



“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

October 2011

President's message:

Great News! Touring weather has finally come to Florida! If this past weekend's weather didn't inspire you to get your "T" out for a spin, I don't know what would. So what's the opposite of beautiful touring weather? In Florida it would probably be the 11 months of heat and rain we have during summer. Ask Jim, Bob, and Lynn about rain sometime. It is almost a fact that they fell into the Bermuda Triangle, and ended up visiting all 4 corners of Pinellas County on that 3.9 mile leg of the tour, before getting to the restaurant. Those poor souls missed the turn to the restaurant last month and got caught in a 1 hour adventure through a torrent of rain in Jim's open Hack

(A.K.A the S.S. Minnow) as they searched for the illusive turn into the shopping complex on Tierra Verde where the restaurant was.

The rain almost did Althea and me in, as well. After lunch, we discovered our sparkplugs shorted out and the coil box was so wet that it took multiple pushes from others, as well as mopping out the coil box and changing plugs in order to get our car going. You know who your friends are by how many will push your car all over the parking lot!

Many thanks to all for showing up on such an ominous looking day, and for the help, encouragement, advice and above all, all of the pushing that everyone provided. After all that, with a dry coil box and new plugs, the car finally started with a "free" start. Go figure!

And now for some advice for touring. When you're executing any particular leg of a route, be sure to pay attention to the mileage listed. Whatever the mileage is to the next turn, double it, and that's how many minutes (more or less) that it will be before you make the turn. So, 7 miles will be 14-15 minutes to the next turn, 4.5 miles will be 9-10 minutes to the next turn, and so on. Using all of the information provided on the instructions should save you from an awful lot of aggravation. Sometimes Althea will bring a small travel clock with us so that I can see the time when we turn and make a note of when we'll need to turn again. If the route instructions are accurate with the mileage, this works out very well.

October Activities:

1. **Tour** - Be sure to join us this month for our drive to Milt's barn for a meeting, and then on to a local country deli for lunch.
2. **Dinner** – Be sure to call Jim and Anna Hayward and RSVP for their delicious and entertaining fish fry later in the month



Guess what? It's election season! Not only are the folks in Washington, those purveyors of pork, and masters of malfeasance, beginning their campaigns, but your own cabal of officers are about to expire...their term, that is...please don't buy flowers just yet.

So who among you will step up for the challenge? Who will see that tours are written? Who will ensure that meetings are organized? Who will lead the club with boldness and clarity of vision that will make women swoon and men turn green with envy?

Come out to our October meeting prepared to find out!

Now, on a more serious note: Our club needs continued leadership for the coming New Year. It's essential for a healthy organization to have leadership with a vision for the future as well as an engaged membership that is willing to provide input as to what type and frequency the club's activities should be. Without one or the other, the organization will stagnate. One thing is certain...the future cannot be simply a rehash of the past. In the few years this club has existed, we've had some great tours, picnics,

and tech sessions. I see no reason for our success and enjoyment of the hobby to not continue to grow, so long as the membership remains engaged in putting on, and attending club functions. The club also must produce leaders who are willing to put forth the effort to lead the club in a positive direction. Who will that person be for next year? What new ideas do YOU have for the club? Is the club providing to its membership the activities they are looking for? At the frequency they desire? In any event, be prepared for a new direction coming in January!

How to host a club meeting:

What does it take to host a club meeting?
Just remember these 3 words...location...location...location.

When asked, "Who would like to host a club meeting?" most people shy away from participating because they aren't sure what they're supposed to do.

Some people think they have to plan a tour to the meeting. **NOT TRUE**

Some people think they have to have a meeting where most of the T'ers live. **NOT TRUE**

Members that live outside of Pinellas County might think we won't come to a meeting in their area because they live to far away. **NOT TRUE**

What is asked of everyone that hosts a meeting is a location; restaurant, park or your home, where we can hold a meeting and not disturb other people. Where we are free to talk, discuss, share thoughts and enjoy each other's company.

If a meeting is held in New Port Richey, Brandon or Riverview, we would drive modern; except for those that live closer and who might drive their T's.

Two simple steps to plan a meeting:

Step 1: **Location** – Find a restaurant that has a separate meeting room and reserve it for the club (reserve for 2 hours and there should be no cost for this room);

OR

Location – Find a nice shaded park with picnic benches (or we'll bring chairs)

OR

Location – Host the meeting at your house

Step 2: Contact Althea with the location (name & address of the restaurant, park, or home), and she'll do the rest.

Simple & Easy.

So the next time you hear "Who would like to host a club meeting?" you can say "I will"!!

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.

Send Althea an email altheaconger@gmail.com or call 727-551-0001 with your items and they'll get in the next newsletter.

FOR SALE:

- Generators
- Coils
- Carburetors
- Starters

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

WANTED:

- Used enclosed car trailer

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

WANTED:

- Top bows for 1923 – 1925 roadster

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

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.

October 8 – Meeting Month – Hosted by Milt & Rosemary Roorda

Time: 11:30

We will be driving north on Belcher Rd to Route 60, so plan on joining up with the rolling caravan leaving St. Pete around 9:30

Location: 10025 Tarpon Springs Rd, Odessa FL, 33556, (727) 410-7776 (We'll meet in the barn)

Lunch: Keystone Corner Deli, 18515 Crawley Road, Odessa FL, 33556 (1 minute drive from meeting)

After lunch we'll drive to Safety Harbor for Ice Cream.

*****NEW DAY*** October 22** – Fish Fry – Hosted by Jim & Anna Hayward

Time: Arrive around 6:30 pm for social hour / Dinner starts at 7:00 pm

Cost: \$10.00 donation per person (\$20.00 per couple) to help pay for the live band

Covered Dish: Please bring a covered dish to share

Location: 651 Pine Forest Dr., Brandon FL 33511

PLEASE **RSVP** Jim & Anna at (813) 685-4850

Club Calendar (Con't):

November 12 – Drive to Dunedin for lunch and Ice Cream - hosted by Scott & Althea Conger

Time: 11:30 (They will not seat us until everyone arrives)

Lunch Location: Kelly's Restaurant, 319 Main St, Dunedin FL 34698

Ice Cream Location: Strachan's Homemade Ice Cream & Desserts, 310 Main St, Dunedin FL 34698
Right across the street from the restaurant.

PLEASE **RSVP** Althea at (727) 551-0001 **before** Thursday November 10th if attending.

December 10 – Annual Meeting and Holiday luncheon – hosted by Bill & Judy Saitta

Time: Arrive around 11:00 for social hour / Lunch starts at 12:00

Location: 7747 46th Ave. N., St. Petersburg FL 33710.

Food: Meat will be provided by the Club. Members are asked to **call Judy** at (727) 546-2110 to see what side dishes to bring; she has a list.

Parking: Park inside fence on grass, anywhere – someone will help direct parking

PLEASE **RSVP** Judy at (727) 546-2110 OR jsaitta@earthlink.net **by Saturday December 3rd** if attending.

Election of officers will occur and \$10.00 club dues will be collected. If you cannot make the luncheon, please mail your check (payable to Althea Conger) to:

Althea Conger
109 13th Ave NE
St. Petersburg FL 33701

December 10 – Annual Lighted Boat Parade – hosted by Nick Miller & Ben Kleyla

Time: Arrive around 6:30

Location: 227 173rd Ave, N. Redington Beach, FL 33708

Dinner: Dinner will be provided. **NO COVERED DISH IS REQUIRED**

PLEASE **RSVP** Nick or Ben at (727) 393-9270

Local Interest:

October 15 –Lake Mirror Classic Auto Festival & Auction, Lakeland, Florida

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

November 9 - 12 – *Flywheeler Park Swap Meet*

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

Admission: \$7.00 Wednesday thru Saturday

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

November 10 - 13 – Zephyrhills Swap Meet

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

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

Admission: \$8.00 Thursday / \$10.00 Friday & Saturday / \$5.00 Sunday

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

Local Interest (Con't):

November 13 – *St. Petersburg Yacht Club Car Show*

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

Admission: Entrance fee is \$25 for pre-registration; else registration is \$40 the day of the show. Click on link, www.spyc.org/classic, for registration form and more information.

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

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January 18 – 21 – *Flywheeler Park Swap Meet*

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

Admission: \$7.00 Wednesday thru Saturday

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

February 23 - 26 – *Zephyrhills Swap Meet*

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

Time: Opens 8:00 AM each day

Admission: \$8.00 Thursday / \$10.00 Friday & Saturday / \$5.00 Sunday

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