



## May 2012 FRONT SEAT NEWS

MODEL T FORD CLUB NORTHWEST OHIO, INC.



Dave Kirchenbauer, Pres.; Bob Torbet, V-Pres; Jack Putnam, Treas.; Gary Nau, Sec/Ed.

**NEXT MEETING: June 6, 2012 - 7:30pm** at Jack Putnam's shop 1215 Hancock Rd 28; Bluffton (fourth house east of Anderson Tractor Supply), Phone (419) 358-6313.

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The May meeting was held at Jack Putnam's with 14 members and 2 guests in attendance.

Dave Kirchenbauer called the meeting to order then turned it over to Beth Putnam who introduced Renee Pochard from the Findlay Service League. Renee gave an overview of Findlay's Historical Bicentennial Gala to be held at the Findlay Inn & Conference Center on Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00pm. Renee asked if members of the club would bring their Model T's and have them lined up in front of the Findlay Inn for the Gala's participants to view. It was decided that if any member wants to bring their car they need to be at the Findlay Inn between 6:00 – 6:30pm to place the cars. If you are planning to attend, please let Jack Putnam know.

Bob Torbet gave an update on the Spring Shakedown Tour. Plan to leave his house in Lima at 10:30am on May 12th and return between 3:00 – 4:00pm. The tour is about 60 miles and lunch will be a Behm's. There is the American Mall about a mile west of Bob's house where trailers can be parked.

Another tour is in the planning stage. The tour would be from Lima to Van Wert to view Dave Kirchenbauer cars.

Jack gave the Treasurer's report.

Jack also had a couple of flyers to hand out.

Jack and Virgil Studebaker talked about how to level a milling machine's surface with a wheel brake drum. Jack then gave Virgil the 45 pound bus brake drum he got off e-Bay for \$19 and used to level his milling machine.

We talked briefly about the "Great Race" auto race. It will overnight in Findlay on June 30<sup>th</sup>. May be plans to have some local cars at the finish line, but that's still in the works.

The meeting was adjourned and a demo was giving on how to remove the bushing from the steering arm. Jack showed two different tools. One "factory made" for the purpose and the other a ½" bolt quartered with a hacksaw then a punch driven in to hold it tight against the bushing while it is driven out.

On the next page you'll see Bob Torbert pound out the bushings using the "factory made" tool.



The club's website has a Member's Vehicle page. If you would like your car shown, send an electronic version of the picture to Gary Nau ([naugary@yahoo.com](mailto:naugary@yahoo.com)) or bring the picture to the meeting.

If you have any stories or pictures to share that could be included in the Front Seat News, please let the secretary know. Remember that this club is dependent on its membership to make it work. Everyone is invited and encouraged to put forward your thoughts and ideas to make this the best Model T club in Ohio.

Respectfully submitted,

**Gary Nau** – Secretary

Web site: <http://www.nwo-modelt.org/>

## 2012 Spring Shakedown Tour

On Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup> a group of intrepid drivers gathered at Bob Torbet's house in Lima Ohio to prepare for a trip to Grand Lake St. Mary's and back in our trusty Model Ts. Once gathered, everyone checked out each other's cars and Bob's garage to see how the center door's restoration was coming along. Then any last minute adjustments made that were deemed necessary.



Bob's Pickup to the left and Jim's Coupe to the right

On the tour in the Model Ts we had Bob Torbert without Ann. Ann could not join us because her foot was in a cast so Miles Mahoney (from California) rode shotgun with Bob in his '21 Pickup, Jim Ballmer and his wife in a '26 Coupe, Bruce and Ted Klepinger in their '14 Pickup/Roadster, Dave Kirchenbauer and his wife in their '12 Touring and Gary Nau in his '22 Pickup. We had Ray Sutton in a '28 Chevy and Dave Benny and his wife in the T-Bird. Bill Sieberg and his wife joined us in the comfort of a modern day Dodge.

Before we leave Bill Sieberg and his wife check out all the cars. Here they are looking over Bruce Klepinger's and Dave Kirchenbauer's Model Ts.



Bruce's Pickup/Roadster to the left and Dave's Touring to the right

After being re-enforced with coffee and "fat pills", around 10:40 it was decided to venture out. A last call to drain any excess coffee was made then all climbed aboard and started up or in some cases started up then climbed on board, depending if you were a starter or a cranker. The five Ts, a Chevy and a Ford T-bird made the left turn out of Bob's drive and headed down the road.

The day was sunny and just the right temperature for a drive. We drove to the south side of the lake first and had lunch at Behm's restaurant. With a full belly we venture back onto the road for the trip around the remainder of the lake.

Our fearless leader takes the lead:



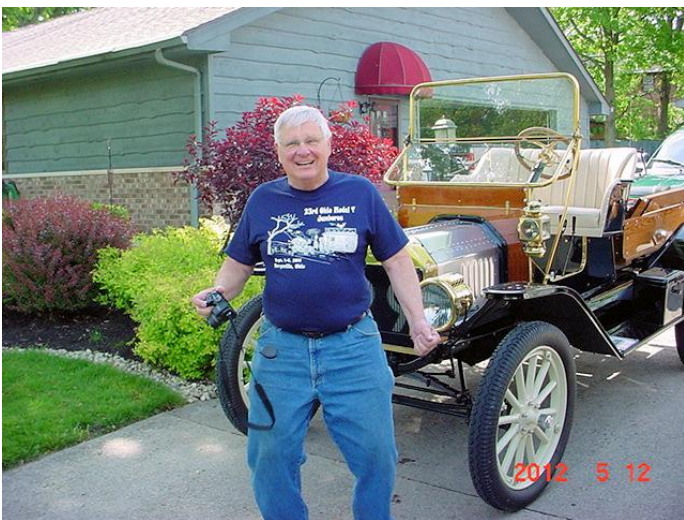
But there were times when we questioned his sense of direction or his map reading skills.



There were quite a few people out enjoying the sunny day by the lake. The Model T's passing by bought a lot of smiles to the faces of the older folk and a lot of finger pointing by the little ones as they stared at the strange looking cars going by.

All arrived safely back at Bob's house around 3:30 that afternoon. It was a successful tour with no major problems. Only had to push one T to get it started at the restaurant, I won't mention any names Mr. President.

Thank you Bob and Ann for setting up the tour and mapping out the route!



Bob's ready to go.



Ray in his '28 Chevy.



Parking lot at Behm's.



Checking out Bruce's Pickup/Roadster.