



# The FLIVVER FLASH

The Official Newsletter of The Space City T's ~ Houston, Texas  
A Chapter of The Model T Ford Club of America

*Fords crepitant primum, sed ipsi crepitant longissimae*

Volume 36 Issue 4



**Tax Deadline**  
**April 15**

April 2013



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The Flivver Flash is published by the Space City T's chapter of The Model T Ford Club of America in Houston, Texas twelve times per year. This newsletter is produced for the education, edification and enjoyment of members and those expressing interest in joining the Space City T's. Said education, edification and enjoyment is as it pertains to the Model T Ford automobile. The Flash is also shared with other antique auto clubs. Other clubs may feel free to use articles from this publication with credit to this newsletter or the original source. News, articles, ads or anything of interest to club for publication must be submitted to the editor by the deadline of the 20th of month preceding the month of publication. Printing takes place the last week of the month. Annual dues are \$25.00 per year.

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The Space City T's Club is the Houston, Texas Chapter of The Model T Ford Club of America. All questions concerning membership in the Model T Ford Club of America, The Vintage Ford magazine, MTFCA Library, Chapter Insurance, purchase of manuals, back issues or store items can be directed to the following address:

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Annual dues (includes six issues of The Vintage Ford)  
 U.S. \$35.00  
 Foreign \$42.00 Canada and \$44.00 for all other countries.  
 Foreign payments must be made in U.S. dollars and checks payable at U.S. banks.



## On The Cover



Clint and Kathy Allred's '24 hung out with at the show at Towne Lake.

It got the attention of the public.

See page 4

## A Young Henry Ford... Today

By Bobby Wright



This young man used my '15 Touring and '24 TT for a video he is making for a School project. In this photo Brock is being videoed by his mother as he is pretending to be a young Henry Ford futurizing his plan to build the Model T. It was a very interesting project. His grand parents had seen my TT at my Church Bazaar and approached me with the request for Brock. Easy for me. Just started the vehicles and drove them out in the pasture and let him do his thing. Of course he had to ride along the way. Not a bad way to spend a Good Friday morning.

## Gasoline Ally



IF YOU CAN'TFIX IT WITH A HAMMER, YOU'VE GOT AN ELECTRICAL PROBLEM.

## A Cautionary Tale

We had this issue of the newsletter about 95% complete when we were confronted with the blue screen of death. Everything gone. We had not backed up our work.

This is not the first time this happened. Within the past year, we knocked a running external hard drive off the desk which resulted in the loss of most of our data. Now history repeated. So, it was back to work and redo everything we had done, mostly from memory.

We have since purchased a one terabyte hard drive that automatically backs up data as you work.

If you are a computer user, we urge you to take steps today to insure that your work is backed up daily, or even better, hourly.

## 2013 Calendar of Coming Events

April 10                      **Space City T's Meeting**  
2013

April 25-28                      **Pate Swap Meet**  
2013                      Texas Motor Speedway Fort Worth Texas USA  
Intersection of Interstate 35 West and State Highway 114  
Vendor Registration : 713-649-0922

April 27                      **Freeport Riverfest Classic Car and Truck Show**  
Contact: Charles at 281-804-0355  
or riverfestcarshow@yahoo.com  
<http://freeportriverfest.com/index.html>

September 7                      **Ultimate Pitstop South Houston Swap Meet**  
2013                      555 Almeda Genoa Road & I-45 Gulf Frwy, Houston  
[www.TheUltimatePitStop.net](http://www.TheUltimatePitStop.net)  
or call Jay @ 281-332-7886 or 281-797-7824

October 2-6                      **Texas T Party**  
2013                      Lufkin, Texas  
Dave Lucas  
281-388-0761  
[daverlucas@yahoo.com](mailto:daverlucas@yahoo.com)



## Model T... Stubborn as a Mule?

*A 1920 article in the January Automobile Dealer and Repairer compared the Model T with mules. It offered some humorous tips about troubleshooting the Model T, with excerpts offered here.*

".... A mule can be started—if one knows how to do it...the same statement applies to Ford cars.

Your Ford car jus naturally kicks if it is not approached in the proper way. During cold weather a light grade of oil should be used in both the engine and the gearset.

Mules and Fords are subject to attacks of nerves. I know of no troubles more prevalent that those which arise from the ignition system. It is a good plan for the novice to keep his hands at home when there is trouble of any kind.

The Ford timer has a very peculiar habit of working all right at a walk, but refusing to gallop, just like that mule. After a time the metal contacts wear and the timer roller makes a poor contact. It is safe to say that the timer will bear investigation...

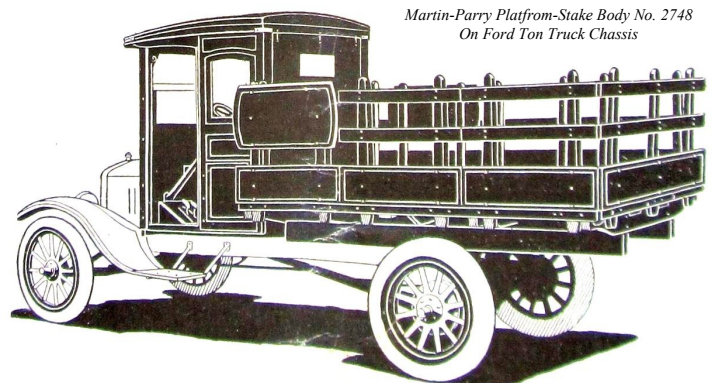
The coils on the dash board can cause many anxious moments... By holding one of the sparkplug wires about ¼ of an inch away from the cylinder head the strength of the spark can be determined. If the spark is strong enough to burn a piece of paper, then it will explode the mixture in the cylinders.

'Lizzy won't work so long as she has the asthma.' The engine compression must be maintained or it won't give power. It's one case where fresh air is no cure, for it is a case of too much air.

The Ford car often takes a notion to go where it pleases as regards to its general directions. The driver finds it is a difficult matter to keep the car in a straight line. The trouble is usually caused by a sprung axle or king pins out of line.

In general, I would say that the Ford car, though it has it's little traits and eccentricities, is...a very willing little beast. It may balk, like the mule, on the road and remain passive hours at at time, but eventually it will recover from it's mood and be it's sunny self for a time. Mules and Fords, may they always thrive!

—Henry Mullenford



Martin-Parry Platform-Stake Body No. 2748  
On Ford Truck Chassis

## Towne Lake Car Show

By Stan Hoekstra

February 23 was one of those unusual Texas winter days that comes along once in a great while. The sun was out, the temperature in the seventies and the humidity low. More like an April day for this part of the country

The Fourth Annual Towne Lake Car Show drew over one hundred entrants, including Clint and Kathy Allred and their '24 Touring. There it stood, cheek to jowl with shiny hot rods and classics. Interestingly, the humble Model T always draws a crowd. The Allreds were there to answer the answers of all seekers of flivver wisdom.

The organizer of the show, Joe Incognito, said the show continues to grow every year. Held in the planned community of Towne Lake near the intersection of Barker Cypress and West Road in far west Harris County, it is fast becoming the premier show for this area. Joe said he is tentatively planning another later this year, perhaps in the fall.

Thanks to Clint and Kathy for representing the Space City T's at the event.



A Great Crowd



The Clubhouse



'32 Plymouth



Don't Panic, It's Water and a Stuffed Dog



At Least Model T's mark their *Own* Territory



**Kathy Welcomes the Lookers**



**Pure Ford —Cobra Jet Powered**



**Even the Tots Had Cool Rides**

## Helping Hands

**by Bobby Wright and Tony Marino**

We noticed the following post on the MTFCA forum by fellow club member Bobby Wright. It turns out that he and Tony Marino were Good Samaritans to a newcomer to Model T's. In Bobby's words:

A while back the Space City T's got a request from a person that inherited a T that hadn't run for a couple of years. So today a couple of us went to his house and helped him get her going. She had a couple of stuck valves likely from just sitting. Of course all the fluids were topped off. A little MMO solution and a few taps on the valve tops through the spark plug hole while hand cranking soon got the valves moving up AND down. Then a little straight MMO in each plug hole and a test of the plugs to confirm each had spark. Then back together. After a little cranking and false starts she finally woke up and started running. A little adjusting on the carb and she ran well. In fact she starts and runs very well. Now running we had to take a short trip the two of us trading off. It is a good feeling getting one back on the road again after a nap. The owner is very pleased. So we have a new Club member and one more T back on the road.

I felt so good about this I decided to change out the ignition battery on my original hand start '15 after I came home and watched the NASCAR race. I pulled the engine through four time while choking like always. Reaching in and turned on ignition. FREE START! Cold! It was like my '15 was thanking me for the work we did earlier in the day getting one back on the road.

Almost forgot...the owner's 9 year old son was helping up. I think he was as happy as the rest of us to see the car running. Future T guy? Probably so. Really impressed him when we hand stated the car just because we could. It was a good day.



Here is a great valve unplugging with a little MMO and a hammer and big screw-driver!

← Bobby

**Tony** →

Here's the other T lover who put on a rebuilt NH, repro sediment bowl (to stop the massive fuel leak), cleaned out all the fuel lines and tank that had massive amounts of black and brown crud, cleaned out the radiator and engine that had rust and brown dirt, new battery, oil, and four missing but CRITICAL cotter pins in both ends of the throttle linkage, the spark advance, and the brake pawl.



## *Post Script*

### Her Diary:

Tonight, I thought my husband was acting weird. We had made plans to meet at a nice restaurant for dinner. I was shopping with my friends all day long, so I thought he was upset at the fact that I was a bit late, but he made no comment on it.

Conversation wasn't flowing, so I suggested that we go somewhere quiet so we could talk. He agreed, but he didn't say much. I asked him what was wrong; He said, 'Nothing.' I asked him if it was my fault that he was upset. He said he wasn't upset, that it had nothing to do with me, and not to worry about it. On the way home, I told him that I loved him. He smiled slightly, and kept driving. I can't explain his behavior I don't know why he didn't say, 'I love you, too.'

When we got home, I felt as if I had lost him completely, as if he wanted nothing to do with me anymore. He just sat there quietly, and watched TV. He continued to seem distant and absent. Finally, with silence all around us, I decided to go to bed. About 15 minutes later, he came to bed.

But I still felt that he was distracted, and his thoughts were somewhere else. He fell asleep – I cried. I don't know what to do. I'm almost sure that his thoughts are with someone else. My life is a disaster.

### His Diary (Same Day):

Model T wouldn't start, can't figure out why.

## Classified Ads

### For Sale: Rebuilt Model T Ford Components

Rebuilt Model T Transmission  
Rebuilt Model T Starter  
Rebuilt Model T Generator  
Call Bill McRee at 281-427-0792 for details

### For Sale: Texaco Gravity Flow Gas Pump

It is in beautiful condition  
We are asking for \$3,200.00  
It is stored inside  
Judy Latham  
512-629-6500



### For Sale: Set of USED Front and Rear Bumpers

For 1926-27 Model T. Rear bumpers are split style. Complete with brackets. Face bars are pitted and need to be plated. Brackets are in very good condition. They have no breakes or welds. Email photos can be sent so they can be enlarged for a better view.  
Contact Eric "Gator" Gould, Monroeville, AL  
251-765-2677 or gatorsts@frontier.net

### For Sale: 1926 Coupe "Basket Case"

99.9% complete, but needing full restoration. Running gear from former Club member Charles Brandt's coupe. Body from local Austin County car. Other sheet metal from other cars but in nice condition. Car will be parted out if not sold together soon. Not numbers matching, but clear Texas title in my name.  
Contact Terry Woods 281-693-2236



### For Sale: 1926 Model T Tudor Sedan

Needs restoration. Has wood wheels. \$3,000.00  
Contact Eric "Gator" Gould, Monroeville, AL  
251-765-2677 or gatorsts@frontier.net

### For Sale: 1926 Fordor California "Barn Find"

Needs full restoration, but original wood in relatively good shap. Only two or three pieces need to be replaced. Was running when bought in 2009. Ninety-nine percent complete. Matching numbers car.  
Clear Texas title in my name \$3,000.00  
Contact Terry Woods, 281-693-2236



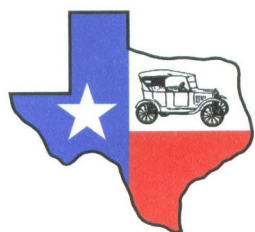
**For Sale: 1927 TT Truck** New carb, mag, coil, points and gas tank. New wood in bed and frames, new cedar cutand planed from my farm. Asling \$12,000.00, negotiable.  
George hart, 12782 Hwy 259N, Omaha, Texas 75571  
Ph: 903-452-2900

### Wanted: '27 Model T Front Bumper & Brackets

Contact: Gaylord Willet — Montgomery, Texas  
936-448-1550



**Place your free classified ad here**



## Texas A&T Parts

8427 Turkey Creek Road  
College Station, TX 77845

1-800-337-6977

Phone: 979-260-5433

Fax: 979-260-1214

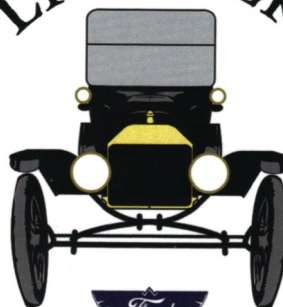
**The largest selection of  
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Model T and Model A Fords in the State of Texas**

Now offering complete restoration services including:

Babbiting	Ignition Systems	Upholstery
Short Blocks	Engine Rebuilding	Body work
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Flivver Flash.**

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these businesses.**

## A Do-It-Yourself Jack

### Simple Wooden Jack

An inexpensive rear-end jack, which will be found to be of considerable use around the home garage, especially in winter, when it is often desirable to use a jack in starting the car, can readily be made by anyone. It is made of 2 by 4-in. wood. One piece is about 5 ft. long; a handle is bolted on at one end and two blocks at the other. The blocks are grooved at the top, as shown in the detail, and are separated from each other by using short pieces of 2 by 4-in. wood between them and 5 ft. length, the whole assembly being securely bolted together with 3/8 or 1/2 in. carriage bolts about 16-in. long. Flat-iron braces may also be used to hold the blocks more securely. In use, the jack is slipped under the rear axle, as shown in the drawing, and the handle is pushed down to lie flat on the ground, which will raise the rear end so that wheels clear the floor a few inches.

—G.C. Douglas, Raleigh, N.C.

Direct: (713) 802-6638

Fax: (713) 869-0185

Cell: (832) 443-9833

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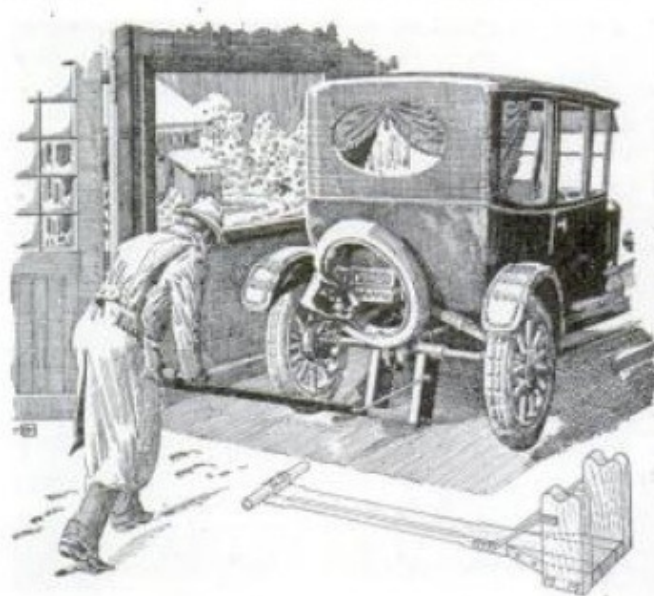
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**Rear End of Auto Can Be Quickly Raised by Means  
of Simple Homemade Jack**



## Next Meeting March 13, 2013



**Dine with Friends at  
Demeris BBQ at 6:00 P.M.  
located at 1702 West Loop North,  
Suite A, Houston, TX 77008**

**Then attend the  
Space City T's Meeting at 7:30 P.M.**

### Place:

**Lazy Brook Baptist Church  
1822 West 18th Street in the Heights**

### Program:

**"Henry Ford" DVD**

**The World He Created, He Longed to Escape**

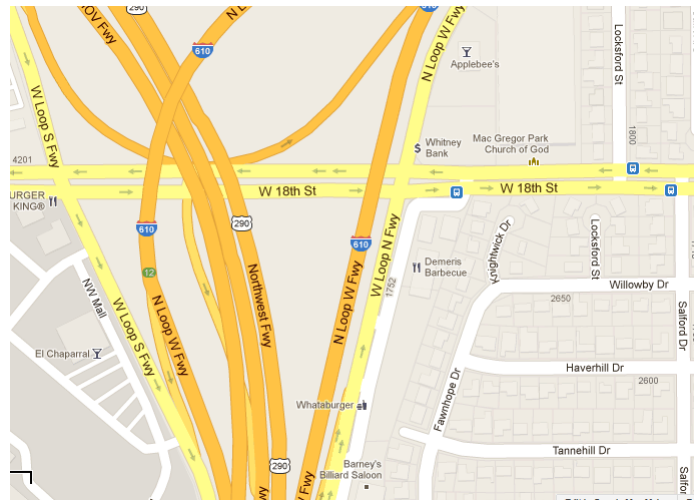
**The Natural-Born Thinker**

**Ford Motor Co. Incorporates**

**Institutionalizing Efficiency**

**We will also show a few still pictures from the Woodville tour.**

**Presented by Broderick Thompson**



### Directions to Demeris BBQ

From the east or west on I-10 or the south side of downtown, take the I-610 West Loop North and get off at the 18th Street Exit. Demeris BBQ will be right after Houston Garden Nursery.

From the west on Highway 290, exit at Mangum and turn right to 18th Street. At 18th, turn left, cross under West Loop and turn into the Whataburger parking lot on the right. Proceed to Demeris after Whataburger.

From the north on I-45, take the 610 North Loop West around to the I-610 West Loop South to the Hempstead Highway exit. Make a U-turn under I-610 and proceed north on the frontage road to just before 18th Street, Demeris will be on your right after Houston Garden Center.

# The FLIVVER FLASH

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**First Class Mail**

