



T – Times

Volume 31 Issue 9
November 2011

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 25th of the month for inclusion in the next month’s issue. Email: 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 at the Reata Springs Baptist Church, 2830 Leopold Lane, Richland, WA at 7:00 PM.

2011 Officers

Club President Marlene Coder
m.coder@hotmail.com

Vice President Dean Stokes
dwstokes1@embarqmail.com

Secretary Wanda Stokes
dwstokes1@embarqmail.com

Newsletter Editor Dale Peterson
dpeters0258@gmail.com

Board Members

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

Special Dates

Birthdays for November are: Doris Burma (11/01), Joan Dionne (11/13), Hattie Huetson (11/19), Dale Peterson (11/19). **Happy Birthday.**

Anniversaries for November are: John & Linda Carraher (11/25). **Happy Anniversary.**

Three River's Model T Club

October 20, 2011

Meeting at Old Country Buffet

Tonight's meeting was opened by President Marlene Coder. We had a good turnout of members - 22 in all. Marlene welcomed everyone and it was especially nice to see Terry and Edris Shegrud and Wayne and Loraine Williams.

Bill Sheller told of his experience in repairing "Henry" and all is going well. Henry will survive!

Marlene passed around the monthly bulletin at Sun Terrace Assisted Living in Sunnyside with our Model T's on the front cover.

Wanda read the minutes - all approved.

It was decided that **our next meeting** will be back at the **Riatta Springs church starting at 7:00 p.m.** Marlene stressed that this is an important meeting with nominations and elections taking place. Dean Stokes and Jim Elenbaas will be the nominating committee. If you are contacted, please say **"YES"**. Mary Fraser and Sharon Peterson will bring snacks.

It was also decided that the **Christmas Party** will be **December 15th at the Stokes' home in Sunnyside.** The time will be **5:00p.m.** Directions to the Stokes are as follows: From the Tri Cities area - head toward Sunnyside going through Prosser and Grandview. When you see exit 73, take it. Stop at the bottom of the exit and turn right keeping on Wine Country Highway (Yakima Valley 12) and head towards Sunnyside. When you see **Black Rock Golf Course and RJ's Casino and Restaurant (Ray Road)** turn right and continue for approximately three miles. You will cross several roads, stay on Ray Road. After crossing Sheller Rd, keep on Ray, our

farm is the big white house with barn and silo. We are on the right had side. Our address is **2791 Ray Road, Sunnyside, WA** 98944. If you get lost, please call **(509) 837-7443** or 391-9910 and we'll help you out. If you plan on attending (and we hope you do), please bring a salad or dessert for the potluck dinner and a gift costing no more than \$15.00. If you do not bring a gift, you **cannot** participate in the gift exchange. (If the weather is bad and you wish not to drive home the evening of the party, you are welcome to stay with us and we will try to accommodate you.) Members from the lower valley, directions are to head toward the Black Rock Golf Course and follow the directions listed above for Ray Road.

The concept of monthly meetings is still up in the air. There was much discussion regarding monthly meetings. Several suggestions were made such: as having the meeting at member's homes, meet every other month at the church, meet at events such as car shows to participate in, do more activities. More will follow. It was also stressed that we should get more Model T owners involved. We should ask them to come to meetings, give them a copy of our newsletter, telephone them, whatever it takes to have them come to an event.

Dale has done an excellent job of producing our newsletter. More discussion about mailing out the newsletter and several members expressed that they really like getting a copy in the mail. Bill Sheller suggested just doing a black and white newsletter and save expense of color ink cartridges. Costco also has Forever postage stamps cheaper than anywhere else. For those members who would like to continue getting the newsletter on line, please contact Dale Peterson.

Jane Armstrong reported that Richland will be having their popular **Tombstone Tales** again in the cemetery. This will be **October 29th from 1:00 -**

4:00p.m. For those who do not know what this is, actors and actresses of the community dress in period costume and stand over the grave of a founding member of the Tri City area. The actors then portray that individual and his or her accomplishments. It is very interesting and informative. Plan on attending. The cemetery is on Williams Street in Richland.

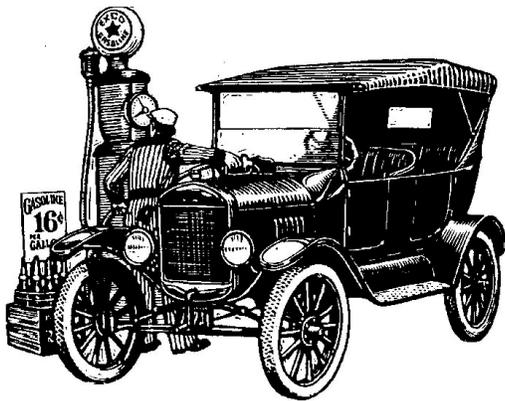
Dean reported that he has had lots of interest about the plans to go up **Pike's Peak in Colorado** next summer. **(YIKES!!)** He asked other Model T'ers on the Model T Online Forum, and has received much feedback. Some suggestions for going up Pike's Peak in a Model T, were to have good breaks, practice breathing thin air by hiking around Mt. Rainer a couple of times, hire a Sherpa, have a strong left leg among other suggestions! Several of our members said that they wish to do this.

Next year will be the **National Model T Tour in Nebraska June 17-22, 2012**. Several members are thinking about attending.

Dale has plans on touring **Mount Rainer** next summer. Dean had some suggestions also about Mt. Rainer. This should be a beautiful trip and again more information will be forthcoming.

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

Respectively submitted, Wanda Stokes, Secretary



Coming Events

Nov. 17 Monthly Meeting in Richland
Election of 2012 Officers.

Dec. 15 Annual Christmas Party at Dean and Wanda Stokes' home in Sunnyside.

Jan. 2012 Annual Dinner Meeting

June 17-22, 2012 National MTFCA Tour in Lincoln, Nebraska

July 2012 Pike's Peak with Bill Sheller

Aug. 2012 Mt Rainier Tour

Needs, Leads, and Parts for Sale

Have T Parts to sell/trade. 15-25 roadster body with top irons, body parts, fenders, hood, radiator and shell, wheels, engine blocks and much more. Also to sell or trade, 27 T touring body, fenders, frame, radiator. Need: distributor and lots of other parts. Call (253) 459-5871.

For Sale: New ring and pinion gear for 1925 Model T. Terry Shegrud. 586-3946.

For Sale: 26-7 frame, strait, sand blasted, and painted with POR-15. Set of 26-7 wire wheel hubs front and rear. Tudor windshield frame. Dale Peterson. (509) 529-0258.

Necessity and the Model T

By Dale Peterson

Over the years the Model T and its parts have been put to use in many ways as people adapted it to their needs. In the 1920's my grandfather, Carl Peterson, lost a leg as the result of an infection of the bone at the knee. While working at the sugar factory near Logan, Utah he had scraped his knee and infection set in, resulting in a "honey comb" bone. With the choice of a bone graft that would result in a stiff leg that would not bend and an amputation with an artificial leg that could bend, it was decided he would get along better if the leg would bend. For the rest of his life, he got around pretty well with one leg, raising seven children and farming. He worked at walking so that it was not obvious he had an artificial leg and some did not know.

During the depression he needed some supplemental income to feed all those little mouths and make ends meet. By the 1930's there were plenty of those 15 million Model T's around and those that could wanted something newer and

more comfortable. Carl had parts of at least three of them that can be seen in this picture. A saw was made by cutting the frame beyond the transmission and using part of the cut off part to make a stand to hold up that end and also could fold out and with a chain could be hitched to the back of the "doddle bug" Model T on the right in the picture. The front axle was moved back and mounted direct to the frame on wood blocks so that it balanced better on the axle for moving and setting up. With this set up, he was able to travel around the valley to cut firewood for others.

Each of the older boys had a job. The order in the picture was changed possibly to make a better picture. Uncle Dale, the older boy at the center was stationed at the end of the logs to hold up that end. Uncle Lavar, the boy at the right, was stationed where Carl is standing and was in charge of the throttle for the larger logs and would catch the cut off pieces and throw them out of the way. Of course, Uncle Don, the little boy with the axe was not old enough to do anything but stay out of the way and watch. My father, Ardean and twin sister Arlene would have been babies at this time.



There was a real competition between the older boys. Lavar was two years younger, but almost as big as Dale, and just about as strong. If Lavar got the advantage on Dale, it was “watch out” as he had a temper that would flare. Dale was to go on to join the army during WWII and was killed in Germany 2 weeks before the end of the war. He received the bronze star for heroism when he single handedly took his BAR across an open area and took a machine gunner’s nest that was cutting up his companions. He was shot by a sniper while marching the prisoners back and is buried in Belgium. Being the first male born into the family since that day, I received his name.

There are other Model T parts that can be seen in the picture. Behind the boys is a frame with axles converted into a trailer. For fetching wood to cut from up Logan Canyon, they took the bed off and attached two bolsters over the axles to haul logs. They used the flat bed to haul hay. On the other side of the picture is the rear of a stripped down Model T that pulled the trailer. Lavar says that

they could haul about one ton of hay behind that Model T. You cannot tell from the picture, but he thinks it must have had a Ruckstel axle because they went up some pretty steep hills for those logs. He also remembers having some sticks placed in the side of the load for LaVar and Dale to hang onto to keep it from rolling on the hillside.

I have yet to figure out how he drove the Model T’s with only one leg, but Grandfather was an amazing person. He farmed well up into the late 40’s with horses. His first tractor was a Farmall C, purchased at the urging of Uncle Lavar. That was one of the tractors that had all foot controls on one side. There is a story of his first trip down the field with a plow on behind. When he got to the end of the field and needed to make a quick stop he gripped the steering wheel, pulled hard and yelled “Whoa you s## ## # #####” while driving into the ditch. I never got to meet him as he died of a heart attack while out in the field at the young age of 53. We have learned that a cousin in Utah still has the saw blade from the Model T saw.

Remember, next meeting Thursday November 17 at 7:00 PM

at the Riatta Springs Church in Richland

On the agenda, 2012 Officers Election,

further discussion on future meeting times and locations.



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