



November 2023

Spoken Wheels

THE NEXT MEETING

General Meeting

General Meeting - November 17, 7:00 pm, Church of the Good Shepherd, 400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia.

MEETING PROGRAM

This month's speaker will be Ed Anderson, president of the Arcadia Historical Society. The title of his program is "Motoring to Yosemite in the Early Days."

A journey back in time to Yosemite National Park when gasoline was 10 cents a gallon and first-class hotel rates were a few dollars a night. The presentation is filled with century-old photographs depicting the people who drove into the park when it first opened to gasoline and steam powered vehicles in 1900.

NEWS BITS

It's Election Time Again - No, not that one

Our nominating committee has presented a slate of officers for the calendar year 2024 to be voted on at the November 16 meeting. Here is the current slate:

President - Dino Falabrino

Vice President - Vacant

Treasurer: Nancy Sharpe

Secretary - Warwick Nethercoat

Board of Directors:

Mickey Fruchter

Joe Wilson

Carl Rogers

Les Eddington

Scott Doudrick

We are looking for someone to help by filling the Vice President's Position. The Vice President's responsibility is to coordinate the arrangements for programs at meetings with the help of club members.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our October meeting had a nice turnout. It was exciting to see more members attending as well as a couple of visitors.

Many Santa Anita A's members were involved with their cars this month at the following:

- Carcadia car show on October 29th: John Emanuelli, Dino Falabrino, Joe Farino, Tom Forbes, Mickey Fruchter and Bob Harbicht.

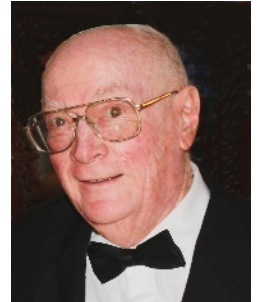
- We had a great "Safety Check" seminar at Richard Anderson's Valley Brake and Wheels Shop. Richard has a wonderful facility and a lot of knowledge of the Model A. We had a terrific turnout and participation of our members. (The doughnuts were terrific also.)

- We are supplying a number of cars and drivers for the Arcadia Festival of Bands in Arcadia.

- We had several bags of non-perishable foods brought to the October meeting that have been donated to the Foothill Unity Center. I hope we will have more donations brought to the November meeting and to the holiday party on December 16th.

Please make plans to attend a wonderful Holiday/Installation Banquet at Almansor Court in Alhambra. Contact Janet Beggs (626) 773-2806 for reservations.

Just because you are not on the Board or an officer, you can still get involved. If you have suggestions for tours, seminars or anything else, please contact me or any Board member or officer.



ATTENTION

Remember - This month's meeting is one week earlier, **November 17th** and don't you forget it.

CALENDAR OF TOURS & EVENTS

November

- 13 - Ladies' Brunch, Annia's, 11:00 am- San Gabriel Valley Airport (Call Bea Fruchter to confirm your participation 626-797-2048).
 16 - Men's Breakfast, 9:00 am- Annia's, San Gabriel Valley Airport
17 - General Meeting - 7:00 pm, Church of the Good Shepherd, 400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia (Note date change)

December

- 16 - Christmas Party/ Installation Banquet - see page 3

February

- 23 Genera Meeting - Auction

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

December Birthdays

- 3 - Ken Mallory
 3 - David Lutz
 3 - Don Kennedy
 6 - Jim Bortolotti
 8 - Kathy Concidine
 11 - Andy Sais
 15 - Jerry Lampassi
 16 - Eric Sandberg
 16 - Debie Rodrigues Austin
 17 - Dave Hancock
 17 - Barbara Farino

Birthdays continued

- 18 - Gerry McKinney
 21 - Howard Hays
 28 - Richard Loe
 31 - Rick Phillips
 31 - Joe Principe
 31 - Carl Rogers
 31 - Elaine Perry

December Anniversaries

- 12 - A.C. & Josie Byrd
 27 - John & Cheryl Manifor

PUBLIC NOTICES

Sunshine report

A condolence card was sent to Cheryl and Jay Munns on the passing of their Granddaughter.

Cookie Bringers - Who knows

Photos - Jim Kroeger, Bob Moore, Joe Wilson

NEW MEMBERS



Guzman (Gus) & Alice Bavaria

626-571-7131 Cell 626-512-4080 Cell
 2477 Jackson Avis. Rosemead CA 91770
 gear1@sbcglobal.net
 Rejoined 2023 1930 Tudor Sedan Dlx
 Originally joined 9/2/2008



Howard & Mitsuko Hays

626-836-8325 Cell 626-634-0765
 Sycamore Pl Sierra Madre CA 91024
hwhays@earthlink.net
 Joined 4/19/2023 29 Phaeton

2023 OFFICERS, BOARD & CHAIRS

OFFICERS

President:
 Mickey Fruchter 818-512-2556
Vice President:
 Bob Harbicht 626-484-4214
Secretary:
 Warwick Nethercoat 818-979-1296
Treasurer:
 Chuck Davies 323-786-4778
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 Carl Rogers 626-827-5984
 Les Eddington 626-961-8209
 Dino Falabrino 626-664-6065
 Chris Wickersham 626-639-3141
 Joe Wilson 818-730-0842

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities:
 Janet Beggs 626-773-2806
Advertising:
 Vacant
Fashion: Coordinator:
 Susan Homet 909-360-3030
Ladies' Day:
 Vicky Balmot & Carol Emanuelli
Low End Boys:
 Mickey Fruchter 626-797-2048
 Chuck Davies 323-788-4778
Membership:
 Randy Harper 626-357-6442

COMMITTEE CHAIRS continued

Merchandise:
 Joe Wilson 818-730-0842
Money Raffle
 Bea Fruchter 818-807-7143
Drive A, Clothing, Badge awards
 Carol Emanuelli 626-286-5267
Refreshment Host:
 Vacant
Refreshment Sign-ups:
 Vacant
Restorer Articles:
 Dennis Chapman 909-762-5654
Roster:
 Joe Wilson 818-730-0842
Seminars:
 Chris Wickersham 626-639-3141
Southern CA MAFCA Rep. (SCRG):
 Bob Moore 626-305-2427
Spoken Wheels:
 Editor-Joe Wilson 818-730-0842
 Proofer- Olive Moore 909-456-6935
Sunshine Lady:
 Sue Chandler 626-898-3142
Technical Director:
 Chris Wickersham 626-639-3141
TourMeister:
 Vacant
Webmaster:
 Eric Sandberg 818-330-9311

NEWS BITS

After the Club Elections What Happens?

Election of our club officers and board members for 2024 will take place at our November 17 meeting. A nominating committee headed up by Randy Harper has developed a slate of officers and board members which was presented to the membership at our October meeting. We will take nominations from the floor that night.

There are no plans for debates between candidates. Club elections will be held at our November general meeting. Installation of officers and board members will take place at our Christmas banquet. Members do not have to pre-register or show I. D. to vote.



The new officers and board members will be installed at our installation Banquet on December 16, After the elections, the new board will begin making plans for our 2024 activities.

The board will not follow the lead of our US Congress by arguing about everything and will not begin planning for next year's election.

NEWS BITS

Annual Food Drive is Revived

We are reviving our annual food drive which we haven't had since before COVID. We are asking Santa Anita A's members to join in an old tradition of bringing non-perishable food items to our holiday party on December 16th or to our regular club meeting on November 17 (moved up one week to not conflict with Thanksgiving weekend).

Please leave your bags near the door and they will be taken to local food banks. It is a nice tradition that we hope to continue in the future.



Also, toys will be appreciated. Nothing wrapped!

Club Clothing Available for the Holidays

It is not too late to place an order for your clothing gifts for the holidays. There is a wide variety of shirts, jackets and hats which can be customized with your very own name or someone else's.



The complete catalog can be found on the SAA's website (www.santaanitaas.org). Samples of the clothing will be on display at the next meeting. Stop by the display table to check out the offerings available for the Holidays. A list of clothing and promotional items are shown on page 9.

To place an order, contact Joe Wilson (818-730-0842).

COMING TOURS & EVENTS

Christmas is coming along with our installation Banquet

Janet Beggs was assigned the "task" of organizing the Christmas party so you know it will be extra special. A lot of research was done of venues and caterers in an effort to create the perfect template for this and future Christmas dinners for the Santa Anita A's.

The Almansor Court was chosen as perfect for this group – good location, good parking, all on one level, on-site catering, reasonable costs. This venue is well known to many of you for your own previous special celebrations.

Your board has reviewed and accepted this proposal and agreed to underwrite a significant portion of the cost! Thank you Board!

A sign-up list will be at the November club meeting. You will need to list the name of each person coming and make a menu selection. You will also need to leave a check with the clipboard made payable to "Santa Anita A's".

For those unable to attend the meetings, you may mail your check to: Janet Beggs, 1701 N. El Molino, Pasadena CA 91104. Be sure to list the name of all attendees and their menu selections. You may choose: (1) Prime Rib, (2) Sea Bass, or (3) Vegan Tartare.



Santa Anita A's Christmas Party & Installation Banquet

Saturday  December 16  6 PM

\$35 per person

Select (1) Prime Rib, (2) Sea Bass, or (3) VegarTartar

Almansor Court
700 S. Almansor Street
Alhambra, California

RSVP @ meeting sign-up list or by mail to:
Janet Beggs, 1701 N. El Molino, Pasadena 91104

PAST TOURS AND EVENTS

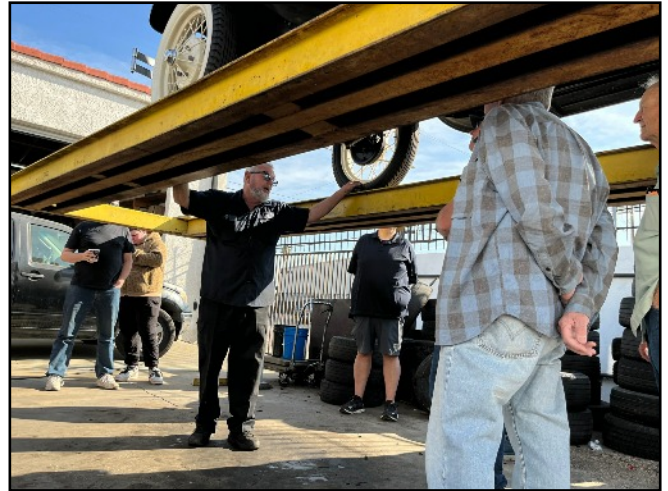
Safety Seminar

by Les Eddington

Safety was the issue during the seminar held at Richard Anderson's shop on Saturday, November 4th. He is part of the family owned and operated Valley Brake and Wheel Company located in El Monte. Richard specializes in the Model A portion of the business and presented the seminar. He recently joined the Santa Anita A's.

Les Eddington organized the seminar. There were 24 club members at the event with seven cars inspected. Four cars were inspected on car lifts. Inspections included primarily brakes and suspension systems. A number of problems were revealed. Several members left cars with Richard for servicing.

Les has plans for other seminars. He will be working with Chris Wickersham for future seminars at his shop.



BLT Guys History

by Tom Endy

The creation of the BLT Guys organization began in 2017 when Bryan Thompson and myself were attending the San Diego swap meet. While there we ran into Rudy Perez. I had known Rudy for years. He and his wife had owned and operated Meets Antique Auto Parts, a Model A supply company.

Rudy told us about a couple who had recently bought a Model A Victoria they intended to drive cross country. The project would later result in a published book. The couple knew nothing about Model A's and did not belong to a Model A club. They had been told they should have a Mitchell overdrive installed in the Victoria if they were going to drive it cross country. They were referred to a commercial shop in San Diego that quoted a huge price and a long lead time. Rudy asked if we could do the install since the couple lived in Rossmore, only a few miles from where I live. I told Rudy we could do the install and have them call me.

Later that day I received a call from Diane Gaughen. She and her husband Gerald had recently purchased the Victoria in Pasadena. Diane was a retired high school principal and their plan was to drive the car from Grandville, Michigan to Los Angeles. Diane's mother and grand father had made the trip in 1934 driving a Model A Ford and her mother had kept a detailed journal of the trip. She had documented everywhere they stopped to eat, gas up, and stay overnight. The journal had survived the years and the project was to repeat the trip. That being the case, husband Gerald insisted it had to be done in a Model A Ford, so they bought the Victoria.

Bryan and I, along with Larry McKinney had done numerous Mitchell overdrive installs. We had never charged any one for it. It was always for friends and fellow club members. Diane insisted that we be paid for the installation. We agreed to take on the job, but not for the price they had been quoted. It was way too much money. I thought \$500 was more reasonable, and we would donate the money to the Model A Youth Restoration Award program, and we would do the job in one day. I told Diane to order the overdrive from Mitchell and have it delivered to my house. I gave her the contact information and told her to make sure to order one for a Victoria. As soon as the overdrive arrived we would schedule the install date.

When we first saw the Victoria in July 2017, we noticed it was a beautifully restored car, but it had some mechanical issues that needed attention. We recommended the car be taken to Jim Nichols Model A shop in Costa Mesa after the overdrive was installed.

Jim did a brake job on the car, installed a new water pump, and a Snyder high compression head. I also recommended that the Gaughens carry a spare distributor with them, along with the MAFCA national roster. They agreed, and I supplied them with a restored distributor. Both items proved their worth during the trip.

On installation day Bryan, Larry, and myself installed the overdrive in about five hours. Thus we became known as the BLT Guys (Bryan-Larry-Tom). It took three years for word to get around the Model A kingdom by word-of-mouth that there was an organization known as the BLT Guys that can install a Mitchell overdrive in one day for a reasonable fee, and with the money being donated to the Model A Youth Restoration Award program.

In 2020 the install jobs began coming out of the woodwork. By October 2023 we had done 20 installs, with some including a Mitchell sync transmission, and we had raised a total of \$11,700 for the Model A Youth Restoration Award program.

The owner of each car received the tax credit since the organization is a 501 (c) 3. The BLT Guys organization has grown from the original three guys to as many as 20 members from several local clubs that have participated at the install events at various times. The installs are usually conducted on a Saturday at my house in Westminster, beginning at 9 AM and is usually finished by 2 PM. The owner of the car is asked to bring two dozen donuts and to write a check directly to the Model A Youth Restoration Award program, for which they receive a tax receipt. The BLT Guys provide the coffee and cold drinks.

BLT Mitchell Install Record

Gerald Gaughen

Los Alamitos
Install date July 2017
1931 Victoria



Jim Mikeloff

Seal Beach
Install date 8-1-20
1929 speedster



Gene Barbee

Huntington Beach
Install date 9-7-20
1932 V8 roadster



Gary Larson

Diamond Bar
Install date 9-19-20
1929 roadster



BLT Mitchell Install Record

Jeff Headley

Carson City, Nevada
Install date 3-25-23
1928 Tudor



Gary Larson

Diamond Bar
Install date 2-20-21
1930 huckster



Eric Engle

install date 10-17-20
Fountain Valley
1931 coupe



Mike Edmonson

Westminster
Install date 4-30-22
1928 sedan



Mark Lackey

install date
Santa Ana
1930 coupe



Perry Wilson

Anaheim
Install date 5-23-22
1931 roadster



Steve Miller

Huntington Beach
1931 coupe
Install date 4-18-21



Steve Pavich

Fountain Valley
Install date 12-14-22
1931 coupe



Josh Ferguson

Temecula
Install date 9-18-21
1931 pick-up



Ben Stone

Huntington Beach
Install date 12-28-22
1930 Tudor



Mark Hooper

Santa Clarita
Install date 1-15-22
1930 roaster



Dan Paige

Altadena, CA
Install Date 9-23-23
1929 Phaeton



Tony Lovejoy

Huntington Beach
Install date 1-15-22
1928 sedan



Larry

Tujunga, CA
Install Date 10-21-23
1929 coupe



Steve Pavich

Fountain Valley
Install date 4-30-22
31 sedan

David Van Elgort

Canyon Country, CA
Install Date 5-6-23
1928 Sports Coupe



Are Your Wheels Pointing in the Right Direction?

Why do some Model A's go straight down the road while others seem to wander all over the place? Often the owner does not know how to make the car drive better and just accepts the condition as just the characteristic of an old car. When new, our Model A's steered well and drove straight down the road and today, there is no reason that the same should not be true.

If there is no excessive play in the steering components, the king pins are not worn, the front wheel bearings are adjusted correctly and there is no other loose or an excessively worn condition of any of the front suspension and steering components, theoretically the car should go straight down the road and not wonder from one side to the other. How about front wheel alignment? If the front wheels are not properly aligned, a Model A may not want to drive in a straight line. Caster, Camber and Tow are the three basic components that make up front wheel alignment.

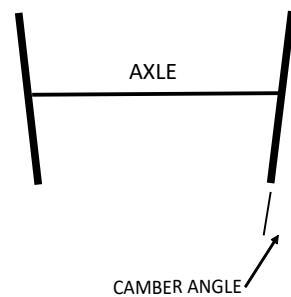
Caster is the inclination angle of the kingpins. The kingpins should not be 90 degrees to the ground but inclined so the kingpin is tipped forward at the bottom and to the rear at the top. The specified caster angle for a Model A Ford is 5 Degrees but a caster angle of 6-7 degrees is not too much and will give the car better satability. Too much caster can cause the car to steer a little hard. Too little caster can cause the car to wander all over the place and constant steering correction is necessary to keep the car in its lane.

The front wheels of a Model A are not exactly vertical with the road but tipped out at the top and in at the bottom. This is easily seen when standing in front of the car and looking at the front wheels. This deviation from vertical is called the camber angle. Positive camber is when the wheels tip out at the top and in at the bottom. Negative camber is when the wheels tip in at the top and out at the bottom. The Model A Ford should have 1 degree positive camber. Incorrect camber can affect how your Model A will steer and an increase in tire wear may be experienced.

The third element in front wheel alignment is toe. When viewed from above, if a Model A was going straight down the road, the front wheels should not be pointing exactly straight ahead but should be pointing very slightly toward the center line of the car. In other words, the tires should be a little closer together at the front of the wheel and a little further apart at the rear of the wheel. This condition is referred to as "Toe In". The Model A should have 1/16 to 1/8 inch tow in. It is important to have a little toe in to help keep the Model A going in a straight line but excessive toe can cause accelerated tire wear.

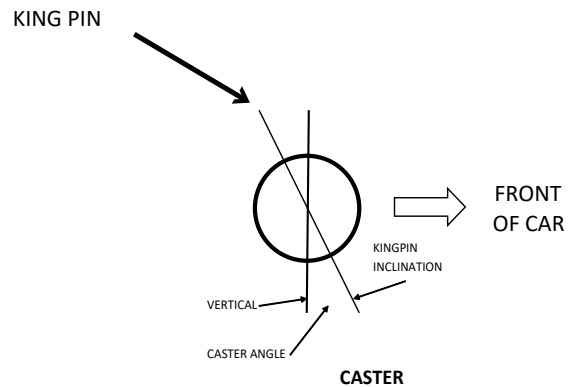
Measuring and correcting toe is relative easy and can be accomplished without specialized equipment. The better repair manuals have easy to follow procedures to measure and adjust the toe of the front wheels.

Accurately measuring Caster and Camber is more involved and requires specialized equipment not normally found in the Model A hobbyist's shop. Correcting an out of specification Caster or Camber condition often requires bending the front axle which is usually left up to a professional shop. While some may not feel it is necessary to go to the trouble of having the front wheel alignment of your Model A measured and adjusted at a professional shop, you may be pleasantly surprised at how much better your car will drive after this service is preformed.

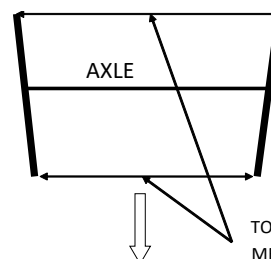


CAMBER

VIEWS FROM FRONT OF CAR



CASTER



TOE IS THE DIFFERENCE IN THE MEASUREMENT AT FRONT OF THE FRONT TIRES AND THE REAR OF THE FRONT TIRES

TOE

MEETING MINUTES

General Meeting October 27, 2023

- The meeting was held at Church of The Good Shepherd, United Methodist Church, Arcadia, CA.
- Mickey Fruchter brought the meeting to order at 7:10pm and asked Bob Moore to conduct the salute to the flag.
- A motion was passed to approve the September General Meeting minutes.

Announcements:

- Mickey asked members to sign up to donate cookies for the General meetings. Mickey reminded the members present that the November General Meeting was rescheduled to 11/17/2023 so as not to conflict with Thanksgiving.
- He also announced that Chuck Sharpe's wife, Nancy, has donated various Model A magazines to the club, and were available for the members on the table at the front of the hall.
- He also mentioned that there was a sign-up sheet at the back of the hall for the MAFCA National Convention to be held from June 23 to 29, 2023 in Ruidoso, New Mexico.
- He also encouraged members to donate nonperishable food items at the November General Meeting & the Christmas Banquet that will be distributed to local charities. Janet Beggs was on hand to take reservations and payments for the upcoming Christmas Banquet. She said that over 30 members had signed up this evening, and that the banquet would open with a social hour at 6:00pm and dinner would be served at 7:00pm.
- She also mentioned that Cori Cable Kidder (who has performed for the Santa Anita A's) was giving a series of Holiday Spectacular concerts at the Sierra Madre Playhouse.
- Sunshine Report - Sue Chandler reported that Brad Belmont is feeling better. It was also reported, with great sadness, that Jay Munns' granddaughter, who was just 15 years old, had passed away.
- The guests at the meeting were Will, Donna & Brett.
- Randy Harper stated that the committee to nominate board members and officers (Bob Moore, Janet Beggs, Randy Harper) was pleased to announce that Dino Falabrino would stand for President, his wife Gina for Treasurer, and Warwick Nethercoat for Secretary. The committee was still engaged in a search for somebody for the position of Vice President.
- Bob Moore reported that the garage sale at Chuck Sharpe's house was a great success, and the garage was almost empty. He also said that Max Herman and sons (of H&H Antique) had purchased quite a few engines.
- The cookie bringers for the meeting were announced as Carol Emanuelli and Dino Falabrino.
- Les Eddington and Richard Anderson reported on the upcoming safety seminar to be held on 11/04/23 at Valley Brake & Wheel in El Monte. There would be up to 3 hoists available for members to have their cars inspected. There

would be plenty of parking available, as well as coffee and donuts. A sign-up sheet was available on the table at the back of the hall.

- Bob Harbicht announced that the program for the November meeting would be presented by the Arcadia Historical Society and the subject would be "Motoring to Yosemite in The Early Days".
- He also introduced the evening's program "Member's Experiences with Their Model A's". The participants included Tom Endy (as told by Bob Harbicht), Mickey Fruchter, Bob Moore, Nancy Stancil, and Chris Wickersham.
- Raffle Winners were:
Arrived In a Model A – Bob Moore
Name Badge – Chris Wickersham
Club Clothing – Jim Constantian
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Warwick Nethercoat, Secretary

TALES OF OLD

Henry Said

"Education is preeminently a matter of quality, not amount"

"Any man can learn anything he will, but no man can teach except to those who want to learn."

"Many people are busy trying to find better ways of doing things that should not have to be done at all. There is no progress in merely finding a better way to do a useless thing."

"Be ready to revise any system, scrap any method, abandon any theory, if the success of the job requires it."

"We are here for experience, and experience is a preparation to know the Truth when we meet it."

Santa Anita A's Promotional Items

These items are now available for purchase by members.



Magnetic Car sign
8" x 12"
\$ 3.00



Decal
2 1/8" x 2 3/8"
Static cling, reusable'
\$.50

Decal
3 1/8" x 3 5/8"
Static cling, reusable
\$1.00'



Decal
11 x 2" Static cling, reusable \$1.00



Coffee Mug - 14 oz.
\$5.00



Licence Plate - Plastic, std. Size
\$2.50



Ball Point Pen with SAA's Logo
\$1.00



Key Chain with logo
\$.50



Radiator Badge
Enameled Brass, 3" Dia.
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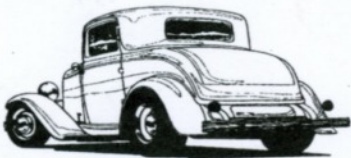


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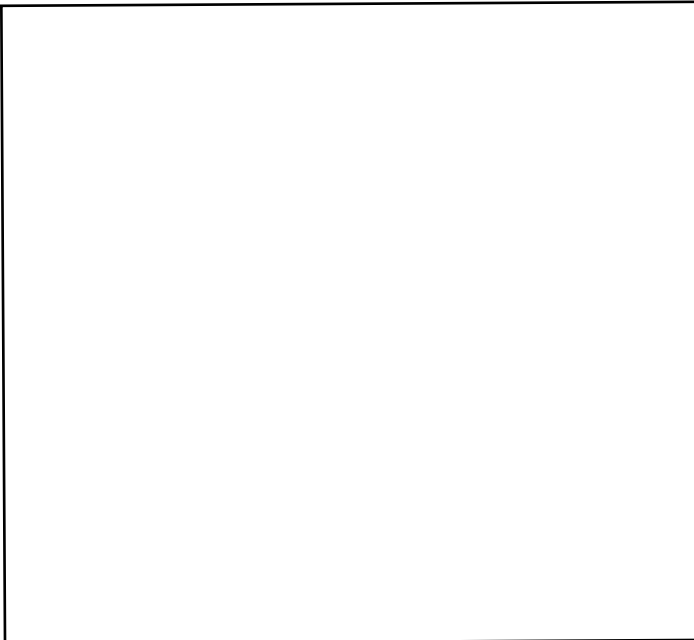
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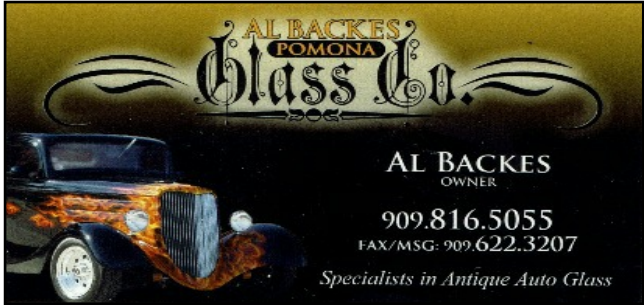
Tom Endy has accumulated a large quantity of torque
 tubes & drive shafts as a result of his overdrive installations.
 They are rapidly multiplying on their own and must go.

Contact Tom Endy 714-943-4555

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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 Church of the Good Shepherd, 400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, California. Address: PO Box 660904, Arcadia., CA 91066. Website: www.santaanitaas.org



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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's members to also participate in the MAFCA organization. Check out their website. It contains a wide variety of information about the organization, activities, technical references and instructions on how to join the organization. (www.mafca.com)



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