



T TIMES



December 2014 Edition

The Michigan Chapter was established on March 30, 1971, to provide local activities for the NEMGTR members in the Great Lakes area. In addition to driving events, membership meetings are held regularly. Board meetings are scheduled intermittently (generally monthly) throughout the year. An annual business meeting, which includes the election of officers, is held in the last quarter of each year.

Membership dues are \$25.00 (\$35.00 with newsletter mailed to you) per year, payable by April 1st. Michigan Chapter members are required to be members of the New England MGT Register, Ltd.

The T Times is the official publication of the Michigan Chapter. Generally any member may submit articles and may advertise for cars, part and related items free of charge. Permission is hereby granted for use of any written material in the T Times, provided the author is credited.

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Chairman's Corner

Happy MG Holidays!



With 2014 coming to an end, we still had one more major drive some of us still wish to attempt in our T-car. You may be acquainted with the 55 light displays what was happening through the end of

the year, the Edward Hines Park Lightfest. Well, me in my flaming red TD, along with my sister Shari had a topless evening drive to experience it all! Great bragging rights, see the article in this issue. Suggest it to all T-cars next year if you have the opportunity.

A special "thank you" to Jim Pesta on a great "Overheating Tech Session" last month and also to Gene Ledbetter for allowing us the meeting space we for it. Photos and more details grace this edition in the following pages. We appreciate Jim taking the time to play cars with us. Wonderful tech session and we like those radiator combs (a girl thing).

Another "thank you" to Kenny Hamilton for attending the December Membership Meeting and "Talking Tires & Tubes". Lots of "tube tops" were worn by members (lookin' good Jim Northrup) to get into the mood. Kenny answered all questions on the subject and brought along lots of goodies & hand-outs for everyone.

Looking forward to the Hibernation Party/Annual Meeting next month. The entire Executive Board is returning for yet another year of great fun in 2015 so all will continue to be well in the club.

Theme of the Hibernation Party is the Fabulous 50's and everyone is encouraged to dress the part. In this edition are several suggestions on appropriate attire so if you ever wished to be James Dean for the night, here is the perfect opportunity.

Aside from the re-election of the Board, we will be presenting out the traveling trophies for the 2014 driving season. The most watched races for the gold this year is the Richardson Memorial Touring Trophy for mileage. It was suggested, and will be implemented next year, that this award be given to the person who drove their beloved T-car the most miles. It currently stands that it is miles driven to and from club events only. But miles are miles and I think this will open up the door to more cars participating in the running (tow truck miles do not count, sorry).

And of course, there are the surprises that go along with most of our club events, and the Hibernation Party will be not disappoint. So check out this newsletter for further details and watch your mailbox for your personal invitation.

And in closing, I wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season. Enjoy family, friends and the chilly weather (after all, that is why we live in Michigan, right?)

Keep warm,

-Sandy Kuivenhoven-

signing off for the last time as the 2014 Chairman



NEWEST MEMBER OF THE T-CLUB



Jim Pesta
MG Services
Cincinnati, Ohio
Cars: 1952 TD - no color yet
1955TF 1500 - no color yet
1953 YB Type - Green
1953 YB Type - Black
1958 MG ZB Magnet - Green



DRIVING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Another fabulous driving experience for the T-Divas, Shari and Sandy. The red **1951 TD** (at the ripe old age of 63) was ready for the challenge on December 26th, 2014. With Shari taking the photos and Sandy driving her vehicle, they were out to see the holiday light display (all 55 of them) at the **Edward Hines Park Lightfest**.

At 6:00 P.M. the T-Divas hit the road to the park, topless as they are so known for, of course, enjoying the view and gaining more bragging rights.

It was a pleasant drive from West Bloomfield to Livonia, laughing all the way.

The lights were especially beautiful from a T-car with a few occasional honks from envious drivers at the light spectacular. They confirmed this is probably the only way to **really see** the lighted creations, what could be better!

The T-Divas recommend this event to all the T-cars everywhere next year as they will be there again too!

Shari & Sandy aka T-Divas



P.S. No breakdowns



T-Club Shirts / Jackets / Scarfs / Blankets

You can now order you Club wear at EmbroidMe in Farmington Hills (27857 Orchard Lake Road - the Northwest corner of Orchard Lake Road and 12 Mile). There are 1000 items to chose from. Stop in to see examples of polo shirts, jackets, etc. or visit their website (www.embfh.com). You can even bring in an article for them to embroider our club logo on (approximately \$20-\$25). They have many polo shirt styles starting at \$13 before embroidering. (A higher end polo totaled \$28.00 with embroidery.) There are styles and pricing in all ranges. They are open Monday - Friday, no weekends. (248) 994-0105.

The way this works is you order your own items and pay EmbroidMe directly. The club is not stocking any items.

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Veteran Lou VanKoningsveld and his wife Elaine visit Stahls Automobile Collection



On Veterans Day, Stahls Automobile Museum & Collection in Chesterfield, Michigan opened its doors to all veterans, current service members, their families, and honored guests to recognize those who have served our great country.

Lou and Elaine were joined by Sandy & Larry Kuivenhoven (their guests) to enjoy the private collection of over 100 vintage vehicles from General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler to Tucker, Duesenberg, Pierce Arrow and more.



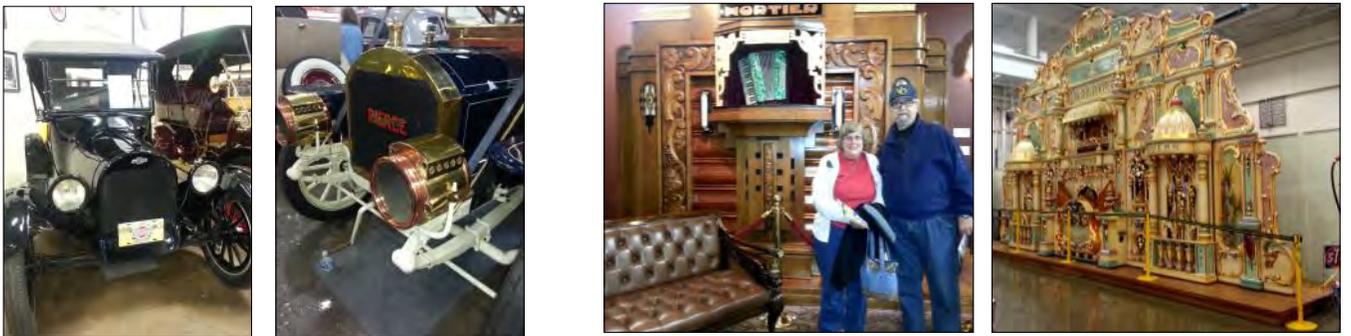
More specifically, they looked at a 1948 Tucker, 1919 Maisenhelder (blue and one of a kind) and a 1934 Duesenberg. *“Oh baby, so much chrome”!*

The car collection was surrounded by Route 66 Americana, automotive signs, gasoline pumps and historical facts.



And tiny cars too!





There was also a fabulous collection of ornate, automated Music Machines. Among the classic cars sat a 1930 Mortier that thrilled the crowds as it began to play.



The Detroit Arsenal of Democracy Museum also shared some military vehicles that were parked in front of the Strahls.



Thank You Veterans!



And Future Veterans

Bob Leinen Funeral Services at Arlington National Cemetery

By *Dirk van den Muijsenberg*

Bob Leinen's funeral took place on 10 Oct 2014 at the Arlington National Cemetery. I had received an invitation from Kathy Buckley, one of Bob's children, to attend the funeral so I decided to go. I was picked up by Kathy and her husband Shaun from my hotel in the morning on the 10th of October. We drove to the cemetery and were all gathered in a room ahead of the ceremony. I was introduced as the man who bought Bob's MG and many family members came up to introduce themselves. A very nice group of people.



We then drove with all family members and friends to a location near the grave. Bob's casket was inside a funeral hearse and was moved to a horse and carriage. We all watched this ritual take place with the formality one can expect from the military. At that point we left the cars behind and walked behind the horse and carriage to the actual grave site.

The casket was off-loaded from the carriage near the grave and a short ceremony was held with gun salute shots to follow. We all had a chance to walk by the casket for a final good bye and then we all went back to our cars and left Arlington. We were scheduled to meet back up for a catered brunch later at a nice



Italian restaurant nearby. I rode back with Kathy and her husband to their hotel and had a coffee while talking about Bob's life and his service in the military.

We headed to the Italian restaurant and a nice meal and drinks were had by all. There were several speakers and again the MG was mentioned several times with me being thanked as the new owner now taking care of Bob's price possession. Some interesting short stories about Bob were shared by



the people present illustrating what kind of a man he was. Well respected within the military community. At home it seemed the military point of view was carried on as well. One family member remembered the strict toilet instructions regarding the use of toilet paper; three squares only were to be used; fold, fold and hold was Bob's motto. I was seated next to two of Bob's Vietnam veterans which led to an interesting and informative conversation.



After the brunch quite a few of the guests went site-seeing in Washington. I rode with Kathy and Shaun and we visited some main sites in 'The mall'. Here the picture that was taken at the WW II memorial. After that we all went our own way. I stayed until Sunday to do some more site-seeing before my departure.

An interesting fact about Arlington is that between 27 and 30 services are conducted each week day and 6 to 8 each Saturday.

Bob's grave is in Section 60 in Arlington National Cemetery.



Bob with his 1948 TC



How HOT is your T Car Tech Session



Jim Pesta from MG Services in Ohio put on a great Tech Session for us on "Over Heating & Cooling Systems". About 25 people attended the event hosted by Mr. Gene Ledbetter at his shop, Complete Auto Restoration in Livonia.

Jim went into many issues that our T cars have that cause Over Heating including dragging Brakes Systems, Radiator issues & Air Flow, Water Pumps, Fan Blades and Tuning issues. (See October 2014 T Times for Jim's article on Cooling Systems for additional information.) THANKS JIM !



Photos by Marc Stump

Ohio Covered Bridge Tour 2014

by shari pelic

They say the third time is the charm - that's what I was hoping for as I started south on a crisp fall day for the start of the 2014 Ohio Covered Bridge Tour in my TC. (As you may remember in 2012, my TC made it as far as Livonia before the brakes went out. In 2013, my TC made it down to Ohio, but the rain kept it bundled up at the hotel and it didn't get to drive over any covered bridges.)

At the first meeting spot in Monroe were Dick & Carol Axford with their 53 TD, George & Rita Patrick (no MG), and myself. The next stop was Wildwood Preserves in Toledo where we picked up Andy & Marla Boyle with their Jaguar, Andy Jr & Amanda in a T-Bird and our photographer, Marc Stump. The Metropark is a nature reserve with tons of trails, a covered bridge and several historical buildings such as the Manor House. This home was built for Robert A Stranahan, founder of the Champion Spark Plug Company.



Mull Bridge in Fremont (built in 1851, closed to traffic in 1962 - Town Lattice Truss - 100 feet long)



Blanchard River Bridge in Findlay (built in 2009 - Pratt Through Truss - 125 feet long)



Parker Bridge in Upper Sandusky (built in 1878, burnt in 1991, renovated in 1992 - Howe Through Truss - 182 feet long)



From there we headed south to the hotel in Tiffin. The drive was a bit challenging with all the traffic and we got separated, but everyone made it there where we met up with Jim Pesta and a Y Type. So far, so good for my TC - running perfectly.

For dinner that night we drove out into the sunset to the Plank Road Tavern for a fish fry and good car talk. Saturday we headed out to see the bridges.

Mintueman Bridge in Clyde (built in 1988 - Stringer Truss - 51 feet long)

