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# T TIMES

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## Memories

By Dale Peterson

My first memory of the Three Rivers Model T club was a Christmas Party at Walt and Alice Schneider's in 1990. Since then there have been a lot of especially eventful memories. I missed out on some of the great times with the club because I did not have a running car until 2006. Some of those times were the trip to the Oregon Coast and Red Deer, Montana. It was not until later that I realized I should have been volunteering to drive a trouble trailer or such.

Once I did have a running car, though, there have been a number of tours that have made real memories. The stand outs have been Bill Sheller's Barlow Road Tour, the Model T 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party, Ritter, Oregon, and Black Rock Valley. As a club we have also gone as a group to

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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  
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**Board Members**  
1 Year -- Fred Fraser  
2 Year -- Jim Elenbaas  
3 Year -- Gary Ellingson

some of the national tours. Who could forget Whitefish, Montana and Kanab Utah with some spectacular national park touring!

The sights and the chance to drive our wonderful old cars is reward enough for being a part of this club. BUT, the best part of all has been the chance to get to know a lot of really nice people. Who could have known that these old quirky cars came with such great owners! Sure makes the meetings worthwhile just to get to visit with friends on a monthly basis.

Over the years we have seen a lot of these friends come and go. At times it seems there has been more going than coming, especially with the increasing age of the members. A few members have moved south for the good of their old joints (Ivan and Judy Dyke). Why, one even moved north (Jim Patterson). Several have passed away. And some have just moved on to other interests, even though at least some keep in touch or have a special place in their heart for the Model T.

All in all, we have seen a drop in the numbers of our club. Some, including myself, have even wondered how much longer we will have enough interested members to continue with a club.

It is coming time to think about officers for the next year. If you have a special interest in continuing our tradition of promoting our special hobby, come out to the meeting this month. We have a lot to discuss. Do we like the change to dinner meetings, do we want to have monthly meetings every month, would a different venue work better, do we want to get

together for a Christmas party, who is going to run for our officers?

There are still a lot of places to go in our cars, a lot of memories to make, and a lot of tinkering and restoration projects to keep each other encouraged for. And, do not feel that you must show up in a Model T to take part in these activities. We could always use a trouble truck driver, or someone to sit with and talk while we discuss our T's and the state of the world over dinner. You never know, someone might even invite you to hop in with them in their favorite ride!

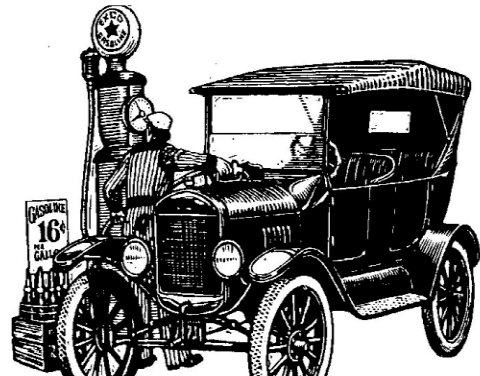
Make room in your schedule to come to the next meeting at the Kennewick Round Table Pizza October 17 and help us plan for the future of the club. ■

### Birthdays in October

Sandi Elenbaas 10/15

### Anniversaries in October

Mike and Carol Teske 10/6  
Terry and Edris Shegrud 10/16



### Sunshine report

At our last meeting, Fred Fraser informed us that he has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease. This is a progressive degenerative disease of the motor nerves in the spine. You can know, Fred and Mary, that you will be in our thoughts and prayers.

### Coming Events

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|--------------------|--|
| <b>October 17</b>  | <b>Monthly Meeting at the Round Table Pizza on Clearwater Avenue in Kennewick 6:00 PM.</b> |
| <b>November 21</b> | <b>Monthly Meeting</b>   |

# Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2013

The September meeting of the Three Rivers Model T Ford Club took place at the Kennewick Round table Pizza at 6PM.

Mike Porter called the meeting to order, Larry Coder and Jim Elenbaas being absent.

The treasurer's report was presented by Mike; we have sufficient money in the bank for the club's present needs.

No meeting the last 2 months so there were no minutes to read.

## Old Business

A car show in October is planned for the Athena Fall Festival for those interested.

Benton City Tour. A short report was given of Gary Ellingson's tour to Benton City. This was attended by the Model T and the Model A clubs. There were four cars meet at Stokes' Burger Ranch in Sunnyside with three other of our members joining the procession by the time we arrived at the city park in Benton City. There were other cars joining us there, including two vintage Jeeps. A picnic lunch was enjoyed by all and we were treated to fresh fruit from a vender to the local farmer's market. When all of our visiting was done, we all made our way home, those driving from Sunnyside traveled back, mostly together.

Stokes' Tour. The Chinook Pass tour organized by Dean and Wanda will take place October 1-3. Ten cars have signed up so far. We will leave from the Stokes' ranch at 9AM sharp. We will travel back roads to Naches for lunch then on to the Stokes' cabin. Day 2 will be touring in the local area there and Day 3 we will return home. Meals on the way there and back will be on our own, they plan to feed us at their cabin Wednesday morning and Thursday morning,

we will have a picnic Thursday noon and will eat at some choice restaurants Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

A trouble truck will be provided. Cost is \$300 for the trouble truck to be divided among those attending, and with the number planning to attend; the rooms should be about \$50 per couple. Costs per car will be adjusted accordingly.

## New Business

Sunshine report about Fred Fraser. He has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease which is a progressive neurologic disorder. Wanda has agreed to send a card from the club to the Frasers.

Terry Shegrud presented a DVD to the club library with a copy of an early silent car movie with a Model T in the main role.

Dale reported that a "current" club roster has been sent out to the membership. He requested corrections so that an up to date and correct roster may be ready for the first of the year. Two members were noted to have been omitted, Joe Kuhns and Russ/Jane Armstrong.

A door prize presented by Bill Sheller was won by Wanda Stokes, a spark plug "car" made in Hansen, Idaho.

## Stokes' Cabin Tour

October 1 drivers and passengers of seven Model T's and Model A's with a trouble truck driven by Dave and Lou Ottem left the Stokes' ranch at 9:30 AM. We traveled at a very comfortable pace northward through the vineyards and fields of the Yakima Valley toward Naches. Driving through Yakima presents a challenge when driving a vintage car, but we all made it without losing anyone, forming up at a park in northwest Yakima. From there the group traveled up the Naches

Valley through orchards in the process of picking season.

Lunch stop was at a nice little diner in Naches where all had their fill of delicious sandwiches. The afternoon drive up Highway 410 was uneventful and surprisingly devoid of traffic. The trees were beginning to change golden, making for a beautiful drive.

We arrive at the Deer Creek cabins at an early enough hour to settle into our rooms, freshen up and relax before heading to the Woodshed restaurant for a delicious meal. Finishing up in time to make the short drive back to the cabins, we returned to have time for some more relaxation and visiting with our great friends.

Wednesday, the intrepid tourers gathered at the Stokes for a wonderful hot breakfast. Rain had come during the night and our cars were wet, but the raindrops stopped in time for us to get loaded up, warm the cars, and take off for a drive up the Little Naches River. This was a nice relaxing, but rather cool drive through the forest up the river valley to near the top of a mountain ridge. Time getting on, we turned around, retracing our path back to Deer Creek. The evening meal was provided by the Stokes,

steaming hot lasagna, warm fresh bread, and salad. We turned in after more visiting, a little more round in contour and very satisfied.

Well, there has to be a last day and return to home, but first a short drive around the valley before a lunch stop at a nice little park.

Now, this all sounds like an uneventful tour that went as planned. Not so. Unfortunately, the first day Dean pulled over not too far from our day's destination after hearing a loud bank from the innards of his 26 touring. Seems he is now in the double two piece crank club. Thank goodness for the trouble trailer. Dale and Sharon made it through the last day not knowing if the water appearing in the oil would progress to a tour ending situation or not. While at the park for the last day lunch, one of our hosts locked both their sets of keys in their pickup truck, necessitating a call to AAA for rescue.

But all in all, we had a very good tour despite the low temperatures and a little rain. No one felt rushed and we had comfortable beds to retreat to at the end of pleasant days. The company was the best. The food was fantastic. Thank you, Dean and Wanda

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