
T TIMES

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President's Message

By Dale Peterson

The dog days of summer are upon us! Boy is it getting hot. We were blessed with a pleasantly warm and not overly hot day for our recent club picnic at Jim and Sandi Elenbaas' home. This is always a favorite activity for our club! And remember another chance to get together at Dave and Lou Ottem's September 21. Both of these activities have included other clubs and makes for great fellowship with others that like old iron.

One thing that I envy other clubs for is the chance for informal get togethers. We live quite a distance from members at the other end of the club's territory. But I still think it would be good to get together with friends for a quick trip to get ice cream or brunch at a favorite eatery.

Any one coming to Walla Walla for some errand? I would even get out one of the other cars for both of us to drive over to the Maple Counter for brunch or to Blue Palm for a cold frozen treat, how 'bout it? Or if I'm in your neighborhood, I might expect you to take me to your favorite place! ☺



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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, at the Riata Springs Baptist Church, 2830 Leopold Lane, Richland, WA at 7:00 PM.

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Ritter Hot Springs

June 28 found our club gathering at the home of Jim and Phyllis Langdon for a trip to Ritter Hot Springs. The day was warm and sunny, the traffic sparse. The route took us south out of town on highway 207 to Butter Creek Road, Little Butter Creek Road and finally to Sand Hollow Road before stopping for lunch at a quaint little diner in Hepner. The afternoon drive took us down the Blue Mountain Scenic Highway to Ukiah then Highway 395 south to Long Creek where we enjoyed an evening meal at the Long Creek General Store Restaurant. A quick drive across the street before the meal came out of the kitchen saved the tour as the gas station was to close in half an hour at 6PM! Have to think of these things in these little out of the way places.

The next two mornings were treated to fresh breakfast of blueberry pancakes and egg/potato casserole by the Peterson's. The rest of the day was spent relaxing in the swimming pool. Phyllis treated us to a cold cut sandwich lunch before taking a short drive to the Ritter Cemetery where we meandered among the headstones. It was interesting to read the epitaphs being amazed at both longevity as well as lives cut so short in this remote place.

The high point of the tour (besides the chance to drive these incredible vehicles) took place Wednesday evening. The gospel bluegrass group "Hand Picked." About thirty people from the community joined us for a wonderful concert.

After soaks in the swimming pool, hot tub, and interesting starts to the day at the riverside shower, it was time for our final breakfast. With full stomachs we set out for our return home. Our return took us back through Long Creek then west through Monument where a group of residents that had been present at the concert were gathered to see us pass. From there we traveled to the John Day river and a very scenic drive along multi colored cliffs. At Spray we turned north and started one of two long climbs over high mountain passes. This is where the only car trouble of the tour was encountered. The gas tank of the Peterson's Fordor sedan is under the seat and the steep hills wanted for a higher level of fuel in the

tank. We chugged and coughed but Clara finally made it to the top of each hill, all be it at a very slow speed! We even made it up the second long hill before the Hepner lunch stop, but there was still one gallon in the tank at the fill up there. What a relief to have made it that last fifty miles with 4 gallons of gas! No major breakdowns like the last TRMTFC trip to Hepner, Henry made a very good little car. ☺

Picnic at Granger

Our July event was the annual picnic at the home of Jim and Sandi Elenbaas. The Lower Valley A's joined us for the day, making for a good crowd to enjoy the company and Jim's barbecue. The T's participating were Jim and Phyllis Langdon and Bill Sheller traveling over from Hermiston/Umatilla, Mike and Linda Porter from Kennewick, and Dale and Sharon Peterson. It was good to see Lynda Carraher accompanied by Mary Frazer join us. Quite a spread from Walla Walla to Granger!

Jim performed his usual art on the grill, but the real star of the picnic was the fresh picked corn on the cob from the Elenbaas garden. The Langdon's brought the sweetest melons found in Hermiston and Sandi handed out some great frozen fruit bars, both perfect for the rather warm day we enjoyed.

There were a lot of T's and A's filling the grounds for all to enjoy inspecting. As always, this was a highlight activity for our club. Thank you Jim and Sandi! ☺



Lopez Island Tour

August 22-25

Current plans are to meet at the Walla Walla University Rosario Bay Marine Biology Center where we will park our tow vehicles. This is just north of the Deception Pass Park and not difficult to find. The address is 15510 Rosario Beach Road. Follow the signs to Deception Pass and Oak Harbor on Highway 20 (exit 230 from Interstate 5 at Burlington toward Anacortes). Before the Deception Pass Bridge, turn right onto Rosario Road, take a left on Cougar Gap Road, and finally right on Rosario Terrace Road. There are signs to follow to WWU Rosario Marine Biology Campus. We did this several years ago when we last toured the San Juan Islands with the club and it worked out well.

We will meet at Rosario at **11 AM**, drive to a local eatery for lunch, visit Deception Pass and then drive around Fidalgo Island before boarding the ferry in Anacortes at **5:10 PM (August 22)**. We are required to be at the ferry a minimum of 30 minutes prior to sailing.

Those planning to go should have made their ferry reservations already by going to the Washington State Department of Transportation Website or by calling 1-888-808-7977 or 206-464-6400. Only 10% of the spaces are reserved for the day of sailing on a first come, first served basis. The fare is \$35.75 for car and driver and \$13.25 each additional passenger. There is a 50% discount for passengers 65 and over with proper ID. The return trip to Anacortes August 24 does not require a reservation and there is no charge, the fee was included with the westbound ferry fare. We will be back at Rosario in time for you to make the trip back home the same day.

There are 4 or 5 couples planning to go. The cost for lodging at The Bay Houses will be approximately \$277 per couple for the two nights if there are eight people and \$245 if there are ten. Pets are welcome, but there is a \$35 per night charge. This includes a continental style breakfast at the Bay House for two mornings. I think this will allow us a more relaxing schedule. All other meals will be on our own. ☺

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