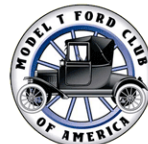




T Footnotes



A Publication of the Foothills Model T Ford Club
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Volume 39 Edition 3

March 2014

President's Message

I don't recall the first time I drove a Model T. In fact I can't remember receiving any lessons, but I am guessing they must have taken place in the roadster pickup we still own. I do recall that when I was 14 my father would allow me to use the T to take the garbage to the dump. The local policeman never interfered so during the summer months I regularly cleaned our yard and the land around our business to find enough junk to give me an excuse to take the T for a drive.

In the next two years I learned not to crank the engine with the spark advanced. I became skilled at cranking the truck with my thumb next to my index finger and not wrapped around the crank. I learned that if I turned the key off with the mixture a little rich and the spark retarded chances were good that the next time I turned on the key the T would start on its own. I learned how to tap the side of the carb when the float got stuck and how to hold the small vibrating disk on top of the coils to determine which plug was fouled or which coil wasn't performing.

After 40 years of T tuning I have learned enough to realize there is a whole lot I don't know. This weekend (March 15th) at our coil tuning workshop I expect we will rediscover just how complex the simple Model T can be.

For those who enjoy touring this summer looks busy. I plan to participate in the President's Tour (June 7), the Two Medicine Tour hosted by the Rocky Mountain Model T Club (June 23rd-26th), The Museum of Making Tour, directed by Tim Pearson (July 26), The Cypress Hills Tour (July 28 – 31), The Fall Colours Tour hosted by Rod Wallace (late September) and maybe an overnight tour early in September that Roy Fulton is cooking up.

Robb



ERIC LUTHER ROBB - MODEL T



2014 Dues are now due !!





Minutes of the Foothills Model T Ford Club Meeting

February 26th, 2014, Aerospace Museum

President Robb Wolff called meeting to order at 7:35pm. There were 31 members in attendance. New members Rick and Linda Skibsted.

Robb introduced the 2014 Executive – President Robb Wolff, Vice-President & Treasurer Ross Benedict, Secretary Kristen Anderson, and Membership Secretary Eileen Jewell.

Minutes: Kristen Anderson – Kristen read the minutes of the January Meeting and requested they be adopted as read. Tim Pearson seconded. Carried. Business arising from the minutes;

1. March 26th meeting will be held at Woodridge Ford as the Museum and Ted Zylstra's shop are not available. A map to Woodridge should be sent out with the minutes.

2. Reamers have arrived.

Treasurer's Report: Ross Benedict – Ross read the Treasurer's report for January 2014. Ross moved that the report be adopted as presented. Seconded by Lawrence Gould. Carried.

Membership Report: Eileen Jewell – Eileen reported that we have 61 paid memberships for 2014. Eileen recently mailed 10 year pins to the following Jim Fraser, Ken & Anne Hudgeon, John & Shirley Hutchinson and Ken & Mernelda Todd. 25 year pins were mailed to Larry & Anna Kynoch.

Tool Curators Report: Glen McDonald – The tools are all accounted for. Glen asked that if members are finished with them to return them so the next person can use them. They can be brought to monthly meetings.

Editor's Report: Chris Brancaccio – January issue is complete and February is in progress. Chris is looking for content. He asked Al Riise to do a write up of the Lethbridge Swap Meet.

Librarian's Report: Jonathan Watson – Still in storage. Kristen keeping the new issues for now.

Correspondence: Warren Simmonds from the Military Museum is looking for Model T parts for a display. Some parts were donated by one of our club members. He still needs a tire but doesn't know what size.

Tours and Workshops:

- Show & Shine May 24th to celebrate grand opening of the Airport Tunnel.
- Safety Inspection will be by Sunday June 1st if that works for Ted Zylstra.
- President's tour will be Saturday June 7th and we will run the Watson's Honeymoon Tour.
- History Road (Wetaskiwin) & High River Museum Tractor Pull June 14 – 15th
- Horace and Tom are working on a Garage tour for April in the High River / Aldersyde areas. Lunch perhaps at the Saskatoon Farm.
- April 27th – Spring Thaw, Rendezvous Days, and Great Falls Swap Meet.
- Innisfail Historical Village opening May 24th weekend. Pancake breakfast included.
- Museum of Making – July 26th, Tim is going to talk to Ted and Sam about taking the TBQ out, we are going ask the Model A Club to join us.



- Camping trip this summer to Cypress Hills and area. This trip we will hub rather than move camp every day. July 28th – 31st. There is a hotel there as well.

New Business:

Membership Renewal from SVAA. Ross moved that we renew our membership. Seconded by Tim Pearson. Carried. Robb reported that he signed off on a warranty letter that says, to the best of our knowledge and belief there are no incidents that have occurred, where we believe we may be sued as an executive of the Foothills Model T Ford Club. This sort of letter is usually signed when a new insurance policy is initiated.

Director's Report: Peter reported on the SVAA Meeting

- 47 clubs with 2000 members
- Would like to re-publish items from the Footnotes, Chris agreed, as long as they ask ahead of time.
- All encouraged to sign up with the SVAA & the SEMA websites in order to receive information right away
- Want to set up display booths at car shows/events to collect donations for the SVAA
- Barry Ferguson invited clubs to host meetings, come out to visit at the new High River Agricultural Museum.
- Jeff Hill – Okotoks Collector Car Auction – spoke about the auction and asked if clubs would volunteer to work at these functions.
- Next meeting May 3rd at the Red Deer Swap Meet.

Original racer owned by Walter Wakinitz is for sale, by current owner George Harker. Kristen has the pictures, article and George's contact information for anyone that may be interested in purchasing this car.

Winner of the 50/50 draw, Val & Len Dawson. They donated their winnings back to the club.

Thanks to Ross and Robb for picking up the donuts.

Tech session at Robb Wolff's Saturday, March 15th coil tuning and rebuilding.

Adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Show and tell: Scat crank and tire jack

T Footnotes is published 9 times a year by the Foothills Model T Ford Club, Calgary Alberta - Chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America. This newsletter is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and enjoyment of Model T Fords by all Flivver enthusiasts. Opinions expressed in "T Footnotes" are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Foothills Model T Ford Club. Articles may be reprinted provided credit is given. All information is provided for your enjoyment and education only. No one associated with the T Footnotes can be held responsible for errors, omissions, or misinterpreted information even though all efforts will be made to ensure correctness of the articles.

Model T Polo

The SHELLER MOTOR COMPANY Sunnyside, Washington

By Bill Sheller



The Sheller Motor Company
preparing for Ford Day Parade

My Grandfather, Roscoe Sheller, was a Ford dealer in rural Sunnyside, Washington from 1915 until 1935, when illness forced his early retirement. As a boy of 10, in the 1890's, he and his family were among the founding families of Sunnyside. He helped his father and mother wrestle the dry blow-sand desert into a fertile irrigated wonderland known today as the magnificent Yakima Valley of Washington State. In other words, Roscoe was no stranger to HARD WORK! His pioneer spirit certainly prepared him to turn his own efforts into a hugely profitable association with the Ford Motor Company. My Grandfather, was in the Ford business almost from the "ground floor" beginning and most certainly a rather large part of FoMoCo history! I am very proud of him and the once very famous Sheller Motor Company.

After WW I the economy across the United States was in a sluggish mode. The rural areas were especially susceptible to the slow down. Being quite community minded, Roscoe sponsored a celebration for the people of



The S.M.C provided Polo Cars

Sunnyside. It was to be free of charge to all comers. Not wanting to take personal credit for the event, he named it Ford Day, as most of the rural folks of the era owned Model T's, if they owned an automobile at all.

Ford Day in Sunnyside, Washington continued well past the Model T days until sometime in the 1930's when the State of Washington charged that my Grandfather was running an illegal lottery, as he gave away some pretty nice prizes up to and including a brand new Model T Ford. There was never any money changed hands for a chance to win a prize, as it all came out of Roscoe's pocket, but ... you know GOVERNMENT! Model T Polo was a part of Ford Day, and that's completely another story.





Polo Cars warming up for the game

The Model T Polo games were very well attended and much anticipated year after year. The gist of the game consisted of two Model T Fords stripped down to bare chassis with steel hoops front and rear as some sort of protection against a roll over, when rudely nudged by another Model T. Believe me “nudged” is a very gentle description of the action taking place on the field. One running board on the right side was left in place for the mallet man, who held on to a grab handle with one hand while clutching a leather mallet in the other.



Ready to go, let's play some polo

The idea of the game was to smack a basketball across the field of play into a goal net at one end of the field. It was certainly a death defying game. In my grandfather's own words, “Gladiators and bull fighters led safe, peaceful lives by comparison” to Model T polo players, ... “Their performance was a quiet game of croquet when measured by the death-

defying thrills of Model T Polo”. The games were originally held in a vacant lot in town. However, because of all the dust stirred up by two Model T's at full throttle heading for a basketball on the dry blow-sand dirt, loud complaints were registered by local housewives with concerns about their freshly laundered cloths being soiled while hung out to dry.



Yea, well ... eat my dust!

The Model T Polo games were then moved to the outskirts of town where the huge plumbs of dust, generated by the racing Model T's, were no longer a problem.



Who is after the ball?

The Model T Polo games were very exciting for both participant and spectator. When two Model T's were vying for the same ball, on the same field, at the same time, well ... things happened! Spectators held their breath, as two Model T's came in contact while chasing the basketball, creating giant plumbs of dust,

perhaps hiding a gory death or severe injury. When the dust cleared, all participants were okay and still in the game. I know it's hard to believe, but in all the years my grandfather sponsored the Model T Polo games in Sunnyside, Washington, there were never any serious injuries. Broken wheels, burned up motors and blown out tires were mere incidents, considered as part of the game.



A broken wheel slows the action

Roscoe stood all of the expense of the games and could justify it because, "when a few unbending skeptics, still clinging to the horse-age existence saw the control drivers had of Model T polo cars, and with their own eyes witnessed the unbelievable torture and abuse to which they were subjected, found their minds opening. Then I thought the expense was at least partially justified". Model T polo was surely a part of the early history of the Ford Motor Company and most certainly a huge part of the Sheller Motor Company of Sunnyside, Washington.

I am very proud of my Grandfather and the once very famous Sheller Motor Company. I've always felt that my love of Ford vehicles was, well ... in my blood!



A close-up look at a polo car, notice the hoops front and back and the mallet

Events

Mar 26 - Regular Meeting,

AT WOODRIDGE FORD 7:30 pm

Apr 23 - Regular Meeting

May 2-3 – Red Deer Swap Meet

May 28 - Regular Meeting

June 1 – Annual Safety Inspection

June 7 – President's Tour

July 13-18 – National Tour, San Diego

July 26 – Museum of Making Tour

July 28 – Aug 1 – Camping Tour

For Sale – For Trade

Please note: All Advertisements from club members will be published in three consecutive issues, free of charge. Non-member advertisements relating to the Model T will also be published free of charge as space permits. Send info to the editor: phone 403-271-1238, or email Brancaccio@platinum.ca

For sale: 1923 Tall T Coupe ready for painting. Runs well. Rick Sailer 403-394-3263. From Lethbridge newsletter, The Clunker.

For sale: 1965 Ford Falcon Futura Convertible, Red exterior with red leatherette, bench front seat, white top Exterior paint almost flawless, top tight and flawless 289 V8 engine with Dual Exhaust, recent 3 core radiator installed Cruise O Matic C4 automatic transmission Dealer installed FORD air conditioner, Ford AM radio Present Mileage is 38,700 miles Engine, transmission overhauled at 22,600 miles All of overhauled at 22,600 miles Differential overhauled at approximately 33,000 miles This car is in excellent condition \$19,950.00 Canadian To view call 403-279-7691



For sale 1965 Ford Galaxie 500, 2 door hardtop, 352 engine. This was an older restoration that was in storage for several years. It has new wheel cylinders, brakes, wheel covers and door kick plates. Body rust free, interior is clean. One owner car until 2007. Asking \$7,000 or best offer. Must sell lost storage.

Lawrence Gould L.Gould@telus.net Phone 403-227-1883 cell 403-302-2694



Wanted: Looking for a similar Lens Ring (9" ID) and Chimney Top and for 1912-14 T Gas Head Light, No need to be brass . . Please call Ross 403-651-1612





The Foothills Model T Ford Club

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you have already renewed for this year, would you please pass this renewal form on to someone who also shares in our interest of the Model T Ford.



If you have not renewed please take time now to complete this renewal form and send it along with your dues of \$25.00 to our Membership Secretary:

**Eileen Jewell,
2728 - 18th Street N.W.,
Calgary, Alberta T2M 3T8**

Name

Spouse

Address

City.....Prov.....

Postal CodePhone #.....

MTFCA Memb. #.....Fax

E-mail.....

Your Birth Month & Day.....

Your Spouse's Name, Birth Month & Day.....

Year & Style of T's Owned

I do not object to having my name printed in the Club Directory: Signed:_____

Birthdays

March 1	Reg Kober
March 8	Shirley Hutchinson
March 10	Allan Millard
March 11	Mernelda Todd
March 12	Wayne Anderson
March 13	Thomas Will
March 14	Vic Patterson
March 18	John Sylvester
March 18	Adin Kloetzel
March 19	Sally Stotts
March 19	Rick Bonebright
March 23	George Howton
March 28	Ray Degen
March 31	Jackie Price
March 31	Len Dawson
March 31	Robert Ellis

The Model T Ford Club of America MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes! I want to become a member of the MTFCA and receive **THE VINTAGE FORD!**

Name

Address

City, Prov

Postal Code

ANNUAL DUES

Includes six issues of THE VINTAGE FORD regardless of the date of initial enrollment: \$45.00 (in U.S. funds) for outside the U.S.

Mail To: THE MODEL T FORD CLUB OF AMERICA
P.O. Box 126
Centerville, IN 47330-0126 USA
website: www.mtfca.com

Please forward MTFCA membership numbers to Eileen when received.

2014 Club Executive

President	Robb Wolff	239-9764
Past President	Ken Canning	932-5522
Vice President	Ross Benedict	286-4699
Secretary	Kristen Anderson	787-3932
Membership Sec	Eileen Jewell	282-3753
Treasurer	Ross Benedict	286-4699
Club Tool Curator	Glen MacDonald	242-7828
Tour Committee	Vacant	

Directors	Peter Anderson	787-3932
	Keith Robinson	242-9260
MTFCA Rep	Keith Robinson	242-9260
Editor/Web Publisher	Chris Brancaccio	271-1238
Librarian / Historian	Jonathan Watson	948-9438

All numbers are 403 area code

Please send all material for publishing in "T Footnotes" to 243219 Range Road 31A, Calgary, AB T3Z 3L5 or Email Brancaccio@Platinum.ca



2014 Dues are now due !!

