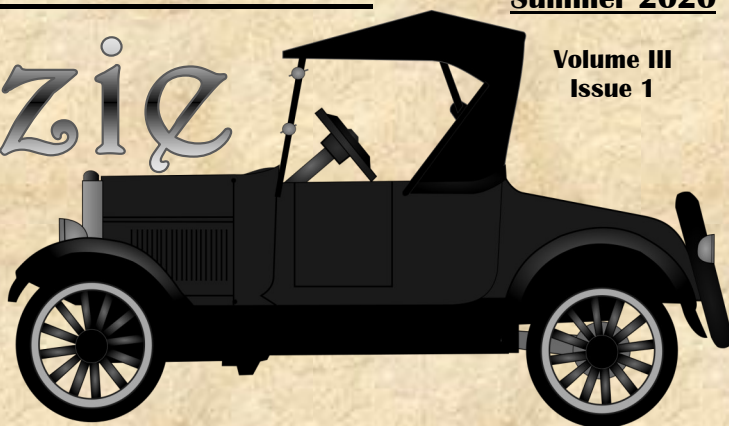


Tin Lizzie TIMES

A Chapter of the
Model T Ford Club International



Once in a Lifetime... Twice for Some...

Now it's no secret that in a Model T Club, no matter how old you might feel, your four-wheeled baby is probably older than you. If not, then congratulations. And if you think you have some stories and secrets, just imagine the ones your car has. My first T was VERY unre-stored, and painted about a dozen different colors. The '24 Sedan served for some years as a clown car in a traveling circus in the Wisconsin area. (But that's another story for another newsletter.) Oh, if they could talk.



The things they have seen, the journeys they have made, the stories they could tell.

It's also no secret that most of us T-geeks would prefer to spend most of our time in the garage tinkering with coil boxes and magnetos, and debating the pros and cons of water pumps. Well, be careful what you wish for. For

the last several months, many of us have had lots of free time on our hands. LOTS.

The Coronavirus has changed the world as we know it. When was the last time we used the word "quarantine?" Or thought we would see auto manufacturers producing ventilators? Or worried about procuring rolls of toilet paper? It has shown us things none of us has ever seen before. Well, there are a few that have....



Ever wonder what your T was doing about a century ago? Maybe carrying nurses to a hospital. Maybe transporting patients stricken with the Spanish flu. Maybe delivering clean laundry, or even masks. Your very own humble Model T could have perhaps even saved someone's life at some point.



So the next time you're fighting with that crank, adjusting the timing, or simply putting the fan belt back on, take a moment and think of all the things that little Lizzie has been through and the impact she's had in her long life. You might just be working on a car that's a lot more special than you realize.



A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT.....



Happy Summer! I hope everyone is staying healthy during this pandemic time! Since last summer, we've welcomed new members Pete & Sissy Hall (Gloucester), Mel & Harriet King (son Josh, Portsmouth) and Gregg & Dawne Musolf (VA Beach).

Helping each other is the reason for our club. Over the winter, many hands helped Mel King boost reassembly of his '23 Roadster after Mark completed an engine overhaul - and a nice tech session at Mel's place. Scott has completely rebuilt the front axle, and is completing the rear Ruckstell rebuild. You should see the new spoke wheels from Stutzman's Wheel Shop! Max fixed his very loose spark advance and I finally got my '19 back together.

Sad to say the national tours and local shows have been canceled. I believe we can put on our own tour this summer. I envision an event for all our members who have never been on a multi-day tour. So stay tuned for details and get your cars ready for local drives in your neighborhoods! As always, I'll keep you posted on upcoming local events! Stay safe!

- Jay Pearsall

Car Shows *A-ward? ... Or Re-ward?*

The other day after participating in a car show, I had a revelation that was good and bad. When we (or any T club) are at a large generic car show, I think T's would not see many awards. I'm guessing most of the awards go to hot rods and "Classics". Maybe I'm wrong. Slow and old likely isn't in their vocabulary!

But, (and this is the good side), when you think about it, you can see that we all love sharing what we have. ALL of us. We spent a significant amount of time on our feet talking about our Model T's and how they worked. A near constant stream of folks were asking questions, and we were on the outskirts of the show! We teach folks about things they would never know if we weren't there, and that's a great thing! We may be in the background, but I think our importance is huge to the community.

-Submitted by Max Lindsey

Colonial Virginia Model T Club

Williamsburg, VA

Jay Pearsall, President

Jon Bitler, Vice President

Scott Nylund, Secretary

Trey Gwaltney, Newsletter,

Website, Correspondent

Feel free to contact us at:

covamodeltclub@gmail.com

Remembering how this all began....



Last Fall I was able to get together with Debbie Battle and we got her '23 Roadster running once again. It had been sitting still for nearly 3 years since her husband, and our friend James, passed. Meeting him, and his T, was the inspiration that started our club! Thanks, James!!

- Jay

A short, humble note from the Editor...

Over the last year, you may have noticed there were no issues of the *Tin Lizzie Times*. I'm sure our readers' lives moved on and minimal sleep was lost. I do however, selfishly hope it was missed by a few. I take full responsibility and do apologize for the absence. My world is beginning to settle down a bit finally, despite Covid-19, and I have every intention of getting back on track with our Club's newsletter and website. I hope you will excuse me for letting "life" get in the way.

- Trey



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

Updates from CoVa Model T Club Members!"

Lights... Camera...

aaand... Action!!...



Max and Scott Join the Ranks!



There is probably no place in the country more reminiscent of World War I, or more directly connected with the vast and varied activities of our armed forces than Hampton Roads, the Cities of Newport News and Braxton-Perkins Post 25 American Legion.

Late last summer, when local film producer and historian, Terrence Aferanderson needed vehicles for his film production set in the 1920's, members of the CoVa Model T Club were happy to help! Jon Bitler and Trey Gwaltney spent a few hot nights in the depths of Pungo making film debuts for their Model T's. Jon's '26 Touring Car and Trey's '19 Depot Hack were both hits from the time they arrived on the set, being the most impressive props in the production. Cast and crew were quick to snap photos

with the T's before the sun went down and filming began.



The film is a historical drama based on true events that took place in 1961 and 1926. Entitled *The Phoenix & The Ashes*, it is



a short film being developed as a pilot for a television mini-series. Portraying Klansmen as well as an African-American, it was a test for the drivers as well as their T's, performing into the early hours of the morning with lots of starting, stopping, and waiting, all in 90+ degree heat!

All performed well, and agreed it was well worth the sweat and mosquitoes. Cast and crew were very im-



pressed that these old cars could still carry folks just like they did nearly a century ago. The T's really added to the character of the film.

In 1961, Father Vincent Warren was invited to the childhood home of Victor, Hallie and Mary Ashe. It was a night of reminiscing and sharing memories, and the historically important stories were captured on a reel-to-reel tape recorder. It recounts the 1926 abduction of Father Warren by the Ku Klux Klan. Covered by local and national media, the story tells how Warren, a white Catholic priest, was retained by the KKK for allegedly planning to build an African-American Catholic church and school in Princess Anne County, now Virginia Beach.

-Submitted by Trey Gwaltney

For a short video clip, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPqphd26zA4

In the fall of 2019, CoVa members were asked to participate in Post 25's 100th Anniversary celebration. The event was held at the Newport News Marriott at City Center on September 14th. With nearly 250 guests adorned in formal wear and period attire in attendance, memorabilia from WWI on full display, and Model T Touring Cars provided by Max Lindsay and Scott Nylund, it was akin to stepping back into the early 1900s, and certainly an event that will not soon be forgotten! CoVa members Max and Scott now rank high on Post 25's impressive guest list, right up there with Governors, Senators, Congressmen, and even General Pershing!

-Submitted by Scott Nylund

Technical Tips For T's

And now, for those with too much free time on their hands...



Technical Tidbits for T-travelers
To Talk up and Test on Their T's!

Jay Pearsall says....

Most all of us have some odd tools laying around the garage. Next time you're having trouble getting to that jam nut on the low band pedal, try this. I married an



old wrench and just the right size socket and "voila!"

Also from Jay...

I found a reasonably priced site for buying slotted screws and square nuts if you're in need: www.boltdepot.com

TREY'S HACK DRAWS LOTS OF ATTENTION!

Since the time this club was formed, you've heard Trey talk about this "building" project that's been sucking up all his time. Well, it finally happened. On March 30, 2020, **Smithfield Self Storage** opened it's new climate-controlled facility and world-wide headquarters. And what better way to let folks know than with Trey's '19 Hack?! It definitely brings in the business!!



Max gets a new view on life... in his transmission!!

During the Fall Classic Car Show this year, Jay, Scott, and I were discussing that it would be nice to have a clear cover in place of the transmission cover so that folks could see what we were describing related to the transmission bands and how they work. I decided to give it a shot and made a replacement out of 1/2" thick plexi-glass. It looked nice and I was pretty happy with it.

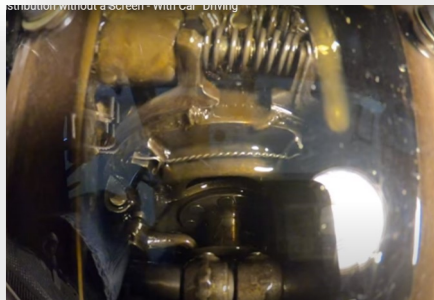


I sent pictures to Jay and Scott and that's when the curiosity started the process of killing the cat. Ha ha ha. The subject came up about whether it would be a problem to run the car with the cover in place because of the heat and oil. I kept thinking about it more and more until I decided, "What the hell! I'll give it a shot."



Jay and I experimented a bit on our cars. The big difference is that Jay modified his screen by adding several holes and enlarging the holes that were there already. There is an OBVIOUS difference in the flow and much better movement of oil towards the 4th main.

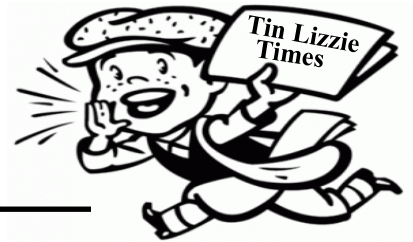
So now I wanted to take things a step further and play with the GoPro to see into the transmission while driving. The lighting posed more of an issue than I expected. I'd have to drive around facing certain directions to minimize glare and reflection. Add in that the oil doesn't like to cooperate and you've got a rather tricky affair, but you do get some glimpses of what is going on inside of the transmission when you first start moving.



I'm thinking I may want to do this with the top up (to kill the reflection and glare) and possibly add a light. Jon suggested something kin to a windshield wiper. Ha ha ha. I actually thought that putting a ridge at the top/forward would force it to drip there, but that's getting tricky.

...continued on page 7.

*Extra! Extra! Read all about it...
This just in from CoVa Members...*



When You're Hot... You're HOT!!

CoVa Members Get Lined Up!!

Some folks might tell you a cup of coffee right from the pot is hot. Or sitting on a metal bench in the summer sun is hot. Or walking across hot coals while barefoot is hot. Well, the CoVa Model T Club can tell you that driving the backroads from Smithfield to Wakefield (almost) and back on July 20, 2019 was definitely HOT!



We met in Smithfield around 9am to unload and secure our trailers and review our planned route. We positioned three manifold cookers to take care of lunch on our return. (They would have probably cooked just as well on the running boards in that heat!) We started with 7 cars and rotated passengers throughout the journey. Kudos to Margi (one of our more... um... mature members) for hanging in there through that heat all day! Her husband, Ken, was probably the smartest one of all, following our convoy in his daily driver with the AC on high!



Our first stop was to visit Trey's cousin, Melvin Gwaltney, one of the charter members of the Colonial VA Model A Club. Although in poor health, Melvin was able to come to the door and see his yard full of antique autos. What a treat for him! While his driving days are behind him, we hope our visit cranked up a lot of good memories. *(Editor's note: Melvin passed away in June, 2020, at age 91.)*

Upon arriving at Melvin's, we found Scott's '17 Touring Car spitting and hissing, and try as we might, we were unable to confidently put her back on the road. So Scott grabbed a passenger seat for the rest of the trip, and we were able to retrieve his T later that afternoon.



We stopped a time or two for a cool down, including a 7-11 by a cornfield (welcome to rural VA) and got a nice picture of our group. Nothing draws attention like a group of T's, and there were lots of bystanders with questions, comments, and cameras. Any opportunity to talk to folks (i.e. "brag") about our T's!!

...continued on page 6.

If there's one thing you can always count on from a Model T collector, it is their eagerness to be



in a parade! And around December, there is no shortage. Christmas

parades are always fun for old cars. And best of all, they're less likely to overheat in cold weather!



We all love showing off our old cars and throwing candy to kids. In 2019, Jay & Debbie, Max, Scott, and Jon



all made it to the Williamsburg parade, and Trey was able to participate in



Smithfield in his hometown celebration. Any holiday is great when you are driving in a Model T!



CoVa Members Share Their Old Cars With Old Vets

One beautiful autumn Saturday back in October, four members of the CoVa Model T Club were the center of attention at the Williamsburg Landing Memory Care Facility. Jay, Max, Scott, and Jeff were welcomed by about 2 dozen residents and their families who came out to see our cars, remember times gone by, and share some great stories with us.



burg Landing Memory Care Facility. Jay, Max, Scott, and Jeff were welcomed by about 2 dozen residents and their families who came out to see our cars, remember times gone by, and share



A few of the residents were Veterans and some current US soldiers and their Drill Sergeant had come by to visit with them. While these young guys



were mystified by our Model T's, to most of the residents our cars were just fond memories of their youth.

Usually our T's are the oldest ones around, but one gentleman we met was even older than most of our cars! At 102 years old, he had some interesting stories to share, including some as a fighter pilot in WWII. (Jay liked that!) The residents, their families, and the caregivers all thoroughly enjoyed seeing our cars, and asked us to please schedule another visit. We can't wait to go back again!

-Submitted by Jay Pearsall

"I'll Gladly Pay You Tuesday...."

Not sure if anyone has been to one of these, but this is a chain restaurant in Florida. Great burgers, and about 5 old cars at the restaurant. I was too focused on the food and forgot to take pictures of the restaurant itself! There were also several engines in the restaurant. Take a close look at that burger!



Max's actual lunch... which didn't last very long!! YUM!

For more on Ford's Garage, check out their website at....



www.fordsgarageusa.com

-Submitted by Max Lindsey

When You're Hot...

...continued from page 5.

In a church parking lot, soaking wet, we all agreed it was time to head back. We cut the trip sort by about 10 miles, but covered a respectable 50 miles or so all together. Ready to relax in



some cool AC, we finished our excursion at Trey's house in Smithfield and couldn't wait to dive

into lunch. What a spread! Brats and kraut from Max, BBQ from Mark, and peach cobbler from Jay and Debbie... all cooked on the road! Add a few ice cold

beers and some iced tea, and what could be a better way for a bunch of T collectors to spend a hot summer day?!



-Submitted by Jay Pearsall

Just a reminder...

Make sure your email is set to accept mail from the Club and its members. Check Jay's roster or the website for addresses so you don't end up in the "Spam can!"



"Well, that's what I heard. That CoVa Club is the Bee's Knees! And here's still more stuff they've been up to... They really are the Cat's Pajamas! Let's get a wiggle on and jump on their running board!"



CoVa Club Members "Represent" for T's At Newport News Car Show

Three CoVa Model T's were a real hit at 17th Annual Virginia Fall Classic last October. Lots of on-lookers asked plenty of questions about our historic vehicles. Jay Pearsall, Jon Bitler, Max Lindsey and Scott Nylund participated. Sponsored by the Virginia Peninsula Car Club Council (VPCCC), the Fall Classic is a three-day event which raises funds for Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters. Held at Newport News Park on Jefferson Avenue in Newport News, Virginia, Saturday's event



Manny, Moe, & Jack?... Or... Larry, Moe, and Curly?

is open to all makes and models of cars, trucks, and motorcycles. Jay, Max and Scott drove their Touring Cars, and Jon showed off his classic red '64 Corvette. (Really?!) There were all kinds of other classic cars, home built ones and even a replica of the Ghost Buster's Cad-

dy. In addition, there were craft vendors, food, a police K9 demonstration, and live music. The weather was perfect and couldn't be beat. And guess what—our club was the only one representing the Model T era. Everything else was too new!



-Submitted by Scott Nylund

A Diamond in the Rough

Last winter I bought an early 1915 Model T Roadster. It has some obvious originality and condition issues, like the wheels, springs, and top, but I think it will make a nice brass car driver. It's running and drivable. As an early '15, it has gas lights, hopefully original. I'm not sure, but I've read it was common practice at Ford to switch to the new version of a part only when the stock pile of current parts was exhausted.



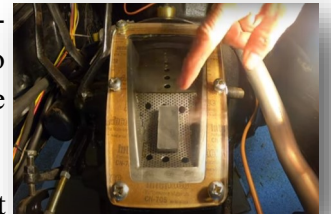
-Submitted by Mark Williams

www.covamodeltfordclub.weebly.com

Max's New View...

...continued from page 4.

I did try it out on the road, but it was difficult to see due to the reflection. I was debating on bringing someone along and putting the top up. The passenger could put a flashlight into the transmission to give it lighting. But then, while cleaning the T, I was standing next to it and it hit me... DUHHH!!!! You can jack up the tail end and 'drive' it in the garage. That would allow me to control the lighting.



So that has been my "Covid-19" project. I just finished it and I think it came out well. I added another GoPro mount to the plexi-glass plate and it is mounted at the bottom of the plate (aft end of the plate). That allowed the camera to basically be sitting on the plate looking in from the bottom. To really understand all this, it helps to see it. I've posted some videos on YouTube. The links are below. Enjoy!

-Submitted by Max Lindsey

See the world through MAX-colored glasses at YouTube.com!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqW1g0xBPHA&t=121s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z5dG4z0kuEA&t=12s>



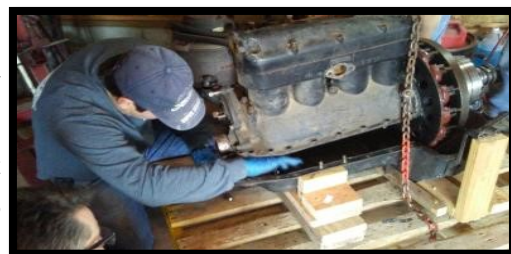
Paging CoVa Club Members!.... CoVa Club Members!.... Here's the skinny on more neat activities from CoVa Club Members!...

CoVa Club Members Rally 'Round to put a Little Spark Back into an Old Project.

When new member Mel King was looking for some help with his T projects, and Jay was looking for a place to hold a club meeting, this was a perfect match. So on February 1st, 2020, members converged in Portsmouth at Mel Kind's garage for a meeting and tech session.

Mel had two projects moving along - both Roadsters, '15 & '24. He had been doing some great work and the '24 was about 80% finished with beautiful black paint and a lot of new parts already assembled. He needed a turtle deck (recently acquired) and one new wheel, as well as a good look over the engine. It was on a stand and had been rebuilt years ago.

His '15 was not quite so far along but the beautiful red painted body was ready whenever his chassis was done. He had recently acquired a '15 engine for it, supposedly from a running car, but needed to get it onto a stand for a thorough inspection. Our mission – see how close to running that rebuilt '24 motor was, and see what the '15 might need.



We managed to get the '15 motor unpacked and rolled over for a quick look inside. We were all amazed at what we found! Counterbalanced crank weights, oil dippers, and a most interesting “Rube-Goldburg” pressurized oiling system. The Main bearing caps had been drilled and fitted with a copper tubing arrangement that supplied oil directly to them. There was a large diameter external oil tube that collected oil from inside the fly-wheel area of the oil pan and forced it through the tube and into the bearing caps. Ingenious! – or was it? There were mixed opinions. Cast iron rods were present so we began to wonder about how suitable the engine would be. It was the subject of a lot of discussion that day.



We also noted some things with the '24 engine that needed some fine-tuning, so Mel wisely decided to concentrate on that car first, as it was closest to being finished and on the road. I took the engine to Mark's for some more tweaking, and a couple of parts orders later it was back together from crank pulley to rear main cap. A few more members helped install it and now it sits, ready to run once some final parts are installed.

As for the '15 engine – Mel has decided to try the pressurized oiling system. Discussing the setup with some other T guys in Maryland, he believes the system was pretty well-engineered. We'll see how it works out once the '15 is on the road.



We finished up our Club meeting with some sandwiches and chips, and called it a good day. Club members helped not only during the tech session but also afterwards, hauling parts, assembling and installing them, and even donating some items. It's really nice when we all learn something and actually get our hands greasy. Thanks, Mel, for a great day.

-Submitted by Terry Bond