



The FLIVVER FLASH

The Official Newsletter of The Space City T's ~ Houston, Texas

Fords crepitant primum, sed ipsi crepitant longissimae

Volume 41 Issue 3

March 2017

A Long Shot

By William Szekeres

I am a proud member of the Space City T's since I was 3 years old. I have participated in many club activities and T parties with my Dad. We drive Lizzie quite regularly. We always dress her up on Halloween and take her to go trick or treating. I love to drive her in the backyard, and fix her when she breaks. It's a perfectly normal day when I get picked up from school in my Dad's Model T. I think that it's time to have my own Model T. Here is my question: Would any one of you be willing to donate a Model T dead or alive to

me so that I can fix it up and make it ready by the time I'm ready to get my driver's license? (Even though I already know how to drive a Model T).



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I promise that I will treasure it for the rest of my life. I would be happy with any kind of a Model T in any condition, even if it's just a frame and an engine.



by one. So far I have 4 wire wheels! Yip-pee! If you think you have ANY T parts that you would be willing to donate, please think about me.... I take donations in any shape and form.

**Please send any reply to my Dad,
Peter to 801-560-0687 or
bountyflyer@hotmail.com
Thank you, William Szekeres**

A full car (or truck) would be better, running or not. I know that it's a long shot. Unfortunately, my Dad is very strict about not buying me a car. He told me that I have to make this happen on my own. He will help me fix it up, but I have to come up with the car on my own. This is why I'm writing to you asking if you would help a young T lover to get his first car.

I had a very exciting day when we found 4 T wire wheels at the Conroe swap meet last weekend. If I



The Many Lives of a Model T

by Debbie Houck

You may have seen old footage from historical reels of Model T's coming off the assembly line, all identical-looking and, of course, all in black. That similarity doesn't overlook the thought that Henry Ford was one of the most influential innovators of the 20th century. It also shouldn't overlook the innovative users of the Model T that adapted these automobiles to suit their own purposes. I had seen photos of one such adaptation, the Model T snowmobile, in a copy of *The Vintage Ford*, but only until this past fall did I get a chance to witness an example in person at Greenfield Village's Old Car Festival at The Henry Ford complex. Having grown up in the Midwest winters, I'd ridden on a modern snowmobile, but without a nearby snow machine dealer, the shivering souls of the 1920s had to replace their own wheels with caterpillar tracks and skis to get around in snowy times.



Wondering what else one could convert from a Model T, I went to my favorite source of information- the search function at The Henry Ford web-

site. By typing in the search words, "Model T Users", a pictorial of 10 different creations appeared. <https://www.thehenryford.org/collections-and-research/digital-collections/expert-sets/10622/>.

Among the photos, a mobile chapel (<https://www.thehenryford.org/artifact/54946/>) is made from a



converted Model T chassis in 1922. Reverend Branford Clarke's chapel was designed with a small organ and a steeple that could be folded down. This cute little thing certainly gives new meaning to "get me to the church on time", as it could now come to you.

Two travel-related ideas are also featured. First is the Model T as anchor for a tent. Secured to the side of the vehicle, the tent provided additional shelter and space. Camping had become a craze in the late teens and early 1920's with increasingly better roads and the affordability of the automobile.

The McCracken family took this concept one step further in 1921 with their 1916 Model T camper conversion, much like a modern day RV, crafting both exterior and interior woodwork, and traveling thou-



sands of miles with their dog. <https://www.thehenryford.org/artifact/87577/>

Much of the innovativeness was a result of occupational necessity, finding ways to utilize the Model T to make work life easier. There is the Model T Runabout, circa 1919, converted to a tractor, pulling a reaper to harvest grain. "For only \$195, E.G. Staude Company of St Paul, Minnesota had started selling the Mak-a-Tractor conversion kit for the Model T in 1917, capitalizing on the popularity of the Ford car among farmers. Staude produced an estimated 20,000 to 30,000 of these in its lifetime."

<https://www.thehenryford.org/artifact/100212/>



There is the Model T Touring car, circa 1920, adapted to carry a goat by mounting a handmade crate on the sideboard to create a livestock hauler.

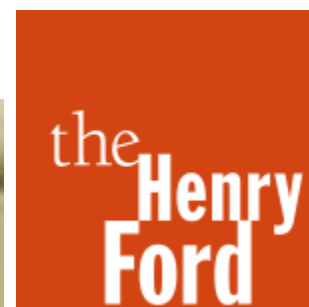
<https://www.thehenryford.org/artifact/123604/>



There is the cab of a Model T, circa 1925, converted into a railroad car at a logging site, most likely to haul tools and equipment along the rail line.



<https://www.thehenryford.org/artifact/211959/>



<https://www.thehenryford.org/>

The use of the rear axle to power various types of belt-driven machinery was popular, such as a portable sawmill conversion for cutting wood or

horse groomer's story appeared in the September 1913 Ford Times. Ford used stories like these to advertise the Model T as a sturdy, versatile automobile



changing ordinary Americans' lives beyond basic transportation, which continues to do that with collectors even today, even simple things like decorating Model T's for parades, as shown in this 1915 photo (<https://www.thehenryford.org/artifact/43923/>) with the decorated automobile pro-

another conversion for milling grain. One unusual example shown in 1913 was an Australian horse groomer who powered mechanized clippers and barbered the entire stable.

<https://www.thehenryford.org/artifact/190640/>

These are all fine examples of the motto "necessity is the mother of invention". We know through the artifacts collected by The Henry Ford that Ford himself certainly didn't seem to take offense by the modifications done to his automobiles.

Ford Motor Company published the chapel story in 1922 in the "Fordson Farmer", and the

moting a dry goods store. If you've got an unusual



or fun use for your Model T, or know someone who has, share them with The Flivver Flash editor.

It's tour time!

Date: Saturday, March 4

Where: Meet at 404 Phillipsburg Church Road
Brenham TX 77833

Time: We'll depart at 9am and return around
4pm (so try to arrive around 8:30 to give time to
unload)

Scott & Leslie Grant have graciously allowed us to
meet and park on their property.

Now, a bit of confusion. Coming north on HWY
36, you pass:

Bellville

Loop 497 (about 6 miles later)

Phillipsburg Church Road

****DO NOT TURN HERE!****

Sempronius Road

Church Road

****THIS IS WHERE YOU TURN****

This area has a lot of roads with the word
"church" in them. The above 404 address will
work in Google Maps, although it did not work in
my GPS. Once you turn on Church Road, you'll
see their mailbox on the right, less than 1/2 mile
down the road.

We'll visit a nursing home, head to Fayetteville
and have lunch at Orsak's, swing back by Bellville
for an afternoon stop, then head back to the
Grant's and call it a day. Looking at a 70-80 mile
total drive.

If you are interested in attending, **please shoot
me an email with a headcount.**

I need this for two reasons:

- 1) in case of any last minute changes due to
weather, family emergency, etc.
- 2) Orsak's is the only restaurant in Fayetteville and
they have agreed to staff for us

Hope to see you March 4!
Doug Brough
doug@brough.biz
mobile: 832-963-6532

TOUR de ISLE Galveston Island on April 1st

13.5 miles

Tow vehicle and trailer parking unloading at
Moody United Methodist Church at 8am.

Tour begins at 8:30am

1st leg: Drive to Bishop's Palace for tour.

**2nd leg: Driving tour through Historic Homes
areas.**

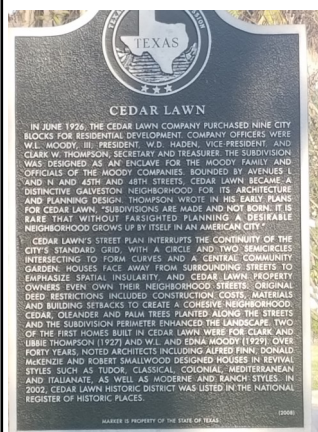
Lunch Continue on 19th Street, cross Broadway, go
2 blocks to **Sonny's Tavern** for lunch on your own.

After lunch drive or walk
to **Bryan Museum** for
tour. The Bryan Museum
is in the old Galveston
Orphanage Building. Al-
low 2 to 3 hours for tour.



**3rd Leg: Drive through Historic Evergreen Cem-
etery to Cedar Lawn, 1926 subdivision.**

**4th leg: Drive back to
tow vehicle parking area.**



***Note: This tour does not
include trip to the Strand
Area. You have that op-
tion on your own if you
want rather than return-
ing to parking area. Or If
the group wants we can
do another tour in Fall.***

Please send me an email for a headcount

Hope to see you April 1!
Bobby Wright
bcw58400@gmail.com
Cell: 409-771-5548



40th Annual Texas T-Party
Oct. 11 - 14, 2017
Kerrville, Texas



It is time to mark your calendars for the 40th Annual Texas T-Party. This year's event will be in Kerrville, Texas. We will start the tour on Wednesday morning Oct 11, and will close it with the banquet on Saturday evening October 14.

Since we got a really late start on plans due to a late decision on who, where or if, the T Party was going to take place this year, we ask your forgiveness in not having any more information except the hotels at this time. But know we are working very hard to make this one of the best T Parties.

We are going to a great part of the country and if you've been on any of the other Kerrville Tours or even been in the Kerrville - Fredericksburg area on your own, you know what a great place it is. We have lots of help, Julius and Marvin Neunhoffer and George Wilson, who are going to show us some beautiful scenery as well.

Y O Ranch Resort Hotel at 2033 Sidney Baker St Kerrville, TX 78028. **Rates are \$99 (includes breakfast buffet).** Mention the **Texas T-Party** when you call using the 800 number below or use <http://reservations.travelclick.com/12007?groupID=1775784> to make reservations. Y O Ranch Hotel allows pets but they have a one-time \$25 non-refundable deposit. La Quinta allows pets also. Make your reservations now, you can cancel later if you need to. This is a busy time for them so we need to fill up the rooms blocked and they will add more to it.

Tour fees will be \$175 for the car & driver, passengers will be \$150 and children 12 and under will be free. We will accommodate a few single day visitors—call for a daily amount—but if riding more than one day, please figure the full tour amount.

Y O Ranch Resort & Convention Center 877-967-3767

La Quinta Inn 830-896-9200

Yogi Bear Jellystone Park 830-460-3262

Jim and Sandra Ruhmann

Rosemary Stokley

979-415-4630 jimmodelt@yahoo.com

979-292-5658 rdstrqn26@yahoo.com

So put it on your calendars, and tell your family and friends and we'll see you in
Kerrville, TX



**40th Texas "T" Party
Oct 11 - Oct. 15, 2017
Kerrville, Texas
Registration Form**

Please Return Completed Form and Payment by August 20, 2017

Registrant Driver's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell Phone #: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Email address: _____

T Year/Model: _____ Model T club: _____

Insurance Company: _____ Policy Number: _____

List Adult Passenger Names below: _____ List Youth Passengers below (12 and younger): _____

In case of Emergency Contact Phone Number _____

Registration Fee	#	Fee	Total
Car & Driver	1	\$175	\$175
Adult Passengers	—	\$150	_____
Youth Passengers (12 and under)	—	\$ 0	_____
Extra Photo	—	\$ 12	_____
Extra Tour Book	—	\$ 12	_____
Dangles	—	\$ 2	_____

Total Enclosed and due by August 20, 2017 \$ _____

Are you showing up for Wednesday tour? YES ___ NO ___ **How Many** _____

Guest Tickets: Call for single day prices. If participating more than one day, full registration is suggested.

Refund Policy: If your plans change after you register, we will do our best to accommodate cancellations. However, many of our vendors base their pricing on a guaranteed minimum. We will make a full refund if you cancel by July 31, 2017. Refunds for cancellations after August 1, 2017, will be made on a prorated basis with funds available after the final accounting audit.

The SPACE CITY T'S of Houston is a chapter of The Model T Ford Club of America and is a club interested in the preservation of Model T's. Many hours have gone into hosting this event. **Registrants, by signing this registration form, agree to indemnify and hold THE SPACE CITY T'S of Houston and each of its members harmless from all claims, demands and causes of action arising out of negligence of the Registrant, his agents or employees or passengers, and/or the ordinary negligence of THE SPACE CITY T'S of Houston or any of its members.** Registrant also certifies that his/her car is in road-worthy condition and meets all requirements of the registered state.

Registrant Signature Date

Make check's payable to: **SPACE CITY T's** and mail to:

**Jim and Sandra Ruhmann
P O Box 27
Danciger, TX 77431**

rdstrqn26@yahoo.com or jimmodelt@yahoo.com
979-292-5658 or 979-415-4630

Dues Are Due

Remember, the deadline for dues payment is March 15. At that time the roster will be compiled according to those paid. Dues are still **\$25.00** per year. Please **print** out this page, **fill out** the form below with your most recent information, and make your check payable to **Space City T's**.

Please **mail** your dues to the Treasurer at:

Anthony J. Marino

302 Torrey Court

League City, Texas 77573

NOTE: Dues are not tax deductible. To do so will jeopardize our club's 501c non-profit status with the IRS

SPACE CITY T's MEMBER ENROLLMENT

Model T Ford Club of America membership # if Applicable _____

Model T Ford Club International membership # if Applicable _____

DATE _____ CHECK # _____ AMOUNT \$ _____

Name: _____ Spouse _____

Minor Children (under age 18) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work: _____

Cell: _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Occupation: _____

Model T's Owned:

Space City T's of Houston Bylaws, Article VI, Section 4: Dues for members admitted to membership between July 1 and December 31 shall pay (1/2) of the annual dues. (\$12.50 for the given year, \$25.00 per year thereafter)

Calendar of Events

- Mar 3** **'On the Road for a Reason' car show at Challenger Columbia Stadium located at 1955 W. NASA Blvd. Webster, TX 77598**
- Mar 4** **Brenham, Fayetteville, Bellville March T Tour**
- Mar 8** **Space City T's Meeting**
- Apr 1** **Liberty Church 2nd annual car show at 200 FM 2025 Cleveland, TX 77328**
- Apr 1** **Galveston 'Tour de Isle'**
- Apr 12** **Space City T's Meeting**
- May 10** **Space City T's Meeting**
- Jun 14** **Space City T's Meeting**
- Jul 12** **Space City T's Meeting**
- Aug 9** **Space City T's Meeting**
- Sep 13** **Space City T's Meeting**
- Oct 11-14** **Kerrville Texas T Party**
- Nov 8** **Space City T's Meeting**

Flivver Flash Inputs Needed

Do You Have Something to Share? A Barn find, Funny and not so Funny Model T stories? Tour Photos, or articles about Model T's? Your Model T acquisition stories, Restoration Photos or Swap meet finds? A special interest article?

Please send ads, articles, photos, etc. for our Flivver Flash news letter to:
topkick7@outlook.com



Have Fiberglass fenders would like metal.

Need spray aprons, seats, throttle and timing linkage, Hood, Top frame, emergency brake shoes, whatever else you may have laying around. Please call:

Clint 713 725 0506 or John 713 829 4242

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. Emailing takes place the last week of the month. Annual dues are \$25.00 per year.

Space City Club Officers and Board Members

President	Rosemarie Stokley	(281) 574-7850
Vice President	Luke Cordes	(713) 449-9129
Secretary1	Rick McCracken	(281) 351-0701
Secretary2	Dave Lucas	(281) 388-0761
Treasurer	Anthony J. Marino	(281) 482-4156
Board Member	Bobby Wright	(409) 771-5548
Board Member	Nancy Carter	(281) 931-8268
Board Member	Bill Severn	(936) 273-3592

The FLIVVER FLASH

Anthony J. Marino
 302 Torrey Court
 League City, Texas 77573
 (281) 482-4156

email: ModelT@spacecityts.org

web site: <http://www.spacecityts.org/wp/>

For Sale: 1915 Model T Touring

Hand crank start only. Starts, runs, and stops as should. Roll up rear top. \$15000



Call or text Bobby Wright at [409-771-5548](tel:409-771-5548) or email at bcw54800@gmail.com

Some of you may remember my dad, Ralph Reeder and Performance T Parts. My dad had gathered a large collection of parts some of which I have sold since he died in April of 2009. I still have a lot of miscellaneous parts that I hate to see sit with me and deteriorate. There are rear ends, engine parts, hogs-heads, magneto rings and lots of small parts. Some of the inventory of Performance T Parts is still intact and includes quite a few restoration parts, distributors, camshafts (both reground and cores), alternators, the virtually indestructible belts he made in various lengths, gasket sets and a few new aluminum heads and a couple that have been run. There are several lights, carburetors and lots of other stuff. I have one complete engine and the chassis and some sheet metal from a TT truck. The Performance T Parts trailer is still sitting in my driveway and is full of miscellaneous parts. I still have the under-slung 27 Roadster he and I built as well. It has been sitting under cover for 8 or 9 years and I might consider selling it. I would like to sell everything in one lot and will make a good deal if any of your members might have interest or pass my phone number along to anyone who might.

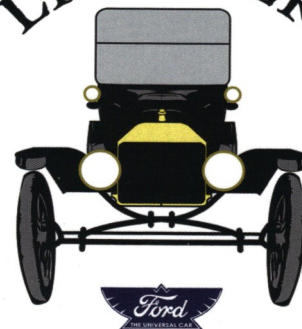
Thanks, Bubba Reeder 281-507-3713

Seven (7) USED 30 x 3 1/2" tires for sale Wards Riverside, Universal etc. \$30 to \$40 each depending on wear.

Two (2) used Kelsey rims, eight (8) square clamps and eight (8) lug nuts; \$200.

— OR BEST OFFER —
Anthony 281-482-4156
topkick7@outlook.com
in League City, Texas

LILLEKER



ANTIQUE AUTO
MODEL A & MODEL T SPECIALIST

ROSS LILLEKER

979.218.4083
[WWW.MRMODEL.T.COM](http://www.mrmodelt.com)

For Sale: 1924 Model T Touring Lots of extras such as a floating rear wheel bearing, high speed Ruckstell, Rocky Mountain brakes with Kevlar linings, ball-bearing 4th main, Kevlar transmission bands and clutch disk. The engine was built with special updates. High compression head, aluminum pistons, stainless steel valves, hardened exhaust valve seat inserts, adjustable valve lifters, tour cam, modern spark plugs, alternator, modern carb and air filter. 12 volt system and signal lights. Asking \$13,000. Contact: Robert Kirk [281-332-1701](tel:281-332-1701)



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 magazine issues or store items can be directed to the following:

Model T Ford Club of America

309 N. 8th Street, PO Box 996

Richmond, IN 47375-0996

Phone: 765-855-5248

E-mail: susan@mtfca.com

\$40 Annual dues includes six issues of The Vintage Ford

Join MTFCA at: <http://www.mtfca.com/>



**Next Meeting
March 8, 2017**



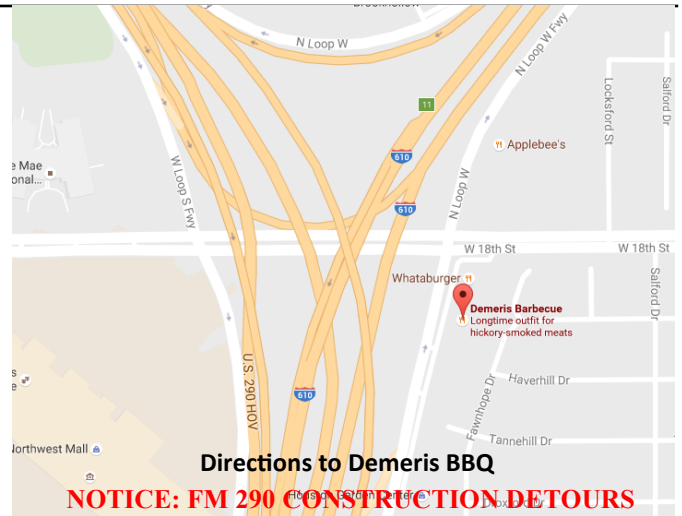
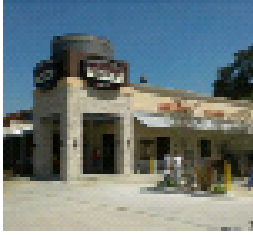
**Dine with Friends at
Demeris BBQ at 6:00 P.M.**

**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:

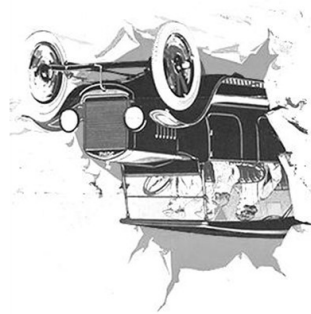
**Lazy Brook Baptist Church
1822 West 18th Street in the Heights**



If construction allows, 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 immediately on the right after Houston Garden Nursery.

If construction allows, 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 BBQ after the WhataBurger.

If construction allows, 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



First Class Mail



**Space City T's of Houston
Anthony J. Marino
302 Torrey Court
League City, Texas 77573**

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