

February News 2017

Upcoming Events

Friday, February 24th - General Meeting 7:30 PM at the Highlands Community Center 1665 Fernside Redwood City. Special Guest Speaker planned; watch for the flyer.

Wednesday, March 15th – San Mateo Elk's Club Dinner – MPOTAC members get in buffet line no later than 5:45 PM. ELK's line begins at 6:00 PM. Flyer to follow

Saturday, April 22nd – Alice's Restaurant Breakfast Tour - Assemble at the Highlands Club 09:00, tour to Skylonda for a 9:30 breakfast. Afterward, we tour to the Coast or other points of interest, weather permitting. Flyer to follow

Other Automotive Events

Sunday March 12th - 2nd Sunday of each Month (formerly 1st Sunday) **Cars & Coffee** – Kaffeehaus 3rd Avenue **San Mateo** 7 AM to 10 AM - No charge (650) 347-4242
contact@mykaffeehaus.com

Sunday, March 26th - Goodguys 35th All American Get-Together Pleasanton
<https://www.good-guys.com>

Sunday, April 30th – Mark your calendars – the **27th Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show** returns at Half Moon Bay Airport! Flyer included with this email.

* * Valentine's Brunch * *

Saturday February 11th

A bright, crisp morning dawned over Michael's At Shoreline Restaurant in Mountain View after days of rain. Only a few hardy souls brought their old cars, ready to brave puddles and potholes. We had a spacious, quiet



room, allowing a nice

visiting hour with appetizers before we sat down to



our sumptuous buffet lunch. Thirty-five members & guests shared in the festivities,

including some in Valentine themed outfits. Many 30+ year members attended as did a sprinkling of recently joined members. Ed Archer gave a good pep talk at the end and everyone left stuffed and contented.



- Photography by Vince Perry -



**** Feature ****

Train Tour to Sacramento

President Ed Archer led MPOTAC members plus those from **eight** additional automobile clubs on a sunny **Saturday January 21st**.

Article follows:



BIG WINTER GETAWAY TRAIN TO SACRAMENTO

116 people, our own coach, eight old car clubs, no cars (Bummer), just camaraderie (Great!), so still, a great combination. Even with a train delay enroute, we had a blast! Going back a few months, thanks to Rich Hershey (Vintage Chevrolet and Model T Ford club) for bringing it up last October saying "I sure wish we could do another train trip to Sacramento with the car club like we did a few years ago. That was so much fun, especially with you, your ukulele and the guy (Jim Lukash, Horseless Carriage and Model T club)) with his harmonica, made the time on the train even more fun." I couldn't help but agree, and said "yeah that sure was a lot of fun, then dropped it like a hot potato. Well, the more I thought about it, that stupid optimism kicked in and a few days later I called Rich and said "I'm going to organize another train trip to Sacramento for a winter getaway, just like the last one except I think I'll invite a few more clubs to participate this time." I never expected 116 people from 8 different clubs to participate. There go some more delays in getting my ongoing speedster restoration

finished. Some dummy's never learn! Well, the upside is, there's strength in numbers. Traveling on the Capitol Corridor Express we could get a 30% discount if we had a group of 20 or more people buying tickets and boarding at the same station. We certainly showed them! We had 66 in San Jose, 36 in Martinez and a few in between.

On Saturday January 21st at 8:00 AM 66 of us from the Greater South Bay Vintage Chevrolet Club, South Valley Model T Ford Club, Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club, Mission Trails Early Ford V8 Club and **Rob Guzzetti and Ed and Karen Archer** from the **Mid-Peninsula Old time Auto Club** boarded the Capitol Corridor Express in San Jose and headed North through the salt marshes, by the ghost town of **Drawbridge**. And on to Hayward where we picked up more of our group, then Berkeley where a couple more boarded. From there on, some of the most beautiful parts of the trip as we travel along the edge of the San Francisco bay, the Carquinez Strait and into Martinez. 40 or so more car nuts From the Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club, Northern California Classic Car Club and the Northern California Model T Ford Club boarded there. As we departed Martinez, if you were looking towards Suisun Bay you could see a large ship, what appeared to be an oil tanker heading east towards the bridge, and looking further forward East you could see that the railroad bridge center span was raised. Fortunately, a mile or so later our train came to a stop as we watched the ship slowly make its way under the span toward its unloading dock.

Finally, many minutes later we were on our way again. Off to our right in the distance was the old WWII U.S. Navy mothball fleet which keeps getting smaller and smaller as they dispose of them for either restoration or scrap. Next stop was Suisun City then Davis and finally end of the line, Sacramento.

Meanwhile I had been working the crowd to see who wanted to lunch together at Joe's Crab Shack situated right along the Sacramento River in Old Town. I had called Joe's a couple of days before the trip to ask if they could handle a group of say 40 or so people for lunch on Saturday, and they said "sure". Well, by the time we reached Martinez, I had 60. So I called Joes and they said "no problem." After the Martinez group boarded I had to call them back apologetically and ask if we could raise the number to 79 and also change our arrival time due to the bridge delay. Same answer, "no problem" So we all made our way off the train to the train station, quite a walk in itself, then walked from there to Old Town and Joe's. Believe it or not they were set up for us and did pretty good, considering our numbers. Rave reviews about the food, and I don't like fish, but they have a great variety of vittles on their menu. From there 40 or so took the shuttle to the California Auto museum and others scattered to various tourist attractions, world class Railroad Museum, Crocker Art Museum, restored Leland Stanford Governor's Mansion, or just roamed around Old Town enjoying the sights. The time went way too fast, especially due to our train delay, getting us into Sacramento a little late.



2. All aboard! Train 724, track 2. They gave us our own coach.



3. Suisun Bay and Ship heading west. Same kind that caused the bridge to raise. 4. Look closely; bridge is up. [photo below]



1. Gathering at San Jose Diridon station, we'll board as a group

5. Enroute Dave and Erlinda Cadena and Allan and Betty Rouintree, Vintage Chevrolet Club members "kicking back" →





6. California Auto Museum early model cars



7. California Auto Museum, some newer oldies.



8. World class railroad Museum

Believe it or not everyone made it back in time to board the 3:55 PM departure for home. The only missing person was Jim Boyden (Horseless Carriage and Model T Ford club) who had other plans. He rode the train up while his poor wife Jean had to drive the car up and lucky them, they were staying overnight on the historic Delta King Riverboat, docked there in Old Town. For the rest of us it was a Smooth trip coming back. Some slept, some played cards, some jokes were heard, and a little vocal and ukulele music.

I had made arrangements with a Mexican restaurant, Mexico Lindo in South San Jose for a separate room, group dinner and so some of us ended a splendid day there. I want to thank everyone for being so cordial, everything went extremely well.

