



# Sidelights

The Official Newsletter of the  
Santa Rosa Horseless Carriage Club of America  
**January/February 2026**



**Next Meetings:** March 12 and April 9, 5:30pm

Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at **Round Table Pizza, 2065 Occidental Rd, Santa Rosa**

## **January 24, 2026 – Santa Rosa Horseless Carriage Club Installation Dinner**

*Kim Simoni*

Most everyone arrived at Dinucci's in Valley Ford about 3:30pm for a pre-dinner beverage. In

attendance:      Guy & Michelle Smith              Pat Stoll  
                         Linda Eggleston                              Don & Pam Johnson  
                         John Pearson                                      Wayne & Kim Simoni  
                         Donna Jones

We missed Karen Stoll, Vicky Porter, and Bill & Cinda! But we were a loud and fun group never-the-less!

The purpose behind the annual Installation Dinner is to honor the last year's Board of Directors and elect current year's board. 😊 We unanimously agreed that this year would mirror last year's:

President:	Guy Smith	Tour Director:	John Pearson
Vice-president:	Don Johnson	Sidelights Editor:	Cinda Craven
Secretary:	Kim Simoni	Webmaster:	Wayne Simoni
Treasurer:	Linda Eggleston	Sunshine:	TBD with Linda's passing



We all sat at our “usual” table at 4PM and proceeded to do serious damage to our selected Italian dinners (chicken marsala, Petrale Sole, or Ribeye Steak). Accompanied by anti-pasta, salad, minestrone soup, bread and ice cream for dessert. All washed down with red and white wine.

Our waiter was excellent. So was the food. And the conversations were priceless! I think everyone headed home by 6PM. What party animals we are! 😊

## SRHCC Monthly Meeting – February 12, 2026

### Attendees:

Guy & Michelle Smith  
Donna Jones  
Bill Scales & Cinda Craven  
John Pearson  
Patrick Stoll  
Wayne & Kim Simoni



President Guy Smith called the meeting to order @ 5:45pm

**Treasurer’s Report:** Linda Eggleston was not present so no report. Will provide next month.

**Sunshine:** Michelle Smith has volunteered to take on this role. Thanks Michelle! John Pearson will get a stack of cards to Michelle. Michelle will start by sending a card to Vicky Porter and Jim Flint to see how they are doing?!

**Tours:** John Pearson and everyone, sign-up sheet circulated

- April Tour: Bill & Cinda
- May 3: Fisherman’s Festival: John Pearson
- May 6-10 National Convention & Tour, Friant CA. Kim & Wayne, Guy & Michelle, John P, and Bill & Cinda all plan on attending
- June:
- July:
- August 5 (Wednesday): SRHCCA hosts Nickle Era Tour day. Considering:
  - Gold Ridge Organic Farms (olive oils, many varieties of apples) – lovely venue
  - Visit Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Company (cheese tasting on the patio)
  - Tour north on Highway 1 to River Road and stop at Armstrong Woods, box lunch picnic either Armstrong Woods or Portuguese Beach on Sonoma coast
  - Georgetown
  - Balletto Winery
  - Return to Sheraton
- September: Guy & Michelle
- October:
- November:

**DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR 2026 DUES! DUES ARE \$35/YEAR AND ARE PAYABLE TO LINDA EGGLESTON EITHER BY MAIL OR AT THE NEXT MEETING.**

**Round Table:** Stan Ramondo's 1906 Federal is almost done, Guy Smith working on it. National Exec Secretary position is open and accepting applications through end of February

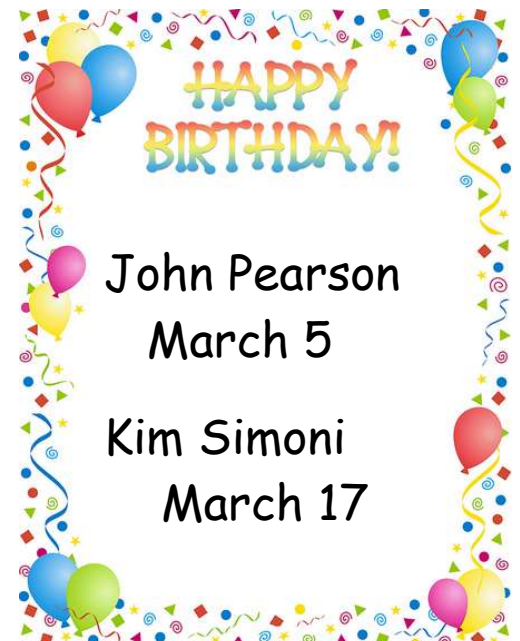
Guy Smith called the meeting to close: 6:26pm

**2025 SANTA ROSA HCCA REGIONAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP**

**% 7505 Malone Rd, Forestville, CA 95436**

<b>Eggleston, Linda</b> 7505 Malone Rd Forestville, CA 95436 707-887-2412 <a href="mailto:eggenter@gmail.com">eggenter@gmail.com</a>	<b>Flint, Jim <i>Honorary Member</i></b> 4472 Thomas Rd Sebastopol, CA 95472 707-321-8589	<b>Johnson, Don &amp; Pam</b> 1818 Maiden Lane Petaluma, CA 94954 707-782-0229 (C) 650-740-9369 <a href="mailto:dearlj@sbcglobal.net">dearlj@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Jones, Donna</b> 4936 Hessel Rd Sebastopol, CA 95472 707-481-2310 <a href="mailto:SpecialHog2@aol.com">SpecialHog2@aol.com</a>
<b>Pearson, John</b> Box 58 Forestville, CA 95436 (F) 887-1000 <a href="mailto:pearsonassoc@hotmail.com">pearsonassoc@hotmail.com</a>	<b>Porter, Vicky <i>Honorary Member</i></b> 10509 Mill Station Rd Sebastopol, CA 95472 707-827-3437 <a href="mailto:vickyporter@att.net">vickyporter@att.net</a>	<b>Scales, Bill &amp; Craven, Cinda</b> 2244 Juliet Dr Santa Rosa, CA 95409 707-526-4943 (C) 707-217-8135 <a href="mailto:cindacl@yahoo.com">cindacl@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Simoni, Wayne &amp; Kim</b> 789 Furlong Rd Sebastopol, CA 95472 707-823-1637 (W) 904-677-CARS <a href="mailto:Trees@brassauto.com">Trees@brassauto.com</a>
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<b>KEY</b>	<b>OFFICERS &amp; POSITIONS</b>	
(F) = Fax	<b>President:</b> Guy Smith	<b>Editor:</b> Cinda Craven
(W) = Work Phone	<b>Vice Pres:</b> Don Johnson	<b>Historian:</b> Vacant
(C) = Cell Phone	<b>Secretary:</b> Kim Simoni	<b>Membership:</b> Vacant
(NDNP) National Dues Not Paid	<b>Treasurer:</b> Linda Eggleston	<b>Sunshine:</b> Michelle Smith
(LDNP) Local Dues Not Paid	<b>Directors:</b> Bill Scales	<b>Tour Chair:</b> John Pearson
		<b>Webmaster:</b> Wayne Simoni



## Ford Manufacturing in Ireland — An Industrial Story from Cork

*Cinda Craven with ChatGPT*

In the early 20th century, Ford Motor Company was not just transforming automobile production in the United States, it was also beginning to plant roots in Europe. One of the most significant chapters in this story took place in Cork, Ireland, where Ford established its first purpose-built factory outside North America. That factory would go on to assemble a number of Ford's iconic vehicles, including the Ford Model T and Model A, during a formative period in Ireland's industrial history.

Henry Ford's decision to build in Cork was influenced by his own family heritage — his father's family hailed from the area. In April 1917, Ford founded Henry Ford & Son Ltd., the legal entity that still represents Ford in Ireland and the only Ford company globally to carry the founder's full name.

### **The Factory of Henry Ford & Son, Ltd., Cork**

... vast modern and a spur to the imagination, for from this factory come products that play a most important part in developments throughout the country, Tractors and implements to lighten and speed the farmers' tasks. . . . Commercial vehicles from trim little vans to heavy trucks carrying loads fast and far . . . private cars to widen family horizons or make business easier.



The Ford factory at the 'Marina' in Cork. (Image: *Irish Press*, 21 July 1950)

The Cork plant, located on the Marina near the River Lee, was originally intended to build Fordson tractors to support agricultural recovery after World War I. Over the next decade, the plant evolved into a dynamic manufacturing and assembly center, first for tractors and later for passenger cars.

Throughout the 1920s, the Cork factory assembled the Ford Model T. The Marina plant, just like the plants in America, transitioned to assembling the Model A by late 1927. With the Model A being popular both in Ireland and in the broader European market, it made local assembly economically sensible under the tariff structures of the time.

Assembly-oriented manufacturing models were common in many smaller markets in the early automobile age: international firms shipped parts in “completely knocked down” (CKD) form to overcome high import tariffs on fully built vehicles and to create jobs locally.

During the 1930s, the Cork assembly plant became a major employer, deeply integrated into the local economy. Production of the Model A and other vehicles was more than an industrial activity — it was a source of steady employment for Cork residents through periods of global economic turmoil.

Over the ensuing decades, the Cork plant continued to assemble newer Ford models, from the Model Y and Prefect to the Anglia, Escort, Cortina, and beyond, adapting to changing markets. However, by the early 1980s, shifts in trade regulations, global production consolidation, and economic pressures made the plant unviable. Unfortunately, the historic Marina facility closed in 1984, ending nearly seven decades of Ford assembly in Ireland.



A Fordson tractor, built in Cork from 1919, being used to advertise the Ford company in 1922.  
Photo: Library of Congress

## Avoid the “Paddy Wagon” This St. Patrick’s Day!

Cinda Craven with ChatGPT

In common usage, a *paddy wagon* refers to a **patrol wagon or police van** — a vehicle designed with a secure rear compartment to carry prisoners or suspects after arrest. It was first recorded in American English in the early 1900s. Although the exact origin of *paddy wagon* isn’t definitively proven, linguists and historians offer several leading theories:

One common explanation ties the term to the Irish immigrants who played a huge role in early American police forces. During the 19th century, many Irishmen — often called “*Paddies*” (derived from *Pádraig*, the Irish form of *Patrick*) — joined city police departments, especially in places like New York City. A patrol wagon driven by a **police officer nicknamed Paddy** may have begun to be called a “paddy wagon.” This “Irish cop” explanation is grounded in demographic history: large numbers of Irish immigrants joined law enforcement at a time when organized police forces were developing.



Another theory suggests that the term came about because many of the people being picked up and transported in these wagons were Irish immigrants — particularly in big cities where poverty and tensions sometimes led to frequent arrests. Because “Paddy” was used as slang for Irish people, a **wagon full of Irish detainees** could be mockingly called a “paddy wagon.”

Some linguists argue that *paddy wagon* might simply be a corruption of “patrol wagon”, matching how slang terms often evolve from everyday speech. In this view, over time the word **patrol morphed into paddy because it was easier to say** or because people associated it with Irish police officers.

The first documented use of *paddy wagon* in the police sense appeared in American sources around 1909 — long after police vans began to be used to transport prisoners. Earlier in the 19th century, many cities still relied on horse-drawn carriages or rudimentary wagons for prisoner transport. Often called other names like *Black Maria* — named either for the speed and darkness of the vehicle or after an early legendary figure, *paddy wagon* eventually became more common in U.S. slang.

In any case, if you do over-celebrate this St. Patrick’s Day, please find yourself in the back of an Uber or Lyft — not a Paddy Wagon!



May your spark always catch,  
May your carb never flood,  
May your tires find the  
clover  
In the thick of the mud.



There's green in the  
shamrock,  
There's gold in the sun—  
But give me my Horseless  
Carriage,  
And I've already won.





# WESTERN GASLIGHT

## 1&2 CYLINDER TOURING REGISTRY

*An Affiliate Registry of the Hot Rod Carriage Club of America*



# EXETER TOUR

**April 9-11  
2026**

## REGISTRATION FORM

Registrant: \_\_\_\_\_ HCCA Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Spouse / Partner Information *For Name Tags*

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Guest(s) Information *For Name Tags*

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Attach a separate sheet for additional guests, if necessary*

### Vehicle Information

Vehicle Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Make & Model: \_\_\_\_\_  No Vehicle

### Questions?



Contact

**Don Azevedo**

(925) 301-5315

imnuts4fords@comcast.net

**Please make your hotel  
reservation separately**



805 S Kaweah Ave - Exeter, CA

**(559) 592-8118**

Rates from \$149/night + tax

Includes complimentary continental breakfast

Rate Code: Old Car Tour

**Check-in 4/9 - Check-out 4/12**

Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_

Tour is restricted to 1, 2 & 3 cylinder cars, and 4 cylinder cars no greater than 15 hp. Electric cars, steam cars and all motorcycles. All vehicles must have been manufactured prior to January 1, 1916. Due to insurance regulations, the registered driver must be a member of HCCA.

I, the undersigned, agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the HCCA and hosting registry group and officers from any and all claims, costs, liabilities and attorney's fees arising from injury, actual or claimed, of any kind to property or persons resulting in participation in the 2026 Exeter Western Gaslight HCCA Tour. I have liability and property damage coverage on my tour vehicle and will maintain coverage for the duration of tour.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send Deposit of \$50 to reserve your place on the Tour**

**Final cost of Tour to be determined**

Please make check payable to:

**Western Gaslight**

Mail completed form and check to:

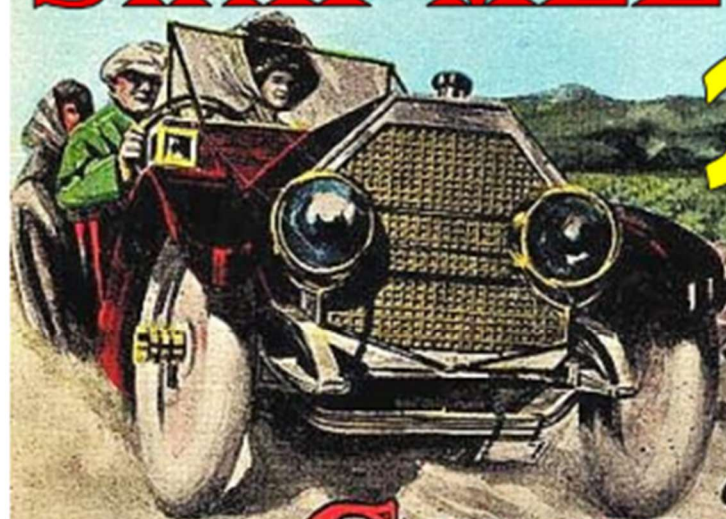


Don Azevedo  
42167 River Knolls Place  
Coarsegold, CA 93614

Registration deadline March 15, 2026

# BAKERSFIELD SWAP MEET

# 2026



come to  
**CALIFORNIA**

— This year's Swap Meet honoring Gil Klecan —

## MAY 1 & 2 - 2026

### Brass Era / Pre-war Swap Meet



## MINTER AIRFIELD

201 Aviation Street - Shafter, CA  
(A few miles North of Bakersfield on Hwy 99)

- ◆ Vendor set-up; Friday morning
- ◆ Swap Meet; Friday & Saturday
- ◆ Vendor Space (20' x 40') \$60 / Buyers \$10



**Registration  
NOW OPEN**

Visit [CaliforniaRendezvous.com](http://CaliforniaRendezvous.com) to download Registration Form  
For more information, call Steven: (323) 497-0601

Where  
to Stay?



### SWAP MEET *Special!*

\$103/night Thursday, Friday & Saturday or any variation.  
**(661) 387-1678 ext. 0** Group Code: HCCSC  
19480 Quinn Road, Bakersfield, CA 93308



### The Yosemite Campout

"bridging" those 4 days between the Bakersfield Swap Meet and our 2026 HCCA National Tour and Convention.

All these events are in the same Central Valley region.

Hosted by the HCC SoCal

Oakhurst, CA. – Yosemite Valley – Oakhurst, CA.

Sat evening, May 2nd through Wed morning, May 6.

Sat evening social in Oakhurst.

The next morning we leave our tow rigs behind and progress to the Yosemite Valley floor for two nights at Camp Curry Village.

May 5th we tour down the Merced River Valley in route back to Oakhurst.

Event contact: Steven (323) 497-0601 or [NewNorthSouth@gmail.com](mailto:NewNorthSouth@gmail.com)

**HORSELESS CARRIAGE CLUB OF AMERICA**



*Announcing . . .*  
**2026 National Tour  
& Convention**



*aka*  
**California  
RENDEZVOUS V**

*Save the dates;*

**May 6-10**

*Nestled in the foothills of the  
Southern Sierra Nevada mountains,  
Friant, California serves as the ideal  
gateway to breathtaking natural  
wonders and rich historic landmarks*

*More information coming soon . . .*

*Your hosts:*

Jim & Dianna Skillicorn  
(831) 455-5150



Host Hotel  
Table Mountain Casino



## Springtime 200 Mile Speedster Run and Lowland Tour

### *“Adventure in the Sierra Nevada”*

Sponsored By Northwest Vintage Speedsters

May 15-17, 2026  
Orangevale, California

Friday's warmup Tour and  
Saturday's Lowland Tour  
open to any pre-1934 automobile

Sunday's Endurance Run only open to  
pre-1934 4-cylinder Speedsters

Headquartered at Matt & Maya Ryan's home

**To receive an emailed registration packet  
for this event please send an email  
request to**

**Matt Ryan, [amheatandac@gmail.com](mailto:amheatandac@gmail.com)**

Note "Speedster Run" on the subject line and  
include your name, phone, and email address in  
the narrative.

### **Itinerary:**

#### ***Day 1 – Friday, May 15, 2026***

Registration at Headquarters starting at noon. Afternoon warm-up tour starting at 3:00 pm, approximately 25 miles. Hors d'oeuvres and socializing in the evening.

#### ***Day 2 – Saturday, May 16, 2026***

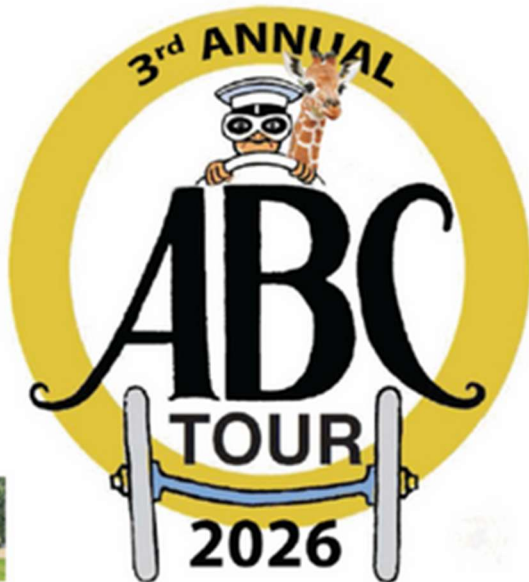
Lowland Tour in the foothills to a private collection, approximately 100 miles.

#### ***Day 3 – Sunday, May 17, 2026***

200 mile speedster run through the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains. Expect some steep hills and dirt roads. The evening includes a BBQ banquet and award's ceremony in the Ryan's Garage.



**Entry Deadline 4/1/2026**



June 1-5

ABC III Tour

Pine Mountain, GA

Sponsor: Atlanta Regional Group

Awesome Brass Cars

(Limited to 50 cars)

Join us in celebrating America and saluting our veterans!

- Army Infantry Museum
- Roosevelt's Little White House
- Civil War Naval Museum
- Callaway Gardens
- Duracell Battery Company
- Wild Animal Safari Ride
- KIA Motors
- Columbus Collective Museums
- And more

Contact:

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404-372-3396

Email: [kenny@knwfire.com](mailto:kenny@knwfire.com)