

The Flivver Flash

The Official Newsletter of the Space City T's - Houston, TX



[Space City T's Web Site](http://SpaceCityT'sWebSite)

modelt@spacecityts.org

Schulenburg/Dubina Czech Culture Mini-Tour

by Bobby Wright

When Dave Lucas took over as President this year, one of his goals was to have more short-term events than we have had in the past. The Schulenburg/Dubina Mini-Tour was just such an event.

A few weeks ago, the Club received an invitation from Ed Janecka to display our cars at the Saints Cyril and Methodius Church Picnic on July 1 in Dubina, Texas. When I received that request, I forwarded it to my wife Rebecca thinking she might be interested in at least attending. When I asked her about it, she had already made a reservation at the Holiday Inn in Schulenburg, so I thought why not see if there may be an interest in making this a two-day mini-tour. I contacted Dave Lucas and he said go for

it, so the planning started. In the meantime, Sandra Ruhmann contacted the Club with an invitation to attend the 30th Annual Polka Festival at the KC Hall in Schulenburg on Saturday June 30. With that, the weekend was set. Saturday afternoon we would attend the Polka Festival and Sunday the Church Picnic.

There is some difficulty in planning a tour remotely without being familiar with the area or being close by and able to literally drive the route and see what is there. When planning the Galveston Spring one-day tour, we made multiple trips to Galveston to check routes. There is an online tool that certainly helps. Using Google Maps and Google Earth, I was

Inside This Issue	Page
Schulenburg Dubina Tour / I Dodged a Big Bullet	1 - 4
2018 Texas T Party in Schulenburg TX Registration Form & Flyer	5 - 6
Calendar of Events / Ads / General Info	7
Club Info / Dinner Info / Meeting Info / Map	8

able to virtually drive routes from site to site to determine if the routes were acceptable for the Ts. Also, I was able to determine relatively smooth roads and the fewest stop signs and traffic lights for crossing major roads. It worked pretty darn well. In all honesty, even though Dubina is reported to be the oldest Czech settlement in Texas, I had no idea where it was or how to get there. Using Google Maps, I located a route that looked good and compatible for Model T traffic. I also learned that in a modern car the route was only 15-20 minutes from the hotel, and it included a single lane bridge originally built in late 1800s, called Piano Bridge, on a road named Piano Bridge Road. A local told me the bridge got its name because originally the cross boards on the bridge were not attached to the structure and when driven over the boards moved up and down like the keys on a piano. I have no idea



if this is true but sounds good and I have no reason to doubt it. Turns out this was the perfect Model T road: relatively smooth, virtually no traffic

other than us, narrow and scenic. I am told, at the T Party we will drive the same route again, so many more will get to enjoy the route then.

With the routes and event settled, people began to sign up for the tour. Eight cars signed up for the event. Adding the Cordes' TT and Jim & Sandra Ruhmann in a borrowed Runabout on Sunday we had a total of 10 vehicle participants. They were as follows: Dave and Sandra Lucas with their 1927 Tudor, Rick and Naomi McCracken with their 1926 Tudor, Anthony and Debbie Marino with their 1926 Touring, Bill Severn and grandson Tanner Grebe in Bill's 1919 Centerdoor, Tim Grebe (Bill's son-in-law)

and daughter Olivia in Bill's 1916 Touring, Jerry and Nancy Smith in their 1923 Touring, Broderick



Thompson in his 1924 Touring, and Bobby and Rebecca Wright in their 1915 Runabout. Allen and



Stephanie surprised us showing up in their modern car and joined in. The weather forecast was good for the weekend. Turned out it was good and HOT!



"Crank it"

On Saturday we gathered at the Holiday Inn in Schulenburg giving them a preview of what to expect in October when the "real" tour descends on their hotel in October. Everyone arrived without difficulty and unloaded their vehicles. Note: There is a gravel parking lot for "trucks" just north of (in front of) the hotel for parking tow vehicles. We will fill it up at T Party.

Before we headed to the KC Hall, we stopped at Oakridge Smokehouse for lunch. Then we set out for the KC Hall and the Polka Festival where we parked under a couple of very large oak trees right near the front door of the Hall. Inside we enjoyed some outstanding Polka Music and watched a large number of folks dancing various Polka steps.



Eventually the group took over a table in the entry area where they were serving pastries, hamburgers, and sausage. We spent much time sitting outside by our cars and had many visitors with questions about our cars and stories about their "old car" experiences. It was a good day and most of us were getting pretty tired as evening approached, so we cranked up and some returned to hotel to freshen up before going to eat. Some of us just went as we were and stopped and ate on the way to the hotel where we all needed showers and a good night's sleep before setting out for Dubina in the morning.

Sunday morning most of us found our way to the hotel "free" breakfast. It was pretty typical hotel breakfast with plenty of coffee to get us all going. Around 9:15 we all headed out for Dubina north on 77 to east on 615 which became Piano Bridge Road and took us literally to the front door of the Painted Church. A very nice drive enjoyed by all. A little winding and rolling, but no low gear climbs. Just a nice short drive.

We had accidentally met the car show person at the restaurant the day before so we had an idea where

we were going to park. Our instructions were come to Church and take a left. As planned he greeted us and put us on the front rows of parking allowing us to set up

our chairs right in front of our cars mostly in the shade of the very



old oak trees right behind the seating for the auction which started at 1:30pm. Not long after we got there Jim and Sandra Ruhmann arrived in a borrowed Runabout. We were enthusiastically welcomed by everyone. Ed Janecka, who turned out to be the County Judge, personally came over to welcome us and thank us for being there. The entire time we were there we had a steady stream of lookers. The Ts were enjoyed by all.

Did I mention this was a picnic? And, picnics are centered around food. This was no exception. For \$10 we purchased one of the best plates of food you will likely ever eat at an event that is not BBQ. Two pieces of very unique fried chicken, two pieces of sausage links, green beans, home style potatoes, the best sauerkraut you may have ever eaten, a desert, and tea. There was no choice of what to eat. All they wanted to know was how many plates do you want. Pretty hard to beat eats. These folks had done this before. They served very fast. They had two lines with hundreds of people in each. One was to go and one was if you are eating there in the hall. We got ours to go so we could eat near our cars.

Eventually everyone visited the Painted Church which some say is the prettiest of the Painted Churches in the area. It was certainly nice. Those of you attending the T Party will get to see it and other churches, I am told. They are all worth a visit. Did I mention it was HOT? It was very HOT! The church



was air conditioned. Just one more reason to attend church. Later in the day Luke and Jeff Cordes showed up as only they could, in a TT that was something like an open bus. Some called it a safari



wagon. Others had no idea what to call it, but it was wide and unique. Found out this was their second vehicle of choice since the first choice wasn't running right and had to be returned to their home in the Schulenburg area.

Around 3:00pm we decided we all were hot & tired and had long drives home, so we said our goodbyes and headed back down Piano Bridge Road and back to the Holiday Inn to load and go. Everyone made it back to the hotel without incident. Although it was HOT, HOT, HOT, not one Model T became a steamer. But some surely got close. In my Runabout while

driving it was fine but stopping at the stoplight near the hotel had the motor meter red indicator climbing near the top of the circle.

We all got loaded up and headed home. A quick check that evening confirmed all got home safely. I think everyone had a really good two days tour. We are all looking forward to returning to Schulenburg in October for T Party when it has got to be cooler. Did I mention it was HOT! For those that attended, thanks. It makes the effort worthwhile to have people attend and see them have fun. T Party should be five times the fun and ten times the effort. Plan to attend.



[Click here for a mini-tour video and more photos](#)

I DODGED A BIG BULLET

by Bill Severn

OK, it's great to be lucky and win a slot machine jackpot, get a date with that great looking gal or maybe even hit the lottery. Well, this is none of that. This has to do with being lucky with Model T's, what else.

I've been struggling to get my 1921 Center Door to run good. It has been unreliable to the point that I have been afraid to take it on a long drive. The problems seemed to be rough running and overheating. Coolant was just not moving freely through the radiator. Flushing did not improve things, so I bit the bullet and bought a new radiator. Once the radiator was installed, the other problem raised it's ugly head. When running, the number three cylinder just would not fire. Changed plugs, wires, no help. Since I wanted to take the Center Door to the Schulenburg Dubina mini tour, I had no time to tackle the problem myself. Finally decided that if I wanted it fixed quickly, I'd have to take the car to Ross Lilleker. He said he'd get right on it, and he did.

A text from Ross showed why the number three cylinder would not fire; no compression. And the reason can be seen in the photo. A large part of the number three exhaust valve was missing. It was an original Ford two-piece valve. Ross replaced all of the valves with newer one-piece valves.

Closer examination of the damaged valve revealed additional cracks ready to cause havoc. There was no damage to the piston or anything else in the number three cylinder. Where did the pieces go? No one knows; not in the exhaust and not in the muffler.



**Whew, I
dodged a real
big bullet there.**



2018 TEXAS T PARTY

OCTOBER 10 – 13

As of the writing of this letter we have 54 registered drivers and 55 passengers for the **41st Annual Texas T-Party** which will be held in **Schulenburg, Texas**. We will start the tour on Wednesday morning Oct 10, Banquet will be Friday evening, and we will close on Saturday, October 13.

We are looking for any and all door prizes. If you will contact Sandra Ruhmann we can get it on the list.

The hotels are: Main hotel is **Holiday Inn & Suites** at 200 Heinrich St, **Schulenburg, TX 78956**, call (979) 307-5555 (service animals ONLY). Overflow hotel will be the **Best Western Plus** at 101 Huser Schulenburg, TX 78956 call (979) 743-2030 (\$20 fee per night for pets). Make your reservations now, you can cancel later if you need to. Mention the **Texas T-Party** when you call, rates are \$109 (includes breakfast). Unfortunately, there aren't any RV Parks nearby, the nearest one is 16 miles away in Weimer. There is plenty of grassy area with the trailers.

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.

See you in 3 months in Schulenburg!

[2018 T Party Registration Form](#) [MTFCA Inspection Form](#)

Tour

Historic Painted Churches & Restored Iron Bridge

Visit a couple Wineries

Corn Maze

Airplane Museum

ROSEMARIE STOKLEY
Chairman

2806 Fincastle Dr.
Katy, TX 77450

832-444-9927

rosiestokley@gmail.com

Luke Cordes

713-702-2631

Jeff Cordes

830-522-0300

Registration Information

Sandra Ruhmann

spacecityts1@yahoo.com

**41st Texas "T" Party
Oct 10 - Oct. 13, 2018
Schulenburg, Texas
Registration Form**

Please Return Completed Form and Payment by August 20, 2018

Registrant Driver's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell Phone #: _____ Home 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, 2018 \$ _____

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

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, 2018. Refunds for cancellations after August 1, 2018, 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:

Sandra Ruhmann

P O Box 27

Danciger, TX 77431

spacecityts1@yahoo.com (979) 292-5658 Leave Message

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 and enjoyment of members and those expressing interest in joining the Space City T's. Said education 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 use articles from this publication with credit to this newsletter or the original source. News, articles, ads or anything of interest to the club must be submitted to the editor by the 20th of the month preceding the month of publication. Emailing takes place the last week of the month. Annual dues are \$25 per year.

Space City Club Officers and Board Members

President	Dave Lucas	281-388-0761
Vice President	Rick McCracken	281-351-0701
Secretary	Rosemarie Stokley	281-574-7850
Treasurer	Anthony J. Marino	281-482-4156
Board Member	Bobby Wright	409-771-5548
Board Member	David Carter	713-875-1049
Board Member	Bill Severn	936-273-3592

THE FLIVVER FLASH

Anthony J. Marino
302 Torrey Court
League City, TX 77573
281-482-4156

email:

Calendar of Events

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Aug 5 | KSHJ Mini car show |
| Aug 8 | SCT Meeting |
| Aug 18 | Cars & Coffee car show |
| TBD | Ice Cream Social TBD
Dave Lucas |
| Sep 12 | SCT Meeting |
| Oct 10-13 | Schulenburg Texas T Party

Rosemarie Stokley |
| Oct 10 | SCT Meeting at T Party TBD |
| Nov 14 | SCT Meeting |

The Space City T's Club is the Houston, Texas chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America. All questions concerning membership, The Vintage Ford magazine, the 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

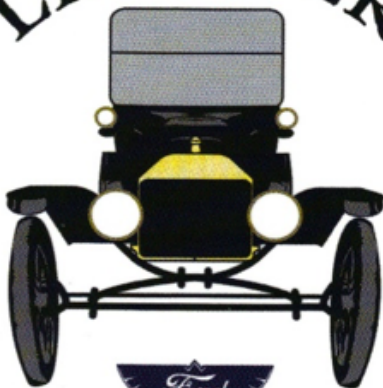
309 N. 8th Street, PO BOX 996
Richmond, IN 47375-0996
Phone: 765-855-5248

Email: susan@mtfca.com

\$40 annual dues includes six issues of the Vintage Ford

Join MTFCA at: www.mtfca.com

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ANTIQUE AUTO
MODEL A & MODEL T SPECIALIST

ROSS LILLEKER

979.218.4083
WWW.MRMODELT.COM



Balto wants to drive!

For Sale: 1926 Model T Roadster



Has not run in 10yrs, covered in garage/shop, cat tore up front seat, radiator neck broken/loose, Texas title search in work, engine hand cranked several months ago is free, needs tires but will roll. \$15000 negotiable. Call 903-293-8016 George Rich 1111 CR 4114 DeKalb, TX 75559
This ad expires October 2018

FLIVVER FLASH INPUTS NEEDED

Do you have something to share? A barn find, funny or 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 email ads, articles, photos, stories, etc. etc. to: topkick7@outlook.com

Next Meeting

August 8, 2018



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

located at

1702 West Loop North,
Suite A, Houston, TX 77008

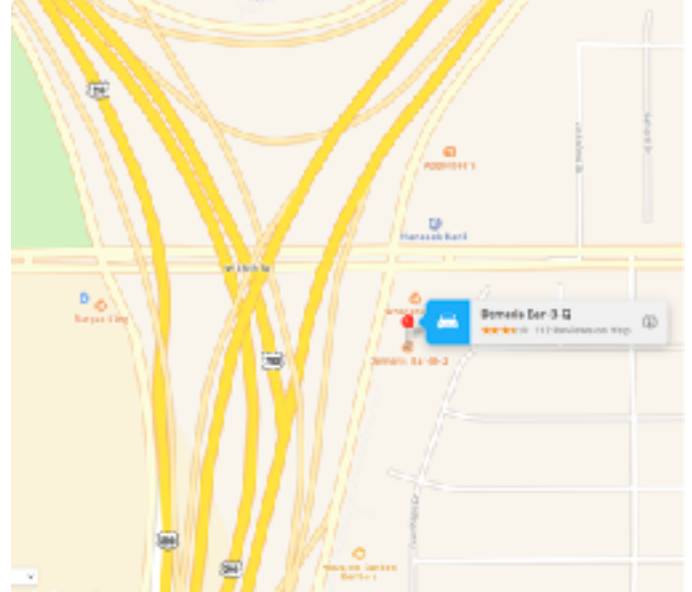
Then attend the
Space City T's Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Place:

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

Website: www.spacecityts.org

Email: modelt@spacecityts.org

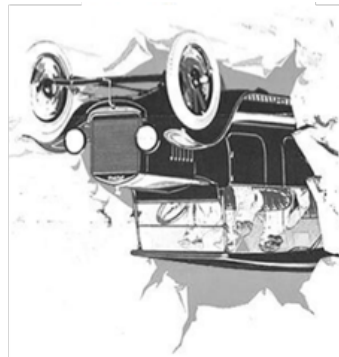


Directions to Demeris BBQ

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 immediately on the 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 BBQ after the 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 BBQ will be on your right after Houston Garden Center.



First Class Mail



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

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