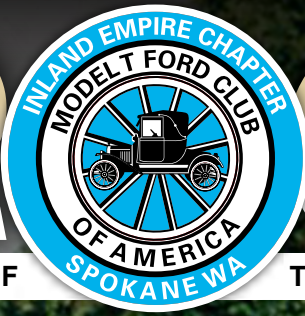


# FENDER



# CHATTER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE SPOKANE MODEL T FORD CLUB

## Remembering **Mike Crabb**

### ***IN THIS ISSUE:***

- Jestin Jitneys
- Club Member Profile
- July 4 & Rathdrum Tour Reports
- Upcoming Events Calendar

GET YOUR T OUT FOR THE SUMMER  
**TOURING SEASON**



# General Club Info



**President**  
Rick Carnegie  
509-928-7119



**Vice President**  
Daryl Skomer  
509-209-3643



**Secretary**  
Ed Hope  
509-570-8333



**Treasurer**  
Betty Patterson  
509-214-9522

## Correspondence

Please direct club correspondence to the club mailing address:

**IEMTFCA**  
PO Box 11708  
Spokane Valley, WA  
99211-1708

## Dues

The yearly dues are \$20 per year from an individual or family and due by January 31st of each year. Please renew your membership or join the club as a new member. We look forward to seeing you!

## Submissions

All items to be published are **due before the 20th** of the month. Please send photos, articles and anything else for the newsletter to [fenderchatter@gmail.com](mailto:fenderchatter@gmail.com)

## National Clubs

We are a chapter of the MTFCA and also the MTFCI



## On the Cover:

Mike and Dixie Crabb driving in a Spokane Valley parade circa 1987.

—Photo provided by Jim Patterson

Committee	Lead Person(s)	Contact
Charity Committee	Jillian Robison	509-701-0983
Banquet for 2015	Steve & Julie Heid	509-928-0215
Email / Mailing / Roster / Membership / Printing	Jim Patterson	509-214-9522
Entertainment / Programs	Tom Carnegie	509-922-1805
Newsletter Editor / Design	Jeff & Tammy Hipp	<a href="mailto:fenderchatter@gmail.com">fenderchatter@gmail.com</a>
Greeting Committee	Joe Swanson	509-924-6723
Library	Gene Kicha	509-926-4872
Nametags & Patches	Steve & Julie Heid	509-928-0215
Photographer	Jillian Robison	509-701-0983
Refreshments	Candy Burgess	509-924-0898
Roster Cover / Editor / Publisher	Glen Whiteley & Jim Patterson	509-624-0933 509-214-9522
Safety / Seminars	Mike Robison	509-844-5900
Scrapbooks / Photo Album	Roy Moffit	509-979-1909
Sunshine Report	Susie Carnegie	509-922-1805
Swap Meet	Daryl Skomer	509-209-3643
Tours	Nan Robison	509-924-8654
Webmaster/Facebook	Mike Robison	<a href="http://spokanemodeltclub.com">spokanemodeltclub.com</a>  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/InlandEmpireModelTClub">Inland Empire Model T Club</a>



# Minutes from the Last Club Meeting

## July 2015

There was no meeting for July, because of the Spokane Swap Meet. See you at the August club picnic!



## January 9, 2016 Banquet Report

Never too early to start thinking about the 2016 Installation Banquet. This year's banquet is January 9 at the Ramada Airport. It will be hard to best the entertainment slide show from last year but here goes. This year Steve is asking for any old or new Model T activity pictures that were your favorites that you would like to share. More to come as time gets closer.

Any Questions contact Steve 928-0215. - Steve Heid



## Annual Pot Luck Picnic Announcement

Mark down August 7th for our annual August Club Pot Luck picnic at the home of Lee and Candy Burgess, 1109 N. Felts Rd. in Spokane Valley. The picnic will start at 6:00 PM with the meeting outside, weather permitting, starting as usual at 7:30 PM.

The Burgess' will provide eating utensels, assorted beverages, and the condiments for hamburgers or hotdogs. Each participating family will provide a side dish, salad, or dessert to share with everyone else pot-luck style.. A BBQ grill will be provided, but each family is to bring their own choice of meat.

Please also bring your own lawn chair(s). Tables will be provided.

We hope to see you there!!

## Monthly Meetings

The monthly meeting begins at **7:30 PM on the 1st Friday of each month** at the Opportunity Presbyterian Church, 202 North Pines, Spokane Valley, WA.

## No regular club meeting in August - see you at the Club Picnic!

You are welcome to join other T Club members for pre-meeting dinner 5:30-6:00 PM at Conley's Restaurant next to the White Elephant just east of Pines at 12622 E. Sprague in the Valley. **We Hope to see you there!**

# Club & Model T Related Events

## Events Calendar

- Aug 7 **Spokane T Club Picnic (no regular meeting)**
- Sept 4 **Spokane T Club meeting**
- Sept 5 & 6 33rd NWVS Endurance Run Silverton, OR
- Sept 12 32nd Oregon High Desert Swap Meet-Redmond, OR
- Sept 18-20 Kennewick, WA Swap Meet - Fairgrounds
- Sept 19-20 Harvest Swap Meet - Chehalis, WA
- Oct 2 **Spokane T Club meeting**
- Oct 10-11 Monroe Swap Meet - Monroe, WA
- Nov 6 **Spokane T Club meeting**
- Nov 21 Albany Indoor Swap Meet - Albany, OR
- Dec 4 **Spokane T Club meeting**
- Jan 9 **Club Installation Banquet - Airport Ramada**

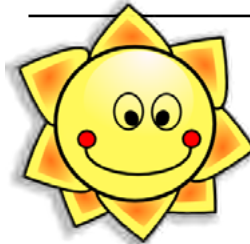
## Henry Ford Quote

*"Beauty appeals to most people. Beauty begins in design. To me a good piece of machinery is beautiful. But when most people speak of beauty they do not think of quality and fitness of design, they think of color." —Henry Ford*

**🔧 Newsletter Note:** The digital version of this newsletter has been created as an interactive PDF. All web and email links should work in desktop, mobile & tablet browsers. **However**, on Kindle devices, it is viewable, but interactivity is disabled until Amazon and Microsoft fix this issue.

## Candy's Cookie Corner

- August None (Club Potluck Picnic)
- Sept Cherie Storey & Joann Jepperson
- Oct Joe Swanson & Candy Burgess



## Sunshine Report

Get well card sent to Travis Thosath for his neck surgery.

Any new updates will be announced at the next meeting ~Susie~

## Tuesday Nights at the Ranch

Come on out on Tuesday evenings around 4:30 pm with your T parts that need to be worked on. Also join us **after** for dinner at McDonalds. [antiqueautoranch.com](http://antiqueautoranch.com)

More info on Spokane Model T Club website: [spokanemodletclub.com](http://spokanemodletclub.com)

And available on

**f** [Facebook: Inland Empire Model T Club](#)



## Tours and Activity Reports

Tours may be arranged at the last minute so check the club website Calendar of Events for the latest activities at [spokanemodletclub.com](http://spokanemodletclub.com) or our Facebook page **f** [Inland Empire Model T Club](#)

**Contact Nan Robison for tours (see pg 2)**



At press time, we are at **102 likes** - up from 60 likes in 7 months! Thank you! *Let's see how many more we can get.*



**Facebook "Like Us" Drive**  
[Inland Empire Model T Club](#)

How many fans can we get?

## T Club Member Profile



### Remembering Mike Crabb

written by Jim Patterson

*What's brown and sits on a piano stool?  
...Beethoven's Fifth Movement.*

Well known and long time Spokane T Club member Mike Crabb passed away on June 28th, so we thought it fitting to have him be Fender Chatter's "Featured Club Member" for August. As Mike would have said, *"She was only the mortician's daughter, but anyone cadaver!"* Mike's prolific joke telling earned him a reputation that is widely known across the country, and everyone in the T Club knows many of the "Mikeee Sez" jokes that he magically created or re-told.

Mike was very involved with antique cars all his life and his stories go back to 1948 when he was 8 year's old. He used to scrapbook by collecting magazine ads neatly cut out of National Geographics and other popular magazines of the day. He had three large scrapbooks with old car pictures, hand written notes and facts about each car, and dozens of car ads. At 14 years of age, he spent \$10.00 he



had earned to buy his first car, a 1925 Chevrolet Touring, and he drove it proudly home to show his parents who weren't even aware of his plans to buy a car. He wasn't even tall enough to be able to reach the foot pedals on the floor while also seeing out over the top of the steering wheel, but somehow he managed to drive that car home to proudly show to his very surprised parents! To dress

the car up, Mike hand brushed the car with green paint and it looked like a million bucks to him. He kept that car for several years and eventually sold it to get money to buy a "newer" car, and subsequently lost track of the car's where-a-bouts over the years. Now let's fast forward 64 years to 2014 - - - - Mike was talking to a neighbor about all the cars he had owned over time (some 65 different cars for which he had photos and recorded purchase date of each one of

(continued Pg 6)



*Crabb continued...*

them, all hanging in a large picture framed collage on his garage wall) and he mentioned that his very first car was a '25 Chevrolet Touring. That discussion jogged his neighbor's memory and he in turn noted that a friend nearby had the same year and model car in his garage. Mike naturally rushed over to see the car that very day; and low and behold, **what Mike saw in Ed Waltwebber's garage turned out to be his own original first car!** How many of us could find the first car we ever owned after 64 years? Mike recently gave Ed the original title and sales receipt to the car which he had kept in his scrapbooks all these years.

After love affairs with a 1960 Sunbeam, a '57 Ford Fairlane convertible, an MGB, a 1930 Model A Coupe, and many more beautiful and unique cars, Mike and Dixie purchased a new Pontiac Tempest convertible which Dixie still has today. They purchased that car some 46 years ago, on June 8th, 1969, the day after Betty's and my wedding. A few weeks later, Betty and I joined Mike and Dixie on a weekend camping trip in their new convertible up into Canada and watched Neil Armstrong place his first footprint on the moon's surface on live black and white TV at a roadside bar.

In 1972, Mike purchased a 1915 Model T Touring and by 1975 had it restored and running. By now he was starting to take his and Dixie's two children, Jeff and Jennifer, on dozens of local Model T Club



*(continued Pg 7)*

**Crabb continued...**

tours, parades, campouts, and summer vacations throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Mike's adventures with the Model T were abundant, having gone on tours to the Oregon coast (2X), San Juan Islands (2X), British Columbia, Montana, northern Idaho, and National Tours to Leavenworth, WA, Portland, OR, and Post Falls, ID. Mike's T was a driver, likely putting 500 - 700 miles a year on it. However, his Model T days became numbered while on one of the Oregon coast campout tours. After camping out, he tried crank starting his T one very wet and humid morning, the car's engine back-fired, causing the crank to kick back, breaking his right fore-arm. So much for an enjoyable tour! The T Club later chose to commemorate this mishap by creating the infamous Spokane Model T Club "Broken T Award", given to each recipient of a broken arm or hand as a result of hand cranking a Model T. Mike was the first awardee, and there have been two more (Glen Whitely and Mark Hutchinson) since then.

We are reminded of a seldom discussed mishap that occurred during Jeff & Jennifer's growing up years where the kids went outside to play and then decided to climb up on the top of Dixie and Mike's Pontiac convertible. The only problem was Jeff was heavier than the fabric convertible top, and he literally fell through the top. I'm sure that all involved with that incident wish they could re-live that day to create a different outcome!

After nearly 25 years of touring with the Model T, the next (and final) antique car that Mike purchased and restored was a beautifully restored 1930 Chevrolet two-dr. Sedan. Mike was especially proud of its burgundy body with black fenders, nice Mohair upholstery, and whitewall tires! It still resides in his garage alongside the '69 Pontiac convertible and the '15 Model T; these three being the favorites of all his 61 cars he had during his lifetime.

Mike was a collector of anything old or "antique". He had a spark plug collection with over 50 different 1920's era spark plugs; a 20's era hub cap collection containing dozens of different ornate hub caps; a license plate collection of over 100 restored plates from Idaho and Washington dating back to 1916 when Washington started issuing license plates to automobiles; a wood spoked wheel collection from various old cars; and finally, a radiator shell collection featuring radiator shells from Model T, Model A, Dodge, Star, Plymouth, Essex, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Buick, Pontiac, and a dozen other antique cars. All of these collections were carefully and neatly lined up and displayed on his garage walls.

The Model T Club loved Mike's joke telling at monthly meetings. Everyone was always amazed at how he always remembered so

many jokes which he could blurt out on demand and not ever miss a pun or screw up the punch line. The T Club once had an official vote to modify the T Club's by-laws to limit Mike to only two jokes per meeting. A motion was made and passed, but that still didn't stop the monthly barrage of "Mikeee" jokes that everyone despised and loved at the same time. The by-laws were often broken due to encouragement by members for "another joke, Mike!" Mike's jokes were mostly a little weird and wild, but seldom off-color. They usually could be told and enjoyed (or not enjoyed) by both men, women, and children and they were often bar, animal, drunkard, or doctor based jokes and were sometimes rightfully labeled as "sick - sick - sick!" The closest analogy for Mike's jokes were like verbal "Far Side" or "Tundra" type jokes and most got at least a hearty giggle if not an outright belly-aching laugh!

Mike will be remembered for his jokes and his remarkable ability to remember names and faces. You couldn't go anywhere with Mike without him recognizing and introducing to you someone he personally knew. Mike & Dixie visited Betty and me while in the Navy in Bermuda over 40 years ago and he saw an acquaintance there. He knew automotive facts and body styles better than anyone we knew and could tell you what hood ornament and radiator shell design were for all cars made before 1960. He was truly a walking encyclopedia for the automotive industry - but with many pages of unforgettable jokes inserted!



If you would like to get a copy of "Mikeee Sez", a book published right after his passing a few weeks ago, click on the following link for information on how you can get "The Wit and Wisdom of Mike Crabb". This book contains over 130 of Mike's witty jokes, and promises to create many fond memories and belly-aching laughs for years to come. Link: <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/invited/5745955/733bc61f76efd8306dd06774916494b3df829bc0>

**The T Club thanks you, Mike, for sharing with us  
all your car knowledge, laughs and good times!  
We will miss you!**

## Mark & Janice Hutchinson's *"For Goodness' Sake Let's Do Something"* Tour to Rathdrum

Six Model T's made the tour to Rathdrum Days on Saturday, July 18th: Bill & Diana Barr, Rick Carnegie, Tom & Susie Carnegie, Ed Hope, Larry Mann, and Mark & Janice Hutchinson. Even though we were too late for the judging, they let us park at the car show while we went to DQ for lunch (and ice cream!) and checked out the vendor booths at the high school. Next was a stop at the Rathdrum Museum, which used to be the Kootenai County Jail. We came back through Post Falls and made a visit to Falls Park, where we followed the trail to a great view of Post Falls Dam. Then one last stop just this side of Stateline to see one of the oldest houses in the area, formerly owned by the man who who got Rathdrum named Rathdrum. We passed on a second ice cream stop and called it a day.

Thanks everyone for coming! —Mark & Janice Hutchinson



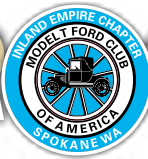


# July 4th Tour

The Lewiston Cranker's Club hosted the 2015 4th of July Tour called The North Idaho Out-Back Tour. Six current and two former Model T Club members attended: Don & Rita Hart, Larry & Norma Skidmore, Mark & Janice Hutchinson, and Charlie & Jean Almeda. The hot, dry weather certainly made the Australia theme appropriate! But the Lewiston club did a great job of shortening tour routes and providing indoor, air conditioned meals. On day one we climbed the old "Spiral Highway" out of Lewiston—2,000 feet up with a great view from the top! And on day two we saw some amazing scenery as we travelled to Peola and Asotin and along the Snake River. Thanks to Jim and Sue Stutzman, Pat and Nancy Emerich, and all the Cranker's for a fun tour, great food, and a chance to see old cars and connect with friends! Hope to see you all at the 2016 Tour in Spokane! —Janice Hutchinson



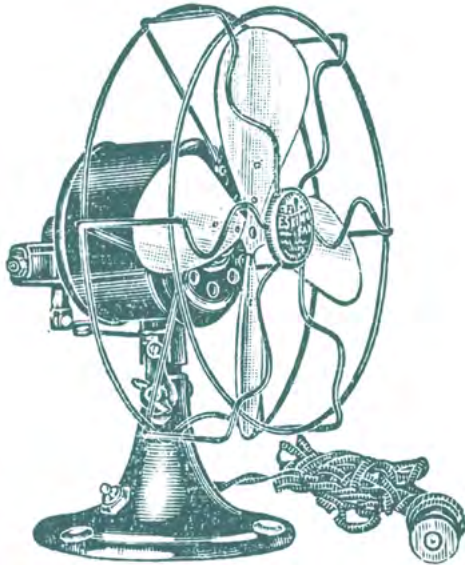
# FENDER CHATTER



**IEMTFCA**

PO Box 11708

Spokane Valley, WA 99211-1708



July 11 - Our T Club booth at the Spokane Swap Meet - photo by Jeff Hipp

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**Fender Chatter** is published monthly by the **Inland Empire Chapter Model T Ford Club of America in Spokane, WA.** To be included, as space permits, in the next newsletter, items must be received no later than the 20th of the month. Please submit your articles, photos, trip reports, adventures, Model T parts for sale, want ads, ideas, etc. to [fenderchatter@gmail.com](mailto:fenderchatter@gmail.com)