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# T TIMES

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## Ford of Canada by Dale Peterson

Having a Canadian Model T, I have had some interest in the history of Ford of Canada. It seems that the British Commonwealth imposed tariffs and import fees on automobiles imported to Canada as well as a number of other countries. As we all know, Henry detested paying out anything to someone he felt did not do something to earn it. The Canadians charged a higher import fee for completed cars than they did for parts. This amounted to 25 percent of the value of the auto at the time.

Across the river from Detroit in Walkerville, Gordon Morton McGregor operated a wagon works. In 1904 he approached Henry Ford with a proposal to manufacture Ford cars in his wagon factory. Soon an agreement was reached and a new company was incorporated. Canadian law at the time required stock to be first offered to Canadian citizens before foreigners. McGregor had some difficulty at first getting significant interest, but soon had \$39,300

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**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, places to be announced in the newsletter prior.**

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### 2014 Officers

<b>Club President</b>	Gary Ellingson
<b>Vice President</b>	Jim Elenbaas
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mike Porter
<b>Secretary</b>	Lynda Caraher

**Newsletter Editor** Dale Peterson  
[dpeters0258@gmail.com](mailto:dpeters0258@gmail.com)

#### Board Members

1 Year – Jim Elenbaas  
2 Year – Gary Ellingson  
3 Year – Jim Langdon

from Canadian investors and \$89,700.15 from American investors. By the time it was all said and done, Ford of Canada was incorporated with Henry Ford controlling 51% of the stock.

Manufacturing began in in 1905 with the first car, a Model C completed on October 10. American John Grey was the first president, Henry the vice-president, and McGregor was named secretary and general manager. Of interest is the fact that McGregor never became president, and Henry never attended a board meeting for 15 years. Still, over the course of the company, McGregor seemed to have the main leadership role.



**Walkerville, Ontario (Wagon works) Factory**

Under agreement, Ford shared his car patents and specifications as well as the technological support to produce cars, while Ford of Canada had exclusive rights to sell cars in Canada and overseas to British Empire countries. At first, McGregor struggled to keep the new concern alive. Not until 1909 with the introduction of the Model T did it take off.

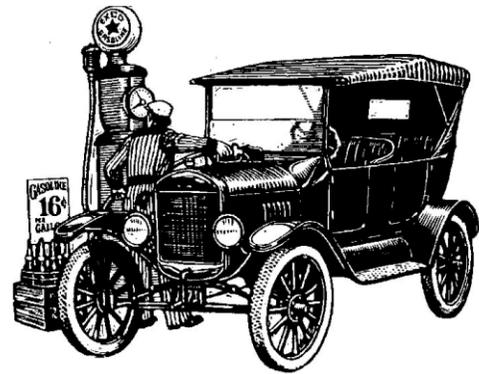
Initially, parts were ferried across the river and assembled into cars at Walkerville. The first step to independence began with purchase of bodies from Wm. Gray and Sons of Chatham. Gradually more and more parts were manufactured or obtained in Canada. By 1916 they were manufacturing or obtaining all but \$16.88 worth of parts from Canadian sources. Early on, engine blocks were produced in Detroit and the "Made in USA" was ground off due to the tariff requirements. In 1914, Walkerville started to produce their own blocks with their own serial numbers. Before 1914 Canadian block serial numbers were in sequence with the US produced blocks. Following this date, unique

## Birthdays in April

<b>Jim Langdon</b>	<b>April 4</b>
<b>Judy Danko</b>	<b>April 5</b>
<b>Larry Huetson</b>	<b>April 15</b>
<b>Gary Ellingson</b>	<b>April 16</b>
<b>Dean Stokes</b>	<b>April 16</b>
<b>Carol Tesky</b>	<b>April 18</b>
<b>Mike Tesky</b>	<b>April 19</b>

## Anniversaries in April

**Mary Lou and Dave Ottem April**



## Coming Events

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>April 17</b>   | <b>Regular Club Meeting 6 PM at Columbia Center Old Country Buffet, Kennewick</b>        |
| <b>May 19</b>     | <b>Tour and Potluck lunch to Buena to see Greg Babcock's Pre-War airplanes</b>           |
| <b>June 23-24</b> | <b>Hot Lake Springs Tour with Dale and Sharon Peterson</b>                               |
| <b>July 13-18</b> | <b>MTFCA 2014 National Tour, San Diego, California</b>                                   |
| <b>July 17</b>    | <b>Club Meeting and Barbecue at the home of Jim and Sandi Elenbaas in Granger at 1PM</b> |
| <b>Sept. 8-10</b> | <b>Over the Wena Trail Tour with Gary and Sandy Ellingson</b>                            |

numbers were assigned, starting with C1. Records are incomplete, but it is estimated that a total of 747,230 Model T's were produced in Canada. Of these, about 225,000 were shipped to other areas of the world.

Even though made to the same specs as their US counterparts, there are several differences. Most, but not all were right hand drive. Some left hand drive cars were also produced as necessary for those countries and colonies that drove on the other side of the road. For this reason, two front doors are present on the Canadian open cars. Many of the parts have "Made in Canada" cast into them. While rebuilding my Fordor, I even noted that the door hinges had "Stanley Made in Canada" stamped onto them.

As the Ford Motor Company continued to grow, other factories were set up. Only a few manufactured the parts for the car, but rather assembled parts shipped either from Ford of Canada or from Detroit. Some of these factories were located in France, Belgium, Denmark, Brazil, Ireland, Japan, Italy, Germany, Spain, Argentina, Mexico, South Africa, and Australia. Parts were also produced in Great Britain, but mostly to supply the local demand there.

The popularity of the Model T continued to grow. Similar to the US, the demand for these cars made it necessary to establish assembly

plants in other parts of the country. These were in Toronto, London, Montreal and Winnipeg. While the sales of the Model T began to fade in the US, sales continued to grow in Canada, right up to the end. After the main manufacturing moved to

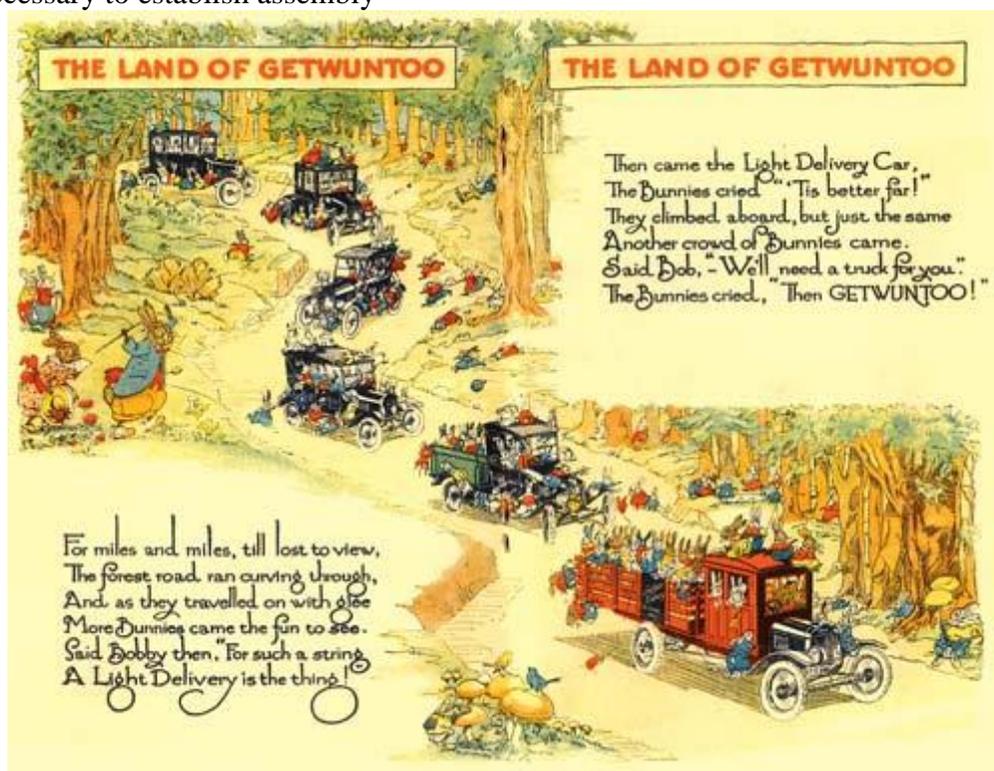


**Expanded Factory in Walkerville prior to moving to Ontario in 1953**

Oakville, Ontario, the Walkerville plant was used to produce V8 engines.

The population of Walkerville, Ontario and the surrounding area continued to grow. It became Ford City and finally was incorporated into Windsor, Ontario in 1929.

An example of Ford of Canada Advertising:



# Three Rivers Model T Ford Club

## Monthly Meeting Minutes

### March 20, 2014

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Ellingson at 6:35 p.m. at Round Table Pizza in Kennewick, Washington. Sixteen members were present. In the absence of a flag, the flag salute was dispensed with.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mike Porter reported that \$20 in dues have been paid this month, bringing the balance on hand to \$1,469.03. Members voted to accept Treasurer's Report as presented.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Minutes of the February meeting were available for member review and also were published in the Newsletter. Wanda Stokes moved to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter. Mike Porter seconded; motion passed.

**Correspondence:** A flyer was passed around for the Independence & Old Iron Tour July 3-6, 2014, hosted by the Walla Walla Historical Auto Club and Walla Walla Sweet A's. The fee for car and driver is \$130, plus \$120 for each additional adult passenger. Lodging is not included in the registration fee. Activities include a Meet & Greet BBQ on July 3; a 70-mile tour to Frazer Farm Museum, viewing opportunity for antique vehicles, and two meals on July 4; a 70-mile tour to a Lewis & Clark campsite and evening banquet on July 5. Registration Deadline is June 6. Contact John Peek, 509-525-2927, [jsgmpeek@gohighspeed.com](mailto:jsgmpeek@gohighspeed.com) for more information, or contact Lynda Carraher, 541-922-4203, [lyncarr1944@gmail.com](mailto:lyncarr1944@gmail.com) for a copy of the flyer and registration form.

**Progress Reports:** Dale Peterson reported that the McMaster-Carr catalogue has a window frame part that can easily substitute for the original Model T window frame.

#### Old Business:

- The Leads & Needs sheet was passed around.
- Sign-up sheets were passed around for tours and for meeting programs and members were encouraged to volunteer.
- Gary noted that the July 17 date tentatively set for the barbecue at Jim and Sandi Elenbaas' place conflicts with the Model A National Meet in Puyallup. Gary will talk to Jim about possibly changing the date.
- The June 23-24 tour to Hot Lake Springs was discussed. The tour will leave from Jim & Phyllis Langdon's in Hermiston on Monday, June 23, and will return on Tuesday, June 24, with a lunch stop en route. Participants will be able to tour the David Manuel gallery and to take

advantage of various recreation options. Dale Peterson encouraged members to take a look at the website <http://www.hotlakesprings.com/> to find out more about the facility.

- Lynda Carraher reported that the dates for the Lavender Fest in Hermiston have not yet been announced. She has been in touch with Bill Sheller, who will coordinate the possibility of the club being invited to participate.

#### New Business

- A Potluck Picnic is scheduled for May 19 at Greg Babcock's home in Buena, Washington, to see his collection of pre-war airplanes. Participants should plan to leave from Stokes' Burger Ranch in Sunnyside at 10:30 a.m. Please bring a salad or a dessert and lawn chairs. Tables will be provided. The tour is approximately a one-hour drive including some gravel roads. A trouble trailer will be available. For more information, call 253-459-5871.
- The TriCities Swap Meet will be held the first weekend in May. Linda Porter has club banners which could be displayed if any member has a booth there.
- Lou Ottem moved that the club pay for two entries to the Kennewick Car Show as a way to promote the club to the community. She subsequently amended the motion to reimburse participating members for the entry fee. Sandy Ellingson seconded; motion passed.
- Dave and Lou Ottem invited members to drive to their home in Othello for lunch on October 10.
- Dale Peterson said he has binders of past meeting minutes and will bring them to turn over to Lynda Carraher, the new club secretary.

**Next Meeting:** Gary Ellingson moved that the April 17 meeting be held at the Old Country Buffet in Kennewick, if the room is available. Mike Porter seconded. Linda Porter will check availability for that date and let Dale know in time to put it in the next newsletter.

**Adjournment:** Dale Peterson moved and Wanda Stokes seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:2 p.m.

**Program:** Following the meeting, Dale gave an interesting show & tell on vintage car headlights, showing samples of several styles of lenses.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynda Carraher, Secretary

## For Sale

**1924 Model T Speedster.** Body by Syverson Cabt Co of Desplains, Illinois. Some brass, replaced rear brake shoes, replaced battery and cables, new Rocky Mt brakes, Radiator serviced by Tri-Cities Radiator. Three carbide lamps, misc. tools and parts. Pretty much original. \$7,000. Dan Danko (509) 783-7113, (509) 308-9295.

**1922 TT Truck.** C-Cab with flatbed. Nicely restored, \$10,000. Dan Jay (509) 327-7250.

**1912 Touring, 1912 Roadster w/mother-in-law seat, 1914 Roadster.** Dean Stokes (509) 837-7443.

## May Tour Greg Babcock's Pre-War Planes and Potluck Lunch Buena, WA, May 19

**Leave from Stokes Burger Ranch at 10:30 AM and drive back roads to Buena with about 1.7 mi gravel. About 1 hour driving tour. Trouble Trailer available. Bring Lawn chairs, Table provided. Bring a salad or Desert.**

For more information, call (253) 459-5871

## June Tour Hot Springs Lake Resort June 23,24

Leave from Jim and Phyllis Langdon's in Hermiston at 9:30AM  
Lunch at **Long Branch** in Weston  
Evening meal at **Ten Depot Street**, La Grande  
Evening capped off with **Silent Film** in the Theater at Hot Springs Lake Resort  
Return Drive June 24 via **Elk Horn Drive Scenic Byway**  
Trouble Trailer to accompany the tour

**Special Room Rate** (2-6 people) during June: \$150  
Overnight stay includes breakfast, tour of facilities, museum, foundry  
and unlimited hot mineral water soaking tubs.  
Rooms must be paid in advance for this rate, Call: **(541) 963-4685**

**SPECIAL PROMOTION SPRING 2014**

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*Unlimited Soaking  
Signed print by  
David Manuel*

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**April, May, June**

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This coupon cannot be combined with any other coupon



**\$150**  
**B&B ROOM**  
Expires: 06/30/2014  
This coupon cannot be combined with any other coupon



**EXPIRES: June 30th**

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