

178 YEARS OF OWNERSHIP BETWEEN 3 MEMBERS

Their own Stories by Bill Bryant, Charlie Evans and Lorne Richards

MY 31 CHEVY by Charlie Evans

It all started in 1958 when my parents bought me my first car for my high school graduation present. It was a 1931 Chevrolet Sport Coupe. They bought it from a young man that was going in the Army. The price was \$30.00.

My house was walking distance from my high school, so a friend and I would skip gym class and work on the car. About ten years later my Dad and I decided to restore the Chevy.

For some reason things got busy and the car sat for many years. This year, 2013, my friend and Master Mechanic Stacy Gaches got the Old Chevy running.

After having owned this car for 55 years it is great to drive it again. (See copy of original bill of sale)



1914 Model – T Ford Touring

By William (Bill) Bryant

This car is a very early 1914 Model – T Ford, built August 20, 1913. This was a very important time period for the Ford Motor Co., within months of making this car; the moving assembly line was implemented as well as the \$5.00 a day wage announced Jan. 12, 1914. The "any color as long as Black" was starting to be implemented.

The original 1913/1914 price for this touring car was \$550.00. Bill Bryant has owned this car for the past <u>63 Years</u>, having bought it when in High School.

Bills interest in cars started at a very young age, anything with wheels had his interest. His first car at age 12 was a 1931 Chevy Doodle Bug. By High School his everyday car was a 1935 Plymouth, one day he said to his father he would like to get an "antique car". The definition of "antique" had not yet really been defined in Bills mind but a Model-T found in a barn near Ashokan seemed to fit the bill. The then owner had purchased the property some years before with the Model-T in the barn and now wanted it gone as she needed the space.

According to an inspection sticker still on the windshield it had been last driven in 1928. The response from the owner when asked how much she wanted for the Ford was \$17.00. That was \$15.00 for the car and \$2.00 for Mike (the mutual friend who told us about the car). Unfortunately at the time I didn't have \$17.00 and my father suggested we think about it and get back to her. All that week I couldn't get the Model-T out of my mind and convinced my father for the need of a loan. The next Saturday we went to settle up and tow the Model-T the several miles home. I can remember sitting in the driver's seat with the biggest smile and the 22 years of accumulated dust blowing off behind us. I have owned a number of antique cars during my lifetime, I have enjoyed them all, but after 63 years of ownership (so far) this Model-T remains the family favorite. It will be going to my oldest daughter in the future when I am done with it.

Other old vehicles presently owned;

1965 Corvette



1976 GMC Motorhome





My 1921 Model T Ford Center Door Sedan By Lorne Richards 10/26/13

I bought this car in 1953 while serving in the Navy. My brother brought it home for me and I started to work on it while home on weekends. I was on a destroyer escort stationed in Newport. Each trip home I would remove a wheel and refinished it on board the ship. I did not make friends of the shipfitters whose shop I was using!

I was aware of this car because it belonged to the Dr. Stoller family and their two sons who were in High School with me. Knowing of my driving a 1926 Model-T to high school the boys asked me to go inspect their family Model-T parked in a one car garage near the southwest corner of route 55 and 82i.e. Billings. It had been given to their mother by her parents who lived north of this intersection. It was a high school graduation present, I was told! I have a picture of her driving down Main St. in Poughkeepsie and she does look that age. The car was sold by Ray Cross, a well known apple grower in LaGrangeville and a new Ford car dealer back in Model-T and A's days. He dropped out when Henry Ford forced dealers to work with a sales quota. I continued to buy parts from him while I was in high school.

It's been a great car, very reliable and loyal. I put very few miles on it, less than 100 miles per year. When I pass it in my basement garage, I hear it whimper, "you never take me out and you are always using the other cars"! However, when I jack up the right rear wheel, it starts on the second or third revolution of the engine. Only yesterday, it did this after sitting patiently for 12 months, waiting for me to play!

" CLASSICS ON CLASSICS "













