



## NEBRASKALAND MODEL T AND ANTIQUE CAR CLUB

President: Steve Hughes (402-450-2524)  
Vice President: Mike Vaughn (402-540-0573)  
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Ken Cheney (402-326-7788), Bobby Fye (614-549-2352)  
Jerry Hutchison (402-328-9914), Ken Hunkins (402-304-2296), Norm Sell (402-797-7333)

**Henry Ford's Common Sense:** Jeopardy Answer – This Ford with a name from native American myth was the first ever model to be named Motor Trend Car of the Year.

### MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

Members of the club met at Mike and Beth Vaughn's house on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> where Mike demonstrated how to line bore a Model T engine. They also received the Safety Inspection sheet for the Model T that is used to make your Model T road-worthy for participation in MTFCA sanctioned events. If you need the inspection form, Mike has more available. After the demonstration, we enjoyed lunch and had a club meeting at Bailey's Local Pub in Eagle.

On Sunday, April 30, Club President Steve Hughes fought the wind both ways and drove to Nebraska City to spend the afternoon at Arbor Lodge, courtesy of the Cornhusker Model A Club. One Model T driver and 9 Model A drivers attended the event so the public could view and learn about antique cars.

**Mark your calendar: Saturday, May 20, leaving at 8:30 am:** club members will meet at the Speedway Museum and drive our old cars to Rock Creek Station State Park near Endicott, Nebraska. We will follow the route to be used for the Speedster Reunion Day tour in June. Visiting state parks on May 20<sup>th</sup> will not require the \$6.00 park entrance fee (annual state free park entry day); however, the Rock Creek Museum now requires a \$4.00 fee per person to visit. We will find a place to lunch after visiting the park.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**June 10:** Our club activity has been changed to a road tour set up by Steve and Susie Hughes, more details to come. Steve and Susie have invited the club to attend their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary celebration to be held at Speedway Museum on July 7<sup>th</sup>, we will then have the opportunity to view the new addition to the museum that was scheduled for June.

### News from Club Members:

Long time members of the club will remember Dale Finningsmeir of Kenesaw; he and his wife, Hattie, were Nebraskaland Model T Club and MTFCA members until their health would not allow them to travel. Dale passed away on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 93 years of age; following is an abbreviated obituary:

“Lifetime Kenesaw, Nebraska resident Dale Martin Finnigsmier was called home by his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. Services were held on Friday, April 21 at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Kenesaw. Memorials may be given to the Kenesaw Fire Department or the Kenesaw Heritage Museum.

Dale was born on September 24, 1929 at the family farm in Kenesaw, the 6<sup>th</sup> child of Henry Martin and Emma Finnigsmier. Dale attended Kenesaw Public School from 1st through 12th grade, graduating in 1949.

He married the love of his life, Harriette Ernst, on June 4, 1950. Dale joined his dad on the family farm and then was drafted in the U.S. Army. He served from August 27, 1953 to June 18, 1955. Hattie joined him during those years when she could and they had some great stories to tell. They had some rough times, burying two infants, but returned home to the family farm in Kenesaw, resumed their farming operation, and were blessed with three healthy girls: Valerie, Sally, and Ann. Dale was a very successful farmer and loved tilling the soil, planting, watering, and most of all harvest. Harvest signaled a time of completion and some much-needed rest.

Together, Dale and Hattie enjoyed life and were blessed with many years together. They provided for their three girls and loved boating, camping, vacations, and just having fun. Later in life, Dale took up toy collecting and built four Model Ts. They completed 49 Model T tours and made many lasting friendships along the way. Dale loved to “tinker” in his shop and continued this hobby until his move to Edgewood Vista of Hastings in October of 2021.

If there was one comment Dale might make to you it would be “Do you have a hobby in mind for retirement?” He did, and his years of retirement were blessed with good health and many dear friends. Dale’s faith, family, and friends were very important to him.

His favorite Bible verse is from Ephesians 2:8-9. “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and it is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast.”

Dale is survived by his three daughters, Valerie (Brent) Schirmer of Kenesaw, Sally (Steve) Theesen of Castle Rock, CO, and Ann (Mark) Utter of Kenesaw; six grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, nieces, extended family, and many friends.”

*MTFCA information:* if you need to renew your national membership (\$50.00 annually or \$700.00 for a lifetime membership and you won’t have to renew again) you can do so online at [mtfca.com](http://mtfca.com), you can print the form from the web site and mail it in with dues, or contact the business office at (765) 373-3106. The Model T Museum in Richmond, Indiana is well worth exploring and is free to national club members. Also, the bi-monthly magazine “The Vintage Ford” is an enjoyable read for any family member.

*UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS 2023:* information on the following events can be found at [mtfca.com](http://mtfca.com) or in the “Vintage Ford” magazine.

- ❖ Homecoming at the Model T Museum in Richmond, IN: *May 31 – June 3*. This year will include 2½ days of driving tours. In celebration of Henry Ford’s 160<sup>th</sup> birthday and the 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Model T, there will be a showing of the Alphabet cars – one of each Ford built before the Model T.
- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Pre-War Ford Swap Meet in Brighton, CO: *June 3*.
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Show Me Tour in southwest Missouri: *June 8 – 10*.
- ❖ National. MTFCA tour “Experience the Flint Hills” in Manhattan, KS: *June 18 – 23*. **Registration deadline May 1<sup>st</sup>**.
- ❖ Speedster Hall of Fame and reunion in Lincoln, NE: *June 21 – 24*. Contact Mike Vaughn or Rich Johnston or visit [museumofamericanspeed.com](http://museumofamericanspeed.com) for more information. **Register before June 1<sup>st</sup>** for a reduced rate.

Future planning: MTFCA 2024 National Tour “Trails Less Travelled” in San Diego, CA: June 16 – 19, 2024.

Question to Jeopardy answer: What is the 1958 Ford Thunderbird?

On Memorial Day, please think about those who served our Country,

*Beth Vaughn*

Attachments: Minutes of April meeting, Updated Tour Schedule 2023