

“HORNBLOWER” NEWSLETTER”

September 2025



Happy Honkers Model A Club

Since 1984.....42 Years

2025 OFFICERS

President:

Ray Ramos.....(559) 471-6957

Vice President:

Gary Gallian....(559) 679-3591

Treasurer:

Ofelia Armendarez(559)788-8938

Secretary:

Phil Kneeland...(559) 679-1980

Board Member (Past President)

Louie Armendarez.(559) 786-7796

CLUB CHAIRPERSONS

CCRG Representatives:

David Bockman.. 732-8242

Phil Kneeland.....679-1980

Sunshine:

Vacant

Hospitality

Rosa Ramos....741-5908

Temp. Hornblower Editor:

Phil Kneeland.....679-1980

Meeting Place:

East Meets West Restaurant,
224 N. Kaweah St, Exeter, CA,
Second Thursday @ 5:30pm

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Happy Honkers!

A big thank you to everyone who came out to the Bockman Ice Cream Social! Once again, the Bockmans graciously opened their home and welcomed us under the shade of their beautiful walnut tree. The A&W Root Beer truck was a hit! It was a wonderful afternoon filled with laughter, conversation, and, of course, plenty of root beer floats. Seeing our Model A's lined up together is always pretty special.

Looking ahead, September brings us the Solvang Grand Tour toward the end of the month. This event provides the perfect opportunity to enjoy scenic roads and the charm of Solvang. If you've never made a trip out to Solvang I recommend going and seeing what it has to offer.

Wishing you all safe travels, cool mornings, and happy miles in your Model A's!

Pres....Ray & Lady Rosa




My wife said, “That’s the fourth time you’ve gone for dessert! Doesn’t that embarrass you?”

I replied, “No. I keep telling them it’s for you.”

— Thanks to Script “A” News

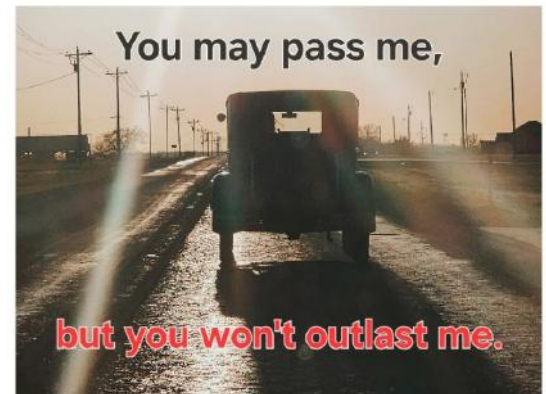
September 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 Every Tuesday Breakfast 6:30am	3	4	5 Tollhouse Fish Fry	6
7 HCCA Meeting	8 Charter Oak Meeting	9	10	11 Happy Honkers MEETING	12	13 Santa Maria Orcutt & Model A Day
14	15 	16	17 	18 	19	20
21	22 	23	24	25	26	27 Caruthers Parade & Fair
28 	29 CCRG Solvang Grand Tour September 29 thru October 3rd					30 

Happy Honkers Minutes

No Minutes in August



It's been a long time since I slammed a phone down good and hard. LOL



I very quietly confided in my best friend that I was having an affair. She turned to me and asked, "Are you having it catered?"

And that, my friend, is the sad definition of "OLD"!

—Thanks to Script "A" News

LADIES CORNER

Cottage Cheese Chips

High Protein, Low Carb and Super Crunchy!

Who knew cottage cheese could turn into crispy, addictive chips? These protein packed bites are perfect for snacking without the guilt—just 2 ingredients and an oven or air fryer!

Ingredients:

1 cup cottage cheese (small curd works best)

Optional: seasonings like garlic powder, paprika, ranch seasoning, or everything bagel seasoning.

Instructions: Preheat your oven to 350 degrees or an air fryer to 325 degrees.

Line a baking sheet or air fryer tray with parchment paper.

Scoop 1-2 tablespoon mounds of cottage cheese onto the Parchment and flatten them slightly into thin circles.

Sprinkle your desired seasonings on top.

Bake for 25-35 minutes or air fry for 12-15 minutes, until golden brown and crisp.

Let cool completely to allow full crispiness before removing from pan.

Light, crunchy and absolutely addictive—perfect solo or with your favorite dip.

Enjoy!

Sunshine Report

Or Clouds!

By ????



I have no report on any illnesses!!!

We have no Sunshine Chairman



*HAPPY September, 2025
Birthday's & Anniversary's*



4 Donna Williams
5 Lorianne Torrez
9 Ben Ennis
15 Linda Kneeland
18 Louie Armendarez
18 Jim Wester
19 Gary Gallian
21 Neil Jaentsch
23 Gordon Oakley
25 Dave Bockman



*No Anniversaries
in September*

“The Hornblower” is the official publication of the Happy Honker A’s. It is published once a month for the enjoyment of the members. Have all articles in for publication by the 20th of each month. Please submit articles to the Happy Honker A’s, c/o Phil Kneeland, 3801 W. Country Ave, Visalia, CA 93277– email: lindannphil@sbcglobal.net- (559) 679-1980.

The Happy Honker A’s is a chapter member of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA). Although membership to MAFCA is not required, it is encouraged. The monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at

The East Meets West Restaurant, Exeter, CA. We thank the various clubs for the use of the many articles, jokes, fashion, and technical advice.





MEN'S FASHIONS & Humor

1931 Men's Era Fashions

[1931] 35

YOU MUST HAVE A PAIR OF SPORTS TROUSERS



Right Up to Date!

You need white twill trousers for tennis, the beach, and all sorts of summer occasions. The slant pockets, wide waist band, set-down belt loops, and 22-inch cuff bottoms are right up to the minute, as are the flaps on the two back pockets. The cotton twill is heavy 8-ounce and PRE-SHRUNK! SIZES—28 to 36 inches waist and 28 to 34 inches inseam. State measurements.

45E7673—High Quality White Twill Trousers. Postpaid..... **\$1.75**

Flannels Are Style

Style critics agree that plain tan and gray flannel trousers are fast replacing knickerbockers for sport wear. These are of high quality all wool flannel and are cut with the up to date slant pockets and twenty-inch bottoms. Others will ask \$6 or \$7 a pair for this quality! SIZES—28 to 36 inches waist and 28 to 34 inches inseam. State measurements.

45E7641—Plain Light Tan All Wool Flannel. Postpaid..... **\$3.98**
45E7642—Plain Light Gray All Wool Flannel. Postpaid..... **\$3.98**



Genuine Palm Beach

In case of heat—keep cool!—You know—Genuine Palm Beach—cool, dry, comfortable, and washable. The tropical weavels are over-constructed, and very light and cool—A hard finished cloth that keeps a crease well. SIZES—28 to 42 inches waist, and 28 to 34 inches inseam. State measurements.

45E7563—Medium Dark Gray Striped Genuine Palm Beach. Postpaid..... **\$3.75**
45E7564—Light Gray Striped Tropical Weavels. Postpaid..... **\$2.85**
45E7565—Medium Tan Striped Tropical Weavels. Postpaid..... **\$2.85**

Pre-Shrunk White Duck or Linen

No wonder we lead the field! And now—PRE-SHRUNK! Order the size you need, and it will stay that size no matter how often you wash it! Flaps on two hip pockets. Made from the very regular dress trousers. SIZES—28 to 42 inches waist and 28 to 34 inches inseam. State measurements.

45E7562—Standard Quality White Duck. Postpaid..... **\$1.19**
45E7565—Higher Quality Heavyweight White Duck. Postpaid..... **\$1.49**
45E7523—Genuine White Linen. Postpaid..... **\$2.25**

For the Good Old Summertime
YES!
THEY'RE COOL!



Stylish Summer Combination

(Sold Separately)

Here is the combination you can't beat for sports wear or for the most dressed up summer occasion! The handsome, well-tailored, ten or blue sport jacket is made of fine quality all wool flannel, is lined for comfort. The three patch pockets and the four patch pockets in back give it just the swagger that summer style demands. The trousers are carefully tailored of fine quality all wool white serge with fancy neat black stripes. The stripes are beautiful, and pure worsted means long wear and shape-keeping qualities. You can order either of the coats or the trousers separately. SIZES—Coat, 34 to 42 inches chest; Trousers, 28 to 42 inches waist and 28 to 34 inches inseam. State measurements.

45E7320—Medium Light Brown All Wool Flannel Coat. Postpaid..... **\$9.95**
45E7321—Blue All Wool Flannel Coat. Postpaid..... **9.95**
45E7596—White All Wool Worsteds Serge Trousers with Fancy Black Stripes. Postpaid..... **\$4.95**

Sport Outfit De Luxe!

(Sold Separately)

Here's a stylish combination of double breasted blue serge coat and plain white flannel trousers. Every man should have at least one such outfit. Now you can save a lot of money. The coat is of excellent quality fine twill blue serge, one-fourth lined, and beautifully tailored—the kind usually sold at \$15.00. The trousers are of a standard, nationally known, all wool white flannel, beautifully tailored and really worth \$7.50. You can buy either the coat or trousers separately.

SIZES—Coat, 34 to 42 inches chest; Trousers, 28 to 42 inches waist and 28 to 34 inches inseam. State measurements.
45E7319—All Wool Navy Blue Serge Coat. Postpaid..... **\$9.45**
45E7596—All Wool White Flannel Trousers. Postpaid..... **5.50**



On a recent flight, an elderly passenger kept peering out the window. Since it was totally dark, all he could see was the blinking wing-tip light. Finally, he rang for the flight attendant.

"I'm sorry to bother you," he said, "but I think you should inform the pilot that his left turn indicator is on and has been for some time."

—Thanks to
Script "A" News



Model A Fashion Enthusiasts

Is our club interested in era fashions? Here is some ideas and articles which will inspire you. This information is borrowed from MAFCA's Era Fashion Guidelines. *How to "Spark" an Interest in Model A Fashion*, is a basic outline to get the club started in era fashion.

How to Spark an Interest in Model A Fashion

By Anne Neely-Beck

- I. Call a meeting of all the interested people in your club. If you already meet regularly then make it a special meeting such as a luncheon or tea at a restaurant. If you do not meet regularly then have a designated person call everyone to invite them to lunch or tea at a given restaurant. The club will probably budget the money for this purpose, if you ask.
- II. Set a goal. Example: You may take a certain tour every year, so make it a goal for everyone to be dressed in era looking clothing for the trip.
- III. Study pictures from the Model A era. Good sources are:
 - MAFCA Fashion Guidelines
 - MAFCA A Book of Fashion Facts
 - The Restorer
 - Vintage magazines from 1928-1931
 - Dated vintage photos from your family or other sources
 - Vintage catalogs from the era
 - Internet
 - Reproduction catalogs
 - Books about vintage fashion
 - Vintage patterns

Be "true" to your car and pick the style that matches your year of car.
- IV. Decide whether you are going to look for originals, fun fashions, reproductions, or a combination of two or three to give you that Model A era image look.
- V. A question to consider is, do I want to be judged at a meet. Complete instructions can be found in the *Fashion Guidelines*.
- VI. "Shop till you drop" Plan a day "field trip" and shop for your special look. Some suggested shopping places.

• Antique stores	• Thrift stores	• Goodwill
• Salvation Army	• Vintage clothing stores	• Department stores
• Ross	• T.J. Maxx	• Macy's
• Stein Mart	• J.C. Penney	• Kohl's

For the "shop-a-holic" in the club, you might be the one who could be on the look out for vintage, fun, and reproduction items for everyone in the club.

• Catalogs	• Newport News	• J.C. Penney
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Internet (buyers beware) Ebay and other sites are not always what they seem when it comes to the description of clothing items. Many of the items listed do not have the correct date.
- VII. Issues with Originals:

• Caring	• Storing	• Wearing
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- VIII. Marking Reproduction from patterns:

• Fabric store patterns	• Internet patterns	• MAFCA patterns
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If you want to be judged in reproduction then you will have to follow MAFCA *Fashion Guidelines* using fabric found in the Model A era to make your garment. If going for Model A era image, modern day fabric content is okay.
- IX. Getting your man interested in Model A era fashion:
 - Bribe!! Example: Your club is asked to drive beauty queens in a parade, have the men dress in white shirts, bow ties, and a driving cap or hat
 - Threaten (only if you must!) • Kill with kindness (this works well)
 - Use all three, bribe, threaten, and kindness.
- X. Keep that "spark," don't retard it!

"Where Are We Going"???



September

EVERY SATURDAY.....Cars & Coffee...

8:00am til 10:00am



Every Tuesday Model A Breakfast at IHOP - 6:30



"TOUR IDEAS WELCOME"

Contact VP Gary Gallian;

Emailboss949@aol.com

Cell- (559) 679-3591

9/5 Tollhouse Fish Fry



9/7 HCCA Meeting



9/8 Charter Oak Meeting



9/11 Happy Honkers Meeting



9/13 International "MODEL A Day

9/13 Orcutt All Ford Car Show

9/27 Caruthers Parade & Fair

9/29-10/3 CCRG Solvang Grand Tour



September



September Tour Caruthers Fair and Parade Saturday, September 27

The city of Caruthers is celebrating its 102nd Caruthers Fair, the longest running free gate fair in California, with a parade.

Sierra Chapter will again participate in the parade! The Reedley, Visalia, and Porterville clubs are also invited. The Caruthers Fair Committee is very excited to have our Model A's in their parade.

After the parade, we will have lunch at Danny's Doughnuts. (Charles highly recommends the hamburger, fries, & soda!) After lunch, enjoy the fair if you wish.

Gather: Chandler Airport (510 W Kearney Blvd, Fresno) or in Caruthers.

Meet at Chandler Airport @ 8 AM, **Depart** @ 8:15 AM Sharp!

Note: Caruthers is only 14 miles from Chandler Airport.

We will travel straight down Marks Ave. All of the Model A's will meet at the Caruthers High School parking lot on Tahoe Street just south of Raider Ave (near the football field). We will travel as a group to the parade staging area.

Parade Line Up: 9 AM, **Parade starts** at 10 AM

Questions? Contact our hosts: **Charles & Virginia Diffey** @ 559-304-8054

Tollhouse Fish Fry

Sept 05, 2025

Time: 3pm - 5pm

Tollhouse Market and Grill

**28524 Tollhouse Rd.
Tollhouse, CA 93667**



**All of the Clubs will meet on
Hwy 168,(Tollhouse Rd) about 1 mile Northeast of
Academy Rd at the
“Academy College Historical Marker (pullout)”
at 2:00pm, Friday, Sept. 5th
and then caravan**

together to the “Tollhouse Market and Grill”

\$20.00 per person

**If you want Ice Cream with your meal there will
be a \$5.00 extra charge.**

**All Charter Oak and Happy Honkers will meet on
Sept. 5th at the Lowes Parking Lot at Demaree St
and Riggan Ave, Visalia, and depart at 12:00pm
(noon). Let David Martinez know if you are cara-
vanning to Tollhouse with this group please, so
you won't be left behind.**



**For more info please contact:
Brad Richter.....1(559) 960-9300
Email: sunnysidefire@comcast.net
David Martinez...1(559) 359-1199
Email:....daveytita@gmail.com**

RE-GROOVE YOUR SMOOTH TYRES

Smooth tyres are illegal. With this simple British-made tool you can re-groove them almost like new in a few minutes to any pattern. No injury to tyres, less likelihood of punctures. 5,000 safe miles added to tyre life. Quick. Easy. A boy can re-groove perfect non-skids at first attempt. Ask your dealer, or send 4/9 (post free). **D.D. TYRE GROOVER** (Wide Groove Adaptor—cuts grooves $\frac{3}{8}$ in. wide—and 3 wide cutters 1/- extra).



D.D. DISTRIBUTORS, 59, NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.1.
Thanks to Bob Sharp.

MEMORY LN



BRUCE'S LODGE - 3377 SO. HIGHWAY 99 - FOWLER, CALIF.

September 29th to October 3rd

Welcome to the 2025

CCRC Grand Tour to Solvang.

Please join us as we explore the beautiful Santa Ynez Valley, the pristine coastline, and historic sites in Santa Barbara.

Starting Monday Sept. 29th thru Fri Oct. 3rd our host hotel will be the

Corque Hotel 400 Alisal Road Solvang, Ca.

Room rates are \$132 nightly plus tax. Phone 1-800-248-6274

Registration is \$110 per person and includes the pizza party and Italian dinner.

Here is the itinerary with lots of free time to enjoy this quaint Danish town:

Monday - Registration will open at 4pm. Pizza and salad will be served on the patio at 6pm (BYOB). A short drivers meeting will follow dinner.

Tuesday - your day to enjoy the sites. Lunch and dinner on your own.

Wednesday - Drive to Santa Barbara for tours. Groups will leave in about 15 minute intervals then rendezvous with the Santa Barbara Chapter for our tour.

There will be several options for lunch and dinner to enjoy on your own.

Thursday - Another free day to visit the area and maybe make the short drive to the neighboring towns. We will be having a delicious Italian dinner at the Veteran's Hall. Social time is 5pm with dinner at 6pm. BYOB if inclined.

Friday - saying good bye until we meet again.

We hope you will join us for relaxing and fun Model A drives through this unique area. If you have any questions, please call (805) 748-5538

Dave and Cyndi Krill

MOTORISTS ATTENTION!
YOU ARE ON YOUR HONOR
FRESNO COUNTY HAS NO SPEED COPS
DRIVE SO THEY WILL NOT BE NEEDED
SPEED LIMIT 30 MILES PER HOUR = Board of Supervisors



Posted on the highway at the Herndon and San Joaquin River Bridge, Fresno's famous "On Your Honor" billboard was advertised world wide as a result of **Governor Hiram Johnson** stopping with his entourage to be filmed by a Pathe Weekly newsreel crew. The billboard, erected by local law enforcement officials, warned drivers to watch their speed. With the dawning of the automobile era, new safety laws had become necessary as fast cars were scaring the horses still used by many people as their primary means of transportation. Circa 1915. —from *Early Valley Treasures: As Seen Through the Lens of "Pop" Laval*.

Jim's Tech Tip by Jim Cannon



Bending the Radiator Overflow Tube Back

The Ford Service Bulletins of April, 1930 (page 450) advise that if you have excessive coolant loss through the radiator overflow tube, you can bend the tube back toward the back edge of the radiator filler neck. They also mention soldering in a brass washer where the tube passes through the baffle plate.

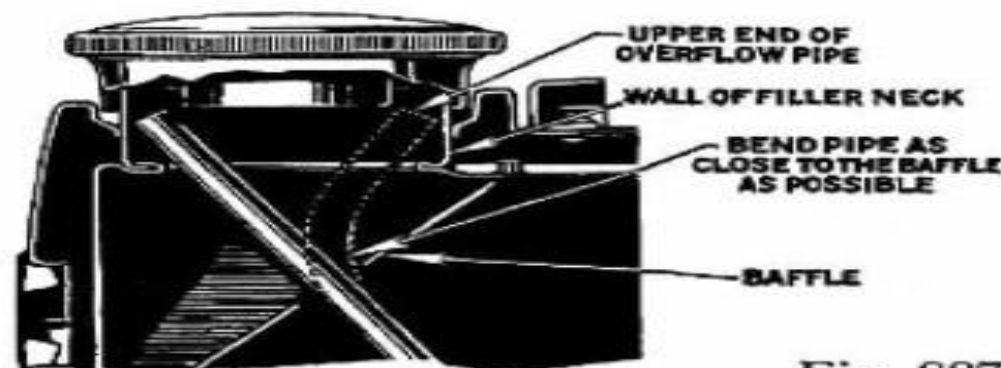


Fig. 887

To bend the tube, insert a larger Phillips screwdriver into the tube. You want the smooth shaft of the screwdriver to pretty much fill the tube, and don't have the tip of the screwdriver go below the baffle plate, about 2 to 3 inches. Then gently push the screwdriver back away from you a bit, remove the screwdriver a bit (~1/2"), then bend it some more. Repeat until the top of the tube is as far "back" as it will go.

If you need to, you can add a short piece of rubber tubing to the top of the overflow tube to raise the level in the top tank that much more before the coolant starts going out the overflow. But don't raise it too much or coolant will start leaking out of your radiator cap and make a mess on your paint and radiator shell.

I hope this helps. Have a Model A Day! Jim

Tech Tip

I had a leaking gas shutoff valve. I went through the hassle of draining the tank. I replaced the valve, but it was still weeping. I would get a drop of gas on my hand whenever I opened or closed the valve. I tightened the seat, but that was not it. The threaded connection into the tank was the culprit. I was told to get Permatex Aviation Form-A-Gasket Sealant Liquid. Drained the tank again. Put the sealant on the threads. It did the trick.

- stolen from Heart of Florida A's newsletter.

Jim's Tech Tips
"Assembling Front Brakes"

There are some very good Shop Drawings available that show an exploded view of the front brakes. It is good to refer to them when reassembling everything. However, I find the location of the small felt washer shown in the drawings to be ambiguous. The drawing makes it look like the small felt that goes on the Brake Actuating Pin goes on the pin above the Operating Wedge. That is incorrect.

Look at the photo to the right. The pin goes up into the hollow kingpin, and the felt goes on the pin BEFORE you install the backing plate. (The bottom tip of the rod goes into the hole shown in the backing plate, above the nut.) This sandwiches the felt between the backing plate and the kingpin, providing a good seal at the bottom kingpin bushing.

I have opened up front brakes on several cars and found the small felt floating on the pin on top of the wedge. It does nothing for you there.

I hope this helps you get your brakes back together and working correctly.



Photo by Mitch Hartka, www.VintageFordForum.com

Until next time... *Have a Model A Day!*

Jim Cannon

Clutch Pedal Free-Play

Have you checked your clutch pedal free-play lately? This is the first movement of the pedal where there is only a little resistance. According to Ford this is supposed to be $\frac{3}{4}$ " to $\frac{7}{8}$ " and can readily be adjusted by screwing the clutch link in or out of the trunnion.

The important thing is that you have $\frac{3}{4}$ " free-play, for without any, it has the same effect on the clutch and engine as riding the clutch pedal with your foot.

You should not have your foot on the clutch pedal except when you are in the act of shifting gears.

What does riding the clutch pedal do to your clutch and engine you may ask?

Simply this: riding the clutch pedal keeps a constant pressure on the clutch assembly and on the engine crankshaft as well as unnecessarily spinning the throw-out bearing. This could result in premature wear on the clutch faces and throw-out bearing.

Even more serious, it may force the lubrication out of the rear main bearing babbitt thrust face causing the premature wear of the babbitt, resulting in end play of the crankshaft and damage to pistons, rings and other critical parts.

- Jim Broadhead, Wichita A's

ZIP-A-RACK Are Back !

Through the years, a number of club members have asked me about the Zip-A-Rack on the back end of my Coupe; the extendable luggage rack. Sadly, for many years they have been out of production. The only reason that I have one is because my father, Owen Engle, purchased it years before. I found it, still in it's original box, which was literally falling apart from years of storage in dad's shed. Several months ago, the owner of Bert's Model A Center in Englewood, CO., asked if he could borrow my rack, to see about remanufacturing them. Steve, the owner, has reproduced a few of them once again and they will fit 1930-31 Model A's ONLY, as the bumpers on the 1928-29's are a narrower configuration. Those will come later.

If anyone is interested in more information about the new Zip-A-Racks, contact Bert's Model A Center, [800-321-1931](tel:800-321-1931) or parts@modelastore.com



Jim's Tech Tips "Ignition Misfires"

We've all experienced it. When the engine is cold and first started up, the engine is running rough and you can tell not all 4 cylinders are firing. It usually clears up in under a minute. But later, when the engine is warm, you should not feel a miss when climbing a hill or accelerating into traffic. If the power is just not there, like you know it should be, where to look? It could be a carburetor problem, but don't overlook fouled spark plugs and problems in the distributor.

Check the point gap in the distributor. The cam follower wears as you drive and the point gap closes down, giving a weak spark. So check it and increase the gap back to 0.020" if needed. While you are there, look for burned points and clean them up or replace them; you might have a bad or weak condenser.

Look at the rotor. Make sure the black flat spring is touching the underside of the cap, and is not burned up. Wipe off any oil film on the rotor.

Look at the underside of the distributor cap. Inspect the graphite button on the underside. I have seen caps with the entire button broken off and missing.

Look at the inside of the distributor body (the black plastic piece). Look for an oil and dirt film on the inside. Wipe it out with a clean cloth. Look for "carbon tracks" on the inside of the cap, where the spark is jumping down to ground on the metal housing. (See photo.) Replace if needed.



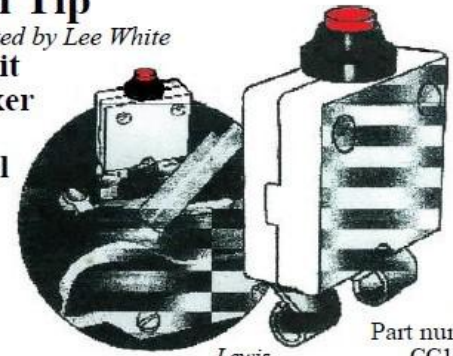
September

Reprinted from the Ohio Valley Region's News "The AAAAAOOOGAH!"

Tech Tip

Submitted by Lee White

Circuit Breaker for Model A's!



Part number
CC1630

Many of us use a fuse mount assembly attached to our starter assembly to protect our Model A's. Replace the 30 amp fuse with this 30 amp circuit breaker, available from your local Peterbilt truck dealer. It snaps into the fuse holder with no modifications. Part number CC1630. Approximate cost is \$13.00 per unit.

LIFE WAS SO MUCH SIMPLER
WHEN WE COULD PLAY A
FRIENDLY GAME OF RED ROVER,
AND JUST CLOTHESLINE
THE PEOPLE WE DIDN'T LIKE



Page 23

Script

Working On My Model A

bought an A the other day
needs some work has some decay
that's ok I like to tinker
keeps me busy instead of a drinker

picked up tools at the hardware store
then went back to get some more
I'm saddled up and ready to start
called Snyder's I need a part

a body off resto job
if I don't know I'll just ask Bob
replacing nuts, washers and bolts
doing an upgrade to 12 volts

apart it comes one bolt at a time
cleaning off the grit and grime
a powder coat will look really good
need to replace some of the wood

I'll pull the engine and look all thru
I'll check every bolt nut and screw
when it all goes back it'll have more power
might even do 60 miles an hour

I'll check the brakes for adjustment and ware
I'll check the pressure in my spare
I'll sand it smooth to look really good
it's all shiny under the hood

my wife has asked how long it will take
maybe 2 without a mistake
only two months with joyful tears
no what I meant was two years

day by day I'll get this done
eager to hear the engine run
what a great day it will be
when I finally turn the key

David Rose

- taken from Smoky Mountain A's



September 29th to October 3rd



*Welcome to the 2025
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Dave and Cyndi Krill



Wagon Tales: Episode 2 By Dave Knapp

Clunk! No matter what you are driving, that sound is never a good one. If you have ever driven, or ridden in a station wagon you know it is a very noisy vehicle. There are more squeaks and rattles than a semi-truck full of baby toys. To our surprise, heard well above the squeaks and rattles, was a loud CLUNK. “What on earth could THAT be?” This was something different; it was not to be ignored. As the new noise repeated itself several times, it was obvious this needed some immediate attention.

Back home, up on jack stands, the wiggle test ensued. What’s the wiggle test? Well, you jack up the car, then grab each wheel and wiggle, while watching each part of the steering and front suspension for unplanned movements. You can also have someone wiggle the steering wheel while you watch. This test revealed a pretty serious problem—the steering box was loose from the frame mount! There wasn’t an immediate danger, but the longer ignored, the worse this would get, and eventually could lead to catastrophic failure. After disassembly of the engine pan, drag link, starter, steering column interior mount, and steering box/frame mount bolts, the true damage was visible—the mounting bolts were grooved and the frame holes were egg shaped and chamfered. This had been a developing problem for a while, but we couldn’t ignore it anymore. It was time to dig out the MIG welder and get to work.

After welding and cleaning up the frame holes to make them round again, a little paint was added where the welding was done. To deal with the worn frame mount bolts, a parts order was made to Snyder’s Antique Auto Parts for new bolts and some other bits we needed for both of our Model A’s. This gave us a few days to pay some attention to a few other “while-I’m-at-it” items. Note to self—pay more attention to the transmission fluid level. The end result is a new shiny spot on a Model A that didn’t previously have shiny spots—and no more clunk. At least it still has plenty of squeaks and rattles! Happy motoring!





2025 MAFCA NATIONAL AWARDS BANQUET



Join us in
Mobile, Alabama

December 3 - 6

Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel

Click on link below for the
Registration form

<https://tinyurl.com/2025-MAFCA-NAB>

Info Video - <https://youtu.be/uGqvKedfWTs>



In Mobile, we will celebrate our 2025 National Award Winners and meet the 2026 Board of Directors.

- Enjoy seminars by Sherry Winkinhofer and Paul Shinn
- Hear the history of Alabama's roadways
- Tour the beautifully lit Gardens of Bellingrath, all decked out for Christmas
- Visit the USS Alabama and enjoy lunch under the planes
- Explore Mobile's history by Trolley



Old Ridge Route Tour

Tour Day.....Saturday, November 15, 2025

We will Caravan on Saturday, November 15th, 2025 from Visalia via Lovers Lane to Tulare-Lindsay Highway; south on Highway 65 to 99 Highway; south to I-5 and on to the Gorman Exit where we will meet our Tour Guide at Carl's Jr.

Here's where we will be going:

https://maps.app.goo.gl/YzqYHa8uTxyNkWan8?g_st=ic

<https://youtu.be/2BoGhV9-uNU>

We'll meet our guide at the dirt lot next to Carl's Jr in Gorman (49669 Gorman Post Rd, Lebec, CA 93243) ready to depart at 9:00am, Saturday, November 15, 2025, taking Gorman Post road to the 138 and then jumping on the Old Ridge Route. It's 18 miles each way, 36 out and back.

Only available gas, food and restrooms will be in Gorman. There is a gas station at the freeway exit there, we recommend filling up before starting the tour. We'll give everyone a moment for a restroom break or food run before heading up.

Bring a packed lunch, lawn chairs, water, and we'll all enjoy a picnic with an incredible view at Reservoir Summit! Then our group will turn around and head back towards our meeting point in the Carl's Jr lot.

Upon meeting at Carl's Jr we will depart on I-5 North back across the Ridge Route on I-5 to the Tejon Outlets and exit on 219A into the Outlets area. We'll then cross under I-5 to our Best Western Liberty Inn Hotel.

We'll stay the night at your choice of Hotels. There are numerous restaurants in this area to have dinner and breakfast of your choice (Best Western does offer a free breakfast).

We will depart Sunday after breakfast at about 10:00am for Visalia on the reversed route.

I know you will have some questions so feel free to ask Phil at: (559) 679-1980; email: lindannphil@sbcglobal.net

Please RSVP to Phil ASAP!! There will be a maximum of 10 cars allowed on this Tour....

I will keep you informed of any changes to the above schedule!! *Phil*

P.S. There will be a donation of \$35.00 per car (Suggested) to the:

"Ridge Route Preservation Organization"



P.O. Box 2623
Porterville, CA 93257

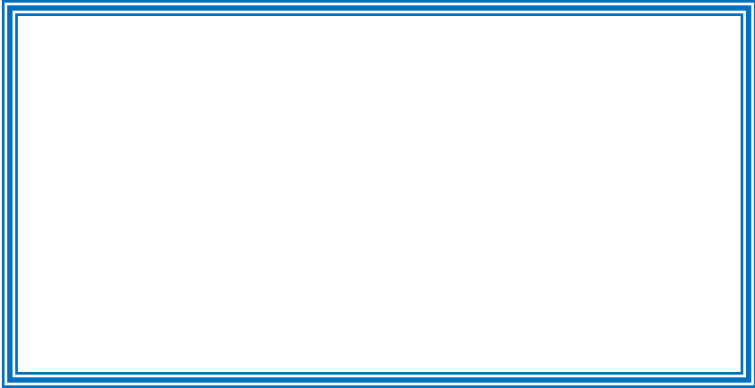
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September

2025



Haven't seen Henrietta For A While....Where is She!!!!!!