

# The Pedal Pusher

*Official  
Monthly  
Publication*



## Redwood Empire Model T Club

1423 Forestview Dr,  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

# April Edition

2026



# Redwood Empire Model T Club



Volume 36

Established 1990

Number 4

## President's Message

Hello R.E.M.T.C. Members,

It is hard to believe that April is already here.

We have our annual Safety Check happening at the Nelson's home this year on April 18th, at 9 am. I truly hope to see a large turnout for this event. The Nelsons have opened their home to this event for the past number of years to help insure that we have a safe touring season. Pancakes, sausages, and other breakfast items will be served at this event. The Safety check has been a yearly tradition for almost as long as this club has been around. The event helps to identify potential issues with your Model T that could lead to possible breakdowns or other safety events. The inspections will be done by Ted Shimkowski and your President this year. There is no judgement on the items we find, Ted and I are only pointing out areas of concern that could lead to safety-related issues. Please try and make this year's event, and please bring your Model T for an inspection. If you guys are going to make the event, please let the Nelsons know so they can plan the food accordingly.

I hope to see you at the Safety Check & Breakfast, and I'm looking forward to a great touring season!

Thank you,  
-Chris Rich

### 2026 Board Members & Chairpersons

#### Board Members

President.....Chris Rich  
Vice President.....Sebastion Ambra  
Secretary.....Teresa McCallister  
Treasurer.....Patty Girman  
Past President.....John Girman

#### Chairpersons

Historian.....Jeanne Nelson  
Membership.....Ted Shimkowski  
Newsletter.....Cyrus Estes  
Roster.....Patty Girman  
Scholarship.....John Girman  
Sunshine.....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](http://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 above 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](mailto:admin@mtfca.com)  
Website: <https://www.mtfca.com>  
National dues are \$50 per year, and include a subscription to the Vintage Ford magazine.

## **R.E.M.T.C.**

# **General Meeting Minutes**

Round Table Pizza, Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa, CA  
March 5th, 2026

### **President**

Chris Rich called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

### **Attendance**

29 members in attendance. Five Chairpersons were in attendance, Jeanne Nelson was absent. Four Board Members were in attendance, Sebastian Ambra was absent.

### **Secretary's Report**

Teresa McCallister read the secretary's report, with approvals by Jeannine Clary & Sandy O'Halloran. Birthdays and anniversaries were announced.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Patty Girman reported on our current finances, with approvals by Dianna Shimkowski & Mike Chirhart.

### **Tour Report**

Dave Ryberg thanked Andy Clary for his assistance with rebuilding Dave's 1921 Coupe at the February shop day, and replacing the float at a later date. Dave expects to have it running soon.

Dave noted upcoming events:

-A shop day will be held on March 22nd, Jimmy Long will provide more details.

-Healdsburg High School will host their annual Auto Shop Car Show from 10 am to 2 pm.

Dave thanked Jeannine Clary for supplying baked goods on shop days.

Dave is working on guidelines for tours, and plans to post them on the website this month.

### **Sunshine Report**

Dianna Shimkowski reported that a get well card was sent to Sheri Granigen.

### **Scholarship Report**

John German reported that we collected 50% more from tonight's raffle than usual.

### **Editor's Report**

Cyrus Estes reported that he is making sure addresses are up-to-date. Chris thanked Cyrus for his efforts. Many club members clapped in acknowledgment and appreciation.

### **Membership Report**

Ted Shimkowski reported that there has been no new activity.

### **Webmaster Report**

Steve Vining reported that the website is up-to-date. Our annual costs have gone up with one of our vendors, and he is in the process of talking to them about it. Steve thanked Patti Girman for reading the website thoroughly and giving him feedback. Chris thanked Steve for all his efforts with the website.

### **Historian Report**

Jeanne Nelson was absent. Chris commented that our history is rich and vibrant, and he expressed gratitude for all that Jeanne does for the club.

### **Old Business**

Jimmy Long announced that there would be a tour, coffee, donuts, and a shop day on March 22nd, from 9 am to about noon. We will meet at RPM Automotive Services, 560 Martin Ave, Rohnert Park, for a tour of their machine shop, where they build racing & Model T engines. RPM will allow us to dyno test our Model T's, maybe only six of them. Chris thanked Jimmy for setting up the event. A group discussion about dyno testing followed the announcement.

Continued on the next page

## **R.E.M.T.C.**

# **General Meeting Minutes**

Continued from previous page.

### **New Business**

Patty Girman mentioned the "Fast Finder" document, that includes a list of club members, was included alongside the newsletter in the last email. Let Patty know if anything needs to be changed. Now that we are sending the roster out by email every other year, it will be easier to make changes. There was also a roster update page of new members, which can be added to your individual club roster. Now that we are printing the roster every *other* year, we are saving about \$300 annually.

Chris announced that we will have a picnic at Lake Sonoma in June or July. We will have barbecue chicken, beans, corn, salad, and desert. Please bring \$5 and your favorite desert to share, there will be a cash box at the event. We need to find an available date, and plan a short tour ending at the lake. The fish hatchery should be open for Tours, and we may have some Model T games. The Tam's said they may be able to book the site at a reduced price. There will be a signup process so that we know how much chicken to buy. More details to follow.

### **Model T Moments**

Bob Smith recalled having his first Model T driving lesson at Lake Sonoma with Clare Pearson. Bob was impressed by the car, proposed to her, cranked the car to start it, and she gave him a driving demonstration.

Tracy Long said that they have a new roof on their touring car. They recently drove with the car's top down, with a dog in the back, and went out for hamburgers.

Karen Tam reported that Dale drove the '26 Tudor, and it went forward, and backward, and did not crash into the door.

Cyrus reported that his Coupe is running well, except that the ignition key no longer turns the vehicle off. Chris thanked Cyrus for bringing the car to the last shop day.

### **Dessert**

Desserts of almond bar cookies and apple pear bars were provided by Jeannine Clary.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM, approved by Karen Tam & Jeannine Clary.**  
**Minutes respectfully submitted by Teresa McCallister, REMTC Secretary.**

## April Birthdays



Dan McEachern - Dodge Riedy - Steve Vining  
Joy Ambra - Tippi Grosman - Chuck Dale

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## April Anniversaries



Mike & Jean Chirhart - Jimmy & Tracy Long  
Bob & Judy Smith - Chuck Dale & Karen Tan

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## Sunshine

No new sunshine

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## 2026 Meeting Desserts



JANUARY 8TH - - - - - NO MEETING  
FEBRUARY 5TH - - - - - JEAN CHIRHART  
MARCH 5TH - - - - - JEANNINE CLARY  
APRIL 2ND - - - - - DIANNA SHIMKOWSKI  
MAY 7TH - - - - - PATTY GIRMAN  
JUNE 4TH - - - - - JAMES HARRIS

JULY 2ND - - - - - CINDY VINING  
AUGUST 6TH - - - - - DODGE RIEDY  
SEPTEMBER 3RD - - - - - DONNA JONES  
OCTOBER 1ST - - - - - TRACY LONG  
NOVEMBER 5TH - - - - - DAVE & MICI RYBERG  
DECEMBER 3RD - - - - - CYRUS ESTES

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# *In Memoriam*

## Don Weese

Charter member and former REMTC President Don Weese has passed away at his home in Arizona. Don was 81 years old. Don's 1911 runabout is the car on the original REMTC logo. He toured extensively with his red boat tail speedster he built himself.

# The Running Board

Dates of Importance

\*Items in **GREEN** need coordinators! Contact Dave Ryberg if you would like to plan something.

## **April 18th: Pancake Breakfast and Safety Check**

9 am at the Nelsons, see the included flyer for further information

## **April 25th: Healdsburg H.S 10th Annual Car Show**

Show is from 10 am to 2 pm. See the included flyer for more information.

## **May 1st-2nd: Bakersfield Swap Meet**

At Minter Airfield. See the included flyer for further information.

## **May 9th: Monthly Tour (Planning)**

Dave Ryberg is coordinating, stay tuned for further information.

## **May 25th: NewSong Church Memorial Day Car Show**

## **May 30th: Petaluma H.S 5th Annual Car Show & Shop Tour**

See the included flyer, and stay tuned for further information.

## **June/July: Lake Sonoma BBQ**

Coordinated by Chris Rich, who will provide meat, beans, & salad. Everyone brings dessert. Stay tuned for further information.

## **July 5th: Penngrove Parade**

## **July 11th: Penngrove Power & Implement Museum Yearly Demo**

## **July 18th: Sebastopol VFW Car Show**

## **August 11th: Montgomery H.S Car Show & Shine**

## **August 15th: T & A Tour with Sonoma Model A Club(To Be Determined)**

## **September 19th: Wings & Wheels Car Show**

## **Sep/Oct: Overnight Tour to Monterey County**

Staying at the Laurel Inn, Salinas. Pat O'Halloran is coordinating, stay tuned.

## **December: Christmas Dinner/Luncheon**

Stay tuned for further information.

# R.E.M.T.C. 2026 Guidelines for Planning Driving Tours

To get more interest and participation in the club tours, parades, and car shows, it has been suggested that the club members be encouraged to provide input and help organize club touring outings.

When planning a driving tour, there are a couple weeks of lead time needed for planning the route and making sure that club members have time to work it into their schedules. Flash tours are an exception, as these (hence the name) have just a couple days lead time. The following are general items that should be considered when organizing a tour:

- 1: Is a Trouble Truck needed? There is no written rule describing when a Trouble Truck is needed, but if the tour route is outside populated areas, and cell phone service is spotty for calling a tow truck, a Trouble Truck provides good get-home assurance for any T that happens to break down. If so, start asking for a volunteer club member with access to a big pick-up truck, and there are several members who have open car trailers that can be used. The Trouble Truck driver needs to save fuel receipts for the reimbursement of the gas/diesel purchased for the tour.
- 2: Determine the date & time of the driving tour/event. Generally, tours are scheduled for Saturday/Sunday, but can also be on a week day, as most members are retired.
- 3: Determine the starting/meeting point of the tour. The starting point should be a parking lot so that the cars can be easily organized into a single driving line. Also, it should have access to restrooms while the members are joining up. The following are starting points that have been used previously:
  - A. The Washoe House on Stony Point Road. It's a good place for tours in Rohnert Park, Penngrove, Petaluma, and the south coast.
  - B. Tom Schopflin Fields, across from Cardinal Newman HS on Old Redwood Hwy. It's a good place for tours north of Santa Rosa.
  - C. The old CVS parking lot in Sebastopol (Starbucks for restrooms).
  - D. Any supermarket or mall parking lot that has access to restrooms.
- 4: Plan the route, and the destination. I.E. restaurant, historical site, state park, or local event. Also determine if there will be a planned return route, or if members will plan their own route home. The following is a suggested method to plan the route, keeping in mind that Model T tours seldom use the shortest route. The fun of the tour is the driving time.
  - A. Review county road maps to get an idea of the route and the desired distance (40-60 miles round trip), and the time (about 4-5 hours). Take into account if it is hilly, cars might need gas to climb hills at the end of the tour.
  - B. Once the destination and route have been roughly planned, drive the route in a regular vehicle to record the mileage between required turns, and the general time it takes to drive the route.
  - C. Once there is an outline of the route, distance and times between each turn need to be checked, drive the route with a T. During this drive, verify all directions are correct & easy to follow, and verify the actual driving time in a T. This will be used to create the driving instructions that are handed out during the drivers meeting before leaving the starting point.

Continued on the next page

# R.E.M.T.C. 2026 Guidelines for Planning Driving Tours

## Continued from prior page

To get more input on different types of tours, and make members more interested in events for the upcoming touring season, the following is provided for guidance:

1. Depending on the weather, the touring season is from April/May through October/November. The goal is to have at least one driving tour per month. Some months may have both a tour and a parade or car show, in which we usually just meet at the event and head home separately.

**These are some of annual parades and events which are loosely supported by the club, and benefit from advance planning:**

Forestville Youth Park Parade - June || Kentwood Independence Day Parade - July  
Penngrove Independence Day Parade - July || Petaluma Veterans Day Parade - 11th of November  
Penngrove Power & Implement Museum - 2nd Saturday in July

**Additionally, there are some other annual and biannual events to consider:**

Pacific Coast Wheels & Wings Car Show - Sonoma County Airport || Healdsburg High School Car Show  
Petaluma High School Car Show || NewSong Church Memorial Day Car Show  
Casa Grande High School Car Show || Montgomery High School Car Show & Shine  
VFW Gold Ridge/Sebastopol Car Show || Tin Lizzy Driving Lessons - for new members/family members  
Vehicle Safety Check - before the start of the new touring season || Cooking Tour - to replace a monthly tour  
Overnight Tour - A 3-4 day long distance traveling tour with trailers

There could be up to eight driving tours, counting April and November. Biannually, there is also a Cooking Tour (which takes additional planning), and a yearly Overnight tour, which is a three-to-four day long distance tour with car trailers, which also replaces a standard monthly tour.

We would like to have members sign up for coordinating a monthly tour. Unless it is for an event, schedule it in the middle of the month, so that there is roughly a month between each tour. Some known tours/events for 2026 have been added to the running board in the newsletter. Some have assigned coordinators, and some are open for volunteers.

Guidelines submitted by Dave Ryberg, R.E.M.T.C. Tours Chairperson

# RPM; Model T's on the Dynamometer

*Photos submitted by Ted Shimkowski, story submitted by John Girman*

On March 22, REMTC had a rare opportunity to test their Model T's on a dynamometer. RPM Automotive Services, a 40-yr old establishment in Rohnert Park, provides a wide range of automotive services, including dynamometer testing, and was going to dyno some of our Model T's. Nineteen members showed up with eight Model T's.

While members sampled donuts, cake, coffee and tea, Brad Reich, the owner of RPM, told us a little about RPM. It is family owned and provides a wide range of services. Because we weren't sure how many Model T's could be dynoed, we drew raffle tickets to determine the order of testing. Then, Brad gave us a tour of his facility and described the services that they offer. RPM is a full service machine shop that has a CNC (computer numerically controlled) machining center that is used for general machining, boring, and decking. They also have the ability to magniflux parts for cracks, general purpose machine tools such as vertical mills, lathes, presses, drill presses, and metal fabrication equipment such as shears & metal brakes. In the not too distant future, they plan on building a dyno room for engines that they build.

While they were touring the shop, Jason, Brad's son, prepared the dyno for the first car. His instructions to the drivers were to start the car in low gear, and when appropriate, shift into high gear and accelerate the car to 1000 rpm. Once the engine hit that amount, his instructions were to give the car full throttle and hold it. Jason then watched the torque readout peak and then drop off which indicated max torque had been achieved. He then told the driver to shut it down.

Patrick O'Halloran was up first. The dyno that RMP uses is different than most dyno's in that it does not use a load cell to offer resistance to measure torque. The test car spins a 48" diameter drum whose mass is known (5400 lb) and the energy used to rotate and accelerate that rotation is contained in the machines software that can then calculate the power the test vehicle is producing to spin that drum. We were surprised when Patrick's 1915 Runabout clocked 17.16 hp and 73.34 foot-lbs. as it is mostly a stock Model T. Jimmy Long was up next with his 1926 Touring and it didn't disappoint, turning 27.65 hp and 105.92 foot-lbs, thanks to an extensively modified engine. Not surprisingly, Andy Clary's Speedster took top honors with 48.17 hp and 134.43 foot-lbs. In the table below is a summary of the results.

Name	Model T	Horsepower	Torque
Patrick O'Halloran	1915 Touring	17.16	73.34
Jimmy Long	1926 Touring	27.65	105.92
Steve Vining	1926 Roadster PU	17.97	73.85
Andy Clary	1919 Mercury	48.17	134.43
Chris Rich	1924 TT C-cab	25.13	74.75
Tim McCallister	1926 Touring	18.42	78.62
Dave Ryberg	1924 Touring	19.77	62.42
Ted Shimkowski	1914 Touring	20.41	81.43

All the available Model T's were dynoed, and again, most of us were surprised at how much power was generated. The total horsepower for all eight cars was 194 hp which is pretty much what a modern Prius is putting out on its own! Not too shabby! Andy presented Jimmy with a crisp \$20.00 bill for being the highest horsepower Model T of the group. Jimmy says he plans on framing it for his shop.

A special thanks goes out to Chris Rich for providing the table, coffee, hot water, donuts, and cakes for morning breakfast. This club runs on food so it's very much appreciated. After thanking Brad and Jason Reich for all they did, the members drove over to Art's Place and treated Brad and Jason to lunch. This was a unique and rare opportunity and Jimmy Long deserves a lot of thanks for making it happen. Great job!



# For Sale



## Five 16" Ford Wire Wheels

Includes hub caps and lugs. Excellent non-powder-coat red paint. Very good tires. \$600

Bob Smith - Forestville, CA - (707) 217-8600 - tbonersmith@gmail.com

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# For Sale

## Enclosed Car Trailer

20' by 8.5' wide enclosed car trailer by Interstate Mfg. Has a rear drive-in ramp, and extra height on the rear door opening for Model Ts with the top up. The hitch is motor driven for lift, and there is a winch inside for loading cars with problems. The hitch also is an Ez-lift for proper leveling, and to take the strain off of tongue weight. The interior is fully wood paneled and the entire unit is in excellent condition. It also has an access door on the passenger side.

I'm selling it for half the price of a new one: \$6700 OBO.  
Please phone me, if interested, to arrange an inspection.

Thank You.

Pete Rich  
(707) 887-9585



Pancake breakfast AND Safety Check

**Rain or Shine**

Date: April 18, 2026

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 9<sup>th</sup>.

# BAKERSFIELD SWAP MEET

# 2026

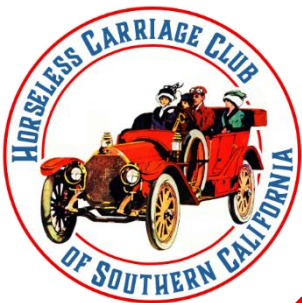


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**CALIFORNIA**

— This year's Swap Meet honoring Gil Klecan —

## MAY 1 & 2 - 2026

### Brass Era / Pre-war Swap Meet



## MINTER AIRFIELD

201 Aviation Street - Shafter, CA  
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- ◆ Vendor set-up; Friday morning
- ◆ Swap Meet; Friday & Saturday
- ◆ Vendor Space (20' x 40') \$60 / Buyers \$10

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5TH ANNUAL

# CARS & CRITTERS

MAY 30, 2026



PRE-REGISTER @ [PHASEAUTO.ORG](http://PHASEAUTO.ORG)

10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# CAR SHOW

\$35  
AT DOOR

APRIL  
25<sup>TH</sup>

\$30  
PRE-  
REGISTRATION



HEALDSBURG HIGHSCHOOL  
AUTOSHOP

1024 PRINCE AVE., HEALDSBURG, CA 95448

SHOW IS AT: **10AM-2PM**

- VENDORS • MUSIC • FOOD • RAFFLE
- CAR REGISTRATION STARTS AT 8AM



# Saturday April 25th HHS Auto Shop Car Show 2026



## Healdsburg High School Auto Shops' 10th Annual Car Show Participant Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Car Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
Car Make: \_\_\_\_\_  
Car Model: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Important Participation Information:**

Pre-payment is preferred. However, day of registration is available

Please return this Participant Registration Form, with payment, to:

***Healdsburg High School  
Attn: Brian Osborn  
1024 Prince Ave  
Healdsburg Ca., 95448***

Vehicle entry is \$30.00 prepaid and \$35 the day of

- Car show is in the main parking lot of Healdsburg High School
  - "Day of" registration Starts at 8:00 am
  - Show time 10:00-2:00

### **• Food, Music, Vendors, and More**

Any questions contact: Brian Osborn [bosborn@husd.com](mailto:bosborn@husd.com) or (707) 479-1595

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*... Henry Ford*

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