



T – Times

Volume 32 Issue 2
February 2012

Three Rivers Model T Ford Club
P. O. Box 7083
Kennewick, WA 99336

“T-Times” is the publication of the Three Rivers Model T Ford Club and is published monthly solely for its members and exchange with other antique automobile groups. Editorial copy and advertisements should be sent to: Editor 218 NE A Street College Place, WA 99324 by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the next month’s issue.
Email: dpeters0258@gmail.com

The Three Rivers Model T Ford Club is a chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America. Membership is recommended and encouraged. Make membership requests to: MTFCA P.O. Box 126 Centerville, IN 47330. Annual local club dues are \$20. Monthly meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at the Reata Springs Baptist Church, 2830 Leopold Lane, Richland, WA at 7:00 PM.

Birthdays for February are:

Larry Coder, Feb 2; Howard Fry, Feb 4; Sandy Ellingson, Feb 8; Lucille Knutson, Feb 13; Dan Danko, Feb 13.

Happy Birthday to each of you!

Anniversaries for February are:

Richard and Becky Sewer, Feb 14

Happy Anniversary!

2012 Officers

Club President Dean Stokes
dwstokes1@embarqmail.com

Vice President Bill Sheller

Treasurer Mike Porter

Secretary Wanda Stokes
dwstokes1@embarqmail.com

Newsletter Editor Dale Peterson
dpeters0258@gmail.com

Board Members

1 Year -- Russ Armstrong
2 Year -- Fred Fraser
3 Year – Jim Elenbaas

Tour to Rainier Park



Plans for a tour of the Mt Rainier area is beginning to fall into place. The dates will be August 6-9, 2012. The present itinerary is for the group to meet at Dean and Wanda's in Sunnyside, then leave for Packwood via Highway 12 at 9:00 AM. The first two nights will be spent at the 1912 Packwood Hotel. From this base, we will travel to Longmire and Paradise the second day, and then up to Sunrise the third day. After leaving the Sunrise area on Wednesday afternoon, we will drive back Highway 410 toward Yakima and spent that night at Whistling Jack's. Thursday we will have a relaxing drive back to Sunnyside. This tour will take place during the week to minimize busy weekend traffic. There should be lots of time to sight see and enjoy the views. I have chosen to leave out a stay at Paradise Inn due to the expense (\$260 per night) so that more of our group may be able to attend. However, Sharon and I do plan to stay at Paradise at least one night when we are checking out the routes and mileage.

Hotel Packwood was built in 1912 and the proprietress was very excited to have us plan to stay there. Since this is their 100 year anniversary, they are hoping for special events like this. The

rooms are more along the line of accommodations one would expect while traveling by auto many years ago. Two of the rooms have private baths and the remainder share two bathrooms with showers. The entire Hotel has been reserved for our group alone and has 9 rooms. Some of the rooms do have more than one bed, so if you were inclined to share with another couple, or bring along another family member, feel free to make those arrangements. There is a website you can check them out at:

www.packwoodwa.com/Hotel%20Packwood.htm. Rates run \$38.40 to \$53.75 per night. The rooms appear comfortable but cozy in their pictures. There is a lobby we will be able to use as well as a full wrap-around porch with seating outdoors. Being the Hotel is in town, there are restaurants available for meals while we are there. Parking off the street is provided. There are grass areas with picnic tables and a barbecue as well. You will not need to make reservations individually for this hotel as all of the rooms are reserved under my name and the TRMTFC.



Hotel Packwood

Whistling Jack's is a collection of cottages and a main lodge with rooms. One of the cottages has two bedrooms and three queen size beds and the other cottages have a separate bedroom and an

alcove with a bed or a futon type bed in the living room. The Lodge has rooms with full bath for \$110 per night and the lodges run \$160 to \$265 and could accommodate more than one couple again if you want to share. There are hot tubs with some of the cottages and there is a common outdoor hot tub for the lodge. Their website is www.whistlinjacklodge.com. Check out the package deals for lodging and meals, also. For this night you will need to individually call for reservations at Tel. [\(509\) 658-2433](tel:5096582433). As of today, January 16, there was only one reservation for one of the cottages, but this is expected to change soon. If you plan to attend, call soon to reserve a room.

Please Email me, give me a call, or mail a note to me to reserve your place at the Hotel Packwood.

See you at our next meeting **February 16, 6:00 PM at Jim Langdon's in Hermiston**. He has his son's shop across the street reserved; see the newsletter for more details.

Looking forward to a good year of touring,

Letter to the Editor:

I would like to address the Model T Club with a concern about tours in hopes there may be a solution among us, collectively. The problem, as I see it, with putting on a successful Model T tour is having a trouble truck to accompany the tour. Now that I'm retired, I would very much like to present for your touring pleasure enjoyable and well planned out Model T tours,

but ... I'm fresh out of people who I used to be able to contact for trouble truck drivers. Now I know we could chance it and go without one, as I believe our cars are in pretty darn good condition. However, I know from personal experience that no matter how well you maintain the old Ford, an un-repairable side of the road experience can happen to anyone. As soon as that happens, the need for the trouble truck NOW is obvious! Just because a Model T has broken down and can't be repaired on the spot does NOT mean the tour is over and everybody should stop having fun. Come on, fun is what these cars and the people who operate them is all about! So, ... if anyone has any ideas how this problem can be solved, or better yet knows someone who would be willing to drive the trouble truck, please either talk to Dale Peterson or myself with your ideas.

I have been working on another Freeze Your Fanny Tour and have come up with what I think would be a great tour. With only 17 paid memberships in our club, I would like to invite other clubs to take part, as in days of old, but... no trouble truck ... no tour! Please let's get together and find a solution for the problem.

Henry built a darn good car ... Yes he did!

Bill Sheller

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Umatilla, Oregon 97882

541-561-2047

Me and the Model T

by **Bill Sheller**



Aw, for the road less traveled! That's the road for me. I can think of nothing more rewarding for the feeling of well being that comes over me when I get behind the wheel of a Model T Ford. Just starting ol Henry up with his trusty "startin stick" produces a feeling of calm and happiness within that is hard to put into words. Well for me it's simply complete contentment,

as he comes alive with his myriad of sounds that dance across my senses and produce what I call the standard Model T Ford starting smile! No other automobile I have ever owned or come in contact with in my entire life has effected me this way. You know, I've always thought this condition was entirely my Grandfathers fault. I'm now ready to proclaim the car itself and the many folks I have befriended over my years of association are indeed worthy of... MOST of the credit. It really has to be that way, for I know people who are as smitten with the old Ford as I and ... they never knew Roscoe Sheller!

Getting back to my road less traveled statement, there never has been a car more suited to roads that haven't felt the tread of a tire in week's ... than a Model T Ford! Oh sure the back country roads we are blessed with here are great fun and very relaxing. Most of the touring roads we travel are only shared with the folks who live



on them. They are marvelous and scenic adventures that are well maintained and smoothly paved. Old car enthusiasts love them as well as those who travel on two wheels. Upon meeting these other travelers

we wave and enjoy an instant of comraderie with these strangers. I often think to myself, gosh, ... if they only knew what they're missing, but that thought quickly passes as I return to the magic of the Model T. No sir, where the Model T Ford leaves all the others completely, ... is the road even less traveled than the ones just described!

When you get in a Model T and find yourself an un-paved road, well, that's what Lizzie is all about! There never has been a car more suited to that type of road way. Why the Model T Ford was built for un-paved travel. That's also where you'll separate yourself from most



other old car folks. The marvelous gravel roads we have around here are plentiful and most are quite well maintained. One of the very best things about the gravel is that they produce dust, which in turn produces a rather authentic looking Model T Ford. Gosh, it surely gives me a warm feeling to be able to cast my eyes on a dust clad, or better yet mud splattered Model T Ford, as that for me just enhances the Model T experience. The sight of un-polished and tarnished brass, on a boiled over radiator, is a beautiful sight to see. Because, ... that's exactly how a Model T Ford looked in it's day.

Now there's only one road surface better suited to Model T travel than gravel, and that's ...dirt! This day and age, those roads are hard to find. Dale Peterson did a marvelous job of discovering one on his Ritter tour last year. Henry and I really liked it!

Yep, as I said, Me and the Model T prefer ... the road less traveled!

Henry built a darn good car ... Yes he did!



Three River's Model T Club Minutes

January 15, 2012

This month's Installation of Officers meeting was held at Applebee's Restaurant in Kennewick, Washington. We had a good number of members attend this meeting. President Marlene Coder welcomed everyone and new President, Dean Stokes. We all thank Marlene for being a wonderful president this past two years. Well done!

New President, Dean welcomed everyone and conducted today's meeting. First on the agenda was the awarding of the Trouble Truck Trophy. Mike Porter was in charge of this and gave his report of this past year's tours and who broke down or had Model T troubles. There were several candidates, but the trophy went to Bill Sheller for Henry's broken crankshaft. Bill explained that Henry should be up and running soon and hopes to partake in this year's tours. He will display the trouble truck trophy proudly in his home. Thank you Bill.

Dean asked the members where we should have the February 2012 meeting. Do we want to have it at the church, a member's home, a restaurant. After much discussion, it was decided that the meeting will be in Hermiston at Jim and Phyllis Langdon's. Information: It will be a potluck with members bringing a hot dish and a salad or dessert. Table service will be provided, but bring a big spoon for your hot dish or salad/dessert. The date is February 16th at 6:00 p.m. Jim wishes to have the meeting at Jim Langdon's large

workshop across from their home on Baggett Drive in Hermiston.

Several members pointed out that we should stick as closely as possible to the same time and date each month. Other members pointed out that when we have meetings at a restaurant or member's homes, we usually have a better turnout than regular meetings at the church. This item will be discussed more later on.

Jim Langdon also mentioned that they will be hosting a breakfast April 4th. More information forthcoming.

Dale Peterson gave an update about his trip for August 2012 to Mount Rainier National Park. The dates are August 6th, 7th, 8th and drive home on the 9th. Reservations need to be made as soon as possible and again, more information forthcoming.

The National Model T Tour will be in Lincoln, Nebraska the week of June 17th, 2012. Several members plan on attending. Also the same week will be the Model T Speedster run in Butte, Montana. Several members plan on attending this event also.

Bill Sheller also mentioned that he would like to revive the "Freeze Your Fanny" tour held in March, possibly to Walla Walla. He is in the planning stage and more information will be forthcoming.

It was mentioned that April is the best viewing of hummingbirds in Dixie, Washington. Dale and Sharon Peterson put on a tour a few years back to Dixie, and

everyone **LOVED** it. Perhaps we will be seeing hummers in the future.

Dale also mentioned that he would like our club to do a get-together with the **Spokane Model T Club** possibly meeting at **Paloose Falls** sometime in 2012. **Bill** would like to do an "**All Ford Day**" in **Hermiston**. He wants to invite other Ford Clubs (Model T, Model A and Ford people) to come. He is mulling this idea around and everyone thought both of these tours sounded great.

Dean Stokes mentioned that he would like to do a tour north of Sunnyside touring the **Black Rock Creek valley**. May is a perfect time to tour this area as the wildflowers are just breathtaking and so are the views. We could have a picnic. More later.

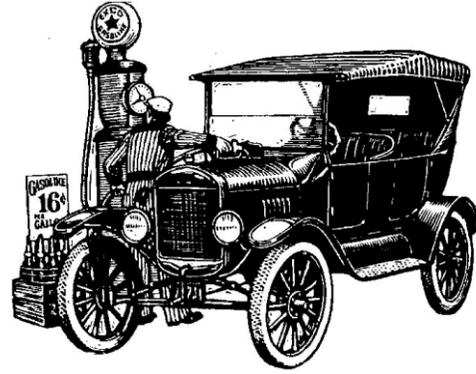
Jane Armstrong brought her beautiful Model T quilt top she is making. It is indeed a piece of art and we thank her for sharing. She is making this quilt for Russ, her hubby.

Dean had someone ask him about a Model T dump truck that used to be in the Tri City area. Several members remember a little about a dump truck, but no one remembers exactly who had it or where. Wanda read a letter (via e-mail) from an auto detailer who would like to link his website to **Three River's website**. This letter was passed to Dale Peterson, our web-master.

With nothing more to come before the members, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Wanda Stokes, Secretary



Coming Events

February 16 at 6:00 PM. Monthly meeting and Potluck dinner at Langdon's, in the Shop across the street from their house at 30851 Baggett Lane, Hermiston. See the minutes for details.

April 4 Breakfast at Langdon's

June 17-22, 2012 National MTFCA Tour in Lincoln, Nebraska

June 17-20, 2012 Montana 500 in Butte, Montana

August 6-9, 2012 Mt Rainier Tour. See the Newsletter for more information.

Needs, Leads, and Parts for Sale

Have T Parts to sell/trade. 15-25 roadster body with top irons, body parts, fenders, hood, radiator and shell, wheels, engine blocks and much more. Also to sell or trade, 27 T touring body, fenders, frame, radiator. Need: distributor and lots of other parts. Call (253) 459-5871.

For Sale: New ring and pinion gear for 1925 Model T. Terry Shegrud. 586-3946.

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