nineteenth century. An expert carpenter by trade, Newcomb built a cabin here in 1890 and soon after filed for 160 acres in the area under the Homestead Act. The self-reliant pioneer's life boasted a routine of hunting deer and grizzlies, mountaineering, and welcoming





## MORE OTHER STUFF

The Newcomb Ranch Story continued from page 6

hunters and herders to his humble abode. Above his door a sign read, "Meals at all hours." His Chilao was a free range, its natural resources open to the damaging escapades of herdsman, axe men, and riflemen.

The forest conservation movement in Los Angeles, however, would soon end the era of exploitation in Newcomb's Chilao. Through the local advocacy and clout of Abbott Kinney, management of unregulated wilderness like the one found in the San Gabriel mountains was made an urgent matter on the national stage. Kinney, founder of Venice of America, an Altadena rancher, and also a chairman on California's first Board of Forestry, feared the destructive consequences that unchecked manipulation of mountain resources would have on its vital watershed that contributed to the growth of Los Angeles. The first report from Kinney's State Board of Forestry concluded:

The destruction of the forests in the southern counties means the destruction of the streams, and that means the destruction of the country.

The contentious issue reached congress and President Benjamin Harrison's desk by the early 1890s. On December 20, 1892, the President signed a proclamation creating the the 555,520 acre San Gabriel Timberland Reserve (renamed the Angeles National Forest in 1908), creating the first forest reserve in California. After the passing of the Forest Reserve Act, Newcomb found himself living on federal land, his backwoods no longer governed by settlers like himself. By 1898, enticed by the \$50 per month salary promised to the nation's pioneering forest rangers, Newcomb went to work for the Department of the Interior.

In 1900, Newcomb directed the construction of the first ranger station in California, which also had the proud distinction of being only the second built station in the United States. According to historian John Robinson, the one-room cabin along the West Fork of the San Gabriel River, built out of alder logs and incense cedar shakes -- squared by Newcomb himself -- cost \$70 to build. From this remote station, Newcomb and other early rangers patrolled the vast wilderness for illegal activity, built trails, looked out for forest fires, and helped lost hikers find their way home.

After thirteen years of service, Newcomb, ever the recluse, grew dissatisfied with the Forest Service and left in 1911. He retreated back to his beloved Chilao, no doubt hoping to escape the throngs of Angelenos tearing into the San Gabriels during the Great Hiking Era.

Time and the city's eventual encroachment on the mountain frontier chipped away at Newcomb's resolve to remain steadfast in the San Gabriels. He embarked on a new stage of his life when he got married in 1920. For the next twenty years, Newcomb split his time between a new home with his wife in the foothill town of Sierra Madre and his cabin in Chilao. In 1929, he sold his property to his cousin Lynn Newcomb, who developed the two-story Newcomb's Ranch Inn to cater to weekend guests in Chilao. Then came the highway in 1939.



"It ruined the place", Louis Newcomb reportedly grumbled when reflecting on the Angeles Crest Highway. He left his Chilao home permanently in the early 1940s, spending the remainder of his days in Sierra Madre until his death in 1954. His name survives today in his cousin's Newcomb's Ranch, which continues to operate as a bar and restaurant popular with visitors to Chilao. To this day, it is the only private property along the highway.



An Early photo taken in the San Gabriels

It is not known if, when he departed Chilao for the final time, Newcomb was driven down the highway he so maligned, or if he chose to go on foot through the forest he knew so well. Had he walked out, it would have been fitting that -- even in his eighties -- Newcomb was still loyal to the ways of his halcyon days as the last pioneer of the mountains.

## FROM THE SHOP BENCH

by Bob Travis



Below is an interesting article on testing oil, written by Lyndon Akins, Gold Mine Region, Atlanta, Georgia. I have also included a description of what is included in an Oil Analysis.

### Oil Testing

My dad was religious about oil changes. Ever 3,000 miles he would purchase five quarts of Quaker State and a new filter. He placed the homemade ramps in position and my job was to yell, "STOP!" once he reached the centerboard. 48 years later I am still changing the oil in my cars.

Although the price of oil has skyrocketed, the procedure is still one of the most economical and beneficial activities for your engine. That said there are ways to get the best return for your oil change investment. For example, on my 1996 BMW I have been able to extend the life of my engine oil to 7,200 miles between changes. I have accomplished that task by working with Blackstone Laboratories of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. The Lab provides feedback on Viscosity, Fuel %, Antifreeze %, Water %, and Insoluble %. Those elements provide feedback on engine wear. An extra oil analysis option measures the TBN (total base number). The TBN value indicates how much of the acid reducing chemical remains in the oil. The lower the TBN reading, the less additive the oil has to aid in the lubrication, cooling and cleaning of the engine.

I use synthetic oil in my BMW and thanks to Blackstone's analysis I have been able to reduce my oil changes from 4 to 2 per year. That is a 50% reduction in work and that translates into a 50% cost reduction! Blackwell also retains my historic oil analysis so that I can evaluate engine wear trends. My favorite section of the report is the personalized narrative about the condition of the oil and my engine.

I recently contacted Kristen Huff at Blackstone about running an oil sample for my 1930 Model A. She stated that they had sampled six other A's and would be pleased to evaluate mine. I use Shell-Rotella 30wt. (detergent) in a stock engine. Bentley's Antique Auto Service rebuilt my engine 1,149 miles ago. With modern oil additives, I wondered if the factory 500-mile oil change recommendation was necessary.

The Model A sample I mailed Blackstone reflected 646 miles of usage. I promptly received an email attachment from Kristen showing a 2.8 TBN level indicating that a portion of the active oil additive remained unused. In comparison, the TBN value was 2.5 in my BMW after 6,961 miles, and therefore I have safely decreased oil change frequency.

Kristen stated that the silicon value in the sample reflects the quality of the car's air filtration while the "insoluble" value measures oil filtration. My Model A does not have aftermarket oil or air filter systems. My Model A silicon level is 27 in comparison to 4 on my BMW. The insoluble measurement on the Model A was 0.2 while the BMW is 0.4. Since both measurements are so small (parts per million) adding aftermarket filters may not benefit my engine.

Since an oil filter system costs over \$160 plus labor and in consideration of my low annual mileage it would take a long time to recoup those charges through oil change savings. Paper air filters are inexpensive but I am uncomfortable in using them near a gravity fed carburetor that is prone to leaking and creating a fire hazard. My next step is to have Blackstone test the oil again at 750 miles and begin building an oil and engine wear analysis trend.

To obtain an oil analysis on your Model A or modern car, contact Blackstone Labs at 260-744-2380 or visit their website [www.blackstone-labs.com](http://www.blackstone-labs.com). They will mail you containers for oil sample collection that are post office approved.

### What is an Oil Analysis

Reference - Blackstone Lab web site

Oil analysis is a quick, non-destructive way to gauge the health of an engine by looking at what's in the oil. A standard analysis includes:

#### Spectral Exam:

In the spectral exam, we take a portion of your oil sample and run it through a machine called a spectroscope which analyzes the oil and tells the levels of the various metals and additives that are present in the oil. This gives us a gauge of how much your engine is wearing.

#### Insoluble Test

The insoluble Test measures the amount of abrasive solids that are present in the oil. These solids are formed by oil oxidation (when the oil breaks down due to the presence of oxygen, accelerated by heat) and blow-by past the rings. This test tells you how good a job the oil filter is doing and to what extent oil has oxidized.

#### Viscosity Test

The viscosity test measures the grade, or thickness of the oil, whether it is supposed to be 5W/30, 15W/30, 15W/40, or some other grade. We will know (within a range) what that viscosity should be. If your viscosity falls out of that range, there's probably a reason. The oil could have been overheated or contaminated with fuel, moisture or coolant.

#### Flash Point Test

The Flash Point Test measures the temperature at which vapors from the oil ignite. For any specific grade of oil, we know what temperature the oil should flash at. If it flashes at or above that level, the oil is not contaminated. If the oil flashes off lower than it should, then it's probably been contaminated with something. Fuel is the most common containment in oil.





In a previous President's Message I said I would keep you informed of significant actions/issues that the board considered. Two months ago a board member said that he/she was concerned about the club's finances. Don't be alarmed, we are certainly not broke! The concern focused on the fact that it appeared we were spending more money that we were taking in. The Board by consensus agreed to take an audit, to be done by someone other than the club treasurer. Joe Wilson volunteered. He has completed the audit and made his report to the board. In summary, it confirmed the suspicion of overspending and identified several problem areas, the largest which was the club subsidizing various events which has been our custom in the past. At present, no specific action has been taken in general concerning subsidies. However, the Board, by majority vote agreed not to subsidize the Installation Banquet. This topic will receive additional review in the future.

Until next time – Drive an A every day  
Bob Travis

## SEMINAR NEWS

This month found us at Nancy Stancil's changing out her alternator; it was violently blowing fuses. I checked with our technical director Bob Travis and he told me to take both wirers to the alternator and disconnect from alternator and touch together. No fuse blowing, it is your alternator gone bad. Thanks Bob.

John Lacey had a water pump problem so I went out with parts and after some discussion John will be fixing his water pump. Good man, John.

Brad, Gene, Mickey and I went to Dick Canzoneri's home to look at Chuck Boekenooen's Coupe that had a leaning problem forever. He had no broken leaf springs so we took down his rear spring and found square felt was blocking part of the hole that the spring bolt goes up in. Dick cut the material and up went bolt and guess what, the car no longer leans. Chuck also had a steering problem. As low End Boys this was out of our ability to fix. Maybe a modern steering would solve the problem.

Brad, Gene, Mickey and I went to Thurston LeVay's to check out a noise Thurston had a few months ago in his '28 Early Phaeton. After all of us and Thurston driving his car, guess what, no noise. Oh well, we blessed the car and went home. This is a true story. Ask Thurston.

Yours Truly, Low End Boys

Ted, John E. Dick H, Gene. Mickey, Brad, Larry R. Randy G., Louie F. and Marlin

PS If we can help, call us.

### SAA General Meeting Minutes February 28, 2014

- The meeting was called to order by President Bob Travis At 7:02pm
- Due to the auction the treasurer's report was not read.
- Due to the auction the minutes from the January meeting were not approved as published in the Spoken Wheels.
- Bob Travis announced there will be a celebration of Mel Gross' life on March 22.
- Bob Moore announced the Horse Show Tour scheduled for Sunday has been cancelled because of rain.
- Bob Travis announced that the auction would begin, please remember to take back home any items you brought that did not sell.

After two hours of fun the auction was closed down.

Meeting adjured at 9:05pm

Respectfully submitted

Elaine Perry, Secretary Pro Tem

## For Sale

1. 29' aluminum extension ladder in 2 - 16' sections - \$100
2. Antique roll top desk - \$500
3. Distressed maple solid wood dining table - 48" round with 2 - 9" leafs including 6 captain chairs - \$400
3. Crocker Chair Co. antique 1926 typewriter chair, has oak seat and leather back - \$300


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**NEXT GENERAL MEETING - March 28  
ARCADIA  
RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS**

**Important Things to Do and Remember:**

**Dues are due April 1 (\$30 )**

**Elections coming up at the April Meeting**



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