

DIAMOND TREAD NEWS



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: January 2026

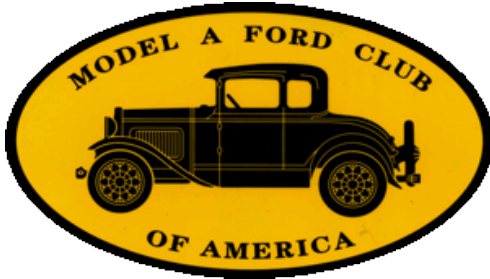


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UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW YEAR'S DAY - January 1st

GENERAL MEETING - January 6th

24 Hour Real Estate at 6:30 p.m.

Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

8635 Florence Avenue, Downey

RED HOT SPARKS - January 13th

B.J.'s Restaurant at 11:30 a.m.

11101 183rd Street, Cerritos

See page 7

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

January 19th

WEEKLY BREAKFAST - Thursdays

Village Café at 8:00 a.m.

4148½ N. Viking Way, Long Beach

THE STEERING WHEEL: PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

I wish everyone a delightful 2026.

The December 6th party and installation event at the newly reopened Sizzler in Downey was a great success. Many thanks to Pauline and Linda for planning and hosting. Although we missed many of you, we still had a good turnout and enjoyed seasonal music provided by Jay. We also received numerous donations for Toys for Tots. Our Board Members for 2026 were inducted, and it was wonderful to be together.

Looking forward to a new "A" year. Let's work together and participate whenever we can. Your help and ideas will be invaluable to me and the club.

Cheers,

Bill



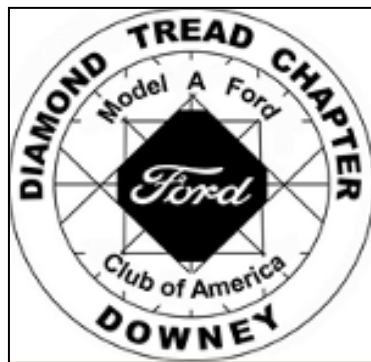
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

On Saturday December 6, we had a great turnout at the Downey Sizzler for our annual board installation and holiday luncheon. This is just around the corner from our new meeting location!

Diamond Tread had the back room to ourselves where we enjoyed our meals, had fellowship, and sang along to our favorite Christmas tunes with perennial club favorite, Jay Munns.

Many thanks to Sizzler for great service, and extra thanks go out to everyone who planned everything to make this event run so smoothly.

With the beautiful weather, it also gave our members a chance to show off their gorgeous Ford Model As!



WHO IS JAY MUNNS?



At this year's Christmas luncheon, we were fortunate to once again be entertained by Mr. Jay Munns! We thought you might like to know a little more about him.

Jay is a composer and musician that has been entertaining audiences for nearly five decades, specializing in vintage American music from saloon piano to the great hits of the '20s, '30s and '40s.

He has performed for two U.S. presidents and entertained countless celebrities including Bob Hope, Cary Grant, and Jimmy Stewart, as well as movie directors from Hal Roach and Mervyn Leroy to Steven Spielberg.

We are very happy to have him share his talents with us!

TOYS FOR TOTS

Diamond Tread donated over 50 new toys for the annual Toys for Tots drive organized by the Marines Corps. These toys were collected at the Christmas Luncheon, and were delivered to the toy drive that same week. Thank you for your generosity for this tremendous program!



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.

MEET THE BOARD

We are pleased to present the Diamond Tread board for 2026, which was sworn in at the Christmas luncheon. Below is an action shot of a combination of new and outgoing board members. We thank them for their service!

President:	Bill Paige
Vice President:	LeRoy Kehret
Secretary:	Pauline Issa
Treasurer:	Louise Beckley
Membership Chair:	Vicky Bartlett
Hospitality Chair:	Vicki Spearman
Historian/Publicity:	Steve Sixt
Tour Director:	Bill Bahr
Fund/Picnic Chair:	Norman Saw
Webmaster:	Mark Simons
Henry's Helpers:	Chuck Mayhew
Editor:	Rex Bartholomew



BACK TO SCHOOL SHOPPING

By Anne Neely-Beck
Milledgeville GA

From the
Restorer

Imagine crisp autumn mornings, the school bell ringing through golden leaves, and girls stepping out in tailored plaid dresses with collars starched just so. For shoes, polished Mary Janes complemented argyle knee socks, while a felt cloche hat fashionable and practical—framed their keen eyes as they hurried down the brick path. Each ensemble was thoughtfully chosen, reflecting the spirit of the times.

In an article in Woman's Home Companion, titled "Until She is Twelve" gave answers for mother's on how their girls should be dressed. Simplicity was the word used, keeping the line of the dress simple and making it with sturdy material. The fashion of these years balanced youthful exuberance with the refined elegance that marked the early years of the decade, blending practicality with a playful sophistication.

Although Montgomery Wards Catalog, thought different. They were producing dresses by mass and wanted to sell them for a reasonable price. Patterns played a starring role, with cheerful checks and gentle florals stitched on frocks that swung just below the knee for 8 to 12 set and above the knee for the younger set. Amidst the routine, each girl's wardrobe told a quiet story of family pride, resourcefulness, and the gentle hopefulness of a new school year.

If you made your girl's clothes you could follow the advice of Woman's Home Companion. You could also use many of the Needlecraft patterns found in most Needlecraft magazines of the era. I choose to talk about 1930-1931 because I have quite a collection of these years as our cars are all 1930's and 1931's.

Accessories added the finishing touch—a knitted scarf in a cheery hue, or perhaps a petite satchel slung across a determined shoulder, carrying books bound in brown paper and pencils sharp as ambition. As the air chilled, girls bundled in woolen coats with velvet collars and neat rows of buttons. Gloves, sometimes hand-stitched by mothers or older sisters, kept fingers warm on frosty mornings.

These choices, both grand and subtle, mirrored the aspirations of families navigating the shifting tides of the 1930s—where frugality met ingenuity, and style was a testament to both tradition and the quiet confidence of youth stepping into their world.

I am sure most people of the time were frugal because of the depression and chose what their family could afford. If they were very poor, they could have chosen a flour sack.

2026 Board of Directors

President	Bill Paige
Vice President	LeRoy Kehret
Secretary	Pauline Issa
Treasurer	Louise Beckley
Membership Chair	Vicky Bartlett
Hospitality Chair	Vicki Spearman
Historian / Publicity Chair	Steve Sixt
Tour Director	Bill Bahr
Fund/Picnic Coordinator	Norman Saw
Webmaster	Mark Simons
Henry's Helpers	Chuck Mayhew
Editor	Rex Bartholomew



Red Hot Sparks Luncheon

**When: Tuesday, January 13th
at 11:30 am**

**Where: B.J.'s Restaurant
11101 183rd Street
Cerritos**

**Hosted by Betty Boan
RSVP before Friday, January 9th to
Betty at (562) 420-2845
All ladies of Diamond Tread
and Whittier Chapters are welcome**

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

JANUARY MILE MARKERS



*Mike Wheeler
Cindy Harris
Lincoln Tripp
Margie Sayer
Frank Deogracias
Deborah Bahr
Mark Simons*

Happy Anniversary

No anniversaries for January

HOSPITALITY

To be determined

TOURS

Gunther's Yard Tour

December 7, 2025

Hey Diamond Tread! Thank you for coming to the Gunther's Yard open house. All of the Model A's made the tour this time! This place has so much to see. I have been here 3 times. I still see something new. Just an amazing group of friendly people. This such a hidden gem! I look forward to going on adventures with you in 2026!

Bill Bahr
Tour Director



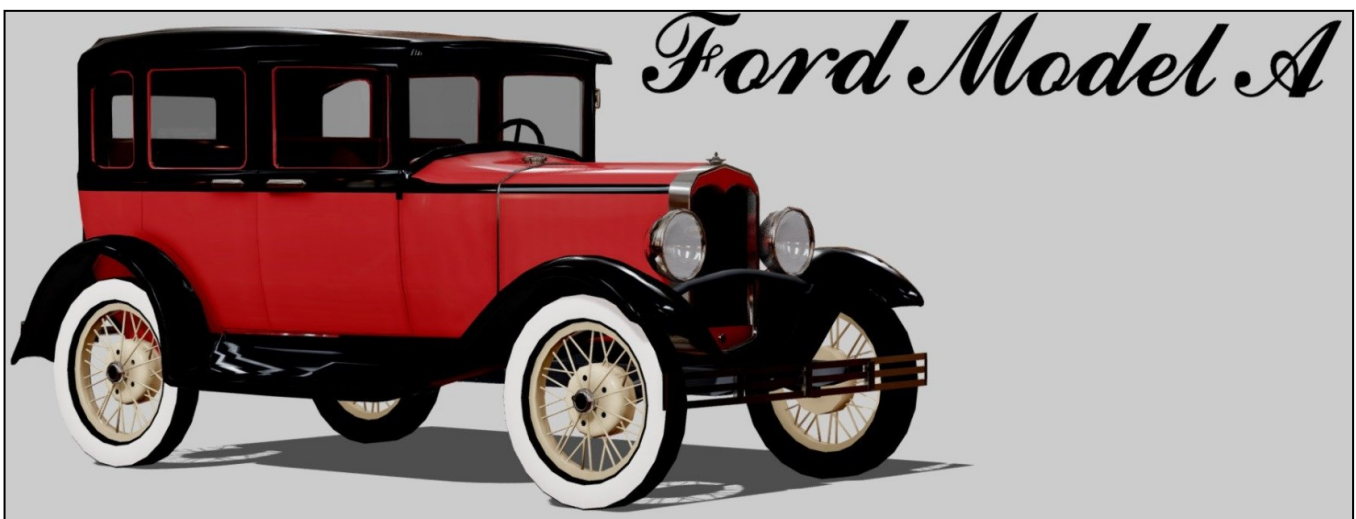
NOTES FROM RED HOT SPARKS

The Model A ladies Red Hot Sparks group met at Olive Garden for a Christmas luncheon.

Marilyn Freeze's grandson's wife made red icing sugar cookies and put them in cellophane bags with red bow for each of the ladies present! Merry Christmas!

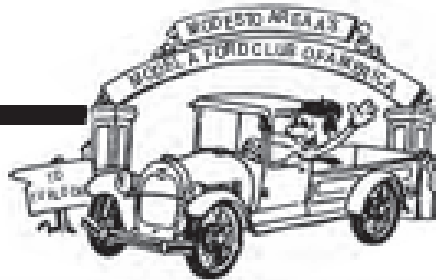
As reminder, the Red Hot Sparks meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Please spread the word, and don't forget to RSVP so the hostess knows how many people to expect.

All ladies of Diamond Tread and Whittier Model A Chapters are welcome!



TURLOCK SWAP MEET

*Rain or
Shine Meet*



59th Annual

TURLOCK SWAP MEET

**January 24, 2026 • 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
January 25, 2026 • 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

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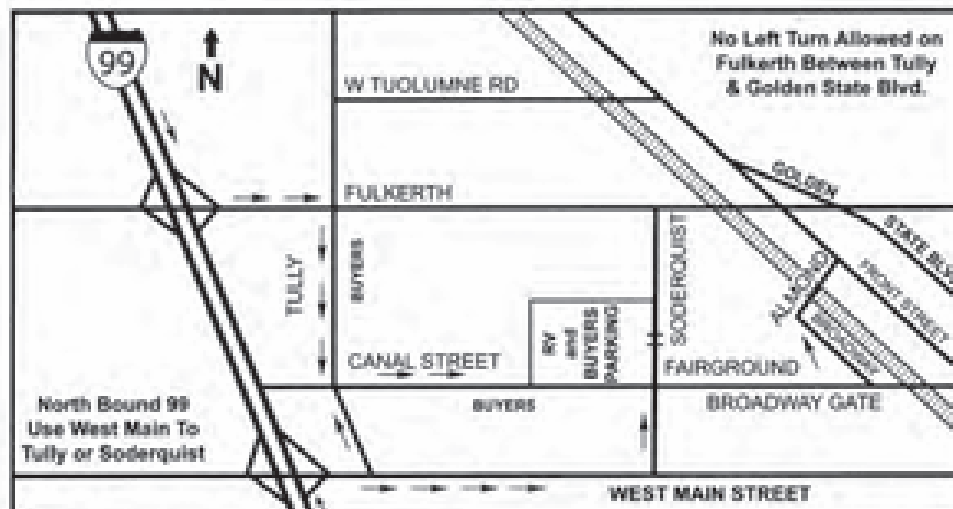
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For Information Email: info@turlockswapmeet.com

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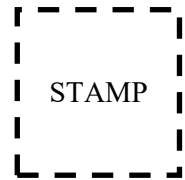
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**DIAMOND TREAD CHAPTER
Model A Ford Club of America
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MAFCA National Office
250 S. CYPRESS STREET
LA HABRA, CA 90631-5515
(562) 697-2712
If not a member consider joining!

The Orange County Model A Ford Club will be holding the 63rd Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday April 12, 2026.

The location is Hart Park, 701 S. Glassell Street, Orange, CA.

Breakfast will be served from 7:30AM to 11AM. We will be serving pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee. We will have a raffle with many exciting opportunities to win.

For further information contact Aaron Magdaleno at 714-862-5773 or Mike Edmonson at 714-615-5751. Or go to www.ocmafc.com.