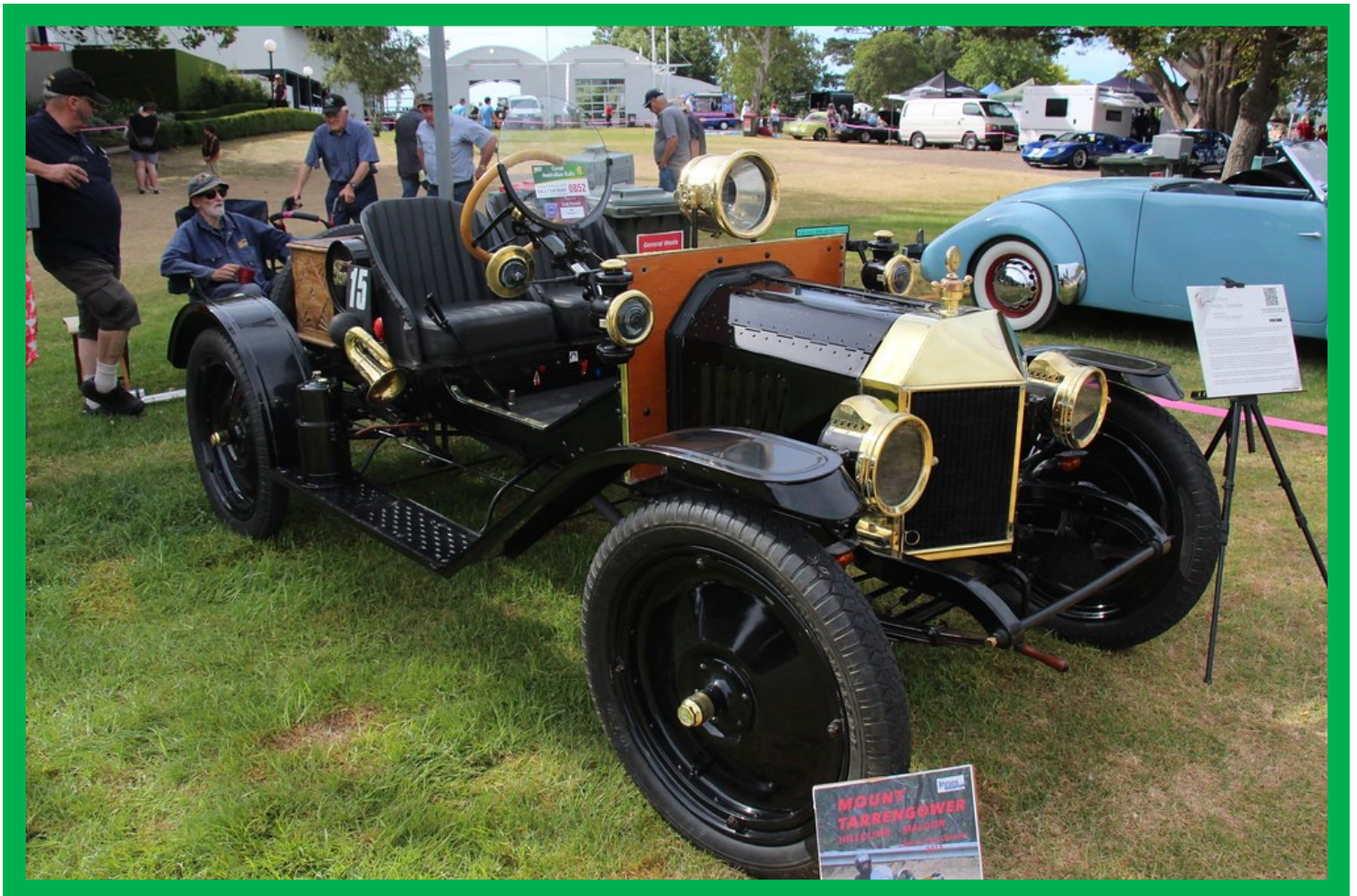


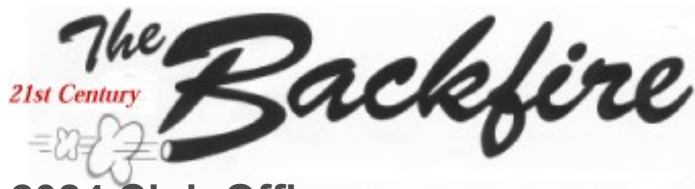
Backfire Editor
18695 Carriage Hill Drive
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The Backfire

21st Century

Vol. XXV No. III





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) 930-9052
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. Meetings are held 7:30 pm, on the third Friday of the month, at the First Republic Bank, Los Altos CA. 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 P.O. Box 996 Richmond IN 47375-0996.



Mother Nature is playing games with us this year. Just when you think spring is here, a storm blows in as a reminder that according to the calendar it's still winter. But we need the water and snow in the mountains so best to spend time getting our T's ready for the sunny weather sure to come. Easter comes early this year, so the first parade will be at the end of March to celebrate it.

In club news, planning continues for the Endurance Run/ Lowland Tour and Cars-in-the-Park (formerly Antique Autos in History Park). The Endurance Run has a new starting point this year while Cars-in-the-Park remains at History San Jose.

A tech session at Ray Fontain's garage will be the first one this year and hopefully we can schedule more sessions as members offer up their T problems for the group to solve.

The Put-Together-T has been a featured highlight for the last 2 years at Antique Autos. Now plans are in the works to assemble it at another car show on the peninsula later this year. A new team is being assembled and we might even have a practice for the first time. Stay tuned.

The January tour this year was on a day with some light rain but we still had a couple T's show up. The February tour was a beautiful summer-like day that brought out more T's. Next months tour will be in conjunction with another group of car buffs so it should be a great outing. Hopefully the weather will cooperate.

The program for the February meeting turned out to be especially interesting. Each member brought a family heirloom to show and explain it's significance. Not only were the items unique but the story behind them provided a window into the members family history. I think we all got to know our fellow members a lot better in just that 30-minute activity. Yes, the club is about cars but the people connection is what keeps us coming together for meetings and activities.

Motor on,

Lynn

SCVMTFC General Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2024

Attendees: 24 including 0 guests

Meeting Called to Order by President Lynn Alens at 7:30 p.m.

President (Lynn Alens): Lynn asked for any additions or corrections to the last meeting minutes. There were none.

Secretary (Pam Caldeira): A brief overview of the board meeting minutes was given.

Reading: Jim Lukash shared an MTFCA forum posted article by Hagerty Insurance regarding Model T ownership demographics.

Vice President (Chris Bhirido): No update

Treasurer (Mary Beaman): Mary reviewed the 2024 budget and financial reports.

Programs: Lynn Alens announced that tonight's program is to bring a family heirloom. The Program Coordinator position is still open and program suggestions for future meetings are needed.

Backfire (Jim Boyden): No update. Send Jim any items you may have for the Backfire.

Tours (Bob Meneely): Bob discussed the tour to Cinnabar Hills Golf Club on February 25th and announced other upcoming tours: March - Green Brass Tour, April - Casa de Fruta, May - Pot Luck, June - Endurance Run and Lowland Tour, July - Pancake Breakfast at Sveadal, August - BBQ with the South Valley Club, September - Cars in the Park, October - Pancake Breakfast and Tour, November - Fallen Leaves Tour, December - Lights Tour and Last Chance Tour.

Public Relations: Upcoming events - Bunnies and Bonnets March 30th and Saratoga Blossom Festival April 13th

Membership (Ivan Jorgensen): No update. Remember to send in your 2024 dues. Dues are \$30.

Tech & Safety (Dan Smith): Dan talked about putting a one-way valve on gas caps to prevent fumes. He also shared a tool with a magnet on one end and a slotted screwdriver on the other useful for hard to reach screws.

Librarian: Pat Meneely reported that MaryAnn Steele gave away seven boxes of books to someone at De Anza College and donated some to Goodwill.

Endurance Run (Chris Bhirdo): Lynn Alens reported that registration forms are on the website. Hotel accommodations will be at Motel 6. Certificates of appreciation and completion are being worked on. Routes are being finalized. The photo backdrop is on order. There are five boxes of automobile books to be given away. More volunteers are needed. Event information was sent to 47 clubs. Register early.

Cars in the Park: Lynn Alens reported that there will not be any singers, dancers, magicians, or Barber Shop Quartet this year due to finances. There will be craft booths, a band, and the Golden State Toy Train Operators. Suggestions that will enhance the event are welcome. Featured vehicles will be the Dodge Brothers. Event information is on the website. There will be an ad in the March/April issue of The Vintage Ford. Business cards have been made for promoting the event.

Website: No update

Historian: No update

Refreshments: Bob and Pat Meneely, thank you!

Sunshine: Helen Christensen sent cards to Grover Steele, Jim Boyden, and Steve Gulko.

Old Business: Lynn Alens mentioned that the inventory of club assets is being updated and asked if members have any club items. The club has permission to use the "Put Together T" and Bob Meneely has volunteered to lead a team to take it to nearby events to generate interest in the club. The team needs ten members, so if you are interested, contact Bob. The first event will be Friendship Day on May 19th.

New Business: Barbara Beach has written an article which will be in the next issue of The Vintage Ford. The last tech session was well attended. The next tech session will be at Ray Fontaine's house on March 2nd at 9:00 a.m. The next Endurance Run meeting will be on February 23rd.

Good of the Order: None

Next Meetings: Board Meeting March 11th (Zoom), General Meeting March 15th

Motion to Adjourn by Jim Lukash, Seconded by Barbara Beach

Meeting Adjourned by Lynn Alens at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Pam Caldeira, Secretary

SCVMTFC CALENDAR for 2024,(SCVMTFC Activities shown in bold.)

Mar 2, Sat, SCVMTFC Tech Seminar at Ray Fontaines, troubleshooting reluctant T's, 9:00am.

Mar 11, Mon, SCVMTFC Board Meeting on ZOOM, m7:30pm.

Mar 15, Mon, SCVMTFC General Meeting at 1st Republic Bank, Los Altos, 7:30pm

Mar 17, Sun, SCVMTFC joins BAHCC for Green Brass Tour in Niles area. Meet at Rancho Shopping Center in Los Altos at 7:00am, depart at 7:30.

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

Apr 13, Sat, Saratoga Blossom Festival.

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

Apr 21, Sun, SCVMTFC Tour to Casa de Fruta. More later.

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

May 11, Sat, SCVMTFC Potluck and General Meeting.

May 19, Sun, Friendship Day at Port of Redwood City.

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

Jun 6-9, SCVMTFC Endurance Run and Lowland Tour

Jul 4, Thur, SCVMTFC Tour to Sveadal for breakfast.

Aug TBD, 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.

Oct 12, Sat SCVMTFC joins BAHCC touring to Lukash residence for pancake breakfast.

Dec 28, Sat, SCVMTFC Last Chance Tour.

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. We are limiting to 3 salad dishes. If you can, please let us know what you plan to bring when you RSVP. Dessert, water, utensils and paper plates will be provided. For more information, see flyer below.



**SCVMTFC Potluck &
General Meeting
Will be on
Saturday, May 11th at
Maria and Peder Jorgensen's
residence from Noon-2:00 PM.
Dessert will be provided.**

**RSVP by May 4th at scvmtc@gmail.com
or 408 644 6098 (leave message)
We are limiting to three salad dishes.**





SCVMTFC Tour to Cinnabar Hills Golf Club for Brunch

February 25, 2024. 3 T's, 1 A, 5 moderns (17 people) met behind the Shell Station on Almaden Expwy in San Jose. At the appointed hour (10:00am) we departed for Cinnabar Hills. A little circle route took us down through the Coyote Valley to Bailey Road. That area is so pretty this time of year and it is so greeeeen. A little climb over the ridge on Bailey dropped us onto McKean Road which led us down to Cinnabar. Interesting thing about the golf club, the parking lot was packed, maybe 100 cars, but the dining area was empty. Golf over food, I guess, or maybe the protocol is to golf first, eat second. We occupied three tables. Food appeared in a reasonable amount of time, plenty to eat, some to take home. I don't think anyone went hungry. All in all, a fun tour.



SIDEBAR: If it ain't broke, don't fix it. The day before the tour, my T was really reluctant to start, too cold, too long not moving. Finally got it going and put it in the main garage. Thought about it a while and decided maybe the carburetor needed attention, haven't looked at it for more than twenty years. So, I just happened to have a carburetor on my bench with a fresh viton tip float valve and nice shiny new paint job. So,



I made the swap. On the way down through the Coyote Valley, I noticed a little stuttering, and kept getting a whiff of gasoline. When I pulled into Cinnabar, I found gas pouring out of the carb. After lunch, pulled the bowl, and as suspected, the float had sunk. I hate to go home on the big yellow truck, and was rescued when Justin Beach was drafted by Barbara to go out in the garage and find her box of carburetor parts and bring them down. Ninety seconds later, the T is alive and the trip home was uneventful. I know, I know, I violated the old adage. IF IT AIN'T BROKE, DON'T FIX IT!!!

bob meneely



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.

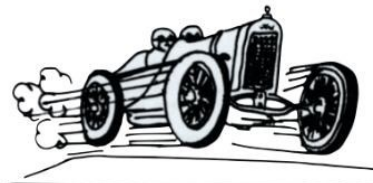
The day before the main event is our tech inspection and barbecue at Bertolotti's Garage, where you can catch up with old friends, make new friends, enjoy a delicious meal and tour Bertolotti's amazing collection of vintage automobiles. It will be the perfect beginning of a great weekend!

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
Registration: Barbara Beach
(408) 887-4857, beachbk@gmail.com

Lowland Tour Chair: Lynn Alens
(408) 205-5806, alenslp@gmail.com
Registration: 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.

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



FRIENDSHIP DAY 2024

Sunday, May 19th / 8am-2pm

441 Seaport Court, Port of Redwood City



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 19th, 2024



The Auto Wash Bowl in Chicago circa 1920's. Lots of dirt roads back then. "The nearly 80-foot-wide, ridged concrete bowl was about 16 inches at its deepest point in the center. Customers paid 25 cents to an attendant who strapped a protective rubber cover over the radiator. Patrons would then enter the bowl via a ramp and drive their cars around and around the bowl at a speed of about 10 miles per hour. The ridges in the concrete would vibrate the car and the water, creating a sloshing action that helped wash away all the mud from the chassis and wheels.

The process took about three or four minutes. The car would then exit the bowl where patrons who wanted a complete car wash could enter one of the bays where the rest of the car would be cleaned. On a busy Saturday, about 75 cars per hour would go for a spin in the wash bowl."

For Sale



FOR SALE:

Sturdy vintage trailer custom built for Model T. Balanced and trails well. Current CA license. Needs new wooden deck and electrical wiring, Asking \$100. If interested call Jeremy Wire at (408) 395-0386 after 8:00 pm,

1914 Model T Touring

Complete, does run, no starter, \$17k

1925 Coupe, \$11k

1925 Touring \$12k

Fordson Model f Tractor, \$5k

Bill Rickson (650) 753-3177

SATURDAY MAY 4, 2024

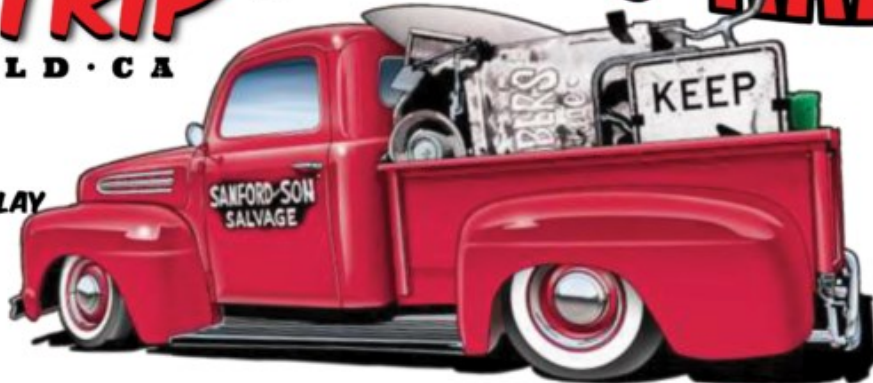
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DAY OF
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\$15.00 ADMISSION FOR ADULTS, 12 YEARS & UNDER FREE! GATES OPEN SATURDAY AT 7:00 AM

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