

The Flivver Flash

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

Metal Sculptures

by Dean Dockery

I discovered an interesting location on my way traveling between my sister's home in Missouri and my children's homes in Wichita, Kansas. I was driving Highway 400 through eastern Kansas, and I spied what initially I thought was a Model T parked in a field near the highway. I stopped to investigate closer, and discovered it was not a Model T, but a very nice metal sculpture of a car similar to a Model T. Included in the field were other nicely made metal sculptures. I saw maybe five in all. I have included photos of the three for which I took pictures. These were located on Highway 400 a few miles west of Augusta, Kansas.



For more Space City T's of Houston info:

Website: www.spacecityts.org

Email: ModelT@spacecityts.org

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Editor's note: The following article is a reprint from the October 2016 Flivver Flash. We thought the readers may enjoy it, because the 2020 trip to the OCF has been postponed.

The Henry Ford

by Debbie Houck

Part 1: The Old Car Festival at Greenfield Village

The annual Old Car Festival occurs one weekend every year, touting itself as “America’s longest running antique car show”, at the Greenfield Village, part of The Henry Ford destination, located in Dearborn, Michigan. Picture hundreds of vehicles from the 1890’s through 1932, on display and driving around the grounds of the village, and you know you’re in for a treat the moment you enter. Bobby and Rebecca Wright are now regulars to the Old Car Festival, and this year Tony Marino and Debbie Houck joined them to appreciate the beauty and history of these antiques.



The special event occurred on September 10 and 11, with the village staying open until 9 pm on Saturday to accommodate the Gaslight Tour, as the vehicles parade through the streets beginning at 7 pm, featuring gas, kerosene and early electric lamps. During the daytime, there are pass-in-review parades on the Main Street staging, with historians sharing their knowledge

in various vintage categories such as speedsters, steam cars, and commercial vehicles, and an awards ceremony follows on Sunday.



This year’s event coincided with the National Park Service celebrating its own centennial. The village portrayed the theme of utilizing the automobile to discover America’s great outdoors through camping and travel trailers, which was gaining popularity in the late teens to early 1920’s. A special vehicle display featured replicas of Henry Ford’s 1896 Quadricycle and the 1901 Ford Sweepstakes race car. Throughout each day, car games, such as short races are held including those with Chinese fire drills and spearing potatoes on the way to the finish line.

Bobby’s love of firetrucks led him to meet a gentleman named Tom Collins at a previous Old Car Festival. Tom was kind enough to invite the four of us to a lunch that he and his wife Barbara were hosting near his own 1924 Ford



Model TT Boyer/Obenchain chemical firetruck in the commercial vehicles section. As if the yummy sandwiches and some delicious homemade treats weren't enough, we were also treated to a singing acapella group, the Courter family from Linden, Tennessee, dressed in themed clothing.



Besides the cars, there are numerous buildings and attractions that make up over 80 acres, including a 1913 Herschell - Spillman carousel, a tin smithing shop, glass blowing demonstrations, and live vintage music. You can ride in a historic steam or diesel locomotive on a 3-mile route on the Weiser historic railroad, with 3 off-and-on opportunities at stops in the Village. The 1931 Ford Model AA bus with hand-cranked windows has 5 stops in the village. Our bus ride took a detour so that we too became a part of the pass-in-review.



Rides are available on the Model T's for a drive around Greenfield Village. See Tony's YouTube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZBsD4Rv74I&> as he unsuccessfully tries to

convince Joe the driver to let him take the wheel of the 1916 Model T.

Part 2: The Henry Ford Museum

The Henry Ford complex, which comprises over 200 total acres of indoor and outdoor, often hands-on and interactive, history museums, includes the Henry Ford Museum. From a series of vignettes that highlight five generations of the 20th century with everyday technology (remember those huge cell phones, Atari games and floppy disks?) to American furniture from 1670 to the present, to a huge (and I mean that literally) collection of American agricultural and manufacturing equipment, to an exhibit exploring American's quest for freedom complete with the bus Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat and the chair used by Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre the night of his assassination.



To find this much innovation and transformation of our country's history is simply amazing. And of course, I would be remiss not to tell you about the transportation aspect of the Museum. The railroad exhibit doesn't just have a model train layout; it has one of the largest steam locomotives ever built, the 125-foot long Allegheny locomotive, designed for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway in 1941 inside the building! The aviation exhibit highlights include a 1939 DC-3 plane, a 1928 Ford 4-AT-B Tri-Motor airplane flown over the South Pole, a 1925 Fokker F VII, and a 1939 Sikorsky VS-300A helicopter flown by Igor himself on the front lawn of the museum right before donating it in 1943.

Saving the cars for last, there are five significant Presidential vehicles to view: four Presidential Limousines (the 1972 Lincoln Continental that drove Ronald Reagan to the hospital after he was shot, the 1961 Lincoln Continental used by John F. Kennedy the day he was assassinated, a 1950 Lincoln used by Dwight D. Eisenhower who added the distinctive plastic “bubble top” during his terms, and a 1939 Lincoln used by Franklin D. Roosevelt), as well as a 1902 Brougham carriage used by Theodore Roosevelt on official occasions.

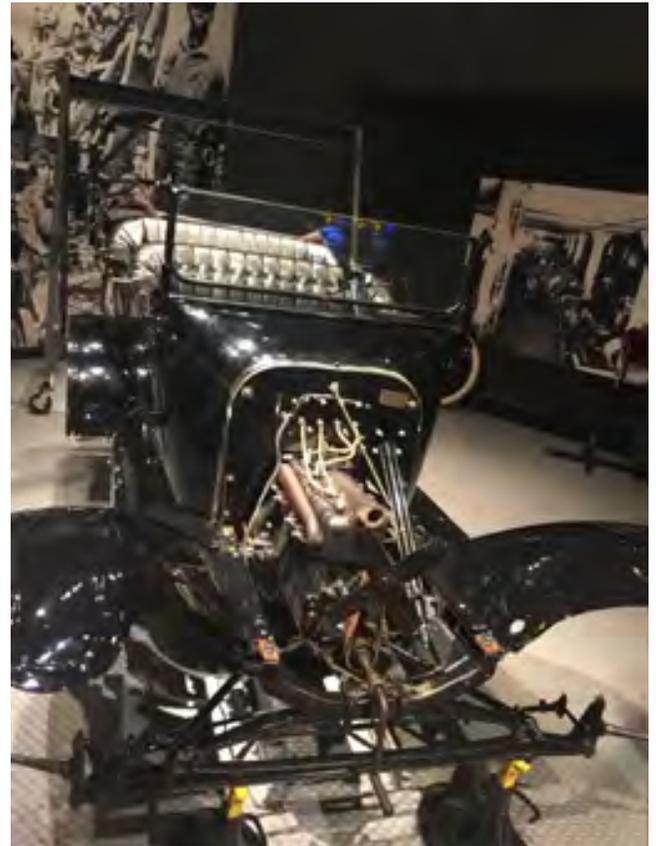
The “Driving America” exhibit is full of historically significant vehicles like the original Ford Model A, a 1931 Bugatti Royale, a 1935 Stagecoach travel trailer owned by Charles Lindberg, a 1914 Detroit Electric Model 47 Brougham owned by Clara Ford and the 1902 Ford 999 oval track racing car.



There is one very interesting 1924 Model T touring car on display that has been “exploded” by dissecting its parts and suspending it all by wires. Another Model T is assembled each day at the Museum. Participants can assist in the assembly and



spend as much or as little time as they want in the activity (something many of the club members are familiar with on a regular basis!) The current vehicle was retired over 8 years ago after providing rides at the Greenfield Village,



and was on its 3007th build at the museum on the day we visited. Then it is taken apart and the process begins again the following day, with the exception of Thanksgiving and Christmas days, when she gets to remain fully dressed (I asked!) because the museum is closed.

Part 3: Ford Rouge Factory Tour

Another attraction of The Henry Ford is an opportunity to visit a real-life factory floor where the current aluminum-alloy-bodied Ford F-150 is made. Buses depart from the Museum to the Rouge factory. The tour begins with a short film covering Henry Ford's vision that led to current manufacturing processes. Then you are led into another theatre which



demonstrates some of those processes using unique visual effects, including ones in your seat. Next is the assembly plant itself, where you walk above on platforms looking down into the factory. This part is self-paced, so you can take as long as you need to watch the conveyors, vehicle elevators and just-in-time



parts delivery system in various steps of the build and view employees making your future F-150. The final portion of the tour is a collection of historic vehicles made at the Rouge factory where production of the Model A began in 1928, the V-8 Ford car began in 1932, the Thunderbird in 1953 and the Mustang in 1965.

In summary, if you ever have the opportunity to visit this remarkable and huge collection of innovation, history and artifacts, whether it's during the Old Car Festival weekend or not, you really should take time to do it. If you can stay the entire weekend or 2 days during the week, I would recommend purchasing an annual membership. It pays for itself with just one visit to the Village and the Museum, the cost is tax deductible to the extent provided by law, and it offers discounts on food and shopping, along with free parking. On top of that, you can receive an additional 10% discount if you have a AAA card. Happy travelling!

FOR SALE: 1924 T Coupe partially restored & miscellaneous parts. Ran good and drove around ten years ago, but not road ready, engine has new pistons, stainless valves & springs, also have new wood kit for the car. \$2,500 OBO.

Also, 1922 T frame with front axle, rear end, Hassler shocks, and rebuilt radiator still in box. \$900 OBO. Misc 'T' wheels, rims, fenders, hoods & stuff. Call for information.



Also, 1923 STAR parts car, mostly complete but lots of rust, make offer.

Roland Taylor, Whitney, TX 254-694-5786

Texas T Party 2020

Temple, Texas

September 30 - October 3



Welcome to the [2020 Texas T Party](#), the 4 day event will be held in Temple, Texas.
[Registration is available now.](#)

Like all good T parties there will be plenty of tours and activities. We look forward to providing all the details including an overview of daily activities in due course. One thing we are definitely planning to do is attend the Texas Early Day Tractor and Engine Show on Saturday October 3.

The 2020 Texas T party will be based at the **Hilton Garden Inn**, located in the medical center area of the Temple Medical Center. A special "T Party Tour Rate" of **\$100** per night has been negotiated for tour participants. The hotel is committed to providing 80 of their 130 rooms at this rate. It may go over this quota depending on demand from other customers, so act quickly. The hotel is pet friendly but does require a \$50 non-refundable deposit.

Hilton Garden Inn
1749 Scott Blvd.
Temple, TX 76504
(254) 773-0200

Please Note that the hotel parking lot only has room for our Model Ts and modern cars but not trucks and trailers. We are working diligently to obtain permission to use space close to the hotel. Information on this topic will be provided as soon as possible. No secondary hotel has been reserved at this time. Information on a second hotel may be added at a later date, depending on the need. Information about places to park an RV will be provided.

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	Nancy Carter	713-580-3368
Board Member	Bobby Wright	409-771-5548
Board Member	Bill Severn	936-273-3592

THE FLIVVER FLASH

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 281-482-4156

email: modelt@spacecityts.org

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

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

Join MTFCA at: www.mtfca.com

For Sale: Bubble Room

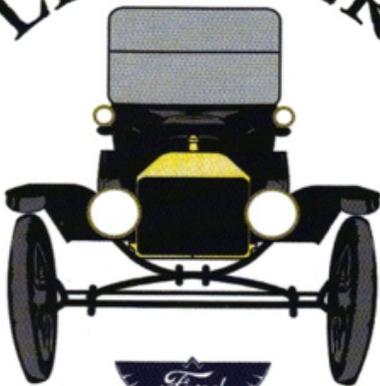


2 year old complete, custom made, tall, self supporting bubble room for storing your Model T clean and dry. 8 inch tubes have a pump to keep a constant pressure to support the structure as needed. A fan provides low contact pressure constant flow of filtered air.. Note: Too tall for an 8 foot ceiling room.

Original price \$1,800.
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Call/text Bobby Wright at 409-771-5548 or email bcw54800@gmail.com

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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 Cancelled

May 13, 2020



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

located at

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

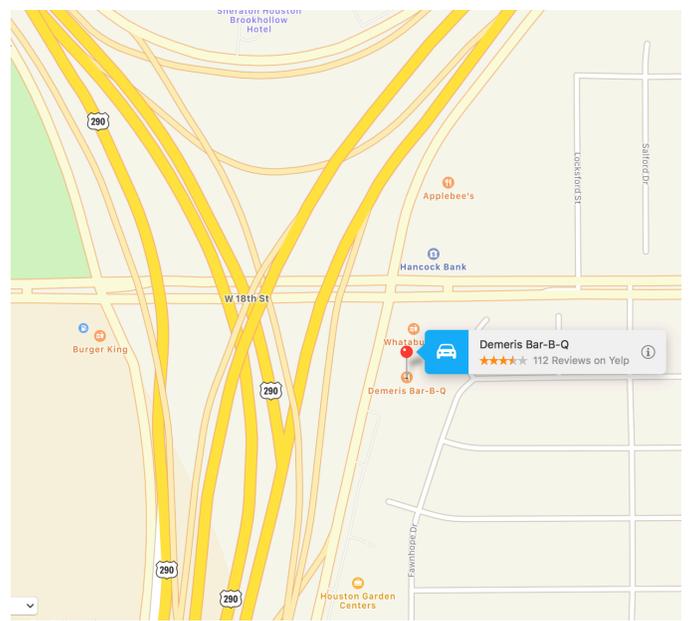
**Then attend the
Space City T's Meeting at 7:30 P.M.**

Place:

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

Website: www.spacecityts.org

Email: modelt@spacecityts.org

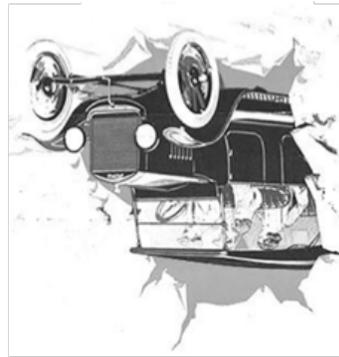


Directions to Demeris BBQ

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



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