

Backfire Editor  
18695 Carriage Hill Drive  
San Jose, CA 95120

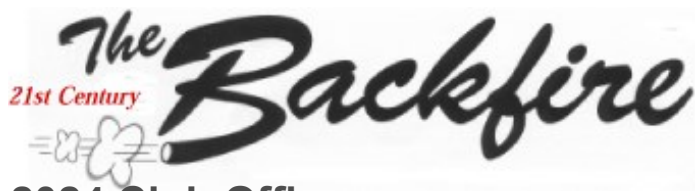
# The Backfire

21st Century

Vol. XXV No. IV



Rob & Pam in full vintage attire.



The official newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club

## 2024 Club Officers

President	Lynn Alens	(408) 205-5806
Vice President	Chris Bhirdo	(408) 505-0153
Secretary	Pam Caldeira	(408) 888-9671.
Treasurer	Mary Beaman	(408)838-9224
Backfire Editor	Jim Boyden	(408) 268-4872

## Coordinators

Touring	Bob Meneely	(650) 948-9301
Programs	Lynn Alens	(408) 205-5806
Membership	Ivan Jorgensen	(408) 874-6373
Tech and Safety	Dan Smith	(408) 287-3908
Endurance Run	Chris Bhirdo	(408) 505-0153
Lowland Tour	Lynn Alens	(408) 205-5806
Librarian	Maryann Steele	(408) 867-4393
Webmaster	Nikkie Gulko	scvmtc@gmail.com
Refreshments	Bill Bratt	(650) 341-8859
Historian	Lucy Greenberg	(408) 997-0879
Sunshine	Helen Christensen	(408) 739-8424
Public Relations	Allan Greenberg	(408) 997-0879
AAHP	Peder and Maria Jorgensen	(408) 358-3398
	Allan and Lucy Greenberg	(408) 997-0879
Past President	Barbara Beach	(408) 887-4857

The SCVMTFC is a chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America. The club was founded in 1969 to promote the history and the enjoyment of Henry Ford's Famous Model T. Membership dues are \$30 per year. Send dues to Ivan Jorgensen, 475 Sunnyoakes Ave. Campbell CA, 95008 Membership in the Model T Ford Club of America is encouraged. Dues are \$50 per year. Send dues to MTFCA ,310 N 8th St. Richmond, IN 47374.



Spring is here! Well, it was here and then it left. While the hope is it will be back soon and bring summer with it, we do appreciate any precipitation the clouds can offer. And of course, the more snow in the mountains the better, at least to a point. Unfortunately, the Bunnies & Bonnets Parade was cancelled due to the threat of rain but there more events and touring opportunities coming up. We have firmed up plans for the team to assemble the Model T Put Together (TPT) at Friendship Day in Redwood City. This is an annual event put on by the Mid Peninsula Old Time Auto Club and will be on Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>. Everyone enjoys seeing a pile of car parts assembled into a running Model T in 10-15 minutes and then driven away.

The latest issue of The Vintage Ford was special as it included submissions from 2 of our own. Jim Lukash shared a photo of his 1913 T nose to nose with a Tesla Cybertruck. As he said “Let’s see which car is still driving around here 100 years from now”. In addition, Former Pres Barbara Beach authored a really entertaining 4-page article about her recent trip to Detroit and everything Ford. As accomplished as she is, now she can add published writer to her resume.

They say change is inevitable and a change will be coming to our monthly meetings as the bank branch where we met is closing. So we are actively looking for a new spot. Anybody know of a company that would allow a 2-hour meeting once a month at a reasonable cost or even free of charge? Next month’s meeting will be zoom and the May meeting will be at the pot luck so hopefully we’ll have a new place for the June meeting.

Registrations are coming in for the June 8-9 Endurance Run and Lowland Tour. This year is shaping up to be a pretty grand affair so if you know anyone who hasn’t participated in a few years, I would highly recommend they make plans to join in. Saturday will provide the opportunity to view a stunning car collection at Bertolotti’s Garage. Sunday, addition to driving roads that rival any of the best scenic drives in the country, will be a mini car show of sorts as it starts and ends at the VA Medical Center in Palo Alto. What better way to honor our veterans and bring them joy than to offer them an up-close look at your classic automobile.

Motor on,

Lynn

# SCVMTFC General Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2024

**Attendees:** 23 including 1 guest

**Meeting Called to Order by President Lynn Alens at 7:31 p.m.**

**President (Lynn Alens):** Lynn asked for any additions or corrections to the last meeting minutes printed in the Backfire. There were none and the minutes were approved.

**Secretary (Pam Caldeira):** Pam reviewed the board meeting minutes from March 11, 2024.

**Reading:** Pat Meneely read an article from "Under the Oaks," the Los Altos History Museum newsletter, about former SCVMTFC member Ralph Appio.

**Vice President (Chris Bhirdo):** No update

**Treasurer (Mary Beaman):** Mary distributed and reviewed financial reports and shared the mail she picked up.

**Programs:** Lynn Alens announced that the Program Coordinator position is still open and that Dan Smith will do tonight's program on Model T parts.

**Backfire (Jim Boyden):** No update

**Tours (Bob Meneely):** Bob discussed the tour to Cinnabar Hills Golf Club last month and the Green Brass Tour on March 17th. He confirmed the upcoming Casa de Fruta Tour in April, the Potluck General Meeting in May, and the Endurance Run in June. Pat Meneely mentioned that four people have earned driving patches.

**Public Relations:** Upcoming events: Bunnies and Bonnets Parade March 30th, Saratoga Blossom Festival April 13th, Friendship Day May 19th, and Santa Clara County Fair Parade July 27th.

**Membership (Ivan Jorgensen):** Mary Beaman reported that there are almost 70 members. Remember to send in your 2024 dues. Dues are \$30.

**Tech & Safety (Dan Smith):** Lynn Alens shared a part he got from Lang's for repairing his carburetor.

**Librarian:** MaryAnn Steele reported that she has some new hardbound books. If you are interested, contact her.

**Endurance Run (Chris Bhirdo):** Chris reported that six people have registered. The event poster was shown to the club. Chris met with the VA to discuss the staging area. The event has full use of the parking lot and exit drive to the VA. Routes are be-

ing finalized. There will be a joint midway lunch with the Endurance Run and Lowland Tour. Sign up early. If you can't do the Endurance Run, consider doing the Lowland Tour or coming out to support the event. Ideas of what the participants can do if they return early (such as old-timey games) are welcome. Help is still needed to organize things for the event day. Nancy Alens suggested making an announcement on Facebook.

**Cars in the Park:** No update. Lynn Alens announced that things are progressing.

**Website:** No update

**Historian:** No update

**Refreshments:** Thank you, Chris Bhirdo!

**Sunshine:** Helen Christensen sent cards to Jim Boyden and Jean Boyden.

**Old Business:** Sending our logo to a vendor who sells merchandise with club logos was discussed. There is no charge to send him our logo, and members can order items online. Only a few members showed interest, so the board will discuss this further. Lynn Alens will send the website address to members so they can see the variety of items available to purchase. A new meeting venue was discussed and there were several suggestions such as firehouses, parks, and The Cup and Saucer restaurant. Lynn Alens will look into these venues. Any other suggestions are welcome. Oliver Johnson suggested that someplace central would encourage more members to attend. Zoom will be a backup for next month's meeting. The inventory of club assets is still being updated, so if you have any club or Endurance Run items, please speak up.

**New Business:** The next tech session will be hosted by Barbara Beach or Oliver Johnson. Chuck Christensen will host a future tech session. Larry Wolfsen asked about the driving patch design and Pat Meneely said it represents the pedals used to drive a car. Bob Meneely will lead a team of members to take the "Put Together T", or "TPT", to Friendship Day on May 19th. Jim Lukash volunteered to be the announcer for the event. Chris Bhirdo shared an article by Barbara Beach and a photo from Jim Lukash in the new issue of The Vintage Ford.

**Good of the Order:** Happy Birthday Oliver's Dad!

**Next Meetings:** General Meeting April 19th (via Zoom), Board Meeting May 6th (via Zoom)

**Motion to Adjourn by Oliver Johnson, Seconded by Chuck Christensen**

**Meeting Adjourned by Lynn Alens at 8:38 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted by Pam Caldeira, Secretary**

## SCVMTFC CALENDAR for 2024

(SCVMTFC Activities shown in bold.)

Apr 13-14, Arizona Speedster Run, Anthem, AZ

Apr 13, Sat, Saratoga Blossom Festival, PR Event, contact is Allan Greenberg.

Apr 14, Sun, All Ford Swap Meet, Campbell.

**Apr 19, Fri, SCVMTFC General Meeting on ZOOM, watch for the emailed link.**

**Apr 21, Sun, SCVMTFC Tour to Casa de Fruta.** Meet behind the Shell Station at corner of Almaden and Blossom Hill in SJ at 9:30am, depart at 10:00. RSVP to Barbara Beach.

May 4, Sat, Famoso Swaporama at Famoso Drag Strip (Bakersfield Prewar Section)

**May 6, Mon, SCVMTFC Board Meeting on ZOOM, watch for the emailed link.**

**May 11, Sat, SCVMTFC Potluck and General Meeting.** May's general meeting will be combined with a Potluck at Maria and Peder Jorgensen's residence in Los Gatos from noon - 2:00 PM. Bring a dish to share, any finger foods or entrees. **RSVP** by May 4th at scvmtc@gmail.com or 408 644 6098 (leave message) Dessert, water, utensils and paper plates will be provided. Northern T's meet at Rancho at 10:30am, leave at 11:00,. Southern T's meet at 10:45am, leave at 11:15. Or go straight to Jorgensens and meet us there.

**May 19, Sun, Friendship Day** at Port of Redwood City, 8:00am – 2:00pm. SCVMTFC will do the Put Together Model T at this event. No official tour, just show up.

Jun 2, Sun, Motherlode Swap Meet, Auburn Fairgrounds.

**Jun 8-9, SCVMTFC Endurance Run and Lowland Tour,** Registration packets are on the club website, SCVMTFC.org.

Jun 16-20, National Model T Tour in San Diego. [www.MTFCSD.org](http://www.MTFCSD.org) for registration. We have 6 cars going at present.

**Jul 4, Thur, SCVMTFC Tour to Sveadal** for breakfast. Meet at 8:45am behind the Shell station at Blossom Hill Road and Almaden Expressway. Leave around 9am, arrive around 10am. Pancake breakfast is served at 10am. Tour is free, pancake breakfast is \$15 for adults and \$8 for kids (6-12). Please **RSVP** to Ivan Jorgensen by 6/27

July 27, Sat, Santa Clara County Fair Parade. PR event, contact is Allan Greenberg

**Aug 31, Sat, SCVMTFC Tour to BBQ** at Mt. Madonna Park with South County Model T Club. More later.

**Sep 14, Sat, Cars in the Park at History San Jose.**

May's general meeting will be combined with a Potluck at Maria and Peder Jorgensen's residence in Los Gatos from noon - 2:00 PM. Bring a dish to share, any finger foods or entrees. RSVP by May 4th at [scvmtc@gmail.com](mailto:scvmtc@gmail.com) or 408 644 6098 (leave message). Dessert, water, utensils and paper plates will be provided. Northern T's meet at Rancho at 10:30 am, leave at 11:00. Southern T's meet at 10:45 am, leave at 11:15. Or go straight to Jorgensen's and meet us there. See flyer below.



**SCVMTEC Potluck &  
General Meeting**

**Will be on**

**Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at**

**Maria and Peder Jorgensen's**

**residence from Noon-2:00 PM.**

**Dessert will be provided.**

**RSVP by May 4<sup>th</sup> at [scvmtc@gmail.com](mailto:scvmtc@gmail.com)**

**or 408 644 6098 (leave message)**

**We are limiting to three salad dishes.**



## THE GREEN BRASS TOUR

**Sunday, March 17, 2024:** Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club invited us to join their Green Brass Tour out of Niles. Must have been the words "Green Brass", our club fielded eight T's, two A's and a couple moderns, although at least four of our members belong to both clubs. The BAHCC club rounded out the assorted vehicles with a Henderson, a couple Pierce Arrows, another A, a Chevy, a Dodge and some more T's. Meneelys, Beach and Lukash braved the Dunbarton Bridge to get to Niles, always an adventure because there is nowhere to pull off on the bridge, so totally dependent on good old Lizzie to get to the other side.

The gathering spot for the start of the tour was Gary Mill's Fire Station in Niles, always fun to explore all the memorabilia and cars stored there. So, after a short drivers meeting, "just follow the car in front", off we went up Niles Canyon to Sunol. Sunday was one of the days when they bring out the steam engine, so we were treated to smoke and steam and old fashioned train whistles. Train was pretty well loaded for the canyon trip back to Niles, a little slower this time. Train is even slower than the antique cars. Lots of scenery to look at the slower pace and also when you are not driving. Saw one flock of turkeys.

At Niles, the engine was changed to the other end of the train and we chugged our way back to Sunol. At this point, the group took a little impromptu tour up Kilkare Rd. Original plan had been to make a loop around through Dublin and come back on Palomares Rd, but a weekend closure of 680 made that an iffy proposition. So we went up this dead end canyon for 4 miles, waving at the residents who I am sure thought we were all lost. Finally, back down Niles Canyon to the Firehouse and pizza for all. Four driving patches were awarded in our club, Oliver Johnson, Troed Johnson, Rob Caldiera, and Ed Archer. Speaking of Ed Archer, rumor has it that he ran out of gas on the return trip and was rescued by Gary Hagen. (Just a rumor, Ed ain't talkin'.) Lots of tire kicking and then the three intrepid Dunbarton T's crossed again and returned home. You do have to hang onto your hats on the bridge, wind is always strong. Be interesting to see if we got free toll on the bridge, can the readers deal with those old license plates? Thanks to Rob Caldiera for linking us up on this tour. And thanks to Gary Mills for coffee and donuts in the morning and pizza and beverages for lunch.

Enjoyed by all.      Bob Meneely

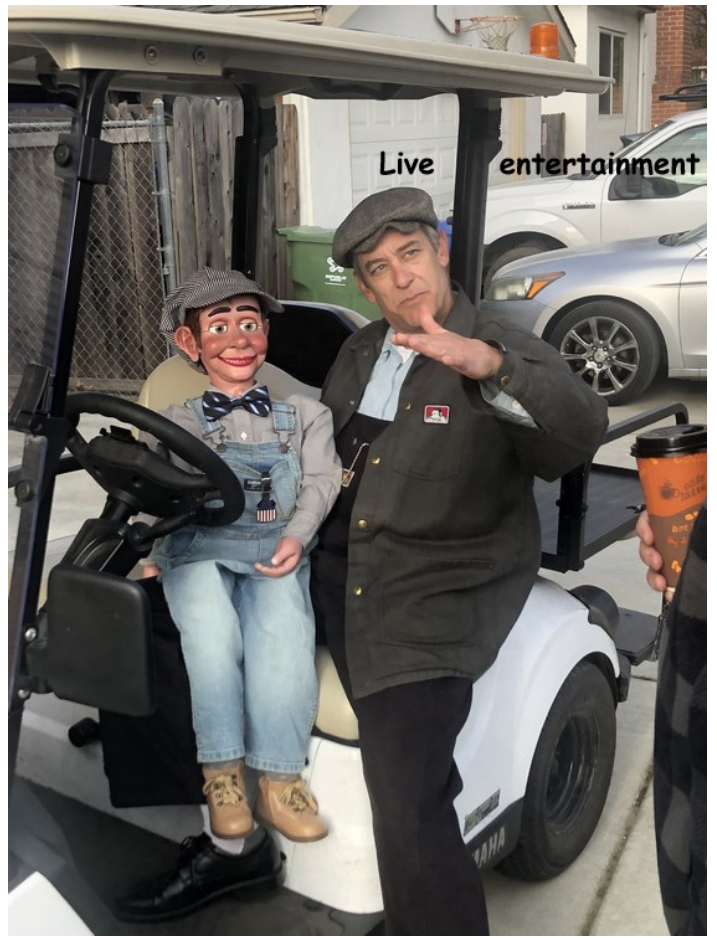




Bosco, former mayor of Sunol



Old Niles Fire Station



Live entertainment



Our host at the fire station, pointing out the route.



Barbara always ends up in the cab.



Rob & Pam in full vintage attire.



There's never been a better time to dust off your time machine and show off your driving skills. This year's endurance run is open to ALL speedsters of the era from 1900 through 1927. And, if you're wondering if you and your speedster have the "Right Stuff," you do! While we encourage all participants to present their speedsters as they would have appeared during the era represented, components like hydraulic brakes, all types of carburation, alternators and the like are accepted. All speedsters, of course, will be required to meet all safety requirements as listed on the Self Check Inspection Form.

This year's event is on track to be truly spectacular! The route through the Santa Cruz Mountain Range will take you on some of the most beautiful roads in the world. Imagine motoring up winding roads amongst the giant redwoods and heading down to the coast for breathtaking ocean views. You'll even pass through historic towns and villages on roads older than your speedsters.

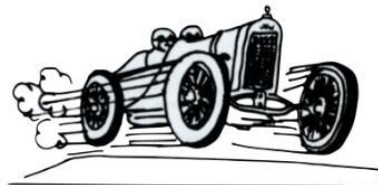
The day before the main event is our tech inspection and barbecue at Bertolotti's Garage, where you can catch up with old friends, make new friends, enjoy a delicious meal and tour Bertolotti's amazing collection of vintage automobiles. It will be the perfect beginning of a great weekend!

Sunday morning, we gather at the VA Medical Center in Palo Alto, for the main event. U.S. veterans, families, friends, and Lowland Tour participants will all be there to cheer on the speedster drivers and riding mechanics. Our opening ceremony will include the presentation of the American flag by a fully uniformed color guard in period dress and a guest singer to lead us in our National Anthem. Then we will hear the words we've all been waiting for: "Drivers, start your engines!" Can you hear it? That's the roar of all those mighty speedsters as they eagerly await the drop of the green flag!

Thank you for joining us as we celebrate our 53rd year of this truly amazing event! Don't keep it a secret. Tell your family and friends when you'll be in June and bring them along to be a part of history in motion. See you there!

Chris Bhirdo

**SANTA CLARA VALLEY MODEL T FORD CLUB**  
**53rd Annual Endurance Run**  
**and Lowland Tour**  
**JUNE 8-9, 2024, VA MEDICAL CENTER**  
**PALO ALTO, CA**



Endurance Run is open to All 1927 and earlier speedsters.  
Lowland Tour is open to All pre-1940 automobiles.

**Endurance Run Chair:** Chris Bhirdo  
(408) 505-0153, [cbhirdo@gmail.com](mailto:cbhirdo@gmail.com)  
**Registration:** Barbara Beach  
(408) 887-4857, [beachbk@gmail.com](mailto:beachbk@gmail.com)

**Lowland Tour Chair:** Lynn Alens  
(408) 205-5806, [alenslp@gmail.com](mailto:alenslp@gmail.com)  
**Registration:** [www.scvmtfc.org](http://www.scvmtfc.org)

**Saturday, June 8, 2024**  
Check-in and Tech Inspection.  
Enjoy catching up with friends and displaying your cars.  
Summertime BBQ lunch and ice cold drinks.

**Sunday, June 9, 2024**  
The Main Event!  
Awards Ceremony and catered meal.  
Victory Lap Finale!



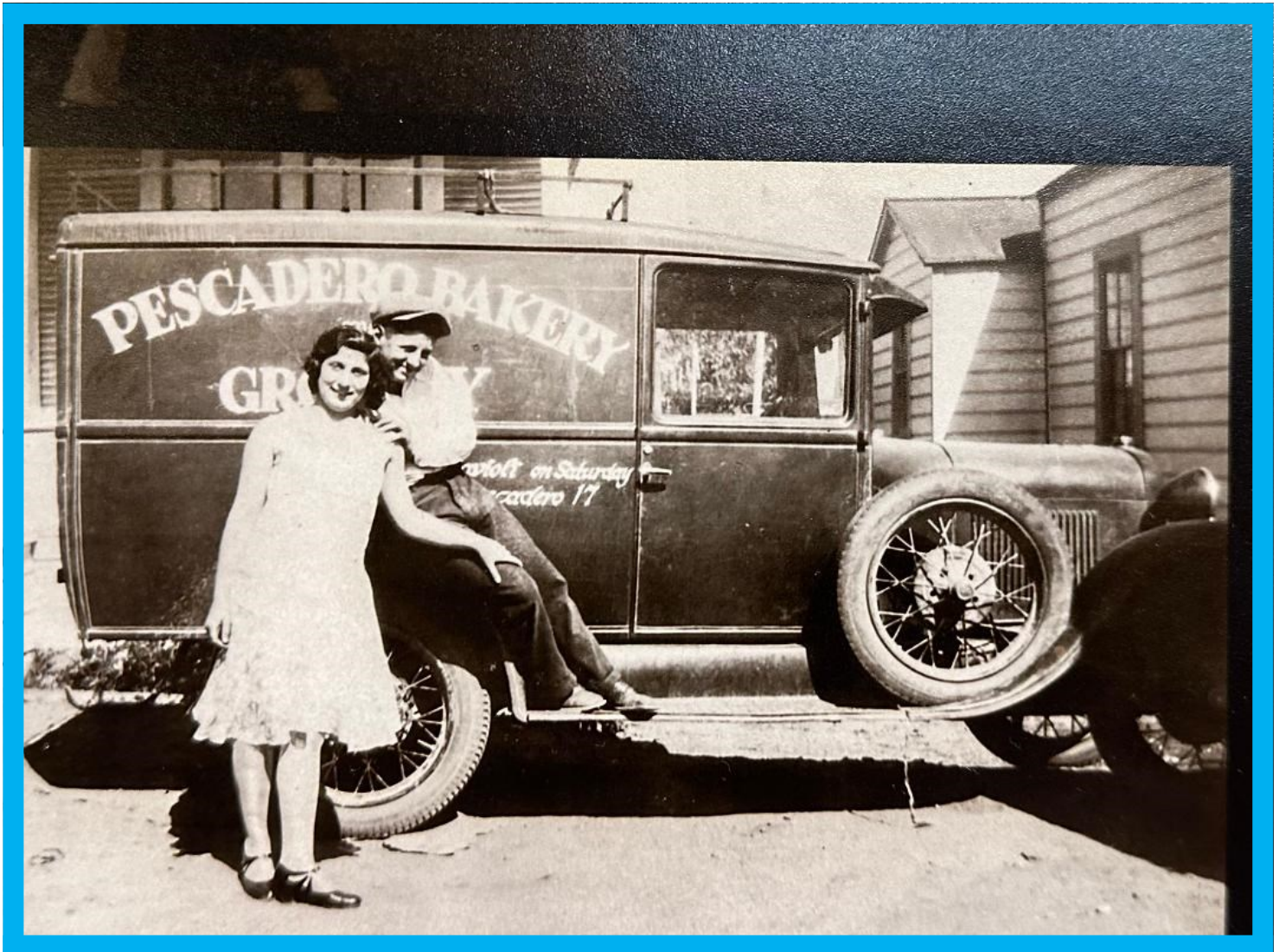
Our 2024 Endurance Run and Lowland Tour begins and ends on the beautiful VA Medical Center campus in Palo Alto, CA, with easy access to the winding Santa Cruz Mountain roads, redwood forests and spectacular ocean views! Veterans from the VA Medical Center, families and friends will gather to see our cars, mingle and enjoy the festivities. Visit our website and register for this very special Endurance Run and Lowland tour today! [www.scvmtfc.org](http://www.scvmtfc.org).



A "Nuts and Bolts" event was recently held at Eric Larsen's home. Topic was brass polishing. Pics thanks to Rob Guzzetta



## Wanted



Chris Benedetti, Manager at Arcangeli Grocery Co., would like to find a truck like the one in the picture. I told him I would ask our club members if they know of one, or if they know where this truck may have ended up. Would you please put a request for information in our want ads in the next Backfire? You can put me down as the person to contact. Chris Bhirdo, (408) 505-0153 or

## Wanted

10 or 11 leaf rear spring for Model T

Contact Gary Hagen [curlymoustache@verizon.net](mailto:curlymoustache@verizon.net)

**Rare Sighting Along the route of the 53rd Annual Speedster  
Endurance Run & Lowland Tour, June 8th and 9th.**



1909

All  
Ford  
Parts

1948

1600 Dell Avenue, Suite A  
Campbell, California, 95008  
408-378-1935 • FAX 408-866-1934  
e-mail: [allford@ipb.net](mailto:allford@ipb.net)

# SWAP MEET

**Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 2024**  
**6:00AM – 11:00AM**

Swap meet spaces will be 90% Early Ford Parts through 1953

Model T - Model A - Flathead Fords

1600 Dell Ave, Campbell, CA 95008

Mr. C's will be selling breakfast and coffee



If you have any questions please contact

All Ford Parts - 800-532-1932

408-378-1935 - Fax: 408-866-1934

[www.allfordparts.com](http://www.allfordparts.com) - [allford@ipb.net](mailto:allford@ipb.net)

To register for spaces please contact All Ford Parts or mail in your  
registration form on the reverse side of this page to:

All Ford Parts - 1600 Dell Ave, Suite A - Campbell, CA 95008



# ***FRIENDSHIP DAY 2024***

Sunday, May 19th / 8am-2pm

441 Seaport Court, Port of Redwood City



[www.MPOTAC.com](http://www.MPOTAC.com)



We are the Bay Area's longest running family friendly car show.  
The Mid-Peninsula Old Time Auto Club (MPOTAC), began in 1960  
and Friendship Day started in 1963 (sixty years ago).

***Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024***

More  
later.

**Dec 28,  
Sat,**

**SATURDAY MAY 4, 2024**

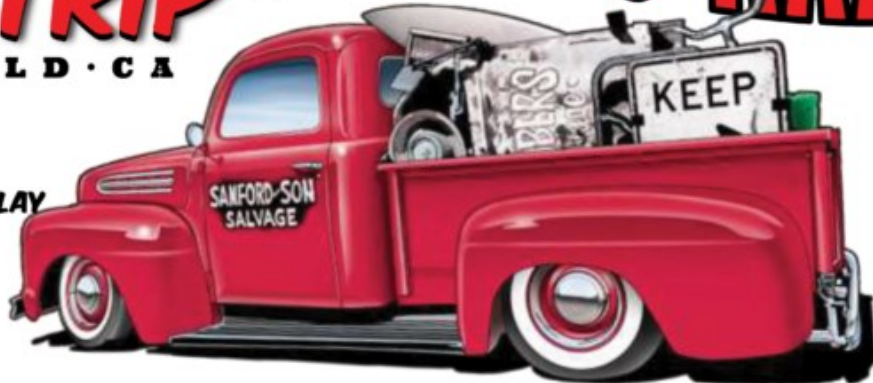
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**NO MOVE-IN AFTER 7AM ON SATURDAY**

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**TURN THOSE OLD PARTS INTO CASH!**

**SWAP SPACES**

20'X40'  
\$60.00 PRE-REGISTERED  
Friday Move-In 9am-9pm  
Saturday 5:30am-7:00am  
\$70.00 ON FRIDAY  
MOVE-IN DAY &  
DAY OF  
SWAP MEET  
2 WRIST BANDS  
CAMP IN YOUR SPACE

**CAR CORRAL**

PARKING SPACE  
\$40.00 PRE-REGISTERED  
Friday Move-In 9am-9pm  
Saturday 5:30am-7:00am  
\$50.00 ON FRIDAY  
MOVE-IN DAY &  
DAY OF  
SWAP MEET  
2 WRIST BANDS  
MUST FIT IN SPACE

**RV PARKING**

\$40.00 PRE-REGISTERED  
Friday Move-In 9am-9pm  
\$50.00 ON FRIDAY  
MOVE-IN DAY  
DRY CAMPING  
ONLY  
2 WRIST BANDS  
NO OPEN FLAMES

**COMMERCIAL SPACES**

PLEASE CALL THE  
FAMOSO DRAG  
STRIP®  
TO RESERVE YOUR  
VENDOR SPACE  
4 WRIST BANDS  
Friday Move-In 9am-9pm  
Saturday 5:30am-7:00Am  
\$15.00 FOR ADDITIONAL  
WRIST BANDS

**\$15.00 ADMISSION FOR ADULTS, 12 YEARS & UNDER FREE! GATES OPEN SATURDAY AT 7:00 AM**

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