

Orange County
Model A Ford Club

THE DISTRIBUTOR

Established
1961



Volume 66 Issue 4

April 2026

Editor Eric Engle



IT'S FINALLY HERE!!



Orange County Model A Ford Club
Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 12, 2026

Hart Park, 701 S. Glassell St, Orange, California
7:30am-11am

We look forward to seeing you & your Model A's (& other classics)



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Meet

Adults \$10
Children \$5 (Ages 2-10)

Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs
Juice, Hot Cocoa & Hot Coffee

Large Raffle Selection



ocmafc.com

For more info contact:
Aaron Magdaleno
714-862-5773

News From the President

By Mike Edmonson

Happy Easter!

I hope everyone is tuning up their Model A's and Easter Baskets as spring has most definitely sprung; I think this was one of the hottest few weeks in March in quite some time. **Punxsutawney Phil** (the groundhog) predicted six more weeks of winter, which held for all of February and perhaps the first week of March, but then that tradition seems to have run its course here in Southern California. We most definitely had a gorgeous day for our March tour throughout Southern Orange County; if you weren't there, we missed you!



As many of you know, the month of May is famous in the Model A world for a month where we bring the knowledge, history, and culture of Ford Model A's to our schools. This is important as we plant seeds with our youth of today that we hope will blossom into future owners of the venerable Ford Model A that we have all grown to love. But this program doesn't happen by accident! **Ron Andrews** started cultivating potential schools as early as this past November and has most recently found interest in a couple of schools in the coming weeks of April. And Technical Director, **David Knapp**, has also arranged a technical seminar with an auto tech program in Tustin for May. So now it is our turn because these schools will need Model A's and their owners to fill the parking lots. It is also a time to advertise our Student Membership, as well as two initiatives supported by MAFCA: The Model A Youth Scholarship Award, and the Model A Youth Restoration Award. Maybe there's a future for a "Youth Chapter" with the OCMAFC or MAFCA? Who knows...

Saving the best for the last; April 12th is our 63rd Annual Pancake Breakfast and is fast approaching. If you haven't signed up to support our one and only fundraiser of the year yet, it's not too late. Please reach out to **Richard Bolls** for the kitchen, **Jennifer Ferrario** and **Kathy Glendinning** for the Raffle, and **Steve Pavich** for parking. And you still have a chance to sign up in person at our last club meeting before the breakfast on April 8th. This is also a perfect time to bring in those last-minute raffle items. So grease up your griddles and get some rest because we start set-up in the wee hours and then fill those hungry folks with lots of pancakes, eggs, and sausage. And I hear iced coffee might be the preferred beverage as it promises to be clear skies and nice balmy weather with ne're a drop of moisture in sight.

No turnarounds this month -- head straight to the City of Orange and Hart Park!

Mike

2026 BOARD MEMBERS

President – Mike Edmonson
 Vice President– Jennifer Ferrario
 Tours- ???
 Secretary – Debbie Parrish
 Treasurer – Joni Terens
 Technical – David 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, Richard Bolls, Jennifer
 Ferrario, Kathy Glendinning, Steve
 Pavich
 Raffle – Ed Cote
 Refreshments – Gerry Reid
 Regional Representative, SCRG - Jim
 Runyon
 Era Fashions—Kaci Terens

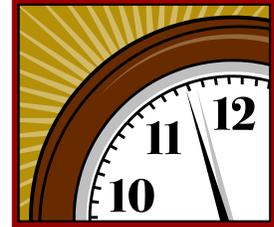
 Sunshine & Sorrow – Marilyn Hawkins
 Webmaster – Bruce MacIntosh

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

MARCH 12, 2026, 730PM



The meeting was called to order by President, **Mike Edmonson** followed by the flag salute. **Marilyn Singer-Hawkins** told a joke. **MINUTES:** The past minutes were provided in the newsletter. **Sheila Plotkin** made a motion to accept and **Ed Cote 2nd**. All approved.
FINANCIAL: **Joni Terens** presented the financial report. **Carol Howard** made a motion to accept and **Jennifer Ferrario 2nd**. All approved. Total membership has dropped to 117
ACTIVITIES: All hands-on deck for Annual Pancake Breakfast on April 12. 3/21 SCRG BBQ at **Jennifer Ferrario's** home in Cypress
TECHNICAL: 3/14 Cooling system at **Bonnie Nardulli's** home in Mission Viejo. 4/18 at **Richard Parrish's** Garage. 5/9 at ATEP (Advanced Technology and Education Park) in Tustin. Please contact **David Knapp** for details
EDITOR:
SUNSHINE AND SORROW: **Dale McCall** has been in hospital. **Dominic Cimarusti** suffered a stroke but is recovering. **Dominic** will also take home the Hard Luck Trophy as he was on route to school program in his A when battery went dead.
RAFFLES: **Eric Engle** won ten dollars for the attendance raffle. **Ron Andrews** won \$40 for the membership raffle. Start at \$10 next month.
MARCH BIRTHDAYS: **Darwin Kibby, Richard Parrish, Richard Bolls and Chrisanne Edmonson**
REFRESHMENTS: provided **Darwin Kibby, Pati Cote, Jim Runyon, Chrisanne Edmonson, Sheila Plotkin, Sherry Reid and Linda Tom** for the drinks
 The meeting adjourned 8:30pm.

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

Upcoming Tours and Activities Calendar



April 4 (Sat) - 8:00am—First Saturday Breakfast BS Session, Denny's, 2314 17th Street, Santa Ana.



Wednesday, April 15 - Sunny Hills HS - 10:00am
Discuss A's with automotive students. Contact Ron Andrews.



Wednesday, April 8 - Buena Park HS - 9:00am
Discuss A's with automotive students. Contact Ron Andrews.



April 18 (Sat) Tech Seminar 8:30am donuts, 9:00am Seminar
The plan is to do an engine install at Richard Parrish's home. Contact is David Knapp.



April 9 (Thu) - 7:30pm
General meeting. Board Meeting 6:30pm
1130 E. Walnut, Orange.



April 22 (Wed) - 4th Wednesday HUMP Day Breakfast - 9:00am. Arthur's Café
240 N. Tustin St., Orange
Contact is Aaron Magdaleno.



April 12 63rd ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Be ready for a fun, fulfilling day but very busy day!

2026 PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 12

All hands on deck for our annual Public event. This event raises funds for our charities, gets us known to the community, and brings together all the Model A enthusiasts from far & wide.

Put in a few hours helping out in either parking (Steve Pavich), kitchen (Richard Bolls) or raffle areas (Jennifer Ferrario). To help, contact one of these leaders or email ocmafc@gmail.com and Becky will forward your info. Setup begins at 5:45am. We leave the park around 1:00pm.



Swap Meets/Car Shows

Every Sat., Donut Derelicts car show, 9015 Adams Ave, Huntington Beach, 6-8 am, Free admission. Each Saturday morning, car enthusiasts from all over gather in the parking lot of Adams Ave Donuts to enjoy a donut, a cup of coffee and a spectacle of hot rods and classic cars.

<https://www.hemmings.com/stories/donut-derelicts>

Sunday, April 19, Pomona Swap Meet and Classic Car Show, \$15 cash per person, children 12 and under free. Parking fee of \$20 (card only).

www.pomonaswapmeet.com/event-info/car-show-hours-dates

Friday/Saturday, May 1-2: Bakersfield Swap meet. Minter Airfield, 201 Aviation St, Shafter, CA

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

Highlights of the May Tech Seminar

By David Knapp
Technical Director

Technically Speaking: Cooling System Flush

It is funny that I just spent half a day helping someone flush...Ha ha. This is funny to me because one of the toilets at our house is not flushing well—I have the parts to fix it, I just don't want to fix it! Ssoooo, I just spent half a day with the club helping flush the radiator on **Bonnie's** car! Uhm, please don't tell Barbara!

On March 14th the Technical Friends from OCMAFC gathered at **Bonnie Narducci's** home to work on her wonderful 1931 Fordor. While it is a truly fantastic car, we found several potential projects, but we did focus on the cooling system. We started with some testing. First, a chemical test for combustion gas in the coolant—Results? ...Inconclusive! We moved on to a bubble test—bubbles in the coolant while running? Nope, good there too!

After the tests, things got interesting. **Dennis Kleisen** provided a Thermorust bottle for the cooling system and we began a cycle of drain, fill, run, flush, fill, run, Thermorust, run, flush, fill, run, flush, etc. The first drain of the radiator came out looking like coffee. Nobody drank *THAT* coffee though, because **Bonnie** and I made real coffee and we had lots of donuts! In the end, there was mostly clear water coming out of the drain petcock and we were comfortable there was no head gasket leaks—it was ready for coolant! We also have formulated a cool plan to revisit **Bonnie's** car to take care of several other issues and hopefully get her on tours with us.

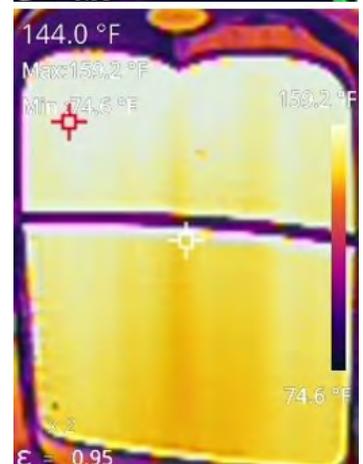
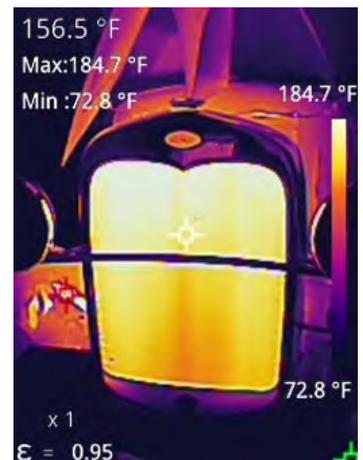
Donut report—36 purchased, 11 leftovers. Hmmm, we need more donut eaters at our next event! Next up, **Richard Parrish's** mystery project on April 18. Be there, eat a donut, drink coffee, get your hands dirty, give unsolicited advice—that's what makes a great OCMAFC Technical Workshop! See you in April!



Telltale rusty signs of possible overheating problems.



Darwin Kibby brought his Thermal Imaging Camera to take a detailed look at **Bonnie's** car radiator. Very interesting tool that shows the rows of radiator tubes (blocked or clear). Images to the right show clearly that the radiator, after being flushed, is mostly clear of obstructions, which would show up as dark lines, or areas, if there were obstructions. Note the digital temperature at the top right of each image.



SCRG Barbeque

Saturday, March 21st, saw the renewal of the long gone So. Calif. Regional Group (SCRG). **Jeff and Jennifer Ferrario** hosted the event at their lovely Cyprus home, **Jennifer** being the President of the SCRG. **Jennifer** has taken on the roll with a lot of gusto and enthusiasm, and seems to have all sorts of great ideas for the future. Many thanks to **Jeff and Jennifer** for all their work.

As I drove into **Jeff and Jen's** track, their cul-de-sac was lined with Model A's. Quite the scene! I can only imagine what their neighbors must have been thinking, looking at all the super fine group of A's.

There was a very good size representation from all sorts of Model A groups and organizations. The Diamond Tread was there, David Frazee MAFCA Secretary was there, Harbor Area Club, and obviously, the O.C. Model A Ford Club.



Good Ol' Yard Art

Sunshine & Sorrow

By Marilyn Singer
jmsinger@pacbell.net

Sunshine: Remember Easter is Sunday, April 5. And hopefully, cooler weather for the Easter egg hunt. I'll be singing in the church choir at 8:00 AM service.

Sorrow: Just learned that **Jim Michaeloff** had a hip socket replacement surgery in late February. Then **Norm Kredit** fell backwards and fractured a vertebrae. Doctor predicts 6 weeks to heal due to brittle bones and age. What shock to hear that **Dominic Cimarusti** had a stroke (same day his car had to be towed). He spent 2-3 days in ICU running tests by the hospital. Doctors are now adjusting his medications. Just heard from **Diane Gaughen** that she fell in the park 2 months ago, which has caused hip and knee pain. Oh boy, those golden years can be a challenge

Easter is meant to be a symbol of hope, renewal and new life.

Happy Birthday – April

**Scott Bolls Harley Broviak Patty Côté Jennifer Ferrario Susan Gaynor Lyndon Golin
 Bruce Harris Tissy Hatcher-Smith Norm Kredit Becky MacIntosh Drain Marshall
 Frances Mercado Robyn Michaeloff David Orozco Steve Pavich Gerald Rapp Gerry Reid**

One Hundred Years Ago By Diane Gaughen **The Continuing History of Route 66**

Progress was being made! By 1924, all 48 states had their own highway departments and cooperation was developing among the states so they could share information and know-how. Cy Avery was in the forefront, arranging the surfacing of early roads, bringing in new equipment, writing tax laws to support road construction and interfacing with officials in other states.

He was also instrumental in forming the Route 66 Association, with delegates from Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, Arkansas and New Mexico. He was the one who suggested Route 66 be called The Main Street of America, which was used for publicity purposes.

Construction became standardized to two lanes, each nine feet wide. The concrete slabs were 6 to 9 inches thick, separated by a center line to control cracking. Abutting slabs were tied together with steel bars.

The highway was routed around hills because it was cheaper to build them that way. There was no heavy earth-moving equipment to cut through a hill and money was always in short supply.

After 1930, the creation and paving of Route 66 was to become a major factor in the Depression, not only carrying the Okies out of the Dust Bowl to California, but providing jobs in highway construction for those who stayed and customers for those who owned businesses.

Blast From the Past Article

The case of the un-damped Houdaille shock absorber

By Don Ratzlaff

It was a long, dreary, bumpy road which lay ahead of the lonesome little Model A Coupe. Yet the decision was made to begin the long treacherous journey to the fabled I-5 route to sunny California. As the little coupe bumped along the road the suspension components were in a state of constant oscillation. Something was wrong; very wrong. The four model A Houdaille shock absorbers were designed to work in unison while damping out the most serious oscillations. What could be happening? Could it be that one or more of the shock absorbers was not functioning as specified? The little coupe headed into the closest repair shop for diagnostic procedures! And so it was that the problem was determined to be that one shock absorber was found to be “un-damped”. Oh, the shame of it all; to be taken out of service for such an inconvenient condition.

But why; why would such a fine looking shock absorber become un-damped? Records indicated a recent overhaul had been accomplished and all had been declared functional. It was determined that perhaps this was the beginning of an epidemic, leading to widespread “un-damped” conditions within the model A community. It then became obvious that “invasive” diagnostic procedures would have to be carried out to determine the root cause of this “un-damped” condition. Knowing the cause could provide the basis for inoculation of the entire Houdaille shock absorber population.

At first the shock resisted all attempts at disassembly. Special tooling had to be made to remove the outer cover. Even after removal of the outer cover the shock absorber continued to resist further disassembly. Again special tooling was fabricated but, even with exaggerated leverage the inner chamber seal could not be broken. Use of a cycle of extreme heat followed by rapid quenching along with an ingenious arrangement of C-clamp leverage (figure 1) finally accomplished entrance into the inner chamber. Upon opening the inner chamber, there it was; the dreaded “loose ball and ball-cage” syndrome! One of the two “ball check valves” had fallen from its position in the chamber “fixed vanes” (figure 2). The absence of the check valve eliminates the restriction to fluid exchange between chambers thus obviating the “squeeze damping” effects and leading to the “un-damped” condition. This condition was determined to be a random event and fully repairable. No widespread epidemic of “un-damped” Huodaille shocks is anticipated.

All is well and the little coupe will survive to bounce another day!

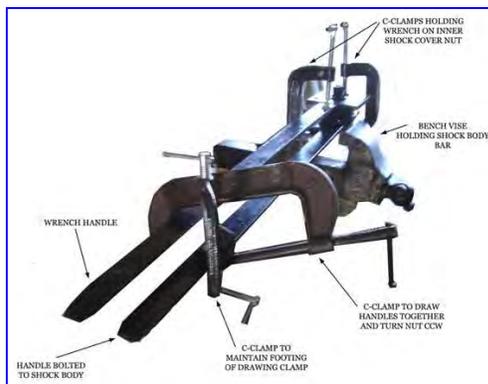


Figure 1



Figure 2

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 2026 renewals.**

Call
866-379-3619 or
visit
www.mafca.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES :

**April 14, 5:00pm-8:00pm PDT, Model A/AA
Mail Truck Semi-Annual Virtual Conven-
tion**

Join via Zoom at

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89128507669>

Copy/paste this to your browser

**We will share restoration progress, hear
some Mail Truck stories and discuss how
we can help each other.**

**Chair: Charles Hilton, Postal A's Presi-
dent. Contact: Roger Davis, 2169 E 900 N
Spanish Fork, UT 84660, 801-505-**

8727, rldavis1929@aol.com

Model A Conventions – West Coast this year

It is not very often that a National Convention comes to the West Coast. Take this opportunity to spend time with the other Model A enthusiasts. Three different events here...take your pick! And we have groups that are ready to tour to these events with you!

The CCRG – Central California Regional Group annual convention will be held in Bakersfield May 1-2 hosted by the Bakersfield Model A Club. We always get a good turnout from our club for this event (10-15 people).

Contact is **Linda Jackson, snickers@atginternet.com, 661-747-2464**

Registration: www.ocmafc.com

The NCRG – Northern California Regional Group will host their annual Mini Roundup in Sonora, California May 22-24 hosted by the Sonora A's. Seminars, driving tour, gymkhana, Hubley Derby, raffle and banquet. Not usually on our agenda but since it is on the way to the National Convention...why not? Info and registration:

<https://www.sonoraas.com/2026-mini-round-up>

The MAFCA National Convention will be held in Pendleton, Oregon May 31-June 7. Seminars, driving tours, raffle. This is your opportunity to attend a National on the west coast. Info & Registration:

<https://www.2026mafcanationalconvention.com/>

Our SCRG group – Southern California Regional Group will be doing a driving tour from San Diego to Pendleton, Oregon May 26th to May 31 for the National Convention, For itinerary and contact info, check their website :

<https://scrgmafca.com/Events.html>

If you have questions about these events, you can call **Becky MacIntosh**

ACCC report from David Knapp
Our Car Hobby Brothers and Sisters Need Our Help

Hi all. I guess I am putting on my ACCC hat for the Model A club right now. This came into my inbox, it is something I will personally support and would like to see our club support. It does not impact our Model A's, but certainly has a massive impact on other collector cars. The smog laws have been stuck in place for over 20 years and it is getting very difficult (and expensive) to smog a vehicle older than 1996.

I am asking you to send a letter similar to the one below to the Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation.

SBI 392 will be on the floor for discussion on April 14, so please mail letters now

Dave Knapp

[Date)
The Honorable Dave Cortese
Chair Senate Committee on Transportation
State Capitol, Room 405
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1392 (Cortese & Grove) Leno's Law-Support

Dear Chair Cortese and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 1392 (Cortese & Grove), also known as Leno's Law, which would establish a pilot program for phased-in smog-check exemption pathway for verified collector vehicles.

I enjoy responsibly preserving historic and collector vehicles, and I regularly participate in community parades, charity cruises, educational activities, and local car shows that support small businesses and bring neighbors together. I pride myself in that my collector vehicles are well-maintained. Part of that maintenance—smog-check inspections—has become problematic. As the vehicles age, the people who know how and are willing/able to conduct qualified checks has dramatically dwindled and made performing this task expensive and difficult to source.

Historic and collector vehicles represent a small fraction of the overall vehicles on California roads, yet they play a meaningful role in California's automotive heritage, tourism and community engagement. Leno's Law keeps our passion and history alive for the next generation of club members.

SB 1392 provides an optional, balanced pathway for verified collector vehicles, helping preserve California's automotive history for future generations.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your AYE vote on SB 1392

Sincerely,
[Name]
[Title]
[Club Name}

The BLT Install, Part Deux By Eric Engle

Last month, maybe you'll remember how the BLT team once again came together to install a Mitchell Synchronmesh transmission in what was supposed to be a 1931 Cabriolet. The problem that stopped that installation last month is, the rather nice looking Roadster turned out to be an "early" 1928, with a 31 body on it. The parts ordered from **Steve Mitchell** would have fit perfectly on a 1931, but not so with the 1928. So, all work had to be halted until **Steve Mitchell** was able to FedEx the correct parts for the team to proceed. We began again yesterday, Wednesday, March 4th.

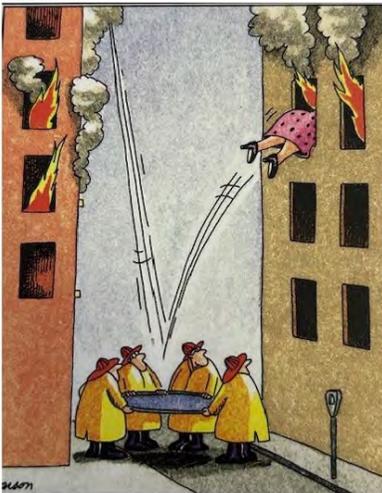
So, finally armed with the correct parts, the BLT proceeded back to work. Minor problems showed up, which is not unexpected for a car that has been pieced together through numerous owners, but there was nothing that the BLT couldn't handle.

Maybe you'll remember that, when the Roadster was originally brought in, it was on a flatbed truck. For some reason, the owner couldn't get his car to start up that morning. Who knows what that was all about, but we went through the usual ignition checks; cleaned the rotor cap, checked the points, etc. The only thing that could be found, which admittedly was probably a negligible problem, the spark plug caps that tighten down onto the spark plug wires (brass strips), were loose. So, with really not finding any serious problems, all we could do was cross our fingers and hope. Lo and behold, when everything was finally finished, the ol' Roadster fired right up... Yay!!!

Norman Saw, the owner, was last seen beaming with pride and driving his sweet ride back home! Mission accomplished!! Once again, good job team!!!!



Just for Laughs



I have many hidden talents. I just wish I could remember where I hid them



The official sports drink when I was a kid



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 April, 9th 2026

Time: 7:30pm

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



MAY 1 & 2 - 2026

Brass Era / Pre-war Swap Meet



MINTER AIRFIELD

201 Aviation Street - Shafter, CA
(A few miles North of Bakersfield on Hwy 99)



- ◆ Vendor set-up; Friday morning
- ◆ Swap Meet; Friday & Saturday
- ◆ Vendor Space (20' x 40') \$65 / Buyers \$10

**Registration
NOW OPEN**

Visit CaliforniaRendezvous.com to download Registration Form
For more information, call Gerald Robinson: (510) 332-9588

Where
to Stay?



SWAP MEET Special!
\$103/night Thursday, Friday & Saturday or any variation.
(661) 387-1678 ext. 0 Group Code: HCCS
19480 Quinn Road, Bakersfield, CA 93308