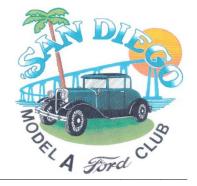


## San Diego Model A Ford Club Inc.

Dedicated to the memory of Valarie Basham

P.O. BOX 19805 SAN DIEGO, CA. 92159



DECEMBER 2024

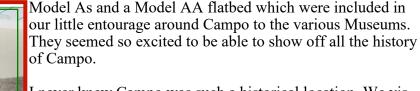
#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Guy McElroy

Happy December to all you Model A Ford enthusiasts. We had a couple of very nice outings in November: Ron Neimeyer got us into the Veteran's Day Parade and the Kelsens coordinated a special trip to the Campo Motor Transport Museum which I'm going to talk about.

We had a good turnout for the tour, there were five model A's: The McElroys, Victor Figueroa and Rod Tuttle, the Svellings with Steve and Elizabeth (friends and potential new members), the Johnsons and the Taravellas. There were about the same amount of modern cars, Ed Poffenberger, the Kaisers, the Beardslees, the Kelsens, and Gloria Figueroa. The trip east to Campo was outstanding,

Judith and I were the lead Model A. The further east we went the cooler it got. We had planned for it and had a few layers on. There were about eight or nine people standing around at the museum when we got there. They were all waiting for us. Brian Elmore (President of the Museum) had a full agenda planned for us. He even had two additional





I never knew Campo was such a historical location. We visited the Motor transport Museum, an off-road vehicle activity park with a flat track where some of our cars got to kick up their heels, the Border Wall, the southern end of the Pacific Crest Hiking trail, the Buffalo Soldier Museum, and lastly The Gaskill Brothers Stone Store Museum.

It was now getting to be lunch time so we went back to the Transportation Museum to Picnic. It was pretty chilly by now with intermittent showers so most people ate inside the Museum building. (Continued on Page 9.)

### **UP-COMING EVENTS: SAVE THESE DATES!**



**DECEMBER:** 

North Park Toyland Parade

8 La Jolla Parade

13 Business Meeting—Santee 7 PM

14 Pacific Beach Parade (Tentative)

JANUARY: 1 New Year's Breakfast

> 7 Board Meeting at The Kelsen's

18 Installation & Awards Banquet—Alpine

The Holiday Issue

## **QUAIL CALL**

Published monthly by San Diego Model A Ford Club All articles submitted for publication should reach the editor before the 25th of each month. All articles become the property of San Diego Model A Ford Club and are subject to corrections or revisions. Permission granted to reprint articles.

We guarantee mistakes in every issue!
You will find past and present issue of the Q.C. on the website

#### **EDITOR**

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### **2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Board meetings are held quarterly: see *Quail Call* for dates and location. All members are welcome to attend, just let the host or hostess know you are coming. Board members must belong to both National Clubs.

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

Membership	Patty Winchester	(619) 504-4508
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Refreshments	Dave Sohr	(858) 449-0117
Cor. Secretary	Kris Francis	(619) 966-9040
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Defender,	Ray Beardslee	(619) 465-9513
Mail-box	Ray Beardslee	(619) 465-9513
So. Ca. Rep.	Ray Beardslee	(619) 465-9513
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Q.C. Editor	Kris Francis	(619) 895-5610

## CLUB MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 19805 SAN DIEGO, CA. 92159

## BUSINESS MEETING HELD THE 2ND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM

Carlton Hills Lutheran Church; 9735 Halberns Blvd., Santee, CA. 92071

The San Diego Model A Ford Club was first founded in 1957 by a few dedicated Model A owners. Our purpose is to help preserve the Model A, which was in production by the Ford Motor Company from 1928-1931. Ownership of a Model A is not a requirement for membership in the club. Membership dues are \$30.00 per calendar year. Membership in one of the National Clubs is mandatory (either MARC or MAFCA) and the responsibility of each member. Contact information to join a National Club is listed below:



#### **Model A Restorers Club**

6721 Merriman Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 (734) 427-9050

E-mail: modelarestorers@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.modelaford.org Dues are \$50.00 per calendar year.

#### **Model A Ford Club of America**

250 S. Cypress Street La Habra, Ca. 90631-5515 (562) 697-2712

E-mail: info@mafca.com Website: www.mafca.com

Dues are \$50.00 per calendar year.





San Diego Model "A" Ford Club

## Installation & Awards Luncheon

January 18, 2025

#### The Alpine Club

- 1830 Alpine Blvd, Alpine
- Drive your "A" <u>Or</u> take the shuttle from El Cajon Target
- Arrive 11:30 AM
- Lunch at 12:30 PM
- Program starting at 1:15
- Model "A" Era or Club attire

#### Grandma's "Sunday Dinner"

- Green Salad
- Roasted Chicken
- Mashed potatoes & gravy
- Farm veggies
- Assorted pies
- Ice tea, Lemonade & Coffee

#### Program Features

- Social Time
- Lunch
- Entertainment
- Installation
- Awards
- Raffle



### Reservations & Payment due by January 4

\$30.00 per person in advance - pay at club meeting or via mail to Kris Francis – Make checks out to SDMAFC

#### SAN DIEGO MODEL A CLUB, INC.

#### General Business Meeting – November 8, 2024

The General Business Meeting of the San Diego Model A Ford Club was called to order by President Guy McElroy at 7:00 PM on November 8, 2024. Guy led the Pledge of Allegiance, then asked if there were any corrections to the October 2024 Minutes as published in the Quail Call. Sherill Kelsen requested to



correct the minutes to reflect that she is not a part of the nominating Committee as reported in the Quail Call. The minutes were approved as corrected. Guy related that Joe Ambrose's Memorial Service was held on October 15th at Ft. Rosecrans. Jim Train drove Joe's car to the service and the Winchesters also attended, driving their A.

<u>Tours</u>: [Dave Kelsen] <u>Past Tours</u>: October 12<sup>th</sup> – Bates Nut Farm Tour was coordinated by the Neimeyers. Linda Neimeyer fabricated a scarecrow for the scarecrow contest which won 4<sup>th</sup> place with a \$75.00 prize. We had 8 A's in attendance along with 2 members from the Palomar Club. <u>Upcoming Tours</u>: November 16<sup>th</sup> – Motor Transport Museum in Campo. Meet at the Dixieline on Avocado, leaving at 10 AM. We will also visit the Buffalo Soldiers Barracks and the Gaskill Store for a behind-the-scenes tour of historic sites in Campo. There will not be a December tour. Dave is asking for ideas for 2025 tours and members to lead 2025 tours.

Parades/Displays: [Ron Niemeyer]. Past Parades: October 26 - Grossmont Post Acute Care Parade - We were invited by the "Old Skoolers" Car Club to participate in this Flood Victim Fundraiser. Approx. 50 cars from various clubs, along with 4 Model A's, had a mini parade in their parking lot, and raised \$900.00 for hurricane flood victims. October 31 - Edgemoor Hospital Display. We had 9 A's; Edgemoor provided coffee, donuts and lunch. November 3<sup>rd</sup> - Fall Back Festival in the Gaslamp Quarter: we did not participate. Future Events November 11<sup>th</sup> - Veteran's Day Parade, downtown San Diego; we are entry #75 out of 84. November 16<sup>th</sup> - Glen Abbey 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; we have been invited to participate from 3 to 5 PM. Meet at Spring Valley Center at 2:15. **December 8<sup>th</sup> – La Jolla Christmas Parade and North Park Toyland Parade**. Ron is waiting for information on both of these parades. **December 14<sup>th</sup> – PB Parade** – has lowered their entry fee, can only have 5 cars. Any interest? We have not applied yet.

<u>Treasurer:</u> [Nayola Bieber] Checking account balance included money deposited in October: \$68.00 from Ways & Means Oct. meeting, \$17.00 for refreshments, \$152.00 Merchandise, \$390.00 Membership, \$25.00 for a QC Advertisement, \$75.00 from Bates Nuts Farm (Scarecrow contest); and \$720.00 for Luncheon tickets, for a total of \$1,2925.00. Bills to pay. Refreshments to Dave Sohr: \$15.46; Quail Cal/Membership Forms & mailing labels printing to Kris Francis: \$56.58; Membership Drawing to Guy McElroy: \$110.00. A motion was made by Kathryn Hughes to pay these bills, seconded by Nancy Lovell; approved by all members. Old Business:

Nomination Committee: Positions that need to be filled are: Membership, Merchandise and Refreshments.

**Installation Banquet**: [Kris Francis] Reminder that the Installation Luncheon is January 18<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up on the clipboards that are requesting members' "Home Town" information, and if they plan on attending the Installation banquet on January 18th. Luncheon is \$30.00/per person and due by January 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### New Business:

Anniversary Road Race - Newal Booth of the Horseless Carriage Club invited us to join on January 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> (date to be confirmed) for the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1915 San Diego Expo Road Race, which runs through Pt. Loma. Event is open to cars 1942 and earlier. Meet at the SD Automotive Museum at 6:30 AM, leaving 9 AM sharp for Pt. Loma. Race begins at 11 AM at Liberty Station. Race route is 3 miles and will be 2 laps. They are anticipating 100 cars for the event. Please submit a reservation. 2024 MAFCA Award was presented to Dave & Kris Francis.

Free MARC Membership – MARC will give a free 1 year membership to our club members who are first time MARC members. This is a \$50.00 value.

**Membership:** [Patti Winchester] 59 members are in attendance tonight, including 2 visitors from the Horseless Carriage Club. **Defender:** [Ray Beardslee] Nothing to Report.

**Refreshments**: [Dave Sohr] Passing a sign-up sheet for future months. Need more for December.

Merchandise: [Julie Halter] Offering a Holiday Mug special. She asked Ray & Judy Jo Beardslee to model their vests as a possible new merchandise item.

Webmaster: [Chris Halter] There were 1,600 visits to our website in October from US, Canada and the Philippines.

Property: [Jim Taber] Nothing to report.

Correspondence: [Kris Francis] Reports submitted to the national publications were about the Air & Space Museum Tour.

Christmas Ornaments – Betsy Johnson brought several boxes of Valarie Basham's Christmas ornaments to share.

<u>Thanksgiving Pies – Zach & Rochelle Svelling brought 36 Costco pumpkin pies for the membership; please take one home!</u> Ways & Means: [Tina Weisenseel] Six raffle items with an Auto Zone gift card for the Door Prize.

Era & Fashions Presentation: [Cliff Hughes] Cliff presented classic TV shows that featured Model As.

**Technical:** [Arlyn Bieber] Showed a video on restoring the 1931 AA Bus at MAFFI.

Membership drawing prize [\$10.00]: Scott & Cathy Piccus' names were drawn but were not in attendance. Next month = \$20.00.

**Entertainment:** Ric Bonnoront shared some jokes.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 PM by Ray Beardslee and seconded by Judith McElroy. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Kris Francis (Recording secretary)



On Saturday, November 16th, Dave & Sherill Kelsen organized the Campo History Tour, which was led by Guy & Judith McElroy. We met at the Rancho San Diego Dixieline and drove Campo Road to Highway 94 East to Campo. Our Tour started at The Motor Transport Museum. Brian Elmore, the President of their Board, planned an awesome Tour of Campo. He arranged with each location to give us a presentation. The first stop was the Equestrian Center that is part of Camp Lockett and was used by the Calvary Buffalo Soldiers from 1864 – WWII. It is now used for racing. Motorcycles, 3-Wheelers, Quads, Go Karts all race there. They stopped their Go Karts and the Model As took the Track for several laps. It was wild competition. The crowd loved it.

ne r that ag. Track

We then took a short drive to the Calvary Museum. It was fascinating to see the artifacts and films on what took place at Camp Lockett. These were dedicated, brave soldiers. Remains of their Horse Stall Barns and Barracks are located throughout Camp Lockett to view.

Next stop was south to the great wall at the Border. An amazing construction feat to be continued soon. A friend of ours explained the pilings are buried 10' deep. We learned we were at the end of The Pacific Rim Trail from Canada. Some hikers had just arrived at the Wall all the way from the Canadian Border. They said it took them 4 months to make their way from the Canadian Border to the Mexican Border. (*See photo right*)

Our next stop was to the Gaskill Brothers Stone Store Museum built in 1885. It is an incredible structure fortified for battle with outlaws. The stone walls are 4' thick. Inside, was a stone-carved cave you could walk into which was used to keep cold storage for food. Many neat artifacts, photos, and information were on display to show life in the past, in Campo.



After all the touring, we drove back to The Motor Transport Museum for a picnic lunch. The weather was cold and windy with rain heading our way. Tables and chairs were setup in the building; however, some members sat outside at the breezy tables. After lunch, the Docents showed us around and we learned about the Felspar Mill that still stands ~ which The Motor Transport Museum occupies. We cannot thank Brian Elmore enough for helping us have a great Tour. Please note three Model As from Campo went on our Tour and raced around the Track, including a

AA Flatbed that belongs to The Motor Transport Museum. (Photos to left and below)

Mileage goes to: Victor & Gloria Figueroa with Rod Tuttle, Tim & Theresa Johnson, Guy & Judith McElroy, Zachary & Rochelle Svelling (brought friends Steve & Elizabeth), Ben & Nina Taravella.

Participation Points: Ray &

Judy Jo Beardslee, Ahna Holder & Ryan Smith (in the vintage Mustang), Larry & Carolyn Kaiser, Dave & Sherill Kelsen and Ed Poffenberger.

<u>Upcoming Tours</u>: In December, we don't have a Tour due to the busyness of the Holidays. On January 18, 2025, the Annual Installation and Awards Luncheon is scheduled. For February, it was suggested to return to Hawk Watch Wildlife Research Institute in Ramona. We **NEED** someone to step up and coordinate leading this Tour in February. The Institute only offers the demonstrations in the months of January and February, each Saturday. We could plan to go either February 1st, 8th, or 15<sup>th</sup>.



Thank you for all of your participation in 2024 and shared ideas for Tours in 2025. Please consider leading a Tour in 2025 by calling or emailing Sherill Kelsen @ (619) 997-0598. The Sign-Up Clipboard will be available at the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **Dashing December!**

#### Looking back out the rear window:

**Thursday October 31 - Edgemoor** skilled nursing Car display. The facility was decked out with festive Halloween decorations, games, music, donuts coffee and even lunch! The club decorated their cars and several of us dawned costumes and joined in the fun. Fred Crone and Ahna's father twinned as vampires. The residents truly enjoyed the activities and the cars.



Those in attendance were: Ron and Linda Niemeyer (and 2 grandsons), Ross and Sue Piper, Ahna Holder and her parents, Zachary and Rochelle Svelling, Stan Boyer, Dave Francis, Ben Taravella, Fred Crone, and Patty and Paul Winchester.



**Monday November 11 - Veterans Day Parade**. East county mem-

bers met at Target in El Cajon and headed west to Mission Valley. We intercepted the remaining participants, the Svellings and their friends who arrived in their modern due to exhaust issues with their A. Here we also picked up Ahna Holder and her parents and shuffled the Svellings and their friends into both the Niemeyer's Phaeton and Halter's Roadster.

Those in attendance were: Ross and Sue Piper, Fred Crone, Guy and Judith McElroy, Chris and Juile Halter, Ahna Holder and parents, Dave Francis, Ron Niemeyer, Zachary and Rochelle Svelling.

#### Looking forward out the windshield A-head

#### **Tentative on December 8** are 2

events: North Park Toyland Parade and the La Jolla Christmas Parade.

**Saturday December 14** Pacific Beach Christmas Parade. As of this writing I have not been notified by organizers with details regarding above events.



It has been a fun-filled year of parades and displays and has been a pleasure organizing these events for the club.

Looking forward to 2025. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Reprinted from the Model A Ford Club of Long Island, Rumble Sheet newsletter.

# FORD SERVICE BULLETIN

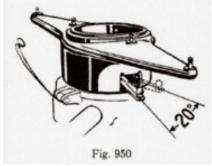
## FROM THE DESK OF WAYNE DUPREZ Service Information



#### PLATE LEVER NOTCH IN DISTRIBUTOR BODY MUST NOT BE ALTERED.

Several instances have been reported of dealers increasing the width of the plate lever notch in the distributor body

in endeavoring to increase the travel of the plate lever. This is exceedingly poor practice and must be discontinued at once.



The plate lever notch in the distributor body is accurately machined to permit the lever to travel 20 degrees from the fully retarded to the fully advanced spark lever position. See Fig. 950. When the width of the notch is increased it permits the lever to travel beyond the recommended 20 degree range and this of course affects timing.

Before timing an engine, always check the travel of the plate lever. This can be easily done by

fully retarding the spark lever on the steering gear quadrant then noting whether the plate lever is touching against the side of the notch. Next pull the spark lever all the way down on the quadrant to the fully advanced position and see if the plate lever is touching the opposite side of the notch. If the plate lever does not make the full 20 degree travel, disconnect the spark control rod (see Fig 951) and slightly bend the control rod (see Fig 952) until the plate lever touches one

side of the notch in distributor body when spark lever is fully advanced and touches opposite side when lever is fully retarded. Do not under any circumstances attempt to

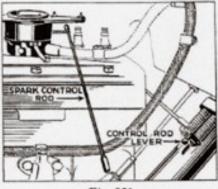


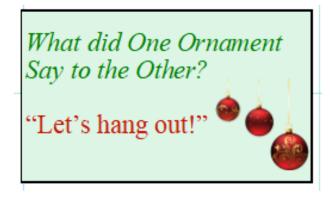
Fig. 951

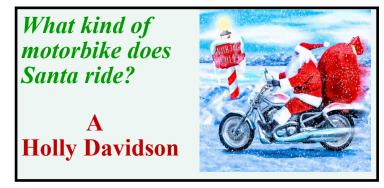
correct this condition by increasing the width of notch in distributor body.



Fig. 952

After checking travel of plate lever, proceed with timing operation in usual way. When the timing operation is completed the travel of the lever should again be checked. When timing ignition do not remove the distributor body. Inasmuch as there has been some misunderstanding on the part of mechanics please make correct travel of plate lever a part of your regular inspection.





## CHRISTMAS IN THE MODEL A ERA

The 1920s ushered in significant changes in American life. Most Americans acquired their first radios and automobiles and achieved the highest standard of living in the nation's history. The celebration of Christmas changed as well. President Calvin Coolidge celebrated with the first national Christmas tree in the White House. He lit the sixty-foot fir in an impressive ceremony in 1923.

In 1931, John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s 14-building Rockefeller Center complex (it was the largest private building pro-

ject ever undertaken at the time) was one year into construction. On Christmas Eve, 1931, at the height of the Great Depression, workers at the Rockefeller Center construction site decided to pool their money together to buy a Christmas tree to lift their spirits. It was a 20-foot balsam fir that they decorated with handmade garland and strings of cranberries from their families. The men lined up at the tree to receive their paychecks

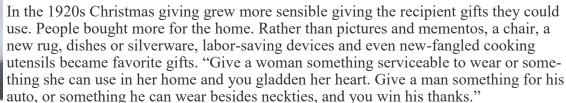
One innovation that became popular during this era was the artificial tree. Feather trees became widely

used, especially in the UK. These were trees with green-dyed goose feathers arranged into pine needles and attached to wire branches. These branch arrangements

The first Rockefeller Center Christmas tree: - 1931

were then attached to a central dowel for a trunk. Department stores sold these modern decorative trees in a range of color and size options, including trees anywhere from two to 98 inches tall.

Perhaps the most notable trend to emerge during the 20s was that of electric lights for the tree. Prior to this period, candles were still widely used to light the Christmas tree. Although these lights would not be extensively used in average households until 1930, the 20s saw increased use not only in households but by big businesses in their holiday displays.





#### A Christmas Budget in the 1920s purchased such items as:

A Persian rug: \$40.00—Winter overcoat: \$18.50—Fountain pen: \$2.50—Silk hat: \$7.50—RCA Radiola: \$115.00 RCA Radiola with loudspeaker: \$150.00—One-pound box of chocolates: \$6.50—Ladies' silk umbrella: \$10.00 Toy tool chest: \$1.55— Juvenile model bicycle: \$48.75—Girls' ice skates: \$5.00—Beautiful jointed doll with wig, dress, shoes, and stockings: \$1.95—Victrola brand phonograph: \$99.80.

Other popular gifts included: Handkerchiefs; pencils, cigarettes, cocktails, Dance Frocks, Men's electric shaver, vacuum cleaner, banjos & Ukuleles. (My Mom received a Uke as a Christmas gift in 1928 – her only gift!)

#### President's Report, Continued from page 1..

Judith and I being the brave souls that we are, decided to eat at the outdoor covered picnic tables with the Beardslees. As we were eating I overheard a little bit of Judy Jo's story about her grandfather James Pearson. I'm going to let you read it in her own words:

James Pearson's Mack Truck – "James and his son George went down to the San Diego Train Depot (in 1911) to see the Mack trucks that came in, only about 6 or 8 of them, from Los Angeles. A lot of people showed up to get one. Because so many people wanted one, they decide to auction them off. James came home with one. He used it for a business proposition, to transport anything for the public around San Diego County, he lived at 63<sup>rd</sup> and El Cajon. James' son, George, the son that went



with him to get the truck, borrowed it to help build the Barrett Dam in 1919, hauling

cement and dynamite.



I read an article in Ray's magazine, called "Farm Show" about the trucks at the Truck Museum. One sentence said "Trucks include the original Bulldog Mac Dump Truck used in the building of Hoover Dam, a 1926 dually chain drive Mack". I thought I'd take my photos of the truck with our family and see if anyone would have any information on this truck. I showed Brian, who runs the Truck Museum, and he recognized the truck! He

even had a picture of the truck and the shape it was in when they got it at the Museum. It was bought by a guy named Greg Nuss, who did the restoration on it. It's now at the "Iowa 80 Trucking Museum". Written by Judy Jo Beardslee

The Beardlees are planning to swing by the Iowa 80 Trucking Museum on their next road trip to Detroit. Needless to say, they were very happy to find out what happened to her grandfather's truck. I have attached pictures of the truck, one with her family members in it (*On the front page*) and one that shows the beautiful restoration (*above*). I expect soon there will be a picture with Judy Jo behind the wheel for us all to see.

### Photos from Ron Engen's Service November 6th at Glen Abbey, Bonita





#### **PUMPKIN PIES!**

Thanks to Zach & Rochelle Svelling who gifted club members with Thanksgiving Pumpkin Pies



at the November club meeting. According to Zack, gifting homemade pumpkin pies to family & friends is a family tradition handed down from his mother. Last year they hand delivered Costco pies to members' homes throughout the county. This year, those in attendance at the November meeting got to take home a pie.



(5) 16" Kelsey-Hayes Wheels. True & rust-free \$500.00

1928-29 Radiator Stoneguard,

All stainless \$150.00

Contact Dave Kelsen at (619) 772-2625 or kelsens@hotmail.com for more info

### 0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

## On the Back Page:



## "Christmas Gift Visit"

From the book, <u>Advertising the Model A Ford</u>, we snipped the artwork and information from the advertisement titled "Christmas Gift Visit".

"A mother and daughter stop to drop off Christmas gifts at a friend's home. As the maid answers the door, the daughter hides a present behind her back. Given the number of gifts remaining in the Ford Coupe, more deliveries will be made on this holiday excursion." This ad was published in 20 different magazines in December 1930.

#### **REFESHMENTS:** Dave Sohr

Snacks for the December 13th Meeting will be provided by:

Judy Jo Beardslee
Linda Neimeyer
Kris Francis
Jane Hatfield
Judith McElroy



## December Birthdays

- 1 Robin Roland
- 2 Carolyn Kaiser
- 3 Linda Sawyer
- 9 Jane Hatfield
- 10 Jerry McCawley
- 12 Phil Kowalewski
- 13 Ed Poffenberger
- 14 Ross Piper
- 15 Joe Valentino
- 16 Karen Lazar
- 20 Ray Beardslee
- 22 Pam Drilling
- 23 Tim Johnson Greg Drilling



## **December Anniversaries**

Dec. 2, 1966 Clyde & Kathy Marion Dec. 15, 1972 Bill & Sue Hansen

Dec. 17, 1967 Ron & Joyce Peterson

Dec. 27, 1985 Greg & Pam Drilling

Dec. 28, 1995 Phil & Naomi Kowalewski Dec. 30, 1962 Arlyn & Nayola Bieber



#### MEMBERSHIP DRAWING

ing and the next winner could be YOU!

The November Membership Drawing was \$10.00. Scott & Cathy Piccus' names were drawn. Unfortunately they were not at the meeting, so in December the pot increases to \$20.00. Be sure to attend our October meet-

10

## Bill Hansen's

Model A Ford Service & Repair Proudly using KR Wilson Tools for Dealership Quality



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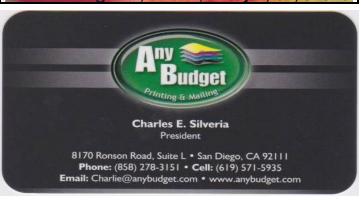
**Complete Rebuilding of:** Engine, Transmission, Clutch, Rear end, Front End, Steering Box & Brakes.

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Brass Gas Gauge Float





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1928 **Ford** 1931

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