



THE REFLECTOR

Newsletter of the Palomar Model A Ford Club
June, 2025 : Volume 53, Number 6

MAY EVENTS

When they say "The Granddaddy of Them All" they supposedly refer to the Rose Bowl Game, but I'd say it's the Fallbrook car show. It's older than the group that runs it even knows. They say that this is the 58th and that it's occurred annually *on Memorial Day* since 1965. While that's true, it started in November of 1961.

In looking things up for verification, I found that the longest running show *in one place* that contains antique cars is the *Grand National Roadster Show* up in Oakland founded in 1950. It was followed the next year by the longest running show, in one place that *only includes antique cars*, the *Old Car Festival* in Dearborn at the Henry Ford.

However, the longest continuously running antique car show hosted in multiple locations by multiple hosts, that started with a combination of new & old cars is the *Antique Car Show*, started in 1931 by the Philadelphia Automobile Trade Association. After five annual meets, the car owners organized the Antique Automobile Club of America and have been continuing their annual car convention every year since. In 2026 it will be in Chantilly, Virginia.

It was fun. I saw friends, none from the club except for Rick Spinello. The rest from Temecula Valley and the Palomar College Auto program, but they count.

There were 14 members at the Start Fresh Café in Oceanside, recommended by Ed Simpson. All considered it a winner. Pictured in front is new member Russell Parks. His info will be included in the 2025 directory that should come out soon-ish.



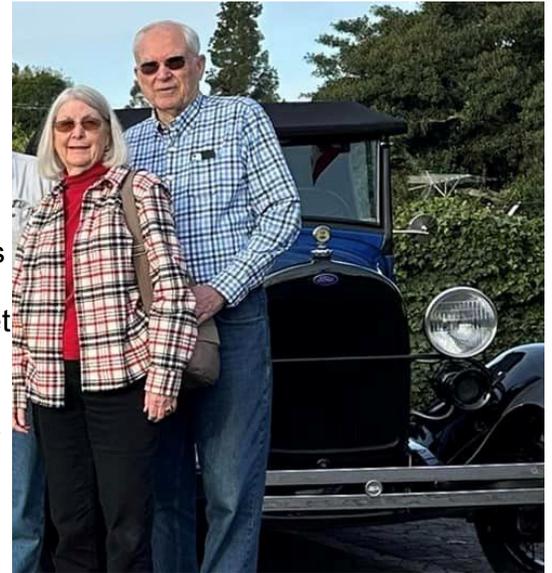
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you remember from last months newsletter and discussed at the monthly meeting the Escondido Cruising Grand event is starting back up on June 13th. I have been trying to get in touch with the organizer Steve Waldron but he has been difficult to contact and his mailbox is always full. A local restaurant Sunny Side Kitchen was another lead since the owner Bob Carpenter is President of the downtown Business Association. We were waiting to hear back from Bob when on Sunday we walked the Street Fair on Grand Avenue when we found Bob's wife Kate sitting at an information table eating one of her breakfast paninis. Long story short we explained our affiliation with the Palomar Model A club and on Monday we heard from Waldron. The date is June 27th with the theme Ford T's, A's and V-8. I assume that means flat head. So my request to all you that would like to show off your car and just enjoy a warm summer night get together come on down to Escondido. At our next meeting we can get a head count and perhaps contact some of the folks from Temecula that might join us. BTW Sunny Side Kitchen is a very good restaurant with extremely high YELP ratings. Open for breakfast and lunch only.



On a second car show topic I have been contacted by my High School reunion committee that they are planning a Car Show at Mount Miguel HS in Spring Valley in late July. The San Diego Model A club will be probably be a strong participant since my brother-in-law Guy McElroy is the President and a graduate of the class of '64. A bit of a long drive but it would be a good chance to fraternize with other A owners. They are sending me the flyer.

Finally, I spotted a Model A being parked off Citrus Avenue at Idaho here in Escondido the other day. Since other vehicles at this house are for sale I stopped to talk with the owner. It's listed on Facebook market place and is a 1930 sport coupe. Not in the best condition but apparently is runs (the body work is a little rough). It was bought at an auction and he is asking \$6000. Anyone need a new project?

Question of the day - How do you keep your Model A from being stolen? Leave the keys in it, nobody under the age of 80 knows how to drive it.

Bruce

ZIPPERS IN BEACH WEAR

In 2005, the Era Fashion Committee members extensively researched the use of zippers during the Model A era. What was being called the new "slide fastener" during this time was a larger toothed, heavier metal construction than what we think of as zippers today. The EFC was able to confirm that these new "slide fasteners" were used in heavier duty items such as handbags, coin purses, tobacco bags, boots, sports-wear, overalls, flight suits, sleeping bags, and even some children's leggings. They also suspected that those garments that were heavier duty such as jackets or military gear may have utilized the new fastener. However, they were not able to confirm the use of these fasteners for general use in clothing items such as men's trousers.

Past EFC member and Chairperson Janet Gundlach recently found a copy of a Vogue Dressmaking

magazine dated May -June 1931. Each page inside has detailed descriptions of how to make an outfit. What caught her eye was that on one of the pages is a description of Beach Pajamas that suggest using the "Talon Slide Fastener" as an alternative to the usual snaps in the side placket.



We are always excited when new direct documentation is found regarding Model A era fashions! If you come across something like this, please forward it to us at fashions@mafca.com.

MAY MINUTES

Meeting of the Palomar A's was called to order by President Bruce Furbush at 7:05 PM with 19 in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Bruce Furbush.

A motion was made by Anthony Lugo to approve the minutes of the April meeting as published in the Reflector, and seconded by Mark Greenlee. Motion passed by those in attendance.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Adams reported outstanding bills to PrintPro plus donations to Non Profit locations where tour events were held. Motion to approve the report and pay the bills was made by Karyn Frazee and seconded by Irene DeAmbrogio. Motion passed by those in attendance.

Sunshine & Sorrow – Greg Wilson was absent due to illness. Chuck Grabowsky announced his Model A now runs. Next on the agenda is to get the turn signals working. Bill Adams is going to be a first-time grandfather in October. Donna Lugo and the ukelele group will be giving a musical presentation at the Encinitas Library on June 4 at noon.

Breakfast Get Together – The gathering for May is the Start Fresh Café, 1034 S. Coast Highway, Oceanside, 9:00 AM. As always, gather around 8:45 for the 9AM seating

The next breakfast will be June 18 at J&M Family Restaurant, 1215 E Valley Pkwy, Escondido. Arrive early for the 9:00 AM seating.

Short Tours / Long Tours – David Frazee brought us up to speed, so to speak, regarding the upcoming listings that are in the Calendar of Events shown in the Reflector each month. There was discussion of getting together with the SoCal Regional group in the fall to close the season. There was also discussion of organizing a long tour and members agreed a tour along the Pacific Coast had the potential of providing the most interest.

Bruce Furbush voiced frustration with lack of information regarding the Escondido Cruisin' Grand schedule. Nothing is shown on their website and numerous phone calls have been left unanswered. We do know June 13 is the first Friday in the schedule. Bruce was hoping to learn if there was going to be a night dedicated to early Fords and Model A's in particular.

Miscellaneous – David Frazee reminded us that the Model A Youth Group offers awards to 14-22 year olds interested in Model A's.. To qualify the participant submits an essay. If chosen, a grant is award-

ed to the youth with funds going towards restoration / preservation of a Model A.

Hospitality – Bill Adams set up the goodies table and got the coffee perking. Donna & Anthony Lugo thanked those that contributed to the snacks. Bruce Furbush & Roseanne Meyerhoff, along with Mark Greenlee and Chuck Grabowsky offered goodies for the June meeting.

Tech Report – Mark Greenlee's presentation was "How to Hot Rod Your Model A." Requirements were to have a 12V system. He offered tips on how to fine tune and upgrade the system for maximum results.

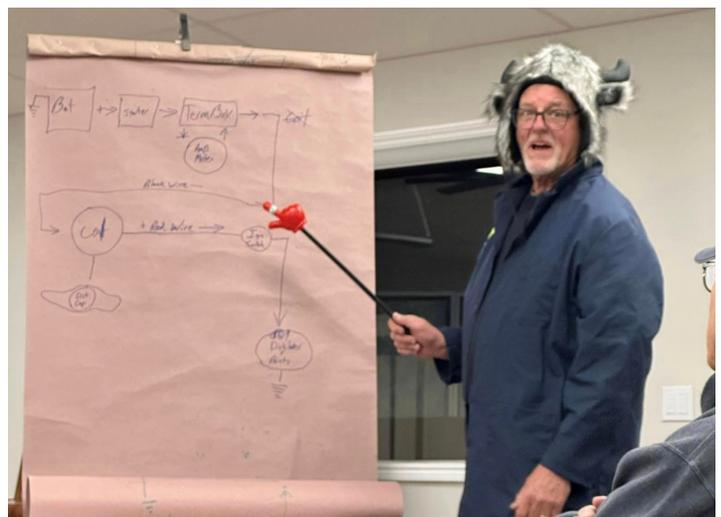
Chuck Grabowsky gave an endorsement for the 2 volume "Tiny Tips" published by the Model A Ford Club of America. Tiny is right. These helpful books can easily be stashed in a tool box and could provide helpful information in the garage or on the road.

The books contain problem solving hacks that have been submitted over the years by readers of "The Restorer." The first volume has almost double the pages of volume 2 plus has the advantage of alphabetical listings.

Entertainment – There was a lively raffle drawing plus Bruce Parker claimed the April Birthday Drawing. Chuck Grabowsky's name was pulled for the May birthday. Irene DeAmbrogio took home the 50/50 prize.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Submitted by Karla Maxwell, Secretary



JUNGLE DRUMS

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREASE MONKEYS

SPECIAL EDITION, JUNE 2025

USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO WRITE ARTICLES FOR ME

OK, I'm lazy, and unwilling to spend energy brainstorming, so I go to Google and first off I wanted to answer the question, "Would Henry Ford have been a Grease Monkey?" After a bit of research, I'd say, "Yes." but not as part of a club. His only membership was as a Freemason. He was generous as a mechanic with friends. There's a story about him camping with Firestone and Edison, the fan of a car breaking and puncturing the radiator, and Ford repairing it himself on the side of the road while dozens of locals watched. End of the story, though.

So, I continued to search including using ("Most Generous Mechanic" "Model A Ford") when I found a story of my presenting the Grease Monkey Award to the San Diego Chapter's Arlyn Bieber. Again though, that's the end of the story.

Finally, I searched Google for ("most generous guy" "auto mechanic" "Model A Ford") and that came up with a story and justification using Google Gemini. Reading who it identifies, I feel fortunate that Bob has already received an award. If AI knows about him, and I didn't, that would have been truly embarrassing.

For fun, in case there is a bias since I've interacted quite a lot with Paul, it would be nice if *you* searched ("most generous guy" "auto mechanic" "Model A Ford") on your computer and see if your computer also suggests Bob Guimarin, or maybe someone else more familiar to you, for instance someone in your own club.

Anyway, this is straight from Google Gemini:

AI Overview:

The "most generous guy" auto mechanic specializing in Ford Model A vehicles is likely referring to Bob Guimarin, who is known as a Model A expert and is generous with his knowledge. He has shared his expertise with others, including Paul Shinn, who runs a YouTube channel focused on Model A Fords.

Elaboration:

Bob Guimarin

Paul Shinn, who runs the "Boomerous Car"

Who we are

The Grease Monkeys are the most active arm of the Fraternal Order of Grease Monkeys, Engineers and Navigators. GMs believe that every broken down vehicle is an opportunity for good times and making new friends. Wanting to tinker and solve puzzles with ever more exotic cars, but lacking the space and money to do so, they are always willing to dirty their hands fixing people's antique automobiles. Known for their generosity, GMs regularly travel with tools and spare parts and they feel most comfortable wearing coveralls.

YouTube channel, frequently features Bob Guimarin, who is known as a Model A expert, in his videos.

Generosity with knowledge

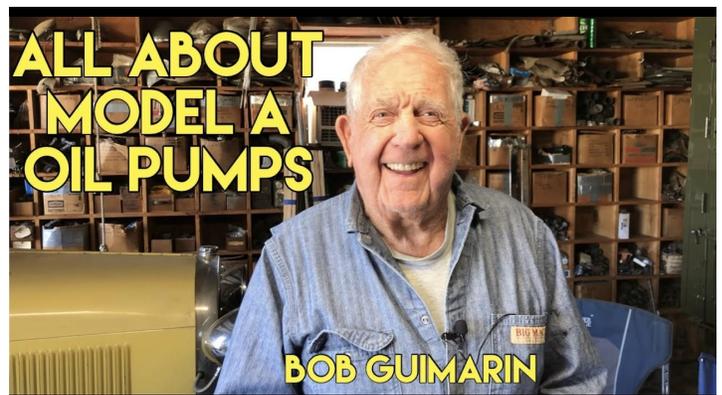
Bob Guimarin has been praised for his generosity in sharing his extensive knowledge of Model A Fords. He is frequently consulted for Model A-related questions and has provided guidance to many enthusiasts.

Model A Ford Expertise

Bob Guimarin's expertise in Model A Fords is well-documented, and he has taught Paul Shinn a significant portion of what he knows about the Model A.

Sharing his knowledge

Paul Shinn has made it a point to share Bob Guimarin's expertise with the wider Model A community through his YouTube channel and other online platforms, according to his posts on Facebook.



AI responses may include mistakes.

Bill Hansen's

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BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------|---------|
| Andy Yancey | 14 June |
| Nancy DiTomaso | 17 June |
| Pam Treserdern | 23 June |
| JoAnn Corditz | 29 June |

ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Craig & Barbara French | 5 June |
| Dave & Arlene Belt | 6 June |
| Russell & Beth Parks | 11 June |
| Anthony & Donna Lugo | 16 June |
| Joe & Peggy Williams | 19 June |

Joke?

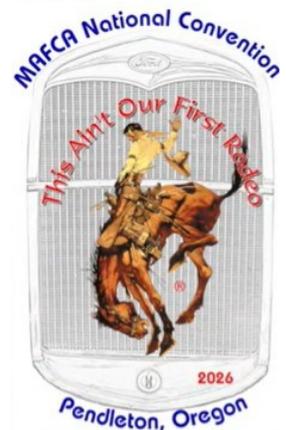
A policeman stops a car on the highway only to see a dog behind the wheel with a man sitting next to him in the passenger seat.

"You can't just let your dog drive your car!" says the policeman.

"I can't really say anything, officer, I'm just a hitchhiker."

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- June 4 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM
- June 14 Veterans Assn of North County 7th Annual Car Show, \$30 early registration for cars—includes pancake breakfast. 1617 Mission Ave., Oceanside 8 AM to 2 PM.
- June 15 - 22 : MAFCA National Tour – AMERICAN CIVIL WAR Waynesboro VA hosted by Dallas Model A Ford Club mafca2025@dmafc.com
- June 18 Breakfast at J&M's 1215 E Valley Pkwy, Escondido 9 AM.
- June 21 All Ford Picnic at Santee Lakes organized by Early Ford V8 Club of San Diego 8:00 to 2:00 619-300-4280. <https://bit.ly/411jVTR> for free registration
- June 27 Escondido Cruisin' Grand. Generally you enter to park on 2nd and Broadway just after 4 PM. Bring a folding chair.
- July 2 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM
- July 16 Breakfast 9:00 AM Time to lobby Greg for your favorite summer restaurant.
- July 17 Encinitas Cruise Night
- July 19 Long Beach Model T Swap Meet
- August 6 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM
- August 17 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance
- September 3 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM
- September 13 International Model A Day and Santa Maria 23rd Annual All Ford Car Show in Old Town Orcutt. This year, the Show is celebrating 70 years of the Ford Thunderbird.
- September 20 Model A Day and Grand Reopening of the expanded Model A Ford Museum in Hickory Corners.
- September 22—October 13 : Route 66 Tour – Chicago to Santa Monica
- October 1 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM
- October 3—5 The Race of Gentlemen on the beach in Wildwood, New Jersey
- October 5—11 SCRG Grand Canyon / Route 66 tour
- November 1 Vintage Car Show sponsored by the Orange Blossom A's at the Riverside Elk's Club
- November 5 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM
- No meeting December 3
- December 3-6 MAFCA National Awards Banquet – Mobile, Alabama
- December 13 Christmas Party at Hunter Restaurant in Oceanside
- January 7 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM
- January 24-25 59th Annual Turlock Swap Meet at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds.
- May 31—June 7 2026 MAFCA National Convention – Pendleton, Oregon



Car Maintenance : 5000 Mile Flush

Bill Reeder's maintenance list in the Nov/Dec 1969 issue of the *Restorer* says at 5000 miles—drain, **flush**, refill transmission and differential.

The Ford *Lubrication Chart* and the *Model A Instruction Book* says "About every 5000 miles the gear lubricant should be drained from the transmission by removing the drain plug at the bottom of the transmission case. The interior of the transmission should then be thoroughly **flushed with kerosene**, and refilled with fresh gear lubricant (600W). The new lubricant is poured into the transmission through the filler hole, located at the right hand side of the transmission case. Pour enough lubricant in until it reaches the level of the filler hole."

Les Andrews in *Model A Ford Mechanics Handbook Vol. 1* says "Gear Lubricant every 5000 miles" which could simply mean to check the level, but I will guess that he means to at least change it. Paul Shinn's video on changing fluids also simply says to change it, and asking him about what liquids to use for flushing, he mentioned old guys using kerosene, but he never does. I took lots of notes at the Steve Mithcell seminar, and he mentioned changing fluid every **3000** miles leading to excellent results, but no one asked about flushing, and he didn't mention it himself.

Google AI explains that flushing is advised for modern automatic transmissions because of the complexity, and not for Model A transmissions because of their simplicity. In YouTube videos, when discussing automatic transmission flushing, it advises using the same ATF the manufacturer advises for the vehicle, not anything foreign like kerosene. The only instances I was able to find of people currently flushing the transmission with kerosene is with the gearshift housing removed and extreme muckiness has been found. Regularly when the fluid is muddy or milky it's hypothesized that the 600W was contaminated by kerosene.

Reading advice on the Ford Barn, one man suggested for a long sitting barn find, to run it a short distance with kerosene. Another advised owners not to ever try flushing the differential as the kerosene could run into the brake drums. I wanted to find someone who advised draining the fluids with a warm engine; Paul Shinn's video came close as he performed the task soon after a drive.

I plan to make it a habit of changing the fluids

regularly and *not* flushing anything with kerosene.

On a side note, while searching for information on flushing transmissions and differentials, I found nothing on that practice in Tom Sieffert's index (MAFCA.com "Members Only" "Restorer Index" searches many different sources besides.) But I did find in the July/August 1974 issue, a story on flushing the crankcase using kerosene. That author's method is to drain the old oil, replace with 4 quarts of kerosene, push the starter a couple of times with the ignition off, drain the kerosene for at least 10 minutes, replace the plug and fill with fresh oil. His advice leaves out what you do with all of that kerosene now, and why you'd want to at every oil change.

While looking up "crankcase flushing" in other sources, I found Ford Barn and others suggesting owners add about a quart of kerosene, diesel, or Marvel Mystery Oil to the oil fill about 20 miles before you want to change the oil, then change normally. An argument here was similar to the argument against flushing an automatic transmission: "Using a solvent will remove sediments from where they sit, and potentially they'll find their way into spaces between moving parts where they'll wear, but things were fine, alone." And, "If you have that much sediment built up over that much time, remove the oil pan and clean the parts with a brush."

The clincher for me is that the procedure for changing the crankcase oil from the Ford *Lubrication Chart* and the *Model A Instruction Book* doesn't even mention flushing the crankcase at the 5000 mile part—and this was during the time of ugly, 40 wt. non-detergent oils. If they didn't suggest it back then, I'm certainly not doing it now.



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Membership is \$20 per year and club information, including a membership application and an archive of past newsletters, is available on www.palomarmodelclub.org

Business Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month, except December, at the Palomar Estates East Clubhouse: 650 S Rancho Santa Fe Rd, in San Marcos at 7:00pm. Check the website, newsletters, or Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/palomarmafca> for future events.

All Model A Ford hobbyists are welcome.

The Reflector is published in Escondido, CA after the 20th of each month.

Palomar Model A Ford Club



May, 2025

THE REFLECTOR

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