



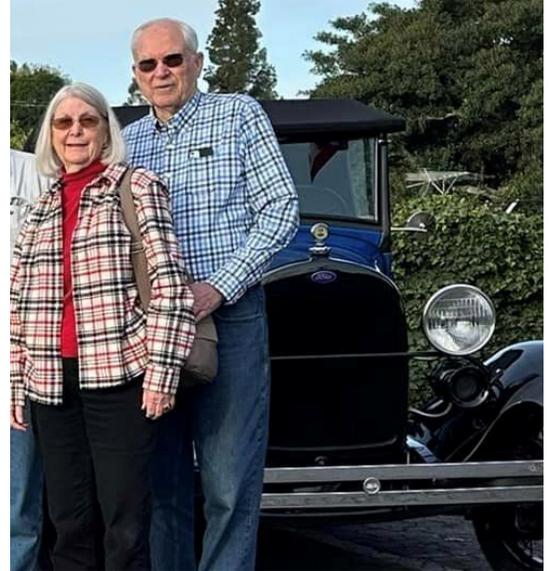
# THE REFLECTOR

Newsletter of the Palomar Model A Ford Club  
September, 2025 : Volume 53, Number 9

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Jeff's Update

My 31 Sport Coupe Jeff made the trip back to San Diego, but it took a little longer than I expected. I contracted with SGT Transport a company that Greg Wilson had used successfully for his 50 Ford. They subcontracted with EZ Haul LLC who picked the car up in Knoxville and within two days we received a text that car was 169 miles away (we think in Yuma) and ready to be delivered. The next text said there was tire damage and the delivery would be delayed. Well the delay was over seven days and the best I can figure is the pickup hauling the three axle car trailer was the problem. The transport crew appeared to be East European or maybe even Russian. Anyway the car finally made it to El Cajon and was dropped off at my bother-in-law Guy's barn. No worst for the trip. The driver never said a word just unloaded Jeff and took his money.



Guy owns three or maybe four Model A's and offered to look over Jeff before driving him. He knew Jeff and his owners, Jeff and Valarie Basham, and was instrumental in my decision to buy a car unseen. It's been two weeks now and I have driven Jeff a couple of times. He is a fantastic car and I couldn't be happier. The one issue is my ability to successfully shift the transmission. Guy gave me a "C" the last time I drove him. The big bonus is all the records that Chandler (Basham's grandson in TN) sent along. For the last thirty years I have every repair or modification done to Jeff. He has been repainted authentic Washington Blue, has a new engine, interior, numerous Hansen services and a Mitchell overdrive installed. Guy has said several times that "I did good" which is a complement he does not give very often. The San Diego club members have been talking with Guy and even waved at us as we drove around El Cajon plus some have visited Jeff in the barn.

The final bonus to this story is at the bottom of the box of records. I found a handwritten page titled Owners of Car. It is a history back to 1963 of the seven owners of Jeff. He was in Oxnard for four years, Mill Creek for one, La Mesa for twenty, El Cajon for one, Bonita for three, the Basham's for thirty, and Tennessee for one.

I have also driven one of Guy's cars with the Mitchell transmission. It is very nice upgrade and I have contacted them to buy one. Unfortunately, they are backlogged 8+ months, but I am determined to give Jeff one more modification to keep him and me happy. - Bruce

## AUGUST MINUTES

The August 6 meeting of the Palomar A's was called to order by President Bruce Furbush at 7:00 PM with 22 in attendance.

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

PREVIOUS MINUTES - A motion was made by Linda Thamer to approve the minutes of the July meeting as published in the Reflector, and seconded by Johannah Leffingwell. Motion passed by those in attendance.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Bill Adams reviewed the bills submitted at the previous meeting.

REFLECTOR  
1605 Hunsaker St.  
Oceanside, CA 92056

Phone: 760-822-9523  
frazeeintree@hotmail.com



## AUGUST MINUTES CONTINUED

**SUNSHINE & SORROW** – Karen Beel was absent due to the passing of her sister. Roseanne Meyerhoff and Bruce Furbush attended the funeral of a high school classmate of Bruce's. The service was held at Shadow Mountain Church which seems to have quite a community presence as well as televised and on-line services. Chuck Grabowsky was awaiting the arrival of a new grandchild. Johanna Leffingwell told the wonderful story of re-connecting with a nephew that had been lost over time due to the divorce of his parents and moving away. The last contact was when the nephew was 5 years old and he is now 61. The nephew's fiancé did an online search that resulted in the call. The Leffingwell's are expecting a visit soon.

### BREAKFAST GET TOGETHER

– Greg Wilson reminded everyone of the next gathering Wednesday, August 20, at the Original Pancake House, 435 S. Melrose Dr., Vista and to arrive by 8:45 for the 9:00 AM seating. Check the 2025 Future Activities printed in the Reflector for additional Breakfast locations and dates.



**MISCELLANEOUS** – Bruce Furbush gave details on the upcoming ice cream social that is being held at Rancho Carlsbad on Camino Hills Drive, Saturday Aug. 16, starting at 2:00 PM.

Bruce also gave an update on the arrival of "Jeff," a 1931 Sports Coupe being transported from Tennessee. Normally Bruce would not purchase a vehicle from such a distance but he had known of "Jeff" when the vehicle was previously in California. There were reservations on having Jeff transported, especially after learning that the transport driver did not speak English. Others offered similar stories of successful cross country experiences. As for the no English – that had been addressed in the past by using the Google Translate app on the phone.

Bill Adams spoke of visiting the National Automobile Museum in Reno, Nevada and gave it a high recommendation. This was originally the Harrah Collection and offers a vast array of vehicles grouped by era or theme.

**SHORT / LONG TOURS** – Not a tour but there was an announcement for the 35th Annual Vista Rod Run Sunday, August 31, a free event. There will be hundreds of classic cars, vintage trucks, and this year, off-road vehicles all parked on the streets of downtown Vista.

David Frazee gave a quick overview of the August 10 Santa Anita A's 50th Anniversary Car Show at Pasadena Elks Lodge, 8:30-11:00 AM. He also offered information on the September 22-October 13 Route 66 Tour – Chicago to Santa Monica and related tour October 5-11 SCRG Grand Canyon / Route 66 tour. He has fliers on the Route 66 tours if interested.

**REFLECTOR REPORT** – David Frazee announced a new Buy/Sell listing to be offered in the Reflector. Give him any details for publication.

**TECH REPORT** – Mark Greenlee shared a wooden jig he had developed to help hold a distributor steady in a vice during refurbishing or reconditioning. He again stated that there are a lot of distributors sitting idle among the group. It would be quite helpful to get them functional so owners could keep an extra in the vehicle "just in case."

Chuck Grabowsky was quite happy to announce that his pickup is now going strong. Last month he expressed frustration that, after a lot of tinkering, the truck could still not make it up his long inclined driveway. Turns out it was the coil. After it was changed the truck now drives like a dream.

Ed Simpson's problem was the wobbly wheels on his pickup. It turned out to be incorrectly installed balance weights on the brake drums. Someone advised he go to Alignment Plus and he was quite glad he did. The mechanic knew exactly what was wrong and fixed the problem for a very reasonable price. Ed is happy that he no longer must drive a "clown car."

**HOSPITALITY** – Donna & Anthony Lugo thanked all that contributed to the treats and refreshments. We had quite a variety.

**ENTERTAINMENT** – David Frazee has taken over organizing the raffles and there was a nice varied selection.

There was no one in attendance with an August birthday so it was switched to an Anniversary Prize which Chuck Grabowsky received. Chuck said August marked his 43-year anniversary.

Bruce Furbush received the 50/50 prize.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by Karla Maxwell, Secretary

# ***FUTURE ACTIVITIES***

- September 3 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM
- September 3 Steve DeAmbrogio's Birthday
- September 11 Greg & Cindy Wilson's Anniversary
- 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 13 John Burrell's Birthday
- September 17 Breakfast Pit Stop, 3825 Mission Ave. O'side 8:45 mtg. 9:00 AM
- September 19 Kim Wright's Birthday
- 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
- September 23 Bruce Furbush's Birthday
- September 27 Paradise Valley Swap Meet, Little League Hdq 6707 Little League Dr. San Bernardino
- 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
- October 15 Breakfast Fallbrook Café 739 E. Mission Rd. 8:45 mtg. 9:00 AM
- 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



Lots of new nametags available at a great price—Free as you already paid for them—attend the next mtg and try them on for size.

Bill Horn is looking for a starter for a 1930. billhorn5@gmail.com

Henry Rivera is looking to hire a mobile mechanic to work on his Model A. He needs a head gasket replaced, carburetor work and other things phone (510) 387-7575

1929 Ford Complete Engine, ran when replaced. Still has original 1952 Bill of Sale \$300  
Also, many rear end parts, brake assembly stuff. These are free. Ed Simpson, 760-439-9103

**HELP WANTED**  
Club Officers needed, some nights and weekends required, work from home available. Feel like you are part of the team. Please contact Bruce Furbush or the Editor

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**Steve & Cyndi Mitchell**  
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1157 Parker St.
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**2025 Board:**

President	<i>Bruce Furbush</i>	760-525-9973	bruce.furbush@cox.net
Secretary	<i>Karla Maxwell</i>	760-941-1966	Karlamaxwell@cox.net
Treasurer	<i>Bill Adams</i>	760-809-4793	badamsavc@yahoo.com
Membership Director	<i>David Frazee</i>	760-822-9523	frazeeintree@hotmail.com
Reflector Editor	<i>David Frazee</i>	760-822-9523	frazeeintree@hotmail.com
Entertainment Chair	<i>Open</i>		
Tour Leader	<i>Open</i>		
Breakfast Coordinator	<i>Greg Wilson</i>	760-525-8993	gcw373@sbcglobal.net
Hospitality	<i>Donna &amp; Anthony Lugo</i>	760-650-5333	donnalugo19@gmail.com
Sunshine & Sorrow	<i>Donna &amp; Anthony Lugo</i>	760-650-5333	theanth6@gmail.com
Pub Relations	<i>Ed Simpson</i>	760-439-9103	
Tech Director	<i>Mark Greenlee</i>	949-584-0699	markgreenlee@roadrunner.com

**Membership** is \$20 per year and club information, including a membership application and an archive of past newsletters, is available on [www.palomarmodelclub.org](http://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 Oceanside, CA after the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

**Palomar Model A Ford Club**

**THE REFLECTOR**

September, 2025

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