



The Pedal Pusher

June Edition

2026



Redwood Empire Model T Club

1423 Forestview Dr,
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Official
Monthly
Publication



Redwood Empire Model T Club



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President's Message

We had an extremely successful Drive a Lizzy Day on May 9th. A HUGE thank you to Jimmy and Tracy Long for hosting this event at their beautiful home. I will not go into all the details as this will be covered by our write-up in this newsletter. What I will say is that the effort put into this event was herculean. The course was so well laid out and very easy to follow. Steve Vining was our champion instructor, and he spent countless hours taking student drivers around the course. I would like to take this opportunity to send a heartfelt thank you to our hosts; Jimmy and Tracy and our driving instructor Steve for a Job very well done.

We also had a second event at Don Johnson's home (REMTC Shop Day). Thank you to all those who attended and helped Don get his T ready for the touring season. These shop days show our club's amazing spirit. Coming together and helping our fellow members with their cars is what this club is all about. Thank you to all who participated, and I hope to have many more of these events in the future.

-Chris

2026 Board & Chairpersons

Board Members

President.....Chris Rich
Vice President.....Sebastian Ambra
Secretary.....Teresa McCallister
Treasurer.....Patty Girman
Past President.....Andy Clary

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
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).

Model T Ford Club of America

MTFCA Business Office: 310 N. 8th Street Richmond, IN 47374-3035 Phone: (765) 373-3106	Membership (renewed yearly): \$50 (US), \$60 (Canada) \$65 (Other Countries) Membership includes a subscription to the Vintage Ford magazine, events & tours, and more.
Model T Museum: 309 N. 8th Street Richmond, IN 47374-3034 Phone: (765) 488-0026	www.mtfca.com

R.E.M.T.C.

General Meeting Minutes

Round Table Pizza, Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa, CA
May 7th, 2026

President

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

Attendance

28 members in attendance. Two Board Members were present and all chairpersons were present. Sebastian Ambra, Teresa McCallister, Andy Clary were absent.

Secretary's Report

Sandy O'Halloran was sitting in for Teresa McCallister. The secretary's report for April was not read. If there are any errors or changes needed for April's report, please let Chris know.

Treasurer's Report

Patty Girman shared the monthly treasurer's report. There was a motion to accept by Steve Nelson and second by Dianna Shimkowski. Motion carried.

Tour Report

Dave Ryberg asked that anyone planning on attending the 'Tin Lizzie Driving Training', please RSVP to Dave, so he can plan accordingly. Dave also thanked the Nelson's for the Pancake Breakfast and Safety Check.

May:

- 1st and 2nd were the Bakersfield Swap Meet.
- 9th - The 'Tin Lizzie Driving Training' at Jimmy Long's
- 23rd - Shop Day at Don Johnson's
- 25th - NewSong Church Memorial Day Car Show, Windsor
- 30th - Petaluma HS 5th Annual Car Show and Shop tour

June:

- June Lake Sonoma BBQ cancelled
- 1st - Auburn Swap Meet
- 6th - Forestville Parade, meet behind Carr's Drive Inn at 9am
- Dave is working on a Sonoma Mills and Winery tour, more to follow
- 20th - Peggy Sue Car Show and Cruise, Santa Rosa fairgrounds

July:

- 4th - The Nelson's are having a USA 250th Celebration Party, RSVP, they will be BBQing Tri tip & Chicken, bring a dish.
- 5th - Penngrove Parade
- 11th - Penngrove Power and Implement Museum yearly demonstrations
- 18th - Sebastopol VFW Car Show

August:

- 11th - Montgomery HS Car Show and Shine
- 15th - T & A tour with the Sonoma Model A Club

September:

- 19th - Wheels and Wings Car Show, Pacific Coast Air Museum
- 30th through Oct 3rd - Overnight Tour to Monterey County. Coordinator: Pat O'Halloran

Please see the Pedal Pusher or website for more tour information.

Sunshine Report

Dianna Shimkowski said there was no sunshine needed this past month. Chris said Sheri Granigen took a spill but is doing well.

Scholarship Report

John Girman reported that we are beginning to run low on items for the auction. Check around and see if you have anything you would like to donate.

Continued on the next page

R.E.M.T.C.

General Meeting Minutes

Continued from previous page.

Editor's Report

Cyrus Estes reported business as usual and that the newsletter was a bit larger than usual.

Membership Report

We have 2 new folks in attendance tonight. Luke who inherited his grandfather's 1925 Roadster, and Marcia who inherited her father's 1918 Touring. Ted Shimkowski will be talking to both and getting new members packets to them.

Historian Report

Jeanne Nelson reported that she had the 35th Anniversary Tour photo album displayed at the pancake breakfast and asked how many people saw it. Two people saw it.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

Dave Rafinnelli has his 1911 Touring and his 1931 Model A Roadster for sale. If interested, see Ted Shimkowski.

Model T Moments

- John Girman was asked if he knew anyone with a brass Model T that would be interested in bringing their car to the Fairmont Hotel in SF for a taping of an ad or infomercial for the celebration of the hotel. The hotel was owned by 2 sisters and was opened in 1907. Steve Vining said he would do it and it was an all-day affair.
- Cyrus Estes shared that his last month was busy with his Model T. On the 15th he had a booth at the SRJC for the Industrial Trades and many people came by to see it. Then on the 18th he drove it to the Pancake Breakfast and the 19th for another photo shoot. All in all he put about 200 miles on his car.
- Dodge Riedy shared that he brought his car to his Grammar School Reunion. Mostly because when he was a child that car was in the garage and kids saw it with a sign that read "Not in Service".
- Chris Rich mentioned for all to watch the website for Flash Tours coming up. Which are really "food tours".

Dessert

Dessert provided by Patty Girman (on her birthday)

**Meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM (I think), approved by Steve Nelson & Karen Tan.
Minutes respectfully submitted by Sandy O'Halloran, for Teresa McCallister, REMTC Secretary.**

June Birthdays



James Harris - Bob Jones - George Jones
Vince O'Brien - Rich Randolph - Bill Rothman
Bob Salomon - Maureen Riedy
Margie Pappakostas - Dianna Shimkowski
Stella Dunne - Joan Gregoire

June Anniversaries



Fred & Nancy Byl - Ted & Tippi Grosman
Bill & Jeanette Harm - Dan & Mary McEachern
Jim & Margie Pappakostas
Harry & Karen Plevney - Steve & Cindy Vining

Sunshine

Get-well cards have been sent to Sheri Granigen & Pam Johnson

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

Cover photograph provided by Ted Shimkowski

If you would like to submit an article or photograph
for the July edition, please send it to me by June 25th

-Cyrus Estes
Editor

The Running Board

Part One

Dates of Importance

*Items in **GREEN** need coordinators! Contact Dave Ryberg if you would like to plan something.
Items in **RED** are R.E.M.T.C coordinated events.
Items with black borders are suggested events, and not affiliated with the R.E.M.T.C

June 6th: Forestville Parade

Meeting behind Carr's Drive Inn at 9 am.

June 13th: REMTC Sonoma Millworks Tour

Touring through Alexander Valley to Sonoma Millworks, with lunch at Seghesio Winery. Meeting at Tom Schopflin Fields (Cardinal Newman HS) Time TBD.
Coordinated by Dave Ryberg. More information coming soon.

June 20th: Peggy Sue Car Show

Visit www.cruiseforpeggysue.com for registration & information

June 20th: REMTC Shop Day

Held at Andy Clary's house, meeting at 9:00 am

June 21st: Father's Day "Show and Shine" Car Show

Held at Julliard Park, Santa Rosa. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.
See www.nceca.org/registration/cart for further information

June 21st - 26th: Adirondack Experience MTFCA National Tour

Lake George, New York, New York. See www.mtfca.com/events for more details.

July 4th: USA 250th Celebration

Coordinated by the Nelsons, serving tri-tip. Please RSVP.

July 5th: Penngrove Parade

July 11th: Penngrove Power & Implement Museum Yearly Demo

The Running Board Part Two

Dates of Importance

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July 18th: Sebastopol VFW Car Show

August: Montgomery H.S Alumni Car Show (TBD)

August 5th: Model T Museum Homecoming 2026, MTFCA

Model T Museum, 309 N 8th Street, Richmond, Indiana.
See www.mtfca.com/events for more details.

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

**September 8th - 12th: Model T's, The Mother Road,
And More - MTFCA National Tour**

Joplin, Missouri. See www.mtfca.com/events for more details.

September 19th: Wings & Wheels Car Show

October 7th - 11th: Overnight Tour to Monterey County

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

2026 Drive a Lizzy Day

Photos & article by Ted Shimkowski



On May 9th, Jimmy & Tracy Long hosted our 2nd “Drive a Lizzy Day” at their house, which turned out to be a super event. Jimmy & Tracy have a large piece of property, so Jimmy was able to lay out a very nice and lengthy driving course where new drivers could learn how to drive a Model T without fear of modern traffic or other obstacles. Jimmy was very gracious by providing two of his Model T’s for driver learning, and those cars really put on some miles. The cars were kept quite busy throughout the day with Jimmy, Steve Vining, Chris Rich, and Dave Ryberg acting as driving instructors for those who wanted to give it a try. It’s hard to tell exactly how many people experienced the thrill of driving a Model T, but it’s safe to say there were between 10-12 folks who gave it a try, perhaps even more. Some folks like Karen Tan took multiple turns at trying to master driving a Model T, which is always highly encouraged for new drivers and she was having lots of fun.

The event had numerous people in attendance, I would estimate somewhere between 30-40 people attended, but with the wide expanse of the property, it never seemed crowded. Jimmy and Tracy opened up their home, shop, garage, and man cave for all to see, which provided eye candy for those of us into cars, tractors, airplanes, and a beautifully decorated home. Jimmy and Tracy provided some delicious BBQ’d tri-tip steaks while everyone else brought a dish to share, such as baked beans, various salads, and of course desserts so, there was no shortage of delicious food. Mother Nature gave us some beautiful weather that day, allowing everyone to enjoy the mild temperatures and sunny weather.

This event took a lot of work and planning to execute and Jimmy & Tracy did it wonderfully and the club is very thankful for their efforts and hopefully we will see some of these new drivers in the not too distant future.

More photos on the following page

2026 Drive a Lizzy Day



A Day at The Movies

Article by John Girman

Photos by Steve Vining and John Girman

I received a call from an agent asking if I knew of a Model T available for a video shoot in San Francisco. They wanted as early a Brass Era Model T as possible. I called Steve Vining and asked if I could offer him as a possibility. When he agreed, I gave the agent, Alan, Steve's contact information. Alan looked at photos of Steve's Model T on our website and they reached an agreement. Steve asked me if I wanted to go along on the video shoot and, of course, I did.

They were filming a commercial commemorating the 120-year anniversary of the building of the Fairmont Hotel on Nob Hill in San Francisco. They would film the two sisters, who built the Fairmont, arriving in a Model T and seeing the completed hotel for the first time. After this segment, the crew would go to New York to film the opening of a Fairmont there in the '30s or '40s. Then the crew would travel back to Los Angeles for a video of the opening of another hotel in the '60s. Period-correct cars would be used in each segment. We trailed the Model T to S.F. on a Saturday, arriving at the hotel at about 1:00 pm. I have to admit that Steve handled the hills and the crowded, narrow S.F. streets with skill. On one particularly steep hill, I wasn't sure his Ram would have enough traction and that the straps would hold the Model T, but we made it. The crew were amazed when Steve hand-cranked the Model T and drove to the designated spot in front of the hotel. We were met by Alan, the agent, who stayed during the entire shoot. The police had blocked off the street at the hotel front, so unloading was easy. Steve parked the truck and trailer further up the block, out of the way. We soon attracted the attention of passers-by and they and the crew had many questions, which we answered. In the opening scene, there were the two sisters, a "chauffeur," a hotel greeter and two bell boys. They were using a boom camera and a high-tech steady cam. The director and cameraman appeared to be Italian or Italian-Swiss and the rest of the fairly large crew were Americans, including the two make-up girls and a dog handler whose job it was to take care of the service dog of one of the "sisters." The two sisters would be sitting in the Model T. The hotel greeter opened the car door and helped them out of the car, while the chauffeur waited behind the wheel. The two sisters walked to the front of the hotel, stopped, and looked up at the hotel with admiration. A fairly simple scene. But they must have filmed it over twenty times with minor changes each time.

Sometimes the chauffeur sat quietly; sometimes, he adjusted the hand brake. (I was impressed that they conferred with Steve about how to open the Model T door and, whether they could move the parking brake prior to them touching anything.) At one point, we moved the Model T about a foot and angled it slightly more. All minor things, but they filmed it over and over, first with the boom camera and then with the steady cam for close-ups. Next, they brought in extras, wearing really good period costumes, to fill the street and they filmed from the hotel to across the street as the two sisters walked from the car to the hotel front, again and again, with the extras in the background. They had given Steve and me a small tablet so we could see what the camera was seeing. Pretty cool. The next scene was a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the "S.F. mayor" officiating. It required even more extras. The ceremony was captured by a period photographer with a large bellows camera on a large wooden tripod to record the scene using flash powder. Because flash powder is considered a pyrotechnic, they had to have an S.F. fire marshal monitor the scene. Steve and I chatted with him for a while during the shoot. At this point our portion of the shoot was finished. The cast and crew would be filming interior shots and a ballroom scene. They anticipated that they would finish about 1:00 am. We loaded up the Model T, it was about 6:00 pm, and we were headed home. It was a really interesting day and I'm glad I got to see the production. I think Steve enjoyed it, too.





Sorry No Fireworks

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AMERICA

250 Years

COME JOIN US JULY 4TH

RING THE LIBERTY BELL

PLACE: 320 Liberty Road, Petaluma

TIME NOON or so

We will BBQ Tri Tip and Chicken

Bring a dish to share and your favorite drink

RSVP TO

STEVE/JEANNE NELSON

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... Henry Ford

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