# SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA

# THE RUMBLE SHEET

#### Welcome

The Rumble Sheet is your go-to source for all things Model A. From the President's message to club announcements, activities calendars, and a classifieds section – it's your insider's guide to the Model A world

#### Henry Ford & WWI

In the period leading up to World War I, Henry Ford harbored a profound skepticism regarding the noble motives behind the World War I commencement. He perceived the conflict as a convoluted outcome, largely orchestrated by those who sought to gain from its turmoil. In 1916, driven by the belief that certain nations craved peace, Ford financed the "Peace Ship" expedition to Stockholm, although it eventually faltered. Undeterred by its failure, Ford asserted that valuable insights were gleaned from such endeavors.



Upon the United States' entry into the war, Ford abandoned his hope that it would be a conflict to end all conflicts. Recognizing the futile nature of wars settling disputes, he acknowledged the duty of citizens to support their country's war effort after its declaration. Ford's anti-war stance, however, stemmed not from pacifism but from a conviction that warfare merely postponed discussions on contentious issues.

Once the United States became embroiled in the war, Ford Industries redirected its focus to support the government. Prior to the war declaration, the company adamantly rejected foreign war orders, adhering to its principles of non-involvement in conflicts not directly affecting the nation. However, from April 1917 to November 1918, Ford's facilities exclusively served the government, producing not only cars, parts, special delivery trucks, and ambulances but also venturing into the manufacturing of diverse wartime products.

During this period, Ford's contributions extended beyond traditional automotive products. The company manufactured 2 1/2-ton and 6-ton trucks, Liberty motors, aero cylinders, 1.55 Mm. and 4.7 Mm. caissons, and Eagle Boats designed for anti-submarine warfare. The construction of the Eagle Boats required a dedicated facility on the River Rouge site, showcasing Ford's rapid adaptability. The Armistice marked a swift transition for Ford Industries, as it promptly shifted from wartime production to peace. - SOURCE: My Life & Work by Henry Ford







## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



If you check back to last month's Rumble Sheet I was recalling my saga of my 1930 Model A Sport Coupe. After around 10 years I had all the woodworking done. I must say that the workers Henry had hired had more skills in their tool box than I possess. In the Horse and Buggy days these people had to make most things without all the fancy power tools we have today. The body work went pretty well. Most of the Bondo I removed was not needed. When Bondo was king, most do it yourselfers over did it. Sometimes a few taps with a body hammer was all that was needed to remove a dent and the Bondo was held to a minimum. I did try my hand at MIG welding. Not a pretty sight. Jim Tucker at JT Metal Works was able to fix all the holes I had blown in the metal and installed the patch panels behind the doors. A lot of Sport Coupes were converted to pickup trucks during WW II. This was a way to get around the gas rationing. It took a toll on the cars with rumble lids missing and the inner trunk gutters cut out. After getting the car back from Jim all was good.

In 2018 I finally brought the car to Ron Mosher to finish my stalled project. He took the body off and was going to go through the car's mechanics. Most were just minor since the car ran pretty well. I was to take the body to be painted. In the meantime, Ron found a Museum car that the owner's wife had wanted him to part with after spending a big sum at H & H Antique Engine rebuilding in La Crescenta. I took one look at the Green 1930 Sport Coupe and thought I would have mine painted just like this one, but wait, why not trade mine in plus some cash and buy this one. It took about 10 seconds to work the deal with Ron. He reassembled my car and sold it off on eBay and I had a completed car for much less than any restoration. Ron use to love to tell the story of his fastest restoration to anyone who would listen. I will miss you my friend. - President-Larry Margules

#### **Board of Directors**

President - Larry Margules
Vice President - Mike Petrella
Treasurer - Hunter Bloch
Secretary - To Be Announced
Tours & Activities - Scott McNatt
Membership - Russell Buelna
Member at Large - Steve Kurtz

#### Committee Chairs

Sunshine - Lynley Margules
Era Fashions - To Be Announced
Editor - Aimee McNatt
Web Geek - Christopher McCabe
Tech & Safety - Carroll Vaughn
Master-Sergeant at Arms - Jim Rummel
Club Historian - Carol Mosher

#### Mailing Address

San Fernando Valley Chapter MAFCA P.O. Box 8017 Van Nuys, CA 91409

### Monthly Meeting

3rd Thursday of the Month 7:30PM January - November Galpin Ford 15505 Roscoe Blvd., North Hills

#### Who We Are

The San Fernando Valley Model A Club (SFVMAC), a chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA), is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to serve as a medium of exchange of ideas, information and parts for enthusiasts of the Model A Ford car, to aid members and other enthusiasts in their efforts to restore and preserve the car in its original likeness. The Rumble Sheet is the newsletter of the SFVMAC, published monthly, January through November. The organization disclaims any liability for the technical information provided herein. The material published are the opinions of the authors and not those of the organization.

We invite all those interested in the Model A Ford to join us. Ownership of a Model A Ford is not required. All members must join MAFCA. Membership includes a subscription to the newsletter. Material in the Rumble Sheet may be used in other publications provided that credit is given for the source.

## **GENERAL CLUB MEETING**

## **Meeting Minutes**

Hey there, Model A aficionados! Buckle up for another round of automotive shenanigans and good times at the San Fernando Valley Model A Club's general meeting. Dust off your fedoras, polish those hubcaps, and roll on over to Galpin Ford on the third Thursday of the month.

As the evening kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance, our charismatic President Larry Margules led the meeting, spreading cheer faster than a Model A on an open highway. However, the evening took a reflective turn as we remembered those we lost this past year, especially our former club president, Ron Mosher. Carol, his widow, shared plans for a heartfelt event on March 23, 2024. Keep an eye on the club activity calendar for details and join us in honoring Ron's memory.

In the realm of updates, Russel Buelna spilled the beans that our club rosters and name badges are nearly ready. Get ready to strut your stuff with pride, wearing that badge like a badge of Model A honor.

Vice-President Mike Petrella stole the spotlight with the trendiest club apparel. Warning: it's so fashionable; your Model A might develop a case of envy.

Now, let's talk about the real MVP of the evening—Bradley Bell, our youngest club member. He teamed up with Treasurer Hunter Bloch, ensuring the 50/50 raffle went off without a hitch. Chris Haynes emerged victorious, making off with the winnings faster than a Model A in a drag race.

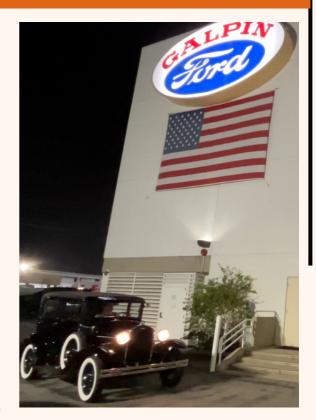
And let's not forget the heartwarming moment when Sandy Norris clinched the Members Only raffle. Not only did she snag the \$10 prize, but she selflessly donated it back to the club, proving our members have hearts as big as their engines.

Now, let's talk snacks. Robin Pomeroy, the snack enchantress, worked her magic by providing the most epic lemon bars ever tasted by mankind. We're pretty sure these bars have secret powers because they disappeared faster than a red light at midnight.

So, rev up your engines and cruise on over to Galpin Ford on March 21st, 7:30 PM. Don't be square; be there! It's where the rubber meets the road, and the laughter meets the memories. Can't wait to see you all, engines purring and smiles roaring!

Next General Club Meeting: March 21, 2024 7:30PM Galpin Ford 15505 Roscoe Blvd., North Hills, CA









## **CLUB TOUR**

### ANNUAL MEMORIAL DRIVE



The San Fernando Valley Model A Club's Annual Member Memorial Drive is a touching tradition that brings together the tight-knit community to honor and remember departed club members. Under the thoughtful planning of Tours and Activities coordinator, Scott McNatt, this year's tour took members on a scenic journey up to Neptune's Net restaurant in Malibu, CA.

The day began with a warm gathering at The Pomeroy's residence, where members shared donuts and coffee, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie and support. As the convoy hit the road, the breathtaking coastal drive set the perfect backdrop for reflection and shared memories.

Arriving at Neptune's Net restaurant, the event took on a poignant note as Membership Russel Buelna delivered a heartwarming remembrance speech, celebrating the lives of those who had passed away. The Annual Member Memorial Drive was not just a gathering of antique car enthusiasts; it was a heartfelt tribute to the club's enduring spirit and the cherished memories of departed friends.

With a great turnout and an overwhelming sense of unity, this year's memorial drive was undoubtedly a success, underscoring the club's commitment to preserving the legacy of its members and fostering a supportive community that goes beyond the love for classic automobiles.



## THE RUBBER CHICKEN

In the vast and sun-soaked expanse of the San Fernando Valley, where palm trees sway to the rhythm of the classic rock radio stations, there exists a unique and quirky brotherhood known as the San Fernando Valley Model A Club. This close-knit community of antique car enthusiasts doesn't just share a passion for their beloved Ford Model A vehicles; they also have a peculiar tradition that keeps them chuckling on the roadside - the Rubber Chicken Award.

This prestigious accolade is not handed out for achieving top speeds or pulling off jaw-dropping stunts. No, it's reserved for those moments when a Ford Model A decides to throw a temper tantrum and break down on the side of the road, leaving its owner red-faced and stranded. The lucky recipient of the Rubber Chicken Award is the one who has the misfortune of their Model A falling victim to the whims of fate.

The latest honoree, Clark Pomeroy, found himself at the mercy of the notorious Rubber Chicken after his trusty 1930 Ford Model A Deluxe decided to play a not-so-hilarious prank on him during the Annual Member Memorial Driving Tour to Neptune's Net in Malibu. Clark, blissfully cruising with the wind in his hair and the purr of his engine in his ears, suddenly found himself facing the ignominious squawking of a rubber chicken and a sputtering engine.

As fellow club members rushed to Clark's aid, the Rubber Chicken Award was ceremoniously handed over, complete with laughter, teasing, and a fair bit of ribbing. The camaraderie of the San Fernando Valley Model A Club is as unbreakable as the bonds that tie the beloved Model A community together.





But here's where this tale of rubber chickens takes a turn for the heartwarming. The San Fernando Valley Model A Club isn't just about roasting each other over a broken-down Model A; it's about coming together to help a friend in need. Steve Kurtz and Russel Buelna, armed with their vast knowledge of Model A mechanics, descended upon Clark Pomeroy's garage like knights in shining overalls.

With a shared passion for tinkering with these antique marvels, the trio diagnosed the ailment - a blown head gasket. Fear not, for the solution was at hand! New parts were promptly ordered from the esteemed Sammy from Arizona Model A, the go-to supplier for antique Ford Model A enthusiasts..

As the sun set over the San Fernando Valley, echoing with the sounds of wrenches turning and laughter echoing through the garage, the camaraderie of the Model A community prevailed. Clark Pomeroy's Ford Model A will soon be purring back to life, thanks to the knowledge and support of his fellow club members

So, the next time you find yourself cruising down the streets of the San Fernando Valley and spot a convoy of antique Ford Model A vehicles, remember that behind the laughter, rubber chickens, and camaraderie lies a community ready to lend a helping hand and a wealth of knowledge to keep the wheels turning. In the world of the San Fernando Valley Model A Club, breakdowns aren't just inevitable; they're an excuse for a good laugh and a helping hand.

## **CLUB ACTIVITY**

### 1931 MODEL A COUPE REASSEMBLY







### San Fernando Valley Club Members Turn a Rainy Day into a Ford Fiesta

In the heart of the San Fernando Valley, under a covered carport on a rainy Sunday, the camaraderie of the San Fernando Valley Model A Club shines brighter than a freshly waxed chrome bumper. Braving the rain, fourteen club members gathered at The McNatt's residence to turn a cold and wet day into a Ford Fiesta, ready to tackle a Model A challenge and perhaps enjoy a donut or two.

Their mission: to resurrect Scott's 1931 Model A Coupe, scattered in pieces and yearning for the touch of fellow antique car enthusiasts. Armed with rain jackets and an insatiable thirst for adventure, the club members formed a makeshift command center under the covered carport, fueled by donuts and coffee.

Undeterred by the rain, laughter echoed through the air as the members, with a collective stroke of genius and decades of combined Model A wisdom, aligned running boards, placed front fenders, and revived the sweet hum of camaraderie. It was more than fixing a car; it was about building memories and sharing a passion that transcended the gloomy weather.

As the rain-soaked assembly approached completion, the club members, now a close-knit team, collaborated with Scott to craft a shopping list for those elusive specialty Model A parts. Their collective expertise made the list a masterpiece, enough to make any antique car enthusiast's heart skip a beat.

The adventure concluded with a well-deserved feast of ham sandwiches, accompanied by laughter and shared stories. The San Fernando Valley Model A Club, proving their prowess, showcased once again that when it comes to helping a fellow enthusiast, they're an unstoppable force.

In the end, it wasn't merely about fixing a car; it was about shared experiences, friendships forged under the covered carport, and an unspoken understanding that in the San Fernando Valley Model A Club, no Model A challenge is too great when faced together. The knowledge, laughter, and helpfulness of this exceptional car club make every rainy day a perfect day for a Ford Fiesta.

## **MODEL A STORY**

### COACH REID'S RESTORATION STORY

Andy Reid, celebrated for his fourth Super Bowl victory with the Kansas City Chiefs, boasts a cherished family heirloom that predates his illustrious coaching career—the 1928 Ford Model A, a vehicle steeped in sentimental history.

In the aftermath of World War II in 1945, Reid's father acquired the vintage automobile for a modest \$25, noting it as a "late '28" due to Henry Ford's transitional brake system adjustments during that period. While ascending the coaching ranks as an assistant in Green Bay from 1992 to 1998, Reid developed a fondness for automotive restoration through encounters with seasoned experts in the field.



Following the Packers' triumph in Super Bowl XXXI in 1997, Reid seized the opportunity to restore his father's Model A. Transporting the vehicle from Los Angeles to Wisconsin, he embarked on a comprehensive overhaul, dismantling and rebuilding the entire car, including its engine. The process unveiled the intricate wooden components of the Model A, an often overlooked feature that distinguishes it as the most restored car globally.





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A man of familial values, Reid, a father of five, including the late Garrett, found profound joy in the act of preserving and passing down heirlooms like the Model A. He reflects on the significance of such possessions, emphasizing their role in connecting generations. For Reid, being a father transcends coaching triumphs and Super Bowl rings; it is about imparting a legacy, a sentiment encapsulated by the tangible history embodied in the meticulously restored 1928 Ford Model A.

In Reid's own words, "It's something you can pass down. I think that is kind of neat... Being a dad, it's about loving your kids and then having a chance to present a history to them." The coach's journey in restoring the vintage car mirrors the essence of his coaching philosophy—an unwavering commitment to preserving and sharing a rich legacy. Click Here for Original Article

## **MEMBER STORY**

### CARS WE REMEMBER: 1950'S NOSTALGIA

My father drove us to the Elkhorn dump in a Model A Ford. The dump was once the site of a brick manufacturing company. The red clay of the area baked into perfect red bricks. A giant hole was dug in the clay. Eventually the clay gave out, the company closed, and the hole filled with water. It was the perfect place to dump everything and anything you wanted to get rid of. The city took over the dump officially but never supervised it. With the bed of the truck full of junk we wanted to get rid of, my father backed the little Ford up to the edge of the great water filled pit. I was afraid we were going to go over the edge and crash into the water. We never did.

Jimmy Lynch and I sometimes rode our bikes to the dump because it was only about one-half mile from our houses. One time we found a whole spool of new telephone wire. Jimmy recognized the possibilities right away. We went into the basement at his house, and he showed us two very old telephones from before the dial was invented. Jon Strong had built a fort in his backyard. Jimmy and I would build a fort in his backyard two doors away. Then we would set up communications between the two forts! A genius idea!

We spent the next two weeks looking for lumber and found enough scraps here and there to start construction. Our fort would be better than Jon Strong's because we were going to install a concrete floor. Jimmy had this figured out. We went down to the Redi mix plant where the trucks were filled with concrete powder, water added to the giant rotating tank and then ready to be delivered to a customer. We swept the floor for the concrete powder and filled about ten paper bags that we took home. We did our own mixing and put it on the floor of our fort! Walaa!

The little Model A Ford was originally a coupe, but someone had built a small pickup bed over the trunk making it useful as a small pickup truck. While we were occupied with the fort, my Dad had taken the Ford across the street where he and Art Kelly were painting it with brushes bright red!

We loved that old Model A. Dad would let us ride in the back with our feet hanging over the tail. We had no sense of the danger involved. I was always fascinated with the gauges. There was the speedometer and the odometer and the ammeter, telling the status of the electricity in the battery. Then came the sad day when he told me that he sold the Ford for fifty dollars; it was gone forever.

Then our dads decided to go on a fishing trip to northern Wisconsin. Jimmy and I wanted to go with them. We decided to call our plan, "Operation GUN." That was an acronym for "Go Up North". They took us with them in the back of the newer green Chevrolet truck with a canvas cover over the bed. We went fishing in the north, and I don't remember the catch. On the way home we were passing through Merrill Wisconsin when I saw a Model A on a used car lot. We stopped and learned the price was \$125. We negotiated a lower price, to \$115, and bought the car, but we didn't have a way to get it home. We told the dealer we would be back for it the next weekend.

My dad and I drove our 1955 Ford station wagon back to Merrill that next weekend and hitched up the car to the towbar we had brought. We set off for home, about a three-hour drive, and we stopped for gas. In the gas station we heard the world changing news; The Soviet Union had sent up SPUTNIK. It was October 5, 1957. The space race was on, and the United States was hopelessly behind!

That was exciting for us, but not half as exciting as the Model A attached to our station wagon. It was dark when we got home, but every kid in the neighborhood was surrounding the new old Ford Model A. Grant Wiswell, the son of the president of the State Long Distance Telephone Co. who lived two doors away wanted to get it started and try it out. He was the only one of us who had a driver's license, but we had no gas. Somehow, we got a gallon of gas into it. The battery was dead. We all pushed it down the street. It started! The excitement went crazy. Four kids jumped into the back seat. Grant was behind the wheel, I sat next to him. No lights, we took off around the block. Around the block again. And again. Then the cop who lived on the block called my father and said, "Gail, tell them to knock it off." - Club Member Sam Platts

# **LUNCH WITH THE FELLAS**

Join us every Wednesday at 11:00 AM for the San Fernando Valley Model A Club lunch at Lulu's Restaurant. Indulge in delicious food while surrounded by fellow enthusiasts. Engage in lively discussions about all things Model A, creating the perfect midweek escape filled with camaraderie, laughter, and a shared passion for classic automobiles. LuLu's 16900 Roscoe Blvd. Van Nuys













## SAVE THE DATE



Get ready to rev those engines and fill your bellies with laughter at the Ford Model A Club's March shenanigans! We're ditching the car manuals for menus at LuLu's Restaurant for a hearty lunch every Wednesday. Don't miss our general meeting at Galpin Ford – where even the Model A's need a good pep talk. With 12 birthdays to celebrate and 2 brave souls marking a wedding anniversary, it's a party on wheels! Tell a buddy, buckle up, and join the joyride!

#### **Activities & Tours**

March 6 | 11:00AM Lunch with the fellas at LuLu's Restaurant

March 13 | 11:00AM Lunch with the fellas at LuLu's Restaurant

March 16 | 9:00AM Lake Piru Driving Tour

March 20 | 11:00AM Lunch with the fellas at LuLu's Restaurant

March 23 | 10:00AM - 4:00PM Open House & Swap Meet at The Mosher Residence

March 27 | 11:00AM Lunch with the fellas at LuLu's Restaurant

### Happy Birthday

8th Harry Stein 19th Gordon Gassner

11th Scott McNatt 19th Sam Platts

13th Bradley Bell 20th Nancy Edmonds 17th Doral Riggs 22nd Susie Stanford 17th Brian Smith 23rd Wade Ratzlaff 27th Warwick Nethercoat 31st Alejandro Platon, D.C.

#### Happy Anniversary

29th Ray & Sonya Turner 31th Jim & Whitney Lank

## **GET INVOLVED**

# THE RUMBLE SHEET

### Membership Application

Welcome to the San Fernando Valley Model A Club, where the spirit of Model A camaraderie comes alive! We're not your typical car club; we're a community of enthusiasts bound by our love for the iconic Model A Ford. Established in 1960 as a proud chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA), we've been cruising together for over six decades, and the adventure continues!



Why join? Because Model A's are meant to be shared! Our club provides a laid-back space for Model A aficionados in the San Fernando Valley and surrounding areas to unwind, swap stories, and revel in the charm of these timeless classics. Whether you own a Model A or simply admire their beauty, we invite you to join us in celebrating the essence of these legendary automobiles.

As a member, dive into a world of Model A fun with driving tours, lively Wednesday member luncheons at Lulu's Restaurant, engaging general membership meetings, thrilling Swap Meets and Car Shows, and our informative monthly newsletter, The Rumble Sheet.

We're more than a club; we're a Model A family ready to welcome fellow enthusiasts. Ownership of a Model A Ford is not a prerequisite – if you're passionate about these classics, you're already one of us! Ready to enhance your Model A experience? Join the San Fernando Valley Model A Club today! Hit that join button, and let's create lasting Model A memories together. We can't



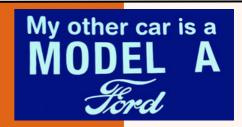
#### Model A Youth Restoration Awards

Rev up your engines, folks! Welcome to our car restoration program, where we turn rust buckets into roaring classics! We get it - convincing the younger crowd that a '31 Ford Model A is cooler than the latest electric wonder can be a tough sell. But fear not, our <u>Model A Youth Restoration Awards</u> are here to bridge the generation gap!

Forget the ancient tales of uphill both ways in the snow – today's youth can choose from 50s, 60s, and 70s gems! We're not just restoring cars; we're restoring coolness. Help a young grease monkey bring a Model A back to life, and we'll reward them with gift certificates to car parts heaven. Because nothing says "future classic" like a teenager covered in grease with a wrench in hand!

#### Model A Museum

Show your support for the Model A Museum with a snazzy blue bumper sticker! For just \$3, proclaim to the world, "My other car is a Model A Ford." Stick it proudly and cruise down memory lane. Order now and revitalize your ride while supporting a classic cause. Visit the <u>Model A Museum website</u> for more revved-up goodies!



## FRIENDS OF THE HOBBY



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