



T-Bucket e T i B e s

April
2016

THE NATIONAL T-BUCKET ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

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Folks, this is why we're member of the NTBA. Having good times in new places with old friends (who are almost family) and new friends who will become like family.

Rolla Hessel, NTBA President



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Event Calendar

NTBA Cajun Regionals	Baton Rouge, LA	April 7-9	
Texas Panhandle Cruise	Nazareth, TX	May 5-7	
John & Tammy's BBQ	Springfield, MO	May 27-28	
NTBA Mt. Home Cruise	Mt. Home, AR	June 13-18	
NTBA Nationals	Indianapolis, IN	July 6-10, 2016	
NTBA Iowa Regionals	Pella, IA	July 20-23	
NTBA MO Mini Nats	Lake of the Ozarks, MO	September 8-10	
Artesia Homecoming Cruise	Artesia, NM	September 16-17	
Arizona T's Fun Run	Tucson, AZ	November 3-5	

If you have an event you would like in the event calendar, send the info to:
mrblanche@nationaltbucketalliance.com

The T-Bucket Times

is a monthly newsletter brought to you by the



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2016 Cajun Regionals, Baton Rouge, LA

WOW, where do i start? We had an awesome time, from the time the cars started arriving until they left Sunday morn. Wednesday night was our earlybird dinner and we had quite a few cars cruise over to the casino where we had dinner at the buffet. Some chose to go to the bar and grill. It was amazing having our cars parked out front where people could see them coming and going to the casino.

Thursday we started our day cruising back roads going around Louisiana, making our way to Hammond where we had lunch at fast food places of our choice, and finished the day off cruising the beautiful hills and country side of Tangipohoa parish, then back to Baton Rouge. We stopped at Tony's Seafood, where we parked our cars for people to see while the group was treated to a tour of Tony's, where they boil crawfish, crabs and more. It was very interesting. We got back to the hotel to have awesome homemade jambalaya and cookies from the Cookieman for desert!

Friday, after breakfast we cruised to Henderson,LA, where we were went on a Swamp Tour. We saw all types of birds, Turtles, and, most of all, alligators. We saw baby alligators and a few huge ones. After the tour we ate at a famous Cajun restaurant called Pats; it's on the water. Then we cruised some beautiful back roads along the bayous, and we crossed over an old single-lane pontoon bridge. Then we went through other back roads along the bayous, with large oak trees, and water on both

sides, and ended up in Plaquemine, where we load ed up on a ferry to cross the Mississippi River. It was a short ride but it was beautiful.

Saturday was an awesome day, best cruise yet. We crossed the old Mississippi River bridge and cruised the levee road around the back roads of LA that were beautiful. We crossed over the Audubon Bridge. It was fantastic, gold in color, was a sight to see. We cruised into St. Francisville where we had lunch at the Myrtles Plantation. Then the ones who wanted got the tour of the haunted plantation and it was really interesting. After a fuel stop, we all loaded up and went back to Baton Rouge. Saturday night, we went to a restaurant called Drusilla's, where we had a private room with an awesome meal.

The weekend was beautiful, we had AWE-SOME weather the whole time, great cruises, super food, and most of all terrific friends. Reacquainted myself with old friends, met new ones and for my first time putting on an event like this, I was flattered and just totally amazed at how many people came and from where. It was awesome, we had bout 40 cars and about 60 people from 50 different places. Lyle won the gator head for traveling the furthest distance in his T, over 2700 miles one way.

I enjoyed myself and can't wait to do it again, and to see everyone at Nationals.

—By Isaac Saltz







WHO ARE WE — Dick Smart

1. **Your name:** Dick Smart

2. **Where do you live?** Roanoke, Indiana

3. **How did you get interested in T buckets?** I owned an Auto Repair / Welding & Fabrication business in the 80's. I wanted to build something that would show my business skills and also use it for advertizement. I also wanted something that had an open engine compartment.

4. **Do you have a T?** Yes, a 1923

5. **How did you get your T?** In my search I found an old (fiberglass) T body rotting away in a horse pasture, busted up, full of holes and no floorboard. Over 6 months I gathered that body, an engine, a rearend and several other parts and began my assembly. It took me 1 1/2 years to complete my T from scratch.

6. **Tell us about your T; the engine, frame, body, etc., and any unusual parts.** I purchased an assembly manual from Total. Used their measurements and built my own frame and running gear, suspension , etc. I had a total of \$40 in steel, but three weeks in cutting and grinding. The engine is a blown chevy 350 / 350 trans and ford 9" rear. I drove the T for 23 years before the trans blew. I then took the T apart and repainted it and that's when the unusual skulls appeared. The skulls on the rear of the bucket and on the radiator shroud were vacu-formed plastic over the skulls and then fiberglassed to the T. The icing on the cake is the large skull used as an air cleaner on the engine. This skull took me 6 months to build. The eyes and lower jaw both function with the gas pedal and the air filter is inside of its brain area

7. **Are there any other bucketheads in your family?** No one else owns a T in my family, but they all have joined me at car shows.

8. **What future plans do you have for your T?** It's in my will to go to one of my kids.

9. **What is the funniest/scariest/most moving thing that happened to you and your T?** I love seeing the reaction to peoples faces when they see the large skull moving. It puts a smile on most everyone's face. However, there are some who are afraid of my T, thinking that I am somehow into demons or something. In the near future I want to rig up something that will shoot water or vapors out of the large skulls mouth. That will surely scare passers-by.

10. **Have you attended any regional or national NTBA events?** I attended my 1st regional last year at Indy and enjoy it. I just joined NTBA as an official member and already have my sights on the Nationals at Indy this year.

11. **Anything else you'd like to tell us?** A few years ago, myself and several other rodders drive Route 66 from Chicago to Oklahoma City. This summer we are finishing the trip. Starting at OK City and going to California. A total of 5,000 miles in 3 weeks. The first trip was thee best vacation I'd ever had and the people along the Route just loved my T. Everyone thinks I'm crazy for driving my T that far. Frankly, I'm Looking forward to it.





(317) 872-0001



INDY NATIONALS July 6-9 2016

Tentative Schedule of Events

Monday July 4:

Morning: Cruise to Ray Skillman Collector Cars Annual 4th of July Car Show

Afternoon: Local Cruises

Evening: Group Dinner?

Tuesday, July 5:

Morning: Breakfast Cruise

Afternoon: Local Cruise

Evening: Group Dinner?

Wednesday July 6:

Late Morning-Afternoon: Long cruise to Ropkey Armor Museum/Parke County/Turkey Run State Park/Covered Bridges

Evening: First Registration

Evening: Ice Cream Cruise

Thursday July 7:

Morning: Registration

Hi all,

We wanted to get some information out on the Midwest Regional Event in Pella, Iowa, July 21 thru 23.

Glenn Hamm will be hosting this event in this beautiful and charming town of Pella. www.Pella.org/. The host hotel will be Americinn, rates are \$85 a night for a king bed. There is trailer parking in the rear on a grass lot.

The tentative schedule is:

Thursday: Cruise across the one mile bridge over to Knoxville, Iowa, (the Sprint Car Capital of the World) and tour the Sprint Car Museum. Back to Pella, visiting a winery and cheese factory, plus local sights.

Friday: Cruise up to the Amana, Iowa area (a German type village and community) for the day. Also visiting unique shops, food ,winery and breweries. Then back to Pella for a burger burn.

Saturday: Morning car show uptown on the square. The city is blocking off 50 parking spaces for us to do a show and shine 9am-1pm.

For anybody that arrives earlier in the week there are plenty of

Late Morning-Afternoon: Long Cruise to Brown County/ Nashville/Bean Blossom, Indiana.

NTBA Bowling and Pizza Party at Sunset Lanes in Clermont Indiana.

Friday July 8:

Morning: registration

Mid-Morning: NHRA Nitro Shop Tours (DSR/JFR)

Lunch: Walt's Hot Rods open house- Free Lunch Cookout)

Afternoon: Local Cruise

Saturday July 9:

Early Morning: Registration

Morning: Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum and Track Lap

Afternoon: NTBA Nationals Show at Clarion Hotel Lot

Afternoon: Annual Valve Cover Race?

Early Evening: Raffle/NTBA National Meeting?

Sunday July 10:

Mornings: Goodbyes

activities, shopping, and restaurants all in the Dutch theme tradition. There are also car museums, and the Iowa NASCAR race track. (I will be there on Monday, so if anyone wants to cruise we will set it up)

Links: Sprintcarhof.com.

Tessel Ridge Winery. Tesselridge.com

Frisian Farms Cheese House. Frisianfarms.com

Lake Red Rock. Redrockarea.com

Pell.org Visitors bureau. Jill@pella.org

There's plenty of information on line about Pella and what a beautiful town and community it is. I look forward to it and I encourage anybody thinking of making this event to go.

Any questions, contact: Glenn Hamm, 641-472-1807, a.glenn.hamm@gmail.com , Lollie Krogmeier, 319-470-3487, klkrog@hotmail.com, or Bruce DeAngelis, DeAngelisRV@aol.com



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