## "A" RAMBLINGS

M A R C H 2 0 2 4

LVVMAFC NEWSLETTER



W W W .
VEGASMODELA.COM







Photo by: Tom Collins
GUNNER TELLING US STORIES ABOUT
THE FAMILY BUSINESS.



**RAY POSING WITH THE SHERIFF!** 

## CHARACTERS UNLIMITED TOUR

Gunner, our tour guide, led the Model A club on a very interesting hands on tour of his family owned business. We saw his father's idea come to life in many forms!

Check out the picture on the left, above our heads are just some of the characters that have been created to go into the hand made cabinets and mechanically brought to life. They will tell your fortune or hand out a ticket with your fortune printed on it. They have dogs that talk, cows that moo, talking buffalo, and the ever famous jackalopes and so much more. Gunner showed us how they make the molds and how they put each character together from start to finish. It is amazing what they have packed into their building. If you missed it, I highly recommend this tour!

Thank you goes to Ray & Pam White for scoping out this venue and setting up the tour for the club! I think Zoltar sees big things happening in their future for their efforts! Everyone went to the Boulder Golf Course afterwards for a fun lunch and gab session!

more photos on page 8

## Chuck Yeager and a Model A part 2

#### ALONG WITH SOME HISTORY OF THE BEGINNING OF MODEL A CLUBS!

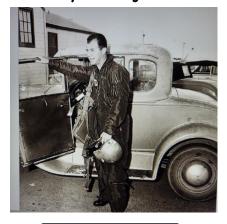
As promised, like Paul Harvey would say, "And here's the rest of the story" about Chuck Yeager from last month's newsletter.

As reported by the Mojave Desert News. MOJAVE —The Mojave Transportation Museum hosted its monthly Plane Crazy Saturday last weekend, and their special guests were not so much about aviation as they were about American cars.

Ford Model A's in particular, and their national club history, as the Bakersfield Model A Ford Club of America stopped by MASP to show off some non-flying four-wheel machines of historical significance and to tell the tale of old times when the Model A Club craze began. Pure California Gold.

The Model A Ford Club of America was founded in 1955 as the Model A Restorers Club (MARC) by 15 local Model A owners, down to Red Grows Car lot in Glendale, Calif. They decided to establish a regional group of Model A enthusiasts as so many of the cars were being transformed into the hot rods of the '50s here in California. In November of '55 they drafted a constitution for their club, named temporary officers and officially started the Model A Restorers Club of Southern California. Story continues on page 6

By: Mark Frigaard



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#### UP COMING EVENTS

#### **MONTHLY MEETINGS:**

**April 16, 2024** 

**LOCATION: THE TAP HOUSE** 

5589 W Charleston Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89146

TIME: Eat: 6:00 PM Meeting 7:30 PM

#### APRIL BREAKFAST

DATE: Sunday, April 14, 2024

**LOCATION: Tailwinds Cafe NLV Airport** 

TIME: 8:30 AM Eat: 9:00 AM

#### SPRING MODEL T & A PICNIC

DATE: March 30, 2024 Saturday

LOCATION: Vivaldi Park 1249 Seven Hills Dr. Henderson, NV 89052 Bring a dish, drinks & TIME: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM items to auction!!

#### **HELLDORADO DAYS**

DATE: Saturday, May 11,2024

LOCATION: Downtown LV. Staging area TBA

**TIME: 10:00 AM - NOON** 

LUNCH following the parade. TBA

#### 2024 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

| President                | Dale Rausch                  | 831-901-7250                 | derausch@aol.com                      |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Past President           | Dave Ringenbach              | 702-353-7951                 | d55bach@gmail.com                     |
| Vice President           | Charlotte Kessler            | 702-426-2562                 | charkessler@yahoo.com                 |
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| Workshop Director        | Mark Frigaard                | 763-242-4356                 | mfrigaard@gmail.com                   |
| Sunshine Director        | Charlotte Kessler            | 702-426-2562                 | charkessler@yahoo.com                 |
| Membership/<br>Publicity | Mark Schieff                 | 702-592-1368                 | mschieffPMO@aol.com                   |
| Web Master               | Dale Rausch                  | 831-901-7250                 | dale.rausch@yahoo.com                 |

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jim Tenney March 4 Julia Richins March 10 Pat White March 14 **Jack Camburn** March 16 **Larry Benham** March 17 Shelby Callahan March 17 **Karen Grundstrom** March 19 **Jane Tenney** March 24 Marla Wells March 27

## IMPORTANT 2024 SAVE THE DATES:

MODEL T & A PICNIC March 30, 2024 Saturday

HELLDORADO PARADE MAY 11, 2024 Saturday \*\*\*\*\*\*

4th of July Summerlin Parade

\*\*\*\*\*

SPRING MT RANCH
PICNIC
October 20, 2024 Sunday

#### NUTS'N BOLTS



NEWSLETTER: Published monthly by the LVVMAFC Articles submitted for publication should reach the editor by Friday noon following the monthly meetings. All articles become the property of the club and are subject to corrections or revisions. Permission granted to reprint articles.

WEB SITE:

www.vegasmodela.com

DUES: \$25 annual club dues are payable before the first day of January. Members not paid by January 31st shall be considered inactive and dropped from all chapter mailings. Members are encouraged to join the MAFCA National Organization for \$50. Visit www.mafca.com to join.

#### THE SHOP

## Call Del before you head to the shop!

If your Model A isn't running correctly and you need some advice, call a member or better yet come to the shop!

Is there something Model A related you need more information on! Suggest it as a meeting program topic!
Mark: cell: 763-242-4356

Email: mfrigaard@gmail.com Del: 702-553-8664



#### **OFFICER'S REPORTS 2024**

We had another great meeting this week, 31 members. I think everyone really enjoys the Tech Talks presented by Mark Frigaard and the Shop Team. I learn something every time. One of the biggest things I learned this week was "if your Model A isn't leaking oil, you're in trouble". I guess I'll stop complaining about our cars dripping and having to clean up the pans regularly, LOL. I want to again give Mark and his crew a huge Thank You for all they do to make such interesting Tech Talks! Please let them know how much you appreciate them too and feel free to offer suggestions and ideas for them.

We had a Board Meeting recently and one topic that always comes up is "how can we get more people interested in our cars?". May is Model A Youth Month per MAFCA. If anyone has any ideas, please let one of the Board members know. We have taken our cars to schools, senior centers, the VA, restaurants (of course) and many other places. They always get a lot of attention. Please let us know your ideas.

The Tour Directors, Dave and Hal are always working on great ideas/plans for us and our cars. They have several parades and tours in the works, see their columns for details and signup. If you'd like to sponsor a breakfast at your favorite place, let them know. It only takes a couple of phone calls.

We've also had several ladies mention they would like to have another "Ladies Driving Day". If you'd like to be part of the fun, let us know.

Enjoy this beautiful weather, perfect for getting our cars out and showing them off! See you soon, Dale

**NEW MEETING START TIME: 7:30 PM** 



## VICE PRESIDENT By Charlotte Kessler

A Word From our new VP

Happy to be here, no report today. Just nice to see everyone.



## KEEP OUR MEMBERS IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS!

Very sad to say that Art Goldstrom passed away. The club sent a card to daughter Sherri. I spoke with Lorraine and she is doing well and says "hello" to everyone.



#### WEBMASTER

By Dale Rausch

Contact me: dale.rausch@yahoo.com

There is a new website in our future. keep an eye out for more information!



#### Club Shirts & Website

The website to order club shirts is:
https://imaginationsunltd.com
Phone number: 702-565-0129.
Imaginations Unlimited, LLC
Water St Henderson, NV
Owner's name is Tina

#### **HELP WANTED:**

1.VOLENTEERS TO HELP PUT TOGETHER THE A & T SPRING MT RANCH PICNIC!!!!

- 2. VOLENTEER TO ORGANIZE THE BEATTY DAY'S WEEKEND!!
- 3. IDEAS FOR A LOCATION OF THE YOUTH PROGRAM IN MAY



THE TAP HOUSE
We meet here the
third Tuesday of
each month (except
December)
Dinner & Social
Hour
6:00 PM
Meeting start time:
7:30 PM

## Financial Business MARCH 2024

Opening Balance \$9403.38

Income:

Dark Horse 41.00

Total Income: 41.00

**Expenses:** 

**Tap House Room** 

Rental -25.00 Postcards -24.00

Summerlin 4th of July

Parade entry fee -100.00

Total Expenses -149.00

Ending Balance \$ 9295.38

THE 2024 CLUB BUDGET WILL BE ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL.
A VOTE WILL BE TAKEN AT THE APRIL MEETING FOR APPROVAL.



\*Breakfasts \* Tours \* Picnics \* Parades\*

April is a great time of the year to get out your Model A's and have fun driving them around town.

Let's start with our **next breakfast**, which will be Sunday, April 14th at the Tailwinds Café at the North Las Vegas Airport on 2730 Airport Drive in North Las Vegas. You know the drill – meet in the parking lot at 8:30 and go into the restaurant to eat at 9:00. This seems to be one of the club's favorite places to have breakfast and we always seem to have a great turnout of members driving their A's.

The ever popular Model T and Model A picnic will be Saturday, March 30th at Vivaldi Park, 1249 Seven Hills Drive, Henderson, NV 89052 from 11am to 3pm. The Model T club is sponsoring the event and will provide hamburgers and hot dogs. Bring drinks and a side dish or dessert to share. Remember to bring stuff for the auction. Last year our club netted \$292 from the proceeds of the auction. So, start cleaning out your closets and garages.

For those of you who like to participate in the parades, mark your calendars for **Saturday**, **May 11 for the Helldorado Parade**. The meeting place and staging time is yet to be determined, but we'll keep you posted.

As long as we're talking about parades, we'll be participating in the **Summerlin July 4th Parade again this year**. More details on that will be coming soon.

GIVE YOUR IDEAS TO DAVE AND HAL!!

Hal White: 702-334-1450

Dave Ringenbach: 702-353-7951

## SHOP TALK By Mark Frigaard

WHAT'S HAPPENING at the SHOP?

Shop photos by: Mark Frigaard



SHOP HOURS: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM MONDAY \* WEDNESDAY \* FRIDAY 5204 SEQUIN DR. LV 89130 Call: Del 702-553-8664

This month has been extremely busy with a continuation of engines that are in need of repair.....hopefully this isn't going to be the new trend replacing carburetors......Ha Ha. Late in the month of February Dan got a call from Larry Benham our second longest member as of 1972 per the roster, stating he thinks he has a head gasket problem. Dan asked if I was interested in going to take a look and possibly helping Larry get this repaired. So, off we went to check it out. Larry started his beautiful 29 Tudor and there was white smoke / steam coming out the manifold and exhaust pipe, with rusty trails out the head and manifold around the #3 and #4 cylinders. We did a compression test and #1,2,4 were all at 70lbs but #3 was at 50lbs. Larry said it's still running well but it's losing some water when driving but not great amounts. So, the decision was made for Larry to drive the car to my garage the next Saturday. I'll replace the head gasket and reseal his valve cover that's leaking, for some parts Larry wants to get rid of as I'm always looking for extra parts! Dan helped me get the head off and took off before all the cleanup that followed happened. Can't say I blame him for that, the cleanup is always the worst!! The sparkplugs came out very hard at Larry's and the threads were in bad shape, but after getting the correct size tap from Del they were able to be saved, good thing, another high compression head would have been expensive! The cleanup took a day, and the valve cover was resealed the next day, along with cleaning up the head and head studs along with the manifold studs. Next, reinstalling the manifold studs with anti-seize, and the head studs with Permatex #2 sealant now just waiting for Sammy to open so I can order a new head gasket and hoses for the install. Amazing enough all went well with the rebuild and after a few times re-torquing the head it was ready for Larry to pickup and drive home. I followed up with Larry a few weeks later and he said all was running great, but he now has an oil leak in the rear drum, always something right! After Larry took that apart he just needed a new oil seal which he has in stock, so he will have that done soon.

Photos of this fix on following page:

#### Larry's A photos!



Larry & his Grandson delivering his car



After the head was removed.



Completed and ready to head home!

# Gene Johnson was on his way to visit the shop, this past month, when his

## Gene Johnson's car being towed to Del's Shop garage

Gene's Cabriolet heading to Hal's garage for more extensive repair!

#### REPAIR # 2

cabriolet shift tower locked up again...... You may remember just before the trip to Beatty Day's last October it happened the first time and Hal was able to get it working, and Gene and Jesse were able to make the trip to Beatty. Well, Gene called the shop and Hal said he'd come tow the car to Del's, he was only about 3 miles away. By the time we got half way to Del's you could smell something wasn't right because it smelled like something burning. After getting the shift tower freed up and reinstalled, we realized the clutch peddle was engaging right off the floor making it difficult to shift into first without grinding. So, after trying to adjust the clutch it was decided the clutch was shot and will need to be replaced. We left it sit at Del's over the weekend and Monday morning AAA transported the car to Hal's garage about 11am. Jerry Vozzola had a Virtually new clutch plate and pressure plate, so it was decided to tear into it Monday afternoon. Well, we must be getting good at this stuff because by 4:30pm the rear end was removed, transmission removed, flywheel resurfaced, new pilot bearing installed, which we had to remove the flywheel to do, new throughout bearing installed, new clutch and pressure plate installed and fingers adjusted. Everything was put back together except some minor assembly of clevis pins for brakes and brake / clutch peddles which were done the next day and Gene was able to drive it back home! While we had everything apart there were some other issues found {go figure} that needed correcting so parts were ordered and hopefully all that will be taken care of at the workshop soon.

#### REPAIR#3

Update on Hal's old Blue motor and transmission change from last month: After Hal got his radiator back and installed, he tried starting the motor, it was acting like it was locked up and Hal narrowed it down to the replacement transmission install and the main shaft being forced into the pilot bearing must have jammed the main shaft back and locked up the transmission not allowing the motor to turn over. Well, out the motor came again, Hal filed, and emery clothed the end of the transmission main shaft so the pilot bearing would slip on with ease instead of pressing it in and reinstalled the transmission and engine again. This time SUCCESS! Yahoo no one wants to go through the work of pulling the motor again. Hal drove Blue to the march breakfast at Black Bear Diner and



Hal's engine out for the second time!

said all was working good. But when he got home, Pat told Hal she saw a pretty big oil spot on the floor where his car was before going to the breakfast.....oh my now what?? Well, Hal dropped the oil pan hoping it was something simple like the oil pipe came off or a gasket was bad and NOT the rear main bearing needing to be re-shimmed......Hal found the cork gasket between the rear main cap and the oil pan had a piece broken out, so this was replaced and when it's done curing another test drive will hopefully not have any leaks!! Shop report continued page 6

Jeff Wells and his grandson, Barron, stopped by the workshop with a leaking carburetor issue. So, Barron got a lesson in dismantling, cleaning, cleaning out jets and reassembling. After putting it on the test engine SUCCESS! All ran good and there were no leaks!! Jim Robbins also stopped in the same day with two 19" wheels that needed new tubes installed so it was a busy day, but all went well.

Many people from the Model T and A clubs were at Ray Potter's garage sale on February 24th that was talked about in the last couple meetings. Ray had a lot of parts in his inventory, from many years of collecting and he was reducing. Well, he had plenty of used parts at very reasonable prices so, the workshop guys certainly have lots of carburetors, distributors, speedometers, and other misc. parts to keep us busy rebuilding for many more weeks now! So, if anyone is interested in the inter-workings of these parts or want to come assist in a rebuild come on over to the shop!







Getting new tubes in Jim's tires!



More goodies from the yard sale

### Chuck Yeager and a Model A part 2 continued

In 1956, Art Miller was named the first President of the Model A Restorers Club of Southern California, and the first issue of "Restorer" was printed, that being the newsletter of the soon-to-be rapidly growing club. In 1957, Jim Ryner became the new president and Art Miller the editor of the Restorer. A special award was given Red Grows-Betsy for his 1930 Sport Coupe.

Then in 1958 the Club went national, naming the very first official chapter in Bakersfield, followed quickly by Edwards Air Force Base almost simultaneously, though Bakersfield is the recognized first chapter in America and remains so to this day now celebrating 60 years and counting.

The historical significance of the Edwards Chapter which sprang up on the heels of the Bakersfield Chapter was that American aviation hero and legend Chuck Yeager was a member of that Edwards Model A Club of America chapter and drove an old Model A that the base members shared, and each got to drive the car based on who was ahead in the sky so to speak. Top Gun got to drive the car around the base, and it rotated, with Colonel Yeager racing around in it at times.

Such rich history right here in Kern County, and all still here to see. Bakersfield Chapter President Mike Martin along with several current members of that famous organization rolled into MASP last Saturday in those very Model A Fords to tell this tale of the rich history of this longstanding American standard club that still endures and thrives to this day. Mr. Martin told of the Edwards Chapter and Chuck Yeager's days in the base Model A, the early days of the club's forming and what those days were like to have lived them. Outside Voyager restaurant on the tarmac stood a dozen or more of them, shining in the Mojave sunlight just as they have for nearly a century now. Some still in original shape just as time has left them and still running strong. So too is the original Bakersfield Chapter, still running strong 60 years later, and counting.



SECRETARY
By Liz Prehm

#### **Meeting Minutes**

We had a great turnout on Tuesday. 31 members present and 2 cars were driven. Thanks Jerry and Dan for driving your A's to the meting. The pledge of allegiance was led by our VP Charlotte.

Dale brought the meeting to order at few minutes after 7:00 PM.

A motion was made by Dan and seconded Jerry to accept the minutes of the March meeting as printed in the newsletter. All board members were present and accounted for!

Dale announced the March birthdays. Happy Birthday to all of you celebrating March birthdays!

#### Meeting Minutes continued from page 6

Dale talked about the change of our Website to a new site. At this time we do not know if the web name will remain the same or not. Also, we do not know if the club QR code will will be changing. An email will go our as soon as we have answers. Hopefully, the business cards and postcards with this printed information will not have to change!

Dale then called on upon the board members to give their reports. For details on their information, **PLEASE**, read each of their reports printed in this newsletter. Keep up to date on all events in the tour report!

Gene Johnson got up twice during the meeting to extend his appreciation to the guys at the shop! He said and I quote, "they saved my bacon!" and have bailed him out a couple of times recently! He mentioned that he has belonged to 4 Model A clubs during his Model A lifetime and our club's shop is by far the best! Shop Guys give yourselves a pat on the back!! Thanks, Gene, for the your high praise!

The program Radius Rod Cap 7 Steering Arm was very informational and interesting. It's a lot to take in but some how you make it look easy! It is great that they bring the parts to demonstrate what they are talking about.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Fall Model A & T picnic, May Youth Month and the Beatty Day's weekend in October. Dale also asked members to start thinking about the November elections. Get involved: JOIN THE BOARD!

It always seems to be a rush finishing up dinner in time for the meeting to start. Dale asked the club if starting the meeting 1/2 hour later would be a problem. Hal motioned and Griff seconded the request. A vote was taken and it was agreed to start our meetings at 7:30 PM. The dinner hour will remain the same, 6:00 PM.

Steve Hodgson was our Dark Horse winner tonight! Congratulations, Steve!

A motion was made by Hal and seconded by Griff to close the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM

Thank you to Mark Frigaard, Kat McMahon, Doug Smith, and Tom Collins for their newsletter contributions!! NEXT MEEETING WILL BE APRIL 16, 2014. Dinner and social hour 6:00 PM Meeting 7:30 PM

#### MEMBERS AND THEIR CARS ABOUT TOWN!



Ray, Pam & Bob sat waiting for the tour to begin.



Brenda & Dan probably talking about their latest find!



Our new member Dino Zenuni & his '29 Roadster



Photos by: Mark Frigaard and Kat McMahon



#### Black Bear Breakfast Fans!

You can see the nice turnout for the March breakfast at Black Bear Diner. Just goes to show even with Day Light Savings Time our club is eager to drive their Model As to a good breakfast and club chatter!







TALKING DOG!



TOUR GROUP OR ARE THEY ANIMATRONICS?



HOW STRONG IS DAN?



Doug Smith went to the Goldstrom's Red Car Show. He sent this picture showing a few of the many cars Art Goldstrom has collected over his lifetime.

#### **Editor's Tid-Bits**

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY: by Hal White

If your Model A is not leaking oil, then you don't have any oil in your car!!



oil leak -good!

#### beetle SPARE PART-NERS







FB find

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