

Orange County Model A Ford Club

THE DISTRIBUTOR

Established 1961




Volume 65 Issue 6

June 2025

Editor Eric Engle

The Old Ridge Route Comes to Life ! San Diego & Orange County Model A Ford Club Tour

On May 4th 2025, the rain broke just in time for a magical journey back in time along the Old Ridge Route. Eight Model A Fords traveled to Gorman to take a tour of the road, coming from San Diego and Orange County.

By Sydney Croasmun—Ridge Route Preservation Organization, May 6, 2025

Article on Pages 6 & 7

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Memorial Day at Fairhaven Memorial Park

This last Monday, May 26th, our O.C. Model A club members once again lined the entrance to the Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana to welcome the crowds of people there to pay respect to those brave men and women who so proudly gave their all for our country. A very proud day to show and share our Model A's and say a heartfelt, "Thank you!!" to our country's service people.



News From the President

By Mike Edmonson

Happy June,

I received my “friendly reminder” from our esteemed Newsletter Editor that we had much going on this month (as well as a gentle reminder that I was running late in getting my monthly column out once again!). Ah well, can’t teach an old dog..... but enough of the musings! I’ll be on vacation up in Seattle the first half of the month and you will be in the extremely capable hands of your great VP, **Mr. Steve Pavich!** But on with the show.....



Our first half of June starts off with the annual Anaheim Flag Day Parade, a great way to show off your patriotic spirit as we head into the dog days of summer -- easy to say with the balmy mid 80-degree weather today. On June 14th we will be on our monthly tour, this time to the Old Town Music Hall in El Segundo for some good old Ragtime and Dixieland music. If this isn’t quite your bag (sorry, a musician’s term) you also have an opportunity to celebrate all of the great dads out there (which is what I’ll be doing in Seattle) with Father’s Day at Ivy Terrace in Fullerton.

As we move past our midway point of June, on the 21st there is a classic car show in Costa Mesa in support of a wonderful organization, the Alzheimer’s Association. And we push the month out with several weekday events that include a salute to our Veterans on the 24th with a reception in Fullerton, followed by our 4th Thursday Breakfast at a currently undisclosed location...**Aaron** likes to keep us in suspense! Later that afternoon there is a classic car show for a limited number of Model A’s at the Oakmont of Orange Assisted Living Center.

And wrapping up the month, Saturday the 28th of June will be the annual Independence Day Ice Cream Social. If you haven’t attended one of these gatherings, you are missing out! **Ed and Patti Côté** know how to put on quite the shindig. Plenty of sweets to go around and veritable collection of historic memorabilia dating back to pre-Civil War days into our modern day will both surprise and amaze you -- and **Ed** has a story behind every artifact (true enough), so be there or be square.

And yet, the 4th of July is still just around the corner.....just you wait.....Summer is yet to come!

See you at the turnaround point,

Mike

2025 BOARD MEMBERS

President – Mike Edmonson
VP/Activities – Steve Pavich/Roger Gullidge
Secretary – Debbie Parrish
Treasurer – Joni Terens
Technical – Ron Andrews/Dave Knapp
Editor – Eric Engle
Immediate Past President – Louise Hall

COMMITTEES

Co-Editor/proofreader – Becky MacIntosh
ACCC Representative – David Knapp
Breakfast Committee – Aaron Magdaleno
Club Greeter – Linda Tom
Election Chairperson – Jennifer Ferrario
Historian & Librarian – Bruce MacIntosh
Merchandise Director – Perry Wilson
Pancake Breakfast Setup & Coordination – Aaron Magdaleno, Don Ratzlaff and Richard Bolls
Raffle – Ed Cote
Refreshments – Gerry & Sherry Reid
Regional Representative, SCRG – Jim Runyon
Era Fashions – Kaci Terens
Sunshine & Sorrow – Marilyn Hawkins
Webmaster – Bruce MacIntosh

We have removed all Committee members' emails and phone numbers in order to ensure their privacy. Members can find this info in your roster.

Please Note: Some information contained in our newsletter has been reprinted from other newsletters; we thank and acknowledge them.

Orange County Model A Ford Club
 General Meeting Minutes on
 Meeting held at First Christian Church in
 Orange, CA

**ORANGE COUNTY MODEL A CLUB GENERAL MEETING**

MAY 8, 2025, 730PM

The meeting was called to order by **Mike Edmonson**, followed by the flag salute. **Marilyn Singer-Hawkins** told a joke.

MINUTES: The past minutes were provided in the newsletter. **Eric Engle** made a motion to accept and **Kathy Glendinning 2nd**.

All approved.

FINANCIAL: **Joni Terens** presented the financial report. **Sheila Plotkin** made a motion to accept and **Kaci Terens 2nd**. All approved. Total membership is 137.

ACTIVITIES: **Steve Pavich** told us about upcoming events. 5/10 Potluck and Movie Night at **Don Dormeyer's** studio 5/24 **Al Zannino's** Model A shop in Hemet, 5/26 Memorial Day Celebration at Fairhaven, 6/8 Anaheim Flag Day parade 6/14 Old Town Music Hall. 6/28 Annual Ice Cream Social at Cotes. Please contact **Steve** for more details on any of the events. Future possibilities are Gene Autry Museum or Leatherneck Air Museum at the Great Park.

TECHNICAL: Ron will combine our tech seminar with trip to **Al Zannino's** Car shop.

SUNSHINE AND SORROW: Everyone seems Healthy.

NEW BUSINESS: **Mike** was asking about getting a Program Director to invite guest speakers to the meetings. Guests would provide a 15-minute presentation on all different topics. **Jim Nichols** will be closing the shop and needs to get rid of all surplus. Give him a call if interested in any parts

HARD LUCK TROPHY: **Norm Kredit** had a mystery malfunction on the way home from Rubel Castle. But **Nathan Sherry** took home the prize with another broken timing gear.

RAFFLES: **Carole Howard** won ten dollars for the attendance raffle. **Bruce and Becky MacIntosh** won \$60 for the membership raffle. Next month we start at \$10 again. Will YOU be the lucky winner?

NEW MEMBER: Bring a friend.

MAY BIRTHDAYS: **Ron Andrews** took the spotlight for May.

REFRESHMENTS: Thanks go to **Steve and Debbie Pavich, Jim Runyon, Don Ratzlaff, Aaron Magdaleno and Linda Tom** for drinks.

The meeting adjourned at 830pm with 49 members.

Submitted by Secretary **Debbie Parrish** awaiting approval.

Upcoming Tours and Activities Calendar



June 7th (Sat), First Sat. Breakfast, 8:00am, Denny's, 2314 17th Street, Santa Ana,



June 8 (Sun), **30th annual Anaheim Flag Day Parade and Event** at Pearson Park, Anaheim, Ca. Gather at Von's parking lot, 130 W Lincoln Ave, Anaheim. **Leave parking lot at 9:45** to drive to parade staging area, which starts at 11:45, followed by BBQ lunch and dessert. Live entertainment. **Cont: Perry and Gina Wilson.** **Decorate your cars** and come join the fun.



June 12th (Thurs), General Meeting will be at 7:30pm at First Christian Church of Orange, 1130 E Walnut, Orange (between Tustin & Cambridge).



June 14th (Sat), Father's Day 9:30-11am, Need 8-9 cars, Ivy Terrace of Fullerton, 1510 E. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton, RSVP Ron Andrews



June 14th (Sat), Old Town Music Hall Tour, Meet at 10:20 Whole Foods, 7881 Edinger Ave., Huntington Beach, **Cont: Steve Pavich** for more details.



June 21 (Sat), 10 - 2pm, Classic Car Show to support Alzheimer's Association, Harbor Lawn Memorial-Mt. Olive Memorial Park, 1625 Gisler Ave., Costa Mesa, RSVP Steve Pavich, bring chairs, Food available.



June 24 (Tue), Veterans Rec. Luncheon, Wilshire Ave. Community Church. 212 E. Wilshire, Fullerton, RSVP to Pam Heiland



June 26th (Thur) Oakmont of Orange 1-4pm, need 10 cars, 630 The City Drive, Orange, RSVP Ron Andrews



June 26th (Thur), 4th Thursday, Friends Café, 17391 17th St., Tustin, 9am, Cont: Aaron Magdaleno



A ROOTIN' TOOTIN' GOOD TIME...

...is almost here again. That time of year for the ever popular

Ed & Patti Cote's

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Mark it on your Calendars....

Sat. JUNE 28TH
12 noon to ???

2435 Bonnie Brae, Santa Ana,

Swap Meets/Car Shows

June 1 (Sat), 8am-3pm, Friends of Steve McQueen Car & Motorcycle, General Admission/Parking \$10., Charity is to bring awareness/financial support for "at risk" boys and girls 13-17 years of age, Boys Republic, 1907 Boys Republic Dr. Chino Hills, CA.

Jul 19th (Sat) 71st Annual Vintage and Classic Parts Exchange, LB Model T Club, Long Beach City College Veterans Stadium, 5000 Lew Davis St, Long Beach, \$5 admission, Free Parking

Aug 7 (Sun) Pomona Swap Meet & Classic Car Show, Fairplex, 1101 W McKinley Ave, Pomona 5am-2pm

Sep 10 (Sat) 20th Annual Santa Maria's All Ford Car Show and Swap Meet, 201 S Broadway, Orcutt, CA 93455 7am-3pm, free

Oct 16 (Sun) Pomona Swap Meet & Classic Car Show, Fairplex, 1101 W McKinley Ave, Pomona 5am-2pm

Dec 4 (Sun) Pomona Swap Meet & Classic Car Show, Fairplex, 1101 W McKinley Ave, Pomona 5am-2pm

IF YOU LEARN OF OTHER SWAP MEETS, PLEASE SEND THE INFO TO OUR EDITOR SO THEY MAY BE INCLUDED HERE.

Model A Racers Tour

by Eric Engle

In what turned out to be a VERY lovely Saturday (May24th), 16 of our club members ventured out to Al Zannino's home in Hemet, Ca., some 75 miles from our Orange County homes.

Al is one of those individuals that grew up knowing basically nothing about Model A's. In his high school days he was mostly interested in "Street" machines, as were so many of us when we were teens. But through time, he came to love the old Model A's. Still having the "racing bug", he got deep into drag racing, hill climbs, and currently land speed record vehicles with Model A's. Belonging to a race club that owns a streamliner, all their members have a chance to build, install, and then drive the club's streamliner.

Al is working on obtaining his 150 MPH drivers license and head out to the famed Bonneville Salt Flats this August to go for a record. 150 MPH with a Model A engine??? Holy smokes!!! And believe it, or not, there are some Model A's that are capable of almost 200 MPH... That's cookin' !!!

Our club members all gathered around to listen to Mr. Zannino talk about all the interesting facets of how he and his other race club chums have built their cars and engines to withstand the incredible punishment of those speeds. And trust me when I say, some of the things that Al and other racers do are mindboggling!!! Think about the fact that stock Model A engines are hard pressed to turn 3,000 RPM's normally and go much over 60 MPH. But the land speed cars/engines are often capable of 5,000-6,000+ RPM's...and they do that without flying apart; or at least that's what they hope for!

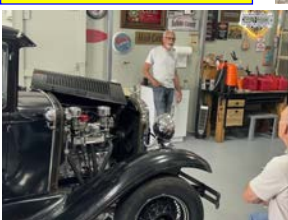
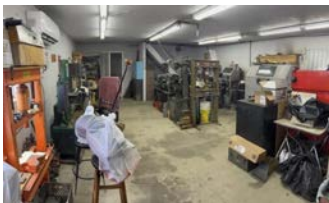
Running alcohol and/or nitromethane in a rather fragile Model A engine?? How on earth do they do that?? Install a supercharger and/or a turbocharger?? Amazing!!! A whole lot of engineering, one-off custom built items to strengthen the engines, and a good bit of "Seat-Of-The-Pants" racer's ingenuity that has been gained from many years of trial-and-error experimentation.

After a very interesting and informative visit with Al, everyone loaded up and drove a short distance to Jolene's Country Restaurant and Winchester Farms Country Store for lunch. Then there were the special home made preserves, honey, baked goods, etc., in the old fashion country store. Nothing beats a small taste of "down home" food and home-made goods!

Thank you Mr. Zannino for sharing with us the interesting aspects of serious Model A racing. Good luck to you on your quest to go as fast as you can out at the Bonneville Salt Flats.



Al Zannino sharing with club members



Blast From The Past Tour By Sydney Croasmun



The group of over 20 met in Gorman, starting off with a talk about the road and its construction. RRPO President, Michael Ballard and Public Relations Director, Sydney Croasmun spoke and answered questions from the group, before lining up and heading down Gorman Post Road towards the Old Ridge Route.



At the Liebre Maintenance Camp, we discussed the people who built the road and the road building methods. Learning about the shift from railroad contractors to road building contractors and how this space is utilized in the modern day.



Now this is where things get fun – as the first tour to go past the gates, we continued down the road when we usually would end at the Tumble Inn



Next up is Liebre Summit – the highest point on the road. Visitors took in the stunning view and learned about the weather in the region and the importance of the Sandberg Weather Station. Even to this day, it's a vital weather station for both land and air travel



Always a tradition – lining all the cars up at the Tumble Inn for a photo! Visitors got to explore the ruins and listen to Michael Ballard speak about the road.



For the first time in 20 years, the tour made it's way to Reservoir Summit! Here they are checking out the now empty reservoir, learning about the old restaurant, garage and fire lookout tower.

Sunshine & Sorrow



By Marilyn Hawkins
m_hawkins33@cox.net

Sunshine: “Happy 65th Wedding Anniversary” to **Richard & Jeanne Parrish** on June 4. Congrats to them for this milestone anniversary.

Recovery: **Jim Ellis** has been released from doctor’s care and can cease using the scooter...also can begin walking several blocks. But the really good news is that **Jim** starts on June 1st as Chaplain of the OC Fire Authority. He will ride along on the fire truck to disastrous and life-threatening fires to give comfort to those in need due to physical or emotional stress.

The best way to succeed in this world is to act on the advice you give to others.”

Happy Birthday – June

Domini Cimarusti Fran Earhart Mike Edmonson Shane Hill Brenda Leseney Kathie McCall
Pete Mercado Neil Mylar Kay Nettles Debbie Pavich Jesse Ryan Tom Ryan
Marilyn Singer-Hawkins Chuck Stinnet Kaci Terens

Cont. from page 6



The tour concluded with a picnic at Swede's Cut, overlooking Serpentine Drive. This was the largest cut on the road at 110ft deep!

We are so thankful to the San Diego Model A Club for setting this all up! It was great to meet so many wonderful people and see some beautiful cars.

Want to support the Ridge Route Preservation Organization?

<https://ridgeroute.org/membership>

Bucks and Ballyhoo...by Diane Gaughen

Continuing series on the evolution and development of Route 66

Route 66 wasn't just a great way to get across the country, but it was a way to make money and be a part of adventures. June Morris was a kid who grew up watching Route 66 being constructed near her grandfather's farm in Miller, Missouri. She got to see matinee idol Douglas Fairbanks drive his sweetie, Mary Pickford on the highway. She also witnessed a giant flatbed truck carrying the huge mirror to the Mount Palomar Observatory in California. This was more fun than going to the movies!

One of the greatest events for sheer outrageousness was the time in 1928 when sports promoter C. C. Pyle staged a 3400-mile footrace (The Bun-ion Derby) from Los Angeles to Chicago following Route 66. It continued on from there all the way to New York City and ended 3 months later. The prize for the winner was \$25,000! Teletype and radio allowed people to follow the fates of the runners until they finally made it to their destination. It was great publicity for the not-yet-fully-paved road.

The winner was Andy Payne, a Cherokee Indian who had grown up on a farm in Oklahoma. He hoped the prize money would help his family who was struggling and pay for his wedding! Oklahoma welcomed the runners and Will Rogers even offered a prize to the first runner to reach his hometown of Claremore.



Deadline for submissions
for the
next Distributor is
25th of each month

Submit all Articles and ads
to
eengle@socal.rr.com
or mail to Eric Engle, 16732
Redwood St., Fountain Valley,
Ca., 92708

MAFCA is accept-
ing 2025 renewals.
Call 866-379-3619

or
visit

www.mafca.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES :

June 16-25, 2025 National Tour, Vir-
ginia Battlefields, Host Dallas Model
A Ford Club.

[https://sites.google.com/view/mafca-
2025-national-tour](https://sites.google.com/view/mafca-2025-national-tour)

**While these two overlapping "National
Tours" (above and below) look to be the
same, they are TWO DIFFERENT tours,
lead by the same Model A club, the Dal-
las Model A Ford Club.**

June 15-22, MAFCA National Tour,
Bull Run to Appabattox & everything
in-between, Host Dallas Model A
Ford Club.

[https://sites.google.com/view/mafca-
2025-national-tour](https://sites.google.com/view/mafca-2025-national-tour)

**Jul 16 (Sat) 68th Annual Vintage and
Classic Parts Exchange, L.B. Model T
Club, Long Beach City College Veterans
Stadium, 5000 Lew Davis St, Long
Beach, \$5 admission, Free Parking**

Sept. 13th, International Model A Day,
Patches and info cont. Bruce Adams, PO
Box 45, Nothport, NY 11768, 631-262-
9811



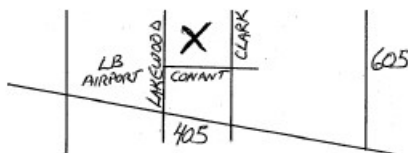
Long Beach Model T Club 71st Annual Parts Exchange

Since 1955 the best OLD CAR & OLD FORD

SWAP MEET in the WEST

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025 Rain or Shine

Open 7:00AM Admission: \$5.00 Free Parking



Long Beach City College Veteran's Stadium

5000 Lew Davis St. Long Beach, CA. 90808

Enter from Conant St. between Lakewood Bl. and Clark St.
Just a mile and a half north of the 405 on Lakewood Bl.

Spaces are Available: 20 ft. Wide by 16 ft. Deep

Spaces are \$40 each or 3 for \$100

\$50 each Day of Event

Call Jeff Hood 562-597-5936

www.lbmtc.com moemechanic@aol.com

Open to all Makes and Models Automotive
and hobby related items only
NO Dogs NO Guns NO Weapons

• This event is NOT the monthly Vets Hi-Po swap meet •

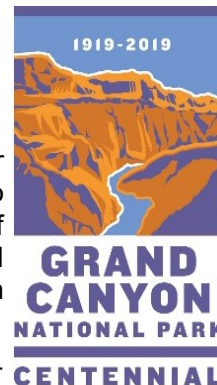
*After all these
years, the old Ford
is still a car that
belongs . . . an
oddly potent
reminder of good
things to a great
many people.*



Grand Canyon/Route 66 Tour

October 5-13, 2025 – Southern California Regional Group

The SCRG would like to invite you on a fall tour, guaranteed for adventure. We will be meeting up with a group going from Chicago to Santa Monica and seeing sites in our own backyard that most of us have never seen before. You'll need to make your own hotel reservations, but mention that you will be on the Model A Tour in case a discount has been arranged at that hotel.



October 5th, Arrive at the SureStay Plus by Best Western, 71487 Twentynine Palms Hwy, Twentynine Palms (760) 367-9141 total w tax \$113. To see the stars, we'll visit Sky's the Limit Observatory and Nature Center 9697 Utah Trail just outside Joshua Tree National Park. Bring chairs and blankets. \$10 donation per vehicle.

October 6th, Take Highway 62 to AZ highway 95 north to the London Bridge at Lake Havasu for lunch, then back into California on Highway 40 and north on the Needles Highway, to end after 219 miles at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort 1650 S Casino Dr, Laughlin, NV (800) 227-3849 total w. tax \$94

October 7th & 8th, Take Highway 68 to the 93 to I-40 to Williams, 148 miles to Grand Canyon Railway and Hotel 235 N Grand Canyon Blvd, Williams (928) 635-4010 Grand Canyon Railway Tickets \$70 round trip each – park entry which is not included \$17.50 for single time entry for each adult. Lifetime National Parks military pass \$20, Senior (62 +) "America the Beautiful" lifetime pass \$90 bought online incl. fees, potentially takes longer than two weeks to arrive by mail. Total for two days of standard room for two, train to and from park, and entrance fee totals \$708 including tax. This does not include south rim bus tour. Bus tours are available for all along the south rim between train arrivals and departures which cost \$47.50 per without lunch and \$67.50 with lunch.

October 9th, Join the Route 66 tour and drive 115 miles on Route 66 to El Trovatore Motel, 1440 E Andy Devine Ave, Kingman, AZ (928) 753-6520 \$99

October 10th, Leave Kingman to visit Oatman, and Topock (population 2) after 68 miles end at Best Western Colorado River Inn 2371 Needles Hwy, Needles (760) 326-4552 \$138

October 11th, Visit lots of towns you've never been to while driving 150 miles to Quality Inn on Historic Route 66, 1520 E Main St, Barstow (760) 307-8003 \$95

October 12th, Hotel MdR 13480 Maxella Avenue, Marina del Rey (310) 822-8555 \$250 about \$280 incl breakfast

October 13th The Santa Anita club has invited us to meet them for lunch on the 13th at the Legends 1155 E., Route 66, Glendora and some of them will drive with us to the pier.

To register, fill out this form & send it with a check for \$20 made out to SCRG to 107 Wilton Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90004

Name _____ Additional Adult _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ Email address _____

MAFCA Member # _____ Chapter _____

Circle the dates you plan to be with the tour: October 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Wagon Tales: Episode 1 By Dave Knapp

This is the first episode of an ongoing saga—how I continue to patch our '31 Station Wagon up to keep it running. It certainly is not a perfect car, but that is part of its charm for certain. I must admit, I do not pay it as much attention as it deserves. As such, there are “issues”! How we escape the coveted Hard Luck trophy is indeed a mystery.

For episode 1, let's start with the ongoing starting problem. Many of you have watched over as I attempted to start our Station Wagon. Err.. Err.... Errrrr....pop. Er.. Errer. Errrrererere ka-chuga-chuga...running. It was just as painful for me and my family sitting in the car, as it was for you standing by listening to it struggle to turn over. I was to the point of parking in a, 'pop the clutch' position, as often as possible. Well, this problem reared its ugly head in the absolute, most convenient of spaces: in my garage! Lucky me!

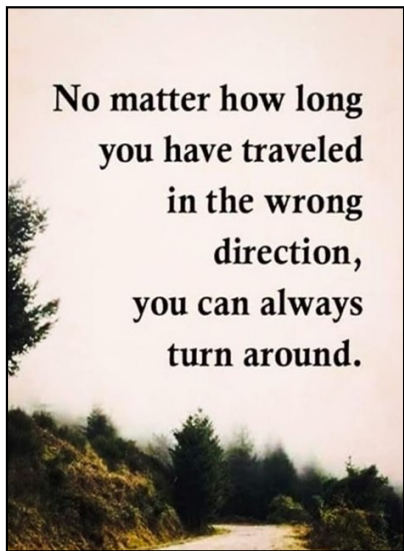
As I was giving the Woody a once over prior to the Ridge Route tour, I had a new ground cable that I wanted to attach. The cable was a second ground that would go from the battery to the transmission housing. This would be in addition to the frame ground hoping it may solve the starting challenges. I happily installed the 'second cable' only to go from a car that actually started to one that didn't even go click. Huh?

After checking continuity and power all the way through the system...even swapping parts from my Cabriolet to the Woody—NOTHING! The battery showed 6.5 volts at rest, so that certainly couldn't be the problem. I swapped starters, starter switches, and even considered swapping cables from the Cabriolet. After more testing, I decided to have the battery load tested—it failed! New battery in place, she cranks right up. How long has this battery been bad? I think it was bad when I bought it 4 years ago! Happy motor-ing.



Just for Laughs

No matter how long
you have traveled
in the wrong
direction,
you can always
turn around.



“It's Alive!”

Shout-out to everyone
who can still remember
their childhood phone
number, but can't
remember the
password they created
just yesterday. You are
mypeople.



Return Address:
OCMAFC
P.O. Box 10595
Santa Ana, CA 92711

We are on the Web!
www.ocmafc.org

Dedicated to the History and Preservation of the Model A Ford

Next General Meeting

[Second Thursday of every month]

Next Meeting June 12, 2025

Time: 7:30pm

Location:

First Christian Church of Orange
1130 E Walnut
Orange, CA
(Between Tustin & Cambridge)



FOR SALE 1930 Model A Two Door Sedan

This vehicle is an older restoration, date and restorer unknown. It is green with gray interior. It is fitted with a Mitchell Transmission AND Mitchell Overdrive, 12 volt alternator, lighting and 12 volt reduction gear starter. Also has correct 1930 license plates.

Ran good until recently. Suspect stripped timing gear.



Also include: EXTRA engine with ALL machine work done, Counter weighted crankshaft. All assembly balanced. Fitted for insert bearings. **ALL** parts included for final assembly.

Selling due to health reasons.

Asking \$16,000. for all !

Don Johnson
(562) 650-2015
donjohn1@verizon.net

For Sale

1931 Model-A Tudor with a Mitchell Overdrive. Seller has owned this classic car for seven years and has installed a Mitchell Overdrive, new brakes and tires. Current registration and title in hand. \$13,750.

Steve Pavich

714-322-7561 or stevepavich@gmail.com

