



Tin Lizzie Gazette

Four Seasons Model T Association

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President's Note

It seems like Spring is taking a bit longer than usual to get here, but according to the calendar it has arrived!! This means more events will begin appearing on our activity calendar. In fact our first outdoor swap meet will be happening in just a few short weeks! Similar to last year, we will have a FSMTA table where the club will sell some stuff and members are also welcome to drop off a few of their own items as well. (see calendar of events)

Another sign of Spring is the Empty Soup Bowl fundraiser which some of us recently attended. This is such a worthwhile and fun event and you even go home with a one-of-a-kind soup bowl.

I'm very pleased to announce we have added to our membership this past month - Andre & Joan Bourque. These Lebanon based folks enjoy three vintage cars: a 1924 Ford Pickup, a 1962 Chevy Impala, and a 1980 Mercedes 450 SL. I know you all join me in welcoming them to our organization. Some of you have already met them at March's get-together at John's. (Learn more about them under Member News)

Although our traditional Waldo Farm Event is not until May, I have already heard from the organizers that this year's theme will be different and perhaps even draw bigger crowds. This year's theme will be centered around *music and picnicking*, so start thinking about what goodies you'll stuff in your picnic basket. We are apparently the only group being invited back this year as "everyone loves to look at old cars". Hold the date of May 18th (rain date 19th).

Attention: A volunteer is needed to plan our summer tour. Last year Ray & Laura planned it and the year before, Ron & Fran. Who'll step-up to the challenger this year?

Do you have a favorite old photograph, cartoon or even an a vintage advertisement to share in our "Back in the Day" section of the Newsletter? If so, send them along. This month's picture came from Marty.

Happy Motoring!

Pete

Member News & Events



- As I mentioned in my opening note, we have heard from our newest club members, Andre and Joan Bourque. By way of introduction they wrote...

“Hello Peter, it was great speaking to you. Attached is a couple photos’ for you as you requested. My wife Joan and I are as they say " car crazy", more so myself then her but nonetheless she is my path of life. We do everything together. We love antiquing, tag sales and flea markets. We like anything. We also travel quite a bit and have been to many exotic places around the globe.

So as I said we are a team and we do everything together. We have both been blessed with each other. Anyway with that said I will end here and look forward to being part of the club and meeting everyone. Thanks again..... Andre Bourque.





- Tom Quinn submitted a photo of Mac Robbins with his "Model A C Cab" and a load of firewood. (apparently Mac doesn't believe Spring is coming any time soon)



- Although a bit off topic, this video has some great car shots and will definitely take you down memory lane. http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=sDc0ID6PJeg&feature=youtu.be

- Jim H. has a “high” radiator he wants to sell for \$200. If interested give him a call (860) 465-7756

- We heard from Ron & Fran about the March tour they attended in Daytona Florida. Read on...

We got the trailer out after the big storm and before the next one. We were anxious to load the car and get going. We started early Thursday morning. The weather was good all the way down. We arrived safely on Saturday morning. After finding the trailer parking and checking in we walked along the beach. The wind was quite strong as we had a hard time walking back to the hotel.

Sunday morning was 32 and 31 back home. Today was our shake down tour to test the cars. We drove to the River Grill for lunch. After lunch we had a leisurely drive back to the hotel. Tonight would be our opening banquet.

On Monday we traveled to St. Augustine. We traveled along route A1A along the beach. We had a sightseeing train ride where a lot of historical things were pointed out to us. Today's total mileage was 100 miles. This morning when we started out the temperature was 32. It was windy and cold all day long.

Tuesday's destination was the Daytona International Speedway. We had a train ride around the track and even got to go up to where the broadcasters sit. We also saw this years winning car on display. We started back to the hotel and toward our next stop, the Casements, the Winter home of the Rockefellers. Today was our nicest day with the temperatures in the 70's and no wind.

Wednesday would be our longest day with 128 miles. We are going to Ravine Gardens State Park in Palatka. This is where we had our lunch that was provided by the tour committee. On our drive through the gardens we got to see Azalea's in bloom. From here we stopped and saw the oldest Live Oak in FL at 2000 years old.

Thursday would be our last day. Today we went to Florida's tallest Lighthouse, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum. We had lunch at “Down the Hatch” where we had a great view of the Halifax River and could see many dolphins. Tonight would be our closing banquet.

This was a great week with sunny skies the whole time. It was cold and windy most of the week. There were about 100 Model T's in attendance with cars from many states and people from Ireland, England, and Sweden.

We are looking forward to next year's tour hoping for warmer weather.

Ron & Fran Miller



Henry History



A Slice of History... 125 Years Ago ... April 1888

On this day in 1888, 24-year-old **Henry Ford** marries Clara Jane Bryant on her 22nd birthday at her parent's home in Greenfield Township, **Michigan**. Clara Ford would prove to be a big supporter of her husband's business ideas: Fifty years later, Henry Ford--who by then had founded the Ford Motor Company, invented the top-selling **Model T** car and revolutionized the auto industry with his mass-production technology--was quoted in a 1938 **New York Times Magazine** article as saying, "The greatest day of my life is when I married Mrs. Ford."

The couple, both of whom came from farm families, first met at a **New Year's** dance in Michigan in 1885. During their courtship, they enjoyed such activities as dancing, corn-husking parties and boating excursions. According to "Clara: Mrs. Henry Ford," a biography by Ford R. Bryan: "The two were impressed by each other, Clara with Henry's unique mechanical talents and Henry with Clara's serious and appreciative disposition." They were engaged in April 1886, but the future bride's mother thought she was too young to wed and made them wait another two years.

After their marriage, the Fords lived on farm land given to Henry by his father. By 1891, however, the couple moved to Detroit, where Henry Ford began working as an engineer for Edison Illuminating Company. The couple's only child, Edsel, was born in November 1893. In 1896, Ford completed a four-wheel, self-propelled vehicle with a gasoline engine called the Quadricycle. During the early years of their marriage, the couple lived in 10 different rental homes while Henry worked to develop an automobile. After incorporating the Ford Motor Company in 1903, Henry launched the Model T in 1908. The car, which was in production until 1927, held the record for the world's top-selling vehicle until it was surpassed by the Volkswagen Beetle in 1972.

In 1915, the Fords moved into a mansion built on land they owned in Dearborn, Michigan. The home, named Fair Lane, included an indoor swimming pool, billiard room, bowling alley and dance floor, as the Fords had always liked to dance. Clara Ford managed the estate staff, pursued such interests as gardening and traveled around the world on business trips with Henry.

Henry Ford died at the age of 83 on April 7, 1947; Clara Ford died three years later, on September 29, 1950, at the age of 84. Their son Edsel, who worked for the family business, preceded both his parents in death, dying at the age of 49 from cancer on May 26, 1943.

And in closing, a look at...

Back In The day


