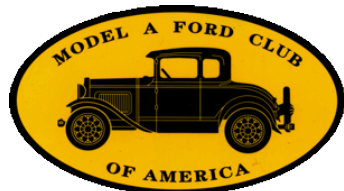


# DIAMOND TREAD NEWS



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: FEBRUARY 2024



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## FEBRUARY EVENTS

### NEXT MEETING - February 6th

Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

General Membership Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Village Café (near Bellflower and Carson)  
4148½ N. Viking Way, Long Beach

.....  

### FEBRUARY TOUR - February 10th

Zimmerman Automobile Driving Museum  
610 Lairport St, El Segundo

.....  

### RED HOT SPARKS - February 13th

Applebee's Grill at 11:30 a.m.

1238 W. Imperial Hwy, La Habra

.....  

### VALENTINE'S DAY - February 14th

.....  

### WEEKLY BREAKFAST - Thursdays

Village Café (near Bellflower and Carson)  
4148½ N. Viking Way, Long Beach 8:30 a.m.



## THE STEERING WHEEL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Diamond Tread Chapter Members,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and high spirits. As we step into the month of February, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on a significant milestone in Model A Ford history.

On February 4th, 1929 the one millionth Model A Ford was produced. This momentous occasion serves as a reminder of the lasting impact this iconic vehicle has had on the automotive industry and our lives as enthusiasts.

The production of one million Model A Fords is a testament to the enduring legacy of Henry Ford and his vision of creating an affordable, reliable, and stylish automobile for the masses. Each of those one million vehicles holds a unique story, representing countless memories, adventures, and experiences shared by owners and drivers.

As members of this esteemed club, we are the custodians of this remarkable legacy. It is through our passion, knowledge, and dedication that we keep the spirit of the Model A Ford alive. As we celebrate this milestone, I encourage each of you to reflect on how this iconic vehicle has enriched your lives and the lives of others.

In the month ahead, we have some exciting events planned to further enhance our connection to the Model A Ford. From weekly breakfast to scenic drives, there will be ample opportunities for us to come together and revel in our shared love for this extraordinary automobile.

I would like to express my gratitude to all of you for your continued support and enthusiasm for our club. It is your dedication that keeps our community thriving and ensures the preservation of the Model A Ford for future generations.

Let us celebrate this significant milestone and carry the spirit of the one millionth Model A Ford with us as we embark on new adventures with our beloved automobiles.

Wishing you all a wonderful month filled with joy, camaraderie, and many memorable Model A Ford moments.

Sincerely,

Dennis Stephens  
President, Diamond Tread



# MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

## JANUARY 2024

Minutes of the General Meeting January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

19 Model A enthusiasts in attendance

Meeting was called to order at 6:37pm by President Dennis Stephens.

Flag salute lead by VP Jim Runyon.

Mr. Runyon proceeded to present on behalf of our national organization the MAFCA Service Award for outstanding service. Congratulations & Thanks to our own, Vicky Bartlett!

(The purpose of the MAFCA Service Award is to provide national recognition to those Model A'ers who have demonstrated service within their chapters, special interest groups and regional groups. Service not just for a year but continued service to their chapter and the Model A hobby. It is the willingness to go the extra mile that MAFCA developed the Service Award. Those members who were honored by their chapters for outstanding, long-term, continuing, and selfless service to others in the Model A hobby.)

Treasurer Louise Beckley reported a positive balance in the club bank account.

Tour Director Larry Ryan reported our 2 tours in December: Griswold's Christmas House Display and Annual Holiday Motor Excursion. The January tour will be to Santa Monica Airport Museum on the 20<sup>th</sup>. It will be 29 miles straight shot, only 1 or 2 left turns, meet at 9am.

Henry's Helper Chuck Mayhew was appreciative for the large and enthusiastic turnout for Larry's engine exchange. Also, all the long hours of preparation put in by a few of our members for J.C.'s Garage Sale, which turned out to be quite successful for his family. Chuck then brought up all the preparation Larry does for our tours and would like to see more participation.

Program: We then were treated to the third installment of "Electric cars: past, present, and future" by member Chris Risdon. Members were more than appreciative of Chris's time and effort put into the very interesting and knowledgeable presentations.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21pm.

(followed by refreshments, raffle, and fellowship)

Bill Paige, Secretary



## FEBRUARY TOUR

# ZIMMERMAN AUTOMOBILE DRIVING MUSEUM

**Where:** Tour to Zimmerman Automobile Driving Museum

**Address:** 610 Lairport St, El Segundo.

**Cost:** Suggested donation of \$10.00 per senior and \$15.00 per adult.

**Meet:** Wienerschnitzel at 11610 Alondra Boulevard in Norwalk. This is a little over 20 miles one way. An easy drive.

**When:** Saturday February 10th, meet at 9 a.m. and depart at 9:15 a.m. We should arrive in El Segundo about 10:00 a.m. about opening time.

**RSVP to me at** [LRyan41724@msn.com](mailto:LRyan41724@msn.com) or text me at Cell 562-484-8415, by Tues, Feb. 6.

**Larry Ryan, Tour Director**

[www.automobiledrivingmuseum.org](http://www.automobiledrivingmuseum.org)



## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Erik & Emily Dominguez of Brea: You may remember Emily as the owner of a cool 1965 Ford Falcon and daughter of Pauline Issa. Emily says they get the car out often when the weather is nice and hope to join us soon for an event or outing.

Ed and Monika Tolman of Chino Hills: The Tolmans own four Model A's: 1928 Tudor, 1929 Roadster, 1931 Budd Pick Up, and 1931 Coupe. The Coupe was Ed's first Model A given to him in parts in 1971 by his grandfather Elmer Tolman, who was a member of Diamond Tread. Ed restored it in two years and drove it to High School in his Junior year. In 1989, he joined Heartland A's and then became busy as a Scout leader. About 15 years ago he restored it again and joined Pomona Valley Chapter. Three years ago he was elected to the MAFCA Board of Directors and currently serves as Vice President. It is also notable that he is our member Chuck Mayhew's cousin.

## DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Speaker: Ben Stone, 17 year old owner and restorer of his 1930 Model A Tudor

Date: February 6th (general membership meeting)

Title: Ben's Restoration of his 1930 Model A Ford

Ben had wanted his own Model A for a long time while growing up around his Grandpa's Model A's. In March of 2020 at the start of Covid and when he was 13, his Grandpa purchased Ben his Model A Tudor..He spent every day working on the car's restoration until the Fall when it was time to start his Freshman year in High School. It was then that he started working on his A on weekends. Come view Ben's powerpoint program showing the steps he took in the restoration while guided by grandfather Tom Endy, dad Tim Stone, and friend Bryan Thompson as well as other Model A friends. Ben was a recipient of the Model A Youth Restoration Award in 2020 and 2022.

## EDITORIAL MUSINGS

- I would love to hear about you! About your cars, your families, your weekends, your joys and sorrows, or anything - big or small.
- Don't forget that members can post free For Sale notices in the newsletter. If you have some old cars or parts, this is a fun way to sell them.

Please send any submissions, pictures, tour reports, remembrances, or stories to:

[editor@diamondtread.com](mailto:editor@diamondtread.com)

Thanks, Rex Bartholomew

## JOYS OF GETTING OLD

(From the "Distributor" Newsletter of the Queen City Model A Club of Charlotte, North Carolina; thanks to Editor Jim Townsend)

- Kidnappers aren't very interested in you.
- In a hostage situation, you will probably be released first.
- No one expects you to run into a burning building or run at all.
- People call at 9 p.m. And ask "Did I wake you?"
- People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
- There's nothing left to learn the hard way.
- Things you buy now won't wear out.
- You can eat dinner at 4 p.m.
- You enjoy hearing about other people's operations.
- You get into a heated argument about pension claims.
- You have a party and the neighbors don't even realize it
- You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
- You quit trying to hold your stomach in, no matter who walks into the room.
- You sing along with the elevator music.
- Your eyes won't get much worse.
- Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
- Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the National Weather Service.
- Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.
- Your supply of brain cells is finally down to a manageable size.
- And, you may not remember who sent you this list.

## DIAMOND TREAD CHAPTER MISSION

The purpose of our club is to enjoy, preserve and protect Model A Fords.

To serve as a medium of exchange of ideas, information and parts for our members and to aid them in their efforts to restore their Model A to its original likeness. It shall further be the purpose of this club to help its members to become better acquainted, encourage and maintain the spirit of good fellowship, sociality, and fair play through sponsored activities, including the use of the Model A Ford and family participation.

The club shall be non-commercial, non-sectarian, and non-partisan. All monies shall be used for club activities and functions as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

## 2024 Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Dennis Stephens
<b>Vice President</b>	Jim Runyon
<b>Secretary</b>	Bill Paige
<b>Treasurer</b>	Louise Beckley
<b>Membership Chairman</b>	Vicky Bartlett
<b>Hospitality Chairman</b>	Pauline Issa
<b>Historian / Publicity Chairman</b>	Bonnie Ryan
<b>Tour Director</b>	Larry Ryan
<b>Fund/Picnic Coordinator</b>	Norman Saw
<b>Webmaster</b>	Mark Simons
<b>Henry's Helpers</b>	Chuck Mayhew
<b>Editor</b>	Rex Bartholomew



## Red Hot Sparks Luncheon

**When: Tuesday February 13th  
at 11:30 am**

**Where: Applebee's Grill  
1238 W. Imperial Hwy, La Habra  
RSVP by Friday, February 9th**

**to Marilyn Gentry, Hostess  
at (562) 743-5820 (cell)  
or (562) 693-9107 (home)**

**All ladies of Diamond Tread  
and Whittier Chapters are welcome**

*The Red Hot Sparks Meet on the 2nd  
Tuesday Of Each Month*

## MILE MARKERS



*Greg Earhart*

*Arthur Babigian*

*Lisa Bartholomew*

*Happy Anniversary*

*Arnold & Isabel Valencia*



*February: Rex Bartholomew*

## THE BLT GUYS

(From the "Spoken Wheels" Newsletter of the Santa Anita A's of Arcadia, California; thanks to Editor Joe Wilson)

### NEWS BITS

#### The BLT Guys

by Tom Endy

The BLT Guys organization was originated a number of years ago by three Model A guys, Bryan Thompson, Larry McKinney, and Tom Endy offering a service installing Mitchell overdrives for a modest fee. The task is accomplished in one day, in fact in about five hours. We begin around nine on a Saturday morning and are usually test driving the car around the neighborhood by two in the afternoon. The BLT Guys organization has grown to more than a dozen dedicated Model A'ers from the Santa Anita A's of Arcadia, California and the Orange County Model A Ford Club of Southern California. The installation fee is donated to the Model A Youth Restoration Program. The owner of the car receives the tax credit since the program is a 503c organization. When the installation is finished the owner writes a check made out to the youth restoration program which is mailed direct to the treasurer of the organization. The owner then receives a receipt in the mail for the donation.



Typical BLT Guys installation with a Model A youth participating.

The Model A youth restoration program provides financial assistance to young people between the age of 12 and 21 who own a Model A and are restoring it. The award is made every two years. The last awards were in 2022 and the award to each youth was \$3000 in purchase certificates from the various Model A suppliers. Typically there are about 12 youth recipients at each award event.

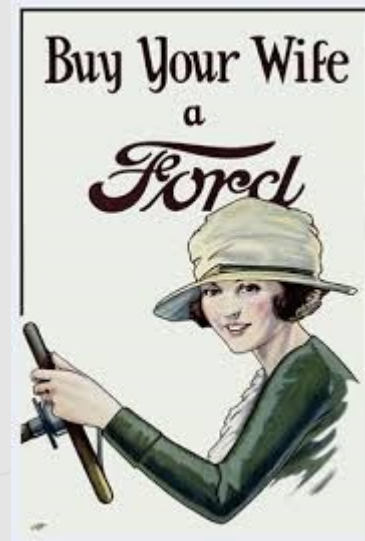
The installations are done at my house in Westminster, California since I have a work area where the car is brought to and I have every conceivable specialized tool needed for the job.

The BLT Guys have the full support of the Mitchell Manufacturing Company and they recommend the BLT Guys to their customers living in Southern California. Eighteen installations have been successfully accomplished in the past three years.

The BLT Guy's overdrive installation fee is \$500, the addition of a Mitchell sync transmission is \$400. If the owner wants a new clutch and pressure plate installed, it is an additional \$200. If the owner wants the flywheel replaced, it is additional \$100. We have not had an installation where the owner just wanted a sync transmission installed. If that were the case the pricing would be \$500 to install the transmission, \$200 if a new clutch and pressure plate are installed, \$100 for a flywheel replacement. All of these tasks can be accomplished in one day.

On installation day the owner is encouraged to bring two dozen donuts (the BLT Guys provide the coffee and other beverages). The owner may participate in the installation, or just sit and watch, or not even be there.

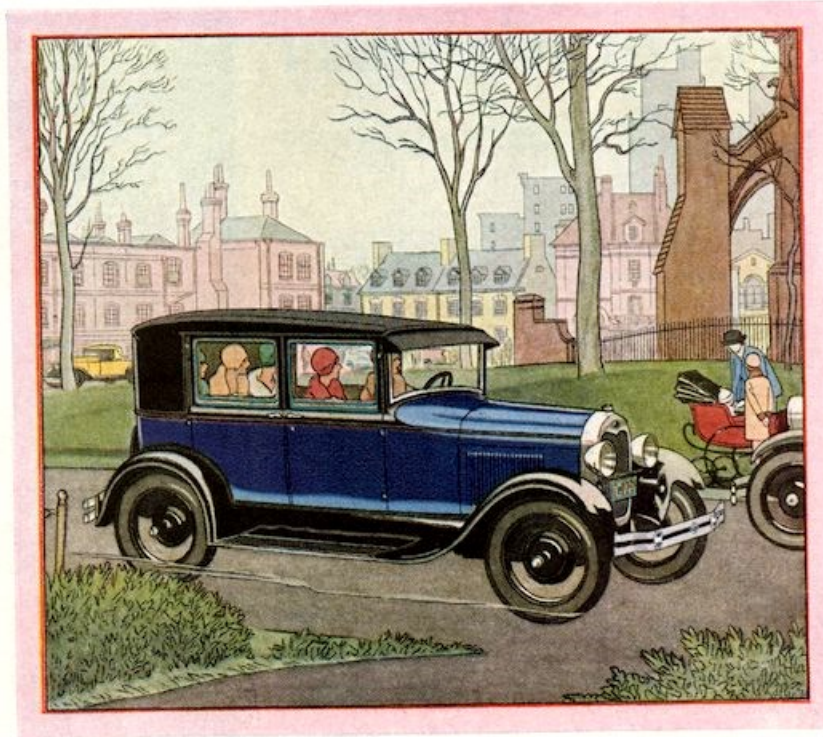
Quite often we encounter problems with the car. A few times we have found the differential pinion bearings shot and had to replace them. We have them in stock and charge the owner only for the cost of the bearings, there is no added labor fee. Other problems we have been able to overcome are missing bolts, broken shackles, and rear axle nuts not tightened correctly.





# GOOD HOUSEKEEPING ERA AD

## MARCH 1929



*You will find the new Ford a comfortable  
easy-riding car*

IN DAYS gone by, it was Mother who seemed destined to get most of the bouncing on those Sunday afternoon rides. Bumps that seemed like innocent little bumps to Dad in the front seat were quite large and aggravating by the time they reached the riders in the rear.

Perhaps Mother mentioned it in clear, brisk tones. Perhaps, being long-suffering, she didn't. There seemed no way it could be helped in

a low-priced car. Then along came the new Ford and with it a new idea of riding ease. Now there is no dividing line for comfort. Everybody can lean back and relax because even rough stretches may be taken at a reasonably fast pace without the exaggerated bouncing rebound which is the cause of most motoring fatigue.

This comfort means so much to the joy of motoring that it should be one of the first things you think about in selecting a motor car.

"Is it a comfortable car to drive?" is almost as important as "Is it an economical car to operate?"

The new Ford brings you truly



FORD MOTOR COMPANY  
Detroit, Michigan

remarkable riding ease not only because of its low unsprung weight and transverse springs, but because it has four Houdaille hydraulic shock absorbers—two in the front and two in the rear.

Formerly these were installed as standard equipment on only the most expensive automobiles. Their use on the new Ford is an example of the quality built into every part of the car.



*Shown on the left is the interior of the new Fordor Sedan. Upholstery is soft and luxurious, yet long wearing. All appointments are fully nickeled. Note the wide door, the convenient arm rests, the air of restful riding comfort.*

*The illustration on the right shows the roominess of the front compartment of the new Fordor Sedan. Here, as in rear view, you can see the restful tilt of the wide, deeply cushioned seat—the richness of every detail of finish and appointment.*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR...

**OCMAFC - 61st Annual  
Pancake Breakfast**

**Sunday, April 14, 2024**

Hart Park, 701 S. Glassell St, Orange, California

7:30am-11am

**Large Raffle Selection**



Adults \$10 / Children \$5 (Ages 2-10)  
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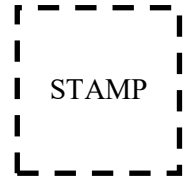
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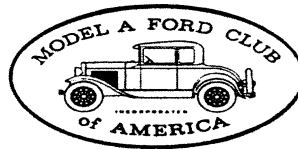
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