



# T-Bucket Times

December  
2015

THE NATIONAL T-BUCKET ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

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What a fast year this has been!! I think having all of the regional events around the country along with our National event, it seems like the year just flies by. The good news is that most of the annual events will be held again in 2016 along with some new venues. We are in the process of finalizing the "Formal" schedule of events currently but that said, there is always the chance that other opportunities to gather might come up. Two new venues for regional events will be Baton Rouge, LA, in April and Pella, IA, a few weeks after Nationals in INDY. We will have the schedule listed on both Facebook and our Website in mid to late January. For our newer members who have not yet experienced one of our family reunions, we look forward to meeting you in 2016!! For all that were unable to make an event this past year PLEASE plan to join us at one or more of our events in 2016. And for all of you that made it to any of the events in 2015, we look forward to seeing you at our events in 2016!!!

From your NTBA officers and all support staff, we want to wish EVERYONE a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!!

Rolla Hessel,

President



# Sponsors

The National T-Bucket Alliance wishes to thank our sponsors for their support. In return we ask that you consider them when making your next purchase.

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# Event Calendar

|                 |                  |                  |              |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Cajun Regionals | Baton Rouge, LA  | April 7-10, 2016 | 225-335-6805 |
|                 |                  |                  |              |
| NTBA Nationals  | Indianapolis, IN | July 6-9, 2016   |              |
|                 |                  |                  |              |

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

## **The T-Bucket Times**

is a monthly newsletter brought to you by the



**Managing Editor**  
Mike "Tub T" Blanche  
[mrblanche@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrblanche@sbcglobal.net)

**Chief Publisher**  
John Foppe  
[j.foppe@yahoo.com](mailto:j.foppe@yahoo.com)

**Sponsor Contact**  
Bruce DeAngelis  
[DeAngelisRV@aol.com](mailto:DeAngelisRV@aol.com)

# 16th Annual Fred's Fun Run, November 6 & 7th, 2015

In 2014, Fred Weller decided to step down and not hold his fun run anymore after 15 years. The Arizona T Bucket club decided to hold it one more time, so we held The 16th Annual Fred's Fun Run, on November 6 & 7, 2015. But actually we started on the Monday before. On Sunday, Lyle Powers and Sandy Schade drove their T bucket all the way from Meridian, Idaho. He also received the longest driven distance award. We had a total of four T buckets and we cruised down to the 50's diner "Twist & Shout" in Green Valley, AZ. We then drove through Dawson Canyon in the mountains, then to the Pecan Factory. Monday night we went to a cruise in on the east side of Tucson.

On Tuesday, we drove north for a BBQ lunch and cruised the west side on the Tucson mountains.

On Wednesday, we drove east to the Hot Rods of Old Vail speed shop and restaurant. We cruised the east side of Tucson and then went to another cruise-in at the Lucky Wishbone restaurant on the east side of town.

On Thursday, we had about 17 T buckets and we cruised to the Marana Municipal Airport to the airport restaurant for lunch and then we cruised the west side of Tucson again. We all went to a large cruise-in at Freddy's at the Marana Shopping Mall that night.

On Friday, November 6th, was the start of Fred's Fun Run. Sandy, from Idaho, had to be taken to St. Mary's Hospital for emergency gall bladder operation in the morning, so she was not able to attend any further events. We had 30 T buckets that cruised A-Mountain to Reid Park for the burger burn, hosted by Randy of Hot Rods of the Desert. After lunch we cruised to Mathews Automotive for ice cream and smoothies, thanks to Cliff & Lori Matthews.

On Saturday, November 7th was the Show & Shine at Chevys Restaurant, 22nd Street & Kolb Street. There we had a large parking lot with about 40 T buckets for the show & shine. At 10:00 am was the 41-mile poker run along the east side of Tucson and Vail, AZ. The winner of the \$100.00 dollar best hand was Chris Ward. Six year old, Hailey Leunen brought her scaled downed pink T bucket (see photo). Because her car was not allowed to go on the street she went with her, grandfather, Fred Weller.

She won the worst poker hand and got \$50.00 dollars. She was really excited about that. After lunch was the short Lipstick run for the ladies. The awards ceremony had Lyle Powers, Meridian, Idaho, as the longest distance driven award. Neal & Donna Kingsley of Russellville, Arkansas won the longest trailered (trailer queen) award. Just kidding Neal. The top T bucket award went to Lance Stevens from Surprise, AZ. Two special awards went to Fred Weller and Chris Ward of the Arizona T Bucket club for their continued dedication and service to Arizona T's. Gilbert Dixon, Fallon, Nevada won the special SNOWMAN award, because he left his home that was covered in snow. Bill Darr challenged everyone to raise money for Lyle and Sandy, due to her emergency operation. I collected the money, but did not count it. But, I know there was close to \$1,000.00 in that pot. That's why BUCKETHEADS consider everyone FAMILY. This was then given to Powers. By the way, this was Lyle and Sandy's FIRST ever T bucket event, as he just joined the NTBA the week before.

The following people help put this years fun run on the map:

Lynn Eldred, President of AZ T's. He gathered all the raffle prizes, dash plaques, t-shirts, and helped design the weekly cruises.

Cliff & Lori Mathews. Cliff is the Vice-president of AZ T's. He designed the poker run, arranged for the personnel for the poker stops, and served the ice cream.

Ed & Cindy Jones. Cindy is the Secretary of AZ T's. She and Lori Mathews ran the raffle prizes. Ed helped design the routes to and from the burger burn, lip stick run, and helped with miscellaneous items.

Fred Weller helped with the burger burn.

I received several e-mails from those who attended this years event. They all said they had a great time and that this year was the best Fun Run they ever had. We hope to see more of you BUCKETHEADS next year, as we are already in the 2016 planning stage.

(See the photos on the next page!)



## Hunter Phillips Making Progress on His T

One of our young, long time NTBA members, Hunter Phillips, has been collecting parts for building a T for many years. He has finally been able to start building. He sent us some information and photos.

So I've almost got the frame rolling, just need to button up the rear suspension. Once that is done (hopefully in the next few weeks), I'll be putting the radiator in and figuring out where to position the motor mounts. The motor is a 5.3L fuel injected LS-based engine out of a 2002 Silverado that I purchased from Pacific Fabrication, along with a custom-fabricated aluminum intake and a custom built engine harness. I'm doing most of the work and welding on the project but a friend of mine who is a hot rod builder is checking my welds just in case (so far all but one have been good).



## **Buckethead's Wish List**

Next Christmas, I'd like to have an article featuring items bucketheads, both male and female, might like to see under the Christmas tree. As an example, Isaac Saaltz has made a couple of suggestions.



Isaac says this is an official NTBA hat and jacket. "I got it off of the NTBA store site; they give a name and number of the man to call to get it. It takes a couple weeks for them to do the embroidery on the back, and it is beautiful. I'm wearing my NTBA hat and my jacket in front of a m/t sportsman pro, another good gift idea. The jacket was \$180 and it is super nice, has my name on front of one side and NTBA on other side. The hat was \$20 and it looks great also." You don't want to know what the tires cost; someone would really have to love you to buy them for you.

## Red River Street Rod Association's 43rd Annual Street Rod Reunion

Friday – Saturday April 8 & 9 2016

BoomTown Casino  
Bossier City, LA.

registration now open at  
[RedRiverStreetRod.com](http://RedRiverStreetRod.com)

*(This is not an NTBA event, but there is usually a pretty good T bucket turnout.)*

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8813 Robbins Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46268

## **New Members, November, 2015**

Sandra Schade, Meridian, ID

Scott Peters, Waupun, WI

James Cheever, Deridder, LA

Cindy Koebel, Kokomo, IN



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