

The Pedal Pusher

April Edition

2025

Redwood Empire Model T Club
1423 Forestview Dr,
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

*Redwood Empire
Model T Club*

*Official Monthly
Publication*



Redwood Empire Model T Club

Volume 35

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Number 4



President's Message

It's April, Spring and baseball season are here. I have two topics for this month.

Anniversary Tour:

June 11th to 13th, we will be celebrating the 35th anniversary of the Redwood Empire Model T Club with 3 days of wine country touring. Full tours on Wednesday and Thursday with a shorter tour and afternoon BBQ on Friday. Once I have an approximate number of attendees, I can get the lunches and BBQ priced out and a flyer sent. So, if you intend to participate, please let me know by email ADClary@sbcglobal.net or by phone or text at (707)596-0944. Please let me know by the 12th so I can get a flyer out by the end of the month. And remember, even if you don't currently have a T, you are encouraged to attend. A big part of the reasoning for staying local is so that those members who might have trouble traveling can still be part.

T-shirts and misc.:

I have set up an account with our logo at CarClubTShirts.com. You can go to the website at any time and order off the menu. Not everything available is listed on our page. If there is something you want not on the page, let me know and I will have it added. I'll wear the new shirt to the meeting.

See you at the Pancake Breakfast

Andy Clary

Board Members

2025

Chairpersons

President.....Andy Clary
Vice President.....Sebastion Ambra
Secretary.....Jeannine Clary
Treasurer.....Patty Girman
Past President.....John Girman

Historian.....Jeanne Nelson
Membership.....Ted Shimkowski
Newsletter Editor....Cyrus Estes
Roster.....Patty Girman
Scholarship.....John Girman
Sunshine Reporter...Dianna Shimkowski
Tours.....Dave Ryberg
Webmaster.....Steve Vining

Chapter Information & National Affiliation

The Pedal Pusher is a monthly publication of the Redwood Empire Model T Club (REMTC).
The club holds a general meeting on the first Thursday of each month in the meeting room of the Round Table Restaurant located on Marlow Rd. in Santa Rosa. Members and guests are welcome to attend.
REMTC website: www.remtc.org

Dues for an individual, or a household, are \$30 per year.
Student memberships (no fee) include only the emailed REMTC newsletter.

Charter members after the age of 85 have an honorary membership.

REMTC is an official non-profit chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America (MTFCA).
P.O. Box 996 Richmond, IN 47375-0996
Phone: (765) 373-3106
Email: admin@mtfca.com
Website: <https://www.mtfca.com>

National dues are \$50 per year, and include a subscription to the Vintage Ford magazine.

On the 6th of March, 2025

-President-

Andy Clary called this meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

-Attendance-

26 members in attendance, including all board and chair members.

-Secretary's Report-

Jeannine Clary read the secretary's report, with approvals by James Harris & Dianna Shimkowski.
Birthdays and anniversaries were announced.

-Treasurer's Report-

Patty Girman reported on our finances, with approvals by Sebastian Ambra & Tim McCallister.

-Touring Report-

Dave Ryberg reported on our up-and-coming tours and events listed on the Running Board in our newsletter.

-Sunshine Report-

Dianna Shimkowski reported that Pete Rich is home from the hospital.
Mike Chirhart will be having knee surgery March 19th. George Merrel has been home sick.

-Scholarship Report-

John Girman and Andy Clary delivered a scholarship check to Healdsburg High School,
and noted they had a small tour of the shop.

-Editor's Report-

Cyrus Estes reported that he emailed 70 newsletters and mailed 15.
Andy Clary thanked Ted Shimkowski for writing articles on the Garage Days.

-Membership Report-

Ted Shimkowski reported no new activity.

-Webmaster's Report-

Steve Vining reported that our website is up-to-date. Steve thanked Ted Shimkowski for all his photos.
Steve noted that he has a club debit card.

-Historian's Report-

Jeanne Nelson reported that she brought the clubs 2005 album for members to look through.
Jeanne also brought the Model T Ford Club of America's club mascot,
and asked if anyone knew there was a mascot. "Mango" is the club mascot, a small stuffed animal.

-Old Business-

Andy Clary thanked Cyrus Estes for printing the new club roster, and thanked Patty Girman for all the roster updates.

-New Business-

Tim McCallister reported that the Petaluma Cattlemen Restaurant has been torn down.

A thank you was issued to Jimmy and Tracy Long for hosting shop day.
Andy is checking out an online T-Shirt company and will advise at next meeting.

-Model T Moments-

Jimmy Long put a hose clamp on this Model T. Andy mentioned that the museum tour went well,
and thanked Jeannine, Dianna & Jeanne for putting on the Lady's Tea.
Sebastian Ambra worked on a Depot Hack at the Penngrove Museum. Pete Rich is selling his speedster parts.

-Desserts-

A dessert of cupcakes with a mint chocolate decorations on top was provided by Dianna & Ted Shimkowski.

-Meeting Adjourned-

7:32 pm

Submitted by Jeannine Clary, REMTC Secretary

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



**DAN MCEACHERN
DODGE RIEDY
STEVE VINING
JOY AMBRA
CECE DEPAOLI
TIPPI GROSMAN**

2025



Desserts

Please bring enough dessert for forty people, and, if needed,
plastic utensils and paper plates.

If you are unable to make it to the meeting, please contact a substitute.

JANUARY 2ND - - - - - JEANNINE CLARY
FEBRUARY 6TH - - - - - JEAN CHIRHART
MARCH 6TH - - - - DIANNA SHIMKOWSKI
APRIL 3RD - - - - - CINDY VINING
MAY 1ST - - - - - CYRUS ESTES
JUNE 5TH - - - - - JAMES HARRIS
JULY 3RD - TIM & TERESA MCCALLISTER
AUGUST 7TH - - - - - CHRIS RICH
SEPTEMBER 4TH - - - SEBASTION AMBRA
OCTOBER 2ND - - - DAVE & MICI RYBERG
NOVEMBER 6TH - - - - - DONNA JONES
DECEMBER 4TH - - SANDY O'HALLORAN



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

**MIKE & JEAN CHIRHART
JIMMY & TRACY LONG
BOB & JUDY SMITH**

REPAIRS & RESTORATIONS

PETE RICH IS HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL.
MIKE CHIRHART HAS HAD KNEE SURGERY.
GEORGE MERRIL HAS BEEN HOME SICK.

MODEL T FOR SALE!

For Sale: 1926 Ford Model T Coupe. Motor rebuilt, block machined, crank polished.

Everything new:

head | water pump | starter | generator | carburetor | transmission rebuilt | new axles | ring
and pinion | Rocky Mountain brakes | new glass | radiator | tires | steel and wood wheels included |
new steering shaft and gears | front end tie rods, etc.

Body rust free and good upholstery.

\$12,500 obo. Ready for a Sunday drive. John Berizzi 707-433-5363 (Geyserville, CA)

THE RUNNING BOARD

DATES OF IMPORTANCE

APRIL 12TH

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST/SAFETY INSPECTION
SEE INCLUDED FLYER FOR DETAILS**

APRIL 26TH

**HEALDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL CAR SHOW
SEE MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS**

MAY 2ND - 3RD

**BAKERSFIELD SWAP MEET
SEE MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS**

MAY 31ST

**PETALUMA HIGH SCHOOL CAR SHOW
SEE MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS**

JUNE 7TH - 8TH

**SCVMTC LOWLAND TOUR
SEE INCLUDED FLYER FOR DETAILS**

JUNE 11TH - 13TH

**35TH ANNIVERSARY OVERNIGHTER
THREE DAYS OF WINE COUNTRY TOURING
STAY TUNED FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

OCTOBER 16TH - 19TH

**THE LAST ROUNDUP TOUR
SEE JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS**

MARCH GARAGE DAY

By Ted Shimkowski



Here are a few pictures of our clubs garage day for March 2025, at Andy's house. The subject was brass polishing, and a variety of brass polishes were used on samples prepared by Andy. The goal was to see how easy they shined up the brass, as well as how shiny it was after finishing.

There were 13 members in attendance, and morning treats were provided by; Jeannine with banana bread & coffee, Chris Rich with massive quantities of donuts, as well as Jimmy Long bringing some delicious muffins. The options for cleaners/polishers was numerous, close to 10 different products were tested.

Some of the top finishers were Flitz, Mother's, Maas, and Wenol, but each one of these required various levels of rubbing to achieve the shine expected.

What remains to be seen is how shiny the brass stays after long term storage. Andy, care to do a follow-up?





Pancake breakfast AND Safety Check

Rain or Shine

Date: April 12, 2025

Time: 9:00 am

Place: 320 Liberty Road

Petaluma, Ca

Come and visit, eat, and have your Model T get the once over.

Food: Pancakes, sausage, juice, coffee, fruit

The safety check will start when the first car is ready to go.

Please RSVP to Steve and Jeanne at 707 795-8002 by April 9th.

Sheldon Donig's COLLECTOR'S MUSEUM

Article by Ted Shimkowski

Photos by Ted Shimkowski, Cyrus Estes, & Sheldon Donig



On March 1st, a number of REMTC folks boarded the Smart Train in Sonoma County and travelled to San Rafael to visit Sheldon Donig's Collector's Museum. Sheldon has amassed quite a large collection of cars, motorcycles, and antique memorabilia that is of interest to all age groups and interests. According to Sheldon, he has personally collected all of the items in his museum by attending various flea markets, swap meets, and individual purchases from sellers. No collections were purchased, each item was personally selected and purchased by Sheldon over the years.

Upon first entering the museum building, one is immediately startled at the sheer volume of items Sheldon has crammed into the available space. Narrow aisles snake through the various cars and objects that are on the floor, and most of the wall space is occupied by various posters, photos, signs, and antiques objects that are hung. Included on the floor are two large "music boxes" similar to a Nicholodian that were restored personally by Sheldon and use a large punch card system to play tunes such as Doris Day's "Que Sara, Sara" that sounded fabulous. There are also a number of cabinets that contain themes such as Happy Faces, various toy tin vehicles, ceramic animals, and antique radios to name just a few. Other large objects like Ronald McDonald and Bob's Big Boy figurines are there on display for picture taking with visitors. There is so much to be seen that one can stand in one place for five minutes and just look around and not see the same object twice.

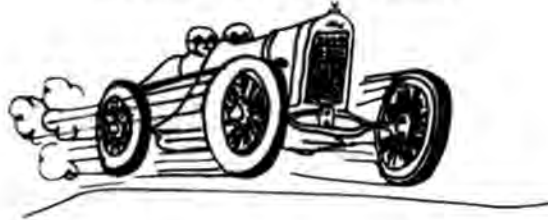
Sheldon entertained the guests by giving a short presentation on a few of the items he's acquired and how they came about, like the 1911 yellow Overland speedster that was completely taken apart and stored in an attic for many decades by the previous owner's grandfather. Sheldon purchased the car and it took him 6 months to reassemble the car. He commented that he does not hire anyone to do repairs or restorations, he does it all himself. Everyone was free to wander around the museum and take in the sights for as long as you wished, but only too soon it was time to depart to catch the Smart train back to Sonoma County.



Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club

54th Annual Speedster Endurance Run and Lowland Tour

June 7-8, 2025



Welcome to the SCVMTFC 54th Annual Speedster Endurance Run and Lowland Tour. We are very excited to have you join us for this fun and memorable event! For the past 53 years, our Lowland tour participants have been cheering on our endurance run drivers and mechanics as they head out for a day of challenging twists and turns along some of the most beautiful roads in the world! As participants in the Lowland Tour, you too will be driving along some of the most beautiful roads in the world and enjoying the camaraderie of family and friends who love vintage cars as much as you.

In addition to the Lowland Tour on Sunday, consider joining us at Bertolotti's Garage in Santa Clara during the Tech Inspection for speedsters, and where you can catch up with old friends, make new friends, enjoy a delicious barbecue and tour Bertolotti's amazing collection of vintage automobiles. Bertolotti's Garage is not open to the public, and access is only via special events like ours, so I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. Stroll through row after row of vintage autos as well as motorcycles and automotive memorabilia in a museum like setting.

Sunday morning, we gather at the VA Medical Center in Palo Alto, for the main event. 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 the speedsters love: "Drivers, start your engines!" Then the roar of all those mighty speedsters as they eagerly await the drop of the green flag!

After cheering the speedsters on their way, the Lowland tour will head out for a beautiful drive through the Santa Cruz mountains. Once back at the VA Medical Center we have invited residents and their families to participate in the post-race activities. I'm sure the veterans will be all smiles as they admire all the classic cars parked right outside their building. Thank you for joining us as we celebrate our 54th year of this truly amazing event! Don't keep it a secret. Tell your family and friends where you'll be in June and bring them along to be a part of history in motion. See you there!

Lynn Alens

Lowland Tour Chair, SCVMTFC 54th Annual Speedster Endurance Run & Lowland Tour

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are like those who stop a clock to save time."*

... Henry Ford

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