
T TIMES

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March 2013

President's Message

By Larry Coder

Springtime. What a joyous time of year. It is a time to use all 5 of our senses.

Sight...Seeing all the new buds and blooms

Mother Nature provides.

Hearing...Listening to birds singing their early morning songs.

Smell...Breath in the aroma of new blooming flowers.

Taste...Tasting the warmth of the sun on your body as you enjoy being outside.

But most of all the sense of Touch. There is nothing better than feeling the steering wheel of a Model T in your hands for that first spring tour. We have had all winter in the garage fine tuning the motor, fixing any problems that may have come along during the past season and NOW IT

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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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2013 Officers

Club President	Larry Coder
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Vice President	Jim Elenbaas
Treasurer	Mike Porter
Secretary	Dale Peterson
Newsletter Editor	Dale Peterson
dpeters0258@gmail.com	

Board Members

- 1 Year -- Fred Fraser
- 2 Year -- Jim Elenbaas
- 3 Year -- Gary Ellingson

TIME TO DRIVE. I am looking forward to many exciting tours this year and hope you are too. We have a club membership to be proud of and I hope everyone will think about hosting a tour. I am sure you each have a favorite place to visit, why not take us all there in a Model T? The ideas are endless.

We have wonderful fellowship among the members of this club .And my thanks go to Mike Porter for identifying a steering problem I encountered last summer. Mike then supplied me with the needed parts while Bill Sheller, Jim Langdon, Jim Elenbaas, and Dean Stokes donated time and work to make my Model T run and steer like she was meant to do. THANK YOU ALL!

Rev up those motors....Let's go T 'ing. ☐



Sunshine report

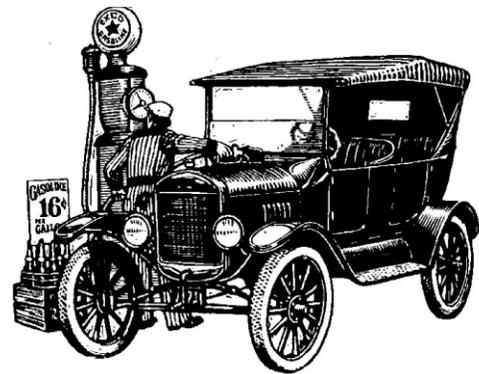
Bill Betts of Walla Walla died February 24 at the age of 94. He is remembered for his 1911 Torpedo roadster, now in the possession of Mike Porter. Several members of our club visited him last year when he had his garage sale.

Birthdays in March

John Carrarher	March 8
Nancy Betts	March 15
Mike Porter	March 19
Jim Patterson	March 23

Anniversaries in March

Dan and Judy Danko	March 10
Raymond and Angela Lehrman	March 25
Wayne and Lorraine Williams	March 29



Coming Events

March 21	Regular monthly meeting at Kennewick Round Table Pizza 6:00 PM
April 5-7	Portland Swap Meet
April 6, 7	Wildhorse Tour
May 17, 18	Waitsburg Days of Real Sport Car show
June 16	Father's Day Tour to Palouse Falls
July 21-26	MTFCI Kanab Tour
September?	Grand Coulee Tour
September 4-8	MTFCA National Tour

Me and the Model T ... Remarkable

by Bill Sheller

Oh, I know what you're thinking! Here he goes again extolling all the wonderful features of the Model T Ford and heaping unbelievable praise on its worldly accomplishments. Well, ... I know of no other person who routinely jots down a word or two for your reading pleasure who takes more pleasure than I at doing just that, but not today my friends.

REMARKABLE!

When you turn to a Random House Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, which by the way not very many folks do these days, you'll see that the word remarkable fits the Model T Ford like black paint. "Conspicuously unusual; extraordinary", says the big book. So, now that I've made a proper introduction, let me tell you a story that I think is, well...remarkable!

Awhile back, Dale Peterson wanted to know what folks have planned for winter projects with their Model T's. To refresh your memory of my project, it was to replace the plate glass windshield in Henry with safety glass. Yes, I take grandchildren of all ages 3 to 20 in Henry much to everyone's pleasure. I of course have heard the scary stories about plate glass shards for years and to be honest hadn't given it much thought. I mean, heck sakes, the windshield in Henry has lasted since he first left Detroit, which seemed pretty darn reliable to me. But ... well... grandchildren, now that's another story all together. So following in the New Year's tradition of out with the old, in with the new, I decided the time had come for a safety glass windshield. Gosh I felt all warm and fuzzy about the decision until I got out in the shop. The fuzzy was still present, but the warm was sorely missing. I touched off the propane heat, checked the thermometer on the wall which was shivering around twenty degrees and went back in the house and had coffee until the shop had a more favorable attitude towards actually working on the Model T.

The windshield on a Fordor sedan is a four piece affair. It consists of two pieces of glass each in its own frame and two frame pieces above the fixed lower windshield to accommodate opening the top part of the windshield for ventilation. Now anyone who has a Model T sedan knows that even with the door windows rolled down, absolutely no air movement enters the cabin until the top part of the windshield is opened ... just a wee bit. Once that is done, well, gosh it's like being in a touring car. There is unrestrained air flow coming from all directions! However, air is not the only thing that enters the opened windshield. A myriad of flying insects also have free entry into the cabin of the Model T sedan. Some of them, by the way, are not real happy with their new surroundings and if they are equipped with some sort of stinging apparatus they surely try their darnedest to find a target to put the above mentioned equipment to good use. I learned that lesson sorta the hard way and have driven Henry thousands of miles with the upper portion of the windshield ... CLOSED!

After my second cup of coffee, I re-entered my 70 degree shop and equipped myself with the proper tools for the removal process. It wasn't long before I had the windshield completely removed from Henry. I collected and placed all the screws and hardware in a magnetic dish in anticipation of re-installation of my new safe windshield. Off to the glass shop I went with my upper and lower windshield pieces laid on the pick-up seat. I wanted to refinish the metal frames of the windshield, so the glass shop owner and I removed the 89 year old glass from the frames so he could use them for patterns to cut the new safety glass pieces. The owner of the glass shop cringed at the thought of plate glass in an automobile windshield and even verbalized how dangerous it was. In his second breath he marveled at the longevity of this ¼ inch thick plate glass that was installed 89 years ago at the Ford Motor Company. Gosh, it was unblemished and quite sturdy and had so much lead in it that I'm really surprised you could even see through it. To me it was a marvel of yesterday and a very small part of me experienced just a bit of sadness to see it go. I could only imagine what wonders

had been seen through this piece of glass over the last 89 years. Okay, grandchildren remember! Enough of this melancholy over a piece of glass, even it is 89 years old!

I took the frames home and over the next several days refinished them and returned them to the glass shop. In a short while I picked up my new grandchild safe windshield from the glass shop and was very pleased with how wonderful they looked. I thought to myself how many wonderful sights not only me but the next care taker of Henry would see through this new safe window on the world. It really made me feel good about my decision. The next day, I was making ready to

install this wonderful new windshield, when it slipped from my grip on the work bench and fell to the garage floor where it shattered. Not into shards and pieces mind you, but completely un-useable just the same. I of course returned it to the glass shop for another piece of safety glass, but I couldn't help but think to myself, gosh let's see original plate glass 89 years... safety glass 2 days.

REMARKABLE!

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

Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2013

The February Three Rivers Model T Ford Club was held at El Mojetes Restaurant in Grandview, WA . After the members present had enjoyed a good meal and friendly conversation, the meeting was called to order by new President Larry Coder.

Old Business

The club library will be under the care of Gary Ellingson, no requests for additions, this will be addressed again in the future. Gary reported he has a CD on Henry Ford to start the library.

Trouble trophy. No significant breakdowns occurred in the past year, so it was decided to not award the trophy for this year. Dean and Larry will determine who will be caretakers of this jewel for the next year.

Club Patches. Graphic Apparel of Walla Walla gave an estimate of \$15 for patches on yellow cloth with two color stitching. Set up fee is approx. \$100. Dale Peterson will make the order and will bring the patches to the next meeting. It was decided that the club treasurer will keep the patches and collect the money. It was moved, seconded and passed by vote to purchase 50 of these patches for the club members to buy from the club.

New Business

Wildhorse Tour. Bill has put together a tour to the Wildhorse Casino in Pendleton April 6-7. The host Hotel phone number is 800 654-9453. Rates are \$84.50 to \$102.50 plus 9% tax. Reservations need to be made by March 22 for one of 20 rooms in the block. Those going on the tour will meet at Jim and Phyllis Langdon's in Hermiston at 10 AM. Give Bill a call at 541 561-2047 if you plan to go so he can alert the lunch stop how many are expected.

Tour to Othello is in the plans by David Ottem. He can be contacted at davidottem@gmail.com.

Benton City is planning an All School Picnic May 25 at 10AM-4PM

The Waitsburg Days of Real Sport Car Show is May 17-18. Former member Herb Mettler is organizing the cruise and car show.

Father's Day tour to Palouse Falls is being planned by Dale Peterson. The Spokane club will be invited. It will be a 'bring your own' picnic. Ice cream and strawberries will be provided for desert.

Club insurance. Our roster has been turned in to the National Club and our insurance letter will be sent in the next month.

Our next meeting will be March 21 at the Round Table Pizza in Kennewick at 6PM.

Motion was made to adjourn, and was seconded and voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Peterson ☐

Disease by Dale Peterson

When I start a new project or bring some parts home (sometimes a trailer load) I often hear the above word used by my better half to describe my love for old cars. Now, there could be a small bit of concern on her part, but an article in this month's Hagerty Classic Cars puts an altogether different perspective on my affliction.

The article is entitled "The Car Hoarders" by Jonathan Stein. We have all heard the stories of vast collections of old cars and parts that are fiercely guarded. Sort of like the places featured on American Pickers. Frank and Mike find an out of the way treasure trove of "stuff," barns piled high to overflowing, only to find out that the owner just cannot let go of anything for any reasonable price.

I have seen some of these places, too. When restoring the wheels for the 15 Touring, I came across a very interesting character near Portland. Barns packed full of old cars buried beneath piles of automobilia, firewood, and just plain junk. His property is a series of paths through piles of car parts, rusted out remains no longer usable by appearances.

Now strictly speaking, according to Mr. Stein, Jim is not a true hoarder. He was willing to sell a set of rims for my 1918 Chalmers. He just enjoyed collecting and setting aside a lot of usable "stuff."

Mr. Stein's definition of hoarding includes not advertising (would prefer to be unknown,

withdrawing into an obsession), the objects of the collection accumulate and deteriorate. These people may not even continue to receive any satisfaction from their massive collections, fearing someone will sneak in to steal something. So, Sharon, you can rest assured now that I am not a hoarder. If anyone needs a part from my stash for their project, I am more than happy to help them out. The number of cars may be getting larger, but there is still order to my collection. AND, I still get much pleasure from my hobby. ☐

Ten Commandments for the Car Collector

- I. Thou shalt not store thy car out-of-doors, except for thy wife's modern iron.
- II. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's car, nor his garage, nor his battery charger.
- III. Thou shalt not love thy cars more than thy wife and children; as much but not more.
- IV. Thou shalt not read thy Vintage Ford on company time, lest thy employer make it difficult to continue thy car payments.
- V. Thou shalt not despise thy neighbor's Edsel, nor his Desoto, nor even his 1947 Plymouth.
- VI. Thou shalt not allow thy children to get married during the holy days of Hershey.
- VII. Thou shalt not deceive thy wife into thinking that thee is taking her for a romantic Sunday drive when, indeed, thou art going to look at another car.
- VIII. Thou shalt not tell thy spouse the entire cost of thy latest restoration, at least not all at the same time.
- IX. Thou shalt not promise thy wife a new addition to the house and then use it to store cars.
- X. Thou shalt not buy thy wife a floor jack for Christmas (or your anniversary).

Adapted from the Outsiders Colville Valley
Newsletter.

**Next Meeting
March 21 at 6PM**

**Round Table Pizza
3300 West Clearwater
Kennewick, WA**

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