



The Ruckstell Review

Published Monthly by the
MODEL T Ford CLUB
of San Diego



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March 2023



March 13-16

Palm Springs Tour

Postponed

In order to allow Tony Bowker to regain his health, this tour, which he organized, has been postponed to **November 2023**.

Be sure to join us at the March 8 General Meeting at Marie Callender's in La Mesa and the April 27 pre-run past Campo Train Museum with BBQ lunch at Janna's afterward. If you would like to just come for the BBQ, let Janna know. More info in the April newsletter.

OCT 7-8 SPEEDSTER RUN

HOTEL INFO

See bottom of page 2

UPCOMING EVENTS

2023

Mar 8 General Meeting

Mar 13-16 Palm Springs Tour postponed until November.

Mar 17-18 Chickasha Swap Meet

Mar 24-26 MTFCA Annual Meeting

Apr 14-16 Swap Meet at Tulare

Apr 27 Pre-Tour Campo Train Museum with BBQ lunch at Janna's

May 10 General Meeting

Jun 17 Chula Vista Nature Center run

Oct 7-8 Speedster Run

General Meetings are held at Marie Callender's in La Mesa, 6 pm.

The *Ruckstell Review* is the monthly publication of the Model T Ford Club of San Diego. Annual dues are \$20. The club holds a dinner meeting on the second Wednesday in odd-numbered months and tours during even-numbered months. The date of the next event can be obtained by calling any of the club officers or by checking the Upcoming Events listing in this issue.

The club is a Chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America, PO Box 996, Richmond, IN 47375-0996. Membership information for the "National" can be obtained from any officer. The main publication of the MTFCA is the *Vintage Ford*, which alone is well worth the national dues of \$50 per year. Lifetime memberships are also available.

National Website: <https://www.mtfca.com>

SD Website: www.mtfcsd.org

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President's Message

March 2023

Hi all,

I'd like to take this time to invite everyone to our March 8th general meeting at Marie Callender's. We have a good time and it would be great to have additional members in attendance.

The board is in the planning stages of our October speedster run. It will be staged in Escondido this year. A route has been proposed. A hotel has been selected. More on this to come. We will need volunteers for Trouble Truck and check point monitors.

The Palm Springs tour has been postponed until November.

Keep watching this newsletter for future tours. Campo Train tour and lunch at Janna's April 27th is next on the schedule. Also, June 17 we'll have a test run for the National to the Chula Vista Nature Center. We will be touring the wildlife center at the bay front; leaving from and returning to the casino.

John Chapman

SPEEDSTER RUN

OCTOBER 7-8, 2023

SAVE THE DATE! Application coming soon!

Best Western, 1700 Seven Oakes Rd, Escondido (off El Norte Pkwy). Rooms are in Karen Pepe's name. 760-740-1700 to change one into your name (direct # to hotel).

With adjoining RV Park (Escondido RV Resort-escondidorv.com)



Under
the
Hood

LICENSE PLATE RESTORATION

by Keith Townsend

Disclaimer: I am not a license plate guy.

However, when a couple of really rough license plate presented themselves at the 2022 Portland Swap Meet at bargain prices, they found their way home for our 1915 and 1919 Model T Fords. A couple of interesting things to note about 1915 Oregon licenses plates are: 1) They are de-bossed. That is, the numbers and letters are not raised; they are stamped down, or recessed into the plate. 2) The license plates were tin plated before they were painted. 3) The background paint (yellow) is *only* on the raised areas. The black paint on the debossed area was painted directly onto the tin plating. When the old paint was removed, there was no evidence of yellow paint under the black numbers and letters.

One would think that tin plating before painting would help to prevent rust, but these 107 year old plates were very rusty nevertheless. Paint was stripped away, and rust was removed. A significant amount of "spot putty" was required to fill in the rust pits followed by numerous exercises of paint primer, sand, repeat...

Undoubtedly, there are specific color codes for specific years for license plates but basically, 1915 license plates are yellow with black lettering, and 1919 license plates are orange with black lettering. Suitable colors of yellow and orange in the finest of quality rattle can paint were located from the big box store and paint step #1 was completed.



Putty, sand, paint primer, sand, paint primer, sand...



Note on license plate 8827, the second 8 is upside down.
The large part of the 8 is on top!



The 1915 License plate is debossed. The mounting
slits are much narrower than on the 1919.



The 1919 license plate is embossed like the vast
majority of Oregon license plates.



Craft Smart Oil-Based Paint Pens, three in a package!



The paint shelf yielded a small can of black "One Shot Sign Painters' Lettering Enamel" that was left over from another project. One Shot Lettering Enamel flows very nicely, making it a favorite for pin strippers. All that was needed was to complete the license plate project was a selection of brushes – some wide brushes for wide areas, some small brushes for small areas, and some squared-off brushes for, well, squared-off areas. One advantage of license plate lettering and numbering is if you don't like your work, you can easily use paint thinner on a cloth to wipe it off and repaint what you didn't like. However, it seemed like I did that... A LOT.

Deferring to my restoration friend, Mr. Google, I stumbled upon an incredible product: An oil-based paint pen made by a company called Craft Smart. Think of a Marks-a-lot chisel tip marker and a Sharpie permanent fine point marker, but delivering black oil-based paint. Cool, huh? A quick search of where I could find such a magical product led me 2½ miles away from home to Michael's. Back at home, \$11.99 later, with a 3-pack paint arsenal, I was ready to complete the project. The paint pens still take a steady hand, but they were much easier to work with than enamel paint and a brush.

I'm sure that any professional license plate restorer reading this would be screaming, "No, no, no... don't listen to *anything* this guy is telling you!" But the procedure and products outlined above worked for me.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Kathy Hafer
- 7th Candace Taylor
- 13th Joy Brown
- 14th Debbie Skordilis
- 17th Joanne West
- 18th Bill Ottemann
- 22nd Penny Rossi
- 27th Debbie Sherman
- 28th Art Wilson

NAME TAG ORDERING

Have you lost your nice engraved name tag, never ordered one, or just want to update? Now is the time to get one. Fill out this form, send payment to our treasurer at MTFCSO, PO Box 23324, San Diego, CA 92193 and your name tag will be ordered.

TO ORDER YOUR NAMETAG:

Click the link below to get started:

<https://forms.gle/VUMczpw6LfJg65QW9>

From the editor...

Thank you for your newsletter contributions: Karen Pepe, Jerry Yeadon, Steven Chase, and Dan Seeman.

If you have articles, photos or a tech article to share, please send them along!

Diane

Deadline for submissions for the April 2023

newsletter: Mar. 25. Please send articles, tour info, pictures, “for sale” items to: dianamac2015@gmail.com.

Business-Card Sized Ads are free to club members. Send a clean scan, artwork or photo of your card via email to Diane.



An Anthropomorphic Tale by The Model T Ford Who Traveled From Wenatchee to Mexico (Part 3)

By Jerry Yeadon

I am a 1921 Model T Ford Touring car telling my story.

One day I heard a strange knocking noise way down inside my engine. I don't remember the farmer putting oil in my engine for a long time and I wondered what was going to happen. The noise continued and in the fall I was parked behind the barn. Most of the winter I was covered with snow. During that time the water in my block froze but it did not crack because there was not much water in it. So I sat parked behind the barn for several years.

Finally one day the farm was sold and the people all moved away. The house was torn down but the barn was left standing. Someone came and took my frame and wheels away and left the rest of me in a pile behind the barn. There I was for many years abandoned and what paint was left on my metal slowly rusted away.

One cool fall day a new maroon 1967 Ford Victoria pulling a green open trailer stopped by the barn. Two men and three young boys got out, looked me over, and loaded all of my parts into the trailer. We went to several abandoned farms where they found other parts like mine and loaded them in the trailer with me. Three hours later they unloaded all of the parts from the trailer into an old garage in Puyallup near Tacoma.

I sat in the dark garage for several years which was a good thing because it was warm and dry and I stopped rusting away. During a hot day one summer a Silver 1978 Cadillac Seville pulling an orange U Haul trailer pulled up to the garage and the two men who found me at the farm loaded me and some of the other parts into the trailer. Three days later I was unloaded into a storage shed behind a home in Chula Vista.

A year later I was transferred to a storage garage on Main St. in Chula Vista. Six months later I was moved to a home with a large garage in Chula Vista. As I did not have a frame my new owner bought one at a swap meet from a man who came from Arizona. The frame was cracked on the right side and had several loose rivets in the front. (To be continued)

Some things I have noticed during my first few weeks while living in San Miguel:

- People in general are very friendly and greet you while walking in the street.
- There are no stop signs or stop lights in the main part of San Miguel. Pedestrians and cars stop at each intersection and politely take turns.
- Most homes seem to have some type of business activity.

FOR SALE

1915 Ford Touring

Larry Blair/Tin Shed built engine w/ Scat crank and aluminum high compression head.

Ruckstell two-speed axle, rebuilt by Norm Kling w/new axles.

Rocky Mountain Brakes, relined by Andy's Garage.

New oval tube brass radiator, solid wheels, new Classtique top, Speedometer; year of manufacture license plates.

Magnet mounted brake & signal lights.

Starts, runs and drives great.



Located in Los Angeles; \$14,500 OBO

Call: Lee or son Steven at (323) 497-0601.

We are selling this workhorse because we just finished restoring its replacement, a 1911 Ford Touring.



LOGO CONTEST!!!

Enter by April 15

**San Diego Model T Club members only:
We need some great National Tour 2024 logo ideas!**

Creator of the winning logo receives:

**1 year pre-paid membership in San Diego MTFC for 2024
Free National Tour T-shirt AND *Bragging Rights***

Guidelines:

Size: For front of t-shirts: approx. 3-1/2" wide x 2-1/2" tall color logo-any shape.
No smaller than 3"x3" when text is added above and/or below logo.

Text: "MTFCA 2024 National Tour" and "Hosted by MTFCSD"

Text must be readable in the smallest size version of your logo (T-shirt front)
Please include the tour name in your design, text (above) to be added later.

Tour name: "Trails Less Traveled", try to include "San Diego" in the design.

Will also be used in Vintage Ford ads for the tour and will be enlarged for
T-shirt backs.

Send entries to: dianemac2015@gmail.com by April 15.

MTFCSD

2023 Board Meetings

Held at Maggie's Café 5:30pm

Serra Mesa

April 12

August 9

June 14

October 11

2024 National Tour Planning Meeting

March 23, 2022 at 6 p.m.

Tour is: June 16-21, 2024 in San Diego

Planning is in progress, please join us at an upcoming planning meeting.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 23 at 6 p.m. at Chuck West's home, 2643 Greyling Dr, SD

R.S.V.P. to JannaLaughon@gmail.com

FUNNIES

Contributed by Dan Seeman





**SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION
OF CAR CLUBS MEETUP
EVERY 1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
MARCH THROUGH OCTOBER**



FREE

5-7P

AWARDS | MUSIC | FOOD | FUN

OPEN TO ALL VEHICLES, CLUBS & INDIVIDUALS

LOCATED AT:

**THE
JOLLY
JOKER
TAVERN**

5225 Kearny Villa Rd 92123

The Jolly Joker
shares a parking lot with
Sonic Drive-In

March 7

July 4 | 2pm-5pm

Special time for this show ONLY!

April 4

August 1

May 2

September 5

June 6

October 3

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OPENING DAY

2023

APRIL
12



WEDNESDAYS 5PM - 7:30PM
THRU
OCTOBER 2023

FREE

**FULL STREET
CLOSURE**



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Tulare

PRE-WAR SWAP MEET

and

AUTOMOTIVE JAMBOREE

APRIL 14-15, 2023

Tulare County Fairgrounds

Friday & Saturday 7am-5pm



ADMISSION

Only

\$

5

Free Parking

Kids 12 & Under Free

All Service Members FREE with Valid I.D.

**\$10 Wristband includes Pre-Swap Thursday,
Friday & Saturday Admission**

TULARE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS 620 SOUTH K STREET TULARE, CA. 93274
559.686.4707



Registration for 27th Annual SCMTC Speedster Endurance Run and Low Land Tour

Sponsored by the Sun Country Model T Club, Phoenix, Arizona

Tucson, Arizona April 1 and 2, 2023

Driver: _____ Navigator: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Car Make and Model: _____ Year: _____ Number: _____

Entry as: Speedster Class _____ Other Class _____

Insurance Company Name: _____

Policy Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Speedster Run including Driver and Navigator \$135 \$ 135

Additional Persons for Sunday Banquet \$40.00 ea. \$40 x ____ = \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: SCMTC

Mail your registration by Monday,

Hotel Reservations – for SCMTC block rate of \$125 + taxes/night.

03/21/23 to:

Make reservations by 3/10/2023 to

obtain this rate. Mention Sun Country Model T Car Club Block

Dick Rash
4227 E Desert Forest Trail
Cave Creek, AZ 85331
480-656-6721 (leave a message if no ans.)
rrash@cox.net

Desert Diamond Casino
7350 S Nogales Hwy
Tucson, AZ 85756
520-342-3012

If you require RV parking information, contact Dick Rash.

Minutes of the Board Meeting February 8, 2023

Held at Maggies Cafe, San Diego

Start Time: 6:34 PM New President John C. opened the meeting

Attendees: John C., Janna, Susie, Diane, Kirby, Karen, John, Chuck, Rick

President John C:

Discussed the lack of sources for Model T repair, and whether to advertise in the newsletter. If you can recommend anyone, please let Diane know.

We volunteered Chuck to be our new historian. We all approved.

Vice President Janna:

New membership report, particularly for those still owing dues. A motion was made to pay Kirt Simpson's dues because he sent all of us to the Falconry in 2021. The motion was seconded and approved

Sunshine Chair John W.

Was not able to attend due to health issues

Treasurer Susie:

There are funds to keep the club running.

Secretary Karen:

Filed the IRS and FTB 2022 tax returns, 2/7/23

I also submitted information for the October 7-8 2023 speedster run originally based out of Temecula, but that has changed due to the extremely high hotel prices at that time of year in Temecula

Member at Large Kirby:

He and John C. attended the car club council meeting at the museum so new member Kirby could become familiar with the process. All about car shows. There is a website where you can find all about where and when this years' car shows are. The website is: <https://www.sandiegoassociationofcarclubs.org/> for those interested.

Jim Train approached us regarding tours which are not presented during the week. Was hoping to see more tours on the weekend. We have a few members not retired who would attend. Jim also volunteered coordinating cars for the future San Diego parades

Tour Director Steven was not present, so Kirby filled us in on the following tours:

March 13th – 17th, SD Cancelled.

Palm Springs tour has been temporarily delayed, future dates TBD

March 22nd – 26th, National MTFCA meeting in Las Vegas. There is a tour put on by the Orange County MTFC traveling from Orange County to Parker to Las Vegas.

Contact Steven Chase

MINUTES of Feb 8, 2023 board meeting, cont.

April 1st – 2nd – Sun Country Model T's (AZ) Annual Speedster Run out of Tucson, AZ, see attached flyer

April 13th – 16th – the Tulare Swap Meet at the fairgrounds at Tulare, with a tour following put on by the HCCA

April 27th – Pre-National tour to Campo Train Museum, followed by lunch at Janna's. If you can't make the tour, you can come to the luncheon.

Contact John Chapman

April 27th – SD National pre-tour to Campo Train Station, (not stopping) then meeting at Janna's home, BBQ at the end of the tour, attend the bbq if you cannot attend the tour! Please RSVP

Contact Janna Laughon or John Chapman

May 7th – All Ford (all years) Picnic Santee Lake from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Contact John Davidson (619) 729-7252

May 28th – June 4th – Golden Gate Tour

Contact Steven Chase

June 24th – SD Pre run tour from Sycuan to Nature Museum, circuitous tour returning to Sycuan, or Otay/Chula Vista tour

Contact John Chapman

July 4th – Coronado 4th of July Parade

September 10th – Potential Italy tour, Contact Steven Chase

September 22nd – Nickel Era Tour, St George, Utah

Contact John Manifor (562-697-2075)

October 7th – 8th – SD Speedster Run beginning in Escondido, CA

Contact John C. or Janna

October 11th – 15th Ryan Ramble-Cayucas, Hearst Castle, Morro Rock, etc.

Contact Steven Chase

October 22nd – 25th California Rendezvous, Santa Maria, CA

Editor Diane: plenty to add to the newsletter!

Meeting was adjourned at 7:22

2024 National Tour news:

June 16th – 21st, 2024 – National Model T tour will be a San Diego based tour, and we are hosting, Orange County Model T club is willing to assist.

March 23, 2023 - The next National tour meeting will be held at Chuck West's home at 6 p.m., please RSVP to Janna

There is a contest for a logo that is needed for this tour, that can be printed onto T-shirts, etc., The motto for the tour is "Trails less Traveled". Please contact Diane with questions or submissions. Free membership in the club next year is the award if your logo is chosen.

