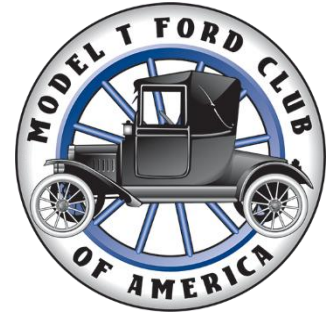




T Diggins'



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

September 2025

Presidents Message



Happy Labor Day everyone! I hope you're enjoying the beginning of September and surviving the heat.

We had an enjoyable General Meeting in August. Our Raffle Master, Gary Krezman, headed our first 50/50 raffle in quite some time. Our two winners were Elaine Marriott and new member, Steve Owles. Remember to bring the change you need to buy your tickets, as Gary may not have the change you need.

Steve Owles attended the meeting and joined our club that evening. We are very happy to welcome him and his wife, Lindy.

We held a tribute to John Saylor for his recent wins (3rd place for our club's Newsletter and 2nd place for our

club's Website awarded by the Model T Ford Club of America) and his ongoing and incredible contributions to our club. Everyone at our General Meeting had a cupcake and we toasted John by raising our cupcakes to him. Our club is so lucky to have John as such a devoted and knowledgeable member.

Elaine Mariott reminded us of the BBQ at her house on Saturday, 9/20, and Steve Straw reminded us of Fall Hillclimb on 9/6. See the Minutes in this Newsletter for more details.

We had a fantastic tour to Leatherby's in Lincoln on Saturday, 8/26. We had 23 people and 9 old cars(one met us at Leatherby's). We had a great room all to ourselves for a wonderful lunch and yummy ice cream desserts in all shapes and sizes. There is nothing better than ice cream on a hot day! Thanks everyone who braved the heat to join us.

Our next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, 9/9, at Mountain Mike's Pizza in Auburn (pizza at 5:30p & at meeting at 6:30p). Our next General Meeting will be on Thursday, 9/11, at Black Bear Diner in Auburn (dinner at 5:30p & meeting at 6:30p). We will be discussing and voting on the 2025 charitable donations our club will be making. If you want your voice heard and your vote counted, please attend the General Meeting. Have a great month and thanks for your participation and support.

Paula Mikles



Up Coming Events – 2025

MTFCA NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2026 MTFCA National Tours.

Save the dates.

New York, June 22 - 26

Missouri, September 9 - 12

See more info in The Vintage Ford Magazine.

Dutch Flat Fall Colors Tour October 18-Save the Date

We are touring to the historic town of Dutch Flat. We will be having lunch in the recently opened restaurant inside the hotel. Arrangements are being made to have parking on the street in front for a photo opportunity. We will meet at Raley's at 9:15, leaving at 10:45. Lunch at 11:30. Sign up at the next meeting.



From tour June 2021

Local Club Events - 2025

- ♦ Sept 6 - Fall Hillclimb, by NorCal F.A.S.T.- Auburn Airport. [Details.](#)
- ♦ Sept 9 - Board meeting Mt. Mikes Pizza, Auburn. 5:30 Eat, 6:30 Meeting.
- ♦ Sept 11 – Monthly Meeting. Black Bear. Diner, auburn. 5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Meeting.
- ♦ Sept 13 – Annual “[Cars in the Park](#)” San Jose, hosted by Santa Clara Valley Model T Club.
- ♦ Sept 20 - Picnic Tour @ Marriott's Ranch.
- ♦ Oct 5 – Old Auburn Cemetery Event.
- ♦ Oct 18 – Fall Colors Tour to Dutch Flat. Lunch at the Historic Dutch Flat hotel.
- ♦ Oct 23-26 – [The Last Round-up Tour](#), Regional tour by the San Diego Model T Club.
- ♦ Dec 14 – Christmas Luncheon, The Ridge Golf Club.

2026

- ♦ Mar 29 – Charter Brunch.
- ♦ May 30-31 – 51st Annual ML Swap Meet.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



September Anniversaries

Kent & Kristy Keyser	11
Rick & Janis Frey	13

September Birthdays

Richard Instness	2
Vern Marriott	16
Paula Mikles	16
Al Stoll	17
Becky Harrison	18
Mark O'Connor	20
Bobbi Machado	22
Lindy Owles	23
Helen Johnson	28 28



Steam' n T Party MTFCA National Tour, Stettler, Alberta, Canada July 13-18, 2025

This is a story that David heard from Fred, one of the national tour participants.

Fred has an unusual feature on his four-door Model T sedan. He has installed a drawer under the running board. It is 4 to 5 inches tall, about 2 1/2 feet wide and reaches under the car almost to the center. There are latches on both ends to keep it closed. This makes a fine storage location for Model T tools.

Fred has never had a loose wheel in the past. One day on the tour, he was driving towards an intersection when suddenly he felt the wheel come off. One of his passengers exclaimed "There goes the wheel!" Fred kept steering straight. The car was dragging, but he was able to get to the side of the road 3-4 ft. off the pavement. Fred now had an additional problem. The rear axle had dug several inches into the dirt which meant his nifty drawer was also partially buried, preventing him from opening it to access his tools.

Fred collected his wits. He found the wheel in the field ahead of the car. The hub looked fine. He called the tour's trouble truck. As he waited, he got to thinking that he really needed a tow truck. So, he called his roadside service provider. He told them he wanted to speak to the actual tow operator to explain the situation so the car could be lifted without damaging the car body. He went through three tow truck operators and none wanted the job.

(Continued next page)

(National Tour Continued)

Meanwhile, the tour's trouble truck stopped by, but lacking a winch and blocks, Fred sent them on their way. Fred started digging the car out with his hands. Various other people stopped by to see if they could help. A farmer stopped by and gave him a shovel. With the shovel, Fred was finally able to dig out the toolbox. Then, with the help of his small bottle jack, he was able to fully dig out the car.

Another tour trouble truck stopped by with a winch and blocks. Between the two of them, they winched the car backwards, lifted it into the air, and got it on some blocks back on the pavement. There was no damage to the body or the tool drawer. They set the wheel back on the axle and rolled the car onto the trailer. The axle had sheared at the keyway. It had sheared a rotational wedge-shaped slice off of the axle. They found the piece in the street.

It is thought that the wheel spun enough after the keyway broke that it spun the nut off of the axle. The axle nut and thread were undamaged. The Cotter key had been sheared off in the nut. The remains of the Cotter key were jammed into the nut, but they were able to screw the nut back on the axle. Fred was confident that the axle hub and nut were tight before the incident. The old axle simply failed and caused it to come apart.

There were two other hard luck stories. Terry's Ruckstell shift rod broke while he was driving. (He was happy it broke in Ruckstell high.) Upon examination, he found a worn spot on the external rod between the rear axle and the shift lever. It started cracking there and then broke. There is a support that bolts to the torque tube through which the shift rod passes. It is supposed to have a rubber bushing. You might make sure your rubber bushing isn't worn out and wearing through the shift rod.

The other story is of a T owner who was giving rides to spectators. During one such ride, his steering started getting very loose; something was wrong. The reproduction steering shaft must have been welded or swedged together. It broke in a nearly perfect ring, but there was still a center pin holding it together. If the driver applied only minimal pressure to the wheel, the steering worked. If he steered more sharply, it would not. The shaft appeared solid when it was removed and did not come apart.

On another topic, there were two interesting auction items. One was an old-fashioned coil tester. It looked complete, except it needed a new set of magnets. The other was simply a black Model T Ford repair manual except this was in a larger 8 1/2 x 11 size. The manual was plastic-wrapped so no one knew whether it was simply a large print format, but there were lots of old eyes interested in a larger print.

Another anecdote – there is no roadside trash! In Alberta, we saw frequent pull-outs along the road with covered garbage and recycling bins ready to collect castoffs to discourage littering.

Interestingly, we heard of two Model T couples who joined a T club just so they could participate in this tour. One was from Canada and the other from California. That sounds like an effective method for recruiting new members!

-Becky & David Harrison

Marriott's Picnic Tour

September 20 - Vern & Elaine Marriot twill be hosting their annual BBQ/ picnic day at their ranch in Auburn. Meet at the old Rite Aid, parking lot, 2805 Bell Rd, Auburn, CA, 11:30 am. Short tour to the Ranch, 5686 Upper Ranch Rd. Sign up at the next meeting. This is always a fun event and will be joint with the Auburn A's.

Pictures taken by David on the National Tour



The “Hold-up on the train ride.”



4 Model Ts got to ride on the train.

All wooden Model T Body.

Model T Form-a-Tractor.



Ice Cream Social Tour

Labor Day Weekend, August 30, 2025 we had 6 Model T's, one Model A, one Buick and two modern cars leave Raley's and head on down thru some backroads to Leatherby's in Lincoln. Allen and Maryann Koch brought out their new to them Model T Pickup that was previously owned by Louie Burcher, Paula and Kitty's dad. Erik & Cindy drove direct from their home in Rockland. Had a great time visiting. It was a little warm, but we headed home before the real afternoon heat. Thank you all for coming, see you on the Fall Tour Oct 18th.

Susie Krezman





More Tour Pictures



We saw some man size servings of ice cream!

More photos on our website:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/zhNownuk5dQYmVqb8>

Thanks to Alan, Susie, Paula for sending pictures

Meeting Minutes

Mother Lode Model-T Club
General Meeting Minutes
August 14th, 2025
Black Bear Dinner, Auburn CA

Called to Order: 6:36 p.m.
By President Paula Mikles

Paula Welcomed the Members & introduced Steve Owles who joined the club this evening. He has a 1923 Doctors Coup. He did have a car that once belonged to the Machado's but sold it to buy the Coup.

Paula was unable to attend the "Beat the Heat Tour". She asked the members who did attend, how they liked the food & service provided by the new owners? It was agreed that it was much the same menu as before, the food & service was great! We will continue to use them for our event!

Paula & Kitty then passed out cupcakes which we used to toast John Saylor for wining 2nd place for our Web Site & 3rd place for the Newsletter. These were from the National Model-T Club of America! John shared that there are strict rules in regard to the content, so it is quite an honor to win! This is not the first time he has won for his outstanding work! Great Job John!

Secretary's Report: Junette reports no corrections to the Minutes of July Meeting. They are therefore approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Kitty reported the amount of interest we received & the balance of the account! Treasury is Solvent.

Vice President: Susie announced August 30th we will tour to Lincoln for Lunch & Ice Cream at Leatherby's. We will meet at Raley's at 10:30 a.m.

September 20th will be the Marriott's Picnic. We will meet at Old Rite Aid parking lot at Hwy 49 & Bell Rd at 11:15. Les Andrews will lead us on a Back Roads Tour to the Marriott's. October 5th will be The Old Auburn Cemetery tour. Junette is planning a Fall Tour for October 18th. More Information to follow. The Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Ridge on December 14th. Please bring an unwrapped toy to donate.

Old Business: Gary announced that we received the \$500. refund from the Fairgrounds. Gary asked them if we place a \$500. deposit for our 2026 Swap Meet will they return the deposit if we cancel the event? They said if we cancel a month before, our deposit will be returned. A motion to pay the \$500. deposit was moved & passed for the 2026 Swap Meet. Gary also shared that the Donuts & Coffee Lady donated \$50. to the club members. Paula will send her a Thank You card. Erik L shared that he will not be able to help with the Swap Meet this year. He has been asked to sing with the Sacramento Symphony. They will be performing Beethoven's 9th. The rehearsal will be on Saturday & performance on Sunday the weekend of the Swap Meet. He will help with the preliminary work to get ready for the Swap Meet. John S shared that the Sacramento club has a Barber Shop Group that meets in the same building where they have their meetings. The Group comes in & sings a couple of songs for the members.

Show & Tell: Erik & Cindy's son Ben works in Finance. They gifted him with a picture of an Ad for General Motors Acceptance Corp. in 1925. It was early Marketing for auto loans. A Young Couple were encouraged to get a loan to buy a car. The Ford Company in 1923 would allow customers to make payments weekly, to save enough to buy a Ford. There were Company's that sold cars parts so when the customers had all the part's they could build the car.

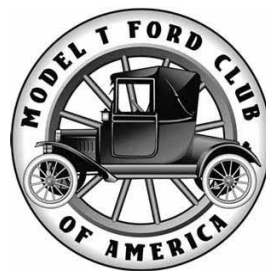
Additional Events of Interest: August 22&23 Wings & Wheels Lincoln Airport 10-2. September 6th Dennis Furr will be giving Model-T driving lessons at the CAM. Fall Hill Climb Sunday September 6th held at Auburn Airport. September 7th the Sacramento Swap Meet will be held at the Hard Rock in Wheatland.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:19 p.m.
By President: Paula Mikles
Respectfully: Junette Avey, Secretary

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P.O. Box 4901, Auburn, CA 95604

Chartered Member Since 1969

2025 Officers

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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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Purchase Club Logo items directly online.
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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. _____

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