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Editor: Teresa Williams

January 2007

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2006

This year's annual Tennessee T's Christmas party was a great success. There were approximately 40 folks and plenty of food. The men and women took turns playing dirty Santa and it seemed as if everyone had a great time. This year was the first year that we set aside a portion of our evening for a "show and tell" opportunity. I believe that we all enjoyed seeing and hearing about personal items that either related to the car industry or items that were very interesting to share with the group. We had members come from many miles away as well as our local communities. Several of the members stayed overnight in Waverly and met at McDonalds the next morning for breakfast and good-byes. It was a great party and weekend. I'm sure we would all like to thank Carolyn and Larry and the local elves for hosting this Christmas event.



FOOD, FOOD, AND MORE FOOD.....EVERYTHING WAS DELICIOUS!

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

Santa has come and gone and hopefully he left a lot of Model T parts under the tree for all of you. I did not get anything for the T under the tree but a large box did arrive from Smith and Jones on Christmas Eve. There was a rumor that he was to leave a set of tires at one house.

With the cold weather here I'm sure all the shops and garages are humming with Model T repairs, modifications, engine rebuilds, etc. In just a few short weeks we will be just like Willie (on the road again) Some of our more hardy souls will not let the cold and rain deter them and they even take drives on New Years Eve and New Years Day. How many miles did you log Ken and Joyce?

On a more serious note it is with great sadness that I report the death of one of our members, Jack Van Bruggen. Jack and his lovely wife Betty have been members of our chapter since 2001. Jack and Betty spent the winters in Fairhope, AL and the summers in Monee, IL. Betty is in IL right now near their children. Her address is:

Betty Van Bruggen
5047 Augusta Blvd
Monee, IL 60449

I'm sure she would appreciate hearing from you.

Carolyn and I wish for each of you a Happy and Healthy 2007 and many miles of safe Model T driving. *Larry*

MINUTES OF 12-2-06 MEETING

The Tennessee T's met December 2, 2006 after a social hour and meal at the Mariah Church Fellowship hall for their regular Christmas meeting with 41 members.

President Larry Williams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Earl Lake of Portsmouth, Ohio was recognized as having traveled the longest distance and received a folding chair. Charlie and Barbara Wagner also from Ohio received an oil can for having traveled the second longest distance. Two guests, Steve & Jane Summers were recognized. Mac Flowers made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter. Motion was seconded by Gary Tillstrom. Sue Cook reported that as of 12-6-05 the chapter had a balance of \$1834.61. During the year there were \$680.00 in deposits and expenditures of \$285.85 for Newsletter expenses, \$104.63 for flowers, \$114.60 for the 05 Christmas dinner & Waverly weekend leaving a 12-2-06 balance of \$2009.53. Williams thanked the membership for their support during the illness and death of his mother.

The President reported the club membership was 55 members 12-6-05 and 60 members 12-2-06.

Carolyn Williams reported on the 2006 Natchez Trace Tour.

Larry alerted the membership that the upcoming 2007 Natchez Trace Tour would be the last one that the present tour committee would do and asked the members to start thinking about someone to be tour chairperson in 2008. There was a round table discussion of possible weekend tours in 2007.

Members will send information to Teresa Williams for posting in the newsletter as soon as plans are definite. The meeting was turned over to Ken Swan to have each member discuss the memorabilia they brought to display from the Model T era.

On a motion by Charlie Wagner with a second by Ken Swan meeting adjourned.

Member Bill Butner's "T" by Gary Tillstrom

Most of us have dreamed of finding a "barn fresh" Model T. You know the kind that has been frozen in time, found in good condition and still having 95% of its original paint. Of course it would also be nice if the top and interior were still original and in good shape. And, I suppose it would be nice if the car could be started and run very well with the compression being strong and equal across all four cylinders. Now, suppose that this car never spent the night left outside because the owner was careful to keep it shedded. As long as your dreaming mind you, this might as well of been the very car your granddad bought new and kept all his life. Hey, a guy can dream can't he? For one of our newest members in the Memphis area, he doesn't have to dream because he owns the above described car. A very nice original 1922 touring car that spent the majority of its years in Ripley, TN.

I met Bill Butner through another car club that we both belong to. The club sent out a roster with phone numbers, addresses, emails, etc., last year. There are a few model T owners on the list and I called Bill to tell him of the event Ralph and Teresa Williams had planned last May. Bill informed me that his car wasn't running presently so I invited him to ride along. Bill became fairly well checked out on the T as he spent the day riding with various members. I'm guessing a 15-minute driving lesson in his own car this spring and he'll be ready to tour.

I had looked the car over a few months ago to see the items that would need attention and made a parts list. As you know, a set of tires and a radiator plus all the bushings that wear out in the suspension will add up rather quickly. I thought rather than turn the hefty list over to Bill that it might be in order to hear the car run first to ensure there would be no terrible surprises.

Ralph and I headed over to Bill's December 30th with tools in hand, battery, a set of coils, carb, and a box full of other stuff and within about an hour had the car running. The car appears to run well and should only run better with some miles on it.

Bill has some great stories of when he was a kid and would go to town with his grandparents in the T. He told us his granddad used to haul block ice home every Saturday tying it onto the fenders. I asked him after we shut the engine off if it sounded like he remembered it. He said, "***The last time I heard it I was a ten year old barefoot kid going to town with granddad.***" Not a bad memory for one to hold.

Included are some photos of Bill's car that show the incredible shape it is in. Each year during the International tour, cars are awarded preservation awards for original features by the Chief Judge and one of the past presidents. I promise you this car has many well preserved features that these guys really like to see. I suspect after the mechanicals are corrected and the car is detailed it will show very well.



Another Rip Van Winkle? Little did the car know it was about to be awakened!



The top is in great shape and will be preserved. The back window is still somewhat transparent.



The upholstery is in super shape. I imagine after a good cleaning and some Armor All these seats will be some of the best preserved originals known to exist.



The front seat is in as good of condition as the rear. It should clean up nicely. I should have pushed it all the way in before I took the photo. It does however fit correctly.



Seldom will you run across inner door panels in this shape. It is apparent that these were protected from the weather. If anyone needs a good look at an original car when doing interior work, this car is a super candidate.



The radiator held water long enough to get it running but it is past due for replacement. Notice the car has Hassler shocks on the front (and rear). These were an accessory that Bill's granddad most certainly installed early in the cars life.



The dash panel appears to be a later add on as other features suggest this was originally a non-starter equipped car. Bill's granddad probably added these items later.



Come spring this smiling guy (Bill) will be tearing up the roads of West TN in a very preserved example of an original Model T. We are all most envious Bill!

NATCHEZ TRACE TOUR 2006

The 2006 Natchez Trace Tour is history and a lot of things can be said about it. One thing that cannot be said is that it was dull.

We had more participants this year than ever. We had more "causalities" this year than ever before but we also had fewer complaints. Everyone just took whatever came in stride. They just went back to Nashville and got their modern car or jumped in with someone else and rode with them. It was a very helpful all round good group just what we have come to expect from Model T folks. If you drive a Model T you know that at some point you will have a problem (we just didn't expect so many problems to come at once.) and if it is not you today it may be tomorrow.

The weather was also very unusual, We had warm weather, cold weather, rain, wind and even tornado warnings one day. If you didn't like it one day all you had to do was wait for the next day.

After the Trace three couples, Jim and Judy Johnson, Dwight and Sharlotte Miller from SD and Martin and Anne Alexander from MO came to Waverly and toured around the local area with us for two days. What fun we had. The Millers and Johnsons were two of the causalities on the Trace but Lynn Cook loaned them one of his cars and we were good to go.

Although they couldn't go all the way with us the Swan's, Waller's, Sumeralls, and Ohlrogge's either saw us off, met us along the way or welcomed us on our return. Thanks guys.

It's almost time for the 2007 Trace planning to begin. Remember this is the last year for this committee. Chapter members come first so if you want to go and have not told us DO IT NOW. Also

be thinking of someone to take Chairperson of the 2008 tour. *Carolyn*

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

If you have not paid your dues please send \$15.00 (made to the Tennessee T's) to Carolyn Williams 235 Mariah Church Lane Waverly, TN 37185.

If you joined after September 1, you are paid thru January 1, 2008. Also, if you have reached the age of 85 years young you are a Lifetime member and will not owe any dues now or in the future. There will be new membership list coming out as soon as all members have a chance to send in their dues.

Carolyn

WELCOME TO MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN 2006

Barry and Linda Delong (March 06)
Cleveland, TN

Bill Butner (May 2006)
Bartlett, TN

Bill Dunning ((July 2006)
Jackson, MO

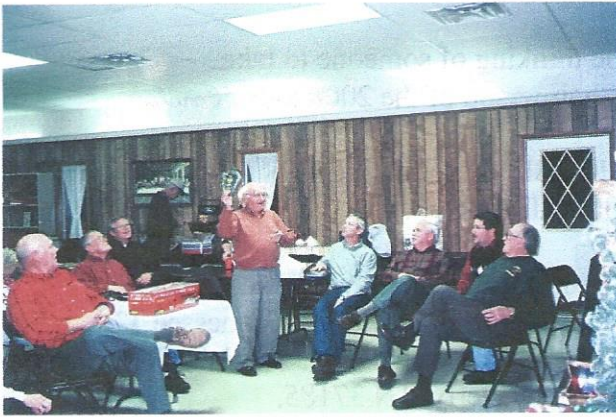
Harold & Pam Hutsell (August 2006)
Athens, TN

Ryan & Jennifer Miller (Nov. 2006)
Murfreesboro, TN

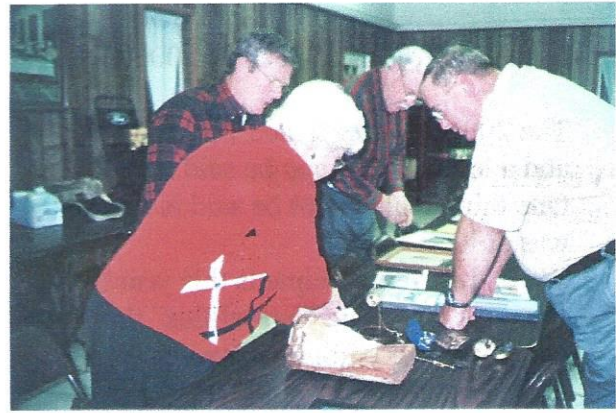
Fred & Kay McDonald (Dec. 2006)
Murfreesboro, TN

Steve & Jane Summers (Dec. 2006)
Corinth, MS

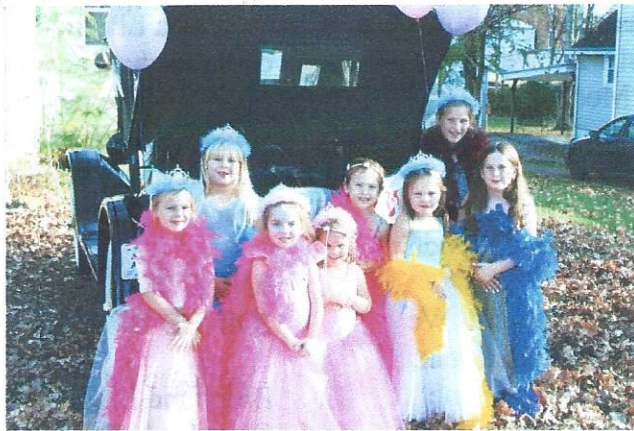
Kevin & Brenda Bandy (Dec. 2006)
Alexandria, Tennessee



Dirty Santa at the Christmas Party.
 "Oh Mac, we want that!"



Interesting stuff.
 "Show and tell" at the party.



Many of us enjoy our T models in many different ways; tours, parades, weddings, etc. Gary and Francis Curtis enjoyed sharing their 1926 Touring with their granddaughter and friends. On Gracie Obrien's 6th birthday, these little beauties were provided transportation to Miss Pott's Tea Room in Dickson Tennessee to celebrate. It looks like they had a great time!

I'm a Senior Citizen: submitted by Marge Krull

- I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a word you are saying.
- I'm the life of the party, even when it lasts until 8 p.m.
- I'm very good at telling stories....over and over and over...
- I'm very good at opening child-proof caps..with a hammer.
- I'm aware that other people's grandchildren are not as bright as mine.
- I'm not grouchy; I just don't like traffic, children, waiting, crowds, and politicians.
- I'm positive I did housework correctly before my mate retired.
- I'm so cared for: long-term care, eye care, private care, dental care.
- I'm in the *initial* stage of my golden years: SIS, CD's, IRA's, AARP...
- I'm realizing that aging is not for sissies.
- I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up.
- I'm a walking storeroom of facts: I've just lost the storeroom.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Walter Longworth.....15th
Kenneth Jack.....15th
Ken Swan.....23rd

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Jack & Betty Vanbruggen..28th
Monty & Mary Monteith...29th
Don & Jerrie Hiner.....29th

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tony Verschoore.....1st
Charlie Swan.....20th
Harvey Decker.....20th
Diane Waller.....21st
Ewell Hall.....26th
Bill Eden.....28th
Brenda Verschoore.....28th
Susan Harrington.....29th
Darrel & Ann Carter.....26th

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Tom and Pat Rowe.....21st
Mike & Maria Sumerall...15th

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lee Mabry.....8th
Annette Tillstrom.....17th
Margaret Harris.....23rd
Bob Harris.....27th
Tom Rowe.....25th
Barbara Wagner.....30th
Bonnie Ollrogge.....31st

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Ewell & Gloria Hall.....17th
Charles & Jana Swann.....20th



Did you also know that Henry Ford...

Built and drove racecars early in his career to demonstrate that his engineering designs produced reliable vehicles?

Financed a pacifist expedition to Europe during WWI?

Was an unsuccessful candidate for the United States Senate in 1918?

Promoted the early use of aviation technology?

Was one of the nation's foremost opponents of labor unions in the 1930s and was the last automobile manufacturer to unionize his work force?

Mobilized his factories for the war effort and produced bombers, Jeeps, and tanks for WWII?

Established schools in several areas of the country that provided educational experiences based on traditional one-room school techniques, modern teaching methods, and "learning through doing?"

Sought ways to use agricultural products in industrial production, including soybean-based plastic automobile components such as this experimental automobile trunk?

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