



# Gold Country Flyer

Monthly Newsletter Published By the El Dorado Early Ford V8 Car Club. Send Newsworthy Items to Sandy Barisic at [hapee2b@att.net](mailto:hapee2b@att.net)

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## Mission Statement

The El Dorado Early Ford V8 Car Club is based in El Dorado County, California and is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of Ford, Mercury, and Lincoln vehicles designed and built by the Ford Motor Company from 1932 to 1953. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month. Locations change so check newsletter for location.

## President's Message

Hello V8er's, Happy Mother's Day! Well it appears that there may be a light at the end of the tunnel. Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado counties are all in the orange or red tier which means restaurants and retail shops are open for business at limited capacity. In addition several car shows have been planned including the Jackson Car Show May 15<sup>th</sup> and the Downtown Lincoln Show August 21<sup>st</sup>.



A huge thanks goes out to Dean & Patty Plant for an outstanding Spring Fling BBQ this past March.

It will sure be nice to get out to meet and greet car guys and gals that we haven't been in contact with for over a year at upcoming shows and gatherings! Rex

## Meeting Minutes

No formal meetings were conducted in March or April due to Covid-19 restrictions.

## Meeting Thursday May 6th

The May meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Colina De Oro in Diamond Springs. Dinner at 5:30PM with meeting to follow.

## Breakfast Saturday May 8th

Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Sportsman's Hall in Camino at 9:00 AM. Meet at the Dollar Store on Broadway at 8:30 AM to caravan up to the restaurant.

## Ladies Luncheon

Ladies Luncheons dates will be discussed at the next meeting

## Men's Luncheon

Men's Luncheons dates will be discussed at the next meeting

## Breakfast Schedule 2021

May 8<sup>th</sup> – David & Karen Waddell

June 5<sup>th</sup> - Art & Michelle Hardie

July 3<sup>rd</sup>???

August 7<sup>th</sup>???

September 4<sup>th</sup> - Milo & Jo

October 9<sup>th</sup> - Howard & Judy Madison

November 6<sup>th</sup> - Rex & Sue Roden

December 4<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Party



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Birthdays:** Sandra Morgan & Sue Roden 22nd

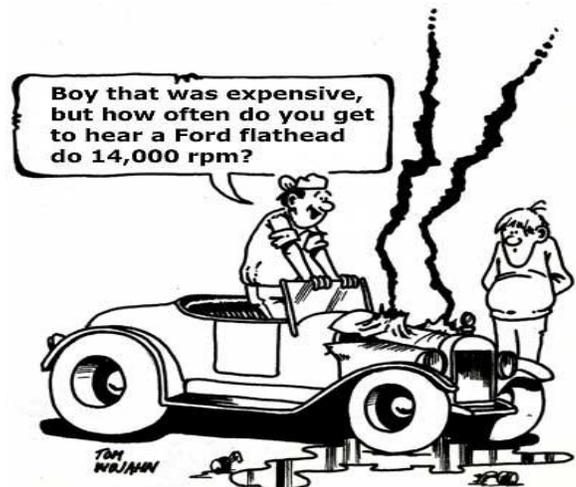
**Anniversaries:** Don & Barbara Erb 27th

## Sunshine



I left several messages and the members I talked with had no major issues. It was great talking to everyone, and I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting...Sue.

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## How Much Was Gasoline the Year You Started Driving?

Since the introduction of Henry Ford's Model T in the early 20th century, cars and driving have become synonymous with American industry and culture. Our wheels have become more than just a way to get from A to B—they're a way to shape and define our identity. Gasoline prices have been relatively reasonable as of late, but it wasn't long ago that Americans were trading in their H2 Hummers to avoid paying exorbitantly high gas prices, let alone waiting in line for hours at the pump in times of severe shortages. But for nearly every mile driven, American consumers find themselves inextricably linked to a complex global commodity that can have a major impact on the cost of cruising: fuel.

Most of the time, both the highs and the lows are out of drivers' hands. During the Arab-Israeli War in 1973, Arab oil manufacturers banned exports to the U.S. due to their support of Israel, leading to a gas shortage and sky-high prices. In recent years, an increase in demand for oil in developing economies alongside an expansion in production from countries (like the U.S.) that once imported most of their oil, led to a sharp drop in oil prices. Most recently, stay-at-home orders amidst the COVID-19 pandemic caused oil prices to crater as demand for oil bottomed out.

**1955 \$0.29** - Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.79 Smack in the middle of a thriving economy, and with more and more people relocating to the suburbs as a result of the baby boom, 1955 was a particularly fruitful year for the automotive industry. Automobile manufacturers were experimenting with style and substance, introducing new technology in impressive designs. One of the most significant cars from this year was the Chevrolet Bel-Air, from Chevrolet's **three “Tri-Five” series**.

**1956 \$0.30** - Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.85 In 1956, inflation-adjusted gas prices and absolute gas prices increased slightly from the previous year. As more people began living in suburbs outside of centralized industrial hubs, Americans began using more fuel—between 1955 and 1956, the average gallons per vehicle jumped from 761 to 771, according to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Americans were also beginning to get fewer miles per gallon, meaning they were likely spending more on gas overall.

**1957, 1958, & 1959 \$0.31** - Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.85 The federal gasoline tax has remained at 18.4% since 1993 and exists with the intention of raising money to pay for infrastructure like roads and

highways. The current structure of this tax dates back to 1957, when a system was set up to send all money made from the gasoline tax directly to the federal Highway Trust Fund. The general public expressed support for the idea of this tax being spent on things that would help them navigate their cities. Since then, that cash supply has been put toward other projects. The 1958 recession signaled the sharpest economic downturn during the generally prosperous era between World War II and the 1970s. Many industries were deeply affected during this time, with the automobile industry as a prime example. 1958 was the worst year for automotive workers since the industry-wide wartime halt a decade earlier. This period of economic distress lasted less than a year, but impacted unemployment, spending, and the strength of the dollar. There was a shift in America's attitude towards oil at this time. President Dwight Eisenhower introduced the Mandatory Oil Import Program, placing restrictions on the amount of oil that could be imported into the United States. His reasoning was based on national security concerns and a desire to prevent America from becoming too reliant on other nations for energy.

**1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964 \$0.32** - Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.79. Throughout the 1960s, new cars continued to blend exciting new technology with increasingly sleek design. Style was moving away from the 1950s “bigger is better” mentality, and towards a pared-down but intensely powerful world of automobiles. Muscle cars, which originated in this decade, are a perfect example of this new ideal. Additionally, 1960 marked the founding year of OPEC (the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries), made up of the world's biggest oil producers. This force exerted its power over oil and gasoline prices for the United States and the rest of the world.

**1965 \$0.33** - Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.71 (# The Clean Air Act of 1963 was an important move in the direction of environmental awareness, and the 1965 amendments to this law specifically targeted automobile emissions. The amendments, known as the Motor Vehicle Air Pollution Control Act, prioritized setting specific standards for car emissions, beginning with 1968 car models. The amendments also raised awareness and promoted research on how pollution in the United States could impact air quality in Mexico and Canada.

**1966 \$0.34**- Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.71 Few cars can sum up the automobile style preferences of the 1960s like the Ford Mustang. Beginning with the Mustang I, a two-seater that prioritized style over

substance, the car eventually morphed into its 1966 identity: often a red convertible with all the flair of the popular muscle car ideal. In 1966, Ford sold approximately 500,000 Mustangs Coupes, making it one of the most popular and lasting models the brand ever produced.

**1967, 1968, 1969, 1970 \$0.35**- Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.71 In 1967, the United States was in the midst of the Vietnam War. By this point, the U.S. troop count in Vietnam was nearing half a million, casualties were rising on both sides, and American anti-war sentiments were becoming increasingly prevalent. Elsewhere in the world, the scene was being set for the 1973 oil crisis, during which gas shortages plagued America, as major global oil suppliers like Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait temporarily banned shipments. This came in response to the Six-Day War between Israel and Egypt, Syria, and Jordan, which occurred in 1967. Use of oil as a tactical playing card in this way is referred to as the “oil” weapon.

**1971 & 1972 \$0.37**- Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.36. Gas prices climbed in 1971, as did taxes, due to inflation and general economic instability. The situation became so dire that President Richard Nixon issued a 90-day freeze on all prices and wages in the nation. He demanded that everyone, from the individual to the corporation, cooperate voluntarily. The freeze brought about mixed reactions, and though it did initially inject some much-needed life back into the stock market, the success was short-lived.

**1973 \$0.41**-Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.38. The most famous historic event to do with gasoline and gas prices, the 1973 oil crisis began when the members of OPEC declared an embargo against nations that had supported, or appeared to support, Israel during the Arab-Israeli war earlier that year. This embargo meant that the United States, which had become extremely reliant on foreign oil, suddenly faced gasoline shortages. In response, gas prices soared, and lines at gas stations got longer. The impact of this crisis ultimately stretched far beyond availability; in fact, the crisis shifted the balance of global politics and forced America to take a position in the Middle East in order to end the embargo.

**1974 \$0.55**- Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.88. When 1974 began, the United States was still very much in the midst of the oil crisis that had begun the previous year as retaliation against nations that OPEC believed supported Israel. This was accompanied by a stock market crash that lasted throughout 1973 and 1974, and gas prices continued to skyrocket. In some states, license plates ending with odd or even numbers could

fill up only on certain days. Eventually, negotiations resulted in Israel withdrawing its troops from the Suez Canal in exchange for lifting the embargo.

**1975 \$0.59** - Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.83. By 1975, the public was scared and suspicious; two years of waking up at the crack of dawn to wait in line for gasoline had taken its toll on morale, and gas prices increased once again. Along with changes in price, however, came changes with how money was spent. Throughout the 1970s, the credit card was gaining popularity, and women were beginning to demand equal rights in the realm of credit and finances. In fact, a year after the Senate passed the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, a bank opened that was geared specifically toward women.

**1976 \$0.61**- Inflation-adjusted price: \$2.77. Absolute gas prices rose by two cents between 1975 and 1976, though inflation began to slow down around this time. The inflation adjusted price dropped by five cents between the two years. Though the oil embargo that had caused gasoline shortages had been lifted, the United States now faced another energy crisis: a natural gas shortage that resulted in layoffs in the automobile industry. Businesses and homeowners alike struggled to function and stay warm as winter approached.



**Upcoming 2021 Car Shows & Events in the Greater Sacramento Area**  
**Be sure to confirm before you go**

Saturday - May 15 – Jackson Car Show

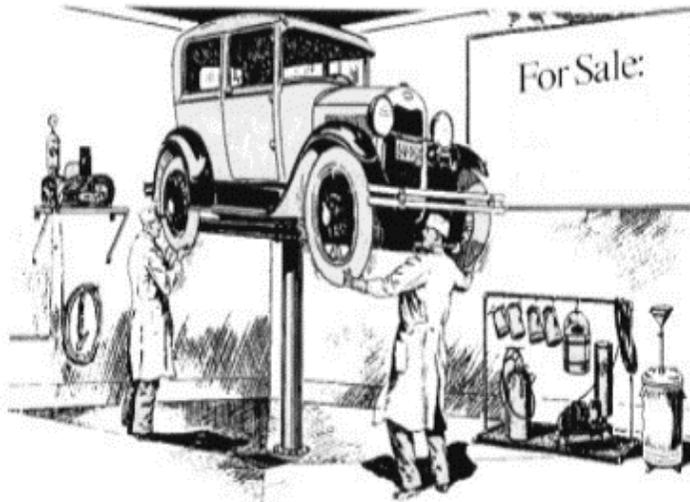
Saturday – August 21<sup>st</sup> – Lincoln Car Show

Weekly every Saturday in May Cars & Coffee El Dorado Hills Town Center



**Happy Mother's Day to all  
Ford V8 Club Mothers!**

Got something to sell? Post it here for free. Send info to [rexroden1@gmail.com](mailto:rexroden1@gmail.com)



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