



February 2018

# Spoken Wheels

## THE NEXT MEETING

**General Meeting - 7:00 PM**, Feb, 23 at our new location - Live Oak Community Center, 10144 Bogue St., Temple City.

### Program - Auction night

This will be our annual club auction night. No meeting. Just bring things to auction and cash to buy them back. This is an important fund raiser for the club and is always an exciting event with our President, Bob Travis, serving as Chief Auctioneer. Expect a wide variety of items to be offered: Model A parts, supplies, pastries, publications and other things that defy description.

**Come early to set out your auction items and get your bid cards. The auction will begin at 7:00 PM.**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -

**BOB TRAVIS**

Last month we conducted our first meeting at our new location in Live Oak Community Center. There were 66 in attendance and it looked like we could accommodate about 15 to 20 more.



This month is our annual auction which is usually well attended and a lot of fun. Bring something you think you no longer need or just come and buy something you really don't need. But, remember, if it doesn't sell you must take it home. Next to our dues, the auction is our largest income producer, I am really excited about our upcoming over night tour (Mar 10&11). We will travel surface streets to Perris, CA to visit the Orange Express Railway Museum and remain over night with accommodations at the Red Lion Inn and Suites. I have blocked 18 rooms(handicap available) at a group rate of \$120 per room. You must make your individual reservations by March 4th by calling 1 951 943 5577. Tell them you are with the Santa Anita A's. Saturday evening we will hold a business meeting followed by group dinner at Denny's across the street.

Sunday you have options (breakfast included at hotel). You may choose to visit the March Air Force Base Museum for a one and half hour docent lead tour which is on the way home, or you may choose to go directly home by way of the surface streets we drove out on or by freeway(215-60-210) right from the Museum,

I will be serving as the tour director. If you have not signed up or have any questions please call me at 626-574-0665. I think this will be a great tour and I am looking forward to being with you. Until next time, drive an A every day.

## NEWS BITS

### First General Meeting held at New Club Venue

After many years of holding our general meetings at the Red Cross building in Arcadia, the move to our new venue at the Live Oak Community Center in Temple went smoothly. To our great surprise 66 members found the new facility and showed up for the 7:00 PM start time.



**News Alert** - Bring your check book with you to the meeting to pay for the auction items you buy.

You will also need to write a check to confirm your participation in the St. Patrick's Day and the Petersen Auto Museum tours you sign-up for.

**NO CASH THIS NIGHT FOR TOURS - ONLY CHECKS**

News Bits continued on page 3

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### February

- 17 - William S. Hart Park & Museum, Santa Clarita  
23 - General Meeting, 7:00 PM,  
Live Oak Community Center, Temple City

### March

- 7 - Board meeting , 7:00 PM  
Live Oak Community Center, Temple City  
10 & 11 - Orange Empire Train Museum, Perris CA.  
Two day tour w/one overnight , See page 4  
12 - Ladies' Brunch, Annia's, San Gabriel Valley Airport, 11:00 AM  
15 - Men's Breakfast, Annia's, San Gabriel Valley Airport, 9:00 AM  
17 - St Patrick's Day Lunch w/ the SCRG MARC club, see page 4  
24 - Peterson Auto Museum, see page 4  
30 - General Meeting, 7:00 PM  
Live Oak Community Center, Temple City

### April

- 7- 10 - CCRG in Cambria, If interested contact Bob Moore  
22 - Orange County Pancake breakfast, details TBA  
25 - Raffel Ticket Award Drawing Program for Restored 1929  
Phaeton at Pasadena High School, see page 5

### May

- 3 - Mount Baldy Tour, Details TBA  
6 - Monrovia Old Home Tour, Details TBA  
20 - Quakes Baseball Game, Details TBA

### June

- 24 30 - MAFCA National Convention in Reno, see page 3

## 2018 OFFICERS, BOARD & CHAIRS

### OFFICERS

- President:**  
Bob Travis 626-574-0665  
**Vice President:**  
Tracy Butkus 626-279-9724  
**Secretary:**  
Elaine Perry 626-443-0638  
**Treasurer:**  
Sheri Johnson 626-446-3367  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Chuck Mauch 626-674-0660  
Carol Emanuelli 626-286-5267  
Jim Frick 626-303-5233  
Jim Kroeger 626-710-6592  
John McDannel 626-791-3221

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Activities:**  
Elaine Perry 626-443-0638  
**Advertising:**  
John Emanuelli 626-286-5267  
**Fashion: Coordinator:**  
Susan Homet 626-798-4964  
**Ladies' Day:**  
Open  
**Low End Boys:**  
Mickey Fruchter 626-797-2048  
**Membership:**  
Randy Harper 626-357-6442  
**Merchandise:**  
Joe Wilson 818-790-0995  
**Raffle – Ladies':**  
Bea Fruchter 626-797-2048

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS - Continued

- Raffle – Men's:**  
Don McBride 626-792-8652  
**Raffle - 50-25-25**  
Tom Johnson 626-446-3367  
**Refreshment Host:**  
Carol Emanuelli 626-286-5267  
**Refreshment Sign-ups:**  
Vicky Bartlett 626-799-6338  
**Restorer Articles:**  
Keith Smith 661-298-0625  
**Roster:**  
Joe Wilson 818-790-0995  
**Seminars:**  
Bob Travis 626-574-0665  
**Southern CA MAFCA Rep. (SCRG):**  
Marlin Perry 626-443-0638  
**Spoken Wheels:**  
Editor-Joe Wilson 818-790-0995  
Proofers - Olive Moore & Elaine Perry  
Mailers -Open  
**Sunshine Lady:**  
Diana Kincart 626-446-7876  
**Technical Director:**  
Chris Wickersham 626-639-3141  
**TourMeister:**  
Jim Kroeger 626-710-6592  
**Webmaster:**  
Eric Sandberg 818-330-9311  
**Youth Outreach:**  
Wilbert Smith Ph.D. 626-791-7636  
  
Santa Anita A's Mailing Address:  
PO Box 660904 Arcadia, CA 91066  
Web Site: www.santaanitas.org

## BIRTHDAYS & ANIVERSARIES

### March Birthdays

- 1 - John Emanuelli  
3 - Josi Byrd  
3 - Carolyn McBride  
4 - Jim Constantian  
5 - Ruth Harper  
10 - John McDannel  
14 - Fred Weideman  
19 - Randy Harper  
20 - Warren Record  
22 - Larry Metz

- 24 - Nancy Stancil  
24 - Dick Canzoneri  
27 - Warwick Nethercoat  
28 - Jennifer Sandberg  
30 - Suzan Homet

### March Anniversaries

- 2 - Alan & Susie Bennett  
3 - Larry & May Pare  
10 - Larry & Suzanne Rummens  
12 - Jim & Jamie Frick  
25 - Daniel & Jacki Boardman

## NEW MEMBERS

There are no new members who joined in the last six months. So welcome anybody you don't know at the next meeting and ask him about his Model A.

## INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHTS

"I'm not lazy. I'm just really gifted, only instead of being good at music or math I'm good at sleeping late."

— Elizabeth Jane Howard, Mr Wrong

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Sunshine Lady - Diana Kincart - Miss Sunbeam

A get well card was sent to Mary McDannel, Chuck Sharpe and Louie Formia

### Cookie Bringers - Vicky Bartlett - Head Cookie

Mary McDannel, Joy Wilson, Karen Gollhardt, Vicky Bartlett

### Photo Donors -

Wilbert Smith, Jim Kroeger, Joe Wilson and perhaps others

## Model A Ford Club of America

Santa Anita A's is a chartered member of the Model A Ford Club of America (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))

Continued from page 1

**Annual Club Auction at February meeting**

Members are reminded that they should sort through their “stuff” in preparation for the annual club auction which will be held at the February meeting. Now is the time to start your spring cleaning. Pull out all those things you no longer use and put them in your “auction” pile. Don’t forget to bring money (cash or check. No credit cards)

**LaVonne Wood Passes Away**



Former member, Vonne, as she was known by club members passed away on December 30<sup>th</sup>. Vonne was a member of the SAA until she moved to Carlsbad. She was the sister of Harold Baquet and sister-in-law of Sally Baquet. Private graveside services will be held on Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**New 2018 Club Roster**

The new 2018 club rosters have been printed and will be distributed at the February general meeting. This may be one the very most important documents you will ever have.

Can’t place the name with the face? Your handy directory has everyone’s photo for you to choose from. Some will be photos they had taken early in life but they should help identify the mystery person. And of course the directory includes addresses and contact information if you want to put them on your “do not call me list.”

Your directory is engraved with your name so it can be returned to you when you leave it in the restroom by mistake.



**MAFCA National Convention in Reno, Nevada**

Tentative plans call for a group of SAA’s members to leave on Friday, June 22 and stay overnight in/around Bishop and then make it to Reno on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The total mileage will be about 500+ miles each way. The Meet begins on Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup>. The closing banquet takes place on the 29<sup>th</sup>; they will leave Reno on Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> and arrive home on Sunday, July 1st.

Contact Mickey Fruchter if you would like to join them.

**Chuck Davies**

I wrote about Chuck a little over two years ago when he was a new member of our club. At that time, he owned a ’29 Model A Tudor. But he’s really been bitten by the Model A bug. He now owns a ’30 Cabriolet, a ’31 Fordor sedan, a ’31 Pickup and recently acquired the ’30 Fordor sedan from Sue Chandler that her husband John Chandler had restored to like-new condition. Chuck says he never thought he would fall in love with a car, but he is in love with this one.



Asking him where he kept all those cars led into a fascinating discussion of his business ventures. A couple of years after coming to California, Chuck went into stereo and sound sales and eventually opened his own store. A couple of years later (in 1985) he opened a “Disc Jockey” department, selling equipment to DJs who entertained at parties and weddings. This led to supplying lighting to the disc jockeys and eventually retailers who sold lights for the entertainment industry.

Unfortunately, most of the lighting available was poor quality, meaning it had to be repaired when it came into this country. A fruitless search for good lighting led him to toddle off to Asia in search of a light manufacturer who could produce quality equipment. He has now made over 100 trips to Asia and another 50 to Europe to work with manufacturers of the lighting he imports. He now has four warehouses for his lighting business: two in Southern California, one in Mexico and one in Europe.

Back in about 1985 Chuck hired a 17-year-old DJ to help in his store. That kid is now running the show for him. Chuck is retired but still shows up at the warehouse because “that’s where my cars are.” He used to keep them inside the warehouse, but expansion of the business forced him outside. So, he stores them in 20-foot shipping containers in the parking lot. The first couple of containers he bought were used and cost about \$2,000. Then he found he could buy new containers for only about \$3,100. Well, they’ve been used once. It turns out that – because of the US trade imbalance – there are more shipping containers coming into this country than going out. So, you can make a pretty good deal on a once-used shipping container because the shipper avoids the cost of shipping it back empty. So now there is a row of shipping containers in the parking lot, filled with Model A’s (and one 1931 Pierce Arrow).

## COMING EVENTS

### Orange Empire Railway Museum

Saturday and Sunday, March 10 and 11 by Bob Travis

The West's most prominent collection of trolleys and interurban cars will be our destination as we travel to the Orange Empire Railway Museum in Perris, California.

This will be an overnight tour beginning on Saturday, March 10th and returning on Sunday, March 11th, just as daylight savings time begins.

Our overnight accommodations will be at the Red Lion Inn in Perris which is only a short distance from the museum. I have blocked 18 rooms(handicap available) at a group rate of \$120 per room. **You must make your individual reservations by March 4th by calling 1 951 943 5577.** Tell them you are with the Santa Anita A's. Saturday evening we will hold a business meeting followed by group dinner at Denny's across the street.



Sunday you have options (breakfast included at hotel). You may choose to visit the March Air Force Base Museum for a one and half hour docent lead tour which is on the

way home, or you may choose to go directly home by way of the surface streets we came out on or by freeway (215-60-210) right from the Museum.



This is a great opportunity for our members to experience a simple overnight tour. Sign up at the next general meeting in February. I will be serving as the tour director. If you have not signed up or have any questions call me at 626 574 0665.

### St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 17 by Bob Moore

The San Gabriel Valley MARC has invited the Santa Anita A's to a St. Patrick's Day party on Saturday, March 17. The party will be at 12 noon at the Peppertree Restaurant, 1020 E. Rt. 66, Glendora. A traditional Irish lunch will include a salad, corned beef and cabbage, potatoes and dessert. Nonalcoholic drinks are included. There will be music, singing, stories and games. The price for the lunch including tax and tip is \$14.50 per person. The restaurant wants to know the number attending by March 10, so please pay Sheri Johnson at the February meeting or send her a check.. Wear your green and bring your Irish spirit.

Drive your Model A especially if it is green or if it has black fenders. We will depart from the Duarte Walmart parking lot at 11:25 AM. Gather in the northwest corner of the lot closest to Mountain Avenue. All surface streets for the 8 ½ mile drive.

### Peterson Auto Museum Tour

Saturday, March 24 by Joe Wilson

Automobile Magazine calls it "one of the greatest car museums in the U.S., if not in the World". And here is your opportunity to view the Peterson Auto Museum with your fellow SAA's members.

The plan is to meet at the Arcadia Park on Santa Anita Ave. at 8:45 AM where we will depart by chartered bus at **9:00 AM sharp**. We will arrive at the facility around 10:00 AM when the museum opens. Following the tour we will depart for Mel's dinner in Hollywood arriving at 12:30 PM where we will dine 50's style in a private room. We will be returned safely home to our cars in Arcadia arriving around 3:00 PM.

To participate you must sign up and confirm your reservation with a check for \$12.00 for a senior "Model A Club" admission ticket. We have 24 members currently participating and encourage others to sign-up at the Feb. meeting and confirm their reservation with a check to Sheri Johnson. **The cut off date for signing up is Thursday, March 15.**

The museum offers "Vault Tours" which include additional vehicles not on display to the general public. A vault tour would be available to us at 10:30 AM. Tickets for these tours are an additional \$20 and should best be purchased online prior to our tour as they usually sell out.

I suggest those participating in this tour check out the Peterson web site ([petersen.org](http://petersen.org)). This will give you a real insight into the exhibits and access to ordering vault tickets.

**It is necessary that I have a firm head count for this tour. Sign up at the February meeting and pay Sheri Johnson \$12 per person.** Need Info? Contact Joe Wilson (818-790-0995).

## COMING EVENTS - MORE

### Raffle Drawing to be held at Pasadena High School

April 25

by Joe Wilson

A special event has been scheduled to be held at the Pasadena High School to draw the winning raffle ticket for the 1928 Model A Ford Phaeton that has been a restoration project of the Pasadena High School Model A Club. It has been finished and now ready for its new owner.

The drawing will take place on Wednesday April 25 at the Pasadena High School auditorium as part of a major production which will feature a guest celebrity. The high school music department will be there with their choir and jazz band to make it an enjoyable evening.



All regional Model A club members are invited along with the school's students and parents. A large attendance is expected.

Wilbert Smith organized this event in conjunction with the Pasadena High School and the club's school advisors.

The event was originally set up to have Jay Leno draw the winning ticket, however Jay had to cancel due to scheduling problems.

The auditorium is located on the Pasadena High School campus, 2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena. The event will begin at 6:30 PM.

More details to be announced. Mark this event on your calendar. This will be a "do not miss event".

### Here's Your Chance

The Pasadena High School Model A Club is offering you a chance to win the 1928 Ford Phaeton that they are restoring. A limited number of raffle tickets are being offered.

Get your ticket by contacting the "Up and Coming Foundation" 626-375-1367, Wilbert Smith 626-791-7636 or John Emanuelli 626-286-5267



## PAST EVENTS

### Phil Reed Auto Collection Tour

January 20

by Jim Kroeger

What do you do after serving your country in the Navy after WWII? Well if you're smart you open up Electronic Chrome & Grinding in 1945 and start collecting antique automobiles. This is exactly what Phil Reed did and continues to do to this day. He only collects, has never sold a car and yes, he still has the first car he ever bought.

Twenty-four club members along with ten Model A's made the drive down to his shop to see his wonderful collection that did not disappoint.

Aside from his plating company, Phil has been very involved in the automobile world. His passion includes racing, touring and of course collecting.



Some of his autos include a 1908 Buick Touring car powered by a 2-cylinder, chain-driven, 22 H.P. motor with an adjustable steering wheel. His 1912 Winston was driven from San Diego to San Felipe twice totaling 1000 miles and his 1928 Model A Roadster has been on countless tours including one with our club when it toured Europe!



Also catching your attention is a yellow, 1913 Ford Speedster located in the center of the room along with a Rolls Royce, Model T and a MG Coupe.

Phil also has a thing for two wheel transportation as a beautiful Indian motorcycle sits next to a Whizzer motorized Schwinn bicycle.

Not to be outdone his wife has a collection of fashion era clothing and accessories presented nicely in glass cases.

After seeing the collection we headed to Whittier for lunch on the patio at California Grill. It was a picture-perfect day for a tour and even Bob Travis commented on how tasty his ham and cheese sandwich was.

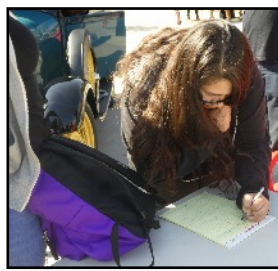


**Pasadena High School Model A Club**

February 1

by Joe Wilson

Wilbert Smith held a club membership recruiting effort at the Pasadena High School during the students lunch break. The goal was to recruit additional students for the Pasadena High School Model A Club. Santa Anita A's had three of their cars on display: John Emaulli's coupe, Joe Wilson's sedan and Wilbert Smiths newly acquired "Paddy wagon". The featured car was the finished 1928 Phaeton Model A soon to be auctioned off. Our cars were suitably "tested out" with students clamoring to have their photos taken while "driving" the cars. Over 20 students signed up and will be contacted by follow up emails.



**John and Sue Chandler's 1931 Deluxe Roadster Named Jezibel - Part 2**

by Doug Nielsen

*This is Part 2 of a story about the history of Sue and John Chandler's 1931 Deluxe Roadster was written by club member Doug Nielsen and was first published in the January 2002 issue of the Spoken Wheels. It is an interesting story in that it documents the history of his car "Jezibel" beginning in 1951. John was involved with the formation of MAFCA in 1956. John died in 2017. His wife., Sue, is still active in the SAA's and has given Jezibel to their daughter..*

In June 1962 Jezibel went to the MAFCA National Restoration Meet in San Francisco. As you can see from the photo, a sharp car will attract the pretty girls. As John W. displays the car, it gets eyed by a young lady. The results of that meet are not known, but it is a good bet that it did well. Shortly thereafter the car was featured by Motor Trend magazine and appeared in the August 1962 issue and was on its cover. The 40 hp Model A was put through many of the same tests as the chrome and vinyl behemoths of that time. In the zero to sixty miles per hour timed test it was noted that the car topped out at 58 mph. The overall results concluded that the car performed as Ford had intended and had provided a substantial product for a very modest cost. The sheer reliability and ease of maintenance made it the most popular collector car in the country.



John says,"I kept track of the car and John Wedberg for years. In 1988 I called him and asked if he would be interested in selling the car. He said no, as he had done so

many times in the past, but this time he did mention that he would like to have a restored 1934 Ford Cabriolet and if I could find one he would buy it, then sell Jezibel to me. I heard that Gene Valdez at Ford Parts Obsolete in Long Beach (a very popular Ford Parts dealer similar to C. W. Moss in Orange) had retired and owned a restored 1934 Cabriolet. I called him and to my surprise he wanted to sell!" A few phone calls later a three way deal was arranged and Valdez sold the 1934 Ford to John Wedberg. John Chandler purchased the elusive Jezibel and all three men were happy with the transaction.

Most Deluxe Roadsters on the road today have one or two fender mounted spare tires, but the original 1931 Deluxe Roadster returned to an earlier style and was produced with the rear mounted spare tire rather than a fender mount. Many felt that presentation gave a sporty appearance heightened by simple lines. Jezibel remains as Ford designed and built her.

*Continued on next page*

Chandler's Jezibel continued from page 6

As we all know, John Chandler is a very active member of Santa Anita A's and is currently serving his second term as Treasurer. In addition to the Deluxe Roadster, the Chandlers also own a 1930 Blind Back Fordor Sedan, a 1931 Slant Windshield Fordor and a 1931 A-400 Convertible Sedan. We look forward to featuring these A's in future issues of the Spoken Wheels. The A-400 was featured on page 84 and the Model 160-B Slant Windshield Fordor on page 244 of Henry's Lady by Ray Miller.



Jezibel meets her new family



John Chandler accepts Jezibel from John Wedberg.



John Wedberg gets his '34 Cabriolet

## ERA FASHIONS

BY SUSAN HOMET

### Make-up and hair styles from the 20's

Make-up such as bright lipstick, colorful eye shadow and smoky mascara were introduced in the 1910's, but the new cosmetics became more widely available in the 20's and offered women another means of bold expression. Every department store and pharmacy were now offering a special makeup counter dedicated to this new exciting and popular idea.



Clara Bow, a very famous silent movie star, was influential in defining the new look that became all the rage. If we think back to a young woman of the 1960s, an English girl known as Twiggy, we are able to better understand the impact of Clara Bow. She was also known as the "It Girl". She created the flaming-red Cupid's-bow upper lip and smoldering dark eyes, all which became the signature look of the era. Millions of women followed suit.

Women were emboldened by the new freer styles of clothing and hair which were far less cumbersome, and much easier to wear. Now with these new styles the new makeup put the look all together. The days of standing quietly and unobtrusively by their husbands, and other men were quickly ending. Women could now be vibrant and could command attention if they wished. They were entering the workplace in greater numbers. They were competing with men in a man's environment. The makeup was no longer considered scandalous but allowed a woman to shine and show off her "inner siren". She could be bold, she could be funny and she could discuss business with men at the same time! Women were finding their own power and ability to make changes in their own lives and the lives of others. The 1920's indeed were pivotal times, bringing in the new and modern age!

HEADQUARTERS FOR MODEL "A" RESTORERS CLUB

**"RED" GROW'S**  
AUTO SALES  
CLEANEST USED CARS IN THE VALLEY

THORNWALL 9-9810  
6924 SAN FERNANDO ROAD  
GLENDALE 1, CALIFORNIA

Dear Mrs Peterson  
I am writing to you in regards  
to the Model A Ford Roadster  
that your son Paul restored  
& I know Paul will and I would  
like to buy the car if you  
are going to sell it. My flock  
is Headquarters for the Model A  
Restorers Club. It will always  
have the best of care if I buy  
the car. If you would consider  
selling it please give me a  
chance to buy it. Hoping to  
hear from you soon.  
Send my mail to my home  
address.  
Claude Grow  
728 Dale St  
Glendale  
California

## DRIVING WITH A TACHOMETER

Most of us have been driving Model A Fords for many years and I am sure we all know how much throttle to use and when to shift gears for the best overall performance and reliability of our cars. Just before the Lost Coast Tour in 2016, I installed a tachometer in the Tudor I use for touring. I mostly just wanted to have one more instrument to watch while driving down the road but I was also interested in knowing if I was operating the engine within the RPM range that I felt was best for overall performance, economy and reliability. With over 65 years driving all sorts of vehicles and with tens of thousands of miles driving Model A Fords, I was sure there was actually very little I could learn from driving with a tachometer.

Off we go on the Lost Coast Tour with the route taking us up Angeles Crest Highway and on to our first stop in Lancaster. With a lot of mountain driving, I soon found out that if I watched the tach, I could more easily know when to up shift or down shift and when it would be advantageous to use the Mitchell Overdrive as a gear splitter, running in second/overdrive as opposed to just second or third gear etc. I was having fun choosing the proper gear and I felt overall that the engine was under less stress.

After our stop in Lancaster, we started north on Sierra Highway and then turned west on Backus Road to pick up Tehachapi Willow Springs Road which would take us on to Tehachapi and our lunch stop. Backus Road is mostly straight with no obvious hills as the desert in this area appears to be flat. As we started west on Backus Road, I was driving along at about 50 MPH in overdrive. Even though it appeared we were driving on level ground, the road was actually going slightly uphill and I soon found I had to use full throttle just to maintain speed. I slowed a bit, shifted the Mitchell into direct and continued on at about 45 mph. I continued to drive along watching the Model A's in front of me and not paying attention to the tachometer. After a few more miles, I once again was at full throttle and my speed had dropped to less than 40 MPH. The tach was now indicating 1500 RPM. I immediately down shifted to second and put the Mitchell into overdrive. I had not been watching the tach and did not realize the incline of the road had increased and we were also driving right into a very strong headwind. I quickly learned I needed to pay closer attention to the tachometer.

The best operating range for a Model A engine is between about 1750 and 2300 RPM. With continuous highway driving, a good range of RPM is somewhere between 1900 and 2100. Continuous running at full throttle below 1750 RPM is hard on a Model A engine. The crank bearings are very heavily loaded and the crankshaft itself is under a lot of stress. The oil pump is turning a bit slower so

there is less oil available for lubricating the engine and the cooling system has to work harder than necessary.

Over revving is equally hard on the Model A engine. With the long stroke, piston speeds become very high causing increased wear on the pistons and bores, the rods are more prone to failure at high engine speeds and the engine in general is overworking itself.

If you limit the engine speed to no more than 2300 for up-shifts and no less than 1750 for down-shifts and cruise in the 1900-2100 RPM range, you will find your engine is working a lot less and will last longer. You may also find your fuel economy has improved. One thing you should always remember is, **DO NOT LUG THE ENGINE**. Do not continuously run your Model A at full throttle with engine speeds less than 1750 RPM.

A tachometer is not only fun to watch but is a very useful tool to help you operate your Model A at more optimum engine speeds.

## TECH TIP

There are several tachometers available for your Model A. However, one I like to recommend is the Tiny-Tach, an economical, easy to install, small self contained digital combination tachometer and hour meter. The Tiny-Tach is small enough so it can be mounted to the dash using two sided foam tape or you can easily make a bracket that would mount under one of the dash screws. Tiny-Tach has its own internal battery supply so it does not require any hook up to your Model A's electrical system. There are only 2 wires to deal with, a ground wire and a signal wire that just wraps around the ignition coil wire. Tiny-Tachs have a battery life of about seven years but the battery is not replicable so the whole unit must be replaced. The hour meter function is handy when keeping maintenance records. I have a Tiny-Tach installed in both of my Model A's.

Tiny-tachs are available for \$48.00 plus shipping by ordering on line from [www.tinytach.com](http://www.tinytach.com). Order a tachometer for a "Gasoline Engine" and at the bottom of the shipping address page in the Check-Out procedure, in the "Special Requests" box, type in "Model A Ford, 1931, 4 cylinder, coil wire signal, 2 sparks per engine revolution".





- The meeting was called to order by President Bob Travis at 7:00 PM
- The flag salute was led by Bob Travis.
- Membership: Randy Harper introduced visitor Peter Gutierrez, he has a 1931 Vicky.
- Tours: Joe Wilson gave the following tour report
  - 2/17 William S. Hart Ranch. Sign up tonight
  - 3/10 – 3/11 Orange Empire Railroad museum. (Overnighter)
  - 3/24 Peterson Museum \$12.00 per person this is a bus trip
- Other Tours:
  - 3/17 St Patrick's Day Corned Beef lunch MARC club invitation. \$14.50 per person
  - 5/20 Quakes Game \$26.00 per person for game and lunch sign up tonight
  - 6/24-29 Mickey talked about the group going to MAFCA Convention in Reno
  - 9/30 Fall Colors tour see Bob Moore
- Spoken Wheels: Joe Wilson said he had no Spoken Wheels report however said he is working on the new Roster. Please make sure your information is correct.
- Treasure's Report: The Treasurer's report was approved as read.
- Thank you to cookie bringers: David & Patty Lutz, Mickey & Bea Fruchter, Barbara & Jack Dawson and Nancy Stancil. Thank you to Carol Emanuelli for refreshment set-up
- Old Business: Bob Travis announced that the Board of Directors will revisit the Bylaw change up date
- General Announcements:
  - Jack Dawson spoke about the gas tank neck extension advertised in the Restorer Magazine.
  - Vicky Bartlett asked members to sign up to bring cookies they do not need to be homemade.
  - Bea asked the ladies to sign up for lady's raffle. She also reminded women about the lady's brunch sign up tonight.
  - Don McBride said he would like to see the men start buying men's raffle prizes for the meeting.
- Program: Bob Travis introduced Dale Carter the guest speaker. Dale is a volunteer from Los Voluntaries and he gave a very informative talk and slide presentation on the Santa Anita Depot. After his talk Bob presented Dale with a \$25.00 donation from the club to Los Voluntaries.
- Break
- 50/25/25 Tracy Butkus and Gerry McKinney \$24.00 ea.
- Name Badge: Tom Endy
- Drive Your Model A: Don Kennedy
- Raffle
- Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine Perry Secretary

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 Live Oak Community Center, 10144 Bogue St., Temple City, California. Mailing address PO Box 660904, Arcadia., CA 91066. Website [www.santaanitaas.org](http://www.santaanitaas.org)

Last month we made a trip to Monrovia to help Don Dawkins get his Model A started. The job was partly accomplished (getting it started). But he was advised that he needed to get a new starter switch, fuse holder and rotor cap on his distributor as well as a set of new points. Shortly after that time we were called to help get it started again. This time it needed all of the above - PLUS!

When we replaced the starter switch and the fuse holder we found that the cut-out was bad. As a result of the dead short in the starter switch the battery was also dead. The worn out points were part of the problem. The distributor was worn out as well. Don had a couple of distributors on hand and we were able to put one together to make a working distributor. At last report the car is up and running again. Including the first trip out we made three more trips back to complete the job.

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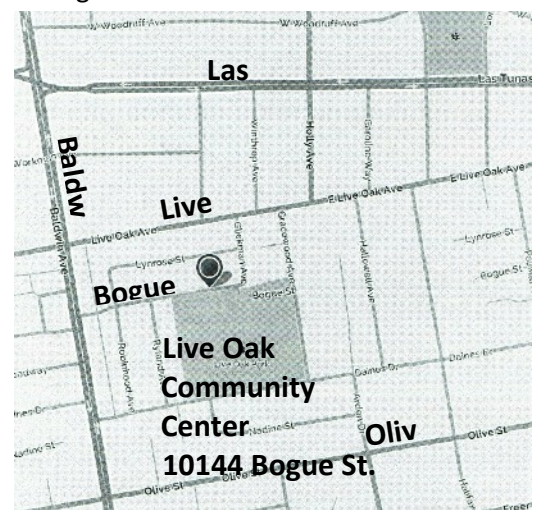
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## SAA's Meeting Time & Location Changed


Members are reminded that we now gather at Live Oak Community Center 10144 Bogue St., Temple City for our general club meetings.

Meetings now start at 7:00 PM.



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## Don't Forget!

- Annual club Auction at the February General meeting. Come, bring your stuff, bring money, buy stuff.
- Bring your check books to confirm your participation in the up-coming St. Patricks Day and the Petersen Tour.
- Our meeting place and start time has changed. We now gather at Live Oak Community Center 10144 Bogue St., Temple City. Meetings now start at 7:00 PM.
- Buy another raffle ticket for the Pasadena High School restored 1928 Model A Phaeton.
- Check out the up-coming tours. They provide the ability to get your car on the road with a lot of companionship and technical support during the tour.



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