

# Tennessee T's



## Model T Ford Club

Editor- [Bill Robinson](#)

Be sure to visit our club's website

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



**Don't forget - LYNN COOK SAFETY DAY and WORKSHOP**

It's not too late to sign up to attend the 2020 Lynn Cook Safety and Workshop Day to be held in Armore, TN, on Leap Year Day, February 29th.

Details and brochure are on **page 6** and our website: <https://tennesseets.weebly.com/lynn-cook-2020-brochure.html>

If you plan on attending, be sure Paul knows you are coming! This is important. He's going to feed us and you may get left out if he doesn't know you are coming.

## Club Officers 2020

**President-** Ricky Williams  
Humboldt, TN  
731.618.0207  
[rwilliams@click1.net](mailto:rwilliams@click1.net)



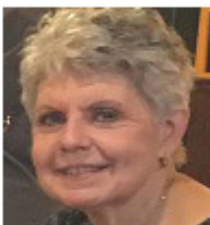
**Vice President-** Dennis Plank  
Humboldt, TN  
731.616.6609  
[daplank@bellsouth.net](mailto:daplank@bellsouth.net)



**Secretary-** Vandy Williams  
Humboldt, TN  
731.414.9085  
[vandy1311@yahoo.com](mailto:vandy1311@yahoo.com)



**Treasurer-** Connie Plank  
Humboldt, TN  
731.313.1496  
[csplank@bellsouth.net](mailto:csplank@bellsouth.net)



**Chaplain-** Mac Flowers  
Waverly, TN



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**Tip:** press "control +" to ZOOM

A Message From Ricky Williams,  
Our President



Greetings Model T'ers

I enjoy getting up and going to eat breakfast at the old man's table of our local restaurant. A lot of times on Saturday morning I will drive the Model T to town for breakfast. If you can get past the one that talks with his mouth full and spits food all over you, or the one that sits and clips his fingernails while I'm trying to eat, or even a former teacher of mine who would smoke while he was eating his breakfast and thump his ashes in the plate that he's eating from, we have some pretty good conversation. They are always asking me about the Model T and the Ford Motor Company.

One of them brought up a good point about the Model T and how it changed society and religion. Before the Model T you were not a Baptist or a Methodist because you necessarily believed in their doctrine. You were a Baptist or a Methodist because that was the church closest to your house that you could walk to.

After the Model T came along, people started venturing out farther, going to town, meeting new people and doing different things. This little car that we all love changed the world we live in today.

My grandmother would tell me how they would ring the dinner bell if they were in trouble and needed a neighbor to come to their house. When the Model T came along, this changed for a lot of people. My dad always tells me how a Model T Fordor would come by to pick him up to take him to school. If there were any girls in the car he would refuse to ride. My grandmother would have to beat him with a switch to get him in the car. That's a really funny story for me because I always thought that my dad had to walk to school.... **In the snow.... Uphill.... Bare footed.... Both ways.**

Everyone I know knows what a Model T is. They were the world leader in sales, until taken over by Chevrolet in the later 1920's. I have seen hundreds of Model T's in my lifetime, but I could count on one hand the number of Chevrolets from that era I have seen in person, and have no idea what they were even called. I often wonder what happened to all of them, and why are there so many more Model T's around today? How did so many Model T's survive WWII scrap drives? I choose to believe it's because of that magical allure the Model T had then, and still has today. It's why people will chase you down just to ask you a question about your Model T. It's our job as their current custodians to preserve them, and their story, to pass them down for generations to come.

Just think most of our cars are already 100, or nearing 100 years old. I really believe most of them will see 200 and better, even though we will not be here to see it. It's because of us they will live on.

Get out, get your car going, and come join us on tour. It's the most fun you could have.

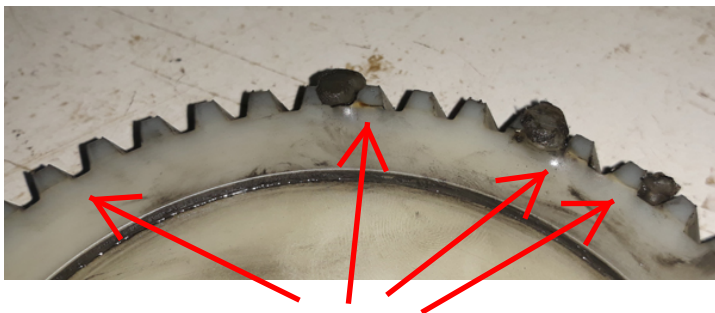
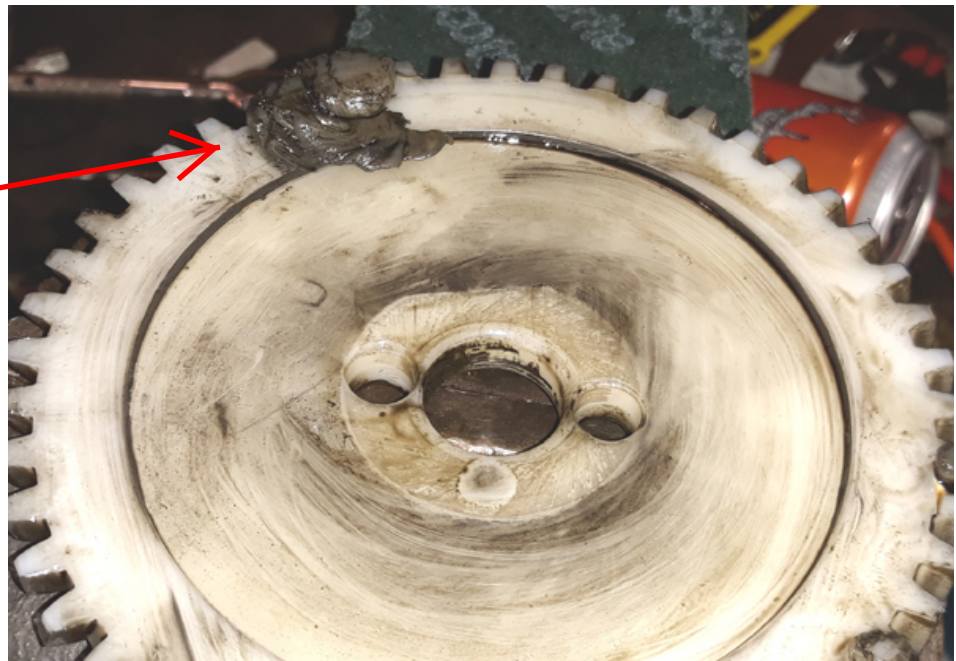
Happy T'ing  
Ricky

# BOOGER... IN THE PAN!

**Kim Doty**, a long-standing member of the Tennessee T's, has a friend and neighbor who is a Model T fanatic like us. Many of us know **Steve Phielor** from tours that we have been on. Steve, Kim, and **Tom Moorehead** hang out together and work on each other's cars.

Steve was recently installing a new cam in his Model T, not because he was having mechanical problems, but because he wanted to run a cam with advanced timing for a little extra power. When he removed the front timing cover, he found a nylon timing gear. He saw a "blob" of black substance that appeared to be melted plastic. "Where did that come from?"

Good question. Upon removal of the nylon timing gear, he noticed that the face of the gear a large glob of **melted (possibly) plastic**, and there were smaller globs of melted plastic around the edges of the gear and the space between the teeth where it's darkest is slightly cupped as if that edge of the gear also got compressed. All other face surfaces are flat.



see the cracked teeth? Poke the + at top of the page- ZOOM in for a good look!

It appears that there was no backlash between the nylon timing gear and the crank gear, or maybe the gear had a wobble. The nylon gear got hot. You can see where it got black between the teeth. Those globs are stuck to the gear, on the sides. The area where it's the darkest has the most distortion to the gear. The area next to the globs is much darker and guessing it got hotter there. That suggests that the gear may have been a bit out of round too. Anyway, it was running too tight.

Can you see the teeth that are cracked? Think of what would have happened had on or two of those teeth broken off. Steve got lucky on this one!

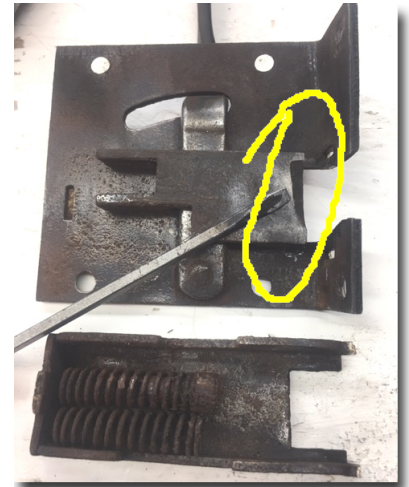
Thanks to **Kim Doty** for submitting this info.

Thanks to **Steve Phielor** for sharing his experience.

# MY DOORS KEPT POPPING OPEN!

by Craig (Vech) Vechorik

When I first acquired our 1915 touring car, I had constant problems with the doors popping open on rough roads. There was a lot of play in each door when closed, even though the striker plates on the door posts were in good shape. Close examination revealed that the sliding bolt of each latch was badly worn where it came in contact with the striker plate. I removed the the latch from the door, and took it apart. The screwdriver is pointing at the wear on the bolt. See photo on right.



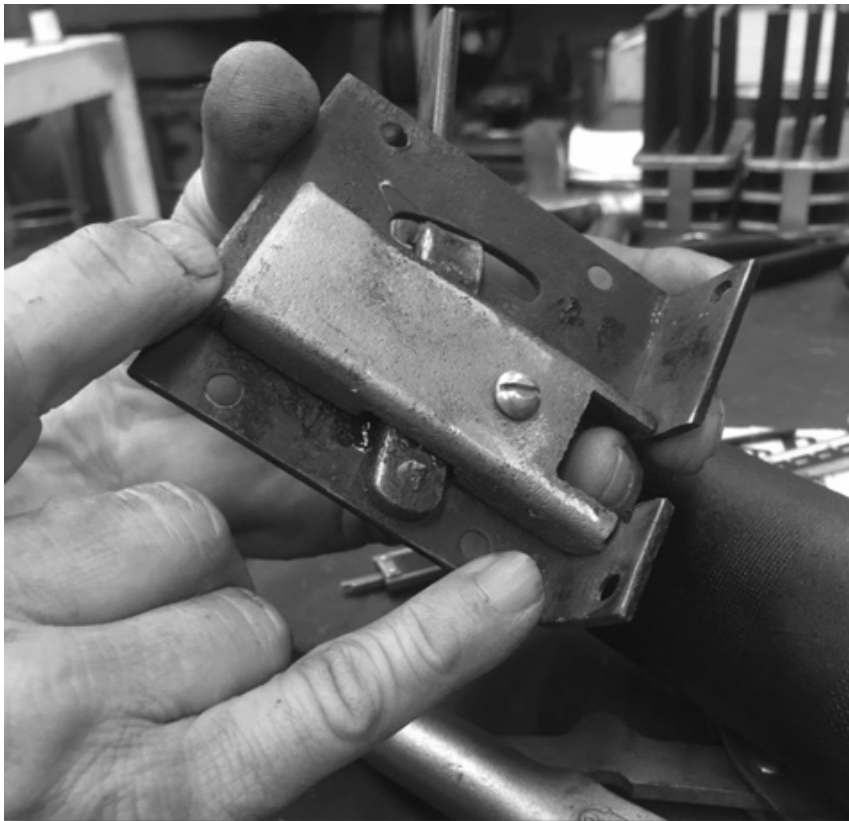
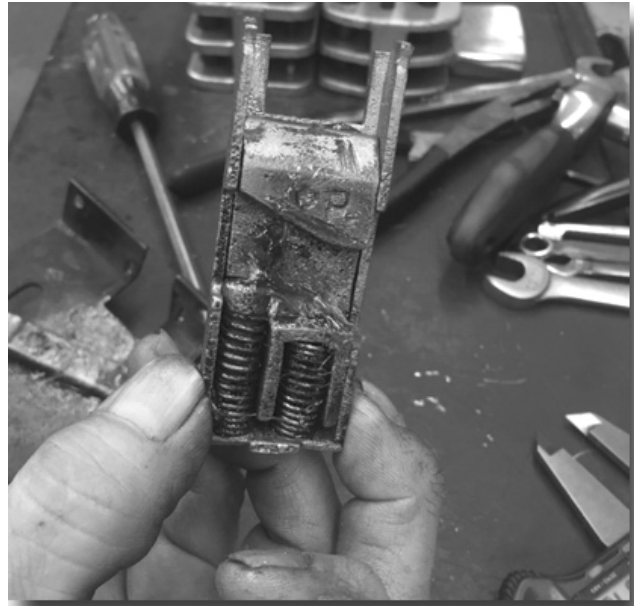
I welded the worn spot on the sliding bolt, and then belt sanded and reformed the bolt to a nice sharp edge on that side. Due to the spring pressure on the bolt, there was no way on earth that you could reassemble the hole thing, and get it to stay together long enough to re mount it on the backing plate with the lever, so I drilled through the cover and through the bolt, and tapped the hole in the sliding bolt, in order to keep it all together for the final assembly.



This next photo shows the bolt in the cover, with the springs installed, (with fresh grease) and the slotted screw retains the bolt and springs in the cover.



This photo shows the other side, of the cover with the bolt installed, and the springs installed and greased.



It was very easy to get the assembled cover and bolt back on the backing plate, and I tack welded the cover to the backing plate in 4 places to hold it all together. Then I removed the temporary slotted screw, to release the bolt so it could function.



After rebuilding all the latches this way, I was very pleased with the result. No more door rattles, and the doors no longer pop open, going over bumps!

THE TENNESSEE T's MODEL T CLUB

PRESENTS THE

# ANNUAL LYNN COOK WORKSHOP DAY

Saturday, February 29th

AT

**TENNESSEE ROSE**  
FARM

*Y'all  
come!*



*Breakfast 8AM*

*Club Meeting*

*Workshop Program*

- *Fuel Gauge Fabrication*
- *Engine Assembly*
- *Coil Box Tuning*
- *Caster Adjustment*
- *Catered Lunch*

*Athens, AL Tour  
(Lunch Option)*

*Model T Trivia  
Contest*

Tennessee T's

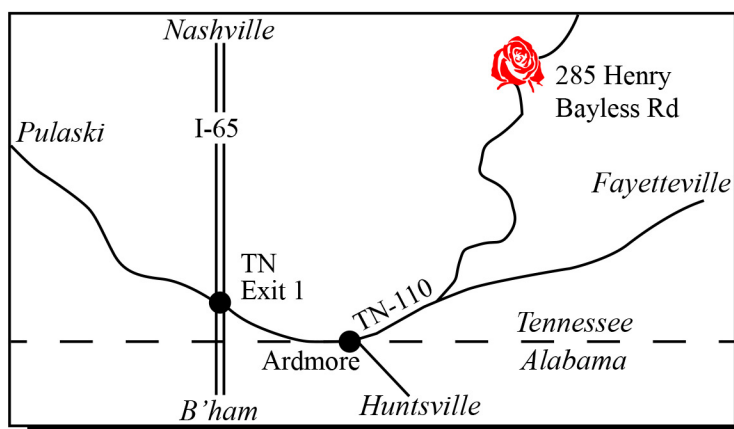


Model T Ford Club

PAUL AND RHONDA GIEROW  
285 HENRY BAYLESS ROAD  
ARDMORE, TN 38449

PLEASE RSVP [PGIEROW@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PGIEROW@GMAIL.COM)

256-509-9348



HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

HAMPTON INN

PULASKI, TN

931-347-9900

RANDY, MANAGER

ASK FOR BLOCK FOR TN T's

# JOIN US SATURDAY FEBRUARY 29, 2020 FOR OUR ANNUAL LYNN COOK DAY!

It is time again for our annual Lynn Cook Workshop. This year we will have the workshop at Paul and Rhonda Gierow's Farm near Ardmore, TN. We have always had a good turnout for this event and as always and would like to see some new faces. So come if you can.

As usual, we will start off our day by eating a country farm breakfast. We will start at 8:00 am.

After breakfast we will have a short board meeting led by the Club President. After getting the club business behind us we will start on our program.

A Trip to Historic Downtown Athens, AL is planned for those not wanting to hang around the barn after the Club meeting.

Rhonda Gierow and Paula Gember will lead a tour into downtown Athens, Alabama, about 30 minutes from Tennessee Rose Farm. There is a wide variety of shops situated around the courthouse square. There's an old-fashioned mercantile, jewelry, clothing and gift boutiques, antique shops and home decor, as well as local points of interest. After shopping, we will have several options to choose from for lunch: Italian at Terranova's, Mexican at Lucia's, Pizza or subs at Village Pizza, or lighter fare at one of the smaller diners or cafes. And for those in the mood for ice cream after lunch, we can visit the old-fashioned soda fountain inside Limestone Pharmacy.

For Those Staying at the Workshop:

continued

The exact Model T program is still a work in progress but, this year, we have many topics of discussion around the mechanical and electrical aspects of the Model T. Among topics of discussion will be evaluating a completely disassembled engine. We will be demonstrating the tuning of a coil box with two different devices. We will also demonstrate setting the caster on a Model T that will be in the shop.

This year we have ample room for people to bring their car if they would like. We will have several of our members "new" cars that will be here. We may even have a few speedsters that will be "running" the track around the arena.

That will hold us until lunch at least. Speaking of lunch, we will have lunch catered by one of our local Farms.

After lunch we are going to continue the tradition of Model T Trivia. Ricky Williams will once again have compiled 25 Model T related questions that will test your knowledge of both the Model T and Ford Motor Company. The winner of Model T Trivia is going to receive a really nice mystery prize and retain bragging rights for another year.

A lot of hard work goes into putting this all together, so please come out and join us for the day. There's nothing I like better than sharing time with my Model T friends and talking shop.

**PLEASE RSVP to me, Paul Gierow , [pgierow@gmail.com](mailto:pgierow@gmail.com) (CTRL+Click link)**  
I need to get a head count as soon as possible in order to plan for meals.

Hotel Accommodations if needed:

**HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:** Friday February 28th and Saturday February 29th, <https://www.hilton.com/en/locations/usa/tennessee/pulaski/>, (931)-347-9900 for

continued



reservations. Rooms are @ \$109.00, Ask for block for the TN T's. Get your hotel room as soon as you can to reserve this rate. Randy is the Manager at the hotel.

For those coming in on Friday afternoon we will get together and eat somewhere that night

Location: Our address is 285 Henry Bayless Rd, Ardmore, TN 38449 Shouldn't have any trouble plugging that into your GPS. Just in case or if you have questions my phone number is (256)348-3302.

Rhonda and I are looking forward to seeing you.

Paul



# Interesting "rare accessory steering headlights"

Submitted by Craig (Vech) Vechorik



A quote from Vech, "I was messing around looking at the prewar car web site, in Europe, and there is an overpriced 1915 T but what caught my attention was the "rare accessory steering headlights". They are linked to the steering and the headlights turn with the steering. I have never seen such a weird accessory.

Just thought I'd show it to you, in case you had never seen such a thing...."

This photo can be found here:

<https://www.prewarcar.com/296881-nice-brass-t-in-good-running-order>

## Darrel Carter is making progress with his '25 Tudor



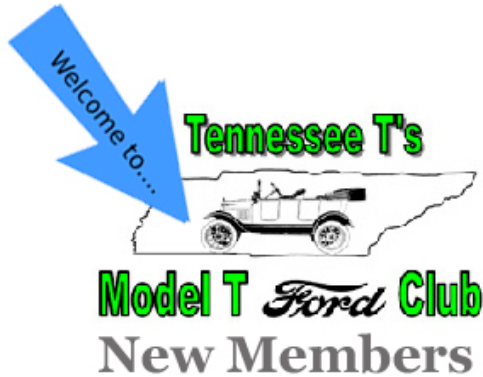
25 Tudor with all the sheet metal nailed on (finally).



25 Tudor wood for door.?? I need to replace the metal on the bottom of the door before I put the wood in.??

photos submitted by Darrel

**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.



There has been no notification of new members

**READY TO JOIN OUR CLUB ?**

[New member application.. see our website](#)

## Condolence



**Steven (Steve) Summers** , Corinth, MS, passed on September 21, 2019. Steve and his wife Jane, had been a member of the Tennessee T's since 2006.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/corinth-ms/steven-summers-8865811>

**Mac Flowers**, of New Johnsonville, Tennessee, passed away on January 31, 2020. Mac was close friends with many Tennessee T's members.

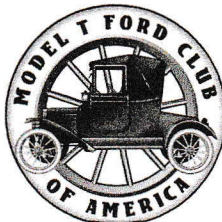
Mac recently served as Chaplain for our club and he and his wife Ernestine were founding members of our club in 1998 ,and were very active in their younger years.

We will all miss Mac. He was quite a guy.

Click on the link below to view his obituary.

<https://www.luffbowen.com/obituary/richard-mac-flowers>

**A donation will be made to the Model T Ford Club of America Museum, honoring them.**



January 14, 2020

Richard Williams, President  
Connie Plank, Treasurer  
George Akin, National Tour Chair  
Tennessee T's Chapter

**COPY**

Dear Richard, Connie, George, and Members of the Tennessee T's:

On behalf of the officers and directors of the Model T Ford Club of America and the Model T Museum, thank you for the generous donations received:

- Sept. 10, 2019 in the amount of \$1,665.00, designated to the Youth Education Fund
- Sept. 24, 2019 in the amount of \$4,319.88 for the Museum Fund

I'm happy to say that the Model T Explorers youth program has started off strong and we already have nearly 100 members! The first newsletter and welcome packet have been enthusiastically received. The second newsletter is in the works now and will be mailed in February. A committee is working on plans to offer youth "development grants." Our goal is to give opportunities to all the MTE members, no matter their age. Your donation will help keep this program and other education-related plans moving ahead.

We are so grateful for the many months of hard work and planning by your chapter members to make the Cookeville National Tour such a success. I still hear people talking about the amazing hospitality of your folks, the excellent organization, and the fun tours. Your hard work also made possible this much appreciated donation to the Museum. It is only because of the generosity of our members and chapters that the Museum continues to grow! This year we made major improvements including construction of the much-needed handicap ramp between the two buildings as well as opening the Vintage Ford Agency Show Room. There are many plans underway for more improvements in 2020 and beyond.

We are sincerely grateful for your support. I hope your members will include us in their travels this year. We feel confident you will be proud of **your** Museum!

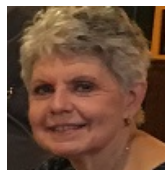
With sincere appreciation,

Susan Yaeger  
Executive Director

**Please retain this letter as substantiation for your gift that may be claimed as a tax deduction in 2019. The Model T Ford Club of America has not provided any goods or services in consideration of this gift that would affect its deductibility for federal or state income tax purposes. Tax ID #95-2467053**

*Thank you!*

**The Money Bucket**  
submitted by **Connie Plank**,  
club treasurer



February 1, 2020  
Club's Regular Account  
Starting Balance (12/07/2019) \$6,751.53  
Total Deposits - 2020 Dues \$525.00  
Total Expenses - 2019 Christmas Party **-\$107.73**  
Ending Balance (01/31/2020) \$7,168.80



**Please don't forget Lynn Cook Day, Saturday  
February 29, 2020, in Ardmore, TN. Let Paul  
know that you are coming so that we don't  
breakfast- \*\*\*Click here for the brochure.\*\*\***

## Two Grinches.....



This is a photo that was taken while on a Model T tour back in 2019.

As the newsletter editor I am under oath not to print the contributor of this image.

**Paula wants to know** if anyone knows the character's name and movie it appeared in?

## Parts purchase CHEAT-SHEET

From time to time we all need a cheat-sheet that will point us to a short cut for finding Model T replacement parts locally. The Tarheel Ts have come up with such a sheet, which also contains lots of other informative specs and troubleshooting tips included. To contribute info to add to the sheet email:

[tarheelts@tarheelts.com](mailto:tarheelts@tarheelts.com)

**OPEN the webpage, print it, and save to your PC:**

[http://www.tarheelts.com/  
REPLACEMENTPART.HTML](http://www.tarheelts.com/REPLACEMENTPART.HTML)

## Tidbits of information about Henry Ford

Henry Ford continued to dream, scheme, plan, and create. What Ford dreamed of was not merely increased capacity but complete self-sufficiency. He called it vertical integration, and with it he could have control over all aspects of his supply chain. The plant he built along the River Rouge embodied his idea of an integrated operation by including elements of raw materials, production, assembly, and transportation all in a single place. To complete the vertical integration of his empire:

- He purchased a railroad,
- He acquired control of 16 coal mines
- Thousands of acres of timberland in Michigan's upper peninsula came under his control,
- And he built a sawmill,
- He acquired a fleet of Great Lakes freighters to bring ore from his Lake Superior mines,
- And he even purchased and relocated a glassworks manufacturer,
- Finally he even experimented with rubber plantations in South America.

So you no longer had to be a factory line worker to work for Mr. Henry Ford. You could be:

- A railroad engineer or brakeman,
- A coal miner,
- A lumberjack, or a worker in a sawmill,
- A ship's captain or deck hand.
- You could have labored with molten steel or glass,
- Or even been a native of the Amazon rain forest tapping rubber trees and living the American dream in a Ford built village complete with streets laid out in a grid, a school, company store, and Christian church.

Once the massive and complicated Rouge was well underway, Henry Ford established a series of small village factories. His original concept was that these small production facilities would be a place where farmers could supplement their income during the off season by producing components for Ford automobiles. Known today as the Village Industries, these facilities were also an opportunity for Ford to experiment with water power. In the end the Village Industries became an opportunity for Ford to experiment with various production methods and specialized workforces.

Employment opportunities were opened up for women, the blind, and physically disabled veterans. These groups were given employment opportunities through Ford's programs that they would not have had elsewhere. The Village Industries thus became a model open employment as well as for the modern incubator or start up business.

submitted by Linda Moorehead



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.

# Tours and Events

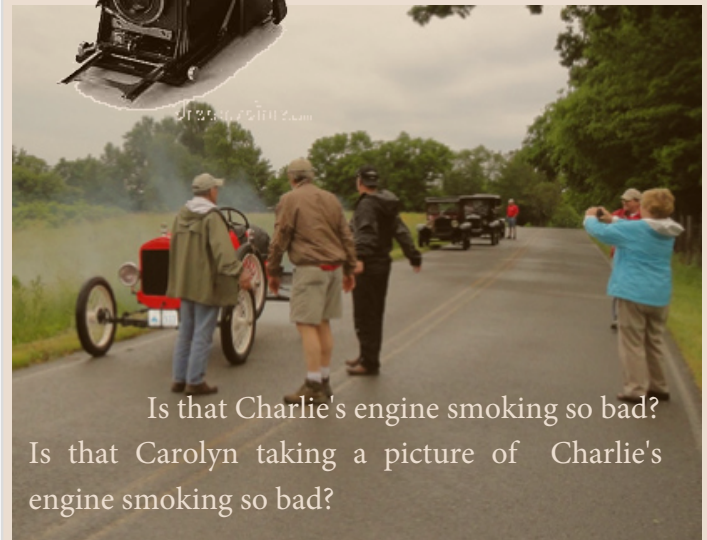
Contact Ricky Williams, our club President, if you have a tour or event planned to be sure the date is still open. [rwilliams@click1.com](mailto:rwilliams@click1.com)

Date	Event (Tennessee T's events are bold)
<b>February 29, 2020</b>	<b>The Annual Lynn Cook Workshop Day. Ardmore, TN. A detailed brochure will be emailed to our members soon.</b>
March 7, 2020	Winter Swap Meet, Marietta, Ohio <a href="https://oldcarclub.webs.com/">https://oldcarclub.webs.com/</a>
March 8-12, 2020	Gainesville, Florida, USA - 2020 Winter Tour, hosted by the Tin Lizzie Club of North Central Florida - FULL ••• Waiting List Only call Steve 352.207.1498
March 20 & 21, 2020	Chickasha Pre-War Swap Meet, Chickasha, OK
May 16, 2020	Little Hershey Swap Meet and Cruise-In Belvidere, IL
June 3-7, 2020	The Bluegrass Back Road T's Spring Tour. Jasper, Indiana. 50 car limit. Linda Moorehead <a href="mailto:tomlinda@twc.com">tomlinda@twc.com</a>
June 6, 2020	Richmond, Indiana USA - Homecoming at the Model T Museum
July 18-23, 2020	2020 MTFCA National Tour, Spokane, WA
July 19-24, 2020	MTFCI's 64th Annual Tour, New Philadelphia, OH
Sept 26-30 2020	West Central Indiana Covered Bridge Tour

When driving, be sure to watch after the car that's in front of the car that's behind you. Huh?



Flash Back  
Flash Back  
FROM THE  
FAYETTEVILLE  
TOUR 2011



Is that Charlie's engine smoking so bad?  
Is that Carolyn taking a picture of Charlie's engine smoking so bad?



Overheard while on the national tour—  
"I've had two bypasses, a hip and knee replacement. I'm half blind and half deaf and take 20 different medications that make me subject to blackouts. Can hardly feel my hands or feet anymore and not sure if I'm 88 or 90. I've lost a lot of friends, but thank God I still have my driver's license."

# Members on the Mend

**John Zibell** is scheduled for knee replacement on Feb 19.

**Charlie Owen** is waiting for a date from his surgeon for a possible bladder removal.

Wish them well! And----  
Get well soon!



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

**FULL TIME COLLEGE STUDENTS  
CAN JOIN DUES - FREE**

## YES, ANOTHER..... **BOOGER... IN THE PAN!**

I recently bought a '27 Tudor. It had previously been owned by 2 of our members and was rebuilt by a highly respected rebuilder. During a recent teardown I found this 20 penny nail STUCK in the lower water inlet.

- QUESTIONS: 1. What's it doing there?  
2. How long has it been stuck there rusting away?  
3. Why didn't anybody before me see it?

## **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](mailto:tennesseets@hotmail.com)

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

[bigjohn331958@gmail.com](mailto: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*



by Bill Robinson