



THE REFLECTOR

Newsletter of the Palomar Model A Ford Club
February, 2025 : Volume 53, Number 2

TOUR TO THE FALLBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY



January 11th was a beautiful day to take a drive through our beautiful backcountry. It was, as has become pretty standard, a small gathering, Chuck Grabowsky, Bruce Furbush, Roseanne Meyerhoff, David and Karyn Frazee, and Mark Greenlee, and we met Bill Adams on the way at the Backdraft Bar and Grill.

The area has been built up so much, East Vista Way, North River Road, and Mission Road in Fallbrook can be considered "back country" as at least they don't have four lanes, sidewalks, and street lights. Although the journey lacked "improvements" we passed by Hee Haw Valley built in 1957 (closed in 1974), the Vista Elks's Lodge built in 1955, the Bonsall Bridge built in 1925, and the Bonsall one room schoolhouse built in 1895. We finished our drive for a tour of the Fallbrook Historical Society, including the Pit-tenger House which was also built in 1895.

It made me feel all the younger for it, too. Mark mentioned that his Fallbrook home was built in about 1935 and I asked if they had the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps to check it out. They didn't but my research has found the final one came out in 1929. We could have found who resided there in it's early years, though in their town directories.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Today is Inauguration Day as well as Martin Luther Memorial Day so we have been watching a lot of TV. Roseanne really likes the Pomp and Circumstance and I like Melania's hat. How was it that no other woman at the ceremony wore one? It's hard to miss Melanie but that hat was really cool.

Now that all the festive activities have come to an end I really hope the new administration can get it together and solve some of our pressing issues. If they can send a little rain our way that would be a good start. SDGE has been reminding me today that they may cut my power at any time. The winds have just picked up and there is a small fire in Poway which explains the SDGE phone call.

On a more positive note last weekend we had a great drive up to Fallbrook to tour Historical Society. I have never been to the museum located at 1630 South Hill Avenue so I really want to thank Mark Greenlee for leading the tour. They have a couple of Model A's plus a Model T. The main museum was interesting but I really enjoyed the Pittenger house owned by a Civil War hero and restored to an almost live in condition. It reminded me of my grandparents house in New York with a creaky wooden porch and small bedrooms. Finally The Barn housed the cars and vintage farm equipment, but was busy with a town meeting discussing the Avocado business. Bill Adams noticed a fenced compound across the street which had numerous security cameras, barbed wire and aggressive sounding dogs.

One of the docents told me that the owners had a very large helicopter business. They bought several lots and fenced it in to guard their privacy. It looks intriguing if anyone knows who it is please share it with me.

Before driving up the hill to Fallbrook we stopped in Bonsall to eat at Backdraft Bar and Grill. The food was very good and the weather perfect for sitting in the patio. Even though Mark took us to a bar nobody ordered anything alcoholic just some water they served in fancy bottles.

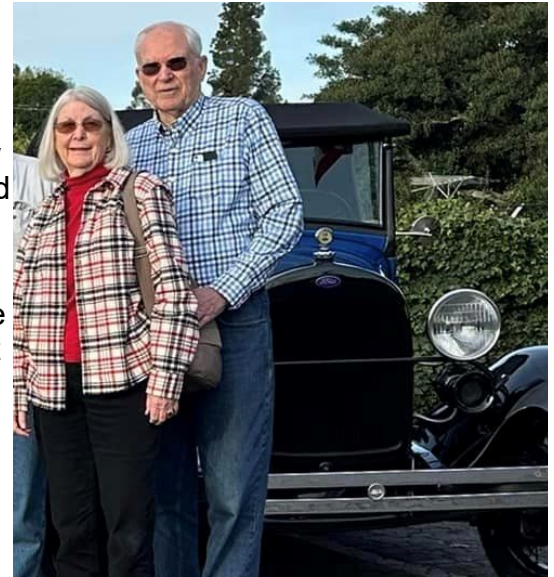
One last historic note was the Bonsall Bridge which is sometimes called the San Luis Rey Bridge and is on the National Register of Historic Places. First built in 1906. Rebuilt in 1926 and ultimately replaced in 1990 by the four lane bridge most of us drive today. You have to look for the side road that lets you drive back into a little history.

We were a small group only one A (Mark's) and three moderns which surprised me on such a nice day. A friend in Vista mentioned that there was a car show at the Peppertree this day and almost a dozen Model A were being shown. He sent me the link socalcarculture.com that might help identify what is happening car wise and perhaps adjust our tour activities.

I wouldn't be at next months meeting either Bill or Mark will be up front.

Hope to see you in March.

Bruce



Socal Car Culture.com™

Home | Events | Photos | Links | Clubs | Cruise Nights | Racing | Blog | Models

Events | All info is subject to change - be sure to contact the event organizers to confirm dates & times!

Check the traffic before you head out to an event - live traffic maps - click on the links
San Diego County | Orange County | Riverside/Inland Empire | LA County | LA City/Surface Streets | Valley/Ventura | Santa Clarita

Locations in Red indicate events that I will be attending - * = Recurring Cruise Nights also on Cruise Nights page.
Most Flyers are in Adobe PDF format - Get Acrobat Reader Free [Here](#) V = Vendor Space Available

2025
January

Buena Park Classic Swap Meet
Antique & Vintage Automotive Swap Meet Jan. 26th

Most of socalcarculture.com is not being updated, but check out the Events page for future events.

JANUARY MINUTES

The January 8, 2025 meeting of the Palomar A's was called to order by President Bruce Furbush at 7:05 PM with 16 in attendance. There was one guest, Norm Linek from Vista. He has a 1930 Model A, 4 door, Briggs Body.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mark Greenlee.

A motion was made by Chuck Grabowsky to approve the minutes of the December 2024 meeting as published in the Reflector, and seconded by Bruce Parker. Motion was passed by those in attendance.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Adams has not yet been able sign on to the account so previous Treasurer, Bruce Furbush, gave the report. Outstanding bills were discussed along with agreement to send funds to The Fallbrook Historical Society as a thank you for hosting the upcoming tour. Motion to approve the report and pay the bills was made by David Frazee and seconded by Steve DeAmbrogio. Motion passed by those in attendance. There was a discussion to send a thank you to Palomar Estates for allowing us to hold the monthly meetings there. Motion was made by Clyde Marion and seconded by Karyn Frazee. Motion was passed by those in attendance.

Sunshine & Sorrow – Donna Lugo is healing from a recent hip replacement and Chris Fuller is going through chemotherapy. Bill Adams was involved in a serious traffic accident in which his truck was totaled. Fortunately, he fared much better than the truck. Greg Wilson reported that his granddaughter will be locally in San Diego and Anaheim as part of the Disney On Ice extravaganza. Later the show is scheduled for Texas then off to Japan, China and the Philippines.

Group Breakfast – Greg Wilson is making reservations for the monthly breakfast gatherings. They will be held on different days of the week to allow attendance by those that may already have a full weekend. January will be Thursday, the 23rd, 9:00 AM at Pegah's in Vista. The Carlsbad Pie Shop will be the location Wednesday, Feb 19, and Wednesday, March 19 will be at Debbie's on Nordahl in Escondido. There was also discussion of having a breakfast further north so the Temecula club can attend without having to travel so far. Greg asks that people arrive 15 minutes early so the restaurant can make appropriate seating arrangements.

Reflector Report – David Frazee welcomes any contributions of interest for the Newsletter. Submis-

sion of technical notes, reports from tours or photographs are appreciated.

Website – It was reported that both the website and Facebook listings are up to date. Jessie Greenlee, Mark's daughter, has been overseeing the process. Bill Adams has volunteered to periodically check the "Contact" inquiries and respond to them.

Short Tour – Jan 11 meet at Pala Estates at 11 AM for a trip to Bonsall for lunch then on to Fallbrook Historical Society which opens at 1 PM.

Hospitality – Anthony Lugo set up a nice assortment of treats that had been brought in by members. In February the Frazees, Mark Greenlee, Greg Wilson and Chuck Grabowsky have volunteered goodies.

Entertainment – Door Prizes – Karen Beel will be assisted with the raffle by Bill Adams to keep the door prizes an enjoyable event.

Birthday Prize went to Anthony Lugo and the chance to draw for the Big Opportunity Winner [radiator surround] went to Bruce Parker. The lucky draw is the ace of spades. The card drawn was the 4 of spades.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Submitted by Karla Maxwell, Secretary



Howard Kruegel to Turn Ninety

Most folks can't imagine ninety candles on their birthday cakes, but Howard will be lucky enough to experience just that on January 29th. He'll blow them out, too, surrounded by friends, family, and more than one garage filled with Model A parts.

He's shooting for one hundred, so here's hoping they not only have fire extinguishers at the party, but also non-melting icing for his cake. With his determination, 100 is just the beginning.

OXFORD'S REMARKABLE WOMAN OXFORD MUSEUM NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2022

Molly Stewart was born in Oxford, MD in 1859 and at the tender age of 18, became the town's new postmistress, succeeding her father who was appointed by President Lincoln. Molly held this position for a total of 63 years, a remarkable achievement. The post office was in her home on Morris Street and people gathered there twice daily to exchange gossip, discuss the weather and collect their mail.

But the job was not without its challenges and its notoriety. As told by Dickson Preston in his book ***Oxford: The First Three Centuries***, "In 1929 and 1930 Miss Molly achieved national celebrity when the Republicans tried to oust her from the position she had already held for more than fifty years. With precedent, they considered the postmastership a federal patronage plum to be dispensed to faithful workers for the party in power, so when her last term expired on March 9, 1929, the Talbot County Republican Committee decided to replace her with George H. Dobson, a loyal party man. Miss Molly would be out of a job, and without a pension, at the age of seventy.

Normally such a change would have been routine. Herbert Hoover had just taken office as President; Phillips Lee Goldsborough, a Republican was U.S. senator from Maryland. Under the procedure in effect since Benjamin Franklin's Day, Goldsborough would simply pass Dobson's name on to the White House, which would send it to the Senate, which would approve it, and that would be that. But Miss Molly fought back. She pointed out that she had originally been appointed by a Republican, President Rutherford B. Hayes. And anyhow, she said, she was non-political; she had never voted in her life. Women did not even have the vote until 1920, and since then she had carefully refrained from taking sides. At her request, a civil service examination was held for the postmastership. Miss Molly passed with the highest score of any applicant; Dobson flunked the test.

A year passed with no appointment. Miss Molly served as interim postmaster; ninety-five per cent of the residents of Oxford, regardless of party affiliation, signed a petition asking that she be retained. But the Republicans were still determined to get her out and Dobson in. Another civil service examination was held, and again Miss Molly topped the field with an even higher score than before; but this time Dobson succeeded in getting

a passing grade, and it appeared that his name would go to the White House.

Senate Democrats, led by Maryland's other senator, Millard Tydings, sensed political capital in the situation. They fed the story to friendly reporters, and sympathetic articles appeared in Democratic papers nationwide about a lone woman's fight against the evil Republican political machine. Suddenly Miss Molly was a national figure.

Tydings announced that if Dobson's name came up in the Senate, he would lead a floor battle against confirmation. Eventually, the frustrated Republicans gave in... In November, 1931, Senator Goldsborough announced that he would recommend Miss Molly's reappointment. The nomination sailed through the Senate without a hitch, and Miss Molly stayed on for another nine years.



MOLLY STEWART CONTINUED

When she finally retired in June 1940, she had been in office longer than any other postmaster in U.S. history.

In October 1939, Molly went to Washington to attend the National Association of Postmasters' Convention. She was the guest of honor. According to *Time magazine*, she also went to the White House to tea, dressed in a new plum-colored dress. She was so overwhelmed by meeting Mrs. Roosevelt that she could not remember what the First Lady had said to her, besides, "Why, I read about you in the paper this morning. . . ."

A bouquet of roses was presented to her at the banquet...., and a waltz with an unknown postmaster. "Our badges were our introduction," she explained. "I love to dance—the waltz glide, not this hopping around." Then she returned to Oxford for bi-monthly stocktaking.

In the museum's collection is a pistol that was given to Miss Molly to protect the post office during WWII. We doubt it was ever fired. Source: ***Oxford: The First Three Centuries*** by Dickson Preston

LOU HOOVER'S INAUGURATION GOWN

President Hoover's wife was the first, first lady to appear in *Vogue*. She was widely regarded as being one of the most cultured and stylish women of her day. This dress does not appear in the Smithsonian's display of inauguration gowns, so no color image is available.

No description of Herbert Hoover's suit for the inaugural is available, but photos of him near other men, tend to have his suits several shades lighter, so this is likely a dark gray cotton morning suit, rather than black silk.



Jungle Drums

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREASE MONKEYS

SPECIAL EDITION, FEBRUARY 2025

GREASE MONKEY GROWTH



We are adding a dozen founding members every month. Of course, what is not to like? For the 75 to 85 founders imagined, there will be no cost and no expectations. Only if during the August meeting enough founders get together with goals beyond just fun and games will any money be collected and bylaws be agreed upon for the then “participating members.”

The desired result for founders is illustrated in the picture above. Most founders have had over forty years experience working to restore and maintain antique cars, and while we love those cars, Grease Monkeys are generous mechanics and show some interest in younger mechanics as well, sharing stories, diagnosing their mechanical issues, providing advice, and inviting them to work in their garages.

Grease Monkeys should stand behind younger hobbyists—even sometimes sticking their head through the roof of a car to do it... The joys of artificial intelligence, am I right?

Most of the Central California Region and Southern California Region of the Model A Ford Club of America have nominated their Most Generous Mechanics. A batch of name patches have been ordered in hopes of having membership packets arrive at the homes of those presenters in time for the chapter's February meetings. As the month includes Valentine's Day, we are billing it as “Love Your Mechanic Month.”

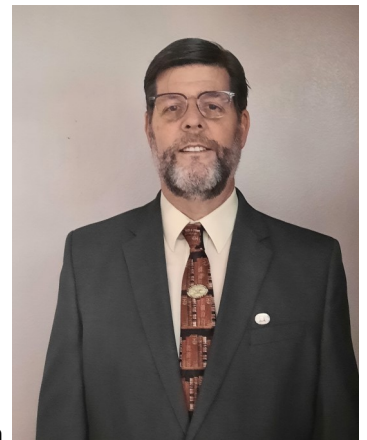
Who we are

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 other people's antique automobiles. Known for their generosity, GMs regularly travel with tools and spare parts and they feel most comfortable wearing coveralls.

Although it's a priority to recognize generous mechanics within close proximity of others so they can spontaneously meet one another at antique car events, those already nominated are free to nominate others (within the US) to also become founders before either that July 4th cut off or that 85 member threshold has been reached, and those nominated can live in an Alaskan igloo if they meet the qualifications described on the member's application sheet.

GM COORDINATOR APPOINTED MAFCA SECRETARY

David Frazee, self-appointed coordinator of the Fraternal Order of Grease Monkeys, Engineers and Navigators, himself, a *navigator*, has been recognized by for his contributions to the hobby by being appointed as secretary of the Model A Ford Club of America for 2025-26.



Navigators are not known for their contributions as mechanics or for improving or customizing the design of factory built automobiles. They work tirelessly, for many years, organizing and documenting the contributions of the countless mechanics and engineers throughout the many antique car clubs of the world.

Frazee has plans to attend many firsts for him throughout the next two years. Expect to find him like a Manhattan tourist: frozen in the middle of a sidewalk, mouth gaping, looking up in wonder.

Bill Hansen's

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BIRTHDAYS

Nedra Grabowsky	1 Feb
Anna Velasco	5 Feb
Bill Horn	8 Feb
Clyde Marion	20 Feb
Nancy Quinlan	22 Feb
Ed Lopez	26 Feb
Brian Terry	26 Feb

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim and M.A.	14 Feb
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DUES ARE DUE

It's your last chance to pay
your dues in order to be in
the 2025 Club Directory.
Send \$20 and any chang-
es to your phone, address

or the cars you own to:

417 Darwin Dr. Oceanside, CA 92056

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

January 25 - 26 : 58th Turlock Swap Meet Stanislaus County Fairgrounds 900 N. Broadway
Turlock, CA. hosted by Modesto Area A's

February 5 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM

February 8 San Diego Chapter tour to Hawk Watch Wildlife Research Institute in
Ramona. Meet at Highway 67 at Scripps Poway Parkway about 9:00am to meet
members closer to that location. We will then drive to 18528 Highland Valley
Road in Ramona

February 15 Temecula Valley's Idyllwild Tour first to local winery then to lunch,
meet at the Flagpole at 9:00 AM

February 19 Wednesday, Breakfast at Village Kitchen and Pie Shoppe in Carls-
bad 950 Tamarack Ave

March 5 Meeting at Palomar Estates 7:00 PM

March 19 Wednesday, Breakfast at Debbie's Restaurant and Pie Shop
740 Nordahl Rd UNIT 114, San Marcos

March 30 (Sun) 62nd ORANGE COUNTY PANCAKE BREAKFAST Hart
Park Orange CA hosted by Orange County Model A's. Date to be confirmed in
February

April 2 - 7 : CCRG 2025 Jamboree – Visalia : Contact Phil Kneeland:
lindannphil@sbcglobal.net and also Bruce Howe

May 21 - 27 : NCRG 2025 Roundup: Sacramento [https://
sacramentocapitolas.org/2025-ncrg](https://sacramentocapitolas.org/2025-ncrg)

June 15 - 22 : MAFCA National Tour – AMERICAN CIVIL WAR Waynesboro VA
hosted by Dallas Model A Ford Club mafca2025@dmafc.com

September 22 - October 13 : Route 66 Tour – Chicago to Santa Monica

December 3, 2025 - December 6, 2025 MAFCA National Awards Banquet – Mobile, Alabama

Note: The plan without a tour leader is to piggyback tours with other local clubs. Please consider
leading a tour for our club so I can fill some of this page, If health and Model A condition are con-
cerns, modern cars are always welcome. Come see places you would probably not see otherwise.



Car Maintenance List

Bill Adams and I were chatting at breakfast about how there are several lists (merged and included here) that say what owners should do to maintain their Model A's at particular mileage milestones, but most of us don't reach the 1000 miles in several years, and 5000 miles won't be reached in this decade. So, it would seem to be more useful for us if we had a calendar to split up the tasks and keep our cars as reliable as a Timex watch whenever the urge hits us to take it on the road.

So, here's a list for you long tourers whose cars are regularly driven. For the rest of us, over this year, I'll split it up and describe points in performing each based on Les Andrews's *Model A Ford Mechanic's Handbook*, Vol 1 *Ford Service Bulletins*, and Mary Moline's *Model A Miseries and Cures*. I wish I knew about the loom and what to do with the clutch pedal right now, (Lube Chart has it greased every 500 miles, but why doesn't this mention the brake pedal in that case?) but I'm sure I'll find out before December!

___ Complete chassis lube job (never grease rear wheel bearing 5k more than one "pump" per year) 1k
There's also a Lube Chart I'll use that identify points to lube at 500 and 2000 miles

___ Change engine oil 1k
___ Fill battery, inspect and clean terminals 1k
___ Check radiator and top up with water or antifreeze as needed 1k

___ Check all tires for excess wear or sidewall cracks, etc. 1k Rotate 5k

___ Check air pressure (35 psi) 1k
___ Adjust fan belt (it must NOT be tight) 1k
___ Check for cracks in the belt or other deterioration 1k

___ Check fan for tightness, cracks in the blades, and for clearance from the radiator and belts 1k

___ Grease water pump, both front and back 1k
___ Check packing nut for packing, leaks and tightness 1k

___ Check Carburetor and fuel lines for leaks 1K
___ Check for any excess fluid leaks 1k
___ Check lights, including brake light, and horn for proper operation 1k

___ Check wheel for wobble or damaged lug holes 1k
___ Check tightness of wheel lugs 1k
___ Check wheel for any looseness in the steering or lugs by putting the car on a jack and trying to move the wheel top-to-bottom and side-to-side 5k

___ Adjust steering if loose or too much free play 5k
___ Pack front wheel bearings 5k
___ Inspect inner races and bearings for cracks or

pitting 5k

___ Tighten nut for proper bearing load 5k
___ Recheck bearing tightness after short test drive 5k
___ Check radiator hoses for soft spots and leaks 5k
___ Set point gap and timing 5k
___ Adjust service brakes - all four wheels should slide if necessary! 5k
___ Ensure starter rod lock nut is secure 5k
___ Check wiring for worn places - on 29's, check wire in loom tube on side of engine for wear 5k
___ Check that the gas cap vent is open 5k

Top off lube in

___ transmission 5k
___ overdrive (if applicable) 5k
___ rear end 5k
___ steering gear 5k
___ Oil the horn 5k
___ Oil the door hinges 5k
___ Oil the speedometer cable. 5k
___ Oil distributor bottom bearing - if top bearing is oiled, be sure to remove any excess oil 5k
___ Lube wiper cam/check wiper flexibility 5k
___ Oil generator bearings, front and back 10k
___ Check for looseness in the wishbone mount 10k
___ Check for cracks and the bolt tightness on the spring's U bolt 10k
___ Remove, clean and reset gap on sparkplugs 10k
___ Check amp output. If necessary, set to less than 10 amps for long trips 10k
___ Check entire car for loose parts, nuts, bolts, etc. 10k
___ Check for missing cotter pins 10k
___ Check windwings or wind deflectors for loose hardware 10k

___ Top off oil in shock absorbers 10k
___ Check electrical connections 10k
___ Clean fuel sediment bowl 10k
___ Inspect brake pads 20k
___ Grease Leaf springs 20k
___ Check engine compression 20k

___ Check that the loom below the fan is secure to bottom of radiator?

___ Clutch pedal?



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Sunshine & Sorrow	<i>Donna & 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
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.



February, 2025

THE REFLECTOR

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