

# Tin Lizzie TIMES

*A Chapter of the*  
**Model T Ford Club International**



## “Fill ‘er up?”

*“It was a dark, and stormy night....”*

Well, not exactly, but it was a cloudy and rainy morning. Not quite the day you’d want to take your window-less, wood-framed, century-year-old car out for a pleasure drive! But that didn’t stop some of the Colonial Virginia Model T Club members on the first of June. Although the planned route was altered a bit to keep cars closer to their trailers, by the time we hit the road the sun was shining and the roads were clean and ready to be explored. Four T’s cranked up in the parking lot at Lowe’s in Gloucester, VA and headed off for a pleasant drive through several miles of backroads until arriving in the center of town, a quaint place with a Main Street lined with historic buildings, shops, and eateries.



While the Gloucester Brewing Co. was drawing us in to quench our thirsts, it was the restored 1930 Texaco Filling Station that was calling our T’s over for a drink! While we had lunch and some liquid refreshments, our T’s were getting all the attention across the street! What a great setting for some good looking T’s! Lots of turning heads and photo ops, and luckily no accidents at this busy intersection.

This local landmark houses the headquarters for the Fairfield Foundation. Established in 2000, the Fairfield Foundation began with a focus on archaeological research and public outreach, and has grown to include innovative, nationally-recognized educational programs, and developed a dedicated corps of volunteers who have donated over 76,000 hours to their mission.



In 2010 the Foundation purchased the 1930 Edge Hill Service Station in

*Above: The Edge Hill Filling Station in Gloucester, VA looks just as it might have when it opened nearly ninety years ago. The CoVa Club members’ cars turned back the clock, and turned a lot of heads as well!*

Gloucester Courthouse to become their future headquarters, archaeological lab, and outreach center known as the Center for Archaeology, Preservation, and Education (CAPE).

*-Continued on page 2.*

## A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT.....



Happy summer! I think it's too soon to be seeing upper 90 degree temps, but then again it's already July! I'm excited to see new members finding us this spring. Mark Williams & Eliz Baker, 2012 MTFCI past president and a wealth of T knowledge (5 T's); Steve & Jen Tetreault ('26 Roadster pickup); Bryan & Glenda Daniel ('27 TT grain truck); and Woody Parrish, part time Yorktown resident ('23 Roadster). Keep looking, those T's are out there! We can all benefit from encouraging each other and keeping the cars on the road. A friendly reminder — since we are chartered thru MTFCI, an active annual membership in MTFCI is required to be a Colonial VA Club member.

The weather this year has been rough, so our T touring opportunities have been few. But we managed a nice drive around Williamsburg, another in Gloucester, and Deb and I just came back from the "Poor Boy" tour in western NC (see the article, page 3). I'm always open for multi-club events, and it sounds like the Albemarle Club has a few things planned that we can participate in. I'll continue to find opportunities to arrange more drives. We'll send out emails as those drives firm up. Let's keep those T's rolling!

*- Jay Pearsall*

## "Fill 'er Up?" -Continued from page 1.

Across Main Street at the Brewery, Mike, the owner, was being a great host. We got there just before they opened at noon, and had our pick of several house brews. (Ask Debbie about the daily "Mystery Beer!") We knew this was a popular place when Mike flipped over the OPEN sign and the folks started flooding in. Lots of remarks about "those old cars across the street!"



*L to R: Jon, Deb, Jay, Trey, Scott, Max having a great time!*

There are larger clubs, and longer trips, but ANY time spent with your friends and your cars is exactly what this hobby is all about!

*-Submitted by Trey Gwaltney*

**Colonial Virginia Model T Club**

**Williamsburg, VA**

**Jay Pearsall, President**

**Jon Bitler, Vice President**

**Scott Nylund, Secretary**

**Trey Gwaltney, Newsletter,**

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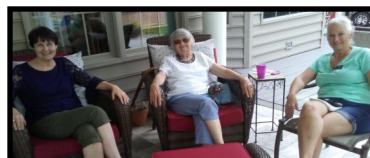
*Left: A great vintage shot of Edge Hill Filling Station, circa 1930. It has changed a little, but not very much. Folks got a big kick out of it when we parked our T's there!!*

## Take a "T", take a Train, take a Break!

In May club members met at Margaret & Jon Bitler's home in Williamsburg after a short local tour. It was a perfect day for a drive, and for an al fresco lunch from



the grill. Jon gave rides on his model train and we all relaxed after a short meeting. Thanks, Margaret & Jon!







*"Ladies & Gentlemen, Breaking News!!..."*

*Updates from CoVa Model T Club Members!"*

## Jay and Deb Pearsall log in 400+ miles on Western NC "Poor Boy Tour"



There were about 42 T's on this tour! Our first day was just a warm-up. Thirty miles of steep hills and gravel roads! Get your brakes working for this one! We stopped in old town Hendersonville for a burger and a beer, then got rested up for our daily drives of 100 miles or more!



The next day our host found a 3/4 mile stretch of gravel road with big potholes and mud. It was crazy, felt like I used all the suspension! Everyone made it, but it reminded me of some of the old movies of bad roads back in the day. Lunch was phenomenal. There must have been 15 manifold cookers filled with all sorts of hotdogs, brats and kraut, mac and cheese, peach cobbler, beans and such. Way too much to eat. The tabs of this rectangular pot sit over the exhaust manifold and cook while you drive. I'm still stuffed. It rained midday, so we put up the side curtains and motored along with everyone else (most don't worry about getting wet). We stopped at a brewery then the Western NC Airplane Museum. Very cool.



The next few days were full of excitement! More hills, more gravel, more rain. Stops included quaint Tryon, NC; the Word of Faith Christian School Holocaust Museum (amazing place); Bennett Classic Car Museum (more great cars) and drove by Chimney Rock. And yes, it rained, but a winery stop made up for it! Back at the hotel, Bingo, a watermelon feed, and a gospel singalong. Amen!



On our last day, after only 20 miles a line of rain hit us. We looked at the new forecast and went back to the trailer in the rain - done with T's in the rain! We drove our modern truck and toured the Biltmore estate. What an incredible place! It even has a winery on site! We made it back home to change the oil and check for loose parts. A total of five days, 415 miles, and about 16-17 average miles per gallon. Not a bad trip!

*- submitted by Jay Pearsall*

## Terry Bond in Luray, VA for Swap Meet

For the fifth straight year, the Shenandoah Valley "Racket-"T"-ers Chapter of the Model T Ford Club International has hosted the Mid Atlantic Pre-War Swap Meet at Luray, Virginia. Each May, the quiet town becomes a mecca for Model T Club members and buyers from as far away as Iowa, Florida, Michigan, and Tennessee.

There were entire trailers loaded with engines, transmissions, radiators, and all kinds of parts, perhaps enough to assemble a couple of cars.

There were a few vehicles for sale - a nice 1919 Model T Depot Hack and a couple of Model A Fords turned up, one immaculately restored 1931 Slant Windshield Four Door Sedan, and an unrestored 1930 Tudor. A 1915 Model T Touring Car was driving around the field, and an assembled 1912 Roadster (sort of) was also tucked in a trailer for sale.

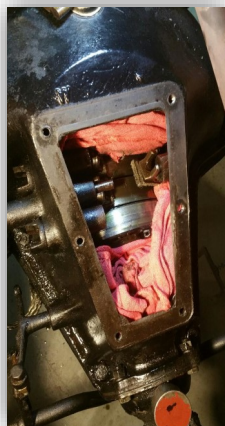
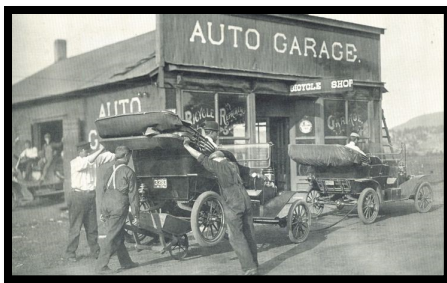


We quickly came across more familiar faces from the Richmond area - Reggie Nash, Morris Cameron, and Jim Cross.

*-Cont'd. on page 4.*

# Technical Tips For T's

*Mark Williams says....*



If you've ever had to change the linings on your transmission bands, and if while you were removing those bands you happened to drop a nut or a bolt into the depths of the transmission case, you probably let loose with a word or two that you would not want to say in front of your grandmother! Well here's an easy trick to remember. Stuff the entire transmission case with rags all around the bands and drums. If you're *unlucky* enough to drop a nut or bolt, you should be lucky enough to catch it in the rags. Yeah, you get a few oily rags, but it's a heck of a lot easier to deal with than fishing out hardware from beneath your transmission!!

*Jay Pearsall says....*



One thing Model T's *don't* do is "stop on a dime." You want the folks speeding up behind you to know you're there! This quick fix is great for doing just that. Battery operated, flashing LEDs, and with a strong magnet, stick this right on the back of your T and you will not be missed. Great for highway driving, then pop it right off for a show or parade. Have fun, but safety first! (Tractor Supply Co. \$25.)

## What's all the BUZZ about all the FUZZ?!?

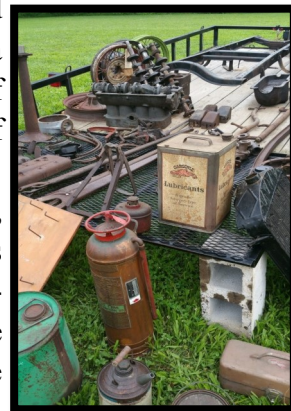
A hot topic of late among CoVa Club members has been the value of having an oil strainer and magnet in one's transmission. If you don't have one, get one. Bits of various metals can come from anything from Babbitt bearings to brass bolts. That screen and magnet will catch a multitude of metal bits, saving you from major problems down the road. If your cotton bands are about shot, there's lint. If your cotton bands are new, there's still lint. No matter how clean you think your oil is, you'll be surprised what shows up in this little screen. And while you're checking the screen, you'd better check under the housing for the magneto post located just above the transmission cover. It's a pain to remove, but lint will cling to the post and short out the system causing the engine to stop if you're driving on magneto. It's well worth a check!



## Swap Meet....

*-Cont'd. from page 3.*

Morris gave a quick tech-session on Model T Ford transmissions as he pawed through a couple of boxes of disassembled drums, shafts, gears and clutches. He bought the whole pile!



People were buying whole boxes of stuff— boxes of assorted exhaust whistles, unrestored lamps, rear axles, wheels, and tools. Vendors were serious about selling and buyers loaded up!

I managed to find a nice brass



lamp for my collection, a couple of NOS Model T timers, some grease seals, axle bearings, carburetor parts, and a couple of nice 1914 license plates. The only thing I don't collect— license plates! I'm going to see how many I can find from 1914, the year of my Model T.

The hospitality at the event was wonderful. It's small enough to be super friendly and still offer a wonderful selection of early stuff. Most of it is Model T Ford, but if you know what you are looking for, there are goodies to be found, and at excellent prices.

*-Submitted by Terry Bond*