



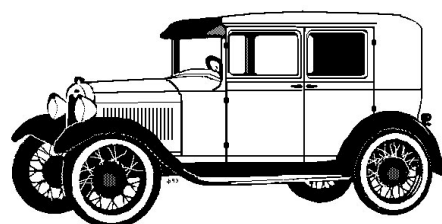
SANTA MARIA A'S HEADLIGHT HERALD

The Santa Maria A's Chapter (Est. 2003), Model A Ford Club of America

Visit our website: www.santamariamodelaclub.com



www.mafca.com



The Santa Maria A's P.O. Box 2983 Santa Maria, CA 93457

March Club Activities

7th Leaving for the CCRG Jamboree if you want to travel together. I Hop Meet 9am Leave 9:30

8th and 9th CCRG Jamboree, Hosted by the Sierra Chapter

9th Saint Patrick's Car Show

14th- General Club Meeting 6:00 Social, 6:30-8:00, Bevill Dessert Program Curt Warner

16th-Melodrama Oceano Tour Showing "Graves Mistakes" Show time 1:30 PM Details to follow

21st -Board Meeting at Giavanni's Pizza, 5:30 Meal, 6:00 Meeting

26th- Newsletter deadline for April Articles, Pictures, Classified

28th Club Breakfast, Crumbles in Santa Maria 8:30 AM

April Look ahead: April 14th. Orange County MAC Annual Pancake Breakfast See Flyer.

The Santa Maria A's General meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 E. Park Ave in Santa Maria, CA. Doors open at 6:00 and the meeting begins at 6:30 PM.

Board of Directors

President : Bill Hansen 805-757-1815

V President: Richard Alexander 805-452-5205

Secretary: Karen Haugse See Roster

Treasurer: Dave Richards 949-606-6788

Activities : Roberta Weber 805-717-9367

Editor: Kay McCord 805-598-8131

Past President Jay McCord 805-598-8133

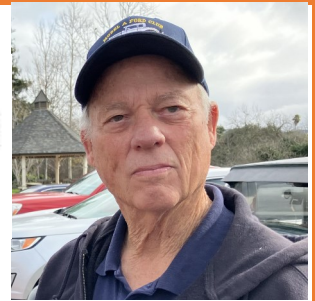
Members at Large

Lavonne Martin: 805-844-5802

Robert Franzen 805-929-2224

President's Corner

March 2024



President

Anniversary's

Hello Santa Maria A's

A few of us are doing repairs and general maintenance on our cars in preparation for the tours and driving opportunities we so look forward to. If you have an issue or concern that is keeping you from driving your Model A, reach out to myself or another member of the club for some help or advice.

We had a great turnout for our tour to the Norgrove Railway Museum. Members of the Cuesta Crankers at our A.G. stop joined us. We continued to the Museum and then to lunch at the newly opened Besos Restaurant. Roberta really outdid herself planning this tour. It was well planned, and we had a blast. Rain was in the forecast. Not to disappoint, it started raining as we were leaving the restaurant for home. You can learn more about our experience in an article written by John Idler in this newsletter.

We will be leaving for the CCRG Jamboree in Clovis on March 7th. The Jamboree will be held on the 8th and 9th. We have an awful lot of fun on these overnight tours. I do hope you have planned to come. If you are staying home, please remember the St. Patrick's Day Car Show on Saturday, March 9. It is held at the St. Louis de Montford Church in Orcutt. Please support this show if you can. James Jepsen gives our car show a great deal of support. We would like to return the favor.

Speaking of car shows, we have started planning our 2024 car show. It is on September 7. That's only six months away. Please reach out to Jay McCord if you know of a business or someone who might be willing to be a sponsor for the show. Thank you for all your support. Our 2024 touring season has officially begun.

Let's drive them Model A's. Happy trails!



March Celebrations



3 John Idler
4 Cheryl Struve
11 Jack Garvin
14 George Cecchetti
19 Randy Harper
21 Anne McKindley

4 John Gibbs
5 Ruth Harper
14 John Vasquez
28 Ed Pedrick

19 Keith & Cheryl Struve
20 Jim & Sherri Bevill



**Santa Maria A's
General Membership
Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2024**

President, Bill Hansen, opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Elwin Mussell Senior Center in Santa Maria. The sign-in sheet was passed around – 28 attendees. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Richard Alexander.

Three new members received a warm welcome: Donn McKnight introduced Frank Palmer, Brian Weber and Jay McCord introduced Mark Mueller, and Jay McCord introduced Tony Arnold. Each new member gave a short introductory talk about themselves.

Secretary's Report – Karen Haugse.

Motion for approval of the January 11, 2024 General Meeting Minutes by Kathy Pedrick. Seconded by Ed Pedrick. Approved.

Treasurer's Report – Dave Richards. Budget report, received receipts & checks.

Motion for approval Richard Alexander. Seconded by Jay McCord. Approved.

Activities – Roberta Weber.

February 15 – Board Meeting at Giavanni's Pizza, 1108 E. Clark Avenue, Santa Maria.

February 17 – Norgrove Railway tour (\$10/person to ride the train).

February 22 – Club breakfast at Crumbles Restaurant, 8:30, in Santa Maria.

March 2 – St. Patrick's Day Car Show, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Louis de Montfort Church, Orcutt.

March 8 & 9 – CCRG Jamboree in Clovis – Curt Warner, Ron Stevens.

March 14 – General Meeting (Sheri Bevill will bring dessert).

March 16 – Melodrama Theater (36/person, arrive at 1:30), Oceano.

March 21 – Board Meeting at Giavanni's Pizza, 1108 Clark Avenue, Santa Maria.

March 28 – Club breakfast at Crumbles Restaurant, 8:30, in Santa Maria.

April 11 – Pot luck dinner (members to bring a main dish or salad. Gerri Lees will bring dessert).

June 23 to 29, 2024 – MAFCA National Model A Convention in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

September 14 – Santa Maria A's 22nd All Ford Car Show in Old Town Orcutt.

Reminder: you must be a MAFCA member to participate in MAFCA events.

Newsletter – Kay McCord. Article deadline for the *Santa Maria A's Headlight Herald* newsletter is Tuesday after the Board Meeting (February 27). Do you have a Model A car or parts for sale? Do you have a story to share? Contact Kay by February 27.

Old Business:

The audit was performed by: Dave Richards, Curt Warner, Ron Domingos, & Jay McCord. Audit approved. E-mail Robert Franzen with your odometer readings to qualify for a patch.

New Business:

Jay McCord won the 50-50 raffle.

2024 Roster is being prepared by Roberta Weber & Dave Richards. Confirm that your contact information in the 2023 Roster is correct.

CCRG Representatives Report:

Trudy Stevens shared information about the Visalia Jamboree, Washington Touring Club, and Monterrey.

2024 CCRG Jamboree in Clovis – Curt Warner (absent), Ron Stevens.

Website: Curt Warner's updated website – see www.SantaMariaModelAClub.com

Sunshine Report – Curt Warner is convalescing. Robert Franzen is getting better. Ken Antram is recuperating.

Meeting Program – (Roberta Weber) Brian Weber gave a basic workshop report about Model A parts; Roberta assisted with visual aids. See www.ModelABasics.com website.

Adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Haugse.



My First Model a Ford

My name is Richard Alexander and this is a story of how I came to own my first Model A. I was born and raised in Lompoc, Ca. My father was in the water well drilling and pump industry. This meant that he was in and out of the farms and ranches constantly. Being a family business, we boys would help after school and on weekends. As we got into our early teens my dad asked what we were going to do when we got our driver's license? He said he wasn't going to be providing cars for us, so we had better look around in some of the scrap piles on these farms and try and find some old cars to put together. Not knowing anything about cars, the hunt was on. It seemed that there were quite a few old Ford parts. I finally decided that there were more Model a parts than anything else. I started reading up on the Model A. and decided that was what I wanted. I started gathering anything Model A that someone would give me. I came across a pick up cab and box on one ranch, the owner said that I could have it. This was going to be my Model A project. I found out that it was a 1931 Budd cab and wide pickup box. The fever was started and I began to live Model A's. Over the next couple of years I learned about these cars and finally was able to get my pick up finished except rear fenders. I didn't realize that this body style took special fenders. I did find out that I didn't need them to license or drive it so I could try and find a set later. It seemed fascinating to me that these were so simple. I could fix just about anything on it with a pair of pliers and bailing wire. The day I was 16, I got my license and started driving my pick up to school. My start into the Model A world almost 60 years ago. When I was a junior in high school, I found out that one of my mother's relatives had an all original 1937 Ford Tudor slant back sedan for sale. I jumped at the opportunity to buy it, my dad thought I had lost my mind. Things worked out and I bought the car for \$300. This started my obsession for my journey with old Fords. I currently have over 30 old cars with half being Model A's. I still enjoy working on these examples of automotive history.

Jim's Tech Tips

"Preventing Problems with the Starter Switch"

The Starter Switch Rod passes through the firewall and screws into the Starter Switch. You step on the head of the rod to start the Car. You will find that today's reproduction rods screw quite easily into and out of the switch. This can be nice when you are assembling things.



The Starter Switch Rod passes through the firewall and screws into the Starter Switch. You step on the head of the rod to start the Car. You will find that today's reproduction rods screw quite easily into and out of the switch. This can be nice when you are assembling things.

But I have found that on more than just a few cars the engine vibration can cause the rod to unscrew itself and back out of the switch. You hit a bump and the rod drops down and makes contact with the post on the starter switch, where the battery cable connects. Yikes! That's a direct short to ground, with a LOT of amps behind it. So you want to make the rod a bit harder to turn when installing it in the switch. Add a small drop of blue thread locker to the rod before you screw it in, or gently tap the threads a little with a hammer to deform them and make them harder to screw in and out.

Another simple solution, if you are not doing a car for Fine Point Judging (because it is not how the switch was originally done), is to add a 5/16" nut to the threaded end of the rod before screwing it into the switch. When you have the rod where you want it (desired button height inside the car, etc.) use that nut as a jam nut and lock the rod to the switch. It will not back out while driving, but you can easily undo it when you need to take it apart.

Whichever approach you choose, you will have more trouble-free miles if you get ahead of this potential problem. Until next time...

Have a Model A Day!

Classifieds

For Sale:

24 Foot Enclosed Car Hauler, Almost New. \$12,000. Call Richard Alexander 805-452-5205

Model A Parts, Original 4 Blade Fan \$50, Original Model A Horn \$150. Call John Idler 805-406-9781

Wanted:

Curved Back Rear Truck for Model A Rack. Nice condition. Call Bill Hansen 805-757-1815

Car Show Dash Plaques. I need 2013, 2011, 2010, 2009, and all before. Call Lavonne Martin 805-844-5802





Norgrove RR Model A Tour

Reported by
John & Marcia Idler



ALL ABOARD!

Our February Tour was an amazing visit to the Norgrove Railroad in Arroyo Grande, nestled in a 128-acre private vineyard and Lemon Grove. The 24-gauge restored engine and open rail cars were a delightful experience as we rode through the beautiful countryside. The weather was nearly perfect. This restored train and facility are the product of the Norgrove Team, including owner Peter Nott and his team. We chugged over 2 miles of track including tunnels and bridges and even made a stop at the Recreated early 20th century Train Station.

Owner Peter acquired his love of trains and railroad operations from his grandfather in Australia in the early 1950s. The diesel-powered engine pulling the train today was acquired from South Africa found rusting in a field with 5 ft tall grass and poisonous snakes all around; so needless to say it was a process to retrieve it from it's location, transport it down a river to a seaport and then load it onto a ship where it arrived weeks later in Long Beach. Then to move it from Long Beach to Arroyo Grande, CA.

In addition to the working trains, Peter has a full restoration shop complete with a machine shop and paint booth, and construction area. Peter also shared with us his plans for expansion that will incorporate period correct building / train station with complete wine making production. He estimates the project will be complete is about 3 years. Train rides will be free for future wine club members.

We had a late lunch and rain started around 3pm. Abigail got wet on the way home, but the trip was well worth the time needed to clean her up after. Words can't adequately describe this amazing place - check out the photos.



OCMAFC - 61st Annual Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Hart Park, 701 S. Glassell St, Orange, California

7:30am-11am

Large Raffle Selection



Adults \$10 / Children \$5 (Ages 2-10)

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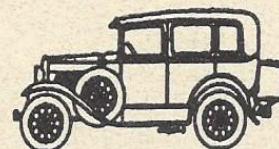
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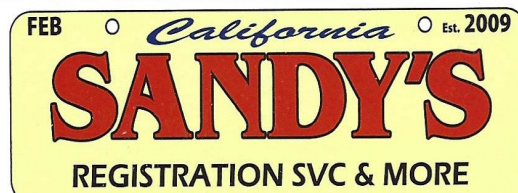
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