



"T" Time

The Suncoast T Club Newsletter

A Chapter of the Model T Ford Club International
&
The Model T Ford Club of America

The Suncoast T Club was founded in Pinellas County August 16th, 2008, and is organized for fellowship, fun and the preservation of Model T Fords. However, it is not necessary to own a Model T to become a member of this club. Annual dues are \$10.00 and run from January 1 – December 31.

TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SUNCOAST T CLUB YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE
MODEL T FORD CLUB INTERNATIONAL.
DUES FOR THE NATIONAL CLUB ARE \$35.00 A YEAR.

President.....	Scott Conger
Vice President.....	Ben Umberger
Secretary	Althea Conger
Treasurer.....	Althea Conger
Newsletter Editor...	Althea Conger

June 2011

Recent events:

Did you miss the May tour that Ben and Linda put on for us? If you did, then you missed a nice drive through the Belleair area with numerous photo OPs, ending at a beautiful tree-shaded home where we were treated to hamburgers, hot dogs and HOME MADE ice cream!

A number of T's made it, including Milt Roorda and Dr. & Cindy Pidalla (Fun T Club). Those folks came over from Hillsborough county and helped round out our Pinellas group. Bill Brown, who belongs to a bunch of car clubs, apparently forgot which club was sponsoring this event, and came in his beautiful "A" coupe. It was a good thing for him, as Ben and Nick, and Althea and I were nearly drowned and

pounded by 70 MPH winds and hail and rain for our drive home...Bill was nice and dry when he got home...something no one else could brag about.

Many thanks to Ben, Linda, and their photographers for a very nice day...just wish they'd put more effort into getting us better "going home" weather!

President's Message:

Two topics for this message:

1. When was the last time YOU hosted a meeting or put on an event? If you will look back over the past 2 years, while we've had some great events, you will see that the bulk of the events have been done by a very small group of people...in fact, for the 7 remaining months this year, Althea and I are hosting 4 of them, and we still have two meeting months coming up, August and December, where no one has volunteered to host them. Since skipping a business meeting is not an option, and no one has volunteered to host the August meeting, Althea and I will host it at a local restaurant, location TBD (that makes 5 of the next 7 months hosted by Althea and me). Now, whether or not we have a holiday luncheon will depend on volunteers to pull it off. These things don't just happen magically, so if you would like to have a nice lunch like last December, then someone needs to take this on...just let me know what you want to do, and where... Being President or in a leadership position means that ideally, you are the leader, facilitator and organizer of your resources (members) to the greatest advantage of all. It doesn't mean that you're the club's party planner or social events coordinator. If that were the case, then no one would likely take the task on in the future. It was my desire to have an interesting activity each month, to create the most excitement and interest possible in folks where they would be looking forward to each and every opportunity to meet. I've tried to make this happen, but in doing so, I've failed to make sure that everyone participated in the planning, not just the attending. This has to change next year... Perhaps doing only 6 events per year, on the same day as the business meeting...I need to hear ideas for events, and I need some volunteers who will commit to planning and pulling them off, so please speak up!
2. We presently are a dual chapter of both MTFCI and MTFCA...as such, our officers must be members of BOTH clubs and of course, be willing to serve. The pool of willing and eligible potential officers is VERY small, particularly due to the dual membership rule. We became a dual chapter because it sounded like a good idea to get published in both national magazines with the expectation that we'd grow our membership due to this fact. It appears that this has not been the case...there is no evidence that we've gotten a single member from either magazine's chapter listing. In order for us to have a broader base for potential officers next year, I will entertain the possibility of dropping our chapter out of one of the national clubs. This isn't something that I'm looking forward to, but am looking at the need to keep the club moving forward in a positive path, where a larger pool of officer candidates, with new and better ideas will come forward to serve. While the year is only about half over, we really need to get the discussion started for succession planning of the organization...who is interested in leading? What sort of activities should we plan? How often should we get together other than for business meetings?
Our business meetings have been pretty casual in the past, but the next couple of meetings will be very important, as we will be establishing the framework for how we want to approach 2012 and on. Please plan on attending the cookout in June at Philippe Park where we can discuss these items in more detail.

For Sale / Wanted:

Suncoast T's Sell, Swap, Wanted Market

Ads are FREE to Suncoast T Members.

Here is your chance to clean out the garage and find new stuff.

Please have ads to the editor no later than the 15th of the month.

FOR SALE:

- Generators
- Coils
- Carburetors

Scott Conger 727-551-0001 or modeltrepair@gmail.com

WANTED:

- Top bows for 1923 – 1925 roadster

Scott Conger 727-551-0001 or modeltrepair@gmail.com

Place your **FOR SALE** or **WANTED** items here. Send Althea an email altheaconger@gmail.com (or call 727-551-0001) with your items and they'll get in the next newsletter.

Club Calendar:

If you have a great idea for our Club Calendar, **SPEAK UP!** I'm sure that every member has an interest or idea for an event, so why keep it a secret? A successful club is a cooperative effort, so don't wait for someone else to host an event – step up and be heard! Fill in the empty dates in our calendar!... Get involved and experience the satisfaction of contributing to **YOUR** club in a meaningful way.

June 11 – Meeting Month - hosted by Scott & Althea Conger

Time: 11:00 / Meeting after lunch

Location: Philippe Park in Safety Harbor / Shelter #7

Food: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers will be provided – Please bring a covered dish to share, and your own drinks. **PLEASE RSVP** (727) 551-0001 or altheaconger@gmail.com

We'll take a short drive to Cold Stone Creamery in Safety Harbor for ice cream after the meeting

July 9 – Coil Tune-up Clinic – hosted by Scott & Althea Conger

Bring your coils and have them checked on a Strobo-Spark or Hand Crank Coil Tester. The difference in performance of *properly* adjusted coils versus *improperly* adjusted coils in a Model T is simply amazing. Find out if you're getting the best performance out of your car that is possible.

Time: 10:00

Location: 109 13th Ave NE, St. Petersburg FL, 33701, (727) 551-0001

Lunch: We'll drive to Biff Burger for lunch. **PLEASE RSVP** (727) 551-0001 or altheaconger@gmail.com, so I can reserve enough tables for us.

August 13 – Meeting Month – hosted Scott and Althea Conger

Local restaurant, location TBD

PLEASE RSVP (727) 551-0001 or altheaconger@gmail.com, so I can reserve enough tables for us.

Club Calendar (Con't):

September 10 – Drive to Ft. De Soto - hosted by Scott & Althea Conger

Starting Location: Sawgrass Lake Park, 7400 25th St. N, St. Petersburg, we'll drive to Ft. De Soto.

Lunch: We'll drive to a nearby cafe. **PLEASE RSVP** (727) 551-0001 or altheaconger@gmail.com, so I can reserve enough tables for us.

Time: 10:30 / **Please show up early, 10:00, as we will leave at 10:30 sharp.**

October ? (Date to be determined) – Fish Fry – Hosted by Jim & Anna Hayward

More information will be coming later

Time: TBD

Location: Jim & Anna's home

November 12 – Drive to Safety Harbor for lunch and ice cream - hosted by Scott & Althea Conger

Lunch Location: Captain's Italian Restaurant-Pizza, 324 Main St, Safety Harbor

Ice Cream Location: Cold Stone Creamery, 100 Main St, Safety Harbor

Start Time: 10:00 if driving with group to lunch. **Please show up early, 9:30, as we will leave at 10:00 sharp.** If you want to drive your T, **RSVP** (727) 551-0001 or altheaconger@gmail.com, so we know to watch for you.

Starting Location: Sawgrass Lake Park, 7400 25th St. N, St. Petersburg, we'll drive to Safety Harbor.

PLEASE RSVP (727) 551-0001 or altheaconger@gmail.com, so I can reserve enough tables for us.

December 10 – Annual Meeting and Christmas luncheon – hosted by ???

THIS MONTH IS AVAILABLE. PLEASE CONTACT SCOTT OR ALTHEA WITH YOUR MEETING LOCATION PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1st.

Election of officers will occur and club dues will be collected.

What are Members doing?

Scott's replaced the head gasket, changed bands, and rewired the '19 roadster in preparation for the National Tour in Rochester, MN.

Jim Hayward has increased the leg room in the rear seat of his Depot Hack and repaired the wheel bearing which went out on the Madison Tour.

Ben Umberger's considering replacing his sagging rear spring in his touring

Milt is making progress on his depot hack and his Montana 500 speedster

Nick's got a new radiator in the car, and is still chasing a starter problem

Lynn Keiter got his T back on the road and made a successful trip with a local antique car club recently

Bob White's still in the hospital. He's had a tough few weeks, but is getting bit better and breathing easier

So, what have **YOU** been up to? If you don't tell us, we don't know!

[Fun Things To Do This Year:](#)

[July 17 – 22](#) – **MTFCI 55th Annual Tour – Hosted by the “T Totalers” Chapter**

Location: Rochester, MN...Creeks, Rivers and Bluffs...start making plans now to attend. Check your current MTFCI magazine for more information or the MTFCI website <http://www.modelt.org/>

[October 15](#) – **Lakeland, Florida Lake Mirror Classic Auto Festival & Auction**

For more information: <http://www.lakemirrorclassic.com/>

[October 4 –8](#) – **Hershey PA – Hershey Swap Meet & Car Show**

For more information: <http://hersheyaaca.org/>

[November 9 - 12](#) – **19th Annual Fall Fuel Up Show & Swap Meet**

Location: Flywheeler Park at 7000 Avon Park Cutoff Road, Ft. Meade, FL

Admission: Wed thru Sat - \$7.00

For more information: <http://www.floridaflywheelers.org/>

[November 11 - 14](#) – **27th Annual Fall AutoFest**

Location: Zephyrhills at Festival Park on U.S. Hwy 301. Parking is Free

Time: Opens 8:00 a.m. each day

Admission: Thurs & Fri - \$8.00 / Saturday & Sunday \$10.00

For more information: www.zephyrhillsfestivals.com or www.zephyrhillsauction.com

[November 13](#) – **St. Petersburg Yacht Club Vintage Motor Classic**

Location: Straub Park, 11 Central Ave., St. Petersburg (enter from beach drive)

Admission: Entrance fee is \$25 early registration (includes pre-show reception) and \$40 entrance fee, the day of the show.

Questions: Call Bill Waters, Chairman 727-580-1804

<http://www.olderide.com/events/7191735.html>

[Fun Things To Do In 2012:](#)

[January 18 – 21](#) – **20th Annual Fall Fuel Up Show & Swap Meet**

Location: Flywheeler Park at 7000 Avon Park Cutoff Road, Ft. Meade, FL

Admission: Wed thru Sat - \$7.00

For more information: <http://www.floridaflywheelers.org/>

[March 25 – March 31](#) – **MTFCI Spring Tour, Savannah Georgia**

Location: Savannah Georgia

Contact: Nevy Clark (912) 897-0050 or email NClark48@bellsouth.net for more information. Check your current MTFCI magazine for more information or the MTFCI website <http://www.modelt.org/>

[July 16 – 22](#) – **MTFCI 56th Annual Tour**

Location: Rutland, Vermont

Fun Things To Do In 2012 (Con't):

October 10 –13 – Hershey PA - AACA Eastern Fall Meet

For more information: <http://hersheyaaca.org/>

November xx - xx – 20th Annual Fall Fuel Up Show & Swap Meet

Location: Flywheeler Park at 7000 Avon Park Cutoff Road, Ft. Meade, FL

Admission: Wed thru Sat - \$7.00

For more information: <http://www.floridaflywheelers.org/>

November xx - xx – 28th Annual Fall AutoFest

Location: Zephyrhills at Festival Park on U.S. Hwy 301. Parking is Free

Time: Opens 8:00 a.m. each day

Admission: Thurs & Fri - \$8.00 / Saturday & Sunday \$10.00

For more information: www.zephyrhillsfestivals.com or www.zephyrhillsauction.com

Fun Things To Do In 2013:

July 14 – 19 – MTFCI 57th Annual Tour

Location: East Lansing, Michigan

October 9 –12 – Hershey PA - AACA Eastern Fall Meet

For more information: <http://hersheyaaca.org/>