

# Merry Christmas



A message from **Gary Tillstrom**, our President:

Greetings T's

What a great turnout for the Christmas party this year! It was good to see each of you who came. I believe all had a good time even if dirty old Santa took your present. In some cases he took it multiple times from you. I know for some, it was the first time in attendance and I hope you will have many more to attend in front of you. If you would like to host the Christmas party next year, please let me know my 1 Jan. Otherwise, I will duplicate the arrangement we had this year.

The tour announced by Mark and Paula Gember on the Trace this year sounds like a good time. Be sure and sign up for that one. The Natchez Trace is the perfect road for the model T and the scenery is fantastic. There are plenty of interesting things to see and it is very relaxing. I'm looking forward to the Northern portion of that one.

I have sent Bill the map of the state divided into areas. Please scout around the area you live and get with the other members in your area and give serious consideration to hosting a tour this year. Without member planning, they won't happen.

The next Chapter event is the Lynn Cook safety day at the end of Feb. If nobody wants to host that, it will be in Millington and I will send out hotel info, etc. after the 1st of the year. If this is an event that you would like to host, let me know by 1 Jan.

Throw on an extra blanket, stay out of the eggnog and watch out for dirty Santa. Have a safe and Merry Christmas as well as a happy and healthy new year. I'll see you down the road. Gary

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## Tennessee T's Model T Ford Club



Editor: Bill Robinson



### Officers of the Tennessee T's:

**President- Gary Tillstrom**  
Millington, TN 901-496-5527  
email: [gtillstrom@aol.com](mailto:gtillstrom@aol.com)



**Vice President- Ralph Williams**  
Nesbit, MS 662-342-9140  
email: [Rwilliams@gateslumber.com](mailto:Rwilliams@gateslumber.com)



**Secretary Treasurer- Anita Owen**  
Elizabethtown, KY 270-763-6577  
email: [alowen@kymodelt.com](mailto:alowen@kymodelt.com)



**Chaplain- Mac Flowers**  
New Johnsonville, TN  
931-535-2327



**Membership Application see page 15**

**REMINDER---- DUES TIME**

Annual dues run from Jan 1 to December 31 and are now due.

January 1 / each year- mail to:

The Tennessee T's

Anita Owen \$15.00

1809 Oriole Drive

Elizabethtown, KY 42701



Anita Owen, Secretary/Treasurer

**MINUTES OF MEETING – 9-10-16**

On September 10, 2016, during dinner at the Hurricane Mills, TN Tour, President Gary Tillstrom conducted a meeting of the Tennessee T's.

Gary called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending the tour. He thanked Ricky & Vandy Williams, Dennis & Connie Plank and Bill & Suzi Robinson for putting on a great tour with good roads, good food and enjoyable stops. He introduced Mac Flowers, one of the original members of the Club. It is always fun to talk to Mac and listen to his stories.

Gary then presented a plan to encourage members to work together to sponsor tours. He divided the State of Tennessee into 4 sections. He then identified the members who live with each section. Being near where you are planning the tour is important in the planning and running of routes prior to the event. After some discussion, it was decided to discuss the plan more at the next meeting. A copy of the map will be available at the next meeting.

It was mentioned that dues will be payable January 1. They will remain \$15.00. Also, the members were reminded of the upcoming Christmas Party at Pin Oak Lodge at the Natchez Trace State Park, Wildersville, TN. Additional information about the party will be in the next Newsletter. Meeting adjourned.

Secretary's Report – Anita Owen

**MINUTES OF MEETING –12-3-16**

The meeting of the Tennessee T's during their Christmas Party on December 3, 2016, at the Pin Oak Lodge of the Natchez Trace State Park, Wildersville, TN, was conducted by President Gary Tillstrom.

Hosting the party were Gary & Annette Tillstrom and Ralph & Teresa Williams. They decorated the room appropriately for the season with candle centerpieces on each table. These were the door prizes at the end of the evening. As usual "dirty Santa" game was enjoyed. Gifts were stolen and "dirty" looks were given but all seemed to enjoy the fun. Dinner followed the meeting in the Lodge's dining room.

Anita Owen, Secretary-Treasurer, read the Minutes of the September meeting and also the Financial Report for the end of the year. Both of these documents will be published in the next edition of the Newsletter. She also distributed a new Membership List. Anyone not at the meeting will receive one in the mail.

Continued

Gary commented on the need for our Club to help younger members participate in our hobby. He made a motion to institute a policy of waiving the membership fees as long as they are full-time college students for anyone interested in joining our Club. This would help them enjoy the fellowship of the Club without the additional expense of dues. Hopefully this will entice more young people to join in our fun of touring. The motion was enthusiastically discussed and approved.

It was announced that the next Annual Lynn Cook Safety Workshop will be held on February 25th and is tentatively scheduled to be held at an airport hangar in Millington, TN. More details will be published in future editions of the Newsletter. If you have suggestions of possible topics/projects to discuss, please contact Gary or Ralph.

Mark and Paula Gember invited everyone to join them on their tour of the Natchez Trace in May of 2017. They have developed a flexible tour where you can participate for 3, 6 or 9 days. Please contact them if you are interested in participating or have any questions.

Gary thanked Mark & Paula for their planning efforts and continues to encourage everyone to consider hosting a tour in their area. At the last meeting Gary briefly discussed a plan to work in groups to reduce the time and effort required to map out a tour. A copy of the map is available in this Newsletter. Several people had ideas of places to go so get your cars ready to roll. Gary also developed a list of events that have been planned by various groups for 2017 which member might consider attending. It is also included.

It was mentioned that dues are due now. They will remain \$15.00 per couple. They can be mailed to Anita Owen, 1809 Oriole Drive, Elizabethtown, KY, 42701.

Meeting adjourned.

Secretary's Report – Anita Owen

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**Secretary/Treasurer's Report – Anita Owen**

Bank Balance – 12-05-15	3356.51
Deposits -- 1-1-16 / 12-3-16	600.00
Sub Total	3956.51
Expenditures – 1-1-15 / 12-3-16	
Donation to MTFCA Museum	350.00
Expenses for Lynn Cook Workshop at Ricky Williams	125.00
St. Jude – In Memory of Ervin Percy	100.00
Printing & Postage (for mailings to members w/o email as well as stamps)	94.46
Sub Total	669.46
Bank Balance – 12-3-16	3287.05







**The Tennessee T's  
Christmas Party  
Natchez Trace State Park  
12.3.2016**



The minutes should cover the topics discussed. Secretary/Treasurer Anita Owen, read the minutes of the last meeting, and gave our current financial report.

This year we had 38 attendees, which is approximately a 40% increase over the 2015 party.

From this point, a session of Dirty Santa commenced, first for the men, then the ladies had their turn. Then came the buffet in the Park dining room.

Our Christmas party began on time and began with a short club business meeting led by Gary Tillstrom, our president.







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Next, comes **Dirty Santa**.....where friends don't necessarily leave the party as friends. Why? Just because you draw a good gift, doesn't mean you get to keep a good gift.

*From the Dirty Santa Rule Book:*

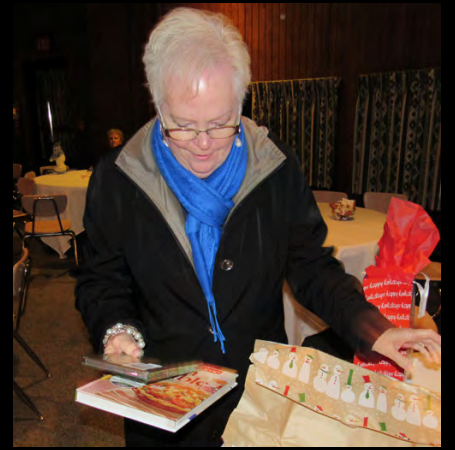
1. Everyone playing the game brings a wrapped gift so there is no indication about what is inside. Place the gifts together under the tree or on a table. \$10.00 limit on the gift.
2. The host writes a number on scrap pieces of paper for every gift and places them in a basket, bowl or hat.
3. Each person draws a number. Getting a higher number is actually better because you will have more opened gifts to choose from.
4. The person with #1 picks a gift to open from the pile. The person with #2 can choose to open another package or steal the gift from #1. If a gift is stolen, the person who had it then steals from someone else or picks another gift to open.
5. The game continues like this until everyone takes a turn opening or stealing a gift. The last person to go can steal from anyone in the game or open the remaining gift.
6. Once a gift is stolen four times, it is retired from the game.



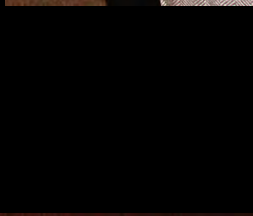












**Members present**  
(listed alphabetically according to the registration sheet):

- Benedict, Bob & Beverly
- Carter, Darrell & Ann
- Copeland, David & Tammy
- Copeland, Paul
- Curtis, Francis
- Flowers, Mac
- Garland, Hubert
- Gember, Mark & Paula
- Gregory, Henry
- Martinez, Abel
- Martinez, Mark
- McCafferty, Blayne
- Miller, David and Carolyn
- Moore, Rick & Bonnie
- Owen, Charlie & Anita
- Plank, Dennis & Connie
- Robinson, Bill & Suzi
- Swann, Charlie & Jana
- Tillstrom, Gary & Annette
- Waller, Jerry & Diane
- Williams, Larry & Carolyn
- Williams, Ralph & Teresa
- Williams, Ricky & Vandy



The Tennessee  
T's  
wish you all  
a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!

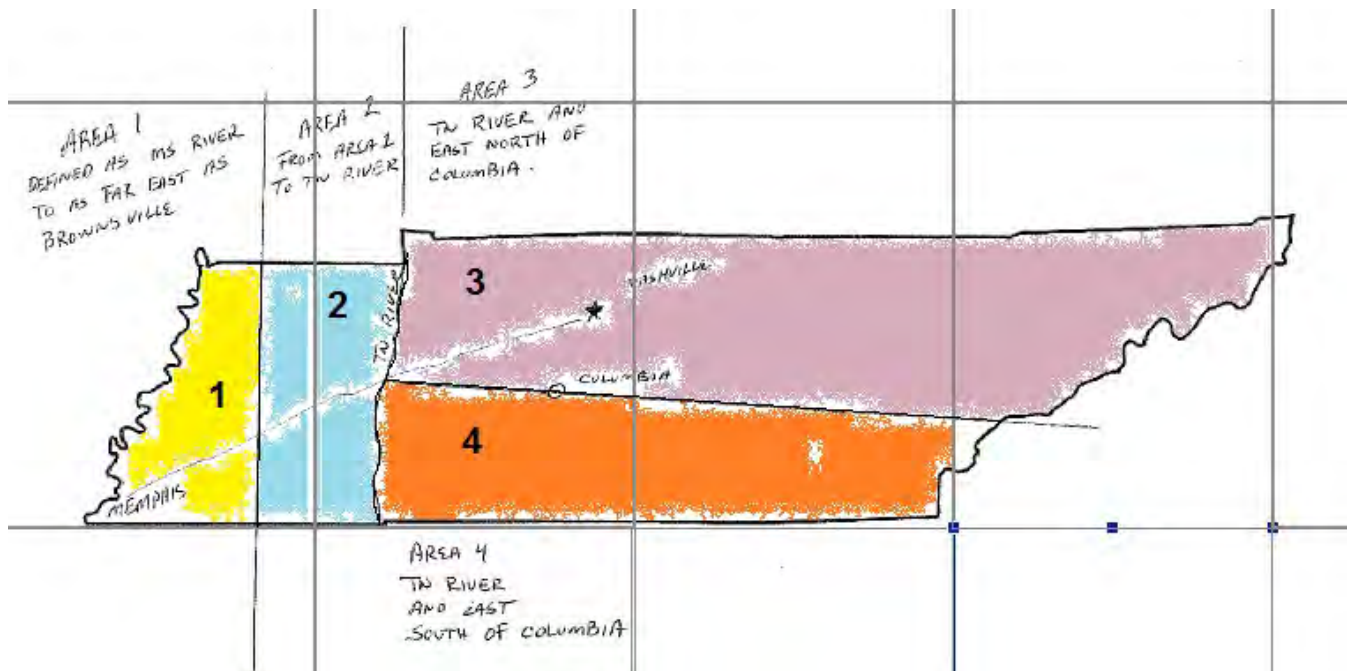




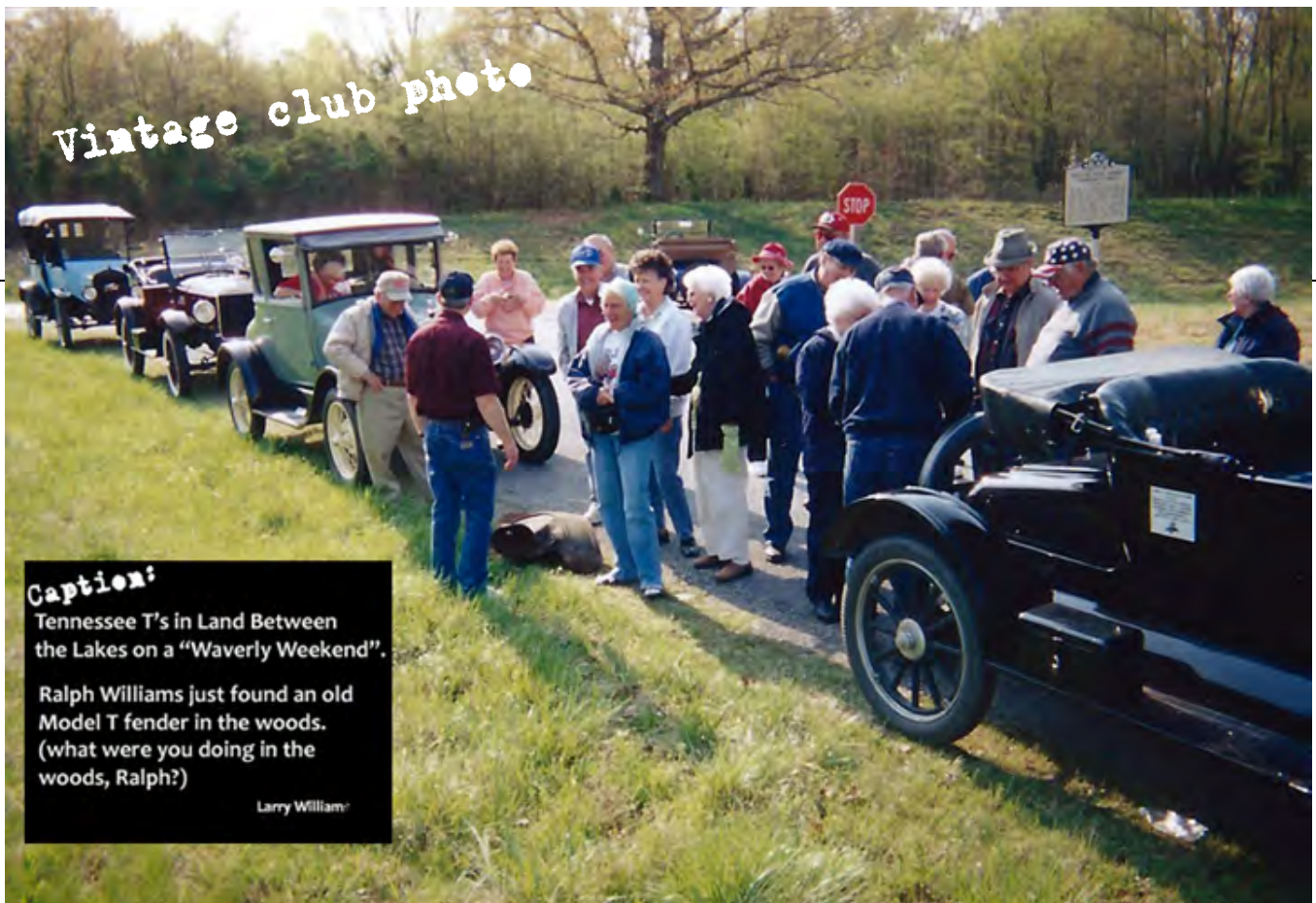
**Gary's Plan for more tours and events-** If you attended the business meeting at the Hurricane Mills Tour and/or attended the Christmas Party you will remember that Gary touched on a plan to increase tours and events for our club by splitting the state and outlying areas into smaller groups so that we can have four committee-type groups making plans at once, therefore increasing our chances for more frequent activities.

**Upon submission of this map to the newsletter editor** the following text was included by Gary, "Get with other T's near you and while driving around your area, be thinking of hosting a tour."

**Within the next couple of weeks, a more detailed plan will be sent out so that the membership can understand more of his plan and the update will include names of the members in each group.**



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Vintage club photo

**Caption:**  
Tennessee T's in Land Between  
the Lakes on a "Waverly Weekend".  
Ralph Williams just found an old  
Model T fender in the woods.  
(what were you doing in the  
woods, Ralph?)  
Larry Williams



# Tours and Events

Contact Gary Tillstrom, our club President, if you have a tour planned to be sure the date is still open. [gtillstrom@aol.com](mailto:gtillstrom@aol.com)

Note Tennessee T's events- bold text

- Feb 5th, 2017 – Sunday.....Swap Meet – Nashville Fairgrounds
- **Feb 25th - Saturday....Lynn Cook Safety Day – location TBD**
- Mar 17-18 (Friday – Saturday).....Chickasha prewar swap meet.
- **May 12-21 (3 choices dates to attend.)..... Natchez Trace Tour Contact [markpaulagember@aol.com](mailto:markpaulagember@aol.com)**
- June 13-17.....Petit Jean Swap Meet
- July 16-21.....International / National – Whitefish MT
- Sept 6-10.....Hillbilly Tour, Osage Beach MO
- Oct 4-7th.....Hershey fall swap meet, Hershey PA
- **Dec 2nd.....TN T's Christmas party – location TBD**

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## For Sale

For Sale: Within the last month I have been fortunate enough to acquire a 1914 Metz and most of 2 1909 Model Ts. I need to get rid of a few cars to make room. Anybody need a '37 Plymouth, '39 Buick Roadmaster, or '65 Thunderbird? OK, no more cars!! Darrel Carter [darcarter@aol.com](mailto:darcarter@aol.com)

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## New Members



- Blane McCafferty, Lexington, AL
- Douglas Hauge, Stittville, NY & Port St Joe, FL

Newsletter Editor's email address change, make the change, please [billrobinson1926@gmail.com](mailto:billrobinson1926@gmail.com)



For sale, 1923 two door sedan, painted as a Taxi cab. Car is equipped with a Texas T distributor, 12 volt battery, alternator, new tires and new radiator. It has a 27 engine and transmission. Custom interior. Very solid car with many new parts. Car is being sold with Kentucky title, and is located in Louisville, KY. Priced reduced to \$9500. Call Tom Moorehead at 502-553-9592 for more information.





**Note from the editor:**  
 Special thanks to  
 Ralph & Teresa  
 Williams  
 for submitting  
 these photos

**Ralph and Teresa Williams**

Cold weather is upon us, and I still like to get out on nice sunny days. Here is a pic of Teresa and I out on bluffs of the Delta enjoying a cool sunny day. Nothing better than riding with your sweetheart in a model T.

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

**Important notice, in case you missed it** in Anita's minutes of our latest business meeting. Gary made a motion that any full-time college student with an interest in Model T's can join the Tennessee T's and their membership fees will be waived. The motion passed. We currently have two full-time students as members- Seth Stratlin and Blayne McCafferty.

So, if you have college age kids or grandkids actively attending college, then encourage them to become members and The Tennessee T's will pay their dues. Maybe they will stay.

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**THIS GENT WAS QUITE A WISECRACKER**

A gentleman, who was visting his lawyer for the purpose of making his will, insisted that a final request be attached to the document. The request was, that the family Ford be buried with him after he died. His lawyer tried to make him see how absurd this was, but failed, so he asked the man's wife to use her influence with him. She did the best she could, but she also failed.

"Well, John," she said finally, "tell me *why* you want your Ford car buried with you."

"Because I never have got in a hole yet but what my Ford could pull me out," was the reply.

Joke credit given to Floyd Clymer  
 Those Wonderful Old Automobiles

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**  
 Announce future tours, tour and event pictures, tech articles, cars for sale, cars to buy, forgotten or incorrect birthday or anniversary listing. Without input, there will be no newsletter. email [tennesseets@hotmail.com](mailto:tennesseets@hotmail.com)  
 \*Note\*: Please.... photos should include at least one Model T and/or one Tennessee T's member.

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

Write a short article and tell our club members about what you found. Send pictures. [tennesseets@hotmail.com](mailto:tennesseets@hotmail.com)





## **A quick story for those who attended the tour in Scottsboro, AL in 2013:**

By Bill Robinson, tour host

Hardees in Gurley, Alabama is a fast food restaurant in a really small town atmosphere.

Today, December 9, 2016, I went there for lunch, and after eating I went to the trash bin to dispose of my lunch waste-paper and cup. A mature man and wife were sitting at the table next to the trash bin and he spoke to me saying "How are you doing?" My reply was that I was "having a pretty good day".

A few minutes earlier a different older man was having a casual conversation with him and I overheard the word "Hollywood", so I casually asked him if I'd heard him say that he is from Hollywood. His reply, "I told the man that I was from NEAR Hollywood". So, I asked him "Fackler?" (Do any of you remember the planned group photo spot at the Fackler Fire Dept that turned into being an un-planned community fund-raising event and the community failed to show because of the early morning rain? And, The Tennessee T's were their very first visitors of the day? And, we bought BBQ, fried pies, T-Shirts, books, etc? We made their day! It turned out to be a pretty good stop for us, too.) Back to my story.....The man's reply was "between Fackler and Crow Mountain".

I mentioned that our Model T club had toured that area in 2013 and since my wife and I were the tour hosts I know the area pretty good.

Next, he asked me "do you know where the Rock Zoo is? I told him "Yes, we had stopped there for a rest stop and coke break".

He replied "We live there and we own it and we saw all of the wonderful old cars".

What a coincidence and his words just blew me away.....and made my day. Thank you Mr and Mrs Dawson!

If this day is a bit foggy in your mind, click on the webpage for a memory-jump-start:

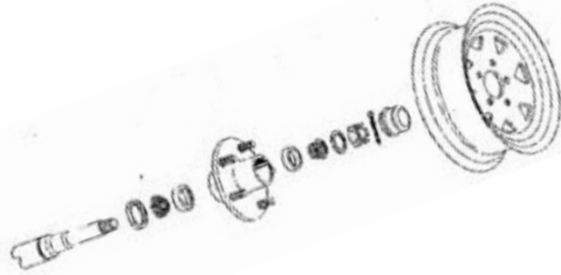
<http://tennesseets.weebly.com/scottsboro-al-tour-2013.html>





## Trailer Axle Maintenance Tips by Tom Moorehead

**Note from the editor:**  
Special thanks to  
Tom Moorehead  
for submitting this  
article



Many articles are written in this and other newsletters, discussing pertinent items or repairs to their Model T's. What is not written or discussed is the need to properly maintain the trailers we use to haul our cars for distances we are unwilling or unable to drive to. This is a discussion of such trailer maintenance that raised its ugly head for us just recently.

While heading home, after the Tenn. T tour in September, I was reminded that I had failed to do my bi-annual repacking of trailer bearings in the self proposed 24 month cycle. And that delay really got my attention.

My co-pilot noted that the trailer was weaving more than it normally does. Usually because of my erratic driving habits, we will see a wiggle from time to time, but not like a wagging dog's tail.

3.5 miles from leaving for an early start home, we were headed back to the motel parking lot for two reasons. One, because the right rear tandem trailer wheel bearing did not want to be friends with said trailer axle. These two components have been together for 15 years and why they have now separated was due to my lack of consoling them as promised. The second reason for the return trip was to beg for possible help from fellow trailer towing participants. Both ideas worked. (Thanks Bill, Hammer, Charlie and Seth)

Parked outside the exit of the motel parking lot meant all who left after we did, had to either stop and ask if there was help needed or just drive by not seeing our dilemma. The helpers arrived and we were successful in getting the jacks and tools and parts needed to facilitate needed repairs. Fortunately, the insistence of the co-pilot to pull over early and check the wiggle, resulted in no real big damage.

So, now that the trailer has returned home, all bearings have been inspected, packed and new seals installed and wheels mounted. We should be good for the next bi-annual routine maintenance schedule.

While I was at it, I inspected the tires, (don't forget the spare tire and wheel Tom), brakes, lighting and wiring, from the hitch to the tail lights of the trailer. The new wiring harness was installed because the co-pilot did not remind the pilot to disconnect the wires from the trailer before driving off to parts

unknown. I did learn that the right turn signal light assembly was not up to snuff, so we got new LED fixtures for both sides. WOO HOO!!! (Thanks E Trailer.com for the new lights, bearings and races. Good folks to deal with). All 4 tires are good and the hitch assembly got lubricated and a new trailer lock was installed. (The old one must have left with the old bearing, as I could not find it anywhere, after the emergency repairs) I guess a lock may not be really needed, but it looks cooler than a rusty old Kentucky nut and bolt through the hole in the hitch latch.

I also need to remember to carry the winch when going to the next tour. The trailer has a mounting bracket ready for the winch to be hooked up. I just need to remember to bring the portable winch along. It does a lot of good having the winch in the garage while on tour. I guess the co-pilot will need to add that to the ever growing pre-loading list. I sure can't seem to remember it!

I guess new wood for the floor on the trailer will be next. Maybe metal would be better? Then, with the deck off, sand blasting and painting the frame would be a good idea.

So, when the co-pilot now asks if the trailer has been checked and serviced, the pilot can confirm with a big 10-4 and not be fibbing!

I wonder how long a trailer could last. This one is 15 years old and is still going strong. I guess in the scheme of things, compared to the car it is towing, it's just a kid hauling grandpa down the road to the next adventure. Being as how the car and trailer are in the same garage, reckon they ever talk about where they have been or what they have seen? I guess that might be another discussion for future issues.

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**The latest on Darrel's current project-** The '24 Tudor project is going slowly but am making headway. The engine in the foreground is ready to have babbitt poured in the mains. This car is a challenge because I just started with a pile of sheet metal. Fordwood is pretty good but it seems to require many modifications to get the metal to fit correctly. Without the precut wood the project wouldn't be feasible. I still don't have the technique down for nailing into the oak on the first try without bending a large percentage of them. (dated 10.10.2016)

Darrel

I need some room. Anybody need a '37 Plymouth, '39 Buick Roadmaster, or '65 Thunderbird? OK, no more cars!!

[darcarter@aol.com](mailto:darcarter@aol.com)

**Note from the editor:**  
Special thanks to **Darrel Carter** for submitting this article





**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
for  
**TENNESSEE T'S MODEL T FORD CLUB**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **SPOUSE** \_\_\_\_\_  
**BIRTHDAY** \_\_\_\_\_ **BIIRTHDAY** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ANNIVERSARY** \_\_\_\_\_  
**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CELL PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_  
**HOME PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:** \$15.00  
**DUE BY:** January 1 / each year  
**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:** The Tennessee T's  
**MAIL TO:** Anita Owen  
1809 Oriole Drive  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

You are cordially invited to join the Tennessee T's pursuant to the rules and by-laws governing the club and its membership. You must be a member in good standing of either the Model T Ford Club of America or the Model T Ford Club International. (WE ENCOURAGE MEMBERSHIP IN BOTH.) To participate in chapter events, your vehicle must meet chapter safety guidelines.

**MTFCI#** \_\_\_\_\_ **MTFCA#** \_\_\_\_\_

**List cars (body style and year)**

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**TENNESSEE T'S MODEL T FORD CLUB  
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT CAR SAFETY CHECK LIST  
For Participation in Club Tours**

- INSURANCE:** All members must have proof of current insurance.
- FIRE EXTINGUISHER:** A standard make portable Underwriters Laboratories approved B-C extinguisher must be carried in car. It must be readily available.
- BRAKES:** Brakes must bring the car to a full stop within 25 feet for each 10 miles per hour speed. Pedal pressure must feel solid. Brake pedal must be less than 2/3 of maximum travel.  
The hand brake travel must be less than 2/3 of maximum and the hand brake pawl must lock securely.  
Working brake lights are recommended.
- LIGHTS:** All electric lights must be operative.
- HORN:** All type horns or sounding devices must work.
- WINDSHIELD:** Safety glass is required in windshields and recommended for other flat glass windows.
- TIRES:** All tires must pass visual check for excessive tread wear and cracks.
- STEERING:** Steering mechanisms must be properly adjusted so movement of steering wheel exceeding 2 inches actually turns front wheels.
- RADIUS ROD:** Crankcase studs holding radius rod ball cap must be safety wired.
- WIRE WHEELS:** Must be in good condition with no broken or loose spokes.
- WOOD WHEELS:** Must be tight and crack free (spokes & felloes) with no loose wheel nuts or missing bolts.
- SUSPENSION:** No broken springs or excessive shackle wear.
- ENGINE:** No excessive fluid leaks – gas, oil or water.

**WAIVER/CERTIFICATION**

In consideration of being a member of the Tennessee T's Model T Ford Club, I certify that:

- I agree to maintain any vehicle I use for Club events according to the above standards.
- I certify my vehicle is properly titled and registered as required by the state of my residence.
- I certify that I have insurance coverage on my vehicle that covers my liability and physical damage as required in my state of residence.
- I release and hold harmless the Tennessee T's Model T Ford Club officers, directors and members and the Model T Ford Club International and/or Model T Ford Club of America from any liability of any kind whatsoever as a result of any personal injury or property damage sustained by the undersigned.

**OWNER** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVED BY** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_