



The

# Mohair Flyer



## Model A Ford Club of Santa Barbara

### Calendar

#### April

- 1 April Fools Day!
- 5 Mtg 7pm South Coast Church
- 8 Coffee & Classics 8am-10am
- 9 Happy Easter!




- 20-23 CCRG Jamboree
- 22 Club Tour: CCRG Jamboree
- 22 Coffee & Classics 8am-10am
- 30 Orange Co. Pancake Brkfst.

#### May

- 1 May Day
- 3 Business Mtg. Guest Speaker
- 13 Coffee & Classics 8am-10am
- 14 Mother's Day 
- 20 Club Tour Historic Hacienda
- 27 Coffee & Classics 8am-10am

#### June

- 7 Business Meeting
- 17 Senior Communities Tour
- 18 Father's Day 



#### July

- 4 4th of July Party at Duerners
- 16-21 MAFCA Nat'l Tour
- 22 Gymkhana Glen Annie Rnch

August Tour: Lunner!

September Picnic

September Tour: Bob Davis

October Tour: TBA

November Tour: TBA

#### December

- Christmas Holiday Dinner
- 30-12/2 Nat'l Awards Banquet



# Model "A" Ford



## SAFETY CLINIC

*There was a good turnout for the Safety Clinic this year. It was a fun day with 15 members, 7 guests including two of our members grandsons and an automotive student from SBCC.*



Learning about timing



Checking the brakes on the first car while Steve Penniman's grandson, Alex, looks on

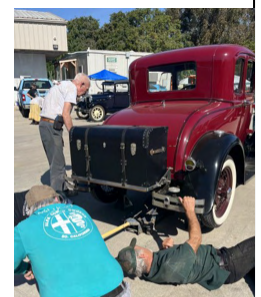


Jonah, in his Ford shirt, waiting his turn

SBCC Student Amado Castaneda



Randy called "Next!" so we brought up Jonah Budow, John Gilbertson's 8 mo old grandson. His car went up on jacks for oil change and a brake adjustment.

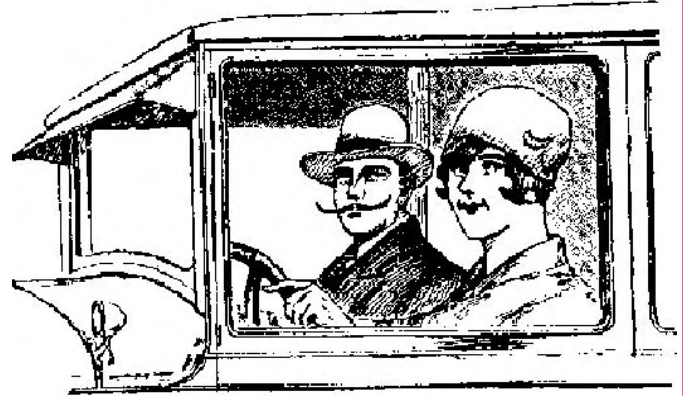


"How come the wheel won't stop?"



# Happy Birthday!

6 Karen Haugse  
7 Charles Kreich  
7 Ralph Nair  
7 Jeffrey Thompson



## Model A Fashion Corner

*You have the cloche hat, the flapper dress; he has the vintage jacket and hat. Now let's look at accessories you can find on E-bay or Etsy*



*An Art Deco 1929 patented Ronson Perfume-mist. It looks like a lighter, but it's a perfume atomizer!*

*From*

*Model A Era Fashions on Facebook*

*The 20s produced the first real decade of the wrist watch. This was a time when both men and women began to adapt to wrist watches over pocket watches, which were a more common feature up until this point. On E-Bay*



*Other accessories for the fashionable woman in the 1920s included gloves. Most women wore gloves when leaving the house, and only removed them to eat, smoke, or use the restroom. On Etsy*



## from the President

*Welcome to April! We are looking forward to a fun Spring and Summer. I'll be going to my first CCRG with John this month. Club vice-president Steve and Phyllis Penniman will be there representing the club as well. In the meantime, I pasted an article on page 8 about all the wildflowers you could tour around in town on the 22nd to get photos. I got the idea from Richard Slyker, President of the Ventura Model A Club. I had called him about meeting in Carpinteria this year. We won't be able to go this year because Rincon Creek overflowed in January and wiped out the new pavilion that had been built. So we decided to invite the Ventura Club to our Gymkhana on July 22 at Fred and Cyndi's Ranch.*

*Welcome new members Peter and Ruth Georgi! Peter is a former president of the Carriage House. Peter has proposed the club can meet for a potluck dinner there so we will be planning that.*

## Next meeting

### Wednesday, April 5

### 7 pm.

**SOUTHCOAST Church 5814 Cathedral Oaks**



## Announcing Club Awards



To be awarded January 2024

### Eric Salter Award!



*We thought what better way to honor Eric. Eric Salter always had a smile on his face and would help out anyone who asked. This is a friendly club. Longstanding member Eric really stood out and he is missed so much. Everyone has a nice story to tell about him. This award will go to a member who is most helpful each year.*

### Charter Award!



*The Charter Award will be awarded to the member who accumulates the most points. The club has done this before but now it has a name that honors our founding members. We are finding out their names as we are researching their history. The names we have so far are:*

*Bill Berger was an amazing person and did a lot for the community. The Model A Club was always in his heart and in his blood.*

*Ralph Nair II was age 15 when our club was founded. He lives in Utah and is active in a Model A Club there. Read more info and historic articles on pages 6, 9 & 10.*



*Ron Ryker lives in Arizona and is available to help piece together our history. He gave us the names Al Leenders and Gene Wall. They are founding members as well. We have learned that Ron and Al worked together at a machine shop. Their children went to school together and Bill was their teacher. In time, we will learn more and expand on their stories about the beginning of our club.*

*Points have been accumulating since January 1 and so far it's a tight race. Attending an event is 1 pt. Driving your Model A 3 pts. Wearing a club hat or jacket is 1 pt.*



#### CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT *Janet Cox*

VICE PRESIDENT *Steve Penniman*

SECRETARY *Susan Carty*

TREASURER *Bob Davis*

AUXILLARY BOARD

*Randy Douglas*

*Ed Firth*



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# Santa Barbara Model A Club's News Press Interview

News Reporter, Caleb Beeghley, of the Santa Barbara News Press contacted us through our website to ask if he could interview us about the Model A and Club life. You can read the article at this link: <https://newspress.com/the-car-that-changed-the-world/>

John Gilbertson invited the club to his garages for the interview and provided coffee and donuts. We had 6 Model A's.



Club members talked about Model T's and A's and MAFCA in relation to SBMAFC.



Caleb learned about the different Model A Ford body styles.



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We drove to Tucker's Grove for a formal photo for the paper.



Thanks to Randy Douglas, Steve Penniman, Aaron and Robin Machado, Ed Firth, Mo Masson, John Franklin and John Gilbertson for coming by on a Thursday morning for this interview.

# Gledhill Library *by Janet Cox*

Robin Machado and I visited the Gledhill Library at the Santa Barbara Historical Museum the morning of March 29 to meet with Chris Ervin, Head Archivist to see the advanced system for recording and preserving Santa Barbara history.



The Library is a research, non-circulating collection open to the public. Their varied materials are available for students, history

buffs and anyone seeking a better understanding of our city's rich history. When you enter the library, you enter through sort of a glass box so that outside particles and debris can't enter the research room.



Chris Ervin shows us a drawer with old Santa Barbara maps

The purpose of this visit is because the Gledhill Library will now be collecting and preserving all of the SB Model

A Ford Club's newsletters, news articles, press releases, photos and anything else memorable for our club such as the original club charter.

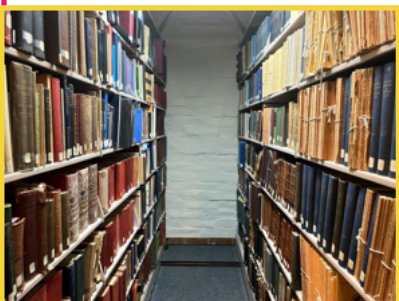
It's possible to do a lot of research on their website:

[http://bit.ly/gledhill\\_library](http://bit.ly/gledhill_library)



Chris Ervin shows us the electronically moveable Stacks where historic papers are stored

For example, you can review old city directories dated from 1875 to 1987. or read all past History 101 articles. You can schedule a research appointment by going to their online scheduler.



Here is the single hallway opened up between the Stacks for access to the historic materials

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The library's original vintage card catalog on display



They create the perfect environment for research and provide the materials in photographs, books and maps



Robin, looking at an old city map on display. The grid overlay shows where the downtown streets were later formed. On this map you can see where old homesteads or haciendas were laying across State St. and other downtown streets.

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## Letter from a Charter Member

During our quest to find out who the Charter members of our club are, we have been lucky to have made contact with Ralph Nair. Ralph has sent us a SB News Press article in August of 1959 printed just before the SB MAFCA chapter was granted December 5, 1959. He said he sure hopes that we are able to retrieve the original charter document that Bill Berger had in his possession and showed him a year or two before he passed away. On the back were the signatures of the original members which included Bill and Ralph. See articles on pgs. 9 & 10

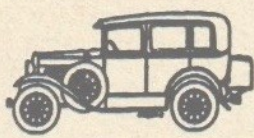


Ralph was age 15 in 1959 when he restored this 1930 Cabriolet with his dad and was a charter member of SBMAFC

He wrote, "Bill Berger was our mentor and consultant and became a great friend. He says that it was Ron Ryker that remained in SB and participated in the club after it's founding while my life took me away from SB until I retired about seven years ago and moved back. While I was away from SB, my Dad, (same name as me) participated in the club from time to time as he had purchased a 1931 Deluxe Roadster and worked many years to restore it."

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April Newsletter Editor: *Janet Cox*

Photographs: *Janet Cox*

Webmaster and Roster editor: *Bob Carty*

Communicator: *Jill Thach*

Tours: *Annie Villarreal, Bob Davis, Steve Penniman,*

Gymkhana: *Fred Duerner, Randy Douglas, and Bob Davis*

Positions open: *Assistant Editor, Club Cheer, Cookie Coord.*

### A Blonde Joke

A husband and his blonde wife were on their way to Austin, TX on I-35 Interstate South when they encountered a sizeable swarm of gnats that was so dense that their bodies made a popping noise as they hit the windshield. The blonde said, "I can't get over how loud those bugs are when they hit the glass. The husband pointed out that "Just remember we are hitting them at 65 miles per hour". The blonde thought for a moment and then said, I didn't know bugs could fly that fast".

### Another Blonde Joke

**Doctor:** I'm just waiting for your X-Ray

**Blonde:** But I've never dated anyone named Ray

**Doctor:** And we might do a brain scan



*Blonde Jokes submitted by Janet's cousin Ron*

## The Bathtub Test

The bathtub test...Some have counseled me to go to a long-term care home.

I was not sure about this. So, I decided to ask my long-time doctor.

So, I awaited my next visit, and I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in a Long-Term Care Home?"



"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No," he said. "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"

**ARE YOU GOING TO PASS THIS ON ... OR DO YOU WANT THE BED NEXT TO MINE?**

*Submitted by Jill Thach*

From Cristal's Blog February 2023

Cristal Clarke of Berkshire Hathaway

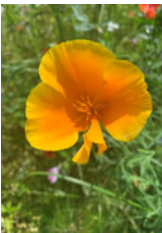
## The California Superbloom

The California Superbloom wildflower season is upon us. Which brings a silver lining to all those rainy days we've experienced recently. The last



dramatic wildflower bloom in California happened in the spring of 2019. Now, four years later, wildflowers in Santa Barbara County are on full display, bringing patches of bright orange poppies and white lilies to our hillsides and mountain roads with blue dicks, purple lupines, and more popping up along some trails.

While your club president and vice president will be representing our club at the Jamboree in April, this might be the perfect time for a group to go to San Marcos Foothills or the Botanic Garden and take photos of the amazing wildflowers with the Model A Cars in the foreground of course.



Approximately 2,000 kinds of native plants call Santa Barbara County home. Many of the golden state's annual plants have existed as seeds in the soil for decades, waiting for the right conditions to germinate. The combination of years of drought, fire, and record-setting rain has brought those seeds to life in a psychedelic show of wildflowers all around Santa Barbara County.



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# Santa Barbara Model A Club History

24

## welcome!...

### SANTA BARBARA CHAPTER

On August 15th the Santa Barbara Chapter became the tenth organization of Model A owners to be authorized for chapter affiliation with the Model A Ford Club of America.

Santa Barbara, a beautiful coast city about 95 miles north of Los Angeles, is known, among other things, as the site of one of California's oldest missions. In the realm of vintage cars, the area is also well known as a real hot-bed of Model A Ford enthusiasm--the place many well preserved and finely restored A's call home.

Considerable more enthusiasm was created in the area in July when a contingent of cars from the Los Angeles club journeyed there for a day of activities. (See pages 16 and 17.)

Organization of the Santa Barbara Chapter was spearheaded by Bill Berger, who has long been associated with Model A clubs. He not only served two terms as president of the Northern California Model A Restorers Club, but also, previously, until called away on business, was one of the original founding members of our club when it started back in 1955.

Bill is shown below polishing his A-400 in preparation for the July tour--assisted by Ken Kaitschuck (left) and Bill Nair (right).

To Bill, who we hope is back in southern California to stay awhile, and to our new Santa Barbara Chapter...a big rousing welcome.

The article above appeared on page 24 of the Sep/Oct 1959 Restorer, Vol. 4, Issue 3 that welcomed the new SB Chapter into MAFCA. Sent by Ralph Nair

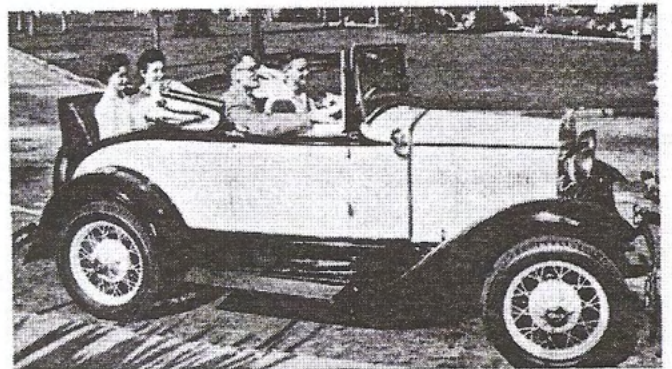
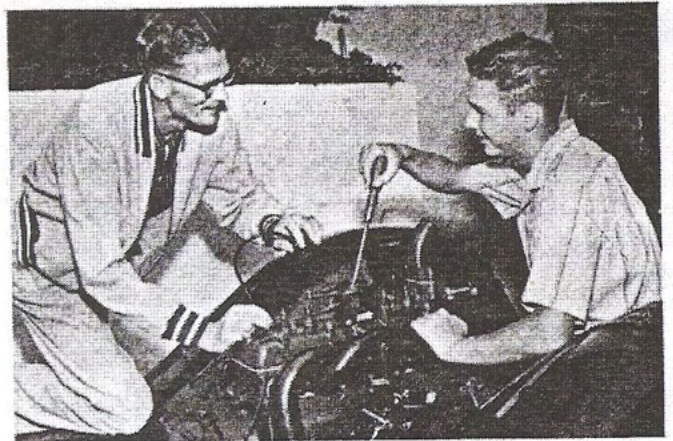
*from: Jan-FEB 1960 ISSUE OF "THE RESTORER", Vol. 4, 1959-60, Page 19*

### SANTA BARBARA CHAPTER

The Santa Barbara Chapter is entering its first full year of activity with an eager look in its eye. Many fine events are planned for 1960, with a possible tour of Vandenberg Air Force Base, America's large missile base in California. It is rumored that John Sloan's Roadster is going to be sent into orbit around the earth. Wonderful--another first for Model A.

RIGHT ABOVE: Pictured are Santa Barbara Chapter members Dr. Ralph K. Nair and his son Ralph II during a stage of restoration on their 1930 Cabriolet.

RIGHT BELOW: The Nair family, with Susan Jean and Mrs. Nair enjoying the thrill of a good ol' rumble seat ride, tour the sights of Santa Barbara in the completely restored Model A. Ralph began the restoration in June and finished by October of last year, taking extreme care to maintain the original quality--a credit to Ralph and the Santa Barbara Chapter.



This article above appeared on page 19 of the Jan/Feb 1960 Restorer, Vol. 4, Issue 5. Sent by Ralph Nair.

# Santa Barbara Model A Ford Club History

EDITORIALS  
FINANCIAL

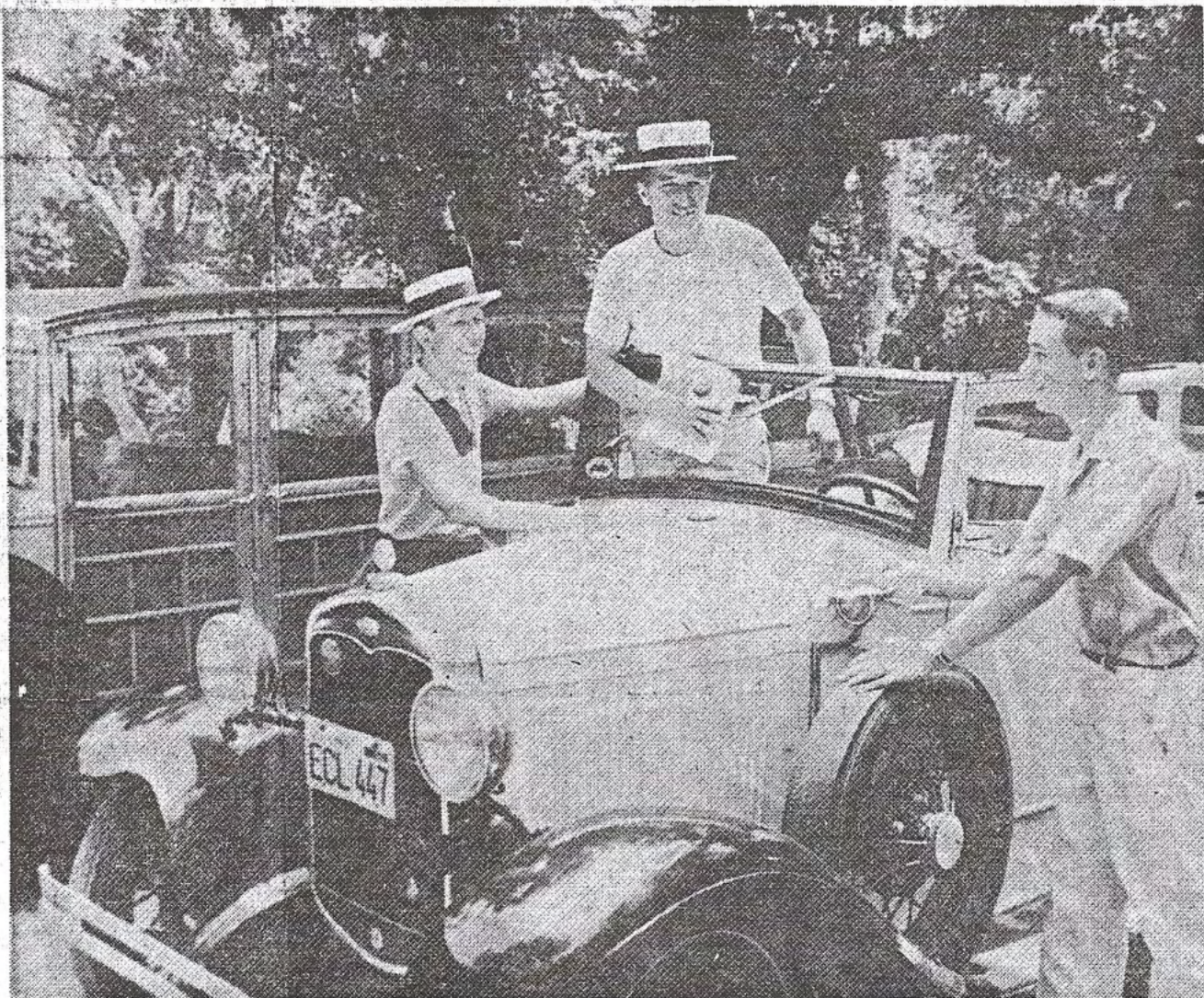
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### SHINING IT UP

The Model A Club (Ford) of the Los Angeles area and local members held a reunion here yesterday afternoon in Rocky Nook Park. About 25 of the gas buggies were driven here under the leadership of Ken Kaitschuck, left, of North Hollywood, who is helping Bill Berger, local chairman, and Ralph Nair II, right, shine up a 1930 cabriolet, complete with rumble seat.

—News-Press photo

NOTE: CAPTION IN ERROR. CAR BEING SHINED UP IS BILL BERGER'S 1931 A-400.