

# THE OCCASIONAL

## JULY/AUGUST 2014

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



1912 MODEL T COMMERCIAL ROADSTER,  
THE KIRBERG COLLECTION

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with great sadness that I must report the death of 2 of our beloved members within a span of only 9 days.

Bill Ludwig (84 yrs old) passed on June 4. He was in a rehabilitation center in Alton. Ever the jokester, Bill could always be counted on to entertain everyone around him with his crazy props and sometimes off-color pranks. Bill was a Master mechanic who never said no when asked for help and showed up at every event eager to pitch in and help. Bill had 2 cars; a 1917 Roadster and a beautiful 1923 Depot Hack which had a precision crafted body he made from a pile of lumber. Bill's death leaves a hole in our club membership but opens up an opportunity for the angels to learn some new jokes.

Nelson Jones (82 yrs old) passed on June 13 after losing a year long battle with Leukemia. Another Master mechanic, Nelson always had good running cars with every imaginable accessory. Nelson had 3 cars; a 1922 center door and a 1925 panel delivery both of which were equipped with Ruckstell axles AND Warford auxiliary transmissions. I think it's safe to say no matter what the terrain he could always find a suitable gear combination. He also had a 1938 Buick street rod. Nelson swore he would never wear a coat and tie so he showed up at one of our dressup events wearing a T-Shirt with a tie and lapels silk screened on the front. Of course he was allowed in.

Both were very active with our club participating in swap meets, car shows, the Rapid Assembly team, parades and tours. They will be sorely missed. God Bless their families.  
Sam

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Dear Fellow T Enthusiasts -

I love old cars! While I appreciate the evolution of cars from the early motorized bicycles to the most avant garde sports/luxury cars of today, I'm really fond of those automobiles and trucks prior to 1930. And I really love the brass era cars! Our club is blessed by having people who have restored part of our automotive history, and drive them. "Living, rolling museums" is what I call them. We

hold our cars in trust for future generations. And surely you know the old saying: "When I'm driving, it's a parade. When I'm parked, it's a car show!" Life doesn't get any better than with a Model T, of *any* vintage!

And speaking of vintage automobiles, I hope you enjoy this month's center spread. If you did not get a chance to go to the Kirberg Open House, you missed out. My wife had to drag me out of there drooling! The cars, the accessories, the shop... Mr. Kirberg was very gracious to share his love of automobiles with us and several other car clubs in the metro area.

There is a lot happening, more than I anticipated for this issue. To be cost effective, I added some filler which I hope you find interesting. And don't forget, if you have any parts or cars for sale or have needs for your T, let me know so we can include that information in the Trading Post in future issues.

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



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 11 - Membership meeting, 8 PM Feasting Fox.  
19 - Affton High School Father's Club Car Show. Contact Danny Armstrong (314-971-5329) for information.  
26-27 - Overnight Tour. More information elsewhere in this issue.
- August 8 - Membership meeting, 8 PM Feasting Fox  
15 - Deadline for the September/October "Occasional"  
16 - 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Veteran's Charity Car Show, Gray Summit, MO. Contact Leon Hill (314-406-2260) for info.
- September 3-7 - The Heart of the Ozarks Chapter of Springfield, MO is hosting the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Hillbilly Tour. Tour fees are \$140 for car and driver and \$120 per passenger. Limited to 80 cars. Contact Gene Gemmill at 417-881-6702.
- October 19 - Chili Cookoff. More information later.  
29 - Nov. 2 - Arkansas Tin Lizzies are having a Fall Foliage Tour in Harrison, Arkansas. Three days of touring the in the Arkansas Ozarks, with a bus trip to Branson, MO for a show. Contact Nellie Howell by August 1, 479-857-5757. Check the website for more details [arkansastinlizzies.com](http://arkansastinlizzies.com).

## Helpful Tips

(Ed. Note - Tips this month come from the 2003 issues of "Engine! Engine!" the publication of SPAAMFAA [Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America], to which I belong. Each issue I'd like to include hints and tips here, so if you have any to suggest, email me - [steven1912@att.net](mailto:steven1912@att.net).)

Wheel chocks should be made from tough, heavy material - wood, metal or molded rubber. They need to be formed in such a way that they will not slip when in use. Chocks should match the curvature of the tire and be large enough so the tire cannot easily roll up and over them. If parked on a grade, chocks need be used only on the downhill side. On the level, chock both sides of a wheel.

Most carburetor problems can be solved with a good careful cleaning. Overflowing usually occurs when dirt prevents the needle valve from seating, a worn needle valve and seat, float not floating because it's full of gasoline or the float level is set too high. Parts are generally easy to get from any of the Model T suppliers. Gaskets can be cut by hand if need be. The float can be repaired with gas tank sealer or very careful soldering.

### PENETRATING OILS

This came to me from a member of the EAA Club, via SPAAMFFA's *Silver Trumpet*, First Quarter 2013: "Machinist's Workshop" recently published information on various penetrating oils. Oils were tested for "break out torque" on rusted nuts and bolts. A subjective test was made of popular penetrating oils, with the unit of merit being the torque required to remove the nut from a "scientifically rusted" bolt. Average torque to loosen nut: No oil used - 516 foot pounds. WD-40 - 238 foot pounds. PB Blaster - 214 foot pounds. Liquid Wrench - 127 foot pounds. Kano oil - 106 foot pounds. ATF/Acetone mix - 53 foot pounds.

The ATF/Acetone mix is a "home brew" mix of 50/50 automatic transmission fluid and acetone. Note this "home brew" released bolts better than any commercial product in this particular test. That local machinist's group mixed up a batch, and they now all use it regularly with equally good results. Note that Liquid Wrench is almost as good as Kroil for 20% of the price. ATF/Acetone mix is best, but you can also use ATF and lacquer thinner in a 50/50 mix. ATF = Any type of Automatic Transmission Fluid.

## TRADING POST

(If you have items "For Sale," "Wanted," or "To Trade," email the information to the Editor at [steven1912@att.net](mailto: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, call Bob Heida, 636-458-2855.

# 2014 SPRING TOUR

by Steven Thum

Our annual Spring Tour this year was on May 18<sup>th</sup>, and started at the Walmart on Lindberg in Kirkwood and went to The Butterfly House and Carousel at Faust Park on Olive Street Rd in Chesterfield. Mo.

We had seven Model T's participate including two that had never toured before. We welcome Dave and Ann O'Malley and Sam Vitale on their inaugural tour. This year we had no car trouble and did not need a vulture wagon. We had 20 people participate. The Butterfly house had a lot of free flying butterflies and moths and was a very interesting place to visit. We then went to the carousel where some of us had a very enjoyable ride. Kind of made us feel like kids again. We then went to The Corner Pub and Grill for lunch. The food was good and the prices were reasonable.

If you have not driven your car on a tour yet then consider it for next year as this tour is kept as an easy tour to shake out the winter in our cars and to let you get the feel of driving your car. (Editor's note: Photos by Steven Thum, unless otherwise noted.)



Group picture



Participating Model T's



Dave and Ann O'Malley



Steve and Mary Ellen Stevenson

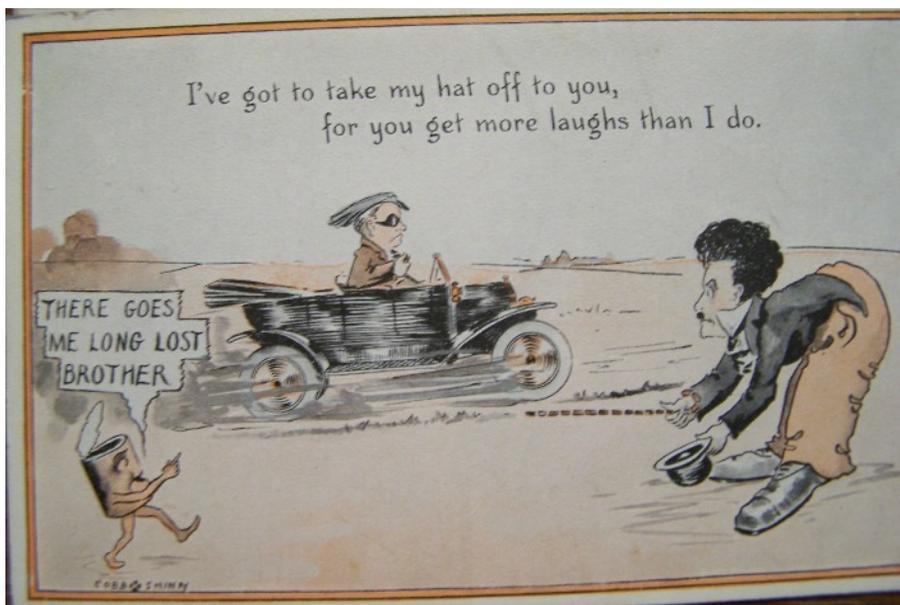
## Spring Tour, continued



Group on the restored 1921 Carousel (photo by Cindy Atkinson)



At the restaurant after visiting the Butterfly House. Left side of photo: Kent Gilbane, Ann O'Malley, Steven Heatherly, Don Spaeth. Right side of photo: Sam Vitale, Joe Duever, Daniel Mullis, Flo Reichardt. We worked up quite an appetite looking at all those butterflies. (From Sam and Cindy Atkinson)



**MODEL  
T  
POSTCARD  
HUMOR**

# Annual Overnight Tour - St. James, MO

## July 26-27, 2014

By Sam Atkinson

It's time once again to make your reservation for the club's annual overnight tour. This will be our 23<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year of using these cars for their intended purpose—DRIVING! These tours are more fun than you can imagine and if you haven't been on one for a while you need to come on this one and see what you've been missing. This year should be a good one as we drive the beautiful back roads of central Missouri to the town of St. James.

At 7:00 AM Saturday, July 26, 2014 we will meet at the Sam's Club store on Manchester Rd just west of I-270. Overnight parking is allowed if you choose to 'trailer' to Sam's. We will leave at 7:30 and will travel over some of the most beautiful roads Missouri has to offer. All roads will be rural, little-traveled, have lots of rolling hills (but no steep hills) and be heavily forested. You won't be disappointed with the route! Every car will be given clear, concise driving instructions in case you get separated from the group.

After arrival, check-in and lunch we have a reservation at the Vacuum Cleaner Museum in St. James. It sounds a little wacky but it's a serious museum and will surprise you with its complete collection of vacuums spanning over 100 years.

We will be staying at the Greenstay Hotel and Suites. With an indoor pool, helpful staff and ideal location, Greenstay is the perfect place for our group. At 6:30 that evening we have a reservation at Sybill's Restaurant. Without a doubt the best restaurant in the region, Sybill's is in the top tier of restaurants in the entire state. You're going to love this place! Sunday morning breakfast is included in the price of the room and served in the hotel lobby. After breakfast we will start the return trip but this time following "The Mother Road" old Route 66. Everyone should be home by early afternoon.

We hope everyone can go! These tours are a great opportunity to drive your car surrounded by plenty of Model T mechanics and (if all else fails) a 'trouble' trailer (ed. note- I thought they were called "Vulture Wagons!").

If you decide you want to go you must do 2 things: 1) call the Greenstay St. James (573-265-2900) and reserve your room 2) call Sam Atkinson (636-386-2088) so he can get an accurate head count for our Saturday night dinner reservation. You cannot "Just show up"! This is gonna be awesome!!

# MODEL T CAMPERS

Summer time is the time for camping! In that spirit here are some photos of campers in the great outdoors in the Model T era. So if you are looking for a project for a chassis or car that needs a lot of work, how about building a camper? And then of course using it. After all, what is the fun in having a camper, and not going camping?



Here are a couple of ideas what to do with that extra rear end you have taking up space in the garage. A camping trailer!



Is he wearing a bow tie while camping?



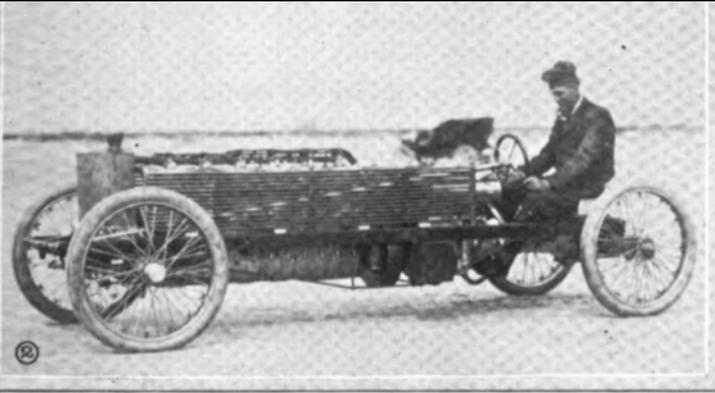
I don't think this is a Model T - note the radiator and the front springs. But such a rig might fit a TT chassis!



Big family or a lot of friends? Another non-T, but you have to admire the ingenuity! Now, with a stretch TT chassis!

# RACING!

Ford, like most auto manufacturers in the era, made improvements in his car by racing. Racing also had the advantage of advertising his cars, thus increasing sales. Pictured here is Ford and one of his earliest, famous drivers, Frank Kulick. The article below is dated 1904.



1. HENRY FORD ON 60 H. P. FORD RACER.  
2. SIDE VIEW OF FORD RACER. HENRY FORD AT WHEEL.



Kulic driving a Model K on the way to a world record in 1907.

November 16, 1904. THE HORSELESS AGE XXXVII

**Bulletin of G. & J. Records**

**ONE MILE 55 SEC.**

**FRANK KULICK IN THE 20 H. P. FORD**

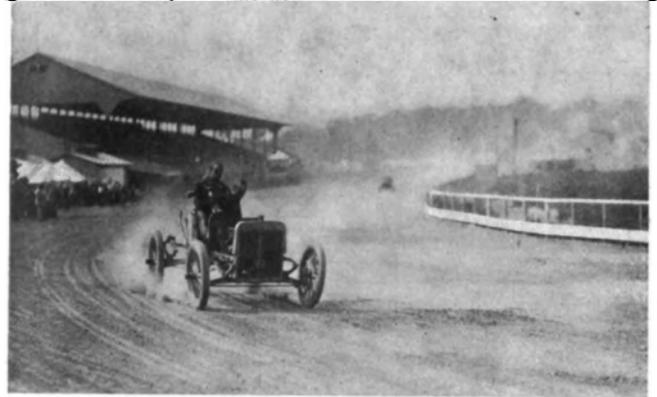
On the Empire City Track, Tuesday, Nov. 8, makes as sensational a win in the automobile world, as T. R. in the political world—  
defeating Bernin in 60 H. P. Renault and Sartori in 90 H. P. F. I. A. T., and making a new mile track record for light and middle weight cars—55 sec., giving additional proof of the fact that the new

**WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP and WORLD'S 10-MILE TRACK RECORDS.**  
Peerless Green Dragon by Barney Oldfield.  
6:12 2/5

**WORLD'S TRACK RECORDS.**  
Peerless Green Dragon by Barney Oldfield.  
1/2 Mile 1:34 1/5  
1 " 2:47  
1 1/2 " 4:18 1/5  
1 " 10:18 1/5  
2 " 11:15  
3 " 12:18 1/5  
4 " 13:09  
5 " 14:06  
6 " 15:01  
7 " 15:57  
8 " 16:53  
9 " 17:49 2/5  
10 " 18:45 2/5

**WORLD'S TRACK RECORDS FIVE MILES FOR LIGHT WEIGHT AND MIDDLE WEIGHT CARS.**  
Ford Racer by Frank Kulick.  
First mile, 59  
Second " 57 2/5  
Third " 55 1/5  
Fourth " 55 1/5  
Fifth " 55 1/5  
Total, 4:43 2/5

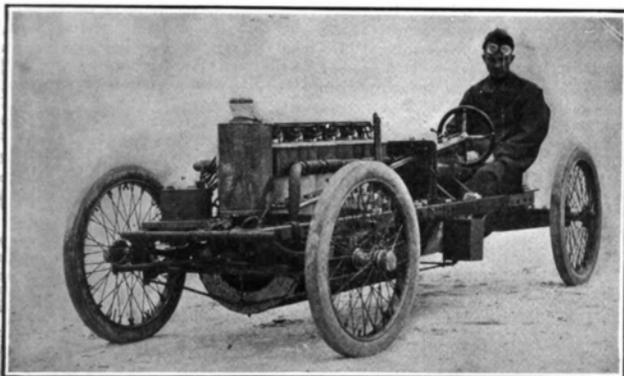
**WORLD'S 1-MILE TRACK RECORD FOR LIGHT AND MIDDLE WEIGHT CARS.**  
60 H. P. Ford by Frank Kulick  
55 sec.



KULICK DRIVING FORD SIX IN THE DETROIT RACE.

February 1, 1906.

THE AUTOMOBILE.



FRANK KULICK AT THE WHEEL OF THE FORD 105-HORSEPOWER RACER.

Right, in this Ford racer Frank drove 109 miles per hour and lived to tell about it.

All photos on this page are from various sources on the internet.



Frank Kulick in Ford race car, about 1910

# MINUTES OF THE JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

by Joe Trehwella, Acting Secretary

President Sam Atkinson called the June meeting of the Model T Ford Club of Greater St Louis to order at 8:10 PM. Minutes from the May meeting were unavailable as secretary Dave Kuenzel is hospitalized. Joe Trehwella is acting secretary for this meeting. Treasurer, Alice Hezel gave the treasurer's report, and our finances are healthy. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Lou Allen and seconded by Steven Williams. The motion to accept the report was approved.

Sam reported on Dave Kuenzel's hospitalization-stating Dave suffered a mild heart attack while being treated for kidney stones at St Luke's hospital. Dave seems to be doing well but the length of his stay is unknown. (Ed. Note - Dave had bypass surgery Monday, June 23). Sam also reported that Nelson Jones had died that morning. His health had been deteriorating since most of us saw him at the swap meet. Nelson's funeral arrangements were announced with burial to be at Jefferson Barracks with full military honors. The family will appreciate old cars in the procession from the funeral home in Columbia to Jefferson Barracks. Sam then noted the passing of Bill Ludwig on June 4th and his funeral last Monday. Sam then advised that Bill Tabor has had a pacemaker implanted following a very low pulse

Belated condolences were expressed to Bonnie Dattoli when it was learned her mother had passed away last week. Alice has three sympathy cards to pass around for all to sign. Gary Micanek, the publications librarian, was absent but Sam will accept any publications if anyone need to return any. Steven Thum, the video librarian, noted the video library is available for checkouts. Sam talked about the estate auction that is planned for Bill Ludwig's estate on Saturday, June 14th. The auction had been planned for some time after it became apparent Bill was no longer able to return home. The auction includes Bill's '22 Depot Hack and '17 Roadster.\

Flo Reichardt reported the club picnic is June 29th at George and Audrey Paugh's home. The meat is scheduled to be delivered at 1:30 PM. Bring your chairs and side dishes. Parking is in the field past the barn. Jenny Sanders reported about 44 people attended the swap meet recognition event at Chandler winery. It was an enjoyable day.

Steven Thum reported the Spring tour to the Butterfly House had about 30 participants with eight Model T's. There were lots of butterflies and some rode the carousel. People, not the butterflies. Steven noted the Spring tour is always an easy tour and ideal for first-timers.

Sue Luepker described the May 25<sup>th</sup> Doug Kierberg gathering. Many different car clubs were in attendance and many drove their vintage or classic cars. Joyce Langguth added her contribution by reprimanding Doug Kierberg's grandchildren.

Steven Williams reminded everyone the deadline for submissions to the Occasional is Sunday, June 15. The next issue will include a centerfold like no other.

Sam noted the survey for meeting time ballots can be turned in. Dave Kuenzel has the ballots that were turned in last month so the results of the survey won't be known until the next meeting.

This year's overnight tour is scheduled for July 26<sup>th</sup>. The tour will take the scenic route to St James including a visit to a vacuum cleaner museum and dinner at Sybil's restaurant in St James. There may also be fording a creek involved. Sam has 20 rooms blocked at the Greenstay Hotel & Suites and those planning to attend should confirm reservations by July 14<sup>th</sup>. Departure will be from the Sam's Club lot on Manchester at 7 AM. Complete details will be in the Occasional.

Nelson Itterly donated a die cast model of a Model T roadster for a door prize.

Cars and/or parts for sale: Bob Heida is asking \$9000 for his '23 roadster. Walt Kleinhans knows of a non-member that wants to sell a '23 depot hack for \$13,000. Steve Dotson has a '62 Corvair convertible for sale.

Steve Stevenson reported the Fall tour would go to Mastodon State Park on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be at Scotty's restaurant. The chili cook off will be October 19<sup>th</sup> at Janet & Bob Heida's.

The meeting concluded with the 50/50 drawing. Steve Thum and Joe Trehwella each won \$50. The Model T model was won by Steve Dotson.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM on a motion by Daniel Mullis and seconded by Steve Stevenson.

Respectively submitted, Joe Trehwella, Acting Secretary

# Swap Meet

The annual Swap Meet was held at Gateway Motorsports Park in Madison, IL on May 4<sup>th</sup>. There were about 700 vendors, and with all the volunteers setup and breakdown went smoothly. As this was your editor's first swap meet with the club, I took the opportunity before working to walk the aisles, snap some photos, and look for a few bargains.



While it may not look too big because it did not fill the entire parking lot, try walking it quickly!



Tools, "toys", cars, a refrigerator and even the kitchen sink! You wanted it, someone probably had it for sale. And yes, that is a hand crank coil tester!



Lunch time. Visible faces are, L to R: Diana Thum, Daniel Mullis, Flo Reichardt, and Dave Groerich



L to R: Steve Stevenson and Kent Gilbane

L to R: Alice Hezel, Don Spaeth, and Steven Thum



# 2014 Swap Meet Recognition Luncheon

## Saturday May 24<sup>th</sup>

### Chandler Hill Winery

The club celebrated the completion of another successful swap meet by gathering at the Chandler Hill Winery in Defiance, MO for a great lunch and even better fellowship.



The band and a view from the deck where we dined.



L to R: Sue Luepker, Alice Hezel, Lou Allen, Jackie Allen.

Below, L to R: Gloria & Tom Klemme, Ken Rothschild, Cindy Atkinson, Kathy Groerich



L to R: Diana Trewhella (flower top), Dave & Ann O'Malley, Mitzi & Charles Pedroley, Martha Micanek, (obscured-Dave Micanek?), Ray & Doris Czeschin.



Below L to R around the table: Diana & Joe Trewhella, Dave and Ann O'Malley, Charles Pedroley, (back to camera) Martha and Gary Micanek.



L to R: Dave Groerich, Walt Kleinhans, Keith Sanders, Mary Lou Ammann, (back to camera) Janet & Bob Heida

## OFFICERS

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

Vice President - Steven Thum (2013-2014)  
314-961-3197

Treasurer - Alice Hezel (2013-2014)  
314-644-6606

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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2013-2014:

Don Hoelscher, 636-939-9667  
Don Spaeth, 636-346-3798  
Steve Stevenson, 314-640-0048  
Joe Trehwella, 618-466-6192

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

## NEW MEMBERS

Please add these new members to your directory.

Greg Knoblauch, 556 Lexington Landing Drive, St. Charles, MO 63303.  
314-277-2452.  
Email: geknob58@gmail.com

Bill and Mary Lou Schicker, 17 Timber Creek, St. Louis, MO 63128. Home: 314-842-0600, work: 314-664-4100; cell: 314-477-3005.  
Email: billschicker@mcmahonford.

Sam and Mary Ann Vitale, 9414 Sappington, St. Louis, MO 63127. 314-277-2452.  
Email: mviii@aol.com

## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER OCCASIONAL

### DEADLINE!

The deadline for news and items for the September/October issue of **THE OCCASIONAL** is August 15. 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. Thanks!

## SURVEY RESULTS

Dave Kuenzel and Daniel Mullis reporting

A few months back a request was submitted to the Board of Directors that we survey the members regarding meeting times and dates. Two club meetings were allowed for the return of the survey, which was printed in the May/June issue of The Occasional.

We had fourteen surveys returned. Twelve (12) members voted to keep the meeting as it is, 8 PM Friday night. One (1) voted to have the meeting at 7 PM Friday night. And One (1) member voted to move the meeting to a weekend afternoon date.

Based on the wishes of the membership, our club meeting will remain as it is, 8 PM Friday night.



Firefighting with a Model T

# Aberdeen Heights Senior Living

by Steven Thum

On June 14<sup>th</sup> we participated in a benefit car show for the residents of Aberdeen Heights Senior Living Home. We had five Model T's, one 1938 Dodge pickup, two Mustangs and a Firebird participate. We arrived by 9:30 and the residents started streaming out right away. By noon the show was over. Participating from our club were Dave O'Malley, Don Spaeth, Keith and Jenny Sanders, Dave Becherer, and Steven and Diana Thum. The contact at Aberdeen had requested that Diana show up in her flapper outfit and Diana seemed to be the hit of the show. We were fed jumbo hot dogs, chips and soda. The residents were wheeled out where they asked lots of questions and did a lot of remembering. This was a heart warming and uplifting show, well worth our time. My thanks to all who participated.



The row of Model T's



Dave Becherer, Diana & Steven Thum



Derrel St. Albans 1938 Dodge Pickup



Residents & Dave O'Malley getting lunch



Two Mustangs and a Firebird



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**MODEL T FORD CLUB  
OF GREATER ST. LOUIS, INC.  
P.O. BOX 2251  
FLORISSANT, MO 63032**



**Summer time and time to go camping! A modern era conversion of a Model T for camping. (Photo source unknown, from internet)**

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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.

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