

# *T – Times*

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**Three Rivers Model T Ford Club**

**P. O. Box 7083**

**Kennewick, WA 99336**

“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 25<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next month’s issue.

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

## **2010 Officers**

Club President 2010	Marlene Coder <a href="mailto:m.coder@hotmail.com">m.coder@hotmail.com</a>
Vice President	Dean Stokes <a href="mailto:dwestokes1@embarqmail.com">dwestokes1@embarqmail.com</a>
Secretary	Wanda Stokes <a href="mailto:dwestokes1@embarqmail.com">dwestokes1@embarqmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Mike Porter
Newsletter Editor	Dale Peterson <a href="mailto:dpeters0258@gmail.com">dpeters0258@gmail.com</a>

## **Board Members**

1 Year -- Marlene Coder  
2 Year -- Russ Armstrong  
3 Year -- Fred Fraser

## Calendar

December 12      Christmas Party at Cousin's Restaurant in Pasco 1:00 PM-5:00 PM. We will again have a gift exchange; bring a "unisex" gift with a value up to \$10.00 if you wish to participate.

January 23      Annual dinner meeting to install new officers at Old Country Buffet 2:00 PM. All members with paid up membership will be reimbursed \$5.00 for each paid up member up to \$10 per couple.

June 27 - July 1      2011 MTFCA National Tour, Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada



Christmas Card, 1927

## November 18, 2010 Minutes

Tonight's meeting was called to order by President, Marlene Coder. There were 16 members present.

Treasurer, Mike Porter, reported that we have money in the bank. He also offered a report on where our dollars have been spent this past month. He also reminded members that [dues are due in January 2011](#).

The club owes Dale Peterson, (our newsletter & web master), postage, ink, etc. Dale will e-mail Mike his expenses and be reimbursed.

Secretary, Wanda Stokes, was absent, Dean Stokes filled in for her. Dean read the minutes from the past meeting. Only one correction regarding the correct spelling of Crehst museum. Minutes approved.

### Old Business

Mary Fraser brought a scrap book of the San Juan Islands tour. Thank you, Mary.

Dan Danko brought menus from [Cousins Restaurant](#) for everyone to take home and look at for the upcoming [Christmas Party \(December 12, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at Cousins in Pasco\)](#). Thank you Dan for all your hard work, it is appreciated.

### New Business

Jane Armstrong brought a letter regarding Ford books offered at a discount. [Ford Model T Car Put the World on Wheels](#) was one of the books offered. Thank you, Jane. If you are interested in discount books, please contact Jane.

Repeating last year's thank you to members, a \$5.00 rebate will be offered to each member who renew their dues and come to the [January meeting at Old Country Buffet - January 23rd at 2:00 p.m.](#) This is the installation of new and old members, please plan on attending. Phyllis Langdon motioned that we reimburse each paid member \$5.00 up to \$10.00 for couples per membership. The motion was passed.

Dale Peterson announced that he will be going on vacation, so if you have anything you want in the newsletter, please get this to Dale as soon as possible. Thank you, Dale.

Linda Porter motioned that we tell the church that we will not be holding our December or January meetings here. Marlene said that she will contact the church and let them know.

Fred Fraser brought several items that Lucille Knutson donated to our club. They were passed out to members who wished to have them. **Thank you, Lucille** for your generosity.

Election ballots were passed out and counted by Ivan Dike and Phyllis Langdon. Ivan read the results:

**President - Marlene Coder**  
**Vice President - Dean Stokes**  
**Secretary - Wanda Stokes**  
**Treasurer - Mike Porter**

**Board of Directors**  
**Marlene Coder 1 year**  
**Russ Armstrong - 2 years**  
**Fred Fraser - 3 years**

Marlene reminded everyone to bring a gift for **each** person participating in the gift exchange. A gift should be unisex and not exceed \$10.00. If you do not bring a gift, you cannot participate.

There was some discussion about sending in applications for the tour to **Pincher Creek in Alberta, Canada** for next year's **National Model T Tour**. You can give your application to Mike Porter at the Christmas Party. You can find a link at the **Model T Association of American's** website to download and fill out with your entry tour money and bring to the Christmas Party where Mike will send the applications in for us. Thank you, Mike.

Dean Stokes is looking for a radiator for a fellow in Uruguay.

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

Respectively Submitted, Dean Stokes on behalf of Wanda Stokes

# Lessons Learned the Hard Way

Dale Peterson

Restoring a Model T has been great fun. Fifteen years of learning all about the insides of these cars and how they work has increased my T knowledge. I can now tackle most of the repair issues that come along. One problem has surfaced, though. It seems a pile of spare parts has accumulated.

When Daisy was first brought home from Boise, a thorough inspection revealed incorrect parts either from replacements in the past or the previous owner had accumulated a few incorrect parts during his ownership. One of the obvious was the square end cut springs. My purpose in restoring the car was to get it to near original but serviceable condition. So I kept an eye out for any parts at the swap meets and in Uncle Lavar's barn. One day I noticed a farm sale nearby with some Model T parts listed on the handbill. Since it was on a weekend, son Jay (then 8) and I went to our first farm sale auction.

There were a lot of items to sell that Sunday. First there were all the contents of the house, then the shop and outbuildings. Then came some odds and ends of old farm equipment and used vehicles. Finally, the auctioneer came to the piles of old rusted car parts. Earlier I had browsed these for Model T parts I might need and had located a tapered rear spring set. Now, I suspect that the auctioneer was getting a little tired and past experience had probably taught him that not too many people were interested in piles of scrap metal. Anyway, he motioned for one of his helpers to stand at a designated spot, and then instructed another to stand about 50 feet down the row. Then he said, "Now we are going to bid for this collection of old car parts. And wouldn't you know, that taper leaf spring was smack in the middle of several frames, front and rear axles, sheet metal parts and more for a total of about three pickup loads! Well, I sure wanted that spring, but cooled my heels until he had lowered the starting price to \$50 to attract a bid. That seemed pretty good for the spring and began to make the thought of hauling all those parts a little more palatable, so I jumped in with both feet. No one else bid so for \$50 I had a pretty good start to my own pile of rusted tin.

Jay thought that bidding stuff looked like a lot of fun, too. There was a crate with three laying hens he spotted and asked if he could bid on them. One look and I could tell he really had his heart set on some pet chickens! Who could say no? Well someone must have had no mercy for little boys because those bids kept coming. Before I knew it, those three scrawny looking hens had fetched \$12, and then I learned, **each!** He was one proud boy on the way home with his flock. And now, before any Model T work occurred, a chicken coup had to be built.

Here and there a few more parts continued to gather as the '15 came together. Once completed we found out how just much fun "Driving Miss Daisy" was. After watching from the sidelines, Sharon now took a real interest in the hobby, making great friends, finding period clothes for us, and seeing a lot of country "in the slow lane."

But, what to do with all those parts? On the way home from the auction, a neighbor waved me down and one frame with springs didn't make it home but found a future under a 27 coupe body

as a hot rod. That still left me with 3 ½ more frames, 3 front axles, 4 rear axles, many springs and misc. other parts. Uncle Lavar had been talking of putting together a speedster from some of his spare parts, so I thought it might be fun to make one, also. The one thing I didn't have was a cylinder block. I had some 3 dip pans and several transmissions, but no block. Uncle Lavar did have several blocks in the barns here and there. Sorting through them, we find any that didn't have serious problems, hence their place in the cast off's. We did find one 1927 block that had only a crack in the rear water jacket and I took it home. Not happy with my attempt to weld the rear water jacket crack I kept my eye open for a better prospect.

When the **Vintage Ford** arrives, my reading does not end until all the ads in the back have been explored. One caught my eye that advertised a collection of 1926-27 parts in Chelan, only a four hour drive from home. Not too far for a whole trailer load with a price of \$2500 I thought. There were front and rear fenders, sedan doors, more springs and axles, boxes of collected and usable parts, and four 26-27 blocks and 4 dip pans and a '25 pickup box in good condition. Now with all those good parts, I could justify the purchase by thinking that I could sell off some of the parts to pay for the rest, right? Well, I did have most of the parts now needed for the 1927 speedster. Uncle Lavar hadn't been able to locate a good 27 cowl so the one I got from Chelan went to him since he was at that stage in his build and another was located for me. The pickup box went to Arizona at a good price, but not too many of the other parts have found a new home. A 40 foot shipping container now has become water tight dry storage and Uncle Lavar and I have exchanged several parts over the years since.

Lessons learned? Those rusty parts sure seem to multiply in the back yard! Any one need parts for their projects? Oh, and a second lesson, if you are going to take the little tykes along, bring along some extra cash!

### **Wanted:**

Your pictures and articles for the Newsletter and Website, send to:  
[dpeters0258@gmail.com](mailto:dpeters0258@gmail.com). Or mail: 218 NE A Street, College Place, WA 99324

### **For Sale**



1926-27 touring body needs two small patches, otherwise fairly straight.

\$600.00 or best offer. Call Jim 541-567-3196.

