

Rockford Model T Ford Club Newsletter

November 2023



MEMBERS WORKING FOR YOU:

President	Aaron Crandall
Vice President	Steve Kindell
Secretary	Deb Werner
Treasurer	Jay Larson
President Emeritus	Steve Kindell
Directors	Bill Werner Craig Sheridan Duane Bunton Dave Lantz
Newsletter Editor	Kurt Duesterhoeft
Little Hershey	
Swap Meet	Dave Lantz
Sunshine Persons	Duane & Cathy Bunton



PURPOSE OF THE CLUB

The purpose of this chapter is to promote the interests of the public in the preservation and restoration of antique autos, particularly the Model T Fords, their accessories, lore, and literature.

AT A GLANCE – CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Wednesday November 1	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Meeting	United Lutheran Church 3630 N. Rockton Ave.
Saturday December 2	Noon – 3 p.m.	Club Christmas Luncheon Potluck	United Lutheran Church 3630 N. Rockton Ave.

OTHER LOCAL SHOWS AND EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
November 4/5	\$teals and Deals	Rockford Speedway

You can find all the local car shows and cruise nights at Bill Werner's website by clicking <https://rockfordcruisenights.weebly.com/events.html>.

Those celebrating this month:

Birthdays

Wayne Henson	11/11
Helen Anglemire	11/12
Larry Foht	11/14

Anniversaries

Kent & Kathy Larson	11/20
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Rockford Model T Club October 4, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Club president Aaron Crandall welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at United Lutheran Church, Rockford. Officers, Board and club members present included: Aaron Crandall, Jay Larson, Deb Werner, Steve Kindell, Dave Lantz, Bill Werner, Craig Sheridan, Duane and Cathy Bunton, Bill Duffee, Wayne and Phyllis Orrison, Kurt Duesterhoeft, Joe Maurer, Austin Farmer, Scott & Sheryl Stier, Cheryl and Rick Heissler, Dean Wanfalt, Tim Wanfalt, and Gene Clifton.

Club board members and directors met at 6:00 p.m., one hour prior to the club meeting to review the club by-laws, most currently printed in the 2019 club booklet. Steve Kindell read through the by-laws, including the Calling Tree list, and info was updated.

Secretary Deb Werner read the minutes of the Oct, 2023 meeting. Jay Larson moved to approve, seconded by Bill Werner, approved.

Treasurer Jay Larson read the treasurer's report, \$6,506.82 is the current amount in the account. Duane Bunton moved to approve, seconded by Craig Sheridan, approved. Jay advised club members to think about what charities to suggest donations be sent to and asked that members be prepared to discuss at the next month's meeting.

Old Business -- The topic of the annual charitable donations was discussed and it was proposed the budget of \$1,500 for 2023. Dave Lantz made a motion, Jay Larson seconded, approved. After additional club discussion of the donations, Steve Kindell made a motion to amend to \$2,000 donation budget, Dean Wanfalt seconded, motion approved.

New Business – Steve Kindell informed club members about the board members and directors meeting to discuss by-laws and noted the changes made to the most-current (2019) info: update and use the Calling Tree when needed; Annual club dues will remain Feb. 1 due date in order to remain a club member (mention was made that it is helpful if the dues could be paid by end of December, if at all possible); Article III: Election of Members – omit end of first sentence “at regular scheduled Board of Directors’ meeting.”; Article VII: Duties of Officers, section D. Treasurer: addition of “and maintain current club memberships and club membership applications” in order to keep current club member’s info (Kurt Duesterhoeft said he will include the membership application in the club newsletter); Article X: Chapter Meets – end of the paragraph to include “and participation in Little Hershey, if able.” Bill Werner made a motion to approve the updates of the club by-laws and info, Craig Sheridan seconded, motion approved. Discussion took place regarding getting two quotes for printing of the books; however, Cheryl Heissler said the printing company she is employed by quoted approx. \$360 for 50 books; \$480 for 100 books. Dave Lantz made a motion to approve, Craig Sheridan seconded, approved. Steve Kindell made a motion to reimburse Joe Maurer \$100 for the Overnight Tour, Jay Larson seconded, motion approved.

Little Hershey – Dave Lantz handed out the 2023 Little Hershey fliers and requested club members discuss any changes that need to be made to the flier for the 2024 Little Hershey fliers. Dave also said he has leftover Little Hershey event hand-out cards and will distribute those cards at car events in 2024 Spring.

Illnesses and Deaths –Joe Maurer feeling better credits his wife, Bean, for helping him through his hospitalization and recuperation. Dave Lantz had nerve release surgery recently and has his arm in a sling and is recovering. Scott Stier reported Ron Miller, of Ohio, recently passed away due to complications from long-haul Covid. Tim Wanfalt has been slowly healing and recovering from falling in a hole approx. two feet deep and has been off work for an extended period of time. Tim said he hopes to be returning to work soon.

Past Club Events – Joe Maurer stated club members had a fun time on the Overnight Tour. He said Model T's, Model A's, and a few Mustangs participated in the tour. Joe said the day began with donuts and coffee before starting the tour, then the first stop was at an apple orchard, then traveling to the Airport for a tour. Then it was on to Knute's for a delicious meal and fun fellowship. Joe said the hotel accommodations were wonderful and provided great service to club members. Second day tour was to Madison Zoo, a cheese shop which included loads of samplings of cheese and wines, and final stop was for ice cream in Rockton.

Future Club Events – Saturday, Oct. 7 – Cars and Coffee, Katie's Cup, 7th St., Rockford (last one for the season); Saturday, Oct. 7 –Joe Maurer said the No Name Club is having a tour from Lena to Woodbine and through Apple River Canyon area; Sunday, Oct. 8 – Fall Tour, hosted by Gene and Betty Clifton, which includes a tour to Sharon, Wisconsin area, to Delavan, Wisconsin, with conclusion of a stop in a park for ice cream. Gene said the tour is approx. 75 to 80 miles; Saturday, Oct. 14 – car show at Don Carter Lanes, E. State St., Rockford; Nov. 4 and 5 -- \$teels and Deal\$ at Rockford Speedway. Saturday, Dec. 2 – Christmas Party - Sheryl Stier said the party will include a potluck (club will provide the chicken) and also said there will be a Christmas hat contest (new this year!) and also asked that members bring a car-related item to donate to the raffle.

Member's Projects and News – Joe Maurer said he knows of newer and older cars for sale and said contact him, if interested. Bill Duffee said he will be moving out of state and is selling his 1926 Model T coupe. Kurt Duesterhoeft displayed a sign that he purchased for \$68 (Kurt attached magnetic tape to the sign) that he put on his car, as he was the last car on the recent tour. Kurt said the sign can be used on tours for any last-in-line cars. Craig Sheridan made a motion to reimburse Kurt the \$68; Jay Larson seconded; approved.

Joe Maurer made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Craig Sheridan seconded; approved.

Next Club Meeting – Wed, Nov. 1 at 7:00 p.m. – United Lutheran Church, Rockford.

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Membership Renewal Time – Dues are due!

As we close out the 2023 season it's time to renew your club membership for next year. The deadline for dues is December 31st. We are planning on updating our club roster books for next year. We haven't done this for several years and some of our information is no longer current, so we're asking everyone to fill out a membership renewal form so we get all of our records up to date. You'll find the form on the next page. Please bring the filled out form, along with your \$15 renewal, to the November meeting or you can mail it to the club Treasurer at:

Jay Larson
2103 Guilford Rd
Rockford, IL 61107

Membership Renewal

Rockford Chapter Model T Ford Club



Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone #: _____

Cell
 Landline

Email Address: _____

Name of Spouse: _____ Phone #: _____

Cell
 Landline

MTFCI Member Number _____ Best way to reach me is:

Email
 Phone
 Text

Antique Cars Owned

Year	Make	Body Type
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Antique Car Clubs Belonged To:

Antique Car Interests:

Signature

Date

Please Join us for the

Rockford Model T Ford Club
Christmas Party

Saturday, December 2nd

United Lutheran Church

3630 N. Rockton Avenue, Rockford

12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Pot Luck Lunch

Club will provide the Chicken, beverages & tableware

Please help by bringing the following:

Last names - A-M - side dish or salad

Last name - N-Z - Desserts

ALSO: We will be having a new Holiday Contest -

Most Festive Christmas HAT



Prizes will be awarded

AND: Please bring an item for our raffle - any nice item would be fun!

Please contact Sheryl Stier with your RSVP or questions.

847-669-3848 / 815-375-8945 / sastier@prodigy.net

Ho Ho Ho, Happy Holidays!

Overnight Tour September 26/27 by Wayne Orrison

The following brave folks met at Blassingham Park in Pecatonica on a very wet early Tuesday morning: Steve and Debbie Kindell in their '24 Model T Touring, Wayne and Phyllis Orrison in their '26 (no side curtains) Model T Touring, Sam Parks and his wife in a '68 Mustang, Ron and Linda Lanquist in a '67 Mustang, Larry and Loretta Anderson, Dave and Pauline Clark, Chuck Milazzo, Anne Laviolette, and George Brunson all in Model A's, and the rest in modern cars, including Joe and Bean Maurer.



It was a downpour getting to the park that morning and everyone seemed to get a little wet, especially Wayne and Phyllis in their T because it has no side curtains. After drying out a little, the group got underway with Joe and Bean Maurer leading the way and traveling thru Davis, IL and making our way to the TenEyck Apple Orchard outside Brodhead WI for some apple shopping and a photo op at the round barn there. After shopping, we headed to the Brodhead Airport Air Museum. This is a new (to me) museum and it has several wonderfully restored antique airplanes - all that fly. There are some

wonderful aircraft-related displays and the museum is also now expanding its facility. It was/is quite a nice museum and worth another visit.

After a visit at the museum, we headed off to Orfordville for lunch at Knute's Bar and Grill. This is great spot for lunch and they also have a great buffet on Saturday nights with prime rib and often shrimp. We had 26 folks there for lunch. We had our fill of all kinds of good food and then headed for Brooklyn, WI on some great roads for a fuel stop.



It was a short drive from there on some more great roads to our hotel for and early check-in. This was a quite new motel and the accommodations were really nice and management was most cooperative allowing us to use the dining area for casual meetings and to gather for a drawing later that evening after dinner.

We headed out for dinner at Mulligan's Bar and Grill where we had 27 folks gathered and had a great time co-mingling our two clubs. I think everyone had a good meal, good drinks, and a great time. After dinner we again mustered at the hotel dining room and had our drawing (nice prizes provided by Joe and Bean and Sam Parks) and most everyone managed to score something. We also had a lot of Halloween type candy passed around that gave everyone a chance to pack on some more calories (courtesy of Bean I think). After the drawing, most folks stayed for a while chatting and just enjoying the evening.

The next morning, after breakfast at the hotel, we headed for the Madison Zoo. It was a little challenging driving through Madison due to all the construction detours, but we all made it to the Zoo and spent a couple of hours looking at the animals and various sights. Some animals have been moved to winter quarters, but most were still available and quite interesting to see. I never get tired seeing the wonder variety of creatures one finds in a zoo. Lunch options at the zoo are limited and very expensive (examples - a brat, \$13.99, a cheese burger, \$13.99, water, \$4.99, etc.), so most folks opted to wait until we had our next fuel stop after leaving the zoo to eat.



We left the zoo and headed for the Wisconsin Cheese Factory. Wow, what a great place. But first, a little parking mishap when Chuck Milazzo backed into the parking space there a little too far and his Model A rolled down the steep incline into the ditch. No damage happened (other than some embarrassment), but the car had to be towed up and out. Dave Anderson provided a tow strap and the owner of the Cheese Factory provided the tow. The rest of us sort of stood around and had all kinds of suggestions. It didn't really take long and everyone got back to sampling some great cheese, wine and even booze. It was an interesting and fun stop to say the least and worth another visit. I think many of us purchased cheese and other stuff to add on some more calories later.

We left the cheese factory and headed for our last fuel stop, which also had a McDonalds attached to the gas station, which Joe had mentioned when we were headed to the zoo, and most folks fueled up both the cars and the tummies.

Cars and tummies full, we left the fuel stop and headed out on some great roads and of course, we had some more rain showers before getting to our final stop for - what else - ice cream in Rockton at the world famous Dairyhaus. After ice cream, the tour officially ended and folks split up and made their ways home. It was great getting the old cars out and driving on some great country roads.

A big thank you to Joe and Bean for setting up and hosting this super tour and to Kurt Duesterhoeft for driving the meat wagon to pick up any breakdowns (luckily there were none).

Fall Tour October 8th by Wayne Orrison

We met at Gene & Betty Clifton's home on Sunday, Oct. 8th at 8:30 a.m. for coffee and donuts before leaving on our exciting Fall Tour that Gene & Betty have hosted for several years and that we all look forward to with great anticipation. They have built a reputation for putting together a fun, entertaining, and novel tour each year. Joining the tour were: of course - Gene & Betty in their '26 Coupe, Steve & Cindy Kindell in their '24 Touring, Craig Sheridan in his '25 Sedan, Dean Wanfalt in his '30 Model A Tudor, Kurt Duesterhoeft in his '31 Model A Coupe, Rick and Cheryl Heissler in their beautiful '28 Nash 2 Dr. Sedan, Aaron Crandall in his '15 Roadster (who came over to see everyone off, but could not join the tour), Wayne & Phyllis Orrison (in a modern car as the T wouldn't start that morning), Jim Martin & Alice Finch in a modern car, Scott & Sheryl Stier in a modern car, Bill Duffee riding with Craig, Austin Farmer riding with Kurt, Duane & Cathy Bunton in their modern truck and who brought up the rear of our group because they had the "Antique Cars Ahead" sign on the back of their truck.

We left Gene & Betty's home at 9:00 a.m. with Gene leading this eclectic group and headed north along the east side of interstate 90 on country roads, first driving past the new Hard Rock Casino (still under construction) and north past the Sports Score arena, thru Argyle and eventually on to some nice back roads into Boone County. We continued on to Walworth County thru Sharon, WI to our first main stop.

OH!! Not so fast. Before we got out of Boone County, Gene Clifton had a major problem with his Coupe. He lost high gear! Steve Kindell, following Gene, said he thought he saw parts dropping out from under the car, but that will have to be determined later. Gene poked along in low gear a short distance and pulled into a little farm with several nice looking barns and out buildings and even a horse in the paddock, which mostly ignored all of us as we all pulled into the long driveway behind Gene. Because Gene & Betty always have these wonderful surprise stops on their tours, we all thought this was



the first one. Nope! Gene explained the reason for the stop, left a note in his car, because no one was home except a barking dog and the horse, unloaded all of the treats he and Betty had brought for our late ice cream stop into Wayne & Phyllis's car, along with themselves and now the Orrisons were the lead car.

Off again without a worry in the world, we drove wonderful roads for a while until we found ourselves staring at a giant 40 plus feet tall Tin Man in the middle of nowhere. Actually, we were just a couple of miles on the outskirts of Walworth,



"Tin Man" takes yard art to a whole new height (and weight)! The sculpture is 40' tall and tips the scales at 40,000 pounds. The main body is made from a water tank that came out of the Pabst brewery in Milwaukee. The head is an "Officer Big Mac" and the feet are a set of Caterpillar tracks.

WI but we didn't know it at that time. Look up "the Tin Man" on Google. It's very interesting reading. Click here for the full story: <https://www.tmj4.com/news/local-news/40k-pound-homemade-statue-with-a-ronald-mcdonald-officer-big-mac-head-in-walworth-county>

Gene & Betty stumbled on this creation while they were out setting up the tour. Seeing a lot of other "stuff" along the drive way, they wanted to see if was possible to visit and arrange for this to be a stop on their tour. They were only able to speak with the renter of the house at that time, who could not give them access to the property, but agreed to contact the owner and that is what happened. Permission was obtained to let the T group come in for a visit.

This Tin Man was created by Robert Stewart. "Bob" owns the property and is a very successful construction/ excavation fellow with an obvious imagination, who has not only built this statue, but has created a massive collection of "old iron" from farms, as well as old construction equipment he's found and tons of other materials from his construction/excavation business. He says he also like to go to auctions. There are several newer metal barns on the property and that is where the real treasures are found.



Bob was a marvelous host and he is all about Caterpillars... the heavy construction earth-moving type. He has an extensive collection of these marvels in his buildings and around the property. He has many very rare machines, like the huge prototype '34 3 cylinder diesel-powered Caterpillar earth mover fully restored in bright yellow and displayed as a centerpiece in his larger barn. Caterpillar would like to get it back, but it's not for sale.

Inside the larger of the metal barns are all kinds of other antique treasures. I couldn't count the number and variety of children's toy and pedal cars and tractors he has in all three buildings. They hang from the rafters and are on shelves and the floor and seem to be everywhere. There are so many other things to see: tools, signage, unique cars, trucks, military vehicles and more caterpillars, etc. - all unique and rare. It has taken Bob decades

to collect all of these marvelous treasures and it is more than one can digest in one visit and more than I can describe in this article.

After a considerable amount of reluctance, we left Bob's fascinating collection and his warm personality and headed into Walworth for a very nice lunch at Sammy's cafe on the square. Gene & Betty had made reservations for us and they were able to get us in and seated and our orders processed quite rapidly and we all had a wonderful lunch.

After lunch, we again headed out of town on some lonely country roads, this time seeking a southern country route that would allow us to find our next stop, the Becks Woods Conservation Park in Chemung, IL. Before hitting our ice cream stop location and while in route, Gene received a call from the owner of the farm where he abandoned the car. The gentleman was delightful and most accommodating and assured Gene that his car would be fine there until he could come get it and tow it home, which he did on Monday with some help from Craig Sheridan. Gene will tackle whatever the problem is in the coming days.



Craig, Dean, Rick, and Bill check out a puddle under Craig's T. It appeared to be a leaking freeze plug. Craig had to replenish the water several times, but managed to make it home.

Chemung is a tiny village just west of Harvard, IL. on Route 173. We unloaded at the park the cooler containing a large variety of ice cream and cookies, table cloths, plates and spoons, etc. and set about enjoying some welcome ice cream treats. This gem of a hidden park, with over 270 acres, has nice facilities and is a wonderful stop and a place to enjoy some very isolated nature. A good stop for a tour such as ours.



After ice cream and Craig filling up on water (he has a leak somewhere in that T), we headed out going west on Hunter Rd until we found our next south bound route. Some of our group continued west, others had gone east from the park as the park was our last stop and the official end of the tour. However several of us continued on heading to Gene & Betty's to pick up cars. We didn't get far when it was again necessary to fill up Craig's car with water. We made it about another mile when we encountered a long, somewhat steep hill and Craig's old T seemed to have had enough. More water and oops, out of gas too. Really Craig? Kurt used a tow rope and pulled Craig up the hill with his Model A and once we topped the hill, we all pulled over and Craig was able to obtain more water and gas from a delighted homeowner who refused to be reimbursed for the gas. He just wanted to see the cars.

We were off again and Craig peeled off to head west toward home and the rest of us headed south to Gene & Betty's. Bill loaded into Dean's Model A and headed for Farm and Fleet, where his car was parked, then Dean headed home. We

arrived at Gene & Betty's and unloaded our passengers and left over ice cream and said our goodbyes as we ended what has to be one of the more interesting tours. Kurt dropped off Austin there also, so he could drive the many miles he had to cover before getting home. Then Kurt headed home and Wayne & Phyllis did to, leaving, I'm sure, a tired Gene & Betty to think about the day and maybe, how they can top this one next year.

Thank you again Gene and Betty for a grand time and a wonderful tour.



Food for Thought:

- *The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.*
- *When a kid says, "Daddy, I want Mommy," that's the kid version of, "I'd like to speak to your supervisor."*
- *It's weird being the same age as old people.*
- *Just once I want a username and password prompt to say CLOSE ENOUGH.*
- *If I am ever on life support unplug me and plug me back in and see if that works.*
- *Do you ever wake up in the morning and look in the mirror and think... "That can't be accurate?!"*
- *Last night the internet stopped working so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like good people.*
- *We celebrated last night with a couple of adult beverages... Metamucil and Ensure.*
- *Weight loss goal: To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.*
- *For those of you that don't want Alexa listening in on your conversation they are making a male version. It doesn't listen to anything.*
- *I just got a present labeled, "From Mom and Dad," and you know darn well Dad has no idea what's inside.*

