



# T Diggins'

Monthly Newsletter of the  
Mother Lode Model T Club

<http://www.motherlodemodelt.com>

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**November 2014**

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## Activities at a Glance

- ♦ **November 10 - Board meeting, 6 pm,  
Round Table Pizza, Loomis.**
- ♦ **November 13 - Thursday, Monthly Meeting.  
Sizzler at 13570 Lincoln Way, Auburn.  
Come for dinner at 5:30 - 6 pm.  
Meeting will start at 7 pm.**
- ♦ **November 18 - LOL's (Women Out to  
Lunch) Lunch, 11:30 AM, Max's  
Restaurant, Located by the Holiday Inn  
in the back area of the restaurant.  
110 Hwy 49, Auburn.  
Mary Lynn Barrett, Hostess, 530-885-1069**
- ♦ **Dec 7 - Christmas Party, Auburn Valley  
Country Club. 3 pm social, 4 pm dinner -  
See RSVP form attached.**



## **Mother Lode Model T Club Christmas Party**

**Sunday, December 7, 2014  
Auburn Valley Country Club,  
8800 Auburn Valley Rd., Auburn, CA**

**Social Hour starts 3pm, Dinner to be served at 4  
See the flyer attached. RSVP by November 21.**

## **Fall Colors Tour 2014**

Kind of soggy, but what a great time!

So, what are the perfect weather conditions for the best fall colors here in the northern California Sierra foothills? Meteorologists and arborists contend that a consistent pattern of warm days and cool late October nights make for the greatest potential for vibrant reds and golds. Too cold, and leaves turn brown and fall to the ground early. Excessively wet and windy storm patterns, while more than welcome given our continuing draught conditions, can blow away even the most tenacious leaves of color.

In the days leading up to this year's Fall Colors Tour scheduled for October 25<sup>th</sup>, conditions were looking pretty darn good, nearly perfect. Of course we all have been praying for rain, but for the final tour of the season, let it be clear just for one more Saturday! After a couple of trial runs in our modern car, we put the finishing details on the route guide to the communities of Alta and Dutch Flat via a fall-colors-likely lollipop loop. Even though closed for the season, we were able to schedule a private visit to the Golden Drift Museum. At first there were some questions as to where we could eat for lunch, but after multiple phone conversations with the manager of the Monte Vista Inn and a degree of old fashioned, neighborly win-win negotiation, we were able to agree on an awesome comfort-food offering and a private dining experience. Things were really coming together – Of course, Cindy made sure we had the ample supply of the traditional and obligatory donuts on order along with an array of juices and coffee drinks. This  
(cont'd next page )

(Fall Colors Tour, Cont'd)

year she even added her family-famous pumpkin spice muffins. We were set to go!

And then, day-by-day those nearly perfect fall colors conditions became increasingly less than perfect. I must admit that I did share the excitement of the meteorologists and various TV talking heads who were thrilled to announce an approaching cold and wet Pacific storm heading our way offering some real precipitation for a change. And sure enough, as the tour date came closer, the forecasts were pinpointing the storm to come through exactly when we were to be on the road. Should we cancel? Could we reschedule for a later time? If we went on tour, how many last-minute cancellations would we have? Both the museum and the inn were being as flexible as possible, but a reschedule in the near future was unlikely. Things including the weather and the entire situation were looking rather bleak. We decided to send another email and make a few more calls to confirm the club members' commitment, and guess what.... With very few exceptions, our hearty Model T Club clan still wanted to go. Most were opting for a cozy, warm and dry modern car trip, but looking forward to the experience, nonetheless.

When we piled ourselves wrapped in multi-layer clothing and winter coats into our trusty (and enclosed) Oakland Coach on Saturday morning, I told Cindy that if only modern cars were going on the tour, our Plan B would include a swing back to our house to pick up a modern ride with a heater, real brakes that stop a car when wet and a windshield wiper that worked - I had just totally broken the Oakland's 1925 vintage vacuum wiper the day before because I wanted to "fix it better".

As we pulled into the Raley's parking lot, the potential scattered showers were morphing into a steady drizzle and then to some good old fashioned pouring rain. As anticipated, most (smart people) were driving modern cars and trucks. Bill Finkbeiner and daughter, Rachael pulled up in a most excellent (and huge) early 70's Cadillac that Bill's mother bought near-new years ago... Nothing like 500 cubic inches to get you up those hills! Then, to my surprise, Dick and Wanda Johnson showed up in their venerable 1930 Model A coupe. Dick even brought a plug-in portable electric heater/defroster to ward off the elements. We're not too sure how well the thing worked, but hoping at least it was made in America (lol!). At that



point we had two antiques (not counting the Caddy beast) and a whole lot of modern cars. Then, here comes John Saylor in his now glistening (and very wet) 1927 Model T Tudor sedan complete with a working manual wiper clearing the way for the trek ahead. At this point, Cindy and I were committed to taking the Oakland hoping the multiple applications of RainEx on the windshield would do the magic. And there was always the arm-out-the-door squeegee technique just in case the RainEx failed. At a little past 9:00 we were off for the adventure!

Rain was coming down at a good clip as we stopped for our rest break and donut ritual. No one seemed to mind having to jockey between John's T and the Oakland to get their refreshments. Lots of stories of past touring experiences in less than optimal weather conditions were shared with recommendations on how to keep warm, how to drive on slick roads, how best to dry out mechanical brakes, and how to keep your spirits up. Overall, the vibe was very positive and some were even making claims of fall color sightings.

The route via Norton Grade was a plethora of scenic beauty with much diversity of plant life and topography. I must admit that the downhill stretch was a challenge for the outside manual brakes of the Oakland. Yes, for 1925 automotive technology, four-wheel brakes were cutting edge, but when very wet, there were a few moments of uncertainty. We then crept slowly and steadily gaining elevation along our route, three antiques and fifteen modern cars strong in T Club solidarity past Lake Alta and then to Dutch Flat and the Golden Drift Museum - Still raining.

The docent-led visit to the Golden Drift Museum was fascinating as well as educational. Doug Ferrier and Debbie McClatchy were our guides taking us through a historical review of the area's colorful past.

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(Fall Colors, Cont'd)

It is amazing to think of the influences, good and bad, of the mining and railroad interests and the people who made it all happen. We thanked our gracious hosts and left a donation to the museum on behalf of the club. We also learned that Dutch Flat has quite a fun Fourth of July celebration and parade that includes not one, but two passes through town! – Any one up for a T Club event next July 4?

It seems that our club members do have something in common that spans all generations, antique car preferences and even tolerance for less than perfect



touring conditions ...Eating! And we sure did some! The Monte Vista Inn in Dutch Flat provided the perfect setting and comfort food especially considering our very rainy day Fall Colors Tour.

Nothing beats the warmth of the wood fireplace and the opportunity to rekindle old relationships and create new friendships in a place that has quite a history with our club and its individual members. It has been a number of years since our last visit, but Manager, John Wardwell, family and staff made us feel more than welcome once again serving delicious entrées of herb roasted pork roast and chicken stroganoff. The eating experience was delightful and



appropriately embellished with laughter, tall tales and unending camaraderie.

After saying our goodbyes, most headed home the modern way – Highway 80. Our

rather wet Oakland and John Saylor's still glistening and rather wet T headed back out our original route and then straight down Rollins Lake Road back to Colfax. The rain had been subsiding and it is always amazing how much quicker travel seems in an antique car when traveling downhill. We pulled into our driveway, finally dried out in Applegate and bid farewell John who continued on his route home.

Cindy and I want to sincerely thank each and every one who was able to make it to this year's Fall Colors Tour. A little rain should never stop our touring spirit! It is the membership working together in collaboration and friendship that

make the Mother Lode Model T Club a very unique and great experience for all.

Respectfully,  
Erik and Cindy Lindstedt

## LOL's

**November 18 - LOL's (Women Out to Lunch) Lunch, 11:30 AM, Max's Restaurant, Located by the Holiday Inn in the back area of the restaurant 110 Hwy 49, Auburn.**  
**Mary Lynn Barrett, Hostess, 530-885-1069**

## Show Off your Club Affiliation

**Travel mugs** with club logo are available to purchase for \$10.00 each. These are really nice, stainless steel with lid. Call Steve Short to get yours. 916-791-7087.



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## Club Shirts

We also still have a small supply of shirts with the club logo. Blue Tee Shirts with the logo on the back and club name on the front. \$10 ea. Sizes: M, & XL & 2XL. Polo shirts with the club name on the front above a pocket. \$22. Sizes M, XL. Call John Saylor 916-723-1613 to reserve yours.

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Embroidered logo patches both large and small are also available. These can be sewn onto jackets or other items of your choosing. Contact Kitty for these items.

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## Cub Logo Hats

Member Jerry Anders has a limited supply of dark blue hats with the gold club logo embroidered on. They are \$10 each. See Jerry at a meeting. Contact him at 916-390-1392.

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## Club Sweat Shirts

Get ready for the cool season. We will have detailed prices at the November meeting.



### Board Members for 2015

**It's time to nominate new board members. Our board has eight members that serve a term of two years. Four members serve overlapping years so only four need to be replaced each year. Those completing a four year term are Gary Krezman, Susie Krezman, John Saylor and Kitty Goodell. The nominates will be finalized at the November board meeting**

The Model T Museum  
<http://www.modeltmuseum.com/>

The Model T Ford Club of America has been offered a fund matching grant of up to \$10,000 for the Model T Museum in Richmond, In. An anonymous person has offered to match with another \$20,000. That's triple the money.

We will discuss this at the November meeting to see if our club wants to donate to the museum.



Photos from the Fall Colors Tour



The Beautiful drive home

This month I will be continuing a series from member Steve Short on his families involvement in the Indy 500 and the ultimate acquisition of his 1927 Roadster "*Do we all have a Story? Oh Boy.....We sure do!!*"

*.....The pursuit of my first roadster*

**1962:** We had our 1<sup>st</sup> grandstand seats on the main straight across from the Pits and I was ecstatic when Rodger Ward won his 2nd race! I was bedazzled by the sheer beauty of the Watson Roadsters ) and knew that I really had to have one! **So what does a young boy of 15 do about it?** Naturally I wrote a letter to **Rodger Ward**, congratulating him on his 2<sup>nd</sup> Indy Win, wishing his speedy recovery from a subsequent racing accident, and of course asking for his help in buying a real race car! Amazingly, he wrote me a very nice letter! Surely he had no idea of my age, nor that I only had about \$200 saved up! Fearful of writing Rodger back and hopeless once again, I still wanted a car. With further pleading, Dad found a **1927 Ford T Roadster** in a local farmer's barn that fit my Budget.



**This same Roadster is still running well** with its awesome 22 HP, 4 cylinder engine (almost like an Offy right?), regularly putt-putting through the Gold Country back roads of Northern California!

*The family traditions grow beyond our wildest imagination:*

**1963 through 2014:** None of us ever anticipated the magnitude of our 500 experiences as they would unfold through these next 52 Years. **We 3 Brothers** and the Short

Family have collectively witnessed:

- The peak of the front engine Roadster Era and its classic racing "Duels"
- The rise of the rear engine "Funny" Cars.
- The short lived return and disappointments of the mighty 8 cylinder Novi's by Andy Granatelli.
- The short lived return and spectacular failures of Andy Granatelli's Turbine Cars.
- The rise of turbocharged engines.
- The final race of a front engine Mallard Roadster campaigned by Jim Hurtubise in 1967.
- The evolution of the "Ground Effects" Cars and the "Tire Wars"
- The 4 time victories of A.J. Foyt, Al Unser, and Rick Mears.
- The unimaginable 9 Victories of Bobby, Big Al, and Little Al Unser as a Family.
- The introduction of the vitally important safety "Catch Fence circling the entire Track.
- The incredible rebuilding and expansion of IMS Grandstand Seating and Grounds.
- The introduction of "Safer Barriers", "Hans Devices", and countless other safety innovations.
- The CART / IRL split along with its ultimate reunion as the revitalized IndyCar Racing series.
- The excitement brought by the arrival of every female driver to make "the Big Show".
- The memorable hard fought victories of so many great Drivers over the Years.
- The sorrowful, (but thankfully now rare) Driver injuries and loss of life at the Speedway.
- The first and last singing of "Back Home again in Indiana" by Jim Nabors (1972 through 2014)
- With all due respect: **"We've all seen Fire, and we've all seen Rain" (and neither do we like!)**

Next Month we conclude with "*The family traditions grow...*"



## Birthdays and Anniversaries



### November Anniversaries

Philip & Barbara Lawrence	9
Dave & Trudie Barnes	18
Edward & Sherry Rodriguez	21

### November Birthdays

Sharon Stoll	1	Robin Pharis	13
Shasta Moore	1	Mary Jane McCoy	16
Christian Finkbeiner	3	Julie Barrett	18
Bruce Fitzsimmons	3	Ayden Weitzel	19
Gary Krezman	4	Zach Boorinakis	20
Robert Weitzel	5	Dick Miller	23
Barbara O'Connor	9	Gina Allgood	27
Randy Johnson	10	Brad Derrenger	29
Earl O'Dell	12		



## General Meeting Minutes

Mother Lode Model T Club

General Meeting Minutes, October 9, 2014

The October, 2014 general membership meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Secretary John Saylor. The meeting was held at the Sizzler Restaurant, Auburn, Ca.

**Greeter Report** - Junette introduced and welcomed new Club Members Edward and Sherry Rodriguez. She then reintroduced Larry Borchert who provided a grateful report on the highly successful outcome of the Auburn Air Show. Acknowledgment and thanks were given to Steve Elliot, Louie Burcher, John Saylor, Russ Purvis, and Erik Lindstedt, for their time attending and showing their T historic cars which added interest to the whole day for the spectators.

**Secretary Report** – John reported the minutes of the last general meeting (September 2014) were printed in September *T Diggins'*. There were not any corrections or additions. Minutes will stand as printed. Correspondence from other clubs and other miscellaneous was passed around.

**Treasurer Report** – John reported that Kitty was on vacation this month so no report is currently available. He proffered the opinion that we are still solvent!

**Sunshine Report** - All is well!

### Activities

**Fall Colors Tour** - October 25 is the Fall Colors Tour. Erik Lindstedt gave the following details: This year the tour will leave from Raley's at (9:00 AM and will proceed to the Alta / Dutch Flat area. There will be a private docent led tour of the "Golden Drift Museum".

Lunch will likely be at the "Monte Vista Inn at Dutch Flate.

Erik has recommended that the Club make a \$100.00 donation to the Museum (which will come out of his approved tour stipend).

**LOL** will be at the Rubino's Ristorante in Rocklin on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Continued, Next Page....



(Minutes, cont'd)

## **Old Business**

### **Reports**

**Gold Country Speedster Run** – Les Silveria reported that they completed his tour from Alta Sierra to Downeyville and back with a small group of 5 Cars. One of the Model A's suffered what appears to have been a "blown engine"! Other than that, a good time was had by all.

**Santa Clara Clubs Event** - Antique Autos in History Park. Several members reported that the Event on September 14<sup>th</sup> was first class, and well worth going to!

**Trailer repair** – The proposed November 1<sup>st</sup> Work Party has been canceled, and a new date will have to be set shortly.

**Christmas Party Schedule** – The date of the annual party was confirmed for Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup>. Details coming next month.

**MLMTC Cups**- Steve still has cups and was making a strong pitch for the Membership to get their Christmas gift shopping in high gear when Erik Lindstedt interrupted to make a complaint regarding how the cups did not adequately allow for drinking without bruising his nose. Steve suggested he knew a good plastic surgeon that could do a dandy job of solving his obvious problem! Members are welcome to call or see Steve at the meeting to complete their gift shopping.

**Sweat Shirts** - Sweat shirt order was again discussed. Sign up passed around again. John reported that he had approximately 17 orders or so which is enough to get the quantity price. John will be getting detailed pricing for the different styles.

### **New Business**

**Nominating Committee** - Erik Lindstedt reported that the Nominating Committee had little success in finding new volunteers to serve on the board of Directors, the main issue being no one wants to be president or other officer, and that it would need further discussion and direction from the currently sitting Board Members. Mike Bashore reminded us that the actual officer selection is a function of the board and not the general membership. The board was advised to review the Club Bylaws regarding the procedure of Officer selection, and the recommendation has been so noted. It remains important that if any Club member still wishes to serve on the Board to please contact the nominating committee or any of the current board members.

**Possible tour to Coloma** – Steve Elliott is considering organizing a short tour to Coloma on November 28<sup>th</sup> to participate in an event where some of our cars would be on display. Please contact Steve, if interested, and he will be able to provide more details for you on the event specifics.

**Show and Tell** – Bill Finkbeiner shared a Spoke Tightening Tool that he acquired at an Estate sale recently held in Placerville. He said that he bought it for "Peanut", and that the family was selling everything at incredibly low prices.

**High tech Time Pieces** – Ralph Roper told an interesting story about the latest development in accurate time keeping technology. Some in the audience wanted to know if he had any in his Jewelry Store that were that good!

**50-50** -- Levi was not here again tonight so no raffle tickets were sold.

Since there was no additional business the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

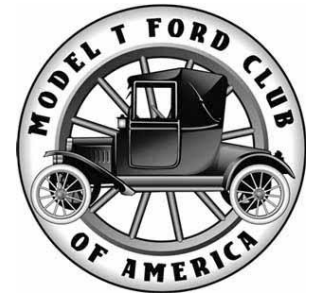
Stephen Short, Acting Secretary



Looks like Gary is recruiting board members!



# T Diggins'



## Monthly Newsletter of the Mother Lode Model T Club

<http://www.motherlodemodelt.com>

### 2014 Officers

President ----- Gary Krezman 530-823-7957  
Vice President ----- Susie Krezman 530-823-7957  
Treasurer ----- Kitty Goodell 916-334-5904  
Secretary ----- John Saylor 916-723-1613

### Board Members

Gordon Goodell ----- 916-334-5904 - 2014-2015  
Lewis Burcher ----- 530-885-6912 - 2014-2015  
Junette Avey Brown -- 916-436-4176 - 2014-2015  
Stephen Short ----- 916-791-7087 - 2014-2015

Sunshine ---- Susie Krezman  
Website & Newsletter - John Saylor  
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Address all correspondence to:  
Mother Lode Model T Club  
P.O. Box 4901  
Auburn, CA 95604

### 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 20th 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)

### Club Website

The Mother Lode Model T Club maintains a website at <http://www.motherlodemodelt.com>. The website keeps members informed of club activities, photos of club events and members cars. The website also provides a membership information and application. The website also introduces those new to the hobby to the club.

The *Mother Lode Model T Club* was organized during 1967 and became a member of the *Model T Ford Club of America* in 1969. The club is a non-profit organization dedicated to the personal enjoyment of its members through the preservation and restoration of the Model T Ford and especially through activities involving the use of Model T Fords.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month with the exception of December, at the Sizzler, 13570 Lincoln Way, Auburn, Ca. 5:30 pm for dinner, 7 pm meeting.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in Model T Fords. Ownership of a Model T is not necessary.

Dues - Annual Dues are \$20 per family.

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 is \$40.00 payable to:

The Model T Ford Club of America  
P.O. Box 126  
Centerville, In 47330-0126  
Telephone: (765) 855-5248  
[www.mtcfa.com](http://www.mtcfa.com) email: [admin@mtfca.com](mailto:admin@mtfca.com)

