



# Tin Lizzie Gazette

Four Seasons Model T Association

March 2012 Volume VIII, Issue III

## President's Note

I know we were all saddened to hear the passing of a long time friend to many and former FSMTA member, Henry Konow. Henry was Don Konow's father. Our heart-felt condolences go to Don & Sue for their loss.

Summer is inching ever closer and plans are well underway to make this the best "T" summer yet. Marty, Ray and myself got together to discuss ideas, some of which we talked about at John's last month. In addition to our usual line-up of summer activities, we discussed having a FSMTA table at the Willimantic Drive-In Flea Market this spring, having several picnics and possibly two tours this summer (Ron & Fran are you listening?). We are also planning on a trip to Woodstock's Pink House, lunch under a near-by apple tree (courtesy of Harold & Colleen) and a drive to Roseland Park.

We will publish an advanced summer schedule (May –Oct) shortly and will then update it monthly as needed. This way you can plan ahead and won't have to miss any of the fun!

The 2012 directory is done and includes names of all who paid by Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have forgotten to pay your dues however, it's never too late!

Happy Motoring  
Pete

## Membership Reporting

Did you know we have a very talented Quilter among us? Anne surprised John P. with a *fantastic* quilt which she put together without him even knowing it. The theme she chose was celebrating John's many lumberjack competitions by using his "T" shirts, which he would pick up at various wood cutting events. Exceptional job Anne!



- Here's to another "T" on the road this summer! Tim Kenny has been busy working on a new (to him) 1915 Run-about. When he got this open car it needed some TLC in order to run. Three of the four coils were bad, he had to replace the timer, etc., but overall it was in good shape... solid wood, decent hood, and great fenders! Tim is considering rewiring it and is also searching for some brass headlight rings. If you have any, he would like to hear from you.



- And from George...

Ladies and Gentlemen of the FSMTA,

Below is your invitation to the dedication ceremony for Ambulance 255.

If you are able to attend, please RSVP with the names of those attending so we can prepare name tags. RSVP to [gking3@rcn.com](mailto:gking3@rcn.com) or [860-642-7103](tel:860-642-7103).

Donations to help us offset the cost of the reception would be appreciated.

I hope you can join us for this gala celebration and some fine French wine.

Details and directions at [www.ambulance255.org](http://www.ambulance255.org).”

*You are cordially invited to join us  
for the dedication of  
Ambulance 255*

*The ceremony will be held  
at the headquarters of  
American Ambulance Service, Inc.*

*One American Way  
Norwich, Connecticut*

*one o'clock in the afternoon  
Saturday, May 5, 2012*

*Join us in a glass of wine to celebrate  
the completion of this project  
Jacket and tie optional*

*The favor of a reply is requested  
before April 1, 2012*

*Directions and details available at:  
[www.ambulance255.org](http://www.ambulance255.org)*

- And Speaking of Ambulances... You may know that the Ford Motor Company produced a monthly publication called *Ford Times*. It was first published on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1908 and continued until 1996. The following pages were taken from one such publication printed around 1915 -1916. This was a special war issue and while lengthy, is well worth your read. You will find quite a history surrounding the role played by Model Ts in the war effort. It's no wonder George got so hooked on documenting the ambulance's contributions as well as painstakingly building an exact replica of *Ambulance 255*.

[http://www.mtfca.com/books/ford\\_times.htm](http://www.mtfca.com/books/ford_times.htm)

**- Ray & Laura reported on their trip to the MTFCI Annual Meeting.**

**Laura and I traveled to the Phoenix/Scottsdale area for the MTFCI Annual Membership Meeting and attend the Barrett-Jackson Auto Auction in-person. We had some great weather – sunny, with daytime temperatures in the high 60's.**

**Although the Model T Annual meeting was one purpose for going to Arizona, attending the Barrett-Jackson Auction was probably our # 1 reason to be there. We went to the auction on two different days and times. All we can say is – Wow! Make that a double Wow!**

**This event is huge and it is all held primarily under three enormous tents – one for Vendors, one for the Auction itself – stage, bidders' and spectator seating- and a third, to display the “premier” vehicles being auctioned throughout the 5-day event**

**The vendors' tent had an array of categories: collectibles – restored vintage gas pumps, neon signs, automotive memorabilia, along with clothing, jewelry, decorative art (larger lawn sculptures made with cut flooring nails),**

**new wooden framed bicycles, restoration and detailing supplies, furniture, the car makers - Ford, Chevrolet, Bentley and a few exotic foreign makes, food and beverages. The B-J detailing display with the Ford GT40 sports car did catch my eye and wallet! It was a deal you couldn't refuse – not just detailing supplies, but a t-shirt and free shipping – Laura wasn't convinced.**

**Our second time at the auction, Thursday evening, had vehicles going for higher prices than the day before. We watched an “Eleanor” Mustang “clone” sell for a mere \$220,000.00, which probably took all of 10 minutes to transact – incredible!**

**Another attraction- If you visit the Tucson area be sure to check out the Biosphere 2 site near Oracle, AZ. For those who might remember, this is a huge enclosed greenhouse/laboratory about 4 million cubic feet. BIG! It was built between 1987 and 1991. Funding was from a Mr. Ed Bass. He spent about \$200 million from 1985 to 2007 sponsoring the project.**

**When first finished, they had sealed in 8 scientists to see if they could survive “completely” on their own for three years. The experiment was not a complete success. They might have made it but the oxygen level kept dropping. Unfortunately, the concrete curing was absorbing carbon dioxide out of the air. The plants inside didn't have enough CO2 to convert to O2 so the level kept dropping. Before the 8 perished they had to add more oxygen. For more inf, go to <[www.b2science.org](http://www.b2science.org)> <[leo@b2science.org](mailto:leo@b2science.org)>**

### **The MTFCI Annual Meeting**

**The local MTFCI Chapter, “Canyon Country Model T Club” hosted the Meeting and it was held at the Marriott Hotel in Mesa. They were great hosts and had a full day and a half of planned activities.**

**Three Club members brought 4 Ford T's for display.**

**Russ Furstnow brought two cars: A 1913 Touring. This car was immaculate and is a Stynoski Award winner. Russ is not afraid to drive this gorgeous car. He says he will have it on the Summer Vermont Tour in July. He also displayed a 1927 Coupe, which nicely restored. Jean & Dave Chance brought their 1916 Runabout. This car had a wooden pick-up bed installed in place of the “turtle-back”. In the bed they had Commemorative Anheuser Busch beer cases from 1976. Nice touch!**

I caught part of Russ Furstnow's Model T Judging class out by the displayed T's. He is also responsible for the latest Model T Judging Guide. They now use "non-competitive" judging. The cars stand on their own merit and a "better" car in your class does not prevent your car from winning a "gold", "silver" or "bronze" award.

**Navajo Code Talkers-** We heard a presentation from the daughter of a Navajo Code Talker, Ronnie Towne. Her Dad, Arthur Hubbard Sr., was one of the Navajo Marine Corps Code Talkers. He was so good they made him a trainer for all the other Navajo Marines and he never saw any action outside the country. Phillip Johnston, son of a Missionary, proposed the use of the Navajo language code because he knew some of it and it had no alphabet to help anyone "crack" the code. It was all memorization. Ira Hayes was one of the Code Talkers; he was one of the Marines raising the flag on Iwo Jima. She said a Major Howard Connor stated that if it weren't for the Code Talkers, we probably would not have taken Iwo Jima and we could all be speaking Japanese right now. Who knows for sure? For more information about this unit, go online and Google "Navajo Code Talkers" An interesting story and what a significant contribution these young men and their language made to our success in the war in the Pacific.

For dinner, we went to a restaurant called the Organ Stop Pizza. This place was a blast! Besides great pizza, they have an entertainer playing a 1927 Wurlitzer pipe organ. He was great. It's advertised as the World's Largest Theater Organ. It was originally built for the Theater in Denver Colorado. The organ plays through 6,000 pipes and has drums, castanets, xylophones, Model A horns, bells and other "noise/music" making devices.

The air is provided by a blower room in the rear of the building, which houses 4 Spencer turbines. They run on three with 1 as a back-up. The three, total horsepower of 60, supply 14,000 cubic feet per minute, that's a lot of wind. For more information on this unique establishment, check out their web site at [www.organstoppizza.com](http://www.organstoppizza.com).

One of our mornings, we visited the Arizona Wing of the Commemorative Air Force - Air Museum. Mesa, Arizona <[www.azcaf.org](http://www.azcaf.org)>

The Museum has a small collection that is available for guest rides (fee), plus static displays inside and outside the building/hanger. These planes are available for hire:

- B-17G Flying Fortress "Sentimental Journey" - Bomber
- B-25 "Maid in the Shade" War bird
- C-45 Expeditor - transport
- T-6 Texan - SNJ Trainer
- PT-17 Stearman/Kaydet - Bi-Plane

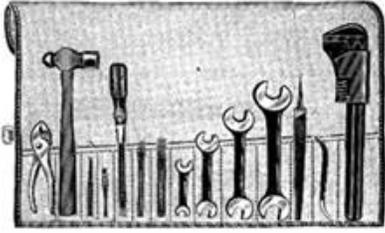
**Guided Tour of Phoenix and surrounding area:**

The guide provided a lot of information on this 4-hour bus tour about different areas/sites/residential neighborhoods of Phoenix and Scottsdale. We made one stop in Old Town, Scottsdale. A "Singing Cowboy" rode the streets and into one of the "saloons" playing his guitar and sang to the patrons. Now that's not something we see everyday in our parts!

**We ended the day with the Annual Members Meeting & Banquet**

The Buffet dinner theme was "Back at the Ranch". The food was good and there was plenty, except they were a little short on desserts. Music was provided by "Guilty Pleasures" a local singing duo, who did a great job entertaining us. Much of the short official meeting was bringing in the new officers and passing out awards to members for service to the club.

**Ray & Laura**



# “T” Tidbits

(Have “T” tips to share, or perhaps some do’s or even don’t do’s? If so, send them along for future Newsletter publications.)

- On March 28<sup>th</sup> 1941 the News Media reported the following:

“On this day in 1941, workers start clearing trees from hundreds of acres of land near Ypsilanti, **Michigan**, some 30 miles west of Detroit, in preparation for the construction of the Ford Motor Company's Willow Run plant, which will use **Henry Ford**'s mass-production technology to build B-24 bomber planes for **World War II**.”

“When it opened in 1941, expectations were high for Willow Run, which at some 3.5 million square feet was called the world's largest factory under a single roof. Early on, however, the plant was plagued by such issues as labor shortages and earned the nickname "Willit Run?" The initial problems were later ironed out, as workers were recruited from the South, women were hired and employee housing was constructed. Willow Run eventually employed over 42,000 people and by 1944, the plant was producing one plane every hour. By the end of the war in 1945, more than 8,600 B-24s had been built at Willow Run and the plant's mass-production techniques were hailed as a symbol of American ingenuity.”

Fascinating video, take a look... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNKlpOlfNT0>

- Did you know...

1910, March 17<sup>th</sup> Factory invoices indicate “new magneto” for the first time, beginning with #17,985

1916, March 27<sup>th</sup> (Acc. 575) Use of cotter pins on the crankcase discontinued. (They were apparently reinstated at a late date...)

1919, March 3<sup>rd</sup> Demountable rims not painted, nor are the bolts. Finished in a galvanized (zinc or tern plate) coating.

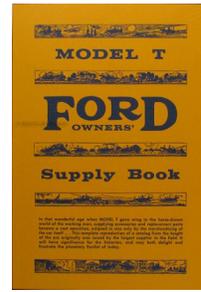
1919, March 15<sup>th</sup> Starter-type transmission cover used on all cars.

1919, March 28<sup>th</sup> T-449 starter crank pin changed to a rivet rather than the pin, which had been riveted in place. (The riveting process caused oil leaks)

1924, March 12<sup>th</sup> (Engine production records) Lightweight pistons first used.



# "T" Accessories

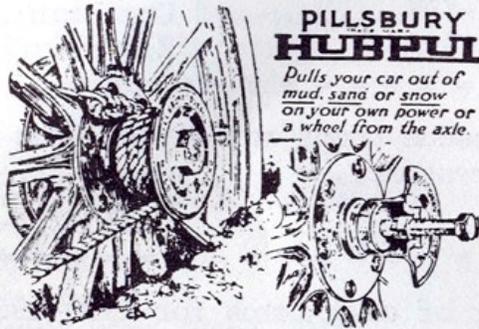


Now here's a great idea for getting Un-stuck



### PULLS CAR OUT OF MUD.

The Pillsbury Hubpul, manufactured by the Pillsbury Mfg. Co., 322-24 Hennepin avenue, Minneapolis, Minn., is a combination device which enables a car when stuck in mud, sand or snow or otherwise helplessly positioned, to utilize its own power to get out of trouble, or may be used to pull a wheel from



### PILLSBURY HUBPUL

*Pulls your car out of mud, sand or snow on your own power or a wheel from the axle.*

the axle. It consists of two nickel-plated screw caps, two rubber-covered special hooks and one cap screw, neatly packed in a display box for shipment, all weighing less than six pounds. It is made exclusively for Ford cars. The price, per set, is \$6.

And this may not be such a great idea. Note the mileage claim!



The fastest selling device on the Ford accessory market—  
**POSITIVE—PROVEN—PERFECT**  
**SENG**  
**STANDEX**  
**AUTOMATIC LUBRICATING SYSTEM FOR FORD CARS**

Automatically replaces each ounce of lubricating oil to crank case, as consumed. Gives you four times your present mileage and eliminates all soot, carbon and heat conditions because oil level is maintained midway between 2 pet-cocks—*not 1 mile, 100 or 1,000.* One oiling gives 1,000 mile range. No more "getting under" or worry or mess or waste. Sales over 14,000 per month.

**PRICE \$10** with 30 day return privilege if not satisfactory. Can be installed in 15 minutes by anyone, a pair of pliers only tool needed. —or ask for literature. Agents wanted in various territories.

**STANDEX MANUFACTURING CORP.**  
 348-358 E. Ohio St., CHICAGO, ILL.

And in closing, a picture from... "*Back In the Day*"

Ever wonder how *Triple A* got it's start??



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