



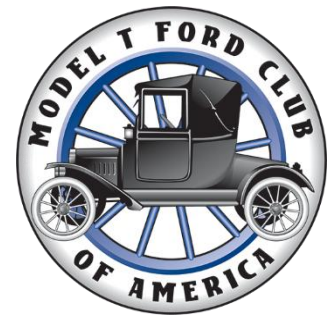
T Diggins'

Monthly Newsletter of the
Mother Lode Model T Club

A Chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America

Celebrating 57 Years of Model T Fun

<https://www.motherlodemodelt.com>



September 2026

Presidents Message

Happy September to all,

I hope this finds you looking forward to the month with fun activities planned.

We had a great August General Meeting, although we were missing some of our regular attendees. It was nice to see Junette, as we hadn't seen her in a while. We happily welcomed Rod McCommon, who joined our club during the meeting. He had met with Erik Barrett earlier in the day to talk about Rod's 1927 Model T. Erik gave him his first ride in a Model T. Fun! Rod is very enthusiastic and excited about joining our club and getting his Model T on the road. He will fit right in with our club. Welcome, Rod!

We also had visitors; Ron Harrison and his eleven-year-old son join us to check out our club. We were happy to have them join us.

Members had lots to share, making it a fun and interesting meeting. Thank you all for your participation.

The Ice Cream Social Tour to Leatherbys in Lincoln was held on 8/22. What started out as a tour with 4 cars and 14 people whittled down to only 7 people meeting at Leatherby's, as members were either not feeling well or were hospitalized and couldn't attend. Those of us who ate at Leatherbys enjoyed our meals, ice cream (yum), and conversation with our small group. Even though he couldn't stay to eat, I'd like to thank Chris Instness and his dog, Sadie, for touring down with us. I also heard Al Stoll showed up after we left. Sorry we missed you, Al.

Our next event is the Picnic at the Ranch BBQ put on by Elaine in Auburn on Saturday, September 19th. We will meet at the old Rite Aid parking lot on Bell Road at 11:30 and tour out to Elaine's Ranch. This is a great opportunity for us to not only visit with our members, but also members of the Model A Club, of which Elaine is the President. Get your appetites ready, cause Elaine puts out a great spread full of yummy food. This is such a fun event!

We will not have a Board Meeting in September. Our General Meeting will be on September 10th at Black Bear Diner. See the calendar of events in this newsletter for details. Please remember your show and tell.

Lastly, our favorite wait person, Aaron, will not be at this meeting. I will explain at the meeting. Take care and my best wishes to members who have been under the weather to heal and join us soon.

Paula



Up Coming Events – 2026

MTFCA NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2026 MTFCA National Regional Tours.

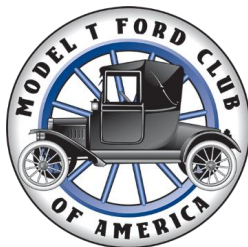
- ♦ September 8 – 12. Model T's, The Mother Road & More. National Tour, Joplin, Missouri.
- ♦ Oct 7-10 – 49th Annual Texas T Party, Columbus, Texas

See more info in The Vintage Ford Magazine.

MTFCA Membership

Our local charter and insurance depend on having a minimum of 50% of our members also be members of the MTFCA. Membership includes The Vintage Ford Magazine. There are many good stories and tech tips in every issue as well as classified and vendor ads.

See the *back page* for MTCA contact info.



Local Club Events – 2026

- ♦ Sept 10 – Monthly Meeting. Black Bear. Diner, Auburn. 5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Meeting.
- ♦ Sept 11 – Last Auburn Cruise Night.
- ♦ Sept 12 - Colfax Rail Road Days. [Event Info](#)
- ♦ Sept 19 – “Picnic at the Ranch”. Meet at old Rite Aid lot, Hwy 49 & Bell Rd, 11:30 am, RSVP 530-320-7699. short tour to 5686 Upper Ridge Wy, Auburn. Sign up at the next meeting.
- ♦ Oct 24 - Fall Tour Forest Hill Divide.
- ♦ Oct 24 - F.A.S.T. - Santa Margarita Time Trials.
- ♦ Nov 11 – Veterans Day.
- ♦ Dec 6 – Christmas Party at the Ridge.

2027

June 6 – 52nd Annual Mother Lode Swap Meet. Gold Country Fairgrounds.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

September Anniversaries



Greg & Kristen Mathews	6
Kent & Kristy Keyser	11
Ben & Michelle Lindstedt	25

September Birthdays



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

September Club Event

BBQ picnic lunch at Vern & Eleane's Ranch. Meet at old Rite Aid lot, Hwy 49 & Bell Rd, 11:30 am, RSVP 530-320-7699. short tour to 5686 Upper Ridge Wy, Auburn. Sign up at the next meeting. This will be a joint event with the Auburn As.

Fall Tour – October 24 – Save the Date



We will head up to the Foresthill Divide. meet at Raley's at 9:45 and leave at 10:00. Lunch on your own. Bring a Chair. Sign up sheet at the October Meeting or email me at susiekrezman@gmail.com

100 YEAR CELEBRATION - DONNER SUMMIT BRIDGE - OLD HWY 40

Hi Everyone,

I wanted to share a recap of our recent trip to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Donner Summit Bridge on Old Hwy 40, which opened on August 22, 1926. This historic route—the first transcontinental highway—originally connected San Francisco to Atlantic City before Interstate 80 replaced it in 1964. The modern Hwy 40 over Donner Summit replaced the 1864 Dutch Flat-Donner Lake Wagon Road, which was the original route for wagon and freight trains.

While there, Gary and I met Norm Saylor, the curator of the Hwy 40 Museum in Soda Springs. Norm has lived in the area since 1954, was involved with the Donner Ski Ranch for over 46 years, and is incredibly knowledgeable about Old Hwy 40. He even provided original photos of Hwy 40 to our late, long-time member, Jack Duncan, for his book about the highway that Jack wrote in the 1990s.



A group of classic cars, mostly from the Lincoln Highway Association, drove up from the Auburn Courthouse for the dedication. Steve Elliott, another long-time Mother Lode Model T member, followed the group on his motorcycle. You can find photos and a video of Gary crossing the 100-year-old bridge in our 1926 Model T on Steve's Facebook page. Gary and I wore our club T-shirts, which sparked several great conversations. In fact, as we were loading our car onto the trailer, a couple from Nevada who are restoring a 1915 Sedan approached us and mentioned they regularly attend our club's Swap Meet for parts.

We were truly honored to bring our 100-year-old car to help celebrate this beautiful bridge. The Lincoln Highway Association and the Donner Summit Historical Society are doing great work to preserve this history. I highly recommend taking a drive up Hwy 80, exiting at Soda Springs/Donner Pass Road, and exploring this historic route. The views are amazing, and there is a turnout just past the bridge where you can park and admire Donner Lake from atop the Summit. Stop for ice cream at the Little Truckee Creamery located at the bottom of the grade at Donner Lake.

Susie Krezman

Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycJzsf_zan4

Photos - <https://photos.app.goo.gl/r37cAwnr3msWxL4WA>

New Members

We welcome new members Rodney & Kim McCommon. They have 1927 T and live in Vacaville. Phone 916-849-3614 email rodco5311965@gmail.com. Please add them to your copy of the roster.

Meeting Minutes – August

Mother Lode Model T Club
General Meeting Minutes
Aug 13, 2026
Black Bear Diner, Auburn, CA

Meeting with called to order at 6:32 by President Paula.

Ron and Rod were welcomed as guest to the meeting and are prospective members.

Treasure report: club finances are in good shape and CDs have been rolled over. Charitable contributions are on track. It was reported by Paula that the fairground fees will be slightly less for the 2027 swap meet. There are no plans at this time to take any more money out of the CD's.

Vice President's report: The ice cream social tour will be August 22 going to Leatherby's Ice Cream in Lincoln.

August 29 will be the FAST hill climb at the Auburn airport. There will be a model T or two there. September 19 picnic tour to the Elaine's estate on Bell Road will be departing Rite Aid at 11:30. October 4 there will be the annual cemetery tour at the old Auburn cemetery from 11 to 2. There will be a tour on October 24 to an undisclosed place. Details to come.

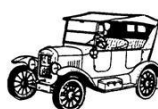
There will be no board meeting in September. The general meeting will be September 10.

Under old business, the *Beat The Heat* tour was discussed and deemed a success. Steve Straw asked for more support for the educational program at the California Auto museum.

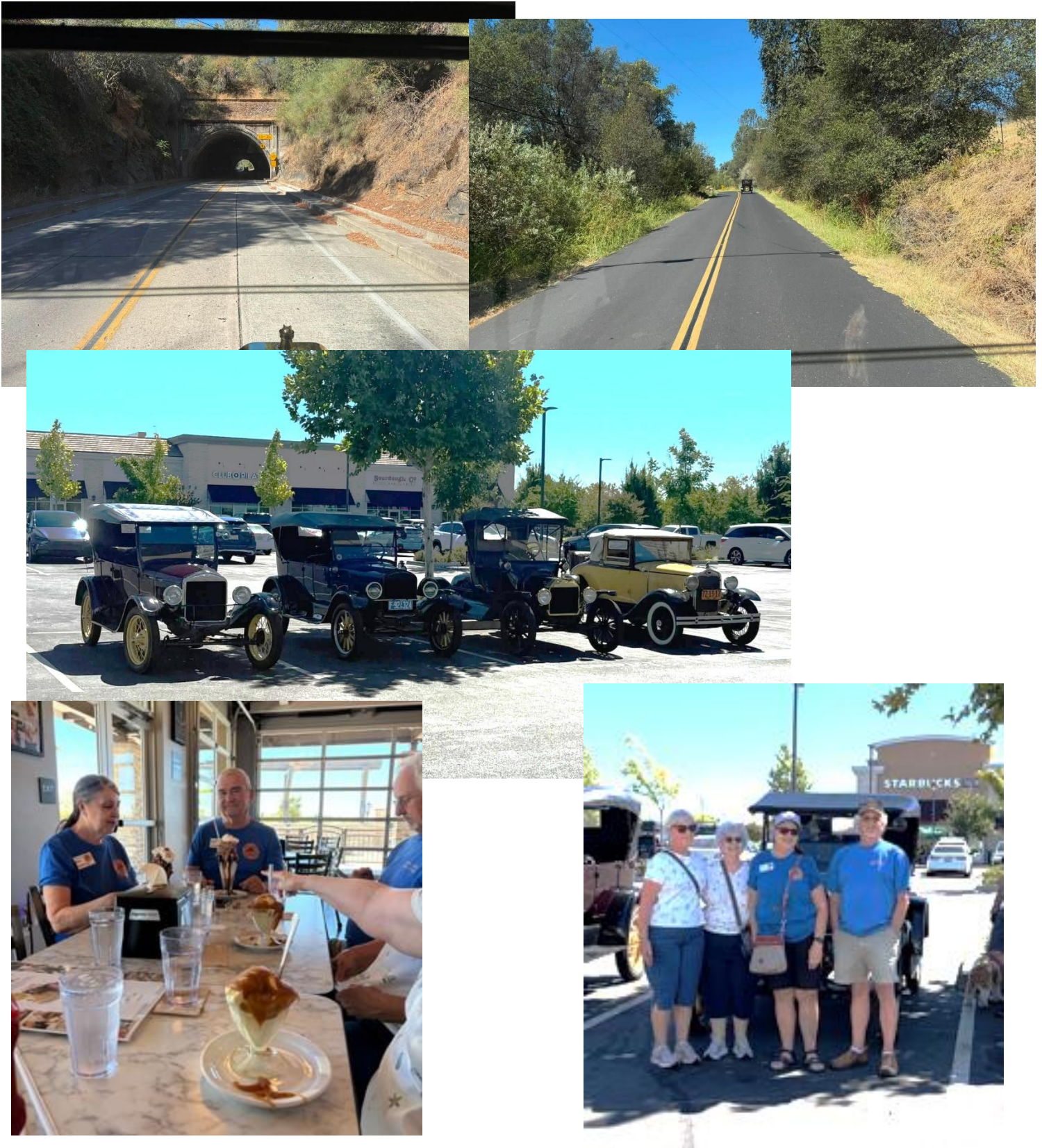
Members shared various Model T stories and memories of past tours and members. Steve Straw gave a report on his trip to Indiana to visit the Winchester Speedway Museum. Lots of great race cars and speedsters there.

The meeting was adjourned by the president at 7:13.

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Barrett
Secretary MLMTC



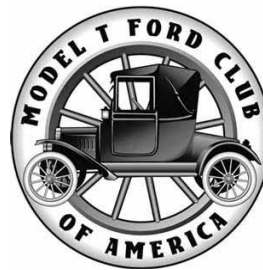
Ice Cream Social Tour



Ice Cream at Leatherby's



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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----- Erik Barrett 530-863-7579

Board Members

Ed Rodriquez- ----- 530-906-0844
Gordon Goodell-----530-885-6912
John Saylor -----916-202-5842
Gary Krezman- -----916-599-0059

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

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



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

[Click for Details](#)



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Mother Lode Model T Club Membership Application

Dues are \$30. / 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
310 North 8th Street, Richmond, In. 47375-3035
Telephone: (765) 373-3106.

See www.mtfca.com