

# THE PEDAL PUSHER

Official Monthly Publication  
REDWOOD EMPIRE MODEL T CLUB

REDWOOD EMPIRE MODEL T CLUB  
P.O. Box 1058  
Forestville, CA 95436



*October*  
*2021*



# THE PEDAL PUSHER



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Flash Tour Definition:** a spontaneous tour, scheduled just days before it happens.

We had our first official "Flash tour" yesterday. Looking back it has been almost 2 years since we had the last one. Yes!! This seems impossible but with the strange past couple of years we have had it's correct.

Special thanks to Larry and Robin for putting this one on. We had 10 T's and a nice mix of attendee's from some of our elders (but still amazingly young at heart), Mal, Gwen, Con and Fran to our youngest member, Cyrus. We took a leisurely drive on some back roads and ended up at Walnut Park in Petaluma where we had our lunch and social. Gwen commented that there were a couple of roads she has never been on which was a surprise considering all of the touring that she and Mal have done over the years.

Speaking of our youngest member, Cyrus showed us some pictures of the speedster he is slowly putting together. The club has been great in supporting him on this build and I know we are all looking forward to seeing him show up at one of our tours proudly driving his own "T". Keep up the good work Cyrus!!!

The end of the year is coming to an end quickly. We still have a lot of events coming up between now and then. We'll keep you all posted on them so please attend as many as you can.

*"Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." Henry Ford*

Happy touring, *Mike Chirhart*, REMTC President

## CHAPTER INFORMATION

The Pedal Pusher is a monthly publication of Redwood Empire Model T Club (REMTC)  
P.O. Box 1058, Forestville, CA 95436

The Dues are \$30 a year  
for an individual or for a couple.  
Students - no fee - includes only the  
emailed REMTC newsletter.  
Charter members at age 85 - Honorary

The club holds a general meeting on the  
first Thursday of the month at the  
Round Table Pizza Restaurant's meeting room  
on Marlow Rd., in Santa Rosa.  
Members and guests are welcome to attend.

**REMTC Website**  
[www.remtc.org](http://www.remtc.org)

## NATIONAL AFFILIATION

REMTC is an official non-profit chapter of  
the Model T Ford Club of America (MTFCA),  
P.O. Box 996 Richmond, IN 47375-0996  
Ph:(765) 373-3106. Email [admin@mtfca.com](mailto:admin@mtfca.com)  
Website: <http://www.mtfca.com>  
National dues are \$40 per year which includes  
the *Vintage Ford* magazine subscription.

## 2021 BOARD MEMBERS

President	Mike Chirhart
Vice President	Steve Vining
Secretary	Jean Chirhart
Treasurer	Cindy Vining
Past-President	Andy Clary

## CHAIRPERSONS

Tour Chairman	Larry Summerfield
Newsletter Editor	Nanette Chuck
Historian	Jeanne Nelson
Sunshine Reporter	Dianna Shimkowski
Membership	Ted Shimkowski
Librarian	Patty Girman
Webmaster	Steve Vining

## PRESIDENTS OF REDWOOD EMPIRE MODEL T CLUB

1991, 1992, 1993 – Vince Gregoire  
1994 – Matt Reilly  
1995 – Don Weese  
1996 – Bob Butler  
1997 – Ted Grosman  
1998 – Lloyd Butler  
1999 – Ron Mazzucchi  
2000 – Gwen Brown  
2001 – Don Fluit  
2003 – George Jones  
2007 – Steve Nelson  
2008 – Jeannine Clary  
2009, 2010 – Bill Newlin  
2002, 2004, 2012 – Chris Rich  
2013, 2014 – Steve Vining  
2015, 2016 – Richard Chuck  
2017 – Don Johnson  
2005, 2006, 2011, 2018, 2019 – Andy Clary  
2020, 2021 – Mike Chirhart

September 2, 2021

# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

## Redwood Empire Model T Club

Held at Round Table Pizza, Marlow Rd., Santa Rosa, CA

**Vice President:** Steve Vining called the meeting to order at 7:00.

**Attendance:** There were 19 members in attendance. Board Members absent were Mike & Jean Chirhart. Chairpersons absent were Larry Summerfield & Nanette Chuck.

**Secretary's Report:** Substituting for Secretary Jean Chirhart, was Jeannine Clary. Jeannine read last month's secretary's minutes, and there were no corrections. Minutes were approved by Ted Shimkowski & John Girman.

**Treasure's Report:** Cindy Vining read the treasurer's report, and went over the expenses for the overnigher. There will be a discussion regarding a small miscalculation of funds for the overnigher. Report was approved by Dianna Shimkowski & Andy Clary.

**Tour Report:** Steve Vining gave the tour report in Larry Summerfield's absence. The overnigher had 13 cars with 27 members participating. Steve noted a calculation error had occurred when figuring the final cost of the banquet costs. Taxes had been neglected to be added to the final cost, and there will be further discussion at our next meeting. Please give YELP reviews to the restaurants that helped make our tour so tasty. All of them could be helped by good reviews by all of us.

October 23<sup>rd</sup>, will be the Octoberfest at the Nelson's. Christmas banquet is still on schedule for December 5<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00pm, at the VILLA Restaurant.

**Sunshine Report:** Dianna Shimkowski reported that she sent a get-well card to Joe Konvalinka. She also noted that Steve Cavalli is in good spirits.

**Librarian Report:** Patty Girman reported no activity.

**Webmaster Report:** Steve Vining reported that the Ukiah tour photo's have been uploaded to the website.

**Editor's Report:** Nanette Chuck was absent. No report.

**Membership Report:** Ted Shimkowski reported no new memberships.

**Historian Report:** Jeanne Nelson reported that she had stories from the coast tour. Ted Shimkowski has pictures from the Ukiah Tour.

**Old Business:** There was no old business to discuss.

**New Business:** Because of the low meeting attendance, we agreed to not hold this month's auction scholarship fundraiser, and will resume at our next months meeting.

**Model T Moments:** Ukiah Tour Notes: Remember to fill your gas tanks before embarking up hills. Brakes got too hot, carry extra parts such as Coils, etc. Steve Vining ordered spark plugs and fan belts for the trouble truck tool box.

Story was told from the Ukiah tour, where the Girman's car would not start, they called Chris Rich, and to make a long story short, the jack on the trouble truck would not cooperate, and the rickety Model T jack, full of rust and history, came to the rescue. To hear more, ask John Girman to tell you this story.

**Adjourned:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.

**Dessert:** Thank you to Chris Rich for bringing this month's dessert of cupcakes.

Respectfully submitted by, *Jeannine Clary*, Substituting for Jean Chirhart



"PROPER DISTANCE TO HIM WAS BUNK, THEY  
PULLED HIM OUT OF SOME GUYS TRUNK."

... Verse by the side of the Road



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



Patrick O'Halloran - 1

Fern Newlin - 5

Robin Summerfield - 5

Jauneice Bobrow - 7

Dick Winterhalder - 10

Pete Rich - 10

Fran Farauco - 13

Judy Smith - 18

Jeanette Harm - 23

Rochelle Berizzi - 24

Jack Mulkey - 29

Fred Byl



*Bill & Fern Newlin - 7th*

*Dick & Anne-Marie Winterhalder - 10th*

*Steve & Debbie Cavalli - 25th*

## TOURS and EVENTS

**OCTOBER 23, 2021**

Octoberfest at Nelson's

**NOVEMBER 6, 2021**

Vintage Clothing Swap and Garage Day T Tour

**DECEMBER 5, 2021**

Christmas Banquet at the VILLA Restaurant 5PM

## 2021 Meeting Dates

### MEMBERS & GUESTS, PLEASE JOIN US

JANUARY 7<sup>th</sup> - ZOOM

FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup> - ZOOM

MARCH 4<sup>th</sup> - ZOOM

APRIL 1<sup>st</sup> - ZOOM

MAY 6<sup>th</sup> - ZOOM

JUNE 3 - Chirhart's yard -; REMTC provided pizza

JULY 1<sup>st</sup> - Round Table Pizza, -- dessert: Dianna Shimkowski

AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup> - Round Table Pizza - dessert: Jeannie Clary

SEPTEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup> - Round Table Pizza - dessert: Chris Rich

**If you haven't had your COVID vaccinations,  
a mask is required.**

**OCTOBER 7<sup>th</sup> - Round Table Pizza  
dessert: Pam Johnson**

NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> - dessert: Gwen Brown

DECEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup> - dessert: Patty Girman



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**Date:** Saturday, October 23, 2021

**Time:** Meet at 10 am

Lunch at Noon +/-

Brats, Sauerkraut, Potato Salad

Coffee and Water

Bring your own Beer

**Where:** Nelsons'

**Please RSVP to Steve 795-8002**

320 Liberty Road, Petaluma

Bring your Model-T for a short tour



## VINTAGE CLOTHING SWAP

AND

## GARAGE DAY T TOUR

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER SIXTH, 2021**  
**11 AM TO 2 PM**

Meet at Chirhart's 3885 Holland Avenue, Santa Rosa  
707-545-5883

**LADIES:** Swap clothing items will not be priced or tagged. Donations accepted.  
We ask for 10% of donation to go to club scholarship fund.  
Anyone wishing to sell items will need to have price tags and name on each item.  
Items may be brought to our REMTC meeting in advance  
or come early on the 6th to set up. Loan of clothing racks needed.  
Snacks will be provided  
Event Hosts: Jean Chirhart & Dianna Shimkowski

**GENTLEMEN:** Model T Tour to a restaurant.  
Event Hosts: Mike Chirhart & Ted Shimkowski





# TRAILER-LESS TOUR TO UKIAH

Hosted by Steve and Cindy Vining, and John and Patty Girman

The morning was foggy and the air was cold as 25 Model T's hopped into their cars for the Trailer-less Tour to Ukiah. Chris Rich jumped into his truck to pick up donuts and coffee and retrieve the trouble truck trailer stored in Forestville. Everyone arrived at the starting point in Santa Rosa, poured a cup of coffee and debated as to which donut to choose. Chris had set up the breakfast bar on the bed of the trailer. After Cindy Vining handed out the tour books, Steve Vining gathered the group for instructions about the day's adventure to the town of Ukiah. Steve and Cindy led the way, followed by Richard and Nanette Chuck; Larry and Robin Summerfield; Mal and Gwen Brown; Pete Rich; Ted Shimkowski; Vince O'Brien; Pat O'Halloran; Bob and Linda Salomon; Mike and Jean Chirhart; Steve and Jeanne Nelson; Steve and Debbie Cavalli; Andy and Jeannine Clary; with John and Patty Girman bringing up the rear and Chris Rich behind in the trouble truck.

They headed down Old Redwood Highway toward their first destination, Geyersville for lunch. Although almost everyone had traveled this route many times, it was still good to be out and recognize familiar landmarks and note the ripeness of the grapes as we traveled past acres of vineyards. It would soon be the crush. When we arrived in Geyersville, we headed north out of town to the Geyersville Inn. They seated us on the outside deck attached to the restaurant. Patty had arranged for a special brunch menu with everything from French toast and breakfast items to salads to fish and chips and lunch specials. Vanessa, our server, was gracious and patient as we ordered and asked for substitutions and special items. We lingered over brunch, setting the tone for the tour – drive a little; eat; relax and socialize; repeat.

We soon headed down the road, arriving mid-afternoon at the Hampton Inn in Ukiah. It didn't take everyone long to check in and head down to the pool. Some had donned bathing suits and were cooling off in the water, a few were napping and others found the shade on the pool deck and were eating snacks and sharing beverages. It was soon time for dinner and we drove over to the Be-Bop Diner a few blocks away. We parked our cars on display around the front of the diner and headed inside. We were greeted with a variety of burgers; fat crispy fries; and delicious old-fashioned, creamy milkshakes. We were teenagers again. After heading back to the hotel, some folks went to the pool area and some found the comfy, plush pillows calling to them.

Our second day had us up and ready a little earlier. Steve told the group that Orr Springs Road, which we had planned to take, was closed. Bummer! We moved to Plan B without a hitch and soon we were headed out of town toward the Redwoods and smell of pines and the ocean. We stopped for a break in Navarro. Here some of us bought sandwiches for a later picnic lunch. The town of Mendocino, our destination today, has no water. They have tanker trucks hauling water in and that is sporadic at best. On any given day, restaurants and shops may be open or closed or have reduced hours, depending on the availability of water. We arrived on a good day. Some of our group headed off to find a restaurant. Some just got ice cream and/or chocolate and walked around exploring the small town. Those who had brought a picnic lunch found one of the tables overlooking the ocean and enjoyed the view of one of the



many Mendocino coves. We kept an eye out for Angela Lansbury (Mrs. Fletcher in “Murder She Wrote”), riding her bicycle into this quaint little town but didn’t see her. We headed back on much of the same route we had taken to get there. Things always look different in reverse. It was hot as our Model T’s chugged up the 2000 ft climb back toward Ukiah. When we got to Navarro, Chris changed the plugs and the carburetor on our car to see if it would improve its running. It didn’t. And, unfortunately, the Chuck’s car was on the trouble truck with a holed radiator and Chris was taking Richard and Nanette back to Sebastopol to drop off their T and get their modern car. The pool at the hotel, once again, seemed to be the attraction for the evening. Everyone was just enjoying being together again after so many months of caution during this Covid-19 pandemic.

We did not tour on the third day. Instead, the city of Ukiah was celebrating the grand reopening of their newly renovated downtown area and they asked if we could display our cars as part of the festivities. This was a very hot day. At one point the thermometer read 106 degrees. In the afternoon, John had arranged a docent-led tour of the Grace Hudson museum and neighboring Sun House and gardens. The docents were very informative and this was well received by our members, particularly the description of the many types of baskets woven by the Pomo Indians. Late afternoon was spent recovering from the heat before heading over to Hanger 39 for our banquet. This restaurant had just opened and was located right next to the hotel. We were the first banquet they did. And did they do a fine job. We had a large private room at the back of the restaurant. The tri-tip and herb-crusted chicken breast was cooked perfectly. The penne pasta, sautéed squash, mashed potatoes and butter leaf lettuce salad were more than tasty. Steve and Cindy had brought some of their wine, made from their grapes, and this was the perfect accompaniment. And the surprise was the dessert. When we talked to the manager just a couple weeks prior, she didn’t know what they would come up with. But the crème-filled, billowy crème puffs with blackberry garnish and grated lime rind on top were the perfect ending to the meal. Once again we were all back on the pool deck to end our day with a beautiful evening and great company.

We took our time on Sunday morning. It was only an hour, Model T driving time, to our lunch destination in Cloverdale. We arrived at the Hamburger Ranch a little early and had the awning area to ourselves. After ordering and eating, we were ready to leave just as a noisy group was arriving. We said our goodbyes and headed back toward Santa Rosa and our respective homes. Another memorable Model T Overnighter is in the books.

Thanks to Chris Rich, who had the idea for a trailer-less tour last year but had to shut that down because of the Covid restrictions. Also, thanks Chris for driving the trouble truck and handling car issues. Thanks to Andy and Jeannine Clary and to Steve and Jeanne Nelson for their advice on routes and possible activities. And thanks to Ukiah club member, Dale Morrison, who scouted out Orr Springs Road for us and informed us of the road closure, suggesting alternative routes. Thank you all for your help. We especially want to thank Steve and Cindy Vining for all they did. What a fun time we had putting this trip together with you and we certainly enjoyed all the meals we shared.

*John and Patty Girman*



Photo at left of **Members on Tour**

Left to right:

Steven Chase, Donna Jones,

Jim and Margie Pappakostas

On tour to Madonna Inn

September 20, 2021





## ANTIQUE AUTOS IN HISTORY PARK

It was a beautiful day at this September 19, 2021 San Jose event which takes you to the best of yesteryear. The Chuck's even spotted the Cavalli's exploring the museums, watching dancers, singers, and picnicking.





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... *Henry Ford*

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