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THE RETARDED SPARK is being issued purely for our enjoyment and for those who wish to see what our MAFCA Chapter is doing to further the Model 'A' Hobby here in Quincy, Ca.



March 2015

Questions, comments, suggestions, contributions...
email

"Smokey"

At

smokeypickett@hughes.net

From the Desk of the President



The Soup Swap at Jennifer and Bill's was great, as always.

We had lots of food and fun. We missed everyone who could not make it and they missed a great party.

Butch and Sheila Vargas are hosting the event for March, but we do not have any information yet on what they have planned. Al and Erika Hansen will be hosting the April event. It will be a wine tasting trip, but I do not have the details available right now. Bruce will be hosting the May event. It will be a trip to the Spring Opening. Bruce has all the details on that trip.

We still have the months of June, October and November available if anyone would like to volunteer to take one for an event.

Our next meeting is March 3rd, same time same place.

Please, please be sure to let us know if you plan to come and then cannot make it at the last minute. If you do not show up after making a reservation, she is stuck with that extra food.

We do not want to lose our meeting place Thank you.

Everyone be safe and stay well. See you March 3rd.

CLUB OFFICERS and MEMBERS

President ----- Phil & Shirley Bresciani
Vice President ---- Bill and Jennifer Seibold
Treasurer ----- Rich & Holly Schreiber
Secretary ----- Rich and Holly Schreiber
Keeper of the Web..Joe and Heather Way
Sunshine person--- Shirley Bresciani

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Jack and Bernadette Brumit
Dave Boynton & Bonnie Norton
Rick & Paula Foster
Dan & Penny Lambach
Bruce & Susan Robinson
Joe & Heather Way
Don Schlueter
Gary & Lynne Allan
Dee Barbea
Ron & Sally Grassi
Dave & Diann Montanari
Ron & Jean Rude
Pete & Joyce Dryer
Butch & Sheila Vargas
Dwight & Karen Pierson
Al and Erika Hansen
Mike & Leslie Ganahl
Clay & Janet Johnson

FEATHER RIVER A'S



GETTING OUT AND HAVING FUN

Fwebruary gathering

Siebold's soup swap/Valentines Day



The annual Soup Swap had a new wrinkle this year being held at Bill and Jennifer's new home.

(Actually, the Brumit Brunch was held there also)

This event has apparently gained notoriety since Campbells saw fit to name, at least a can, after it!

This member did not have the privilege of attending but the dining room looks very imposing.



That's a mighty GRAND piano!
All is in ready for "Beat"hoven to entertain.



Last minute preparations in the kitchen.

The Official is preparing to render his decision in the "Pre-dinnerTaste Competition"

Open the turnstiles, Here they come!



Plenty of room for everyone



Rich and Holly are enjoying themselves



The prizes in Jennifer's game

Holly won first prize in Jennifer's Fill-In-The-Missing-Word-In-The-Love-Song-Title quiz.

The What???



Maybe Shirley was a close second?

Dee was the official winner of second place.

Careful Dee, I hear that too much chocolate will turn your hair white!



I don't think Butch won anything but he Sure is grinning like a Cheshire Therapist!



Bruce and Susan enjoyed the party!



Phil and Rich can't figure out why they didn't win one of the prizes!



The only members to bring their Model A to the Soup Swap!

Again, many thanks to Joe and Heather for the event report and fine photos.

FEATHER RIVER A'S



Saint Patricks Day or the Feast of Saint Patrick

"the Day of the Festival of Patrick"), is a cultural and religious celebration occurring annually on 17 March, the death date of the most commonly-recognized patron saint of Ireland,

at the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland. It says that he spent six years there working as a shepherd and that during this time he "found God". The *Declaration* says that God told Patrick to flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting to take him home. After making his way home, Patrick went on to become a priest. According to legend, Saint Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to Irish pagans. According to tradition, Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity.

On St. Patrick's Day it is customary to wear shamrocks and/or green clothing or accessories (the "wearing of the green"). Green ribbons and shamrocks have been worn on St Patrick's Day since at least the 1680s



Purr-Pull gasoline looked just like it sounds - it was purple - and being a premium grade of fuel, part of its name came from the fuel's good pulling power. Its slogan was: *It will make a motor purr on the hard pull.* According to the book, *Little Giant of Signal Hill*, the fuel was a mix of casing head and manufactured gasoline colored with a purple vegetable dye. The *United States Refining Co.* produced it, and it was sold at *Signal Products Stations*. The casing head portion of the mix came from the *Signal Hill Oil Field* in Signal Hill, California.

In these photos taken during 1930, you can see three members of the Venice, California Police Department posing with their vehicles. Shown are a 1930 Model A Ford Coupe and a pair Henderson KJ Streamline model motorcycles. The two-wheelers produced between the years of 1929 and 1931 were powered by 40 hp, straight four-cylinder engines and were capable of reaching 100 m.p.h. Note the small airplane ornament that has been installed on the front fender of one of the motorcycles.

Source: Photo courtesy of theslidemotor.com

I think that's Dee in the Model A! Maybe Dan on one of the scooters.



Stock Market crash 1929

A hundred bucks?? Wow!

FEATHER RIVER A'S

COMEDY CORNER

VINTAGE FORD HUMOR

RULES MADE FOR DRIVERS OF FORD CARS

Upon discovering an approaching team, drivers of Ford cars must stop on off side of the road and cover their car with a blanket to correspond with the color of the scenery.

In case autoist makes team run away, the penalty will be \$50.00 for the first mile, \$100.00 for the second, \$200.00 for the third, etc., that the team runs, in addition to the usual damages.

In case the Ford approaches a house when the roads are dusty, it will slow down to one mile an hour and the chauffeur will sprinkle the dust in front of the house with a hand sprinkler.

Remember that when on tour!

ANOTHER KIND OF HUMOR

An elderly couple were taking a stroll when a bird flies past and relives himself on the womans head



“Quick give me some toilet tissue” cries the woman.

“What for?” the man asks, “ He must be half a mile away by now”

Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected

Where there's a will.....

I want to be in it.

Light travels faster than sound.....

So some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

The last thing I want to do is hurt you.....

But it's still on my list.

To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism.....

To steal from many is research.

I didn't say it was your fault.....

I said I was blaming you.

MARCH

March Annibirtharies



Bernadette Brumit ----- 3rd
Susan Robinson ----- 16th
Penny Lambach -----17th



Happy Anniversary

Dave and Diann Montanari.....23rd

UPCOMING TOURS and ACTIVITIES

March 3rd... Monthly meeting at Patti's Thunder.

Butch and Sheila have he March event (unconfirmed destination as of now)

Al Hansen has suggested a wine tour in April down highway 49 around Nevada City.
More to come later!

Don't forget the Opener to Clear Lake, organized by Bruce Robinson



MODEL "A" GARAGE CORNER

Or, stuff you already knew, and probably forgot!

Editors note:

The information presented here is based on procedures I have done using manuals from experts in the hobby, quoting their written instructions and inserting my own additions and photographs.

The Model A starter

Disassembly

Remove the starter drive by uncrimping the locking tabs and removing the two bolts holding it to the armature shaft. Be sure to save the woodruff key.

Remove the starter switch by removing the four screws holding it to the starter. The length of these screws is critical so don't mix them up with any other screws.

Remove the brush access cover band.

Remove the two main starter assembly bolts located on the brush end plate.

Tap off the front end plate. The armature will sometimes come off with the end plate.

Slide the front end plate off the armature shaft. If the armature stayed in the housing remove it, being careful not to damage it or the field coils.

If there are thrust washers on the shaft remove them. They could be on either end or both.

Using a long drift, gently tap the brush end plate off the housing. Don't let the drift damage the brush assemblies.

Remove the four brushes from their holders by prying up the brush springs and setting them on one side of the holder.

This will release the brushes which also releases the end plate from the housing.

Remove the two grounded brushes that are mounted to the case with screws



Armature, Case and end plates

At this point, the field coils should be checked to see if they need to be repaired or replaced. Using a test meter and making sure that the leads are not touching the case, read between one of the leads or brushes and one of the pole shoe screws. There should not be any continuity. Move the test probe to the other coil lead or brush and the pole shoe for that set. There must be no continuity.



There should not be any contact anywhere, between the field leads and the housing.

If the field coils are in excellent shape, they do not have to be removed unless you want to thoroughly clean the case.

If they are to be removed, first remove the starter terminal post. This requires a **very large** soldering iron to unsolder the fields from the terminal post. You have to apply a lot of heat, quick enough to melt the solder but not burn the fiber washers on the post. The wires are very stiff and require a lot of pressure to pry them away from the post.

Remove the terminal post and the four insulating washers.

Place the housing in a vise and remove the four field coil pole shoe screws. They may come out using a hammer and drift punch.

If not, it is easy to chamfer the slot with a chisel and drill out the screw head with a 3/8 bit. This loosens the screw allowing easier removal.



Drilled-out screw reinserted in field coil pole shoe

Remove the field coils and pole shoes and unsolder the field coil brushes from the coils if they are to be replaced. The brush and wire insulator must be in good shape.

At this time the housing can be cleaned and repainted. Although not original, the inside can be painted with insulating enamel.



Check the armature commutator for wear or scoring.

If the commutator shows little or no wear, it can be lightly sanded with 220 sand paper until smooth and shiny, however if it is burned or dished,

it may require turning to true up the plate segments.



Hillbilly Lathe!

DO NOT UNDERCUT THE MICA ON A STARTER ARMATURE. This will cause the commutator to arc between segments and damage the starter.

This should ordinarily be done by a machine shop but if you're brave (and careful) it can be done on a drill press with a fine toothed file and 220 grit sandpaper.

The armature can be short-tested with a test meter. Put one probe on the shaft and move the other probe around all commutator segments. There should be no continuity.



The armature should also be "growler" tested if possible. If you can't find a shop that has one, Smokey does! Happy to oblige.

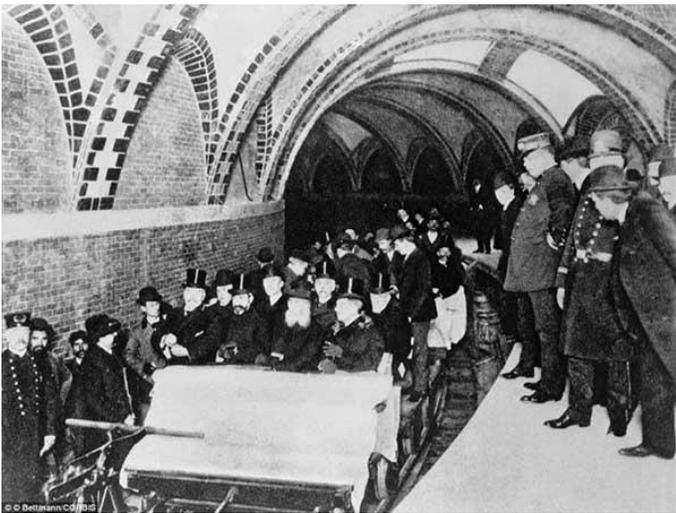


This photo is of a generator armature but the procedure is the same. (just checking to see if anybody was awake)



This prepares the armature for installation and the reassembly of the starter.

NEXT MONTH: Reassembly



The first passengers on the grand new New York subway (1904).



Boxing in Yankee stadium (1923).



The oldest running car on the planet: the 1884 De Dion, Bouton et Trepardou Dos-à-Dos.

Automotive Trivia 1927

Ford produces the last Model “T” the end of a 19 year era. More than 15 million had been built.

Most cars now have four-wheel brakes, air cleaners, oil and gas filters, mirrors and automatic windshield wipers.

The 1927 Hudson boasted a new 289 cid F-head six with 92 bhp.

The all new ford Model is Announced on May 25th but not unveiled until December as a 1928 model.

Studebaker celebrates it’s75th anniversary (this included their years building carriages)

Packard builds a 500 acre proving ground in Michigan, including 2.5 mile high-speed oval track.

High Speed? In 2.5 miles?

Trivia Quiz, questions and answers

Q. What auto had the first manual spark advance?



1901 Packard

The 1901 Packard with a single cylinder engine. Only 400 were built from 1899 to 1903, the Packard had a reputation for being a “better horseless carriage”

Next Month

Q. What year were rear-view mirrors standard equipment on production autos?