

# GRA-NEVA GRAM

GRASS VALLEY/NEVADA CITY  
CALIFORNIA

ISSUE 2

GraNeva A's Model A Ford Club of America

FEBRUARY 2020



Vern & Kay Harms, Gary & Janet Spencer, Bob & Bobbie Whiting, Steve Straw, Sandy Yanko, Vicky Straw and Bill Yanko

## TulipMania Tour - 2/13/2020



## President's Message for FEBRUARY 2020

This is the newsletter of the Gra-Neva A's (Grass Valley/Nevada City) Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA.) Feel free to use information here, with credit.

Club members may place a business card size advertisement in this paper for a small fee; contact the Treasurer.

### OFFICERS 2020

President	Aaron Johnson	272-4683
Vice-President	Bill Mitchell	273-1620
Treasurer	Jan Elliott	273-5829
Editor	Sharon Pierce	470-8930
Secretary	Sandy Yanko	432-2579
Membership	Kristi Turnsk	274-7079
Tour Director	Vern Harms	272-4683

### SERVICE CHAIRPERSONS - 2020

ACCC	Bill Mitchell	273-1620
Asst Editor	Karen Mitchell	273-1620
B'days&Anniv.	Jen Johnson	272-4683
Historian	Bill Mitchell	273-1620
Publicity	Bobbie Whiting	470-9191
Sheriff	Steve Straw	432-9132
Sunshine	Jen Johnson	272-4683
Technical	Ron Pierce	470-8930
Webmaster	Bridgette Holzapple	268-3800

### GRA-NEVA GRAM

Club meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at Elks Lodge in Nevada City on Highway 20 at 7:00 p.m. We welcome all guests.

If you are interested in a membership in MAFCA; write to MAFCA, 250 S. Cypress, La Habra, CA 90631

Also join us for an informal get-together at the Paulette's Country Kitchen, Wednesday mornings about 7:00 a.m. in the "vault".

Items for the newsletter can be emailed to:  
sharonpierce1945@gmail.com

Check our Website at:  
Granevaas.com  
for past newsletters

Well the year is underway and with what has been a mostly dry winter we have gotten out on the town a bit. People love seeing our old cars and the smiles they bring is priceless. We need to continue to get out there and be seen.

Drive your car just for a leisurely trip to the store, or for the more adventurous, lead a tour of a few hundred miles. The worst things for these old cars, and us, is to sit. Different things rot but the outcome is the same. We can't take 'em with us and what would be the fun in that anyway? If you can, cobble a speedster together, or a hill climb car, maybe a doo-dlebug or around the ranch rig.

The Model A was very versatile and deserves to be used. Some of my favorite travel memories are Nor Cal back roads in an A. I remember a time that the Mitchell's and the Johnson's traversed the Sierras on back roads all the way to Mill Creek CA, just outside of Mount Lassen. Great roads and a stop for a burger at the Polka Dot in Quincy. We even took the Woody on some very primitive dirt roads to look at Cabins and land. Some locals approached me and thought I was crazy for driving on such horrible roads. But honestly, that's what these cars were designed for.

There was no significant infrastructure with paved roads when these cars were new, so why are we so worried about the dirt and grime now. Or the other option is to have more Model A's. One for the paved roads and shows, and yet another for scenic byway tours. Whatever your choice, just get out and drive.

Enjoy the ride and Godspeed. AJ

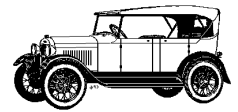


## Sunshine Report

All is well, get out and drive those little A's.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**Bold & underlined** print dates show official club events.  
*Italic print dates show events of general interest*

## 2020 Gra-Neva A's Meetings: (Thursday)

March 26th @7pm at the Elk's Lodge in NC  
April 23rd @7pm at the Elk's Lodge in NC  
May 28th @ 7 pm at the Elk's Lodge in NC

## UPCOMING Model A Tours for 2020:

March 14th, Saturday - Brake Seminar at the Harms Farm. 10am til ?

**Please check meeting minutes for more information. (page 7)**

## Upcoming Shows/Swap Meets 2020

*April 4th, Sacramento - Classic Car and Parts Swap meet, Cal Expo, 7am - 1pm. Info 916-955-8777*

*May 2nd, Saturday - Downtown Car Show, Main Street, 10am to 3pm. Info call: 530-272-8315*

*June 7th, Auburn - Motherlode Model T Club's 46th Annual Swap Meet, Gold Country Fairgrounds, 5am to 3pm*

\*\*\*\*\*

◆ *Cars & Coffee - **every** Saturday at Kmart GV from 8-10AM*

**If you need any Technical advice, please contact Ron Pierce at 530-470-8930.**

## EDITOR'S NOTES:

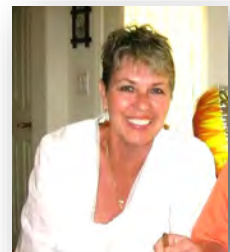
Hello all my friends!

Well we got our rain! Not much, but hey it's a start. I was looking at past February pictures and we had definitely had snow a few years back. Hopefully more to come.

I wanted to mention I have to follow-up stories from the Pancake Tour on the 23rd. I forgot we had a new tour director, Vern Harms and not Aaron Johnson... I asked both to write a story. So you have the best of two worlds, both their opinions of the day. :)

It has been a tough/full February for me. Foot surgery, my daughter visiting from Texas (which was beautiful) and then our drive to UCD all week. I promise to pay better attention to what's going on.... I even forgot to remind Roy Lebeck that he had "goodies duty" for our meeting. You have it in March Roy.

Sincerely,  
Your Editor,  
Sharon Pierce



**PS: Roy you have "goodies" for the March 26th meeting.**



## General Meeting Minutes for February 27th, 2020

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by President Aaron Johnson. He reminded everyone that we may purchase coffee for \$1.00 at the meeting.

**Minutes:** Aaron asked if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes. There were none. Vern Harms and Sharon Pierce, moved and seconded approving the minutes. The motion passed.

**Secretary:** Sandy reported she attended the recent Board Meeting February 7.

**Vice President:** Absent

**Treasurer:** IN Jan Elliott's absence Aaron Johnson reported we have a bank balance of \$3,589.77.

**Editor:** Sharon Pierce reported that the Board met recently to discuss a possible change of venue for Club meetings and to begin planning for the Club's 60th Anniversary party. The date discussed was May 28. Aaron commented we need to push this date out farther. He also noted that we should all buy raffle tickets at each meeting since this money went directly into the Club's account.

**Membership:** Kristi?? Vern noted that Jeff Jackson comes occasionally as a guest, is here tonight and we are hoping he will become a member.

**Sunshine:** Janet Spencer will give some information to Jennifer Johnson for Sunshine.

**Technical:** Ron Pierce said he had no report. Steve Turnsk talked about the art of safety wiring and that maybe we should have a seminar on the subject.

**Tour Chairman:** Vern Harms reported on the recent tours.

**San Francisco Pier 39 and Tulipmania** Festival Feb. 13. There was a good turnout, everyone had a great day riding the ferry and exploring. He thanked the Spencers for setting up this fun tour.

**Pancake Breakfast & Cascades Shores** was enjoyed by several members. It started with a pancake breakfast at Union Hill School and then a drive to Cascade Shores and into town for ice cream at Lazy Dog.

### Upcoming Tours:

March 14 10 am Brake Seminar at Harms Barn. This will include safety checks. Coffee and donuts will be served. It is expected to last about 2 hours.

March 20 San Francisco Bay Coffee Plant tour in Lincoln. Planned by Janet & Gary Spencer. Meet at KMart 8:30 am, Leave 8:40. Tour the plant and go out to lunch after.

April 19 BBQ at the Campbell's home.

April 25 Steve Straw announced the Spring Hillclimb, Saturday, in Auburn. Drivers should meet at KMart at 9:00 am.

May 30 60th Anniversary Celebration



## Continued.....

Vern reminded everyone that we need more members to plan tours. Tours can be as short as 10 miles.

**Sheriff:** Steve Straw collected \$2.00 in fines from members who did not wear their name badges and turned them into the President.

### **Old Business:**

The Club's 60th Anniversary Celebration is in the planning stages. We plan to have a picnic in a park. It was decided that the event will take place on May 30. Steve Straw will look into the availability of Commodore Park in Lake Wildwood. The members were asked if they wanted a potluck or a catered affair. The majority wanted it catered. President Aaron Johnson said he would check if Bill's BBQ could provide the food. It was discussed that a subsidy from the Club funds could help with catering costs. The time was discussed and was decided to be from 11 am to 4 pm.

### **New Business:**

Kristi Turnsk said she has set up a tour to Lucchesi Winery on Sunday, September 13. We can enjoy the gorgeous panoramic view while tasting wine. We will meet at 1:30 at KMart and plan to arrive at the winery at 2:00 pm.

### **Gots and Wants:**

Steve Turnsk said he had seen an ad for a 1929 Cabriolet mostly restored for \$18,000. This was on Craig's List and the car is in Chico or Yuba City.

### **Raffle Drawings:**

**Attendance Drawing** - Steve Straw won.

**50-50 Raffle** - John Burnside won 37.50

### **Refreshments:**

President Aaron Johnson asked Sharon Pierce if she would be sure to include a reminder to the refreshment person for our March meeting in the upcoming Newsletter. He also suggested getting more advertising to put in the Newsletter from local automotive businesses.

### **Adjournment:**

Gary Spencer made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Vern Harms. All approved this motion and Aaron Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm.

### **Attendance List:**

**Members:** Sandy&Bill Yanko, Sharon&Ron Pierce, Jerry Dorville, Ted Baerresen, Roy Lebeck, Marty Clampitt, Vicky&Steve Straw, Weldon Travis, Kristi&Steve Turnsk, Janet&Gary Spencer, Bob Bickelmann, Kelly Stevenson, Ron Stuckey, Phil Drees, Dennis Westcot, Aaron Johnson, and Vern Harms.

**One Guest:** Jeff Jackson

Respectfully submitted, Sandy Yanko, Secretary

# HAVES AND WANTS

Let us know if you have any "Haves or Wants" at the next meeting.

# March - April BIRTHDAYS



- |      |                 |      |              |
|------|-----------------|------|--------------|
| 3/12 | Virginie Pelpel | 4/1  | Vicky Straw  |
| 3/14 | Marty Clampitt  | 4/1  | Buzz Elliott |
| 3/21 | Georges Pelpel  | 4/27 | Dale White   |
| 3/27 | Ron Stuckey     |      |              |
| 3/30 | Kay Harms       |      |              |

# March - April ANNIVERSARIES



- |      |                      |      |                       |
|------|----------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 3/22 | Bob & Bobbie Whiting | 4/13 | Marty & Myra Clampitt |
|      |                      | 4/14 | Ryck & Linda Johnson  |
|      |                      | 4/28 | Ron & Sharon Pierce   |



# REFRESHMENTS

Coffee will be supplied by the Elks Lodge for \$1.00 per cup w/free re-fills. Please pay up!

\*\*\* Meeting refreshments (ie cookies, pies, etc) will be brought in by individual members, alphabetically by last name each month.

Any questions re refreshments or can't make it to the meeting, please contact Aaron Johnson and/or Bill Mitchell

\*\*\*\*\*

- March: Roy Lebeck
- April: Doug McKee
- May: Bill Mitchell



*THANKS TO JANET SPENCER  
FOR BIRTHDAY &  
ANNIVERSARY INFORMATION*



## 2020 TOUR SCHEDULE

### VERN HARMS—TOUR CHAIRMAN 272-4683

March 14, 2020 Saturday----- Brake Seminar. Ron Pierce, instructor. Harms Farm. 10:00 AM.

March 20th — SF Bay Coffee Plant Tour - Meet @Kmart @ 8:30am, afterwards lunch at Awful Annie's - tour leaders Gary and Janet Spencer

April 14, 2020 Tuesday-----Ice Cream @ Baskin Robbins 6:00-8:00 PM

April 19, 2020 Saturday-----BBQ and Radio Control planes Demonstration Tour leaders, Calvin and Virginia Campbell.

April 25, 2020 Saturday----- FAST Hill Climbs in Auburn. - Steve Straw, 9AM @ Kmart

May 12, 2020 Tuesday-----Ice Cream @ Baskin Robbins 6:00-8:00 PM

May 30---Club's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Aaron Johnson is in charge. 11-4pm, checking Lake Wildwood.

June 9, 2020 Tuesday----- Ice Cream @ Baskin Robbins 6:00-8:00 PM

June 27, 2020 Saturday----- Forest Hill Redwoods Tour & Picnic. Ted Baerresen Tour Leader

July 4, 2020 Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Nevada City Phil Drees, Tour Leader

July 14, 2020 Tuesday----- Ice Cream @ Baskin Robbins 6:00 - 8:00 PM

August 11, 2020 Tuesday----- Ice Cream @ Baskin Robbins 6:00 - 8:00 PM

August ----- Empire Mine Miner's Picnic

September 13th Winery Tour Steve and Kristi Turnsk Tour Leaders - 1:30 @ Kmart

September 15, 2020 Tuesday----- Ice Cream @ Baskin Robbins 6:00 - 8:00 PM

October 3, 2020 Saturday----- LWW Car Show/Picnic/ Pontoon Boat Ride  
Bill and Sandy Yanko Tour Leaders

October 13, 2020 Tuesday----- Ice Cream @ Baskin Robbins 6:00 - 8:00 PM

October ----- Mystery Tour?????

January 28, 2020 | The Union

# SNMH Auxiliary: Providing helping hands to those who need it most

By Amy Abt  
Special to The Union

**T**he late great actress and humanitarian Audrey Hepburn once famously quoted journalist and TV personality Sam Levenson, saying, "Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, it's at the end of your arm. As you get older, remember you have another hand: The first is to help yourself, the second is to help others."

That sentiment is at the core of a group of volunteers who have been providing their services to Dignity Health Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital for more than 60 years.

The SNMH Auxiliary is comprised of women and men from diverse backgrounds dedicated to providing a helping hand to Nevada County's local hospital and the over 75,000 community members who utilize its services on a



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The 2020 Dignity Health Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Executive Committee (from left): Sue Scardina, Sharon Beckenbach, Patty Kuehrt, Vicki Macdonald, Laurie Whitsel, and Cathy Corliss.

This is an article from The Union newspaper dated January 28, 2020 regarding a new member, Cathy Corliss.

The caption reads:

The 2020 Dignity Health Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Executive Committee and one of our new members is listed on the far right. **Cathy Corliss**

Sorry I couldn't get the whole article, but something I read was pertinent I thought,

Funds raised via the Pine Tree Gift Shop and annual events are donated to SNMH for the purchase of crucial patient car equipment and technology. In fact, since 1958, the SNMH Auxiliary has contributed more than 1,420,477 volunteer hours and has donated more than \$1.3 million to SNMH.



## TulipMania Tour to Pier 39

Our day started early-----5 couples met at Kmart Parking Lot at 7:00 AM. For this tour we traveled in modern cars and the drive to Vallejo was uneventful. A stop in Dixon at McDonald's for coffee and ??? *and we were at the ferry terminal by 9:30AM for ferry departure was 10:15. Once the boat got into the bay, it moved along at about 40 mph. Several of our more adventurous members went to the stern to enjoy the crisp breeze.*

At Pier 39, the planter boxes, half barrels and more were filled with beautiful tulips, especially yellow and red. Lots of photo opportunities.

Since we arrived at Pier 39 shortly after 11:30, it did not take long for us to decide to have lunch. Although we were near Fisherman' Wharf known for seafood, we soon found out not all in our group like fish. The Yankos and the Whittings decided on a restaurant serving cioppino while the rest of us chose to eat at Bubba Gump's to enjoy burgers, fries and specialty salads.

After lunch, our group strolled around the area, checked on the seals, bought sourdough bread, etc. until it was time to board the ferry for the trip back to Vallejo.

Traffic on the way home was stressful but all arrived home safe.

Those who participated in this tour were Gary & Janet Spencer, tour leaders, Bill & Sandy Yanko, Bob & Bobbie Whiting, Steve & Vicky Straw, Vern & Kay Harms, tour leaders.



Vern Harms  
and  
Steve Straw

## Enjoying the SF Bay Ferry to Pier 39



Bobbie Whiting  
and  
Gary Spencer



Sandy Yanko, Bobbie & Bob Whiting, Bill Yanko, Vicky Straw, Kay & Vern Harms, Steve Straw, and Gary & Janet Spencer

# TULIP-MANIA



Sandy Yanko enjoying the beautiful tulips!





Gary Spencer and Bobbie Whiting... and a photo-bomb :)



Gary Spencer, Kay  
Harms and Vicky  
Straw



The sleepy heads... the Whittings



The Harms

The Ferry ride back to Vallejo.



The Straws



The Yankos



PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND TOUR

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Sunday morning, February 23rd, was beautiful. We left Kmart at 9:15 and headed straight to

Union Hill School on Hwy 174 for the pancake breakfast. Couple of snafus with the kitchen crew but everyone was doing their best so we were patient. It all ended well!!

After a short time of visiting at the tables in the school cafeteria, we got in our cars for a leisurely tour to Cascade Shores on Quaker Hill Cross Rd and return to Nevada City via Pasquale Rd. Almost had the road(s) to ourselves.

Last stop-----Lazy Dog Ice Cream place in Grass Valley. Most everyone indulged in their pick of the day. Most enjoyable morning with plenty of quality time spent with club members.

Those attending: Bob Ambrose & Barbara, Ted & Louise Baerresen, Calvin & Virginia Campbell, Phil Drees & Linda Fischer, Vern & Kay Harms, AJ, Adler & Jen Johnson, Steve & Vicky Straw, Steve & Kristi Turnsk, Bob & Bobbie Whiting, Bill & Sandy Yanko.

By Vern Harms

\*\*\*\*\*

The Great Pancake Tour of 2020

It started off like any other unassuming Sunday in February. The sky was clear, the temperature brisk, and the precipitation 4-6 weeks out. Vern Harms had enticed the club to join him on a run over to Union Hill School for a benefit pancake breakfast. We would be supporting the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class in their bid to go to Washington DC. No matter your political slant these kids were brave as DC is a world away and far different daily vibe than that of Nevada County.

Upon our entry, at least 7 cars in tow, the gasps could be heard as far away as Cedar Ridge. This benefit was concerned that nearly no one would show, and in an instant here were 15+ hungry folks. To top it off these poor kids had hot plates to cook on with faulty circuit breakers. A test of will and spirit! We all ate, enjoyed a chat about various topics such as cars, coffee, pancakes, and the such.

We then loaded up and took off to Cascade Shores a nice jaunt up to Scotts Flat Lake. We took some pics, enjoyed some off the beaten path roads, and took our time. The way a drive should be. And someone that shall remain nameless (only because I can't remember) had the brilliant idea of a lunch in Grass Valley at Lazy Dog Ice Cream. So the bulk of the tour participants stopped in for a scoop and food coma. At just shy of noon we parted ways. It was a great local tour enjoyed by all. Thanks Vern for the push to get us out there...

Aaron Johnson



# Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser - February 23rd





February  
23rd





Left:

Aaron, Adler and Jen  
Johnson

Vicky Straw's back



Front table:

Steve & Kristi Turnsk

Virginia and Calvin Campbell

## New Member Profile

### Jim & Debbie Luckinbill

New member Jim Luckinbill met Vern Harms at the Miner's Picnic. They used to bowl together Thursday nights, although not anymore.

Jim has a 1921 Model T Touring Ford with an electric starter, Rocky Mountain brakes, two speed rear end, and water pump.

He was born in Chico in 1947, moved to Grass Valley in 1951. He lived at Union Hill. His father was an auto and metal shop teacher at the high school, his mother a music teacher. He went to Union Hill, Nevada Union, Sierra College, and Chico State. He married in 1970 to Debbie Chapman, who is from an old pioneer family in Nevada City. He was an elementary teacher for 35 years in Nevada City - 5th and 3rd grades. Debbie was a special education teacher for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in Nevada City.

They did belong to the Auburn Chevy Club; now, Sierra Sports Car Group and A's. He likes riding steam trains and plays in the Nevada County Concert Band. He redid the T with his father's help, except the paint. His father bought the T in Chico in 1943!



## New Member Profile



Virginia and Calvin Campbell  
(profile can be found on the following page)

## Calvin and Virginia Campbell

In the 1960's California was a land of opportunity. It seemed that everyone wanted to experience the beach and freedom the Beach Boys sang about. The migration of young folks that headed to the California coast was reported, but I personally missed the trip. I always wanted to see California and what it was all about.

On a holiday trip to San Diego for a weekend getaway, I was impressed with the big military ships in the Bay and the sand on the beach. I said to myself "someday I am going to see this place". 32 years later, I retired and came out to see what it was all about. So moved by the experience, I could not wait to return to Oklahoma, sell my house and move to California. In the meantime, I received a totally unexpected message on Facebook. This message said, "Are you the Calvin Campbell that grew up in Ponca City, Oklahoma?" The message came from a girl that I knew 46 years ago as a teenager. Virginia came with her family to Oklahoma from California to visit her uncle every summer. Her uncle lived next door.

A lot had changed in 46 years. Phone calls were made back and forth for several months. Then, trips were made back and forth between California and Oklahoma. I chose to move to Grass Valley in January of 2017, Virginia and I then married in September of 2018 – the typical story of girl marries the boy next door, only a lifetime in between. She even came with her own 1929 Plymouth that her Dad bought in 1937. It has been in the family for 81 years. I have a deep love of cars, both Classic and Hot Rods. I have been a race car builder and driver, have built my own experimental airplane, and have been an airshow pilot. In 2007 I was the crew chief on an L39 Jet that competed in the Jet Class at the Reno Air Show. So, due to my love of cars, I joined the GreNeva A's. I joined a church. I then met new friends and engaged myself in the California culture. In these activities, people engaged me in building a car for the Great Race and building on an experimental airplane for a friend at the Nevada County Airport. The experience with the GreNeva A's has helped us to see Grass Valley with the tours and events that we attended. We simply love the Club and the individuals that have taken us into their circle to play with cars.

Today we have two garages full of cars and looking for more garage space. (Well, at this point the space has limited the acquisition of more cars for now.) I always wanted to be a toy maker and finally have time in my retirement to devote to it. I love building radio control airplanes, radio control boats, and toys.

I enjoy building cars and updating the 1929 Plymouth. It will eventually have a balanced engine, synchronized transmission and Mitchell Splitter to keep up with the Club on tours. We have a 1955 Chevy that was once a race car and is now a daily driver, a 1957 Chevy Truck that is our tow vehicle, and a 1931 Chrysler that can take more than 2 people on a tour. Car shows are now frequently attended and the toughest decision is what car to drive.

We both feel we have made lifetime friends and look forward to sharing with the Club members, contributing our knowledge, lifetime experiences and just having fun.

# New Member Profile

## Meet Our New Members: Jack & Cathy Corliss

Jack Corliss heard about Gra-Neva A's through his friend, Steve Turnsk. He owns a 1930 Ford deluxe roadster, drivable but "still needing some adjusting."

He and wife, Cathy, are both retired from Los Angeles, Jack for 35 years, Cathy for 23 years. They moved to Nevada City from Lakewood, CA, in 1998. Cathy retired from PacBell as an insurance agent for employees. Jack retired as a foreman at D.T.R. Tool & Die.

They've been married 35 years. Cathy has a son and a daughter by a previous marriage. Jack has lost by death two sons, but still has a son that was a twin and a daughter. Together they have about eight grand kids. How many great grandkids? Ask Cathy!

Jack was a machinist until retirement, then went to junior college to learn woodworking and set up a wood shop here in their basement. He's built some furniture and got into model trains for a while. Then he went back to old cars. He's been in the Buick Club for 44 years, and now it's Ford Model A's.

Welcome, Jack and Cathy!





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