

# Forty Years Our Ruby Gala



By Joe Wilson  
La Cañada, California

Whether you call it an anniversary or a birthday, it was a first class event. The Santa Anita A's "Ruby Gala" was a celebration of the club's founding 40 years ago. The invitation to "Dress to Impress" brought out 96 club members and friends for an evening of fantastic fun and frivolity at the beautiful Shakespeare Club in Pasadena, California. The event was named "The Ruby Gala," in reference to the ruby as the official gem for 40th anniversaries. The event was organized by Janet Beggs, who did a first class job in making it a first class event.

With a warm fall evening, we began the celebration by socializing on the patio with a special drink called the "Ruby Gala." We adjourned to the dining room for a fine meal and entertainment. Music was provided by a singing quartet, the "Singers in Law" accompanied by the band, "Just Us Quartet," all of whom are attorneys.

In 1975, eight families petitioned MAFCA to become a chapter of this International Model A Ford organization. The club was named after the famous Santa Anita horse racing park located nearby in Arcadia, California. In the past 40 years, the club has grown to include over 120 family units involving nearly 200 members.



Barbara Bishop arrived and was ready to help celebrate the occasion.

Of the twelve who started the club, three families are still members and attended the celebration: Brad Balmot, Marlin Perry and Gordon Johnson. They were recognized and each presented with a glass ruby stone. Bob Travis, our President, presented Brad Balmot with a pin recognizing his forty years as a member of MAFCA.

Photos by

Dr. Wilbert Smith, Ph. D. with Brian Smith,  
Uplift Productions and Photography by Meda.



L-R: Jim Kroeger, Joe Wilson, Rick Phillips, and Janet Beggs.  
Janet served as chairperson for our Ruby Gala.



Our well-dressed Santa Anita members enjoying themselves at the Ruby Gala.



Our Santa Anita A's Model A's added to the elegance of the Shakespeare Club in Pasadena, California.



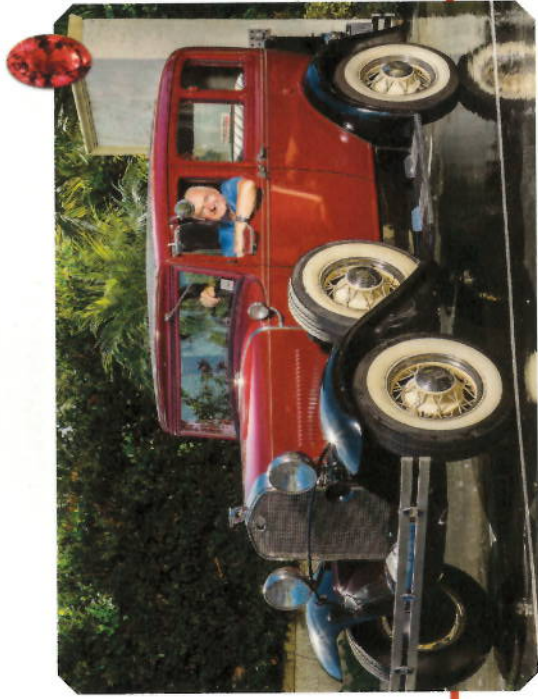
A warm welcome greeted arrivals.



Janel Beggs and Jim Kroeger enter our Ruby Gala.



Jim Kroeger with his 1930 Town Sedan.



Author Joe Wilson with his 1931 Town Sedan.