

# The Flivver Flash

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

## Pretty Boy Floyd, Our Big Surprise

by Alan Fairclough and Stephanie Oehrlein

Almost every Saturday there is a car show in the parking lot of the local Otto's BBQ restaurant here in Sugarland. We have been there several times to eat and look at cool cars. We went once with Amelia, our 1924 Touring, but it was a night featuring Dodges. Needless to say, they parked us in the back and barely asked us to honk the horn.

We missed Amelia so much, and Stephanie was crying herself to sleep every night, so we found a 1926 Fordor that was going for a reasonable price, and we got it.

Well, the car had a few issues. The starter button was bad, so it only took 6 bucks for a new switch and a few gallons of gas to get it making noise. And noise it made. The previous owner said he had some muffler work done on it, but it was puffing exhaust out everywhere. The exhaust pipe was loose, the brass nut cross threaded, the exhaust pipe was wired to the frame with bailing wire, and the muffler had a hole in it.

I ordered a new pipe, muffler, and nut from Lang's and while I waited for it, I removed the manifold to find the gaskets were burnt out, so I ordered a gasket kit too. Before ordering a new exhaust manifold, I took a fine file and chased the threads on the outlet, and the new nut threaded on nice and snug. Put in the new muffler,

exhaust pipe and gaskets, and everything is back the way it should be.

The car has only one running light. I ordered a right side bracket and lamp, as well as new sockets, light bulbs etc., and installed running and brake lights on both sides and turn signals on all four corners.

An aftermarket turn signal kit I ordered online was bad, so a free replacement is on the way.

Thanks to Butch Edmonds in Waller, I managed to get a great looking 1926 Texas license plate and made friends with the ladies at the DMV office in Rosenberg TX., Fort bend County. (I promised them rides.)



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If you ever need a license plate, Butch is your guy. He found me a 1923 plate and 1924 radiator tag for Amelia and has an incredible collection, (museum) of license plates and fire trucks. Well worth a visit.

So I had to modify my taillight assembly to hold the running brake and turn signal lights, the license plate and a tab for the sticker. The results are pictured here.



So now, unless anything else pops up in the next seven days, and my turn signals work, we will have a car to drive in the T party in Brenham.

Back to the original story: we took our car (named Pretty Boy Floyd after the famous Bank robber of the time), to Otto's Restaurant to test run the exhaust system (any excuse will do). We were ushered in, given a ticket for a discount on our meal, and parked in a nice spot. We found out it was Ford night (Mustangs excluded), and we won the coolest car award just like that. On our way home, our LED headlight bulbs exploded. They were the wrong voltage. We made it home safely and started to wonder with all those great looking cars with engine compartments so clean you could do surgery in them, polished bodies, new upholstery, clean tires, how is it we won the prize?

Well, we did have the car that started it all, so that is certainly cool. We were featured on their facebook page and their website [www.showplaceclassics.com](http://www.showplaceclassics.com).



Forward to October, we towed Pretty Boy Floyd to the Brenham T Party but had an alternator that did not put out power and a battery that could not hold a charge, so we bought a jump starter and could get it started only once. We got it off the trailer, carried the jump starter, jumper cables and the battery out of our modern car into the back seat, but then as we prepared for the first day of touring the driver's seat backrest collapsed. Bill Severn offered us a ride in his car and we gladly accepted. Pretty Boy remained in the parking lot for the rest of the week.

Saturday evening Bill and I tried to get Pretty Boy back on the trailer but low band was slipping. Rather than mess with tightening the band in the parking lot, we loaded it backwards using reverse. Pretty Boy is now sitting in the garage at home where it will remain for six months until we return from our summer home in Chile to our summer home in Texas. She will be in our local 4th of July parade, even if I need volunteers to push it!

**For more Space City T's of Houston info:**

Website: [www.spacecityts.org](http://www.spacecityts.org)

Email: [ModelT@spacecityts.org](mailto:ModelT@spacecityts.org)

## Rosehill United Methodist Church Car Show

by Jim Davis

On October 5th, 2019 I drove my Model T Open Express next door to the annual car and craft show at the Rosehill United Methodist Church. My Model T was the oldest car there, and was for exhibit & demonstration only and not entered in the car show. Even so, I received at least three or four write in votes from folks that liked the car and the display on Model T Ford and 1920s stuff.



I had a T magneto and coil ring on my table marked "HEAVY" and told the folks about the magneto system Henry Ford used. I had a Ford magneto magnet, buzzer coil, brass bulb horn, and a candlestick phone on display.



I also had a timer, air pump, Stewart speedometer head, Model T truck jack with flip top extension, kerosene tail light, 1920s crystal set radio, battery cell tester, wood stove hand iron, and a number of Hemmings Motor News "Bibles" that I handed out.



A number of children had their picture taken behind the wheel. The Open Express was parked in front of one of my Grandfather's old gas pump bases, near where he had a garage through the 1950's and used to work on Model Ts. He sold gas, coal oil, Archer Grain, livestock feed, and chewing tobacco without the Surgeon General's warning.



The new Rosehill United Methodist Church Faith Center is located on the old Burkhardt homestead. I remember it and told the story of pumping gas and mixing custom grain mixes as a small boy back in the late 1940's and early 1950's watching the gasoline deliveries in a tanker truck pulling a chain under it to help prevent static electricity. I showed some visitors the gas pump base and the story of my Grandfather and the Model T. I had a steady stream of visitors, and thoroughly enjoyed the day!

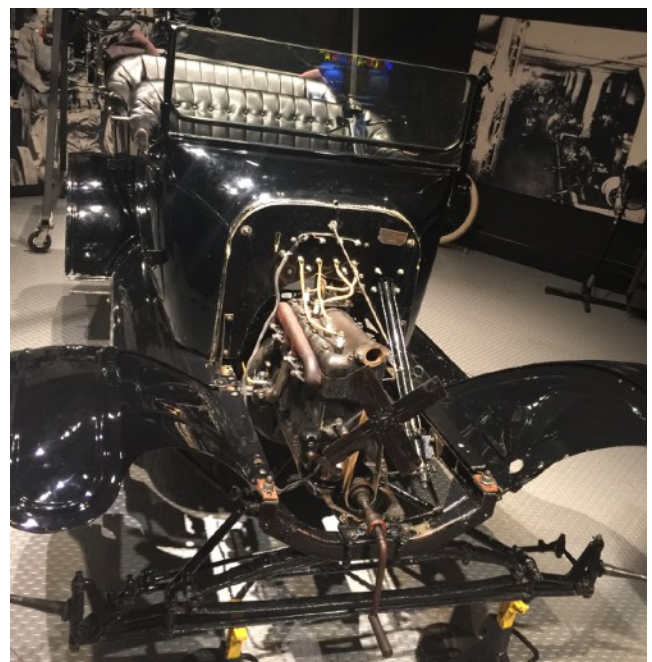


A little more information regarding the Space City T's 2020 Fall "Tour" to the Old Car Festival at Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan. To be clear this is an on your own tour. There is no tour fee. It is also a Tour where we will not be bringing our Model Ts. There will be around 800 vehicles at the event, none newer than 1932 and most driving the Village all day. I encourage you to look it up on [YouTube](#) and the [Greenfield Village](#) and [The Henry Ford](#) websites to get an idea what goes on there. It is an event like none other. Most of the cars will be Model T and Model A Fords, but there will be a little bit of everything even steam and battery powered vehicles from the period.



The primary purpose of the trip is to attend the Old Car Festival (OCF) which is held the weekend following Labor Day each year on

Saturday and Sunday. In 2020 those dates are September 12-13. Dearborn that time of year is typically a bit cooler than the Texas Gulf Coast but not cold. Maybe windbreaker weather. The fronts do pass through the area and can produce some rain but not typically storms. The plan is to attend OCF on Saturday with a backup of Sunday if weather is bad. On the off day you can do what you want. The Henry Ford Museum, located next door, is a must go and can consume an entire day. The Ford Piquette Avenue Plant in Detroit where the Model T was designed is also a must stop, but not a full day event. There are many Letter (alphabet) Car Fords on display there as well as a representation of the secret room where the Model T was designed and a recreation of Henry Ford's office. Also, the Henry Ford home, Fairlane, is a good tour stop. It has been under restoration for several years and the hope is it will be open by this time. Other places you might want to go is the Highland Plant (not open to public), the River Rouge assembly line tour (bus leaves from The Henry Ford Museum), the Henry Ford burial site, or Edsel Ford's home.



Our plan is to fly to Detroit on the Thursday before and have Friday for Piquette and Ford home if available. Then hopefully Saturday go

to Old Car Festival and have Sunday to do whatever. We will return on Monday. Where to stay? We have been to this event four times and we have stayed close by at the TownePlace Suites by Marriott at 6141 Mercury Dr., Dearborn, MI 48126. The phone is 313-271-0200. It works for us. There is minimal breakfast so if you want a better option breakfast at the hotel you might want to consider somewhere else. There are lots of options. The Dearborn Inn (a Marriott) is more or less across the street from the Henry Ford and Greenfield Village on Oakwood. The address is 20301 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn, MI 48124. The phone is 313-271-2700. It is a very nice old style place (built in 1930), a little more pricey. So stay where you want.



All that said, we may make reservation at Dearborn Inn also. If everyone wants to stay there, we can also. Right now there are rooms at both locations. I know Dearborn Inn fills up because of location.

If you want to be on the email list email Bobby Wright at [bcw54800@gmail.com](mailto:bcw54800@gmail.com). Questions you can call me at (409) 771-5548. Please leave a message, as I seldom answer a number that I don't recognize.

**For more Space City T's of Houston info:**

Website: [www.spacecityts.org](http://www.spacecityts.org)

Email: [ModelT@spacecityts.org](mailto:ModelT@spacecityts.org)

**2019 - 2020 Calendar of Events**

**Sunday Dec. 1st** - Space City T's of Houston Christmas Banquet - 5pm. We will be playing the "White Elephant Game" again with gift limits set at \$20 to \$25. Also collecting new unwrapped toys for Toys For Tots. **Please RSVP with Dave Lucas at 713-299-3059**

**Thursday Dec. 5 - Whiskey Cake Restaurant at Baybrook Mall** Please join us for Repeal of Prohibition Day from December 5, 1933. We would love to have you join us again and possibly bring several Model Ts to Whiskey Cake Restaurant. Please let me know. Enrique Centeno II [enrique.centeno@whiskey-cake.com](mailto:enrique.centeno@whiskey-cake.com) cell: 512-644-7828.

"Get Your Kicks" at the **MTFCI Annual Meeting #66** in Phoenix, Arizona "The Valley of the Sun" on January 17-18, 2020. Hosted by the Canyon Country Model T Club of Flagstaff, AZ. Contacts: Russ Furstnow, 928.526.1343, [1stnow@msn.com](mailto:1stnow@msn.com) or Marilyn Peterson, 928.607.4775, [petersenmar@hotmail.com](mailto:petersenmar@hotmail.com). **Registration deadline: December 4, 2019.**

**MTFCA 55th Annual Meeting & Museum Tours. February 14-15, 2020** in Lincoln, Nebraska. Hosted by the Nebraskaland Model T and Antique Car Club. Contact Kenneth M. Cheney, Roger Wermeskerch, 402.488.3686 or Beth Vaughn 402-781-9359 or [mikebeth@hughes.net](mailto:mikebeth@hughes.net).

**2020 Winter Tour, March 8 - 12, 2020** in Gainesville, Florida. Hosted by The Tin Lizzie Club of North Central Florida. **CURRENTLY FULL - WAITING LIST ONLY.** For forms and info visit: [tinlizziefl.com](http://tinlizziefl.com), email: [f.stephenellis1@gmail.com](mailto:f.stephenellis1@gmail.com) or call Steve at 352-207-1498.

**MTFCA 2020 National Tour, July 18 - 23, 2020** in Spokane, Washington. Hosted by The Inland Empire Model T Club. Contact Matt Hansen at (509) 998-9927 or at [gbluffcider@yahoo.com](mailto:gbluffcider@yahoo.com)

Tom and Patti Strickling and friends welcome you to beautiful Tuscarawas "T" County, Ohio, for the MTFCI's 64th Annual Tour JULY 19-24, 2020, IN NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO. Join us for a busy week of beautiful backroad driving, history, antiques, entertainment, arts, ICE CREAM, youth activities, and more. For questions, contact Tom Strickling at [Ttour2020@yahoo.com](mailto:Ttour2020@yahoo.com)

## 2020 Dues Are Due

Remember, the deadline for dues payment is March 15, 2020. 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 2020 Treasurer at:

**Jerry Smith**  
**13723 Llano Lake Court**  
**Houston, Texas 77059**

**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 there- after)*

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.

#### 2020 Space City Club Officers and Board Members

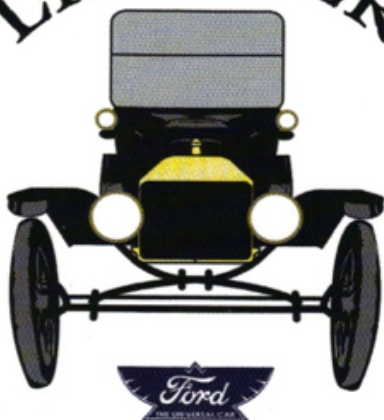
President	Dave Lucas	281-388-0761
Vice President	Rick McCracken	281-351-0701
Secretary	Rosemarie Stokley	281-574-7850
Treasurer	Jerry Smith	281-461-9906
Board Member	Broderick Thompson	713-269-3820
Board Member	Bobby Wright	409-771-5548
Board Member	Bill Severn	936-273-3592

## THE FLIVVER FLASH

Anthony J. Marino  
302 Torrey Court  
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281-482-4156

email: [modelt@spacecityts.org](mailto:modelt@spacecityts.org)

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**Mike Mitchell at**  
**(214) 250-6246 or**  
**[mmitchell53@sbccglobal.net](mailto:mmitchell53@sbccglobal.net)**

## New Members Wanted

Please visit our [Space City T's of Houston Texas web site](#) and view our club future and past Model T Ford events and activities.

If interested, please provide your name, address, mobile phone, & email, and make a \$25 check payable to:

**Space City T's**

Please mail your information and check to the Treasurer at:

**Jerry Smith**  
**13723 Llano Lake Court**  
**Houston, Texas 77059**

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](mailto:susan@mtfca.com)

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

Join MTFCA at: [www.mtfca.com](http://www.mtfca.com)

## 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](mailto:topkick7@outlook.com)

## Next Meeting

**December 1, 2019 Christmas Banquet**

**2019 Space City T's Christmas Dinner**

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 1, 2019**

**CHRISTIES SEAFOOD RESTAURANT**

**5:00pm**

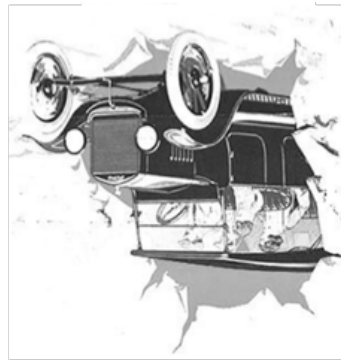
**Please RSVP for a head count to:**

**Dave Lucas at: (713) 299-3059**

Men should bring a man's gift and women bring a woman's gift with a value of \$20-\$25. You may also bring a new Toys for Tots gift as an option if anyone wishes to bring one.

The following Space City T's Officers were re-elected for 2020 and will be re-installed at the Christmas Dinner:

President	Dave Lucas
Vice President	Rick McCracken
Secretary	Rosemarie Stokley
Treasurer	Jerry Smith
Board Member	Bobby Wright
Board Member	Broderick Thompson
Board Member	Bill Severn



**First Class Mail**



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

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