



T – Times

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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.

2010 Officers

Club President 2010	Marlene Coder m.coder@hotmail.com
Vice President	Dean Stokes dwestokes1@embarqmail.com
Secretary	Wanda Stokes dwestokes1@embarqmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Dale Peterson dpeters0258@gmail.com

Board Members

1 Year -- Marlene Coder
2 Year -- Russ Armstrong
3 Year -- Fred Fraser

Note from the Editor

It's feeling a lot like spring (are their words for this that go with the tune from "It's feeling a lot like Christmas"?). Anyway, the sun is shining as I am writing this. Saturday I got Daisy out and went on a chilly drive to Milton Freewater. The sun was shining when we got home from church, but how fast it went away before we left! I now know that it takes 4 gallons to go the long way from College Place to Milton Freewater via Whitman Mission. No, I didn't run out of gas, but when I went out yesterday to start her up and drive into the shop for some maintenance, she wouldn't start, just a few chuffs. It wouldn't work to pull start Daisy since the trailer was not hooked up and the rear door pointed at the shop door. What else to do but push her out of the trailer, but I just couldn't get her over the edge of the cement apron in front of the shop. So what else to do but stand back and scratch the head (I lose a few more hairs every time I do this!). The light comes on and a quick check of the gas tank reveals a dry cavity. Following a quick trip to the local Shell station and she started up with only a couple pulls of the crank.

Anyway, I hope that everyone in the club has a worse case of cabin fever than I. After all, I just got back from sweating in Nicaragua for a month. It's time to get the T's out, de-winterized and ready for a season of touring. Many ideas have been floating around for this year. When I asked Gary Ellingson if he was planning a tour this year, you could see those eyes light up and the gears come to life! Some of the members are planning a trip north to Canada for the national tour at Pincer Creek, Alberta. I have started to put together a tour to Ritter Hot Springs in July that you can read about further down in this newsletter.

There are several members that we have not seen in a while at the meetings or on tour, so April 10 I am proposing that we have a "Sunday Drive" to visit some of these folks. We will meet at 2PM to allow for those of you that would like to go to church. Meet at Mike and Linda Porter's, 4202 W 10th Ave in Kennewick and then we will go visiting. Call someone you would like to see to let them know we are thinking about them and would like to stop by for a short visit.

If you have some more ideas for a tour, give Dean Stokes a call or come to the April club meeting. Also, I would like to start printing stories from other club members. Write something up about how you got started in the hobby, something about your favorite car, or a tour you took and would like to share with the membership. Mail it to me at the address listed above or email directly to me (preferred since I won't have to retype it).

Long time member Bill Betts is having a yard sale April 1,2,3. Story is he has decided to downsize. He has a lot of T and A things and he told me that his 1911 Torpedo is for sale. The address is 1533 Taumarson Road, Walla Walla. Turn east off Highway 125 (opposite Walmart) and follow the road around a few curves and his house is on the right. Come to pick up a few things, or just to visit a long time member we haven't seen for a while.

Monthly Minutes
Three River's Model T Club
March 17, 2011

The meeting was opened by Dean Stokes, filling in for Marlene Coder, our President, who was absent from tonight's meeting. Since we did not have a flag, the Pledge of Allegiance was not said.

Dean asked for the Secretary's report. Wanda read the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurer, Mike Porter, gave his report. We collected \$60 in dues last month and have money in the bank. Mike also read two letters from other Model T clubs. One club was willing to make banners as a fund raiser in West Springfield, Massachusetts and the other offered a speedster run in Salinas, California by the Horseless Carriage Club April 30 and May 1, 2011.

Gary Ellingson donated to the club 1918, 1919, and 1924 service bulletins for Model T's and other various other cars to the club. Thank you Gary.

Old Business

Ivan Dike was asked by Dean to give a report on the retirement party for Bill Sheller. Ivan said that Bill is enjoying his retirement. Congratulations Bill.

The Quilt Show mentioned last month, is this weekend. There is a \$5 admission fee and should be informative.

No report from Larry Coder regarding the Boy Scouts of America outing that will be planned later in the year.

Dean gave his report for the upcoming tour - **March 16th to Toppenish**. Dean said that members wanting to attend should meet at the Prosser Interchange at 9:00 a.m. and we will leave at 9:30. If you trailer your Model T to the Prosser interchange, you can park your truck and trailer at Thurston Wolf's Winery. This was approved ahead of time by Dean.

New Business

Fred Fraser noted that **Bill Betz of Walla Walla** will be downsizing and will be having a **yard sale April 1, 2, and 3rd** at his home. Bill will be selling some of his Model A and T parts and various other items.

Fred and Mary also returned from New Zealand. They had a wonderful time despite the earthquake that devastated Christ Church. Fred issued a challenge to our members. Three years from now, the New Zealand Model T Club will be celebrating their 21st anniversary and will be hosting another tour to New Zealand and Fred would like to see several of our members attend. The New Zealand people are very warm, friendly folks with wonderful sense of humor and would love to have us. Thank you Fred and Mary. The pictures were wonderful and interesting.

With so many world disasters, it was noted that Russ and Jane Armstrong were evacuated from Lincoln City from the Japanese Tsunami that threatened the West Coast.

Gary Ellingson noted that the former Ed Williams Consignment sale is this coming weekend with free admission in Sunnyside.

Dale has a wonderful idea for a [new tour July 25th, 26th and 27th to Ritter Hot Springs in Oregon](#). There is a ghost town with an operating hotel and he would like for our club to tour there and spend some time in the hotel. This sounds like a wonderful summer tour.

Marlene gave Dean directions to mention a donation for the use of [Riatta Springs Baptist Church](#) for the room and supplies. Dale made a motion that our club donate \$100 for this purpose. The motion was seconded and passed. Mike will send out \$100 to the church.

Dean also mentioned that Marlene and Larry have **cancelled the Cherry Blossom tour** that was scheduled in April. We all are sorry to hear this.

Sign Up Sheet for Refreshments was mentioned and the following people signed up:

March - Wanda Stokes

April - Jane Armstrong

May - Phyllis Langdon

June & July **No one signed up for June or July, Linda suggested that we have ice cream treats via the club. Everyone thought this was a great idea**

August - Annual Picnic

September - Linda Porter

October - Mary Fraser

November - Sharon Peterson

December - Christmas Party

Phyllis Langdon gave a report on their return to Arizona and they got a new Motor Home for their tours. Glad to have you back safe and sound.

Dean asked the club members what they thought of the idea of reimbursing tour organizers \$50 per tour to help defray costs. Dean said that the money would go back to the members

who participate. For example, if 10 people attend a tour, then each of the 10 would receive \$5 towards gas or food or whatever. Mike Porter mentioned that most clubs do give tour leaders money to defray costs for their own use. The members decided to "mull" this over and it will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Mike also read the "paid" members roster, and as of today, we have 20 members.

Dean asked if there were any "garage reports" and there were none at this time.

Dale Peterson was asked to give his report on his recent trip to Nicaragua. Dale helped the Misquitu people with their medical ailments and had quite the ordeal getting there and then dealing with the living conditions. It was a real eye opener as to how these people live with what they have to live with. Very, very interesting and everyone enjoyed listening to Dale. Thank you Dale for your input and glad you had a safe journey.

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

Respectively Submitted
Wanda Stokes, Secretary

Coming Events

April 1,2,3	Bill Betts yard sale at 1533 Taumarson Road, Walla Walla
April 10	Sunday Afternoon Drive – Dale Peterson tour chairman
April 21	Monthly meeting in Richland
May 19	Monthly meeting in Richland
June 16	Monthly meeting in Richland
June 27 - July 1, 2011	MTFCA National Tour, Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada
July 25-27	Ritter Hot Springs Tour – Dale Peterson tour chairman
July 21	Monthly meeting in Richland
September ?	Annual Tour with Gary Ellingson sangar29@centurylink.net
August 18?	Annual Picnic
December	Christmas Party



July Tour to Ritter Hot Springs

A three day trip is in the planning for July 25, 26, 27, 2011 to Ritter Hot Springs. This is expected to be an extra fun event to include a few stretches of gravel roads just like the T's were built for. The resort has history going back to the 1880's when hot springs were discovered by William Neal McDuffee for whom it was initially named McDuffee Hot Springs. The name changed to Ritter Hot Springs when the Rev. Joseph Ritter moved his post office from his homestead house to the store at McDuffee Hot Springs. The general store was built in 1894 so started its history with horse power and they witnessed the arrival and transition to horseless power. The present hotel was built starting in 1903 when the original home and hotel over the hot springs burned due to an overheated stove pipe. In 1956 the hotel was moved to its present location so that a swimming pool could be put in. The upstairs of the 8 room hotel is a dance hall that provided much entertainment to guests and locals alike. For those of you that may be concerned, access to the dance hall is from stairs on the back side or ground level from the parking lot behind and above ground level.

Activities planned include a picnic lunch on the way to Ritter, outdoor barbecue, swimming in the hot spring fed swimming pool, soaking in hot tubs, and lots of good food. On one of the two nights a square dance will be planned. In its heyday, locals joined in with hotel guests for this activity so the locals will again be invited to join in.

Tour chairman and contact for this tour is Dale Peterson. Email to dpeters0258@gmail.com or phone (509) 529-0258 or (509) 520-9576. If you would like to know more about Ritter Hot Springs, check out the website at <http://gessphoto.com/ritterhotsprings.html>.