

Tennessee T's



Model T Ford Club



Larry Williams

From the Desk of the President

From the President: The Tennessee T's touring season is off to a bang up start with Ken and Joyce Swan hosting a great weekend in the Memphis area. We know Joyce was in charge of weather because the rain stopped Thursday night and the sun came out Friday morning. Thank you Ken and Joyce and all others who helped put the routes together. A special thanks to Monty and Mary Kay Monteith for opening their shop on Saturday morning and providing breakfast for the group and leading us on some great back roads to Oxford , MS. Thanks also to the Model A group that joined us on both days. Tommy Griffith in his barn fresh '22 coupe that he had only test driven for 10 miles joined us both days and made it all the way. Way to go Tommy. Gary and Penny Wheat also joined us in their new Tudor for its shake down cruise. Hope to see you guys on another tour soon. Pictures and write up on tour in this Newsletter.

Gentlemen start your engines for the Tornado Tour, May 2-4.

Keep the info and pictures flowing to Bill Robinson. Good job Bill, we are all enjoying the newsletter.



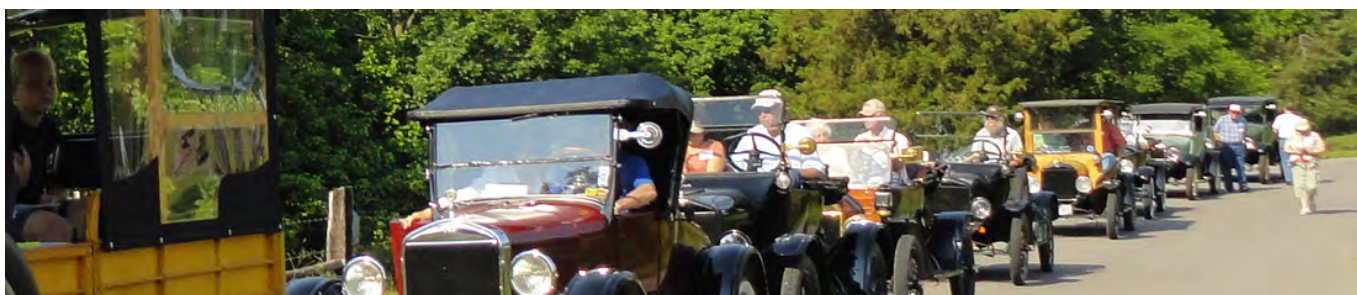
From the Secretary/Treasurer:
Financial Report

Tennessee T's Bank Balance
2-11-2013...\$3,531.51
Deposits 2-11-2013 -
4-19-2013.....\$ 348.50

Tennessee T's Bank Balance
4-19-2013....\$3,880.01

Submitted by Carolyn Williams

Important safety tip from Gary Tillstrom: Have folks inspect their radius rods. These were never designed to carry the stress imposed by external brakes. Cracks usually start in the seam area and the chances are highest for pitted parts. I should have taken a before picture but marked up where this one was cracked prior to welding.



Model T Pilgrimage Tour

Southaven, MS, April 12-13, 2013



Hosted by Ken & Joyce Swan



The Tour group stopped at Dr. Monty and Mary Kay Monteith's for breakfast and a tour of his collection(s).



TAKING THE PLUNGE

By Dr. Joyce & Ken Swan

As someone who is approaching the “*older than dirt*”, “*old codger*”, “*old as Santa Claus*”, “*beyond post mortem*” age, I am still in awe of the unyielding grasp that a Model T Ford has on the newcomers to the world of Henry’s antique rolling iron. For them there seems to be no end to the copyright or patented claim on their new found excitement or enthusiasm directed toward the pile of iron sitting on four wheels; the newest of which is at least 86 years old.

My funny bone is always stimulated to action whenever I see a person drive a Model T for the first time and to be forever smitten by its siren lure of bonding between man and metal. Few persons can shake the hypnotic, narcotic, magnetic attraction a Model T has upon the soul. It becomes an aphrodisiac hook on the mind of most mortals; practically the *masculus homo sapiens erectus*; the all American grease encrusted man. The affective mental urge almost approaches the ancient drive to procreate.

I am always entertained by how quickly bravado and machismo generate the desire to rise to the challenge of manipulating and navigating the hunk of rolling mystery into the unknown horizon of excitement of steering steel and rubber at warp speeds of 35 miles per hour without the faintest forethought of how to arrest the inertia of the 1800 pounds of paint smeared sheet metal and cast iron. The Almighty surely must abide white knuckled alongside the benighted pilot of a pile of loose fitting nuts and bolts held together by a word and a prayer.

I have especially been moved to chortle, while observing over a period of time how rapid progress, or lack of, develops in operating, maintaining, and caring for their ancient rolling asset. How quickly mechanical prowess, expertise, and skill latches onto the novice owner’s knowledge bank is absolutely astounding! It almost seems as if the deep dark chasm between complete ignorance of the machine and mastery of design/function disappears faster than a Model T falling off a cliff in an old silent comedy movie feature. The transition of student to master of the arts moves quicker than grand pappy running to the outhouse after eating too many prunes.

In reality, that is how it has to be whenever we look at the future of our stewardship of the pinnacle of American manufacturing enterprise,

The Model T Ford.

If the folks that are new to the aura of this magnificent piece of mobility equipment that made this country the centerpiece and envy of the world don’t bravely step up and take the reins by the hand, there will be no examples to look toward.

I have often told folks that are in the process of learning about the Model T Ford they should drive it often and drive it a lot because the more one drives a Model T the more one will want to drive it. Therefore the more one wants to drive a T the more one learns its characteristics and idiosyncrasies. In time, the better it will run. The uninitiated must always remember that a flivver is not a toy but a real, full size car in every sense of the word. It can and will cause pain and death if not properly respected. To drive a Model T, one must drive as if it has no brakes at all...it doesn’t!!

GETTING INVOLVED

BY Dr Joyce & Ken Swan

At the risk of nudging this script's text to the edge of politics I will semi-quote a politician's statement which loosely goes "It takes a village to raise a child...." Since I have little respect for politicians and even less for the one who made the statement, I'll divert and direct my point to better subjects by stating

"IT TAKES ALL THE MEMBERS TO MAKE A MODEL T CLUB TOUR"

This past weekend members of The Tennessee T's Model T Ford Club held a rally based in Southaven, MS. The notion was conjured up by this poor scribe and his lovely bride, Dr. Joyce. There were over 30 participants with various vehicle persuasions. There were several guests that went along for the ride, which is a good thing.

We were graced by the presence of representatives from The Memphis Model A Club driving some absolutely gorgeous vehicles! They even kept a promise I imposed on them which was to keep up with the pace of speed of the Model Ts. What a classy bunch they turned out to be.

Attendants traveled from distances near and far: north central Kentucky, middle Tennessee, west Tennessee, north Alabama, central Alabama, eastern Arkansas, central Mississippi, north Mississippi, and Texas. Amazingly we communicated quite well without an interpreter even for Ross Lilleker's British/Texas drawl!

The prolog I have just labored through has swung the text around to the main theme of the article...**Getting Involved**. Without hesitation and most assuredly I stress that I received copious amounts of help from the participants. Not a single person on whom I made a request turned me down or for that matter, hesitated. Stepping up to the plate first on Friday 12th was:

Ralph and Teresa Williams of Southaven, TN who unfortunately could not attend the rally because their daughter was expecting **TWINS!** Atta boy Ralph and Teresa!!! Congratulations. Ralph was kind enough to lay out a route to the rendezvous point with the Model A group which at that time included Darrel and Ann Carter.

Tom & Judy Kuntz part of the Model A contingency at the rendezvous point, grabbed the reins and shepherded the traveling band to Wall Doxey State Park just south of Holly Springs, MS, our targeted point for the day. At Wall Doxey, we enjoyed a quick reprieve at the porcelain powder rooms and after a good leg stretching, we continued on to Holly Springs for lunch and a walk about the city. By route of the helter/skelter highway we all made it back to Southaven unscathed and ready for the next day.

Dr. Monty and Mary Kay Monteith of Senatobia, MS graciously and very thoughtfully provided our traveling band a delicious breakfast the next morning April 13th at the Taj Mahal of garages that Monty humbly calls modest shelter for his superb \$\$\$ collection of vehicles. I was actually tempted to eat off the floor because it was so spotless. I could hardly resist the opportunity to show my suave and debonair class! Monty took the role of leadership and led our bouncing entourage to Oxford, MS via some beautiful back roads that transcended the dam at the Sardis reservoir. Somehow, at the western approach to the center of our destination in Oxford, many of us had to stop to aid an ailing Model T. I believe someone was experiencing some engine problems. By that time Monty and several others had disappeared over the horizon amidst a steady ribbon of traffic, leaving the poor stragglers (including this writer) languishing along side of the highway. Then along came Jones!!!

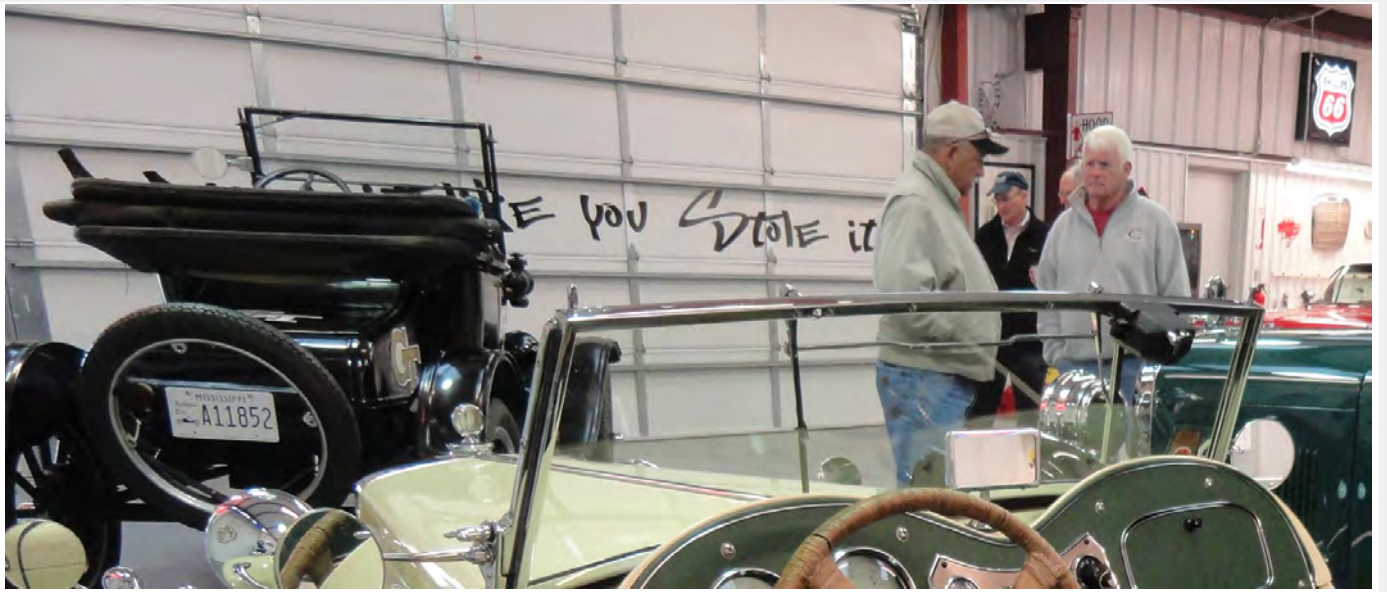
Tommy Griffin of Independence, MS, our phone booth escapee came to the forefront of the pact. With a little imagination one could almost see him plant his feet apart firmly on the ground, fling his imaginary cape off his shoulder while stroking his handle bar moustache, then smugly point to the sky, and declare that he would guide us through the throng of ribbons of chrome and steel flashing by our lowly rides. As our engines belched out in a throbbing crescendo of the roar of Detroit 4 bangers in a unison that would make grandstand hoards at the famed Indy brick yard roar and cheer with envy in eye popping marvel, we roared off to our appointed rendezvous with the first wave of ancient Fords already in the downtown area of Oxford. Tommy G exhibited a display of leadership that could have made teenagers swoon, not unlike an Elvis concert.

To compound and elevate his prowess as a born leader, Tommy stepped to the podium again to proclaim that he would led the Model T group from the Pharaoh Oxford bondage to the best possible route north toward our Southaven sanctuary. Boys and girls what we have here is a TN T's Club President in the making! Here is a young man straight from the Mississippi back roads that has a take-control mentality, a diamond in the rough!!! Sign him up! Get his dues before he changes his mind. He has a yen for...

GETTING INVOLVED

More Photos from the Pilgrimage Tour





Upcoming Tennessee Ts Tours



The Tour will hub from:
Henry Horton State Park
4358 Nashville Hwy.
Chapel Hill, TN 37034
1-800-250-8612
Arrive Thursday May 2
Tour Friday May 3 and Sat May 4
Depart Sunday May 5
cswann@united.net or
jwallers@bellsouth.net

The "Hairpin Tour" and The "Fishtrap Bottoms" Tour

Tour dates:
Friday and Saturday, September 20 & 21, 2013
Tour hub: Comfort Inn, Scottsboro, Alabama
Contact Bill Robinson for details – a brochure to follow
billrobinson06@bellsouth.net (zero six)

Mac Flowers asked that the newsletter announce the Blue Suede Cruise in Tupelo, MS the weekend of May 3rd, 4th and 5th.

A message from John Ohlrogge, who recently had double knee surgery:

"I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, thoughts, concerns, and cards. They were all greatly appreciated"



Signed, Big John



Mark your calendar...**Tennessee T's Christmas Party...**
Saturday, December 14th for the TN T's Annual Christmas Party to be held in Waverly, TN this year. Location, directions and other information to follow later in year...just hold the date. Thanks. Carolyn.



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Homer & Marjorie Long.....12th
William & Pat Johnson.....28th
Charles & Barbara Wagner....28th



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Lynn Cook.....2nd
George Ross.....4th
Ervin Percy.....20th
Sally Copeland.....7th
Joyce Garland.....8th
Bryan Nelson.....8th
Kathe Nelson.....8th
Linda Moorehead.....8th
Linda Eden.....12th
Mac Flowers.....21st
Monty Monteith.....25th
David Ray.....26th
Jane Summers.....27th
Martin Alexander.....29th

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Peter & Aphra.....5th
Chester Lowery.....5th
Glenn Storck/Susan Harrington.6th
Harold & Pam Hutsell.....6th
Charlie & Anita Owen.....12th
David & Tammy Copeland....13th
Larry & Carolyn Williams...19th



Tom and Joni Allison were overlooked in the last newsletter. Their anniversary was on March 17th.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Ginny Scudder.....8th
Charlie & Anita Owen.....16th
Mark Dote.....15th
Susan Robinson.....15th
Shonda Richardson.....19th
Pat Johnson.....20th
Sharlotte Miller.....21st
Paul Copeland.....22nd
Frances Curtis.....23rd
Betty Jack.....27th
Charles Corlew.....29th
Jerry Waller.....30th
Bill Markey.....31st



EMAIL NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS Tours, Tour and event pictures, future tours, tech articles, cars for sale, forgotten birthdays and anniversaries.

Without input, there will be no newsletter.

BillRobinson06@bellsouth.net (zero6)