



NEWSLETTER OF THE

RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

ORANGE BLOSSOM



MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA

VOL. 28  
NO. 7

JULY  
2024

# THE ORANGE BLOSSOM A'S MODEL A FORD CLUB OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA



## June's Tour to the Southern California Railway Museum!

On Saturday June 15, the OBAs met to take a leisurely drive down to southern Perris and see the sights at the Southern California Railway Museum (or the Orange Empire Railway Museum to us natives). Six cars made the trip avoiding the freeway (whew) and got down there to take a look at the vast collection



(Continued on Page 3)

## Club Meeting - Join us!

Fritts Ford – Fleet Building 2nd Floor  
7990 Auto Center Drive, Riverside, Ca  
First Wednesday of the month  
at 6:30 p.m.  
(dark July, August, and December)

## Contact Us

Email: [OBAModelA@gmail.com](mailto:OBAModelA@gmail.com)

Orange Blossom A Club  
P. O. Box 20792  
Riverside, CA 92516

Web:  
[OBAModelA.wsite.com/Riverside](http://OBAModelA.wsite.com/Riverside)





# Club Agenda

by Marlin Brandt  
 (909) 224-7547  
 Marlin.brandt@yahoo.com



## 2024 Orange Blossom A's Upcoming Club Tour Schedule

Version 06.01.2024a



Marlin Brandt – Club Tour Director 2024  
 (909) 224-7547 Marlin.brandt@yahoo.com

\$\$ = Entry Fee

| Date       | Event  | (Departing) Time/From   | Coordinator  |
|------------|--|---|--------------|
| <b>JUL</b> |  |   |              |
| 14 (Sun)   | <b>TOUR – Club Picnic in the Park</b><br>Join us for a club potluck picnic at Hunter Park. Park your Model A under the trees and watch the live steamer trains roll by. Private train ride for our club! | <u>Departing</u> from Fritts Ford 11am to caravan to Hunter Park. – This is an excellent event to bring the family, children, and grandchildren. Bring your own picnic lunch, drinks and chairs, yard games and anything you normally bring for a picnic. No BBQs. Consider a tablecloth for your running board as a serving table. | Marlin       |
| <b>AUG</b> |  |   |              |
| 3 (Sat)    | <b>TOUR – Members Breakfast \$\$</b><br>Corkys Kitchen and Bakery - Perris   | Departing 8am from IHOP parking lot Mission Grove to 3150 Case Road, Perris. We will take the off-freeway route.  | Marlin       |
| 10 (Sat)   | <b>TECH – LED bulbs for your Model A</b><br>Learn about a complete LED bulb replacement for your Model A.  | Location and details TBD  | Marlin       |
| 24 (Sat)   | <b>TOUR – Norton Air Force Base Museum \$\$</b><br>Driving tour to this small regional museum. Followed in lunch nearby  | Meet at Fritts Ford. Departs at 9am.  | Marlin       |
| <b>SEP</b> |  |   |              |
| 4 (Wed)    | Club Meeting   | Fritts ford – Second floor 6:30pm   | Doug         |
| 7 (Sat)    | <b>TOUR – To Be Determined</b><br>TBD information  | TBD departure location and time.  | Steve H      |
| 28 (Sat)   | <b>Antique Model A Swap Meet</b>   | Hosted by the Paradise Valley Model A club – Little League Headquarters Western Region at 6707 N. Little League Drive, San Bernardino CA  | Self-Attend  |
| <b>OCT</b> |  |   |              |
| 2 (Wed)    | Club Meeting   | Fritts ford – Second floor 6:30pm   | Doug         |
| 12 (Sat)   | <b>TOUR – To Be Determined</b><br>TBD information  | TBD departure location and time.  | Jeff & Norma |
| 26 (Sat)   | <b>CLUB CAR SHOW</b><br>Riverside Elks Club – time and other details to follow.  | Volunteers to run the show are needed. Please see Steve L.  | Steve L      |



# Club Activities

(Continued from Page 1)

of railroad locomotives, rolling stock, tools ephemera and many other railroad-oriented items. The Museum was a labor of love for a group of railroad enthusiasts, and it does not disappoint and is well worth the jaunt. Happy railroading to the OBAs who participated!

A week later (June 22) we had another informative Tech Seminar, this time presented by James Cameron. Jim took us through the process of converting the Model A ignition to an electronic ignition. OBA member Richard Knowlton just happened to have his car there to work on and so several of us joined in and

got Richard's car converted, all the while listening to Jim's expertise on the subject. Thanks Jim and congratulations to Richard whose car is taking shape!

Finally - a bit of congratulations to OBA member Geoffrey Westley for earning a plaque at the 28th Annual Reunion and Car Show of the Old Farts Racing Team! The show was June 9, and as always was a big success. Congratulations Geoffrey!!!





*Richard Knowlton tries to untangle his new ignition system and Geoffrey Westley shows off his latest award!*





# The Long Beach Model T Club

By *Claudine Burnett*

It's always nice to hear from readers. One wrote me in 2023 asking the whereabouts of the sign pictured in my October 2016 article on the Signal Hill Model T Hill Climb: <https://historicalsignalhill.blogspot.com/2016/10/signal-hill-model-t-climb.html>.

I told him the picture was most likely photographed in the area where redevelopment later took place and had been removed. I suggested he reach out to the Signal Hill Chamber of Commerce and the city to see if they could help.

Recently Leonard Gluck contacted me again saying he hadn't found the sign but his quest to find it opened up "exciting" opportunities. This year (2024) is the year of the Signal Hill Centennial, and when Gluck contacted city officials and explained he was involved in the Long Beach Model T Club that originally sponsored the hill climb, the club was immediately recruited to join in centennial events.

The club has about 120 members currently. You don't need to own a

Model T to join (Leonard Gluck doesn't). There is a monthly meeting at All Saints Church in Long Beach at the corner of Termino and Colorado. There are monthly tours where members drive their cars to a local point of interest (a museum, factory, lunch spot, etc.) just to exercise the cars and show them off. The club is also asked to display cars for various events, participate in parades and even do drive-bys for birthdays.

Ronald MacWillie, president of the Long Beach Model T Club in 1955, told *Press-Telegram* reporter Dave Emery (6/30/1955) there was a reason Henry Ford sold 15 million of the Ts from 1908 until 1927. "They were marvelous cars," MacWillie said. "They start quick and they've got better visibility than modern cars. With the top down, it's just like sitting in the middle of the street in a bathtub. Model Ts are like little toys, you open the hood and there is nothing there. Anyone could fix anything that went wrong. It's like a little sewing machine motor - 22 horsepower."

The Signal Hill climb was the only known one of its kind in the United States for Model T Fords, officers of the Long Beach club told reporter George Robeson in 1961 (*Press-Telegram* 5/21/1961). That year 184 cars attempted the 1/10th of a mile, 22-degree grade. Most of them succeeded during one of the three tries participants were allowed.

Model T enthusiasts also revealed a few things you had to remember about the design of a Model T before you could drive it uphill. For instance, if the gas tank wasn't full or nearly full, you would run out of gas halfway up the hill. Model Ts had no fuel pump - the gas was gravity-fed to the carburetor, and when the car started uphill the tank was lower than the carburetor. One way to get around this issue was to drive your Model T backwards up the hill, something many participants in the Signal Hill climb did every year!

The annual Hill climb ended in 1979, but this year it will be done again in celebration of Signal Hill's



Centennial. On Sept. 14, ten Model Ts will gather at 10 a.m. at Shell Hill (Hill Street between Obispo and Temple) to attempt the climb once more. I asked Gluck if any will be driving backwards up the hill. His response was "I hope not!"

You can view a display of the history of the Hill Climb and the history of the Model T at the Signal Hill Library (1800 E. Hill). The club will also be holding their 70th annual parts exchange at Veteran's

Stadium (between Lakewood Blvd. and Clark, off Conant) on Saturday July 20.

It would be wonderful if any reader could help in locating the missing sign once posted on Signal Hill (shown in the photo above). If so, it would make the Long Beach Model T Club's 70th anniversary even more memorable. Contact them at [longbeachmodelclub@gmail.com](mailto:longbeachmodelclub@gmail.com).

Thanks go to Debby Phillips for this!





# Your Club

## Officers

President = Doug Diller  
Vice President = Richard Knowlton  
Treasurer = Jeff Collopy  
Secretary = Linda Brandt

## Board of Directors

Marlin Brandt  
Norma Collopy  
Dennis Ruh  
Ken Skog

## Committee Directors

Facebook = Barry O'Conner  
MAFCA Restorer = Gary Struempf  
Member Roster = Debby Phillips  
Newsletter Editor = Steve Lech  
Sunshine = Norma Collopy  
Tours/Events = Marlin Brandt  
Website = Marlin Brandt  
Merchandise = Carol Bromley  
Vintage Car Show = Steve Lech  
Christmas Party = Richard Knowlton

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## President's Message

Hello Everyone,

As I sit here and write this message on July 2nd, it's 101 degrees outside. I hope that everyone is doing their best to stay cool. On June 15th, we had a tour to the Southern California Train Museum and lunch afterwards. Temecula Valley A's joined us for a total of 10 Model A's and Rick & Dee drove their Jeepster. A good time was had by all. On June 22nd, James gave a tech seminar on how to install an electronic ignition on Richard's car. It was an informative and well attended seminar. Thank you James.

As you all know there are no meetings in July or August, but that does not mean that Marlin does not have events scheduled for us. Please check OBA's calendar.

I was reminded last month how kind and helpful Model A'ers are. My '29 Tudor broke a rear axle. I sent out an email to a few people asking their opinions on how I should go about replacing the axle and where I might find an affordable option. Snyders wanted \$1,000 with tax and

shipping. I was presented with several, much better options. I was not looking for free, but I could not believe it, nor could I pass up Ed Tolman's (V.P. of MAFCA & member of Pomona valley A's) offer of giving me an extra one that he had! He also helped me replace the axle. Thank you again Ed for helping me get my Model A back on the road.

Food for thought:

"No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted."

- Aesop

Doug

OBA's 2024 president



**[OBAModelA.wsite.com/Riverside](http://OBAModelA.wsite.com/Riverside)**

# Treasurer's Corner

by Jeff Collopy

- Want to join the club? Ask Jeff Collopy, treasurer, for an application. Club annual dues are \$20 for one person, \$25 for two in the same household. Name tag included your first year.
- Meeting raffles: 50/50. The winner gets half the pot! \* Drive your Model A get raffle ticket and you may win \$10.00 \* Attend the meeting wear your name badge raffle - you may win \$10.00.
- Club members: FREE --- FIVE 50/50 raffle tickets when you bring a friend that joins the club.
- Club logo clothing is available at the club website at: [www.outletshirts.com](http://www.outletshirts.com).
- \$5.00 Club logo license plate toppers. Car Badge (metal) - \$25.00
- \$20.00 Club logo car magnets (1 pair) use them at club tours on your Model A or modern car.
- Contact Jeff regarding embroidery of jackets and shirts. \$35 back and \$10 for front including first name.



Car Badge (metal) for radiator  
\$25.00

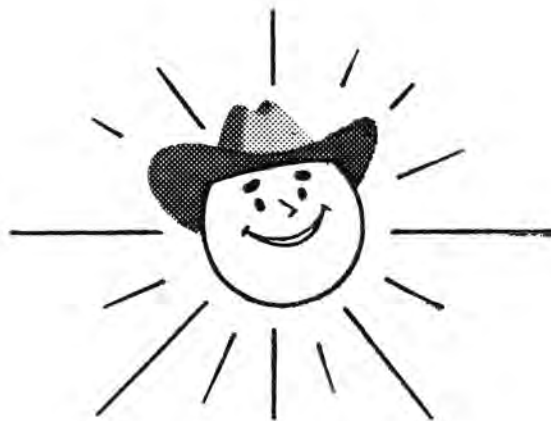


One Pair of Magnetic Signs  
for Cars = \$20 per set

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# Sunshine Report

by Norma Collopy



Sunshine is taking a break this summer - see you back in September!



We now have lots of flyers  
for the car show!!

If you are going to go to or  
participate in any shows,  
**PLEASE GET SOME  
FLYERS AND PASS THEM  
OUT WHEN YOU GO!**

If you need flyers, please  
contact Steve Lech





# Meeting Minutes

by Linda Brandt



## Orange Blossom A's, June 5, 2024

- Meeting Called to order @ 6:35
- Pledge of Allegiance: Richard Knowlton
- Members Present: 17
- Guests: Richard Bronstrup and Ryan Pester

## Director's Reports

- President's comments: Doug talked about the Steve McQueen car show at
- Secretary's Report: Linda Brandt - May minutes in the newsletter approved.
- Treasurer's Report: Jeff Collopy (not present) no report
- Newsletter Report: Steve Lech asked for any suggestions. Please send pictures of events to Steve.
- Sunshine Report: Barry O'Conner is having surgery
- Directory Report: Nancy Nelson and Jim and Kathleen Treadwell have new addresses. Debby will print roster additions and Steve will email the addresses to members
- Tour Director: Marlin Brandt
  - Discussion of future events. Sign in sheets were provided for Southern CA Railroad Museum, June 15; Tech Seminar, June 22 - installation of electronic ignitions at Doug Diller's; Club Picnic at Hunter Hobby Park, July 14; club breakfast at Corky's in Perris, August 3; Tech seminar August 10; Norton Air Force Base Museum, August 24.
- Car Show Update: Steve Lech - Steve has flyers and sign up sheets ready for all shifts. Rick needs more trophy toppers.
- Merchandise Report: Carole Bromley - no report

## Presentation:

- Richard Bronstrup from Paradise Valley Model A club made a presentation about the Model A transmission. He brought a display cutaway model and shifter tower. He provided handouts with visuals of the transmission in each gear and demonstrated on the model. He discussed leaks in the bell housing, double clutching, and fitting the gaskets.

## Old/New Business:

- Doug made the suggestion that we have more than one moderator for the Facebook page. If anyone is interested, please contact Doug or Barry.

## Opportunities

- Model A Driver: Marlin Brandt
- Name Tag: no winner
- Opportunity Drawing: Jim Pester
- Refreshments provided by Carillo and Mendez
- Meeting Adjourned @ 7:28



# Vintage Car Show Approaching!

## October 26 Riverside Elk's Lodge

### SPREAD THE WORD!!

We need EVERYONE (that means you too) to spread the word about the Vintage Car Show!

If you are going to another club's meeting, or a car show, please consider taking some fliers with you and handing them out. **If you need fliers, please contact Steve Lech at [rivcokid@gmail.com](mailto:rivcokid@gmail.com).**

Let's ALL make this a successful event for the Orange Blossom Model A Club!!

Please use the flier on the next page to register, or give it to someone who needs one!!





**Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Show Car Check-in: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  
 Show Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
 Riverside Elks' Lodge  
 6166 Brockton Ave., Riverside CA

**JUDGING & TROPHIES**  
**50-50 Opportunity Drawings**  
**Food Available for Purchase**  
 Show is Free to Spectators!



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- **1900 – 1959 VINTAGE STOCK AND SLIGHTLY MODIFIED vehicles**  
 (Sorry - NO hot rods, muscle cars or race cars)
- REGISTRATION FEE received before Oct. 12 - \$40 per show car (incl FREE show T-Shirt)
- REGISTRATION FEE after OCT. 12 & DAY OF SHOW - \$45 per show car (Buy show T-Shirt While They Last)
- For more info & map: <https://obamodela.wixsite.com/riverside>

**PRE-REGISTRATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN October 12, 2024**

PRINT CLEARLY – ONE CAR PER FORM – Confirmation will only be emailed

✂ -----  
**Mail form to:** Riverside Orange Blossom A's – 2233 Karendale Circle, Riverside CA 92506  
**Enclose Check or Money Orders payable to:** Riverside Orange Blossom A's

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Car Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size (circle only one) S M L XL XXL XXXL      Trailering show car?  YES    NO (trailer parking is not guaranteed)

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**TERMS:** The show organizers ("organizers") reserve the right to choose and adjust car classes and awards. Cars will be placed in classes by the organizers based on their model year and/or other class requirements. Trophies and awards will be announced at approximately 1:00pm. Winners must be present at announcement to win. Organizers reserve the right to refuse registration for vehicles that do not meet the show car classification requirements. All such mail registrations will be returned. There will be 50-50 opportunity drawings throughout the day and the winner will claim 50% of the opportunity donations collected for the event. The opportunity drawings will occur approximately on each hour from 10:00 – 1:00 pm. The winner must be present at announcement to win.

In consideration for accepting my entry to this car show, I the undersigned, intending to legally bind myself and my heirs, executors, administrators, next of kin and assignees, do hereby waive any and all rights and claims against any person, persons, and/or organizations affiliated with the Orange Blossom Vintage Car Show. I agree to indemnify, save and hold harmless, the Riverside/Corona Orange Blossom A Ford Model A Club, Riverside Elks Lodge, Model A Ford Club of America, any and all other related sponsors and organizations from any claims, actions, damages, liability and expenses, including but not limited to attorney fees on account of injury to my person/property, or results in death, while observing, or participating in any way in this car show including travel to and from this event. This registration form must be signed above as part of the registration to be accepted.



# Our Sponsors

Thank you to Marie Fritts and Fritts Ford as our major club sponsor



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## Your OBA Newsletter Editorial Staff:

Meet my two assistants - Ida Noe and Jenny Sequá. They are traveling in their Model A and want to hear from you! Do you have information for the OBA newsletter? Ideas? Comments? Concerns? Just e-mail us!

[rivcokid@gmail.com](mailto:rivcokid@gmail.com)



# Items needed



We need a second person/family to help with refreshments for the October meeting. If you can assist, please let Doug Diller know at: [OBAModelA@gmail.com](mailto:OBAModelA@gmail.com)

## Trophy Toppers

Trophy guru Rick Perez needs used vintage auto parts for trophy toppers. Brass-era stuff is especially needed. Any small Model A or other vintage auto parts, working or not, and used for trophy toppers. If you have some stuff lying around and want to give them to a good cause instead of just tossing them, please let Rick know at: [OBAModelA@gmail.com](mailto:OBAModelA@gmail.com))



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## Model A Ford Club of America Riverside / Corona Orange Blossom A's Chapter



The **Riverside – Corona Orange Blossom A's** is a chapter of the **Model A Ford Club of America, Inc. (MAFCA)**. Visit our website at: [www.obamodela.wixsite.com/riverside](http://www.obamodela.wixsite.com/riverside)

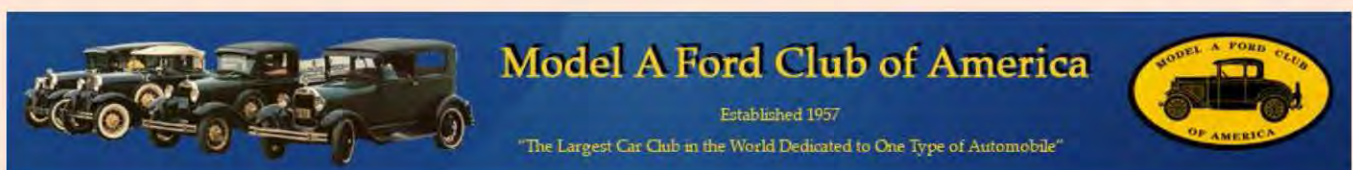
MAFCA is the largest automobile club in the world dedicated to one make of automobile. We are also a historical society dedicated to the restoration, preservation, and enjoyment of Model A Ford vehicles as manufactured from 1928 through 1931. Our chapter operates as a California not-for-profit corporation and Federal IRS 501c4 non-profit organization.

**Model A Ford Club of America, (MAFCA)** membership is separate from our club. Benefits include:

- The Restorer Magazine (6 issues per year)
- Technical Support (free via email)
- National Meetings, Tours, and Banquets
- A host of vehicle-specific publications such as restoration & judging guidelines and paint and finish guides. See more at [www.mafca.com](http://www.mafca.com)

As a chapter member of the **Orange A's** your additional benefits include:

- General membership meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month except December. Special off-site meetings are scheduled in July and August. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m. and are held at the Fritts Ford Fleet building (second floor), 7990 Auto Center Drive, Riverside CA.
- Member name badge
- There is no obligation to visit a meeting and decide if you want to join. Membership does not require the ownership of a Ford Model A. Our club has an active calendar of events including monthly driving tours, community awareness events, parades, drive-n-dines, and technical/mechanical workshops.





# JOIN TODAY

## General Membership Requirements

You are a member of the national Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA). Join online at: [www.mafca.com](http://www.mafca.com)

Complete this application and turn it in along with your annual (January through December) club membership dues to the Chapter Treasurer during any meeting.

**CHOOSE ONE:**     **ONE member only \$20.00**     **Member and spouse \$25.00**

Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the information below for each paid member

|   | Primary Member       | Secondary Member (Spouse) |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------|
| First Name                                |                      |                           |
| Last Name                                 |                      |                           |
| Birth Date<br>(mm/dd/yy)                  |                      |                           |
| Wedding Anniversary<br>(mm/dd/yy)         |                      |                           |
| Address                                   |                      |                           |
| City, State, Zip Code                     |                      |                           |
| Home Phone                                | (    ) _____ - _____ |                           |
| Cell Phone                                | (    ) _____ - _____ | (    ) _____ - _____      |
| Email address                             |                      |                           |
| Children at home –<br>Names               |                      |                           |
| Model A Car<br>(year, make, model)        |                      |                           |
| Other Antique Cars<br>(year, make, model) |                      |                           |

You are not required to actually own a Model A in order to become a member. All you need is an interest and desire to join with other who have the same interest. The Orange Blossom A's is an IRS 501c4, CA Non-Profit Benefits Corporation chapter of the Ford Model A Club of America. By signing below you understand and agree the By-Laws of our organization. A copy of the By-Laws is available for viewing from the Club Treasurer or any officer. You also agree to be responsible to maintain personal auto liability and physical damage insurance on any auto that you own and that participates in any club activities. You also agree that the club, its members and officers are not liable in any way for claims or losses incurred by you when participating in club activities.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

Member #1 Signature

Member #2 Signature



**Upcoming Meeting Dates to Remember!**

**July - August = No Meeting**

**September 4, 2024 = Regular Monthly Meeting - Fritts Ford**

**October 2, 2024 = Regular Monthly Meeting - Fritts Ford**

**October 26 - VINTAGE CAR SHOW!!**

Orange Blossom Model A Ford Club

P. O. Box 20792

Riverside, CA 92516