



# T Diggins'



Monthly Newsletter of the  
Mother Lode Model T Club  
Celebrating 56 Years of Model T Fun  
<https://www.motherlodemodelt.com>

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## April 2025

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### Presidents Message



Hi all,

Spring is upon us with blooms bursting out in beautiful colors and birds setting up new homes for their expected families. I hope you are enjoying these changes as much as I am.

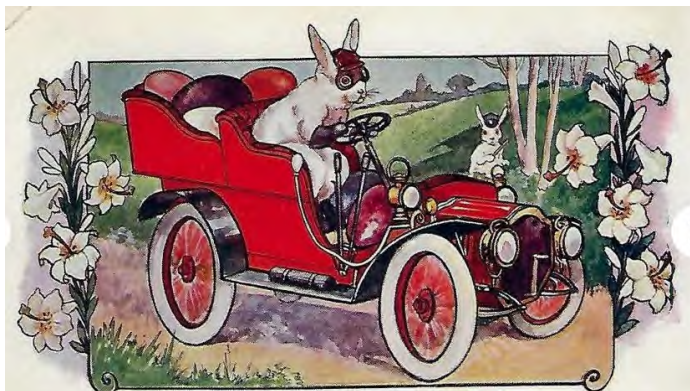
We had an enjoyable general meeting in March, despite the wet weather. Thanks to all who shared show and tell items. New club member, Jim Dempsey, joined us and we enjoyed getting to know him. He and his wife have returned to California from Idaho and are living in Rough and Ready. Jim's a friendly guy and will be a great addition to our club.

We are looking forward to our first tour of the season, that being the combined Safety Check and Shakedown Tour on Saturday, April 12th, put on by Susie Krezman. It'll be time to shake the cobwebs out of our cars and get them back on the road. Hopefully, we'll have good weather so we can enjoy the beauty Spring has to offer.

Our next Board Meeting is on Tuesday, April 8th, at Mountain Mike's Pizza in Auburn (pizza 5:30p, meeting 6:30p). Our next General Meeting will be on Thursday, April 10th, at Black Bear Diner in Auburn (dinner 5:30p, meeting 6:30p). Please remember to bring your Show and Tell to the General Meeting.

As always, thanks for all your great support, guidance, and ideas, not only for myself but for our club, as well. Have a great month!

*Paula Mikles*



## Up Coming Events - 2025

### MTFCA NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

June 4, 2025 - June 7, 2025

[Homecoming at the Model T Museum](#)

*Model T Museum 309 N 8th Street,  
Richmond, IN, United States*

July 13-18, 2025 – MTFCA National Tour –  
Alberta, Canada.

See more info in The Vintage Ford Magazine.



### Local Club Events - 2025

- ♦ April 8 – Board Mtg-swap meet planning.  
5:30, Dinner, 6:30, Mtg. Mt. Mikes, Auburn
- ♦ April 10 – Monthly Meeting. Black Bear  
Diner, auburn. 5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Meeting.
- ♦ April 12 – 9 am. Shake Down Tour &  
Safety Check. Meet at Raley's. Tour to Lincoln.
- ♦ May – Tour -TBA
- ♦ May 31 – Swap Meet Set-up. Early  
vendor check- in.
- ♦ June 1 – Mother Lode 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap  
Meet. Gold Country Fairgrounds. – [Details](#)
- ♦ June 6-7 - Santa Clara Valley 54th  
Annual Speedster Endurance Run &  
Lowland tour. [Details.](#)
- ♦ June 19 – Afternoon Tea. Flyer attached
- ♦ July 12 – Beat-The-Heat Breakfast Tour.
- ♦ Aug – Ice Cream Social.
- ♦ Sept - Picnic Tour @ Marriott's Ranch.
- ♦ Oct – Fall Tour.
- ♦ Dec 14 – Christmas Luncheon.



*FLASH BACK - Aero Space Museum Tour – April 2012*



## Charter Luncheon 2025

By Susie Krezman

On March 1, The Mother Lode Model T Club celebrated the 56st anniversary of our Charter. We take this time also to honor the founding Fathers, Dick Johnson, Bob Nowack, Harry Sands, Cliff Hyatt, Ron Brown Sr and Gil Machado. Out of the original families, there are three of us left, Randy Johnson, my Mother Bobbi Machado and myself. I am so grateful for this vision and work they did all those years ago that allows us to continue enjoying the hobby. There were 26 members and two guests that enjoyed a nice meal, friendship, and a beautiful winter day at the Ridge in Auburn. Thank you, John Saylor, for taking pictures and to Sandy Staples and Paula for helping with the cake. Looking forward to the touring season, see you on the road. Susie Krezman



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# Birthdays and Anniversaries



## April Anniversaries

No one listed	
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## April Birthdays

Mary Lynn Barrett	1	Beth Finkbeiner	13
Lee Adams	8	Rick Frey	19
Susie Krezman	8	Mike Berry	29
Dennis Furr	9		



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## Shake Down Tour

April 12

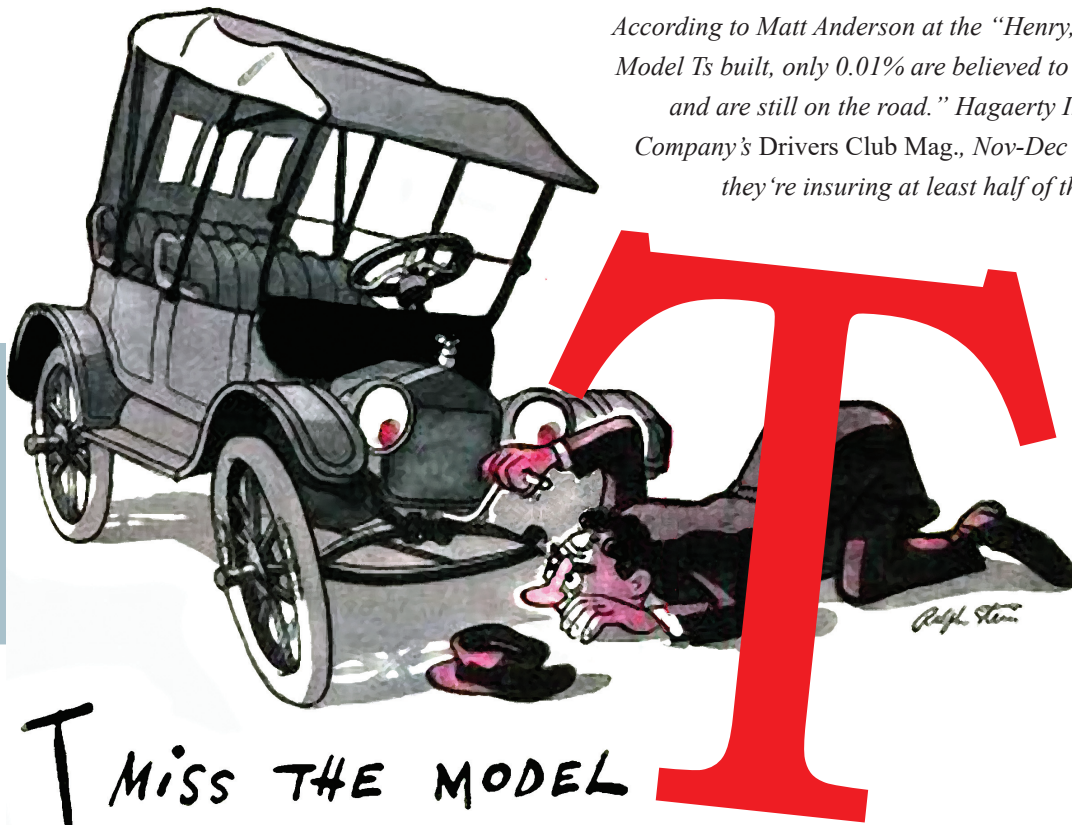
Meet up at Raleys, 9 am. We will start off with a safety check of our cars using the MTFCA Safety Check List. You will be checking for missing cotter pins, loose bolts and nuts, tight wheels and other strategic points on our cars that are prone to loosen over the years. A copy of the check list is attached to the email. You can start the checks at home, but bring your list with you.

After the safety check we will leave for a short tour thru the countryside near Lincoln and back to Auburn for lunch at Burger and Cream on Highway 49.





According to Matt Anderson at the "Henry," "of 15 million Model Ts built, only 0.01% are believed to have survived and are still on the road." Hagaerty Insurance Company's Drivers Club Mag., Nov-Dec 2024, thinks they're insuring at least half of them.



Reprinted from the "Secrets of Speed" magazine. Submitted by Al Stoll.

## I MISS THE MODEL

Article from *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, October 1946. Author is **Parke Cummings**, the artist is **Ralph Stein**, the B&W photo is in public domain. The story & its art were archived online at "Way Back Machine" & is believed to be in public domain.

Even in these days of ancient broken-down jalopies the old Model T Ford is a rarity among rarities. More's the pity. Nobody who hasn't coped with the Model T can appreciate what an automobile really is, or really was. I miss the two Model T's we had back in 1919. They each had a character and flavor all their own, and for that reason we named them. Whoever names a modern car?

Both of our Model Ts were secondhand when we got them and became more so with the passage of time. Our first acquisition was "Lizzie", a ladylike 1915 model. Lizzie was comparatively easy to start, and when she got going, she ran smoothly with a gentle purr that was hardly audible two blocks away.

"Roughneck", on the other hand, was just what his name implies; He was a 1912 and therefore somewhat less streamlined than Lizzie. He was the devil to start, and when he finally got going, he snorted and chugged like a tugboat. Roughneck was even harder to stop than to start. Even when you put him in neutral and turned the switch key off, his motor would keep roaring for another minute or so.

I said that Lizzie was comparatively easy to start. "Comparatively" covers a lot of ground. One of the salient features of the early Model T was its lack of a self-starter. Another was the fact that a self-starter wouldn't

have stood a chance of turning over a recalcitrant Model T engine anyhow. It took muscle to do that, and plenty. Applied to a crank, of course.

Maybe Lizzie wasn't streamlined and maybe she didn't have a floating clutch, but what modern car could get mad and break your arm anytime it wanted to? You could spin the crank around in Lizzie without any danger of her suddenly reversing the crank and breaking your arm, a maneuver that was technically known in those days as "kick-back." You could spin Lizzie for five minutes without starting her motor. At the end of that time, you might taste blood in your mouth, see dizzy spots and collapse from a mild heart attack, but my original statement still stands - you didn't have to worry about a broken arm.

Roughneck was something else again. He was what is known in boxing circles as a counterpuncher. Launch an attack on Roughneck, and he'd launch back a tougher one. Nobody ever tried to spin Roughneck's crank. You simply grabbed the crank at a position between seven and eight o'clock, gave one quick jerk upwards - calculated to induce a clockwise rotation - and quickly let go and jumped out of the way.

Roughneck instantly retaliated by kicking and sending the crank handle spinning in several

counterclockwise revolutions. He would do this for ten or fifteen minutes at a time or until he had thoroughly demonstrated his mastery.

Then, if he felt like it, he might start. There would be a series of staccato explosions; the cranker would rush to the steering wheel and frantically adjust the spark and gas levers in an effort to get him running more smoothly. Unless you made it quickly, the engine died.

For some perverse reason all Model T cars had to be started with a gas and spark adjustment that automatically became entirely wrong the instant the motor started. A successful cranker was one who could get from the crank to the steering wheel levers in just under one fifth of a second. Anything slower than that was no good.

In the summertime both cars were relatively easy to start. On a wintry morning, with the temperature reading ten below, we faced no simple task. In those days antifreeze radiator solutions hadn't been invented, or if they had, we'd never heard of them. We had no heated garage. Every night we drained the water out of the radiators, thereby preventing freezing. This didn't, however, prevent freezing of the oil in the crankcase.

In the morning the first step was to fill the radiator with water, water just as hot as could safely be poured in without cracking any pipes. When we poured some of the water into the top of the radiator, we left the pet cock at the bottom of the radiator open, our purpose, of course, being to flush the radiator with hot water, and then to proceed with several more flushings of hot water.

We had a potbellied coal stove with a huge wash boiler on top of it, so we had plenty of hot water. I won't go into further details, but if you went about the whole task intelligently, and had good luck, there was no reason why you couldn't get a Model-T started within an hour on even the coldest morning.

As a last resort you could always jack up a hind

wheel, and crank with the engine in gear. For some reason this worked when the other method failed, particularly with Roughneck. Realizing his back wheels were in gear, Roughneck probably assumed that by starting his motor he would automatically run down whoever was trying to crank him. He never got wised up to the fact that he couldn't get traction with one wheel jacked up in the air.

During the time we had Lizzie and Roughneck we also had a farm, a small coal mine, and a flock of sheep. In fact, that is why we had the two cars, to run errands for the various enterprises.

I do not know how many tons of grain, miners, sheep, coal dust, dirt and other assorted cargo Lizzie carried during her career with us but, since she took many trips where the tonnage must have approximated that of a good-sized ocean-going freighter.

We decided one winter that Lizzie had earned a rest and laid her up in a neighbor's barn until spring, thus leaving ourselves free to pool our concerted energies towards fighting Roughneck. It wasn't until well along in April that the snow had melted sufficiently to enable us to dig our way into Lizzie's retreat. The little Model T had wintered beautifully and had become imbued with the spirit of



*Hauling coal, grain, miners, sheep, supplies, dirt and who knows what else (file image).*

spring.

Growing on her back wooden floor was a beautiful green carpet of oats two inches high. I would like to record that we subsequently harvested a crop from these sprouts, but everything I have written heretofore in this piece has been strictly factual, and I don't want to spoil that record now.

The truth is that after that experience we cleaned out Lizzie's rear floor at least twice a year. Later we moved from the Allegheny Mountains to New York City and sold Lizzie and Roughneck. I don't know what has become of them, but I still miss them both. I can't see the 1941 car I have now as an oats raiser. There's not enough dirt in the trunk.



## Meeting Minutes

**Mother Lode Model-T Club**  
**General Meeting Minutes, March 13, 2025**  
**Black Bear Diner, Auburn CA**

**Called to Order: 6:30 PM**  
**By President Paula Mikles**

**Paula** Introduced a new Club member. Jim Dempsey who just moved back to CA. from Idaho. Paula thanked Susie for arranging the Charter Lunch.

**Secretary:** Junette stated a correction was need in the Minutes of February 13th, 2025. Correction made. Minutes Approved.

**Treasurer:** Kitty reports she wrote checks for the 2-11 2025 Board Meeting dinner, additional Crab Feed supplies & the Charter Lunch, Supplies & Cake. Janet from the Assistance League called Kitty to ask if our gift was a Donation or Grant. Kitty told her it was a Donation. Janet asked if we wanted to be on their Sponsor List? They have different amounts represented on their list of donations sponsors so we will be included. Treasury is Solvent.

**Vice President:** Susie shared that the Mother Road-Lincoln Hwy & El Dorado County Cemetery Tour would take place on Saturday March 15th. The Shake Down Tour & Safety Check will be held on April 12th. We will meet at Raley's to do the Safety Check ( Bring your Tools). Then a short tour to Burgers & Cream on Hwy 49 for lunch. Susie said they have the best Burgers in town.

**Old Business:** Paula shared that the Charter Dinner was great especially the cake! Steve Chase call to say we can leave a stack of flyers at the gate of the Bakersfield Swap Meet.

**New Business:** Board Meetings will be held on April 8th & May 6th. All Members are welcome.

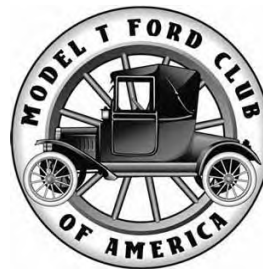
**Show & Tell:** Steve Straw brought a picture of a cross-drive magneto mount and had a question about the oil line and how it worked. He also shared about a company where you can have duplicate license plates made. Members shared with our new member about Michelle Archbold who has a business, **Auburn Auto Registration Service**. She helps people who are having difficult problems with the DMV while trying to register their old cars. John B. has some old Horseless Carriage & Model-T Times Magazines for which he needs to find a new home. If interested call him. He also brought a cast iron toy cart pulled by a motorcycle. driven by a man whose head had been broken off. Al Stoll shared about a problem people who have lost their homes in the fires are having because of how the Trusts are written. They must have the Trust name & the Owners names.

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:08 pm**  
**By President Mikles**  
**Respectfully: Junette Avey, Secretary**





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P.O. Box 4901, Auburn, CA 95604

Chartered Member Since 1969

## 2025 Officers

President ----- Paula Mikles 916-215-2200  
Vice President - Susie Krezman 916-599-0552  
Treasurer -----Kitty Goodell 530-885-6912  
Secretary----- Junette Avey 916-436-4176

## Board Members

Erik Lindstedt ----- 530-848-5910  
Gordon Goodell-----530-885-6912  
John Saylor -----916-202-5842  
Gary Krezman- -----916-599-0059

Sunshine ----- Susie Krezman  
Website & Newsletter ----- John Saylor

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## T-Diggins'

Published monthly to keep members informed of club activities and to promote participation in club events. Publication copy should be sent to the editor by the 25th of the month to be included in the next issue. Send all copy to 7304 Goldwood Way, Citrus Heights, Ca 95610 or email to [j99saylor@gmail.com](mailto:j99saylor@gmail.com)



Purchase Club Logo items directly online.  
Shirts, Caps, Cups:

[Click for Details](#)



Or scan QR Code

## Mother Lode Model T Club Membership Application

Dues are \$20. / Year

New ☐ Renewal ☐ -- Renewals Due Dec 31

Name \_\_\_\_\_ B'day Mo \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ B'day Mo \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_

Anniversary Mo. \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Email Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Yr. & Body Style of your T \_\_\_\_\_

Running ☐ Licensed ☐ Insured ☐

MTFCA Member - ☐ Member No. \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Model T Ford Club of America

Members are encouraged to join the Model T Ford Club of America. MTFCA members receive the bi-monthly publication The Vintage Ford, voting privileges in national club and can participate in the many national club tours and events.

Annual dues for the MTFCA are \$50.00 payable to:

The Model T Ford Club of America  
309 North 8th Street, Richmond, In. 47375-0996  
Telephone: (765) 373-3106.

See [www.mtfca.com](http://www.mtfca.com)



# Afternoon Tea at Sotherton Tea Room

1520 Del Webb Blvd., Suite C-101, Lincoln, CA

## Thursday, June 19th - 12:00 o'clock seating

### Traditional English Afternoon Tea Includes:

Tea Sandwiches\*, Scones with clotted cream and jam,  
Gourmet pastries and unlimited tea

\*Gluten Free Option replaces tea sandwiches with your choice of a slice of frittata (F) OR  
all of the sandwich fillings served with gluten free crackers (C). Please state choice below at time of reservation

Come dressed in your finest tea apparel (optional) to an English traditional tea room  
and have a lovely afternoon tea with some tasty food, drink and fun with the ladies.

Afternoon Tea is \$48.50 (includes the tea, tax & tip)

Gluten Free Choice is \$54.50 (includes the tea, tax & tip)

Please make your reservation and send check made out to:

Julie Instness, 8216 Bonnie Oak Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 **no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>**

Payments are nonrefundable. Reservations received after June 1<sup>st</sup> will be on a space available only

Any question or need information, please feel free to call Julie at (916) 257-2428

Name	Cost	Gluten Free (Circle Choice)
Who's Attending: _____	\$ _____	\$ _____ *F C
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____ *F C
Sub Total	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____	