

Tennessee T's



Model T Ford Club

Editor- [Bill Robinson](#)

Be sure to visit our club's website

<http://tennesseets.weebly.com/>

A Message From Ricky Williams,
Our President



Greetings Model T'ers

Isn't it funny that people new to Model T's are afraid to drive them? I hear of people all the time that get there first Model T and they drive it to the end of the driveway and back, then they venture out around the block one day, but they never want to get too far from home. Even when I get a new Model T I'm afraid that it's not going to make it very far, and for good reason. Several haven't. Driving a Model T to me is all in your mind. If, like me, you have driven a straight shift truck your whole life your first instant when in trouble is to push that clutch to the floor. We all know where that gets you. My '15 went head on into a tree.

Think for a minute what if you, were not getting out of your new truck to drive a Model T, but you were getting off your horse. Imagine what the first owners of our cars thought when they sat down in the seat and looked down at those three pedals, a spark and gas lever, and a steering wheel. Then they had to get out and turn a crank that was as much likely to kick back and break their arm as to start. Just think of what they thought when they sat behind that steering wheel and pushed that low pedal down for the first time ever driving a car. When it came time to stop, they just couldn't say "Whoa" they actually had to figure out which one of those pedals to push to stop the thing.

Just think, back then there were no paved roads, no stop signs, no speed limit and you didn't even need a driver's license. The ruts in the road were deep from the buggies that had been before you. They were muddy or knee deep in snow and had to be maneuvered with slick skinny looking bicycle tires. I often wonder what they thought about this new car when they had to walk back home to get the horse to pull it out of the middle of the road.

I wonder what it would have been like to drive it home in the dark for the first time. With gas lights, or later on, electric you were barely able to see right in front of you much less down the road. It was a law in some places that you couldn't blow your horn because you would scare the horses around you.

Let's face it. They were not the most reliable things either. Most of us have some mechanical ability. We grew up around cars and we learned from an early age to fix them. Most of these new Model T owners had never seen a gas engine, but they had to lay on the side of the road and fix it. I bet most of them, after a while, didn't attempt to start it in the winter they just went back to the old reliable horse and waited till spring.

Don't be afraid to drive your car. There are still some tours scheduled for this fall, that you can go on or just get with your friends and take a day trip. Get out and go meet some of the best folks you will ever know. Model T people are a great group. Let us know if we can help.

Happy T'ing

Ricky

Club Officers 2020

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Chaplain- D.D.
From Tennessee



Tours and Events

Contact Ricky Williams, our club President, if you have a tour or event planned to be sure the date is still open. [Click for contact info.](#)

As of the publishing date of this newsletter, because of safety issues with the virus and social distancing, we have no club sponsored tours or events at this time.



The Tennessee T's club is a member of both the MTFCA and the MTFCI. Most of our members are also members of both associations that help preserve our hobby and our historic old cars.

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Tennessee T's Model T Ford Club Chaplain Activity Report by D. D.



DATE	ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	ACTION	COMPLETED
7/23/20	Send Sympathy Card to Ann Carter	Mail	7/24/20
8/4/20	Send Get Well Card to Gary & Penny Wheat	Mail	8/4/20

John 14:27

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you.

In these unsettled times it is easy to become anxious after viewing news reports of rioting and looting.

Peace is powerful. Peace reminds you that you are safe and secure and in that place of security you are free to prosper and thrive.

Jesus paid for your peace. It's paid for, and it's yours. Believe that. Refuse to yield to fear, doubt or lies.

Take courage and trust that peace is all around you. Just reach out and claim it.

Peace is a beautiful thing our Father has gifted to us.



Our condolences go out to one of our long-time members, **Darrel Carter**, from Steens, MS, near which is near Columbus, MS.

Darrel lost his life in an accident on their farm on **Thursday, July 24, 2020.**

We wish his wife Ann, and his family members well.
<https://www.lowndesfuneralhome.net/obituary/darrel-carter>

Darrel was a valued contributor to the Tennessee T's newsletter, and most recently, at the latest Lynn Cook Workshop Day in February, he again proved his Model T knowledge by showing us all how to re-magnetize the magnets in a Model T magneto system.



SOME GOOD NEWS FOR A CHANGE

An UPBEAT Update from **Jennifer Whitehall**, and regarding members of our club who live in her general vicinity. They call their group "The Blue Ridge Riders".

Hey Bill! Hope this finds you and your family and friends well and coping well!

Ken and I, and the dwindling number of active Blue Ridge Riders, are all doing well as far as I know. Waldo Emerson has had some surgery and Max Larson had a tooth pulled...both are recovering! Max still bounces back and forth between NC and The Florida Keys.

Tom & Kathleen Loftfield, Max Larson, and Ken & I (who live in close proximity) have gone touring in our area, driving the daily courses we had planned for the May 2020 Hendersonville/Brevard Tour, which we hope to reschedule for May 2021. Tom's 1912 touring car returned from upholsterer... and is it a beauty!! They did a great job! We toured into the DuPont Forest area, backroads and dirt roads of Brevard and Rosman, and through Flat Rock and into the Saluda area. We just pack our picnic lunches and stop at a park or scenic area to have our meal and visit a bit. We wear masks so we can visit with others who inevitably express interest in the cars.

As far as precautions, we all agree to shop groceries once each month at "O'dark-thirty" in the morning, wear our HazMat suits, stay active on the farms, and sometimes get together on our open air verandas, decks, or shelters for tea, picnic lunches, chatter, a healthful dose of laughter. It breaks the monotony and keeps us from running amok! We have become a little family circle...checking on one another. Tom writes a weekly essay, "This Week in Possum Gap", published for the information and substantial amusement of close friends and family. It is quite a journal of life on the farm during this pandemic era, as he fusses with his hens & roosters, their Barbadian sheep, the rampant rain-induced weeds in their orchard and veggie garden, mysterious critters digging up the bulbs he re-plants daily, repairing and rescuing his preferred antique machinery and transportation, and adventures and misadventures on his properties and with the "curious" neighbors, as well as insightful discourse on the ever-perplexing political scene.

I have stayed busy re-learning the tedious art of cleaning my own house! I miss my Susan!! Boy, howdy! And Ken cusses regularly at the Model T just to stay in practice. Poor thing. (The T, not Ken.)

Briefly stated, all's well. There WILL be a beginning, a middle, and an end to this virus...we just await the medication, cure, or inoculations, whichever arrives first! Meantime, all birthday, wedding, and Christmas gifts will be flat plastic and/or homemade!

Thanks Jenni !

TIMKENS FOR TINKER T

by Phillip Lee

The last time I had Tinker T out for a little tour was in Pulaski, TN with about 10 other Ts. Some of the talk was about front wheel bearings. So, I thought It would be a good idea to repack the front wheel bearings on my T.

As some of you know, we have only had our T about 2 years now. As a T novice, I did not know the front bearings had threads. When I first got the T, I knew that the wood wheels and hubs had been changed to wire wheels and hubs. As a kid, my father always said, “ **Son, if you kant fix it you kant drive it.**” So time to check the wheels bearings but no matter how hard I pulled, the front bearings would not come off.

I have learned what I know about the Model T from the forum and other members of Tennessee Ts. One of the things is that the wheel bearings are threaded onto the axle and mine were threaded backwards I thought until a Tennessee T member explained that if the were that they would tighten and lockup the wheel. **No**ther lesson learned from a Tennessee T member. No name mentioned but his initials are Bill Robinson.

So I got the T in the shop and jacked up and on stands. I got the wheels off with no problems. When I punched the inner bearing out of the first wheel, the bearing fell apart and so did the inner bearing of the other wheel. So I decided to replace all the wheel bearings. Tinker T was down until I could order and install the new bearings.

After looking at several suppliers, I found that the exact replacements were about \$80.00 each for the outer bearings. I also found that you can get two front bearings with threaded inserts for about the same price. So being of sound mind and a bit frugal, I bought the bearings with the inserts. Oh, by the way, both bearings are Timkens, so the quality of the bearings would be the same.

When I got them in, the big question was, how do you tighten the bearings because they do not have the flat spot like the original? As they say, when all else fails, read the instructions. The instructions say to use needle nose pliers. That works good until you almost get them tight and then the needle nose pliers will not reach the little slot in the insert. I have some big slip joint pliers and if you squeeze real hard you can tightened the bearings on the round shoulders. It worked great on one side, but on the other side, before I could get all the play out, the insert started slipping inside the bearing. What to do now? I went ahead and put the castle nut and tried tightening and it worked. No play in the wheel.

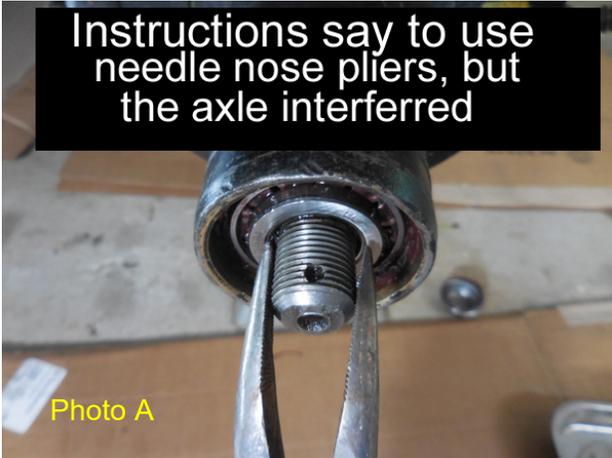
Bottom line: The bearings with insert will work. You need a special tool to properly install them.

If I had it to do over again, I would spend the extra money and save lots of aggravation.

Side note. A T ride had been planned with Bill, Paul, David and me. With Tinker T down waiting for new bearings, Bill offered to let me ride with him, so the T ride on still on for me. A customer of my son-in-law tested positive for the Chinese virus so to be on the safe side Bill said "STAY AWAY FROM ME" I missed the ride. That was several weeks ago so with no symptoms for my son-in-law or me, I am good to go.



This is the bearing that I chose to install. Note the notches in the LH view. Grab the notches, then turn the insert to adjust.



Bearing notes:

Photo A: The needle nose picture shows that they will not reach the slot when the bearing is screwed down about 1.5 inches. This picture is from Lang's and shows the slot in the insert.

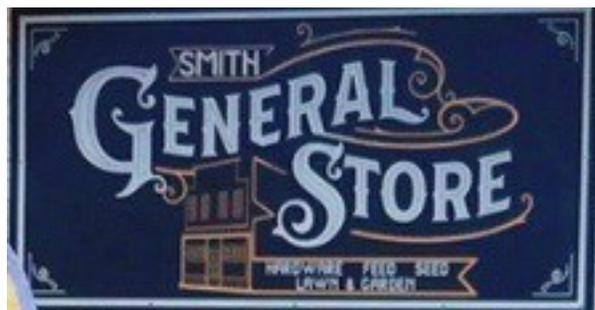


Photo B: One picture shows the shoulder on the old bearing and how a crescent wrench will fit and how I used a screwdriver to get leverage.

Photo C: One picture shows how I used slip joint pliers on the the new bearing without the flat shoulder.

Photo D: One picture is a mockup of a tool needed to tighten the bearing with an insert.

GRAND OPENING JULY 25, 2020



by Bill Robinson



Smith General Store is located in Maysville, Alabama, a small rural crossroad community, not far from the Tennessee state line. The building has been a hardware store serving Maysville for quite some time and Mr and Mrs Smith had a chance to purchase it. Although their takeover probably couldn't have come at a worse time, due to the Covid-19 days, but through the hard work of the Smiths, along with the help of their friends and family, the store has done quite well.

They asked if I would bring one of my Model T's to display for their open house, which was about 2 months after their initial opening, and the first thing that entered my mind was "PICK UP TRUCK!"

I told them to load it down like the farm truck that it is--- and they did! Lots of chicken feed, rabbit feed, and hay.

The 1926 Model T Pickup helped to draw an all day crowd. It was lots of fun.





Picture from Tenn T's member **Doug Hauge's** nephew Ryan who ran the O2O in this T with his wife and their 2 very young sons. Photo submitted by Paula Gember

What is it? The white thing that is attached to the side of the car? TAKE A GUESS—
The answer is on the final page.

Treasurer's Report

The Money Bucket submitted by **Connie Plank**, club treasurer
Treasurer's Report as of 7.31.2020



Starting Balance (05/31/2020)	\$7,079.10
Total Deposits – No Activity	\$0.00
Total Expenses - No Activity	\$0.00
Ending Balance – (07/31/2020).....	\$7,079.10

On the mend

The latest news on some of our members who are known to be currently having health problems (listed alphabetically):

- **Ramona Akin** is recovering after a recent surgery.
- **Mark Gember** and **Charlie Owen** have been reported to be having successful treatments.
- Word is that both **Gary and Penny Wheat** seem to be getting over their illnesses.

FREE MODEL T PARTS



Steve Shelton, a long-standing member of the Tennessee T's has a surplus of Model T parts that are in his way.

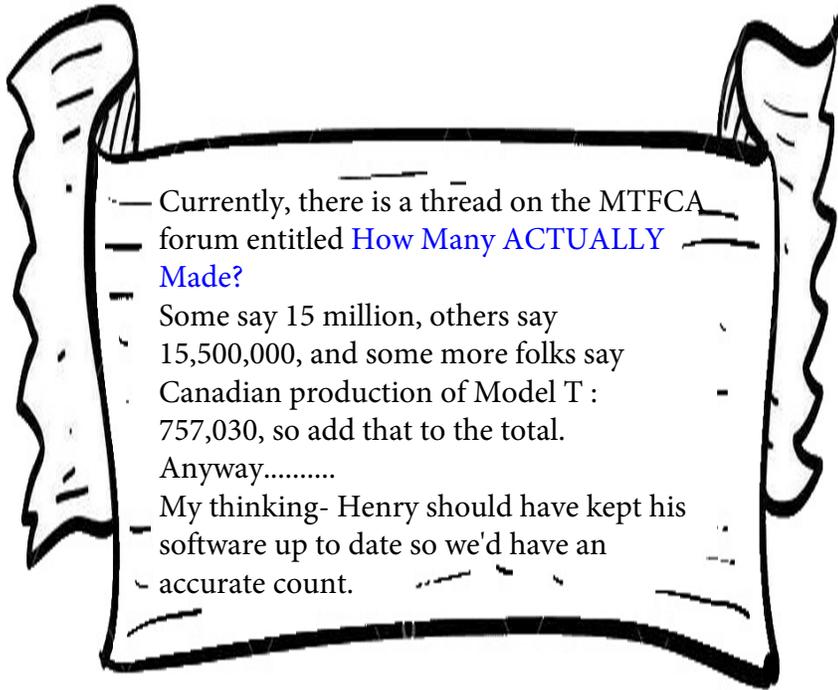
In addition to the items in the photo:

- a new set of stainless steel valves
- a new fiber timing gear
- a front wheel hub
- a '24 hood (needs work)

The black oil catch pan does NOT go.

The parts are located in Mulberry, TN- near Lynchburg.

Contact Steve by email steve.t.shelton@gmail.com



Remember our stops at **Falls Mill, in Belvidere, TN**? A copy of their newsletter was mailed to our club this month. Follow this link and get caught up on their happenings. <https://fallsmill.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/MPI-July-2020-Newsletter-Articles.pdf>



Hey, we tour the whole dang state! And then some!

Don't tell anyone, but sometimes we even cross over the state line. Shhhh !!

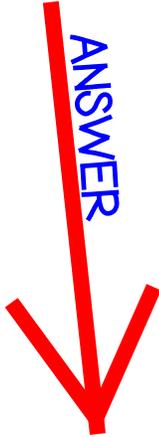
FULL TIME COLLEGE STUDENTS CAN JOIN DUES - FREE

BOOGER... IN THE PAN!

Find something in your old car that is not supposed to be there? Let us all see your find!

Here's how:

Write a short article and tell our club members about what you found. **Send pictures to the editor.** tennesseets@hotmail.com

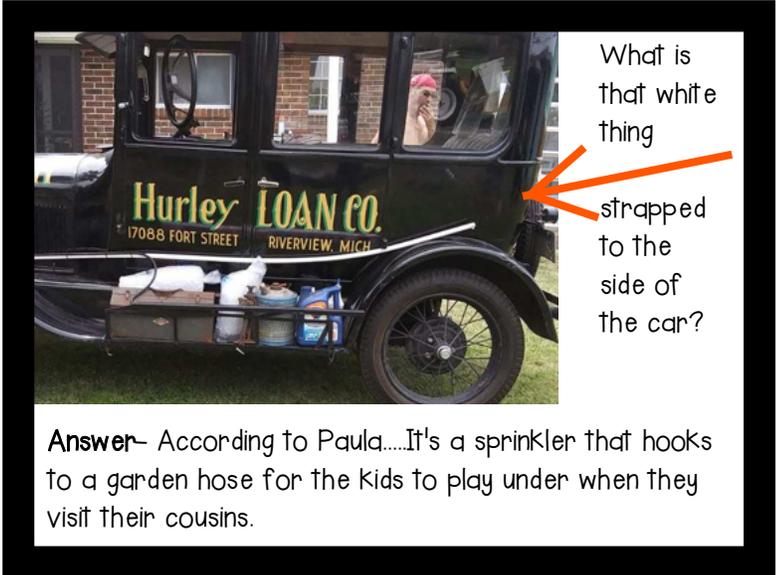


If you have not found the **TECH PAGE** on our website, then pay it a visit. There are many good articles posted that can help out on your next project. Also, if you write an article, send it to the newsletter editor for consideration.

Don't forget- Big John makes beautiful, hand-crafted wooden steering wheels. bigjohn331958@gmail.com

THANK YOU TENNESSEE T'S THANKS FOR THE PICTURES AND ARTICLES THAT YOU SUBMITTED THIS MONTH. I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MUCH IT HELPS ME WHEN YOU WRITE THE NEWSLETTER.

Bill Robinson, newsletter editor



What is that white thing strapped to the side of the car?

Answer- According to Paula....It's a sprinkler that hooks to a garden hose for the kids to play under when they visit their cousins.