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# T TIMES

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## Researching Accessories Dale Peterson

It seems that whenever I start a research project on old cars, one thing leads to another. Some kids get labeled as ADHD for lesser sins, but I will readily admit I can get distracted down one path and then another. The most recent project started with a search for a body for a 1912 runabout I have been collecting parts for.

First was an advertisement for an accessory body listed in the Horseless Carriage Gazette. During the phone call to learn more about it, he stated that it was believed that this was an accessory body produced by the Hercules company and sold through the Sears & Roebuck catalogs. One thing lead to another as I searched for old Sears catalogs,<sup>*continued on page 2*</sup>

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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.

## 2012 Officers

**Club President** Dean Stokes  
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1 Year -- Russ Armstrong  
2 Year -- Fred Fraser  
3 Year -- Jim Elenbaas

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particularly a 1912 Auto Supplies and a 1915 complete offerings catalog. I am still looking for these two, but did find a 1914 Sears, Roebuck and Co. Automobile accessories catalog. Browsing inside this was a close taste of what heaven must be like.

A lot of historical perspective can be learned just from perusing these pages. Of course, what is offered are those things that are in demand. The catalog offers 96 pages full of all the accessories one would need for motoring in the day. And what more important than to start the catalog with 16 pages of tires and all related accessories. There are cross section diagrams showing why **Justice** Auto Tires are superior. On the following page is a full color ad spotlighting the “famous” racing driver Spencer E Wishart. He is quoted “I am using a set of JUSTICE TIRES and they are wearing wonderfully, in fact, better than any other tires I have used. They have gone 2,700 miles and I look as though they would go that much more at least.”

Now, I don’t know about you, but I would not be happy if the tires I buy now were to last my T driving only 5,400 miles!

On the MTFCA forum discussions, we have been reading a lot about peoples’ dissatisfaction with the tires available to us today. Personally, I have a set of those infamous Excelsior tires that crack early on and wear out rapidly. Since most of our post ’14 cars have no speedometer/odometer, I cannot attest to just how many miles I have on Daisy. In 2004 I put the tires on and since 2006 would estimate that there are 12,000 miles to the credit of that wonderful ol’ gal. At first I was not aware of how badly the alignment was on the front end and after close to 2,000 miles it was noted that the front tires were really wearing rapidly. Once this was rectified, the wear on one of the tires improved, but by 5,000 miles the driver’s side tire had to be replaced but serves as a very functional if not decorative spare. There has been minimal cracking and the passenger side tire still has many miles of wear left. So I guess we can be thankful that our current poor quality tires are a step or two above what they had in the day.

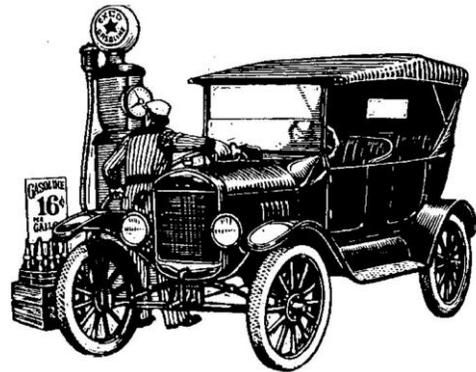
There are also red rubber tubes of many differing sizes. Following this there is the most amazing assortment of tire repair supplies and

## Birthdays in May

<b>Wanda Stokes</b>	<b>5/16</b>
<b>Paul Burma</b>	<b>5/23</b>
<b>Russ Armstrong</b>	<b>5/27</b>

## Anniversaries in May

**Ralph and June Anderson 5/8**



### Coming Events

- May 17**      **Monthly meeting and Humming-bird Tour at Dale and Sharon Peterson’s in College Place.**
- May 19**      **Ford Get Together at Hat Rock Park outside Hermiston. Picnic at 12 Noon.**
- May 26-27**    **Speedster Fun Run and Rally Memorial Weekend. Super 8 Motel 2020 N Argonne Rd, Spokane Valley Wa (509) 315-3578.**
- June 17-20**    **Montana 500 in Butte, MT**
- June 17-22**    **National Tour in Lincoln, NE**
- August 6-9**    **Mt Rainier Tour**
- Sept. 15**      **East vs. West Reliability Run, Vantage, WA.**

tools. One thing I have learned from the medicine field; if there is more than one product to fill a need, then none of them are satisfactory in one way or another and none have a real advantage over the others! The assortment of patching options is amazing. To start with, you can pick from a variety of vulcanizers to patch the tube, or you can try cold vulcanizing, but you will need a special portable clamp. There is "Goodrich cold vulcanizing solution", "Vulcanoid Official unexcelled acid cure solution" and high grade Para rubber cement", "Secret Process Rubber Cement", "Michelin Mastic", "U-Vulco liquid vulcanizer" and . . ., you get the idea. There are even, surprisingly, "Ideal Patches" and "Ready for Service Patches ... no cement needed."

Tires only last so long. When they wear out, you could buy a new one or a set. Now remember that workers were getting from \$1 a day to the unheard of \$5 at the ford factories (only \$3 until you stayed on for a whole year and if you satisfied the requirements of the Ford Social Department!). A new 30x3 1/2 **Justice** casing cost \$11.90 and the tube \$2.95. That was for the smooth tread, if you wanted the Anti-Skid casing you had to shell out \$15.04. Now, on the shipping information page on the inside front cover, you learn that for parcel post, packages were limited to 20 pounds unless you lived within 150 miles of Chicago and cost \$2.40. Each casing weighs 12 pound for smooth and 14 for anti-skid, with the added 3 1/8 pound for each tube. Pity the poor bloke that owned a Chalmers that runs on 34x4 tires, they weigh 21 pounds, over the limit.

But maybe you could get by with one of the other options. There are "Triumph casing Protectors or Reliners" to go inside the damaged or worn tire, "Vulcanizer Outfits" for casing repairs, or "Standard Tread Filler" ("A high grade rubber gum, especially designed for repairing casing cuts.") You can also find "Raw Gum Repair Stocks for Tubes and Casings." For the quick repair on the road, you could use a tire sleeve (outside the casing) or shoe (inside the casing). These are offered in options that lace over the tire and rim, clips to the rim, or glues to the casing.

Once the repair is completed, you can choose from a variety of pumps. There is the "Champion Spark Plug Pump," a variety of single, double, and triple cylinder pumps, an "E-Z-2 Work Lever

Pump," and a "Sampson Compound Lever Pump."

The list just goes on and on, what fun to occupy one's afternoon and keep you from getting that restoration project finished! Oh, yes, almost forgot to mention, there is even a 9 page section just for that wildly popular new Model T Ford, that includes "a complete line of the latest approved devices for Ford cars."!

Happy motoring, and send a line if you find any documentation for the Hercules runabout or tourabout bodies for Fords.

### **Three River's Model T Club**

**April 19, 2012**

#### **Meeting Minutes**

Tonight's meeting was held at **Old Country Buffet** in the Columbia Center Mall area. We had a good turnout of members. President, Dean Stokes opened the meeting. Secretary, Wanda Stokes was asked to read the minutes. All approved. Treasurer, Mike Porter gave his report. We have one new member, Paul Dion. He also read a thank you card from the folks who own the Lyle Hotel. We have money in the bank.

#### **Old Business**

Dean asked **Jim Langdon** to give a report about the breakfast that **Jim and Phyllis** hosted last month. We had a good turnout and great food. **Bill Sheller** did a fantastic job with the pancakes and the equipment Jim made for the breakfast was wonderful. Thank you for your help.

Dean asked **Dale Peterson** to talk about the **Hummingbird tour set for May 17th**. We finally decided that the time would be **4:30p.m.** and we will **meet at Walla Walla Fort** at that time. We will then travel to see the hummingbirds and have a picnic afterward. Dale and Sharon will provide the sub sandwiches and we are asked to bring salads or desserts. We can either trailer our T's to Walla Walla or drive modern cars, the choice is ours.

**May 19th - Hat Rock Creek Tour**. We are invited to attend this tour put on by the Model A car people. If interested, please contact Fred or Mary

Fraser. Also on May 19th is the car show in Waitsburg, WA. If interested, contact Herb Mettler. Another car show is slated for May 19th at Canyon Lakes. If interested, please contact Wayne Williams.

**June 1st** - (Friday) **Dean and Wanda Stokes** are hosting a tour of the **Black Rock Creek Area**. We will **leave our ranch about 9:00 - 9:15** a.m. and travel to the **Black Rock Area**. You will see wonderful vistas of the area and experience Mother Nature at her finest. We will have a potluck and have a great tour.

**June 17-20 - Montana 500 Speedster** run will take place. Several members are attending. Also **June 17 - 22 - is the National Model T tour in Lincoln, Nebraska**. Many members will be attending both of these great events.

**August tour to Mount Rainier National Park** is turning out wonderfully. **Dale and Sharon Peterson** have been working very hard on this tour. You should have your reservations all made for the trip to **Mt. Rainier** and the return trip. More information will be coming soon.

**Gary Ellingson** noted that two **Speedster tours** are in the works for Memorial weekend and Labor Day weekend in Spokane. He expressed that these are well worth attending. If interested, please contact Gary.

### **New Business**

Bill Sheller made a motion that we **skip the June 21st meeting** because most of the membership will be either in Montana at the Speedster Run or in Lincoln, Nebraska for the National Model T Tour. Gary Ellingson seconded the motion - passed. Dale Peterson will call Applebee's Restaurant in Kennewick and cancel the meeting. **Jim and Sandy Ellenbaas** asked if the July meeting could be at their home in Granger. The date will be **July 19th** and more information will be forthcoming.

Wanda read a letter (via e-mail) from Andrea Benedict from the Western Idaho Model T Club. She likes our newsletter and asked if they

could add our club as a link to their newsletter. Also, noted that excerpts from Roscoe Sheller's "**Me and the Model T**" were used by their club. Bill Sheller noted that everything in **Me and Model T** is copywrited and he will contact Andrea. Dale will provide Bill with Andrea's address.

Bill asked Dale who all is getting newsletters both e-mail and snail mail. Dale reported that he only sends snail mail newsletters to paid members of Three River's Model T Club. Other past members and interested people get an e-mail newsletter.

Dean mentioned that of the 25 paid families of our club, seven members celebrated birthday's in April.

Dean also mentioned that he is planning a "**flash tour**" (the tour will be spontaneous) out in the Yakima Indian Reservation traveling over the ridge and on to Naches. We scouted this trip out and it is fantastic - beautiful scenery and wonderful Model T roads. More forthcoming.

Wanda will write a letter to the **Riatta Springs Church** explaining why we have not been meeting at the church in hopes of improving member attendance by meeting at restaurants or member homes. So far this has been successful and we will continue **not** meeting at the church. Wanda will check with Fred Fraser to see if he has contacted the church and if not, then the letter will be sent.

Dean asked members for a **Garage Report**. Members told of what they are doing with their T's to get them ready for all of the great tours fast approaching.

**Jane Armstrong** brought Vintage Car Quizzes for us. Wanda read questions from one of the quizzes to our members and we learned many interesting facts. Thank you, Jane. With nothing more to come before the members, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Wanda Stokes, Secretary

## **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.

### **Hummingbird Tour to Dixie**

The monthly club meeting May 17 will be hosted by Dale and Sharon Peterson in Walla Walla. Meet at Fort Walla Walla at 4:30PM for a Picnic and Meeting. Bring salad or desert, drink and Sub sandwich provided. Following the meeting, we will drive from there out to Dixie to see the Hummingbirds at "The Hummingbird Crossing." We did this two years ago and had a wonderful time driving the back roads and watching hummingbirds at the many feeders. Feel free to come in modern cars or bring your T for an adventure. We should be finished by about 8PM.

### **Black Rock Valley Tour**

Dean Stokes has arranged for our club to tour out to Robert Brothers Land and Livestock Ranch in the Black Rock Valley in the North Slope of the Rattlesnake Hills. This will take place Friday June 1. We will meet at the Stokes Ranch at 9AM. A potluck meal/barbecue is a possible option for this tour. You will need to bring your own drinking water and there is indoor plumbing available.

### **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.

### **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.spokanemodeltclub.com>. Mike mentioned that any T's would be welcome to join in, not just speedsters.