

Backfire Editor
18695 Carriage Hill Drive
San Jose, CA 95120

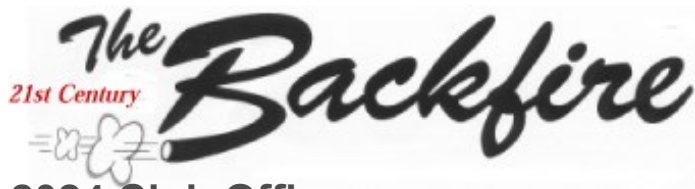
The Backfire

21st Century

Vol. XXV No. IX



Monterey Motor Sports Reunion. See story on page 9



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
CitP.	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. Meet at 3620 Charter Park Drive in San Jose, 7:30 pm, the third Friday of the month.



The engines were roaring at Laguna Seca for the Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion Aug 14-17. There were many different classes of race cars from the early 1900's to ultra-modern electric racers. We were invited to join the Horseless Carriage Club at their booth, display our cars if we wanted to and showcase our Put-together-Model T demonstration. Everyone enjoyed all the racing especially the Ragtime Racers, a group of car buffs including our very own Ed Archer and Chris Kent, who zoom around the track in their pre 1920 racers. Before heading home, 5 of the crew stopped to race at the go-cart

track.

There is certainly no wall between the various car clubs in our area. In just the past couple months we have partnered with other clubs at events multiple times and toured with other clubs multiple times. We all share a love of old cars so why not do it together.

Another tech session was held at the Christensen's to get Chuck's Model T back on the road. The plan is to put the engine back in next session and fire it up. Chuck is appreciative of the help and we are all appreciative of the chance to learn by doing. (see page 7)

Members are sure enjoying the new meeting space in San Jose – thank you Michele Brading! The program at the August meeting was “bring a toy from your childhood”. It always fun and entertaining to learn more about your fellow club members. The big news at the meeting was Nancy Alens volunteering to take over as Backfire editor for 2025. The Backfire is the backbone of the club and we didn't want to try functioning without it. Thank You Nancy!

Final planning for Cars-in-the-Park is underway. Featured cars this year are the Dodge Brothers autos and a video of the Dodge Brothers factory in 1918 will be shown. History San Jose is putting more emphasis on advertising the event this year so hopefully the attendance will continue to grow. The Put-Together-Model T will be featured again as they try to cut down the assembly time. Lots of local car buffs look forward to this great event every year to showcase their antique autos.

Motor on,

Lynn

SCVMTFC General Meeting Minutes

SCVMTFC General Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2024

Attendees: 27 including 1 guest

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

President (Lynn Alens): Lynn thanked Michele Brading for having us here and asked for any additions or corrections to the last meeting minutes in the Backfire. There were none and the minutes were approved.

Secretary (Pam Caldeira): No update

Reading: Chuck Christensen read a couple excerpts from a Henry Ford book.

Vice President (Chris Bhirdo): Chris will be the Chairperson for the next Endurance Run on June 7th and 8th, 2025. He has access to tonymous and receives newsletters from other clubs. Club members expressed interest in receiving these newsletters so Chris will forward them to everyone. Chris thanked Lynn Alens for returning.

Treasurer (Mary Beaman): Mary distributed and reviewed financial reports. She reported that there are funds left over from the Endurance Run and they are allocated for next year's event.

Programs: Lynn Alens announced that tonight's program will be "Toys we had when we were little". The Program Coordinator position is still open.

Backfire (Jim Boyden): Jim asked for pictures from the tech session at Chuck Christensen's house. If you have any, please send them to him so he can put them in the Backfire. Jim reminded the club that he will be retiring as Backfire Editor in December and explained his process of putting together the Backfire. Nancy Alens volunteered to take over as Backfire Editor for one year starting in January.

Tours (Bob Meneely): Pat Meneely gave a driver patch to Kevin O'Keefe and said that Ivan Jorgensen and Glenn Wildman will also receive patches. Bob discussed taking the Put Together T to Laguna Seca on August 17th and confirmed upcoming tours and events: BBQ at Mount Madonna with the South Valley Model T Ford Club August 31st, Cars in the Park September 14th, Pancake Breakfast at the Lukash Residence and Tour to Filoli October 19th.

Public Relations: Allan Greenberg discussed the Santa Clara County Fair Parade on July 27th and Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive on August 10th. He confirmed the upcoming Mountain View Centennial event on September 21st.

Membership (Ivan Jorgensen): No update

Tech & Safety (Dan Smith): Dan talked about his experiments with Ultra Black. He mentioned that Sakamoto school is having a fundraiser and is looking for cars. Please contact him if you are interested.

Librarian: Lynn Alens thanked MaryAnn Steele for providing books to the club and talked about how much he enjoyed reading "Henry and Edsel."

Endurance Run (Chris Bhirdo): Chris discussed next year's Endurance Run. He has found a sponsor. The VA would like some cars to stay at the facility during the day so that patients, employees, and veterans can enjoy them. Chris has asked for an additional parking lot for trailers. Lynn Alens mentioned that Chris has an article about the Endurance Run and Lowland Tour in the new issue of The Vintage Ford.

Cars in the Park: Allan Greenberg reported that he has sent out a fourth announcement. The Campbell Press published an announcement of the event. Sharon Fox from HSJ posted event announcements on social media. There will be cars parked at the gas station for adults and children to get into and take photos. There will be a discussion with HSJ about giving rides to visitors. O'Brien's Ice Cream Parlor and Candy Shop will sell packaged ice cream. Lynn Alens mentioned that more volunteers are needed for the Put Together T team.

Website: No update

Historian: Lucy Greenberg asked for an article about the Brass and Burgundy Tour for her historian album. She thanked Chris Bhirdo for the photos he sent her.

Refreshments: Thank you, Bob and Mary Beaman! Chuck and Helen Christensen will bring refreshments next month.

Sunshine: Helen Christensen did not send any cards this month as none were needed. She will send a card to MaryAnn Steele.

Old Business: Chuck Christensen thanked everyone who came to his tech sessions for their help. The next tech session will be hosted by Chuck Christensen on September 21st. Larry Wolfsen got his Circus Wagon running and is hoping to bring it to Cars in the Park. Rob Caldeira volunteered to help him take it to events.

New Business: Lynn Alens suggested December 7th or 8th for the Board Installation and Holiday Lunch. Chris Bhirdo will look into venues for the event. Please contact him if you have any suggestions.

Good of the Order: Happy Birthday Jim Boyden! Happy Anniversary Chuck and Helen Christensen! Happy Anniversary Lynn and Nancy Alens!

Next Meetings: Board Meeting September 23rd (Zoom) General Meeting September 27th (Brading Associates)

Motion to Adjourn by Chuck Christensen, Seconded by Barbara Beach

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

SCVMTFC CALENDAR for

(SCVMTFC Activities shown in bold.)

Aug 31, Sat, SCVMTFC Tour to BBQ at Mt. Madonna Hilltop Picnic Site with South County Model T Club. Meet behind the Shell Station at Almaden and Blossom Hill Rd at 9:30, leave at 10:00. Bring \$6 cash for park entrance. Bring something to BBQ, something to share, your beverage, eating utensils and a chair. Our hosts will provide the fire, BBQ tools, Garlic Bread & Ice. To provide a head count, please RSVP to Doug Tolbert at douggtoby@gmail.com

Sep 14, Sat, SCVMTFC and History San Jose host Cars in the Park at History San Jose. See Flyer on SCVMTFC.org.

Sep 21, Sat, The Mountain View Neighborhood Association in downtown Mountain View is holding a 1920's themed celebration on the evening of Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 4-8pm to celebrate the centennial of 'Palmita Park' and its founding by the Minton family (of Minton Lumber fame). The event organizers would love some period automobiles staged in driveways. If you're interested in partaking in and contributing to an evening of period fun, please reach out to Matthew Hill (mdhill@gmail.com) for more details. Also, if you plan to attend please send a message to Allan Greenberg.

Sep 21, Sat, SCVMTFC Work Party at Chuck Christensens, 9:00 AM, 1542 Queensbridge Court, Sunnyvale, this should be final reassembly of Chuck's T.

Sep 23, Mon, SCVMTFC Board Meeting on ZOOM, 7:30 PM.

Sep 27, Fri, SCVMTFC General Meeting at 3620 Charter Park Drive, San Jose.

NOTE: THIS IS A TEMPORARY CHANGE TO THE 4TH FRIDAY.

Oct 19, Sat, SCVMTFC tour to Lukash residence for pancake breakfast with BAHCC followed by a tour to Filoli. More later.

Nov 16, Sat, SCVMTFC Tour, save the date, details later.

Dec 7, Sat, SCVMTFC Annual Installation Luncheon, save the date.

Dec 28, Sat, SCVMTFC Last Chance Tour, more later.

A club work party recently showed up at the Christensen's to re-
pair Chucks Model T transmission. Attending to help out were,
Bob and Patti Meneely, Bob Beaman, Barbara Beach, Oliver
Johnson, Bill Bratt, Ray Fontaine, Kyle Culinane, Matt Allen,
and Norm Josephson.



More pictures



Always a first time!

By Ed

Archer



If you're tired of reading my stories, I thoroughly understand., Just move on. I had no thoughts of writing this but the arm twisting by those that witnessed it, insisted. First though, the disclaimer. Racing an antique car, especially a Model T based race car, obviously is not for everyone. Most comments include something about a loose screw or something that keeps cropping up and I don't think they're talking about the car.

... So, the Rolex Motorsports Reunion Historic Races took place in Monterey at Laguna Seca Raceway from Tuesday Aug. 13 through 17th. It's

the only track that we race where they require our class to wear crash (hate using that word) helmets. Wed. through Fri. were practice races with the final race happening on Saturday. Everything went smooth until Saturday, the same day that our clubs take apart T demonstration took place on the "infield". At 11:35 AM 16 pre 1920 racecars entered the track, and after a smooth pace lap, our race got the green flag. With Ford's power to weight advantage I immediately jumped into the lead. Almost half way through the first lap as I went charging into turn 6 my accelerator pedal got stuck to the floor,..... full throttle!!!! Try as I might with my right foot, as my mind was trying to figure out what to do, I couldn't bring the pedal back up, and I think you had to be there as I'll never be able to properly describe what took place. Old #4 has such a strong engine, the power to weight ratio is tremendous. I've never in my life accelerated old #4 to full throttle. Well, maybe at the old Long Beach Hill Climbs back in the 70s, but that's another story. As my mind was working overtime trying to come up with something positive, the easiest thing to do was kill the engine and get hauled in, but the spirit of sportsmanship runs high in my mind so, "how can I deal with this and finish the race." My 24 year old Grandson Jesse Willis was my riding mechanic. (Some of you met him on our endurance run) I yelled out.....Hang on! (More than once before the race was over). I pushed the clutch in,big mistake, the engine went screaming. My spark advance/retard lever is reverse of a stock T. All the way down is full retard and at the absolute bottom it kills the engine. I grabbed the spark lever with one hand, bringing it down, steering into the next turn with the other hand on the wheel, killing the engine, a little late but we were able to stay on the track. And once through the turn brought the lever back up and with a loud backfire brought the engine to a loud roar. Again, as we progressed and began going way to fast again, I depressed the clutch, "stupid!" (some of us are slow learners) And the engine again went screaming, hit the spark retard/kill, and somehow the Muncie transmission



went into neutral, so when I advanced the spark lever to restart the engine, we got nothing and I thought....."now what!" After a few second's I realized the trans was in neutral, and you can't get an auxiliary transmission back in gear with a dead engine. I tried a couple of times and finally we got down to about 40 mph and I ground/jammed it in, restarted the engine and again shot ahead. As I got a little better at

the process, I'd kill the engine well before a turn, slide through the turn as best as we could, and hit the advance coming out of a turn, and generally have to kill it once or twice more before the next turn, backfiring each time. How exciting! NOT! Poor Jesse was silent and paid attention to Grandpa's orders, believe it or not, thoroughly enjoying every minute of it. He had no idea. Well, we did finish, and in 5th place.

. Once back in the paddock and the dust settled, I lifted the hood to find out what went wrong, and the first thing I spotted was my rare Colombo screw on oil filler cap was resting face up, precariously on the hood sill and carburetor, my water pump pulley was totally gone, just the shaft was there. The temporary crank pin which I had-



n't fixed since our drive to Kansas was gone from the pulley. I brushed against #4 spark plug wire and it fell off the plug. The brass knurled nut was gone. Lucky that's all that was wrong. So, what caused the problem? The tech rules at Laguna Seca state, mandatory requirement, 2 throttle arm return springs on the carburetor. Both of mine broke. Evidently the main one broke and the stress was too much for the backup spring and it broke! Some of these kinds of things are the nature of what we're dealing with driving these antique cars. It's just a little different when you're competing on a race track.

WHAT TO BRING

THE SOUTH VALLEY MODEL T CLUB

Invites you to our

SECOND ANNUAL

BB-Q & POTLUCK

SATURDAY AUGUST 31, 2024

Mt Madona county park *in the Hilltop picnic site* 11:00 am to ?

What to bring

\$6.00 CASH to expedite park entrance.

Something to BB-Q and something to share

Your favorite beverage, utensils, and a chair

We will have the Fire, BB-Q ing Utensils, Garlic Bread, & Ice

RSVP to Doug Tolbert at douggtoby@gmail.com

only for a head count

A WELCOME TO THE

Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club

Santa Clara Valley Model A Ford Club

and the

Past members of Valle Del Sur Antique Automobile Club of America

24th Annual

"The largest annual antique & classic auto show in the West"

A Living History Day



Cars in the Park - Antiques & Classics

Entrance Fees:

Adults: \$10

Seniors: \$8

Children (6 - 12) & HSJ Members: \$5

Participants & Children Under 6: Free

Adjacent City Parking: \$10

Saturday, September 14, 2024

11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

History Park, 693 Phelan Ave.

San José, CA

***Presented by the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club
&
History San José***

Period-Correct Vehicles and Motorcycles up to 1949

•Antique Bicycles •Antique Fire Equipment •Early Day Gas Engines

•Handcraft Demos •Antique Collectibles •Dixieland Band

•Vintage Clothing •Historic Buildings

•Trolley Rides •Children's Activities •And More



scvmtfc.org

Food and Ice Cream are Available



historysanjose.org

Allan Greenberg

17th ANNUAL SWAP MEET

PRESENTED BY

Mission Trail Regional Group #32
Early Ford V-8 Club Of America



Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024

Early Ford Parts Through 1953

Specializing in early Ford parts

All other makes are welcome

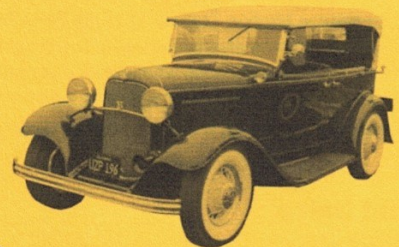
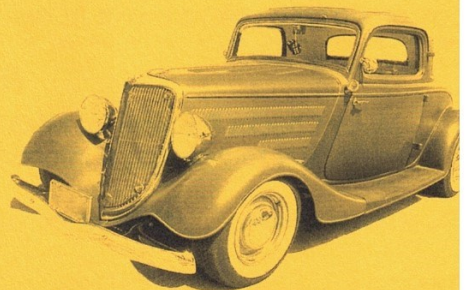
Join Us At 6:00 AM 'Till Noon

AT

ALL FORD PARTS

1600 Dell Avenue,
Campbell, CA 95008

*Mr. C's will be selling
Coffee & Breakfast*



Scrounge & Barter For Parts & Memorabilia

See Reverse for Sellers Registration Form

For Sale

1 1913 Ford Model T light delivery, original condition with a hoaky 1950s repaint "fix up." Chassis is 1913 throughout except for the front spring. Body is original, from the era. Headlights and side lamps are missing. It has a few era accessories including Bosch magneto ignition, and original 30 X 3 ½ wire wheels. The engine cranks over but has not run in decades. A real neat piece of history just out of the barn. More pictures available on request. \$7,800.00

2. 1926 Chevrolet Superior K, 5 Passenger Touring. Show quality older restoration. Dark Blue body and black fenders and chassis, white striping. Correct original engine, transmission and rear end, Rare Aerometer (Motometer) water temperature gauge and winged radiator cap, clock gear shifting knob, dual wind wings, front and rear bumpers, white wall tires, Chevrolet script spare tire cover. Approx. 2000 miles on a complete engine rebuild. Extremely well restored throughout. More pictures available on request. \$16,500.00.



Wanted

Gary Hagen wants to buy a Muncie transmission and a Waukesha Ricardo intake manifold. If you have or know of one for sale contact Gary.



curlymoustache@verizon.net



Truck tires for sale

For Sale Six New tires mounted on TT Demountable Wheels , These Tires are Universal 450 /475 – 21 in size . They are a couple of years old but have never been mounted on the car and have zero miles on them . At today's pricing Six Tires and tubes shipped to your house would be about \$ 1040.00 .I am asking 650.00 For the tires and tubes , The wheels are Free ! Please call Ben at 510 427 0482

