

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

Why do I like working on these things? I ask myself that question quite often as I'm sure you do, too. To own a Model T, you must be a mechanic. You also must be able to hold a 9/16 castle nut with two fingers of your left hand, screw it on a bolt that you can barely reach, or see at all, and then insert a cotter pin with the other two fingers. Nine times out of ten that wrench you just tightened the last bolt with cannot be found, even though you haven't moved from the spot you have been in. You get in the car and start it up after finishing a project and knock. Knock! What now? How many times have you crawled under the car to do something and you need one more tool, or oil is running off your elbow and you need a rag. Sometime we are headed down the road and a part completely falls off the car. I have literally carried my car in my closed trailer for a distance and when I arrived to unload it and I have had to sweep the nuts and bolts off the floor that fell off during the trip.

I was at a car show this past week-end and a lady came up to me talking about the car. She said she was so drawn to the car that she just didn't want to leave it. She came back several times to see it, and as you know she got an ear full of Model T history from me while she looked. For me, that is what makes it all worthwhile. I love to drive, show, and tell the story of the Model T. When you drive down the road it's just like being in a parade.

If you haven't heard, we had a Tennessee T's tour a few weeks back. We sure missed those who couldn't attend. We had a great time. For those of you that are new to touring, the only way to see what your car will do is to put it on the road with us. Hope to see you next time.

I hope everyone is signed up for one or more of the really great tours that are offered this summer and fall. I'm sure I will see you on the road.

Happy T'ing

Ricky

Club Officers

President- Ricky Williams
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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.](#)

Date	Event (Tennessee T's events are bold)
	Note: contact the event host before making plans to attend. Many events lately get cancelled due to Covid-19.
June 19, 2021	Model T Homecoming, Richmond, IN
June 23-26	2021 Speedster Trials and Reunion
July 10, 2021	Drive and Park Day in historic Cumberland Gap TN. Contact John or Geri for details: geriravnum@hotmail.com
July 9-14, 2021	MTFCA National Tour, Spokane, Washington- gbluffcider@yahoo.com
July 18-23, 2021	64th MTFCI Annual Tour, New Philadelphia, OH. See the Jan-Feb, 2021 Model T Times for details
September 8-12	38th Annual Hillbilly Tour, Springfield, MO
September 25-29	Model T Covered Bridge Tour, Parke County, IN
January 22, 2022	Model T Ford Winter Clinic, McPherson, KS no link provided

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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.

Chaplain's Report by D.D.



5/25/2021

There has been no activity during this most recent reporting period.

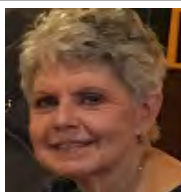
“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.” Psalm 23:1 KJV

As the Lord is the Good Shepherd, so we are his sheep - not dumb, frightened, passive animals, but obedient followers wise enough to follow one who will lead us in the right places and in the right ways. This psalm does not focus on the animal-like qualities of sheep, but on the discipleship qualities of those who follow. When you recognize the Good Shepherd, follow him!

Treasurer's Report

The Money Bucket

submitted by **Connie Plank**,
club treasurer



Treasurer's Report –June 1, 2021

Starting Balance (04/01/2021)	\$7,724.10
Total Deposits – 2021 Dues	46.00
Total Expenses *	-572.46
Ending Balance (05/31/2021)	\$7,197.64

* Total Expenses

Greeting Cards	\$11.26
Lunch – Fayetteville Tour	\$561.20

New Members

- * **Jim and Lucia**
Laudadio.....Meridianville, AL
- * **Eddie & Daphne Clark.....Leoma,**
TN

READY TO JOIN OUR CLUB ?

An application
is attached on the final
page. Also, a copy is on
our club's website
tennesseets.weebly.com

Model T Ford **TRIVIA**

When was the first automatic windshield
wiper offered as a factory accessory?

Find the answer on page 16


What was **THE GENTLE HILL TOUR OF 2021?**

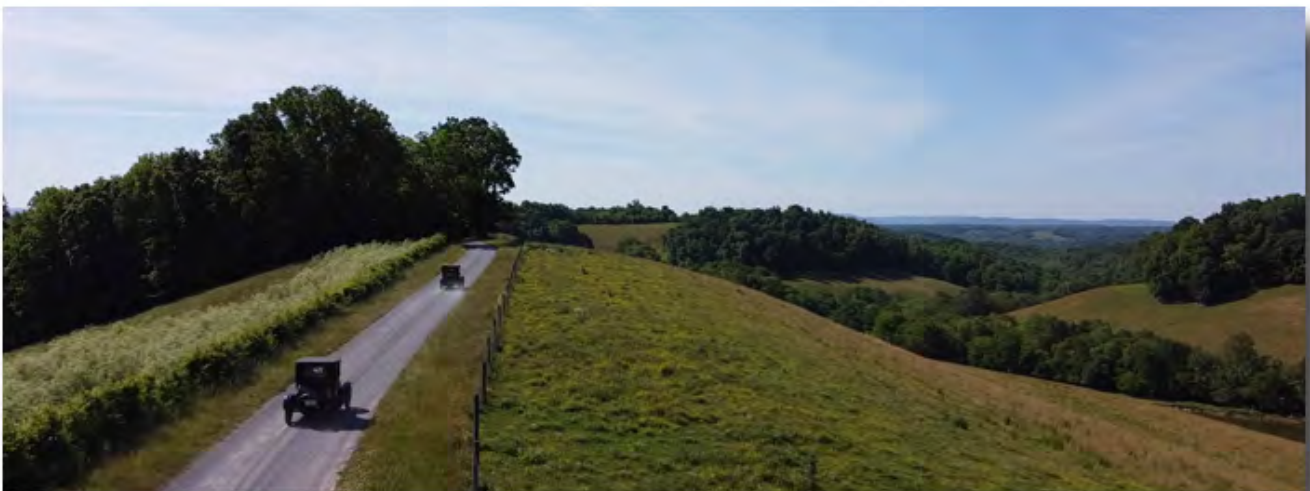
The Gentle Hill Tour was held at a time of celebration. We celebrated the first chance that our club has gotten together for a club, to tour, *as a club*, since 2019, due to safety restrictions regarding the COVID 19 pandemic, and the fact that we weren't allowed to have large gatherings. Last year, we had a couple of small **rides** (not tours) that were limited in attendance.

May 21 and 22, 2021 were the dates that the Tennessee T's got together in Fayetteville, TN for a long awaited chance to have a club sponsored tour since the Covid restrictions have eased up.

Several members got together this year at the tail-end of winter in a warm spell to have a casual run of some of the rural roads that are near Fayetteville in the [Southern Highland Rim of Tennessee](#). The roads chosen were roads and trails that our club ran back on previous tours. Not long after our ride, we lost one of our members to cancer. Since **Charlie Owen** was loved and respected by our members, the four who made the run decided to organize a **Memorial Tour to Charlie**, and invite his wife, Anita to travel along. After all, Charlie and Anita helped Bill and Suzi host the Gentle Hill Tour in 2012. We all have favorite memories of Charlie- and no memories are bad.



Click here to view Paula Gember's YouTube Tour video and Memorial to Charlie. While at YouTube give her efforts a  and subscribe to her channel <https://youtu.be/-vMBDJuHvw8> .



This is our ride along Crystal Ridge. There were many scenic, Model T era roads on this tour, and many others that we have not found yet. But, we're looking! Thanks to Paul for the great drone image.



A ground level look over Crystal Ridge

The **Gentle Hill Tour** was hosted by the following members (alphabetically) Paul Gierow, Phillip Lee, Bill Robinson, and Ricky Williams.



A running board conversation

It's Saturday Ice Cream at Old Delina Country Store



Friday lunch in Lynchburg at Barrelhouse BBQ



Waiting on the menu item "Jack on Crack"

Also, thanks to **Paul & Rhonda Gierow** for hosting our Saturday lunch stop on their farm.



JUNE 2021

-cont'd next page-



It's time to leave
Delina
Crossroads, TN



These girls are trying to get a free
lunch



Winding
around the
trail on
Crystal Ridge

A photo from
The "REAL"
Rocky Top
Tennessee



JUNE 2021

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The Simmerings exiting the Lewter Hollow Tunnel



Relaxing on Rocky Top



Special thanks to brothers **Walt & Todd Jennings**, who gave us a very interesting rundown of their old tobacco barn at Rock Creek Farm and their Century Farm which has been in their family since the 1890's.



A real backroad



The 2021 Tennessee T's business meeting



Paula's gift to Anita



She said, "Ya' know if we go down that road, we'll never get back out!"



"Just follow the rest of 'em and you can't get lost"



Amber & Paul at Lofton Hall Tunnel

Photo by David



On the "square" in Petersburg

There are more photos shown on our website- visit this link- <https://tennesseets.weebly.com/gentle-hill-tour-2021-fayetteville-tn.html>

BOOGER... IN THE PAN!

A Rough Running Engine

By Dan Rubino

For those who attended the Spring Tour at Fayetteville, TN, you will remember our car as the '27 Tudor that couldn't climb the long gravel road. Back at the Best Western, a team of parking lot engine inspectors pronounced the engine as "missing". Well, it was actually there but it wasn't running smoothly. When we got home I measured the current draw of the coils and found some above and some below specs. I made a phone call to Brent Mize, a coil repair guru who advised sending the coils in for a tune-up. That has now been done. I also removed the commutator to clean it and that led to these pictures. We apparently had the old style felt seal and thin copper disc to keep the oil off the innards of the commutator. That copper disc split the center collar off and it was jangling around in the commutator. Additionally the disc itself was wobbling around and the contact pads of the commutator were washboarded. That washboarding is easy to see with the eye but hard to photograph so it may not be readily visible in the photo. A new ANCO Anderson flapper style commutator has now been installed and it features a modern neoprene oil seal to replace the felt and high pressure grease for the flapper. Waiting for the coils to return before testing.
Dan Rubino



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

;) *Bill Robinson,
newsletter
editor*

The Gembers
The Gierows
Patrick McClean
Phillip Lee
The Lowery's
The Moorehead's

The Rubino's
The Wheat's
The Williams',
David Walker
Amber Walker
Walt Jennings
Todd Jennings

*On the tour, we had great service from those
who assisted us in our needs as a group.
We give you all a*



A 5 Car Rating

Barrelhouse BBQ, Best Western, Old Delina
Country Store, Rock Creek Farm, Cathie
Fullerton's Antiques, Tennessee Rose Farm,
La Fuente Mexican Restaurant, Marvin's
Restaurant, Domino's

For Sale

1926 Ford Model T runs and drives. Touring
Car...have top frame but no cover. Have post
mounted rear view mirror and other parts.
Asking \$7500.00. Cell number 931-252-1593.
Bill Greer, Cookeville, TN



zoom for detailed photo



Paul,
Thanks
for
another
great
"drone's
eye view"
of
Crystal
Ridge.



WEST TENNESSEE
**STRAWBERRY
 FESTIVAL**

This year, 2021, the annual West Tennessee Strawberry Festival in Humboldt, TN was celebrated the first full week of May. One of the events was a car show and Ricky Williams, who is the current Tennessee T's club president, took a few cars to the show, which was held on May 8th. Imagine having to drive 7 Model T Fords to a single show, then having to get them back home again on the same day. He had help from his son Caleb.



These are all Ricky & Vandy's Model T cars & trucks.

<https://strawberryfestivaltn.com/>

Back in the early 1900's,

my grandfather was a Federal Ag Agent in the Sequatchie Valley region of middle TN. Periodically, the govt would issue him a new Model T Ford for the purpose of visiting the farmers. The girl in the photo is Blanche, my "Momma", back in 1919. Family stories were that she would periodically run the routes with Poppy so she could see the hogs, cows, and corn. When Poppy was issued a new Model T ("T Model" in Tennessee talk), and after Momma came of driving age, she was given orders to take the car for a long drive and don't come home until the car is "broke in".

I heard that story many times during Momma's lifetime. I'll bet that you have similar stories, too. Bill Robinson



Our "30 FOR 30" Adventure in 2017

(By Paula Gember)

By the middle of 2017, Mark and I had been married for 30 years. I wanted us to celebrate our anniversary in a unique way. Do something that we would look back on for years to come. We both enjoy touring in our Model Ts, so I suggested touring until we had accumulated 30 days.



I dubbed it our "30 for 30" adventure.

We went on six tours and visited five National Parks that year. Whew! We have a lot of great memories from our journeys. We started with a Natchez Trace tour out of Tupelo. Then went to the combined MTFCI/MTFCA tour up in Montana. Over the Labor Day weekend, we attended the Ohio Jamboree in Berlin, Ohio. A few days later, we were on the Lake of the Ozarks tour in Missouri. You may have seen the video of us crossing a very rickety swinging bridge. Also in September, we enjoyed a tour in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, hosted by Blayne McCafferty and the late Hubert Garland. We rounded out our travels by attending George and Ramona's tour in Manchester, Tennessee.

Since the trip to Montana for the International/National tour would be such a long, far away haul, we decided to sidetrack a little and take Maynard to a few places out west. We added a few of the national parks in South Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah to our itinerary.

I bought a GoPro camera a few weeks before our trip. I experimented with the various camera angles and settings as I filmed. My clips were a little rough around the edges and out of focus at times, but I think I was still able to capture many breathtaking views.

I accumulated over a thousand GoPro clips and several hundred Android camera photos during our "30 for 30" adventure in 2017. During this last year in Covid lockdown I was finally able to pull everything together and have posted several new videos onto my "SweetTing" channel on YouTube. I hope you will enjoy them.

In case you were wondering, "SweetTing" is my short for "Sweet (Model) T-ing"

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) 30 for 30 A1 Black Hills National Park | https://youtu.be/G7ZSeo67n80 |
| 2) 30 for 30 B1 Glacier National Park – Part 1 | https://youtu.be/Dzcz6rLYzw8 |
| 3) 30 for 30 B2 Glacier National Park – Part 2 | https://youtu.be/JShohPZJkZA |
| 4) 30 for 30 C1 Yellowstone National Park – South Loop | https://youtu.be/K2epvNU5RHI |
| 5) 30 for 30 C2 Yellowstone National Park – North Loop | https://youtu.be/tyaBpPQQ6xw |
| 6) 30 for 30 D1 Arches National Park – Part 1 | https://youtu.be/V1FkXyH6q1Y |
| 7) 30 for 30 D2 Arches National Park – Part 2 | https://youtu.be/KliF1vy6tGM |
| 8) 30 for 30 D3 Canyonlands National Park | https://youtu.be/RLCODMlzuv8 |
| 9) 30 for 30 D4 Needles District Canyonlands National Park | https://youtu.be/NTWnff7VwVg |

BTW- At the end of all our T touring for our 30th, our final tally of days came to 36, and we enjoyed every one of them!

Have fun watching them, Paula :-)

Securing A "T" by Phillip Lee

If you ask 10 people about securing a Model T for transporting, you will get 12 or more different opinions. So you should take this with a grain of salt. I will write about how I load and tie down my T on an open trailer and show how some other T'ers tie down their T in an enclosed trailer.

Once the trailer is hooked up to the truck and has been safety checked: Jack all the way up, safety chains crossed and attached (safety chains should be crossed so that if the trailer detaches from the truck, the trailer tongue will rest on the crossed chains.) lights hooked up and checked, brake away connected, tires aired up (this is a big one that gets missed often, don't ask how I know.). Then I put the ramps on the trailer and check alignment with the T.

I marked on the trailer where to put the ramps and marked where I want to stop the T using a 2X4 screwed down on the trailer. I use a special rig made to loop over the tire and secure in two places on the trailer for both front tires.



I drop the chain hook down through the stake pocket and then back up so that if anything gets loose, the chain will stay attached to the stake pocket.



I use one strap from one side of the trailer through the rear wheels to the other side of the trailer, using a piece of leather from a saddle stirrup strap to protect the spokes and protect the strap from wear. I then drop the end of the tie strap through the stake pocket then back up for safety. I use the upper part of an old cowboy boot to protect the strap from fraying.



I also loop a strap through the hood latches and then over the hood and connect with a bungee strap just to be sure the hood does not fly off.



I also tie a rope or strap across the seat to the brake handle, that way the seat cannot fly out and the brake cannot release. (We went to an Amish auction a few years back looking for a sleigh. The only sleighs up for auction did not have the seat cushions. I asked someone where I could get a seat and was told this: “After the auction is over, wait until all the sold buggies and sleighs that are hauled on open trailer leave, go down the road a few miles behind them and you will usually find one or two buggy seats on the side of the road.”) I have a tin top angled down toward the front on my T, so I do not need to worry about the top getting blown off. If you have a soft top for your T, remember that they were designed for a T running at a max of about 40 MPH, so you could damage the top or loose part of it when pulling and open trailer 70 or 75 MPH. Of course, when using a closed trailer all you need to think about is, “Will the top clear the trailer?” You do not want to damage the top of the T or the opening of the trailer.



Usually, a closed in trailer has a wide ramp, so no need to think about spacing the ramps right.



-cont'd next page-



<- Most closed trailer have tied downs in the floor.

Some prefer to cross tie to the springs on -> the rear,



<- While others tie straight back from the rear axle and straight forward for the front axle.

Some closed trailers have a special cleat for the front wheels that really make it nice to -> position the T in the right spot every time.



<- The front can also be cross tied to the front axle or straight ahead as some prefer. I always drive for about two miles or so then stop to check that all the trailer connections are good and the all the tie downs for the T are secure and that there is nothing loose in or around the T.

I would suggest that you get a routine and do not talk to others until after your T is properly secured. I say that because of the time I started talking before I had completed the tie down. When I checked about 2 miles down the road, one of the straps was not secured. Oops, better keep my attention on tying down the T before I socialize.

I would suggest that you get a routine and do not talk to others until after your T is properly secured. I say that because of the time I started talking before I had completed the tie down. When I checked about 2 miles down the road, one of the straps was not secured. Oops, better keep my attention on tying down the T before I socialize. The End

Note from the editor:
Special thanks to
Phillip Lee
for submitting this article

TRIVIA answer

ACCESSORIES: Ford introduced a number of factory accessories for the 1926 (and 1927) models. Production dates were as follows:

- Bumpers..... 1-28-26
- Wire wheels 1-20-26
- Top boots and gypsy curtains
for tourings and runabouts 9-15-25
- Stop light 2-4-26
- Windshield wings 10-7-25
- Automatic windshield wiper, 12-31-25**
- Shubbers (shock absorbers)..... 12-14-25

Thanks again Phillip,
for the Trivia question

I would like to thank everyone who contributed and participated in the Memorial Tour for my Charlie. He would have loved it as much as I did. Seeing my friends and feeling the love for Charlie and myself was so uplifting. I hope everyone has a chance to see Paula Gember's wonderful video of the tour and all the smiling faces. The flag she painted for me is beautiful and priceless. Happy and safe touring for the rest of the year. I hope our paths cross soon. Love to all, Anita Owen.

Fishing Cane as a Divider

by Phillip Lee

Moonshine Mike had to decide how to make it safe to transport gallon jugs and quart jars of his notorious moonshine sometimes called “white-lightning.” Moonshine Mike liked to use the brown gallon jugs because they would keep the murkey water he sometimes used, for cutting the fresh shine, from looking dirty in the clear jugs. When he ran moonshine for the quart jars he had to make the water run further up the mountain to get the crystal clear spring water. He had to get the clear water because he could not find brown quart jars. When he did find a supplier for the brown jars, he would not have to make the rough trip up the mountain to get the clean, clear water. You would think that the shine would be clear when it was distilled and it did, but when he cut it with the dirty pond water it looked a little murkey so he kept using the brown jugs. After all, when you had a couple drinks of his shine, you did not care how it looked he told himself. He also had some of the old ceramic jugs to transport his shine. Most of the time he could get the empties back when he delivered the shine to the joints.



Now, back to fixing a way to safely transport the jars and jugs because he does not like losing the money and he sure don't like having to sleep in the barn cause his wife gets mad when he breaks things, specially when it cost money.

There's a patch of cane over near a swumpy area, so Moonshine Mike decided to try and make dividers using some of the cane. He usually cuts the cane to use as a fishing pole or sometimes as an attitude adjuster for his rowdy kids. Moonshine Mike got his machete and headed to the cane patch. After cutting a hand full of the cane, he laid out some of the brown jugs and quart mason jars and started weaving the cane so that the jars had a little cushion between them.



-Continued next page-

The next day he got the T loaded and headed out for his run. After crossing the creek and heading across the meadow, he spotted a little dust over the ridge and thought it could be Sheriff Josia. Moonshine Mike turned that T around quicker than a chicken gets a Junebug and headed for the creek. He drove up the creek a ways and waited to see who was stirring up all the dust and it turned out to be Trader Jim taking one of them newfangled wood cookstoves to somebody back in the hills. So off he went again. He just had to take a sip of that good shine while he was sitting in the creek waiting to see who was coming his way. After Trader Jim went by, he started to go but the T would not move, the right back wheel was stuck between two rocks. Well, ole Moonshine Mike knew he had to take another swig of the shine and find a good limb to get the wheel out from between the rocks. With the trick he learned when he had a flat tire, he placed a big rock on the end of the limb to hold the T up while he put some little rocks under the tire. That time the T took off and away Moonshine Mike went back across the meadow and over the ridge to his first customer. Things went good until he made his last delivery. On the way back he felt a big bump and then a loud noise, but he did not see anything in the road, but when he looked back he saw a muffler laying in the middle of the dirt road. The muffler had come off, the end of the muffler hit the ground, filled the end full of dirt, hit the rear axle making the T jump up like it had had a big rock or something. Moonshine Mike stopped and walked back to get the muffler. The end of the muffler was packed with dirt and was bent almost closed when it hit the rear end. Boy, was that T loud on the way home but it kept him awake alone with all the critters within half a mile of the dirt road. Nother project for the T.

The End

A VINTAGE PHOTO FROM THE PAST



**BIG JOHN'S TOPLESS TOUR 2012
HOSTED BY BIG JOHN & BONNIE OHLROGGE**

HAY!!
Let's get these wheels 'a'rollin!
 Plan a tour!

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

On March 27, 2021 we lost a good friend and valuable member, **Charlie Owen**. We wish his wife and our friend, **Anita Owen** the very best.
[Read his obituary](#)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

for
TENNESSEE T'S, INC.
Model T Ford Club

Name _____ Spouse _____
Birthday _____ Birthday _____
Anniversary _____
Email _____ Email _____
Cell Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES: .. \$20.00
Due By: *January 1st / each year*
Make Check Payable To: **Tennessee T's, Inc.**
Mail To: *Vandy Williams, Secretary*
97 Creekwood Rd
Humboldt, TN 38343
731-414-9085

You are cordially invited to join the Tennessee T's, Inc. 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 (tours), your vehicle must meet chapter safety guidelines. *(Safety form is not required for club membership.)*

MTFCI# _____ MTFCA# _____

List cars (body style and year)

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

Signature

Date