THE OCCASIONAL

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025

fl publication of the Model T ford Club of

GREATER ST. LOUIS, INC.

WINNER, MODEL T FORD CLUB OF AMERICA 2014 NEWSLETTER AWARD - THIRD PLACE; 2016 & 2023
NEWSLETTER AWARD - FIRST PLACE; 2022 NEWSLETTER AWARD - SECOND PLACE.. THE 2014 - 2017, 2019
-2024 OLD CARS MAGAZINE GOLDEN QUILL AWARD

Celebrating the Model T in St. Louis Since 1963



The first Sunday in May -A beautiful day for our annual Swap Meet!

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

We are lucky people! Of all the cars we could fall in love with and enjoy together, we chose the Model T Ford! Our car came about during the explosive dawn of the automobile age. I say "explosive dawn" because the technological changes in the automobile from Karl Benz's 1886 Patent Motorwagen and the 1909 Model T were astounding across the board.

We had the very high dollar, high powered massive cars that the rich folk were chauffeured around in, the short lived high-wheelers designed for the nation's country roads, race cars and trucks and so forth.

Several marques were more advanced than the Model T. Some had better fit and finish. Several were better looking! But you simply could not get a better car for the money! Vanadium steel, enbloc motor, the four cylinder 22 horsepower would take you anywhere you wanted to go, thanks to the three point suspension. It was simply a great car for the time. And it is still a great car.

A few years ago I was on a Glidden Tour in New England, in a parking lot watching the cars come in for a rest stop, listening to two other drivers talk: "Here comes another one of those damn Model T's." "Yes, but they go and go and go!"

'Nuff said. This month is a transition period, from touring to putting them to bed until next season. And doing any repairs or work required to put them back on the road next year.

See you on the road! Steven

EDITOR'S NOTES

Dear Fellow T Enthusiasts -

As you know, this was my "Summer from Hell!" Complications from spinal surgery June 2 sent me to Mercy South June 4, then home health until I awoke early June 11 screaming in agony. Massive UTI and bowel blockage sent me back to Mercy South for treatment and misdiagnosis. Out to



Delmar Gardens South for a week of rehab, then back home. Still in massive pain, and home health said that wasn't right. Called surgeon and reported my situation. Back out to BJ St. Peters hospital where I had the surgery for several days of agony and delirium. Massive UTI and blood infection - septic. Finally sent to Brookings Nursing home and rehab. (Food was absolutely terrible!).

Thus no June and July Occasional. I'm not sure how big this issue will be as I start working on it August 18. I am still weak, oh so weak. The stairs down to my study can be difficult. So I'm doing this as I can, and material in this will not be in any particular order - just as I get to it from old emails from you gracious folks. I'm not sure when I'll have this issue completed, but I'm working on it.

Oh, and to add insult to injury, I spent two days in Mercy South with my heart. Discovered by 2001 quadruple bypass is still in great shape! But, small blood vessels are now giving me problems. New medication which is supposed to open them up. Meanwhile nitroglycerin is my best friend.

I can't wait until next year, and getting out with the cars!

- Steven G. Williams, steven1912@charter.net. 636-575-1469

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2025

September

12 - Board Meeting 6:30 PM Freedom Masonic Lodge Membership Meeting, 8 PM Freedom Masonic Lodge, 4557 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis

October

- 5 Brass & Nickel Show, Museum of Transportation.
- 10 Board Meeting 6:30 PM Freedom Masonic Lodge
 Membership Meeting, 8 PM Freedom Masonic Lodge, 4557 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis
 12 Chili Cook-off, Spring Forest Estates pavilion, Noon to 3 PM.

November

- 1 Brass & Nickel Show, Museum of Transportation, 9 am 4 pm.
- 9 Veteran's Parade, begins 10:30 AM downtown. Contact Sam Atkinson to sign up.
- 14 Board Meeting 6:30 PM Freedom Masonic Lodge
 Membership Meeting, 8 PM Freedom Masonic Lodge, 4557 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Please add this information to your directory:

Burris, Terry and Sherry. 116 Troeckler, Granite City, IL 62040. Cell: 618-558-0868. Email: realsteal123@yahoo.com. 1923 Runabout, 1924 Runabout

Frrom The Auto Joke Book, Baltimore, MD I. & M. Ottenheimer, 1913.

THE CHAUFFEUR

In answer to many letters that we receive asking that we give the proper pronunciation of the word "chauffeur" we would state that it differs in various parts of the country. The following lines will perhaps make the matter more clear:

New York Pronunciation

There once was a reckless young chauffeur
Who chanced to catch up with a gopher.
He, of course, ran him down
Then inquired with a frown,

"Now what were you going so slow for?"

Brooklyn Pronunciation

In Brooklyn they tell of a chauffeur, a very eccentric old duffeer, Who blows his honk horn From night until morn And makes all the neighborhood suffer. Chicago Pronunciation

Another peculiar chauffeur
Creates a continual stir.
He is blind in both eyes,
And when driving he tries
A smashup is bound to occur.

Philadelphia Pronunciation

Still another too speedy chauffeur
When arrested seems hardly to care.
If put into jail
He is let out on bail
And is soon again speeding for fair.

SWAP MEET

Our thanks to Mike Thum for these photos of the Swap Meet. Weather was good. Unfortunately road construction on I-255 impacted attendance, which was down - both vendors and buyers. As reported in club meetings, our income was down also.





























Buyer entrance, left to right: Gayle Ellerbeck; Kathy Groerich; Mary Lou Ammon





Swap Meet, continued



Another bird nest on the gravel parking lot. With eggs!









Left, Krispy Kreme donuts and coffee for sale, but free to our members, who are working hard.

A Book of the Best Ford Jokes, by George Milburn. Girard, KS: Haldeman-Julius Publications, nd.

The scene is a roadside gasoline station. A man in a Packard drives up, and he buys thirty gallo

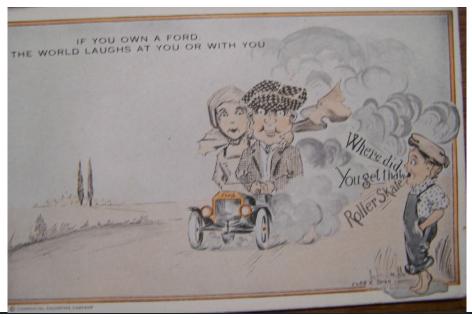
The scene is a roadside gasoline station. A man in a Packard drives up, and he buys thirty gallons of gasoline, and drives on.

A man in a Diana Eight follows him, buys twenty gallons, and drives on.

A man in a Cadillac buys fifteen and proceeds.

Then a man in a flivver drives up. "Gimme a gallon of gas," he says. "What's the idea mister?: asks the gas man. "Tryin' to wean it?"

MODEL T Postcard Humor



Election of Officers

It is that time of year again! Sam Atkinson, Jerry Ellerbeck Jr., and Scott Francis have agreed to serve as our Nominating Committee. They will present the slate of candidates at the October meetings. Positions to be filled are: President, Secretary, and 4 members of the Board of Directors.

If you are interested in running for one of these positions, please contact one of these men by the **end of September!** Note: You MUST be a member of the Model T Ford Club of America, and by the October meeting, both your National and Local dues MUST be paid. Local dues run July 1 through June 30 of each year. Local dues for National Members is \$20. Please mail checks to Bonnie Dattoli (made out to the club), at P.O. Box 29196, St; Louis, MO 63126-0196.

2025 OVERNIGHT TOUR TO HANNIBAL MO

This year's overnight tour is in the books and if you didn't go you missed a fun time. At 7:30 AM 7 Model Ts, 2 'moderns' 1 trouble trailer and 18 adventure seekers left the parking lot and pulled onto Highway 141 enroute to Hannibal for the weekend.

The route we took was totally back-woods rural!! Few other cars, lots of corn fields, beautiful scenery, an occasional small town and no cell service. Everyone commented about how great the route was. At about 11:00 we stopped for lunch at a small restaurant/ice cream shop in Louisiana and I think we overwhelmed them because it took about 30 minutes to get our food—but we didn't mind because everyone was enjoying the high-energy conversation we were having. The rest of the way to Hannibal was pretty uneventful......except for 2 KILLER, it's-all-part-of-the-adventure low-gear hills.

Our hotel cost was slightly above our comfort level but the indoor pool, perfect location and clean rooms softened the blow a little.

The dinner cruise that evening was fabulous!! The band was good and played from the time we stepped on the boat until we stepped off, the food was very good with generous portions freely given and the drinks were reasonably priced. When and if we ever go back to Hannibal we will be sure to do the dinner cruise again.

The weather forecast for that weekend was "iffy" at best—40% chance of rain both days but we were unphased and, as with most of our tours, had very enjoyable weather. It was hot (mid 90s) but mostly sunny and dry.

Participants on this tour were: Kent Gilbane and Suzanne Pourcillie 25 coupe, Don Spaeth 24 Touring, Steve Heatherly 25 coupe, Mike Thum 25 Touring, John Michaelree with Varon Fugman riding shotgun 26 Touring, Jerry and Gayle Ellerbeck 23 Touring, Sam and Cindy Atkinson 27 Roadster, Dick Lodge and Jane Fody driving modern, Daniel Mullis modern, Mary Lou Ammann and Tom Fischer who met us in Hannibal but convoyed home with us. A very sincere special thanks go to Keith and Jenny Sanders for pulling the trouble trailer.

Our club has 4 tours each year and I urge EVERYONE, no matter what you drive, to go on at least one of them.

Sam Atkinson, "In Rust We Trust"

OVERNIGHT TOUR



Kent Gilbane and Suzanne Pourcille.



Stephen Heatherly



Varon Fugman & John Michaelree



Jerry and Gayle Ellerbeck



Cindy and Sam Atkinson



Mike Thum

Your Dues are Now Due!!

Our Club's year runs July 1 through June 30. If you have not paid your dues, please do so asap. Members who also belong to the Model T Ford Club of America, your LOCAL dues are a mere \$20. If you are NOT a member of the MTFCA, your local dues are \$35. Please make your check out to the Model T Ford Club of Greater St. Louis, and mail to the club at P.O. Box 29196, St. Louis, MO 63126-0196.

Your dues helps us meet our annual expense - meeting rent, certain foods at the picnic and chili cook off, and so forth. Thank you for helping the Club thrive!

From *The Automobile Magazine*, September, 1903. New York: The Automobile Press.

To Bailey

(Putative Father of New York's Automobile Law)

Acts of politicians still remind us,
We can all be asinine;
And, departing, leave behind us
Hoofprints on the sands of time.

JULY 4th PARADE IN ST. CHARLES MISSOURI

By Sam Atkinson

With the demise of the VP Parade in downtown St. Louis we went looking for something to do on July 4th. Steve Duga did some research and found the Independence Day Parade in St. Charles, a parade that was big enough to be worthwhile, close enough that we could easily drive to it and they agreed to take late registration. A blast text was sent out and within minutes 4 people volunteered to brave the heat and drive their Model Ts in the parade. The parade route was about 2 miles long and had a HUGE number of enthusiastic spectators. We just may make this an annual event. The participants were Steve Duga 24 touring, Scott Francis 22 roadster, Mike Thum 25 touring, and Sam Atkinson 27 roadster. (Ed note: What do you mean, "May"?)



Above: Left to right: Scott Francis, Tammy Callaway, and Stephen Duga.

Below: Berri West and Michael Thum.





From the *Auto Joke Book*, Baltimore: L & M Ottenheimer, 1913.

Wesley M. Oler, the president of the Knickerbocker Ice Company, said of scientific management at a recent dinner in New York:

"Scientific management would increase eery woman's profits by a thousand per cent, provided - and this is the important point - provided that the employee would go in or it as zealously as his boss."

"Would the employee take a very ardent interest in a system which would cause him to do three or four times more work than before - a system that would quadruple his employer's income without benefiting his own?"

Mr. Oler smiled. "Ill tell you a story," he said, "a story very much to the point. A friend of mine was traveling through New England last month in his touring car, with his wife and two daughters. They stopped one day for luncheon at a very nice hotel, and after the meal was over my friends said to the waiter: 'Bring the bill please. We have had four sandwiches and four pieces of apple pie. Wait a minute though. What has the chauffeur had downstairs?'"

"The chauffeur, sir," replied the waiter, "has had a Parmesan omelet, a grilled brook trout, lamb cutlets and peas, an ice, a cup of black coffee, a 15-cent cigar and a pint of champagne."

FOR SALE

TRAILER - Dave Groerich has a tandem trailer for sale, asking \$2,200. One owner, 16'x76" between fenders tandem axle car trailer. Newer electric brakes, bulldog 7,000 lb. 2" coupler. All four tires match on Chevy rally wheels. 6 D ring tie-downs, loading stabilizer. Swing away tongue jack. 7,000 lb. Dexter axles. All steel deck heavy duty self-storing loading ramps. If interested call or text Dave at 314-607-7071.





TOURING CAR - I am putting my 1918 Touring Model T Ford up for sale, my asking price is \$8,000. (I visited your Model T Club meeting sometime last year and met some of your members.) I am attaching a few pictures for your review which should serve to reflect the overall body condition. It runs and is drivable though it is in need of replacement spindles... the T runs on the battery in that the magneto is in need of repair. Jim Washeck, 12 Westwood Estates Drive, St.

Peters, MO. cell phone number – 636-696-6577





From My Auto Book, Walter Pulitzer. New York: The Outing Publishing Co. 1908

"What on earth made you crawl under the car? There's nothing the matter with it."

"I know, but that chap who just passed was Smith and if he had seen me with this new runabout he would have expected me to pay him that \$500 I owe him."

Man wants but little here below: A car in which to spin!
But a woman wants the auto –
And
the
man
thrown
in!

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF THE MODEL T FORD CLUB OF GREATER ST. LOUIS FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Vice President Kent Gilbane. Members present were: Vice President Kent Gilbane, Treasurer Bonnie Dattoli, Secretary Ruth Baker and Directors Daniel Mullis, Scott Francis, Sam Atkinson, and Keith Sanders. There was no quorum, so no business could be conducted, but the minutes from the last meeting would be read and the treasurer's report would be given. It would be necessary to forego approving the 2025-2026 budget and there would be further discussion about keeping or forfeiting the post office box.

Brief updates were given regarding the health of Steven Williams and Ken Baker. Minutes of the meeting of Friday, June 13, 2025 were read. Keith Sanders made the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Sam Atkinson, and carried unanimously.

Treasurer Bonnie Dattoli gave the Treasurer's Report. Sam Atkinson made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Scott Francis, and carried unanimously.

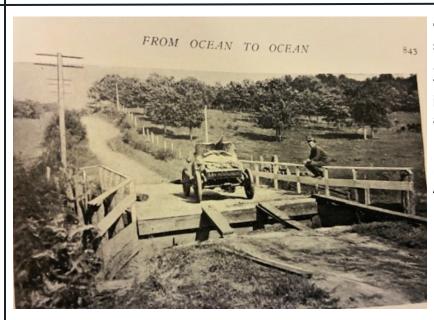
Treasurer Bonnie Dattoli stated that it is time for the annual audit of the books, so she asked for volunteers. Keith and Jenny Sanders and Sam Atkinson volunteered to audit the books. Treasurer Bonnie Dattoli also stated that the Club is only required to retain twenty years of financial records, so she plans to shred the files from 2001 and 2002.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m., but reconvened at 8:43 p.m. Members present were: Vice President Kent Gilbane, Treasurer Bonnie Dattoli, Secretary Ruth Baker and Directors Daniel Mullis, Scott Francis, Sam Atkinson, Keith Sanders and Stephen Heatherly. A quorum was present at this time.

The Directors discussed the 2025-2026 budget, adding a budget amount for the 2026 swap meet and keeping the post office box. Daniel Mullis made the motion to approve the budget for the upcoming year. The motion was seconded by Keith Sanders and carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth E. Baker, Secretary



"The bridge is out? We don't need no stinkin' bridge!" The article is titled From Ocean to Ocean and describes the transcontinental journey of a pair of intrepid motorists in an Overland automobile.

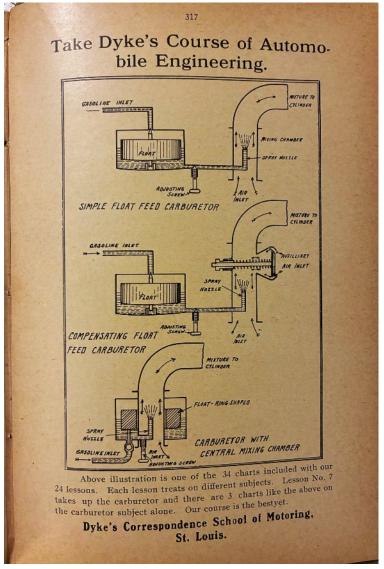
From: *The Automobile Magazine,* September 1903. New York: The Automobile Press.

From The Auto Joke Book, Baltimore, MD I. & M. Ottenheimer, 1913.

"I just saw your wife in your neighbor's auto. Why don't you take her out in yours?" "Oh, we've just made our wills in favor of each other."

Losing Chauffeur – My machine would have won if I'd had fair play. Winner - Oh, that's merely your blamed race prejudice.

Editor's Note: Due to the hospitalization and illness of various officers and family members, I am unable to present the Club Minutes that would usually be in these pages. In the next issue of *The Occasional* this will be rectified. I appreciate your understanding. Key decisions that have been made have been reported on other pages in this publication.



Many of us own a copy of Dyke's Automobile and Gasolene Engine Encyclopedia. This ad appeared in the back of his 1909 book: Dyke's Troubles, Remedies and Repairs of the Automobile and Gasolene Engine. (Sic)

In the front of the book he toots his own horn: "The First Auto Supply Man in America. Builder of the Fifth Automobile in America. Publisher of the First Book on Automobile." (*Sic*)

He introduces the above-mentioned book thusly: "A Practical Book for the Gasolene Auto Owner, Operator, Repairman, intending Purchaser, and those who wish to learn the Automobile and Gasolene Engine. Also for Launch Owners and All Gasolene Engine Owners. Setting of Valves, Timing Ignition, and the subject of the Magneto are given special attention."

From A Book of the Best Ford Jokes, Girard, KS, Haldeman-Julius Publications, n.d.

"Cap'n, suh," explained the dusky motorcycle cop who had unsuccessfully attempted to overtake a speeding motorist on a country road, "everything was jest goin' along fine, and Ah was about to ketch dat boy, and den Ah see mah chance to dodge in between two motorcycles."

"Well, what happened then?"

"Dat's all dey was to it, cap'n suh. Dem two motorcycles was a truck."

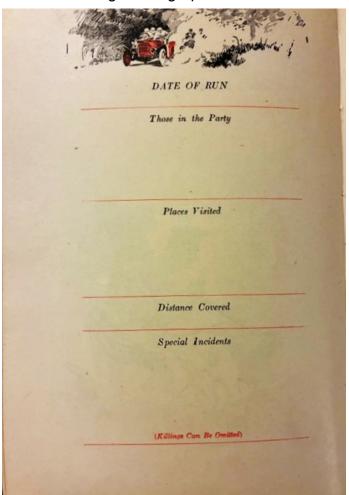
When a young woman who was burning up the road on the boulevard was overtaken by a motorcycle officer and motioned to stop, she indignantly asked:

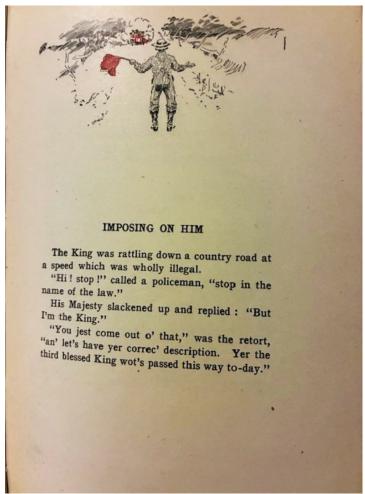
"What do you want with me?"

"You were making forty-five miles an hour," answered the traffic officer.

"Forty-five miles an hour? Why, officer, I haven't been out an hour," said the lady.

Here are two pages from another publication, Walter Pulitzer's "My Auto Book," published in 1908. The left hand page was designed for the motorist to record the data of their trip. Be sure to read what is printed in red at the bottom of the page! The right hand page included something humorous along with a graphic of some sort.





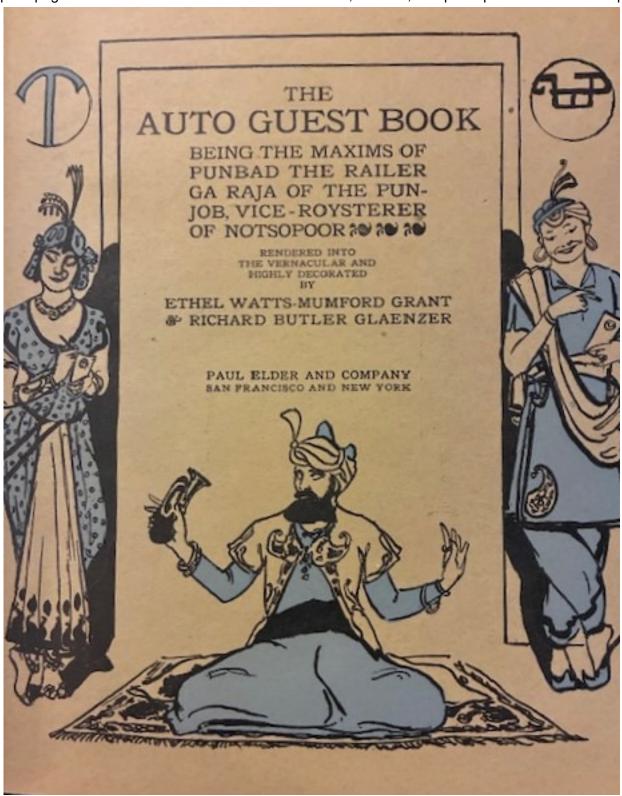
If you cannot read what is printed in red above, it says "Killings Can Be Omitted". Some things were not always in jest!

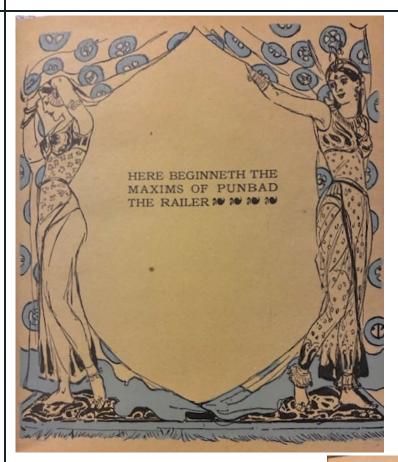


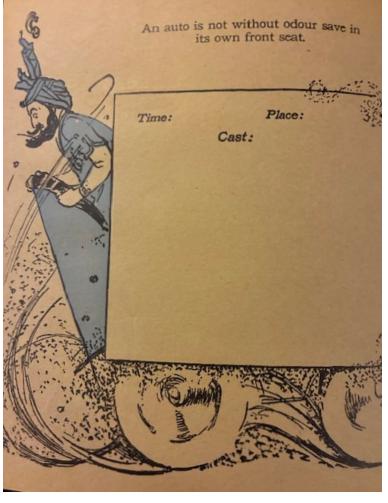
SOURCE MATERIAL USED

By Steven Williams

Over the years I have come across many interesting publications which I have purchased for use in these pages. Some have been more humorous than others, but all have given us insights into the dawn of the automotive age. One such "different" book is the title page reproduced here. To give you an idea of the nature of this particular publication, I'm reproducing three pages here: The Title Page, Introductory Page, and a typical page for the motorist to record the date and time, location, and participants in the motor trip.







OFFICERS

President - Steven G. Williams (2024-2025) 636-575-1469

Vice President - Kent Gilbane (2025-2026) 573-424-2599

Treasurer - Bonnie Dattoli (2025-2026) 314-849-0906

Secretary - Ruth Baker (2024-2025) 636-282-1810

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2024-2025:

Gerald Ellerbeck, Sr., 314-255-6973

Daniel Mullis, 314-416-4954

Keith Sanders, 314-722-0042

Don Spaeth, 636-346-3798

2025-2026

Sam Atkinson, 636-346-7910

Jerry Ellerbeck, Jr., 314-393-7032

Scott Francis, 636-544-7750

Stephen Heatherly, 314-805-1390

From *The Auto Guest Book of Mobile Maxims*, pub. 1906:

"Sing a son of ex-pense (Pockets full of rye), Four and twenty law suits, If you live or die."

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER DEADLINE

The deadline for news and items for the November/December issue of **THE Occasional** is *October 10th*. Please submit any information to Steven Williams, steven1912@charter.net or call 636-575-1469. Pictures and articles are wanted, but we need names with photos please. Thanks!

TEAM LEADERS

Annual Meeting - Cindy Atkinson (314-324-7663) and Suzanne Pourcillie (314-496-0159)

Flowers and Cards - Sherry Williams (636-548-8256)

Membership - Keith Sanders, (314-722-0042)

Parades - Sam Atkinson, (636-346-7910)

Picnics and chili cookoff - Daniel Mullis (314-416-4954

Rapid Assembly Teams - Sam Atkinson (636-346-7910)

Refreshments - Daniel Mullis (314-416-4954)

Swap Meet - Director - Kent Gilbane (573-424-2599)

Registration -

The Occasional - Editor - Steven Williams (636-575-1469)

Proof-reader - Sherry Williams (636-548-8256)

Photographer - Cindy Atkinson (314-324-7663)

Tours - Spring - Scott Francis (636-544-7750

Overnight - Sam Atkinson (636-346-7910)

Fall - Scott Francis (636-544-7750)

Tour de Frost - Sam Atkinson (636-346-7910)

Webmaster - Mike Thum (314-718-9155)

From *The Edison & Ford Quote Book,* 2004, Edison & Ford Winter Estates.

Ford: "The highest use of capital is not to make more money, but to make money do more for the betterment of life."

Edison: "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

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

Meetings are held the second Friday of each month, 8 PM, at the Freedom Masonic Temple, 4557 Lemay Ferry Road, south St. Louis County. 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: 314-722-0042. Email: jenkeith4@att.net. Annual dues (due July 1st each year) are \$35, \$20 for members of the MTFCA. Dues help pay the rent, cost of *The Occasional*, and refreshments, among other expenses.

We also strongly encourage national membership. Dues are only \$50 to the Model T Ford Club of America (P.O. Box 996; Richmond, IN 47375-0996).

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.

Our website is www.stlmodeltclub.org.



WWW.STLMODELTCLUB.ORG

MODEL I FORD CLUB OF GREATER ST. LOUIS, INC. P.O. 29196 St. Louis, NO 63126-0196





Overnight Tour participants on board the Mark Twain at Hannibal, for their cruise!

The Model T Ford Club of America (P.O. Box 996; Richmond, IN 47375-0996) 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. Sample copies of their magnificent magazine, *The Vintage Ford*, are available free upon request at the above address. Active touring chapters are encouraged, in order to spread interest and participation events. Regional and national activities are provided by the chapters. Annual dues to the MTFCA are \$50.00. Members of the MTFCA may be members of the Model T Ford Club of Greater St. Louis with discounted local dues. For further information on joining, see inside the back cover. Also check out our website: www.stlmodeltclub.org.

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