

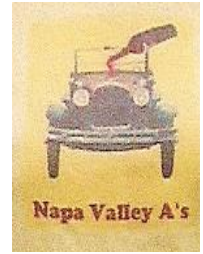


WINE PRESS

Napa Valley A's

A Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America

FEBRUARY 2026



2026 Officers

President

Matt Pendergast

Immediate Past President

Jim Kanne

Vice President

Jim Mounter

Secretary

LeeAnn Pendergast

Treasurer

Skip Keyser

Chairpeople

Editor/Historian – Jim Mounter

Hospitality – Sheila Kanne

Raffle – David LeCount

Sunshine – Barbara Fanucchi

The Wine Press is a publication of the Napa Valley A's, a chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America. Permission to reproduce items published in the Wine Press is granted; however please give credit to the Wine Press when appropriate. The Wine Press welcomes any articles or suggestions that are of general interest to the Model A hobbyist. Please submit all such material to the editor by the end of the month preceding publication.

A Look Back

Napa Valley A's History for February

February 9, 2011: The Napa Valley A's attended an Ice Cream Social at Fosters Freeze.

February 13, 2011: Six couples from the Napa Valley A's attended a Valentine's Day Brunch at Siena, the restaurant at the Meritage Hotel. Larry and Linda Dreyer, Jerry and Paula Belden, Tony and Karen Carafa, Randy and Lea Stegman, and Sam and Marty Leach attended.

February 20, 2016: There were fourteen people at the post Valentine's Day Brunch at Compadres Rio Grill. Four people drove Model A's. Richard and Celeste Wyklech handed out bags of Valentine candy to everyone who came and we all enjoyed the meal and conversation.

A Look Forward

February 7: Mardi Gras Parade in Yountville, 1:00 pm.

February 8: Cars n Coffee, 8:00 am at Brewed in the Napa Outlets, 865 Factory Stores Dr. in Napa.

February 14: Valentine's Day Luncheon, 11:30 am at La Hacienda, 1851 Old Sonoma Rd.

February 26: Napa Valley A's Meeting, 7:00 pm at Creekside Church, 1050 Hagen Rd. in Napa.

March 14: Auto Swap Meet and Car Show, 610 Chabolla Ave. Galt, CA

May 5 – 7: Lake County A's Spring Opener

Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Napa Valley A's will be on the fourth Thursday, February 26 at 7:00 pm at Creekside Church located at 1050 Hagen Rd. in Napa. There will be no refreshments as the club voted to discontinue the refreshments at the March meeting last year.

Valentine's Day Luncheon



The Napa Valley A's will meet for a Valentine's Day Luncheon at La Hacienda Bar & Grill, 1851 Old Sonoma Rd. on February 14th at 11:30 am. The restaurant is located in the old Food City shopping center. If you have not already signed up, contact LeeAnn to let her know you are coming.



Q & A Section

Q: I hate to do it but I'm starting to scrap frames and mechanical parts in Northern Wisconsin. Can't get \$150 each for frames and I need the space... sad times.

Binky LaVoie

A: Unfortunately, when a running car starts at \$5000, it's hard to find people willing to put in the hours. In addition, the younger generations don't know how to fix things. They would rather recreate, play video games. They see working on cars as work, not relaxation. I'm building a couple of cars and the frames I'm using cost \$100 each.

Rob Doesch

A: Wow, frames in California are running \$400. Those are good prices.

Donald Diltz

A: I collected Model A parts for a lot of years. If I could find a 28/29 Model A title, I'd start putting one together. I have everything except the rear half of a body, which is no big deal. I can make a body out of wood from the doors back, like a Paddy Wagon.

Michael Gilligan

A: Problem is that Henry Ford made too many Model A's, around 5 million or so. There are too many used parts on the market for way too many years. If Model A's were rare then it would be a different story. Not to mention that millions of reproduction parts were made and are still being made in some cases. Too much supply and not enough demand.

Fortene Pitarys

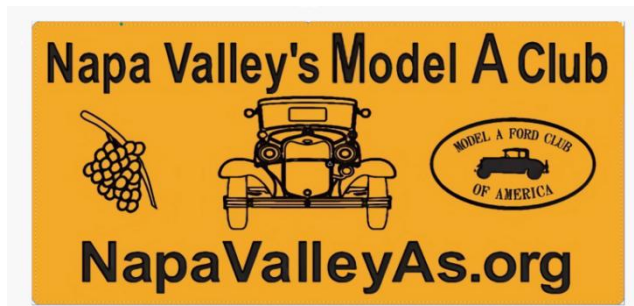


Time For Birthdays

Lynn Mounter	February 18
Sheila Kanne	February 19
Judy Rossi	February 23
Ron Pippert	February 25



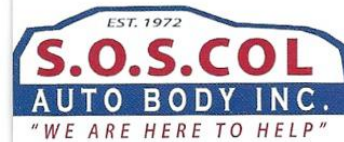
Kathie and Joe Higgins	January 29
Jean and Skip Keyser	February 27
Napa Valley A's	March 3



Check out our website, napavalleyas.org, for more club information and activities.

2026 Membership Dues

Membership dues for 2026 were due at the beginning of the year. To renew your membership, send a check made out to Napa Valley A's for \$40 per family to the address listed on the form at the back of this newsletter or bring it to the February meeting. It is not necessary to complete a new application for renewing members.



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Check out our posts on Facebook. Just use the Facebook search engine and look for Napa Valley A's.

Ford Tomato Juice

Ford is known for making and revolutionizing so many things across the spectrum of the automotive industry. However, maybe Ford should be known for some other stuff, too. Like growing tomatoes, for instance.

That's right. Henry Ford grew up a farmer, raised by farmers, who loved farming. Although Ford's interest in machinery would eventually trump his love of farming, his green thumb never really went away. According to [Silodrome](#), Ford got into the juice business because the company owned thousands of acres that bellied up to the Dearborn, Michigan plant. Since that interest in farming never went away, Henry Ford began farming this connected acreage.

At some point during the 1930's, he even began offering parcels of land to employees for free. They couldn't own the land but he would allow them to farm it and keep whatever profits they made from their toils.

"We cultivate several thousand acres at Dearborn; we also have a dairy herd of around three thousand cows; and near our coal mines in Kentucky, on mountain soil that was not supposed to be good for much of anything, we are growing garden vegetables and fruit."

"Most of my own life has been spent on a farm. We are in touch with farming nearly everywhere through the sales of automobiles and tractors."

– Henry Ford

However, what most of us don't know is, Ford Motor Company was also growing tomatoes, juicing them, and bottling that juice, and selling it during the 1930's.

There really isn't much information left these days about Ford's farming ventures. While we know Ford did more than just grow tomatoes, this is one of the only examples we have of a Ford branded product from this marketplace.



The Ford tomato juice bottle reads:

Ford

TOMATO JUICE

Rich in Vitamins A,B,C

Made from **SELECTED TOMATOES**

Grown on the

FORD FARMS Dearborn, Michigan

Also good in Tomato Cocktail, Cream of Tomato

Soup, Meat Dressing, etc.

NET CONTENTS :: :: :: 16 OZS.

Ford Motor Company

Dearborn, Michigan

This bottle of 90-year-old tomato juice was sold at auction with Sotheby's in September of 2021 for \$6325.

From an article by Peter Corn



Announcing: 2026 Model A Spring Opener

The Lake County A's would like to invite you to our **29th Spring Opener**. This year's Spring Opener has a few MAJOR changes to accommodate our new venue.

First, instead of our traditional date of the first weekend in May, this year the event will be mid-week. We have three days of fun planned for our Model A friends. The dates of this year's event are May 5th, 6th, and 7th, (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), 2026. Registration is limited to 60 people, so it is best to get your [Registration Form](#) in early.

Second, the host resort for this year's Spring Opener is the [Skylark Shores Resort](#), 1120 N. Main St., Lakeport, CA (800-675-6151). Registration will be at the resort on Tuesday, May 5th, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Raffle prizes will be on display, and raffle tickets will be available.

A Tuesday BBQ Buffet is included in your registration fee. Social hour starts at 5 p.m. with dinner served at 6 p.m. Please see the [Registration Form](#) for a complete menu.

Wednesday morning coffee and pastries will be provided at the Resort for hotel guests only. Other breakfast restaurants are available nearby.

The line-up for the Wednesday Tour will be at the Resort parking lot at 8:40 a.m. Please arrive with a full tank of gas. The tour will depart at 9 a.m.

For additional information, see our [Spring Opener Welcome Letter](#) and be sure to complete your [Registration Form](#) and mail it by March 29, 2026. You can contact [Dale Morrison](#) at 707-489-0125 for more details.

The Sonora Model A Ford Club is excited to invite you to our 2026 Mini Round-Up to be held on May 22-24, 2026. "Get Your Kicks in '26" will take place in beautiful Gold Country at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds, Sonora, California.

The SonoraAs.com website has a link to the Mini Round-Up registration information, local hotel accommodations and more. You have the option of: (1) mailing your registration form along with the signed MAFCA waiver and your check made out to "The Sonora As RoundUp", to P.O. Box 1537, Twain Harte, CA. 95383; or (2) registering online and paying by credit card. You will sign the MAFCA waiver when arriving at the Mini Round-Up. If you would like a registration form mailed to you, please contact mjdecesare@sbcglobal.net.

As part of the event, we will have the popular Pick-A-Prize room. If your club is able to contribute a prize item, we would greatly appreciate your generosity.

We hope to have you join us.

Sincerely yours,

Mike deCesare, Round-Up Treasurer

Napa Valley A's
General Meeting Minutes - January 22, 2026

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Roll call: 12 people in attendance.

Presidents Report : Matt Pendergast

Matt reviewed Election of Officer results from October.

Officers: Matt Pendergast , President, Jim Mounter, Vice President, Skip Keyser, Treasurer, LeeAnn Pendergast, Secretary.

Review of end of the year outings - Schoenstein Organ tour arranged by Jim and Sheila Kanne, Friendsgiving at the Pendergast abode, and our Annual Christmas Luncheon.

Where has your Model A been?

Jim and Sheila drove their car to church. Joe Higgins and other people have driven round their towns. Matt drove to the meeting tonight.

Coffee and cars was attended by Dave Lloyd who reported a great car turn out but very cold.

Secretary's Report: LeeAnn Pendergast

Last meeting's October 2025 minutes were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Skip was absent but shared current financials with Matt reporting. Matt discussed annual dues of \$40 can be paid now. Three more members have renewed at tonight's meeting: Barbara, Dave Lloyd and David LeCount. LeeAnn collected funds and will communicate with Skip.

Media Committee: Jim Mounter, Ken Rands, and David LeCount.

David LeCount reports that the Farmers Market is reviewing and will provide a space in the future for parking to share our hobby with the community. The question was asked, "Who is reviewing club emails that are received?" David will contact Ken Rands to confirm he is reviewing emails.

Steering Committee: LeeAnn Pendergast, Jim Mounter

LeeAnn shared information on Mardi Gras parade in Yountville on February 7th. Interested members are Kanne, Pendergast, Higgins and Lloyd. Any changes or additions should be called to LeeAnn with updates. We'll meet at Trancas Chevron by Nob Hill grocery at 11:00 am to drive up and decorate the cars and check in. Deadline to enter is Monday January 26th.

February 14th Valentine's Day Luncheon at Hacienda off Jefferson, 1851 Old Sonoma Rd at 11:30 am. Those attending so far: Kanne, Pendergast, Mounter, Fanucchi, Rogers, and Higgins.

Let me know about any changes.

Open conversation about future events:

Members still interested in Bally Keals Estates .

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Continued from Page 6

Barbara recommends a Ladies Lunch that includes a visit to The Press in St Helena.

Matt is interested in a Men's Lunch where hopefully the Model A's can be seen in the community. Gathering for Ice Cream Socials also had interest, and in doing a downtown tour.

LeeAnn would like to see another Jim Mounter event this year, always a lot of fun.

Jim Kanne has shared an event for March 21st in Martinez. This includes a 1900's car collection and workshop.

2026 Club Activities:

Recurring events: Coffee and Cars: Every month on the second Sunday 8:00 am to 10:00 am @ Brewed 865 Factory Store Dr.

February 7th - Yountville Mardi Gras parade. Meet at Trancas Chevron by Nob Hill at 11:00am.

February 14th - Valentine's luncheon at La Hacienda off Jefferson, 1851 Old Sonoma Rd at 11:30 am.

February 26th - Club meeting 7:00 pm. Guest speaker from Haggerty Insurance.

March 21st - Martinez 1900's Car collection and workshop. More details from Jim Kanne.

May 22-24th - NCRG ROUND UP info in January newsletter.

July 4th - Napa and Calistoga parades.

July 25th - Pestoni tour with picnic (To be confirmed.)

More to come....

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Jim Kanne shared info about a Haggerty Insurance Rep willing to attend a meeting and answer any questions we may have for him.

Sunshine Report:

Nothing to report

Shop Talk:

Jim Mounter is looking for a timing gear.

Matt still waiting on new engine and getting a new radiator.

Raffle: David LeCount sold tickets and collected \$26.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 pm .

Respectfully submitted,

LeeAnn Pendergast

Napa Valley A's 2026 Membership Application

***** Membership Application/2026 Annual Dues Renewal*****

NOTE: Annual dues for 2026 are \$40.00 per family

Make check payable to **Napa Valley A's** and mail to: **800 School Street, Suite D, Napa, CA 94559**

(Mail your annual Model A Ford Club of America dues directly to: MAFCA, 250 S. Cypress St, La Habra, CA 90631.)

Name: _____ Birthday: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Birthday: _____ Email: _____

MAFCA Member? Y N MAFCA Membership Number: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Anniversary: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Model A Year(s): _____ Model(s) _____ Restored? Y N Need Help? Y N

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