

---

---

# T TIMES

Volume 33, Issue 5 JUNE 2012

---

---

## Hummingbird Tour Dale Peterson

From this perspective, the monthly meetings at various places, member homes and dinner meetings at restaurants seems to be going well. Be sure to let the leadership know pro or con your opinion.

This month we met at Fort Walla Walla in the Peterson back yard. There is a nice picnic pavilion on the grounds where we were able to set up and meet. The plan was to meet at 4:30 for a meeting and meal provided by the Petersons. A sub was ordered from Subway, coffee from Starbucks, raspberry lemonade by Sharon, and salads and desserts by the traveling members. All was going

*continued on page 2*



April 2012

**“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](mailto: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, places to be announced in the newsletter prior.**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Hummingbird Tour and May Meeting
- 2 Special Dates
- 2 Coming Events Calendar
- 3 May Meeting Minutes
- 4 Black Rock Tour
- 6 Tour Highlights

## 2012 Officers

**Club President** Dean Stokes  
[dwstokes1@embarqmail.com](mailto:dwstokes1@embarqmail.com)  
**Vice President** Bill Sheller  
**Treasurer** Mike Porter  
**Secretary** Wanda Stokes  
[dwstokes1@embarqmail.com](mailto:dwstokes1@embarqmail.com)

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

**Board Members**  
1 Year -- Russ Armstrong  
2 Year -- Fred Fraser  
3 Year -- Jim Elenbaas

well until I was about 1/2 mile from Fort Walla Walla in the '15. The engine sputtered a couple of times and slowed down, sort of like when we were pulling in to Echo last year on the way to Ritter Hot Springs. Pretty soon it smoothed out and we were on our way to the park. But around the corner just about to turn in to the picnic area, Daisy started to sputter again in that all too familiar way. We were running out of gas! Then I remembered that on our drive out to Dixie with the grandnieces last week, I had put 4 gallons in the tank from the lawn mower supply and did not fill her up before putting her away. Well, sometimes the chugging splashes a little gas into the gas line and we will make it a little ways further. And wouldn't you know it, it almost worked. But, alas, Daisy sputtered to a final stop 100 yards from the gazebo. Fortunately no one saw me until I came walking up with sub under one arm and coffee in the other hand! But, someone just had to ask why I was walking and where did I park? Of course, not ever being very good at telling a little "white lie," I had to admit to my mistake.

After we all had our fill and a meeting we loaded up for the short drive in our cars to Dixie following Daisy with 5 gallons of gas brought to the park by son Brian. The drive was a nice slow trip along the back roads.

Arriving at prime feeding time, we were able see quite a feeding frenzy as the little critters tanked up prior to their long night's torpor. Having a very fast metabolism there is no way for them to survive the night on a full stomach, so they do a metabolic slow down similar to hibernation at the end of each day and then awaken each morning to warm up and go back to their constant foraging for nectar and, as most are not aware, insects.

All in all, we had a great time and I look forward to our next meeting July 19 at Jim and Sandi Elenbaas' home in Granger. We are asked to bring salad or dessert as Jim and Sandi will furnish hamburger, the toppings and bratwurst makings. This will be a very nice meeting, please plan on attending. For those of us that have not been there, the address is 1104 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Granger, Washington, and their phone number is 509 854-2067 in case you get lost on the way!

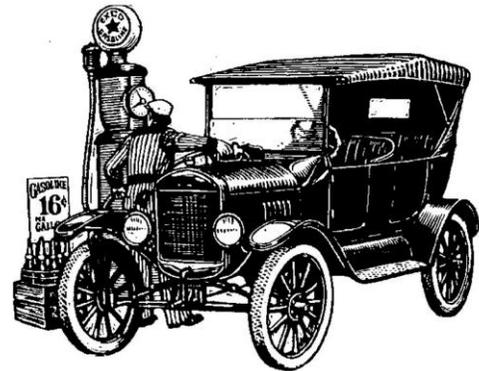
I look forward to seeing Jim's projects in person!

## Birthdays in June

**Jane Armstrong** 6/03  
**Richard Seewer** 6/16

## Anniversaries in June

**Larry and Marlene Coder** 6/04  
**Joe and Jolene Kuhns** 6/06  
**Larry and Hattie Huetson** 6/13  
**Jim and Betty Patterson** 6/17  
**Mike and Linda Porter** 6/22  
**Jim and Sanki Elenbaas** 6/29



## Coming Events

<b>June 17-20</b>	<b>Montana 500 in Butte, MT</b>
<b>June 21</b>	<b>No Monthly Meeting for June</b>
<b>June 17-22</b>	<b>National Tour in Lincoln, NE</b>
<b>July 19</b>	<b>Monthly Meeting at Jim and Sandi Elenbaas in Granger</b>
<b>August 6-9</b>	<b>Mt Rainier Tour</b>
<b>Sept. 15</b>	<b>East vs. West Reliability Run, Vantage, WA.</b>

**Three River's Model T Club**  
**May 17, 2012**  
**Fort Walla Wall, WA meeting**

Today's meeting was held at Fort Walla Walla. President Dean Stokes opened today's meeting.

Secretary, Wanda read the minutes from the April 2012 meeting, all approved. Treasurer, Mike gave his report. We have money in the bank; the balance is the same as April with no changes.

Dean asked Marlene Coder to introduce her guests, George and Charlene Shockley, Welcome along with Brian Peterson, welcome too.

Fred Fraser gave his report of the upcoming Hat Rock Tour this Saturday at noon. He asked how many T's were going; Jim and Phyllis Langdon are going. It will be a potluck and a good time.

Dean gave his report about the Black Rock Creek Tour coming June 1st. He explained that there will be a trouble truck. Each T participating will be required to give \$10 toward fuel. The truck will be full of fuel when we leave Sunnyside, and filled up immediately after the tour. Any and all money's left over will be refunded back to the people who partook of the tour.

Dean also explained the terrain that we will be traveling over. He said for everyone to bring their cameras, lunch, cell phones (which will work in some areas), fire extinguisher, first aid kit and perhaps a chair. We will be eating at the Robert's ranch old farm home and tables will be provided, but an extra chair might be appreciated, or you can eat on your running boards. He also recommended that T

participants adjust their low pedal. Also make sure your T is full of fuel and bring extra water and oil for you T. Water for drinking will be provided. He expressed that our goal in touring is **NOT** to tear up our cars, so we will be taking it easy. We will leave Sunnyside (The Stokes ranch) around 9:30 a.m. and probably will be back around 3:30 p.m.

The National Model T tour has Jim and Sandi Elenbaas going to Nebraska. They should have a great time. The Montana Speedster Run is being the same week as the National Model T Tour - June 16 through 22nd and many in our club will be traveling to Montana. For this reason, there will be **NO JUNE** Meeting.

We will be meeting July 19th at Jim and Sandy's home in Granger around 3:00 p.m. for a BBQ. We are asked to bring salad or dessert as Jim and Sandi will furnish hamburger, the toppings and bratwurst makings. This will be a very nice meeting, please plan on attending.

Fred Fraser contacted Riatta Springs Baptist Church and explained that we are not meeting at the church for the time being. We are trying out a new concept of having meetings at member's homes or restaurants to attract better attendance and it is working. Thank you Fred.

Thank you also to Dale and Sharon Peterson for the wonderful Sub sandwiches and beautiful table display. Thank you for arranging us to visit the Hummingbird Haven in Dixie, Washington. Everyone had a wonderful time and enjoyed the hummingbirds greatly.

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

Respectively Submitted,

Wanda Stokes, Secretary

# The Up and Down Tour

June 1, 2012

By Bill Sheller



Tour start Stokes ranch 10 cars



Right through the Apple Orchards



Farmer Mike!

June 1, 2012 Dean and Wanda Stokes hosted a tour to (“Dean Dubbed”) Black Rock Valley which is on the North wall of the Yakima Valley which, by the way, is the highest non treed peak in the state of Washington. There was a nice turn out with ten cars on tour and a day that promised blue sky, sunshine, warm temps and no wind! Our destination for the day was a 10,000 acre ranch that butted up against the Hanford Reservation. On our way to the ranch we traveled across Sunnyside’s famous Wash Out Road, which goes right through an apple orchard ... REALLY! Other than going to and coming from the ranch, we spent most of the driving day on gravel and dirt roads on the ranch. It was as close to authentic Model T roads of the “day” as I’ve ever been on. Just like in “Pappy’s” book the roads followed fence lines with right angle turns and all. It was nothing short of magnificent.

Dean told everyone he was calling this drive the Up and Down Tour as we would either be going uphill or downhill ... and he was very close to being completely accurate. We traveled UP the north slope of the Yakima Valley and as the day heated up so did the Model T’s as we reached the top and headed DOWN into the “Black Rock Valley”. Once we reached the Robert and Sons 10,000 acre ranch there was a photo opportunity and a chance for all to use the rest room before heading to the edge of the ranch and the Hanford boarder.



Edge of ranch / boarder of Hanford



View from the Homestead

Once everyone reached the Hanford boarder fence with its signs of warning not to pass my mind sort of wandered off. Gosh, what would happen if Me and the Model T should try and transverse this vastness called Hanford? For just a brief moment there I entertained the thought of fighter jets chasing Model T Fords across the grass lands. The enormous silence of the area quickly returned me to the here and now, but ...



Lunch time

High noon was fast approaching and we all headed back across the ranch and up the South wall of the valley to the original homestead. As we entered the homestead grounds through a gate there was a sign that read Ghost Town. The day had gotten pleasantly warm into the 80's and lunch was a "bring your own affair", but there was lots of sharing going on. When good friends and lunch are being shared, well ... nothing bad can happen! The view from the homestead was breath taking. I don't know for certain, but I would guess that the homestead was 20 to 30 miles from Sunnyside. As I sat there and gazed across the vastness of the land I realized just how REMOTE we would have been without the Model T Ford. Heck sakes, to get to the little settlement of Sunnyside, way back when, for supplies with a team of horses and a wagon, well ... you get the idea!



All the comforts of home ... stead

The touring day ended over a dish of ice cream back in Sunnyside as we reminisced a very pleasant day spent together.

Thanks Dean and Wanda for a great tour!  
Henry built a darn good car ... Yes he did!



Our Hosts Dean and Wanda

## Tours and activities

### Montana 500 June 17-20, 2012

Several of our club members have indicated an interest in attending the Montana 500 event, in Butte, Montana this year. Information you will need to participate in this event:

**Hotel:** Quality Inn 2100 Cornwell Ave. (formerly The War Bonnet Hotel). Phone 800 443-1806.

Rate \$80.00, mention Montana 500 T's.

To participate, you must be a member of the Montana Cross Country T Association; \$10 annual dues can be paid at the event. Touring class fee \$25, Competition class fee \$35. Check at [www.montana500.com](http://www.montana500.com) for updates.

### Mount Rainier Tour

Plans are well underway for the August 6-9 tour to Mt Rainier. All of the rooms at the Packwood Hotel are spoken for. If you have not reserved a place with Dale Peterson, contact us soon so we can try to find alternative lodging for you.

Everyone should also have called Whistling Jack's for reservations by this time. Dean and Dale will be working out the route sometime this summer. Members of the Model A club from Pendleton have asked if they could join us and an invitation has been sent. They will be on their own to find accommodations, but we look forward to having them along.

### July Meeting at Jim and Sandi Elenbaas' home

There will be no June meeting of TRMTFACA due to so many of us being away on out of town tours. However, we are in for a real treat when we meet July 19 at 3:00 PM at the Elenbaas home for our meeting and a barbecue.

### East-West Reliability Run

This is the third year that the east side and west side clubs have met in a challenge to see who can muster the most "Flat Heads" in Vantage, WA. I contacted Mike Robison from the Inland Empire T's in Spokane, and he would like to have us join in. The plan is to meet in Vantage at 12 noon September 15 for lunch at a local burger joint to enjoy visiting before returning home. It sounds like a great chance to meet other old car people from our area as well as an excuse to drive our cars.

### Speedster Fun Run and Rally

Memorial weekend is a traditional gathering of northwest speedsters in Spokane. This year they will be meeting at the Super 8 Motel at 2020 N Argonne Rd, Spokane Valley, WA. The phone number is (509) 315-3578 for reservations. The fee for the Run is \$140 and includes lunch and an evening banquet as well as the tour. You can download the application from the website at <http://www.spokanemodelclub.com>. Mike mentioned that any T's would be welcome to join in, not just speedsters.