

THE OCCASIONAL

MARCH/APRIL 2015

A PUBLICATION OF THE MODEL T FORD CLUB OF
GREATER ST. LOUIS, INC.



Winter in St. Louis

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings fellow club members!

I hope this finds you in good health. Spring is almost here and that means a lot of things to a lot of people but to members of the local Model T Club (that's US!) it means the annual Swap Meet is just around the corner. We've been doing these Swap Meets for 40-plus years and in that time had a lot of good luck as well as some experiences we'd rather forget. Probably the most horrible experience took place in 1994.

From 1987 thru 1993 we held our swap meets at Meramec Community College in Kirkwood. We had about 600 vendors and were growing by leaps and bounds every year. We needed more room! During the offseason we signed a contract with The Arena, home of The Blues, to hold our Swap Meet there the last Sunday in April. We were excited to be moving to the "Big Time" in a much larger, high profile venue that was easy to find and had plenty of room for growth. The lot was charted, vendor spaces were sold, workers were assigned jobs and the food to be sold was purchased. We were excited and everything was ready for the big day.....or was it?

Two short weeks before our Swap Meet we got a call from the Arena staff telling us the Blues had made the playoffs and would be playing a Hockey game the day we planned to have our meet. We got booted—we were without a venue!! We had already sold hundreds of spaces to a place we could no longer have. We set about a frantic, and I mean FRANTIC, search for a venue that was available immediately and big enough to handle 700-800 vendors and a few thousand buyers cars. It was a sleepless 2 weeks but we were able to locate and contract the massive lot at Riverport Amphitheater and the rest is history. The switch was so seamless we made it look easy—it was not!!

I encourage everyone to volunteer their talents at our upcoming Swap Meet at Gateway. Most jobs don't require any special knowledge and after a 2 or 3 minute tutorial you'll be an expert.

Happy Motoring!
Sam

EDITOR'S NOTES

Dear Fellow T Enthusiasts -

Considering the attention our Model T's get at car shows, the Board of Directors has decided to produce a handout for us to give to folks who show a serious interest in our cars.

We've included this handout as this issue's removable "centerfold." Additional copies will be available, hopefully at the March membership meeting, but definitely at the Easter Sunday car show in Forest Park.

If you plan to take your T to a car show this year, pick up some of these to hand out to those who show a serious interest. They are not available as a general handout, so use your judgement. Also be as encouraging and friendly as possible when folks visit with you about your T. In this manner we hope to encourage more folks to become Model T owners, and participate in our Club. After all, if we don't encourage folks now, who will assume the stewardship of our cars for future generations? Surely you don't want some barbarian to turn your Pride and Joy into a T-bucket!

Check out the Calendar of Events, with Spring here it is Parade and Car Show time again! As the weather warms up, get your car ready to go! It would be wonderful if we'd have more cars on parade, and in tours this year.

As space allows in future issues, we are going to feature members of our Club and their cars, so we can learn more about our club members, and perhaps be encouraged by the variety of folks and cars we have.

Nothing like a T for fun!

Steven G. Williams (steven1912@att.net; cell 636-575-1469; home 636-548-8256)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 8-12 - Model T Ford Winter Tour, Gainesville, FL. See www.tinlizzief.com for more information.
12 - Board meeting, 7 PM, Al Smith's Feasting Fox.
13 - Membership Meeting, 8 PM, Al Smith's Feasting Fox, 4200 S. Grand, St. Louis.
14 - St. Patrick's Day Parade through downtown St. Louis. We are always looking for new faces to drive in this, the most fun parade of the year. Call Flo Reichardt to sign up - 314-723-0456.
19-20 - Pre-War Swap Meet, Chickasha, Oklahoma. The largest source of T parts in the country! Only pre-WW2 auto parts and related, allowed. For information: www.pwsm.com.
- April 5 - Easter Show, Forest Park, St. Louis.
10 - Membership Meeting, 8 PM, Al Smith's Feasting Fox, 4200 S. Grand, St. Louis.
12 - Annual "VINTAGE FORD SHOW" at the Museum of Transportation, Kirkwood.
16 - Board meeting, 7 PM, Al Smith's Feasting Fox.
- May 2 - Swap Meet setup
3 - Swap Meet
17 - Spring Tour, details in next issue.
- June 20 - Swap Meet Appreciation Dinner, Maggiano's Little Italy.
20 - The 2015 GREAT RACE starts at 9:00 AM at the Kirkwood train station.
- July 12-17, 2015 - MTFCA Jubilee National Model T Tour, Cochrane, Alberta, Canada. Hosted by the Foothills Model T Ford Club. Check *Vintage Ford* for more details as they become available.

From *Jitney Joke Book* - An Irishman driving a Ford came to a sign post which read, "Manchester 5 miles." "Holy Moses, a man chased her five miles; I could have caught her with this jitney in half the time."

Helpful Tips

(Ed. Note - Each issue I'd like to include hints and tips here, so if you have any to suggest, email me - steven1912@att.net.)

Steven Thum commented in writing to me recently about babbitt thrust washers in the rear axle. They are quite UNSAFE! If you have never checked the thrust washers in your rear axle, you need to do so. There is a modern thrust washer roller bearing assembly which is touted as reducing friction and wear, maintaining the ring and pinion gear mesh.

Painting - in addition to POR-15 for the chassis, I've read (sorry, don't recall which old car publication) that the best "rattle can" paint you can use for Model T's is Valspar Paint and Primer, available at Lowe's and probably elsewhere. It has been said that with care, you can get a nearly professional job with this paint. And for a car that was originally "sprayed with a garden hose" at the factory, rattle can paint sounds pretty good!

TRADING POST

(If you have items "For Sale," "Wanted," or "To Trade," email the information to the Editor at steven1912@att.net. Items will be listed only once, so if you want it relisted, you must send it in again. Please include contact information.)

1923 Roadster for sale, \$9,000 to club members, great condition. Bob Heida, 636-458-2855.

1927 Touring for sale, \$15,000 great condition. Barry Tanner, 314-220-3832.

1938 Buick Special (122" wheelbase). Model 38-41 5 passenger 4-door sedan (trunk), 5 wheel 107 HP straight eight motor. \$17,900. Contact: Cherie Schroeder (618) 578 9399

Have you owned your Model T for 68 years?

By Steven Williams

Les Flautt has! Here is the youthful 89 year-old Les standing next to the 1914 Touring car he bought in 1946, after being discharged from the Navy. He bought a Model T because he always liked old cars, and wanted a Model T.

He found this T in a barn outside Jerseyville, and the previous owner, the second owner of the car, being mechanically inclined kept it in pretty good shape. Les paid \$100 for the car, and about all he had to do was get new tubes for the tires.

His next T was a '26 Touring, stored during World War II in a garage building in Otterville, IL. It was in good enough condition to be used for transportation then, and in 1954 Les bought it also for \$100.

Then came a '22 Roadster, followed four to five years ago by a '16 Roadster at a sale in White Hall. Bidding was vigorous, and this one cost \$13,000. Les then acquired two incomplete cars, a '26 Depot Hack and a '26 Touring.

In August 1949 Les married Margaret D. Humphrey, and they settled in Jerseyville. After 53 years of marriage, she passed in 2002.

Les enjoys driving the '14 Touring around Jerseyville. He has also driven it to Detroit with a group from the club, and in 2008 drove it to the Richmond Centennial, again with the club.

In Sept. 2007 an addition to the Jersey County Historical Society was dedicated. Les provided the building as an expansion project. It also houses his extensive collection of American Indian arrowheads and other artifacts, antique firearms, and other items of historical interest to the community.



Left, antique popcorn wagon.
Above, 1910 Sears.

UPCOMING CAR SHOWS AND PARADES!

By Sam Atkinson

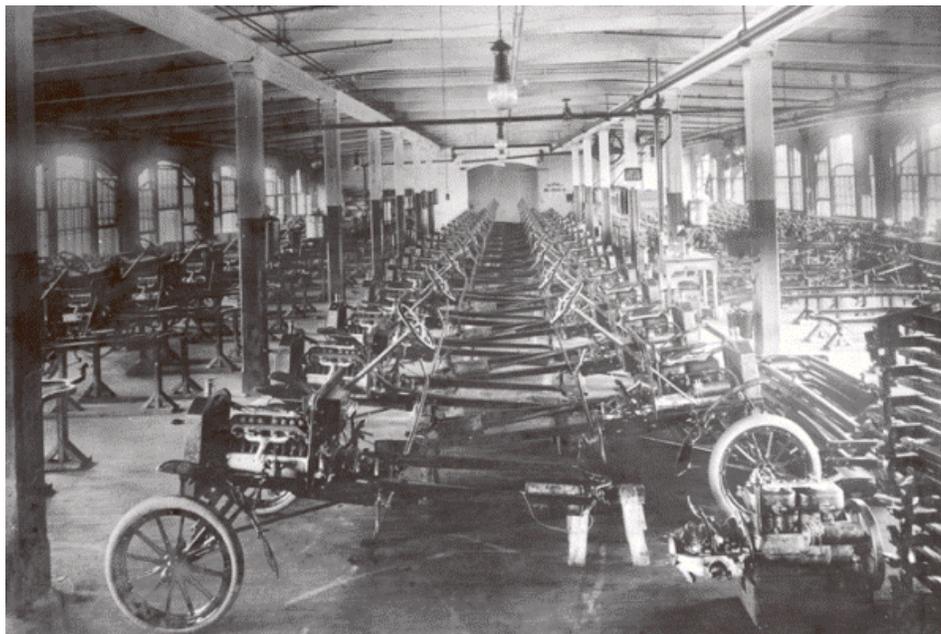
ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE, MARCH 14!

This is the 46th year for St. Patrick's day parade and The Model T Club has been in every one of them and we'll do it again this year. If you have a Model T we'd love to have you join us as participants. With the HUGE crowd along the route whooping and hollering all the way this is without a doubt the most fun parade of the year and we consider it to be opening day for the old car season. The City of St. Louis says this parade is the largest single-day event of the year—and you'll agree when you see it. Please join us the morning of March 14 downtown. We're always looking for new faces so call Flo Reichardt (314-723-0456) or Sam Atkinson (636-386-2088) to register. I hope to see you there! As soon as I (Sam) receive our assignment, I'll contact those who have signed up with the time and location to gather for the parade.

ANNUAL EASTER SHOW IN FOREST PARK APRIL 5 The annual Concours d'Elegance sponsored by The Horseless Carriage Club of MO is April 5 and once again we have been invited to display our cars. Undoubtedly the biggest and best attended OLD car show in the region, the Easter Show is another of the events that signal the beginning of the old car season. If you would like to display your car there are 2 options: 1) Enter your car for judging in its appropriate class by calling Lou Allen 314-741-4158 or 2) Display your car in our non-judged "Club Booth" along with fellow club members by calling Sam Atkinson 636-386-2088. Deadline for registration is March 21. Cars **MUST BE REGISTERED** in advance! Because of space limitations this year, we are only allowed 10 cars. (Ed. Note: As of this writing, we have 4 cars signed up, which leaves six remaining spaces. Call Sam now!)

VINTAGE FORD SHOW, MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION

"Celebrating Fords Through 1959" - Sunday, April 12, 2015, 11 AM - 3 PM. If you have a Model T Ford you need to be at this show. The Museum of Transport provides a quiet relaxing setting for this non-judged annual event and only Fords made from 1903 to 1959 are admitted. If you have a beautiful car, bring it. If you have a not-so-beautiful car, bring it (remember it's not a judged event). If your car doesn't run, bring it—we'll help you push it off the trailer. If your car is still under restoration, bring it—the people would love to see it. I love this show and you will too. Call Sam Atkinson (636-386-2088) for more information.



Model T
factory,
chassis
assemblies

THE 'BUG' BIT EARLY!

By Steven Williams

It was a blustery and cool day (34 degrees) when I had the opportunity to visit with Stephen Heatherly. A modest 21 years of age, the Old Car Bug bit him around age 12 when he saw a 1916 Roadster in the Sunset Ford used car building. Sometimes we wonder what kind of influence we have on folks. Stephen went to a car show in 2008 where he met Sam Atkinson and Steven Thum. He showed interest in the T's, they got to talking, and told him about a car for sale. Stephen lives with his mother and step-father, Sandy and Gary Mittrucker. Gary was with him at the car show, and suggested they go check out the T that was for sale. It turned out to be overpriced. But soon Stephen and Gary found a '26 Coupe, and they brought it home.



Left, Stephen and the '26 Coupe ready for a drive. Above and below, restoration underway on the Coupe. He was a freshman in high school at the time.

They make a good team - Stephen tells me he really enjoys the mechanical aspects of car restoration, and Gary focuses more on the body and paint, etc. The Coupe was in poor shape, a lot of things were missing. It took them about 18 months to get the car in good shape and running. In fact, Stephen didn't drive it until he had gone through all the mechanicals to be sure everything was good to go.

Stephen was about 15 when he bought the Coupe (Gary confesses to being the "banker"), and his mother Sandy thought the old piece of junk wouldn't run. They'd have it a while and then get rid of it. Guess what? They still have it. Sandy did admit Stephen has always enjoyed "old things." Their second project was a '26 Fordor, which they restored and sold to Steven Thum. Stephen followed that with a '25 Touring this past November, on which they are currently working in their garage. He has a '26 or '27 chassis in the back yard. He's cannibalized parts off it for other projects, and the engine is a rust problem as it sat outside at the previous owner's for about 5 years. He's not yet sure what he'll do with the chassis. I told him when he finished the Touring, that chassis will nag him until he builds something with it.



Left, the Fordor refurbished by Stephen and Gary.

Stephen enjoys getting out and driving his Coupe. He's been on three tours, including the overnight to St. Genevieve. He doesn't care for parades that much, though he did drive in the 2013 Girl Scout Centennial Parade here in St. Louis. He really enjoys working on the cars. When you get him talking about the mechanical aspects, he gets rather animated, and you can tell he has researched deeply and knows his stuff. He confessed to being "somewhat" mechanically inclined before buying his first T, but has really enjoyed learning by doing.

After our visit, we walked out to the Coupe sitting in the driveway. He started it for me with the crank, and it purred like a well-tuned T should. And with the temperature a balmy 34, he was headed off for a drive!

January 2015 Membership Meeting Minutes

By Dave Kuenzel, Secretary

Meeting started at 7 PM with a presentation on Identity Theft given by Agent Doug Roberts of the Secret Service. Such topics as shredding your documents, watching for mailbox theft, stealing checking account numbers, managing your credit card account, internet crimes, and protection of your Social Security number were all discussed.

Membership meeting was called to order at 8:30 PM by President Atkinson. Treasurer's report by Joe Trehwella indicated the financial health of our club. Karl Abe moved and Kathy Goerich seconded to accept the Treasurer's report.

Reading of the November and December minutes, Lou Allen moved and Steven Williams seconded that the minutes be accepted as read.

Thanksgiving Parade was canceled due to unrest in Ferguson and the protest that followed. The parade will not be rescheduled. No information has been received for the St. Patrick's parade as of this meeting. We have been invited (at a cost) to participate in the Mardi-Gras Parade being held on Feb. 14. Anyone interested should see Sam.

Occasional Report by Steven Williams reported this is your newsletter and he needs more news, photos, and articles. He reminded us this is the only way for our shut-in members to keep in touch with what is going on with the club and its activities.

Steven Thum reminded everyone that the club's video library is for anyone who needs "How To" information when working on your Model T.

Volunteers are needed for the 2015 Christmas party. See Sam if interested. We need to make reservations for the location soon.

Rapid Assembly Car requests are coming in and we need volunteers to help repair the car for the coming year. See Sam if you can volunteer a weekend to work on the car in March.

Board meeting was held Jan 15th at Feasting Fox. Report will be given at the Feb. Membership meeting.

June 24-27 in Lincoln, Nebraska there is a Model T speedster event. See Sam if interested in attending and for more information.

Car/Parts for sale. Bob Heida still has his roadster for sale. Bill Tabor said he will advertise nationally now for his Model T truck, asking \$18,000.

Jerry reported on Walt that he is doing okay. His hands are still shaking and his speech is impaired a little. Look for some Model T sale items in the near future as he wants to get rid of his collection of car parts.

50/50 drawing was \$60.50 and won by Marty and Kent.

Motion to adjourn made by Kent and seconded by Steven Williams.



MODEL T POSTCARD HUMOR

From *The Jitney Joke Book* - "I don't need any speedometer on my Ford. I can easily tell my speed." "How do you do it?" said the friend. "Well, when I go ten miles an hour my lamps rattle, when I go fifteen miles the fender rattles, and when I go twenty miles an hour my bones rattle."

February 2015 Membership Meeting Minutes

By Dave Kuenzel, Secretary

Meeting opened at 8:10 PM by Sam Atkinson, President. Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. Motion to accept made by Lou Allen, seconded by Keith Sanders. The Treasurer's report was given, reporting on the health of our finances. Motion to accept by Bob Heida, seconded by Bill Rhoads.

No Library report as the librarian was not present. Video Library report, Steven Thum reports some videos are missing. Please return the videos when you are finished looking at them.

We have been accepted into the St. Patrick's Day Parade. See Sam for the sign-up sheet.

April 5th is the Easter Car Show in Forest Park. Because the lot is being redone, the car displays will be on the surrounding streets. We are limited to five cars for display and no take-a-part demo this year.

April 12 is the All Ford Show at the Museum of Transportation. Volunteers are needed for the take-a-part demo. Sign up with Sam.

Newsletter report: Steven Williams said he needed information for the new edition for this Monday's deadline. A Model T informational handout is being worked on to hand out to people when our cars are displayed at events. Hopefully this will get them interested in the club and the car hobby. A sample will be in the next Occasional, and we hope to have them ready to hand out at the Easter Car Show.

Don Spaeth reported on the trailer repairs and what needed to be done. He will set a date in March to work on them. Sign up sheet is on the front table to help out if you can.

Sam mentioned the Christmas Party still needs a chairman and co-chair. If interested see Sam. We need to make reservations soon.

Next month is the Chickasha, Oklahoma swap meet. Pre-War parts for cars will be for sale. About five of our members are planning to attend.

Jerry Ellerbeck mentioned a car show at Affton High School on Saturday, July 18th. This is a fund raiser for the school. Several members participated last year.

Homebound report: Dennis and Walt are doing about the same.

Jenny Sanders reported the appreciation dinner will be at Little Italy's Maggiano's in Richmond Heights across from the Galleria on June 27th.

Steven Thum reported on two items. If anyone has a Kidde fire extinguisher, they should get it replaced as they are defective and should return it to the manufacturer for a new one. Also, the Spring Tour is the 3rd week in May, no location has been determined yet.

Keith Sanders is making the club's phone book, any changes in your information, let him know.

Cars/Parts for sale: Bob Heida has his roadster still for sale. Walt Kleinhans has his Smart Car for sale and a Ranken student has a '38 Buick for sale for \$12,500 and Barry Tanner has his '27 Touring for sale for \$15,000.

50/50 worth \$58.50 each. Won by Lou Allen and Mitzi Pedroley. Motel T cutout won by Ruthie Olsen and Sam won the Model T license plate.

Motion to adjourn by Steven Thum and seconded by Steven Williams.



The 2015 Great Race kicks off in Kirkwood, Missouri this year! The ceremonial start is scheduled for 9:00 AM Saturday, June 20, at the Kirkwood train station, off Lindbergh in downtown Kirkwood.

The Great Race is completely sold out, with a record number of entries and a record number of rookies. They are racing for a total of \$150,000 in prize money.

In addition to entries from the USA, there are four international entries: Canada, Germany, Japan, and the United Kingdom. There are four entries from Missouri, with Donald Kloth and Herb Clark from St. Louis in a 1930 Ford A Speedster. Six cars pre-date 1918, and 36 cars pre-date 1935. For more information: <http://www.greatrace.com/> A video of the 2014 Great Race is linked there also.

SOME EARLY ST. LOUIS PHOTOGRAPHS



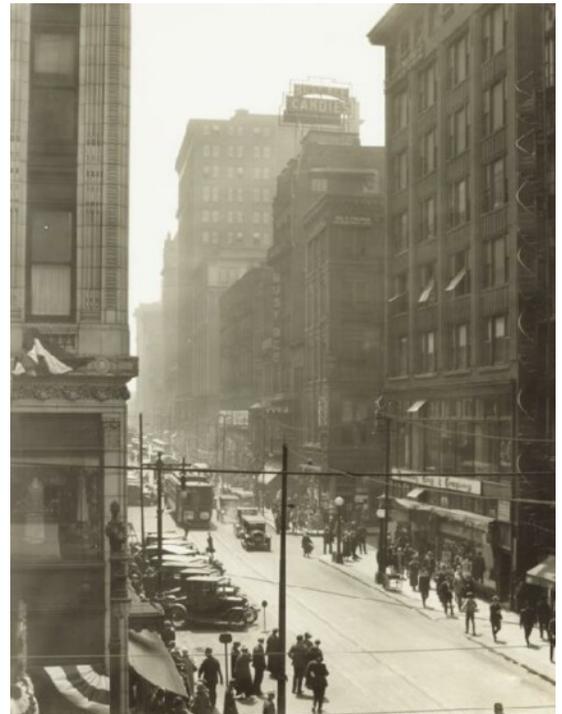
4th and Washington, 1925



4th North from Market during 1918 Flu Epidemic



Above: Grand and Morgan Streets, 5:10 PM July 27, 1925.
Right: 7th St. South from Washington, early 1920's.

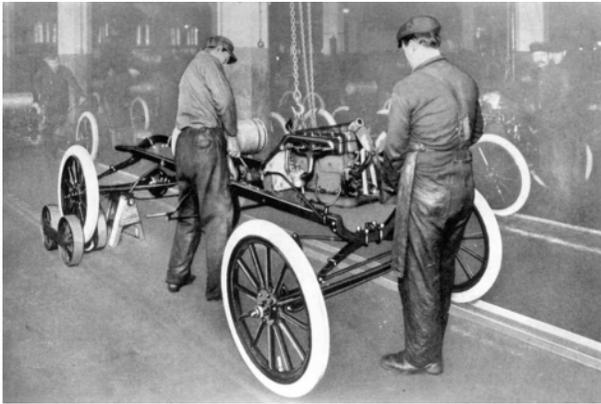


Left: Abandoned Talbot's Hippodrome, ca. 1920.

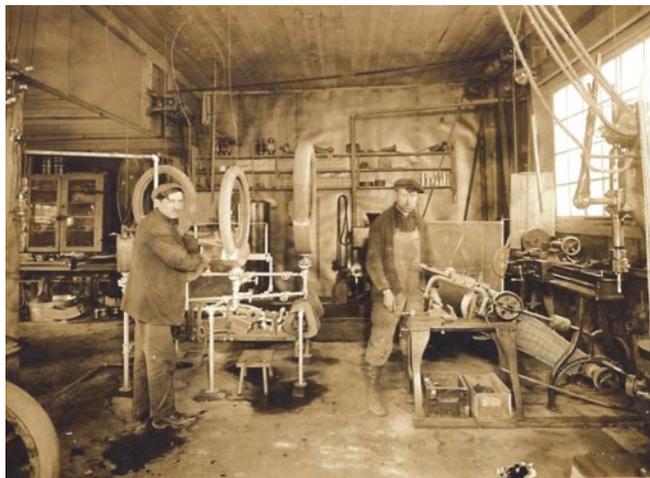


Right: 8th and Olive Streets, late teens.

SOME EARLY FACTORY PHOTOS



Above, hand assembly of the Model T chassis



Interior view of machine shop/tire shop (non-T)



Ford assembly line, ca. 1920

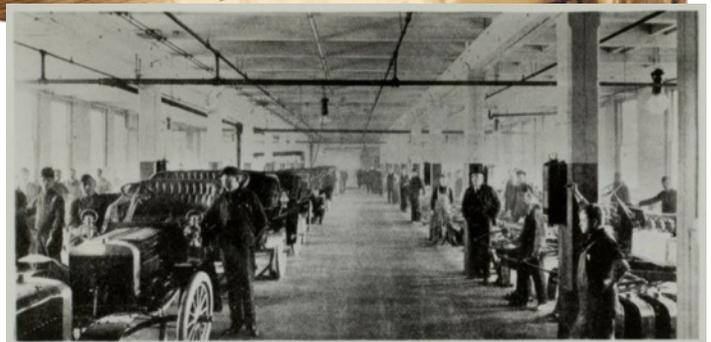


Above, Ford NRS manufacturing plant.
Right, early non-Ford body shop.



Left, Model B chassis being assembled.

Right: Model B Fords nearing completion at the Piquette Plant



OFFICERS

President - Sam Atkinson (2014-2015)
636-386-2088

Vice President - Steven Thum (2015-2016) 314-961-3197

Treasurer - Joe Trehwella (2015-2016) 618-466-6192

Secretary - Dave Kuenzel (2014-2015)
636-230-5887

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2014-2015:

Steve Dodson, 314-846-5588

Jim Kirkwood, 314-660-3934

Ron Olson, 314-837-8830

Bill Rhoads, 314-481-0087

Rich Steingrubey, 618-282-2400

2015-2016:

Kent Gilbane, 573-424-2599

Don Spaeth, 636-285-0851

Steve Stevenson, 314-640-0048

Steven Williams, 636-575-1469

MAY/JUNE OCCASIONAL DEADLINE

The deadline for news and items for the May/June issue of **THE OCCASIONAL** is April 15th. Please submit any information to Steven Williams, steven1912@att.net, or call 636-575-1469.

Pictures and articles are wanted, but we need names with photos please.

Thanks!



Wouldn't you like to know this story?
How would you write a caption for this picture, and what kind of story can you imagine for this couple? Much less the two cars...don't you just love the "garage" in the background?

BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE MODEL T FORD CLUB OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

Meetings are held the second Friday of each month, 8 PM, at Al Smith's Feasting Fox Restaurant (exterior banquet hall), 4200 South Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO.

Membership: Keith Sanders is the membership chairman, and you may contact him regarding membership in both the Model T Club of Greater St. Louis, and our parent organization, the Model T Ford Club of America. Contact information: Telephone: 314-329-6377. Email: jenkeith4@att.net.

We strongly encourage national membership. Dues are only \$40 which includes automatic Local Membership. In other words, join MTFCA and your membership in the Model T Ford Club of Greater St. Louis is free!!! Otherwise, dues to the St. Louis club are \$20 per year.

The advantage of belonging to the national organization is a bi-monthly award-winning publication - *The Vintage Ford*. It is a great publication, full of valuable information for Model T owners. Also, check out the national club's website at www.mtfca.com and especially the forum which is full of great information.



WWW.STLMODELTCLUB.ORG

MODEL T FORD CLUB
OF GREATER ST. LOUIS, INC.

P.O. BOX 2251
FLORISSANT, MO 63032



Union Springs, NY garage and Ford dealer

The Model T Ford Club of America was formed to encourage and promote active interest in the Model T Ford and its history by membership unrestricted as to location. It is non-profit and non-discriminatory, and is dedicated to widening the base of the hobby by providing information, assistance, and direction to interested parties. Active touring chapters are encouraged, in order to spread interest and participation events. Regional and national activities are provided by the chapters. Members of the MTFCA may be members of the Model T Ford Club of Greater St. Louis with no additional dues or payment. For further information on joining, see inside the back cover.

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