

The Flivver Flash

The Official Newsletter of the Space City Ts of Houston, TX

George Ranch Frontier Days

By Doug Brough

The George Ranch invited the Space City T's club to show cars on Friday and Saturday for their Frontier Days. This was formerly Texian Market Days, which was held in late October but has been renamed, and this year was moved to November 15th and 16th.

Friday was a picture-perfect day with cool air and no humidity. It was only open to school groups. Steve Haveman and Doug Brough brought their cars out to "entertain" the kiddos. While there were some large school groups that came through, we honestly didn't get too many takers. They seemed to gravitate to the historical homes and barns. We did get a few high school groups, and several smaller private schools came by. In the picture you'll see "Professor Steve" talking to a high school group.



Saturday was open to the public, so more action happened that day. Jim and Sandra Ruhmann with son Jason, Mike Noe and Doug and Shelley Brough came out for that. Mike brought his 1931 Model A.



We were placed next to a Thunderbird club. They came out in force, 11 cars, all beautifully restored. So, we had the T-Birds and the T-non-birds! We were also next to a group showing off WWII jeeps, trucks and weaponry. Everyone was very nice.



The Flivver Flash newsletter is published by the Space City Ts of Houston, Texas to keep the Ford Model T membership and similar organizations aware of club activities and articles of interest to the Model T family. Permission is given to copy the contents, with proper credit, unless otherwise restricted or specified.

The attendees enjoyed seeing the old cars. A few folks in period costume posed with the cars. The young kids enjoyed getting in the cars and “driving”. Everyone wanted to know if the crank really would start a car. Yes, in fact for the 1915, that was the starter!



The ranch had the two homes open for tours and various cattle roping and ranching demonstrations, including the cow-wash (or better, cow dipping tank). They also had a pioneer village re-enactment and a WWII weapons demonstration. And of course, food trucks and a few craft booths.



Victoria (our hostess) was very kind to us, providing sack lunches both days. Although the event officially ended at 5pm, things were winding down, so we left at 4pm with a little parade through the grounds. A great day in all. Consider coming out next year and being part of the fun!

Nassau, Bahamas Replica T's

By Kyle Stallones

I thought this site was interesting. We took the Royal Caribbean ship ‘Oasis of the Seas’ from Barcelona, Spain to Fort Lauderdale, FL. The ship stopped at Nassau, Bahamas. My wife and I were walking and saw these replica cars (shaped like Model Ts) go by, filled with tourists. The cars were so silent I suspect they were electrically driven.



Heights Association Celebration

By Doug Brough

On Nov 2, 2024, the Space City T's club was invited to a Heights Association 50-year celebration. I was able to be a part of it. They had about 8 cars and trucks of all years and several on bicycles, and many constables to help with traffic. The parade ended up being 7 blocks up Harvard Street, then 6 blocks back to nearly where we started.



Some things I learned about the Heights:

- Did you know that neighborhood was started in 1891?
- Did you know there are still a few pre-1900 houses standing in the Heights?

- Did you know in the early 1970's it had gone to disrepair and was considered a poverty and high-crime rate area?
- Did you know in 1974 a group of businessmen banded together to revitalize the Heights? (Hence the 50-year celebration)



Riding in our car was one of the Heights historians and past president of the Heights association. Since we were the oldest car, we got to be first, right behind the constable.



The Heights Association treated us well. They had cold water and Gatorade while we were waiting to line up, and we were invited to a

party and lunch after the parade. Thankfully, no rain!

Dues Clarification, Christmas Party, and 2025 Officers

By Dave Lucas

Hope all are well as the weather is slowly changing a bit. It's somewhat cooler, but not winter in Texas just yet.

I need to clarify some information about dues. Our club By-Laws state that dues are due on January 1st of each year, and you become delinquent on March 1st. We need this to happen in this time frame to start generating our club roster and have it completed by March 1st to email out to everyone hopefully in April and to have good contact information and make any changes.

Also, once our club information is correct, we must turn in a completed membership roster to the MTFCA to maintain our affiliation with the MTFCA organization, as well as, obtaining the liability insurance they provide for events our club participates in.

Our requirements are that 50% of our club membership must be members of the MTFCA and 100% of our club officers must be members of the MTFCA. To maintain a strong club and to support fully the MTFCA, lets all do our part and pay our dues by the January 1, 2025, deadline. Please mail your \$25 check (and the Form on page 8) to our club Treasurer:

Craig Neuman
2302 Lord Nelson Dr
Seabrook Texas 77586

Craig Neuman has worked diligently to have our club account be able to accept ZELLE electronic payments for dues to our Wells Fargo bank account. If your banking institution participates in the ZELLE electronic transactions, please look up modelt@spacecityts.org and add this as your recipient to send your \$25 electronically. A report will be generated to the Treasurer with payment received in your name.

Our next event is the Space City Ts Club Christmas Party at the Monument Inn in LaPorte off HWY 225 on Independence Parkway, on Sunday, December 8th at 5pm social time. The cost is \$30 cash per person to be paid to Craig Neuman at the door. The club will pay the tax and gratuity. Alcohol will be at your own expense as well. Please RSVP for a head count to: Dave Lucas at: (713) 299-3059

The White elephant gift exchange is optional. Women should bring a lady's gift, wrapped and untagged, valued around \$25. Men should bring a man's gift, wrapped and untagged, valued around \$25.

Our club also supports the TOYS FOR TOTS program, and if you wish you can bring an UNWRAPPED new toy for a child and Bobby Wright will collect them and deliver to the Sante Fe, Texas Fire Department with acknowledgment from the Space City Ts Club.

Our club officers for 2025 will also be officially recognized and take their respected positions on January 1, 2025.

Club President: Steve Havemann
 Vice President: David Veir
 Secretary: Rosie Stokley
 Treasurer: Craig Neuman

Board Member: Mike Schlitzkus
 Board Member: Bill Severn
 Board Member: Dave Lucas
 and continuing as Flivver Flash Editor is Tony Marino.

Possible Start of a Long-Term Test on Condensation in Fuel

By David Veir

As I write this, the temperature outside is 39 degrees F. It's November 21st here in Houston, Texas and a bit of cool air has finally arrived. This change in temperature has me thinking about winterizing all our antique cars and various gasoline powered equipment.

What if it freezes this winter? Should I completely empty the cooling systems on all our cars to prevent the engine blocks from cracking in case of a hard freeze? And what about the gasoline in these cars, will it be rotten by next spring? Should I add a fuel stabilizer? Maybe draining the fuel out of each car would be a better solution. Or should I fill all the fuel tanks to the top to minimize the condensation that could build up inside the fuel tank?

For the cooling system, I have decided to drain each car's cooling system and refill them with a 50 / 50 mix of concentrated green antifreeze and water per the information on the 1-gallon antifreeze jug. This will provide protection down to negative 32 degrees.

Let's get started: I placed a clean drain pan underneath the petcock of the radiator, turned the petcock (knob?) a quarter of a turn, to fully open, and absolutely nothing came out. After a brief inspection, I found that the petcock valve was packed with rust and debris.

So, a short piece of .032" diameter safety wire was located and, after poking it up into the drain hole several times, it eventually cleared the blockage and allowed the radiator to drain.

Next, I filled the system with clean water and drove the car around the block to circulate the water and hopefully remove any built-up debris that was remaining in the engine and radiator. Once I returned home, the radiator was again drained and refilled with a 50 / 50 mix of coolant and water.

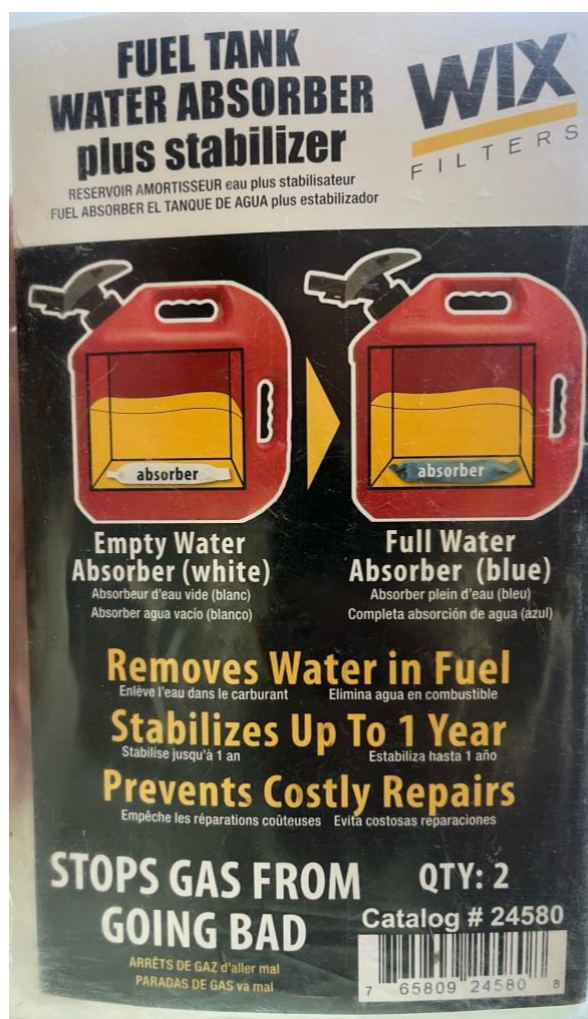
Over the years I have tried many fuel "additives", and I was never 100% satisfied with the results. To benefit from any fuel additive, you must first "add" the product to your fuel. But what if you removed something instead of adding it? This year I have decided to try removing instead of adding. No, I'm not talking about removing the additive, I'm talking about removing the condensation.

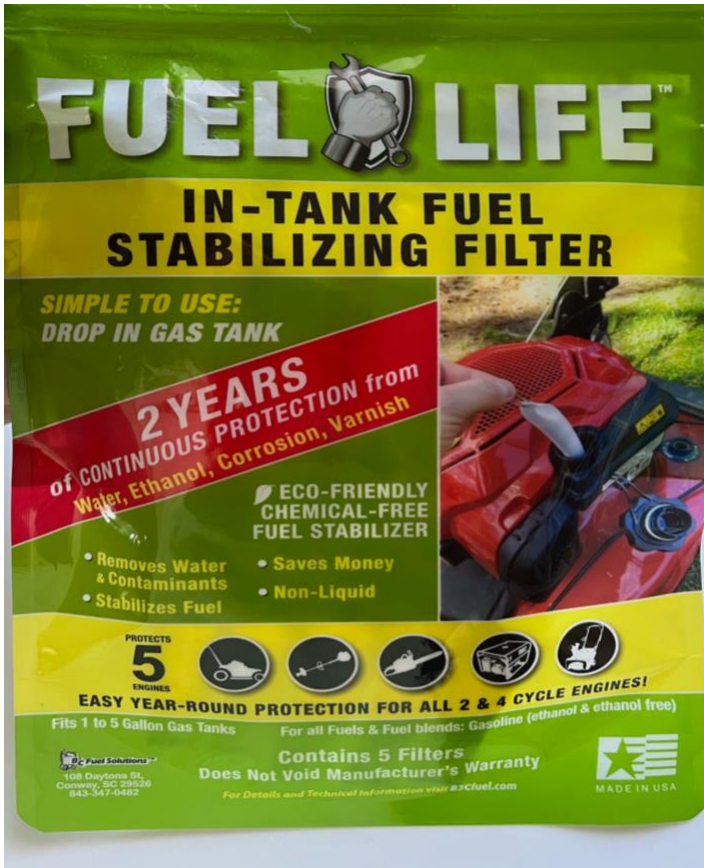
"Condensation significantly contributes to ethanol fuel going bad because ethanol is hygroscopic, meaning it readily absorbs moisture from the air, including condensation, which can lead to phase separation where water separates from the fuel and creates problems with engine performance and storage stability; essentially, condensation accelerates the degradation of ethanol fuel".

So how can you remove this condensation from the fuel? Well, first let's start by reducing the amount of condensation that builds up in our fuel tanks by keeping your fuel tank full (as much as is reasonable and safe) this will help to minimize the size of the area where moist air can collect. Next, drain your sediment bowl on your fuel tank and/or fire wall from time to time, as well as the fuel bowl on your carburetor.

I recently discovered a product that claims to be like desiccant (although I'm told that desiccant will NOT work in fuel) and is designed to remove water from your fuel and "Stops Gas from Going Bad". We will see about that.

Even though I purchased products made by two different manufacturers (see below), they both appear to be very similar (if not identical) products. I will be trying these products on two different vehicles, a Speedster (replica) and a Tudor, as well as a log splitter and a diesel tractor. I will also be trying this in a cheap plastic yellow gas container that I will be leaving outside in the weather, as an extreme test to see if the product can keep moisture out even when stored outside in the rain.





Space City Ts Website: www.spacecityts.org

Email: modelt@spacecityts.org

FB: [Space City Ts of Houston Facebook](#)

To make a gift to support the Model T Museum, [click here](#) or go here: www.MTFCA.com

Space City T's Dues Are Due

Remember, the deadline for dues payment is January 1st. At that time the roster will be compiled according to those paid. Dues are **\$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:

Craig Neuman
2302 Lord Nelson Drive
Seabrook TX 77586

SPACE CITY T's MEMBER ENROLLMENT

Model T Ford Club of America membership # _____

Model T Ford Club International membership # _____

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 Ts 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 1/2 year, \$25.00 per year thereafter.

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 Flivver 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 27th of the month preceding the month of publication. E-mailing occurs the last day of the month. Annual club dues are \$25 per year.

2024 Space City Club Officers and Board Members

President	Tanner Grebe	936-537-7443
Vice President	David Carter	713-875-1049
Secretary	Rosie Stokley	832-444-9927
Treasurer	Craig Neuman	346-855-0544
Board Member	David Veir	713-823-2359
Board Member	Mike Schlitzkus	281-387-6658
Board Member	Dave Lucas	281-388-0761

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

email: modelt@spacecityts.org

website: www.spacecityts.org

For Sale: 1929 Model A Boat-Tail Speedster



2016 Keels & Wheels photo

'Boat-Tail' is from two 1947 International pickup hoods, 4 cylinder Model A engine with Stromberg downdraft carburetor, & modern intake manifold, Kelsey 16" 'bent spoke' wheels, and rebuilt electrical system.

\$7495 OBO ([more photos](#))

Please leave message or email:

Anthony J. Marino

832-607-8528

topkick7@comcast.net

FOR SALE

1925 DOCTORS COUPE



PRETTY RED WITH BLACK TRIM. SHE HAS A FEW NICKS BECAUSE I DRIVE HER. RUNS REALLY GOOD, POWERFUL, ENGINE DOES 45MPH WITH EASE. GARAGED, NO RUST. MOSTLY ORIGINAL, EXCEPT DISTRIBUTOR AND INSIDE KIT. HAS LEATHER AND WOOD PANELS. FOR MORE INFO ON ENGINE CALL ROSS AT LILLEKER

AUTO. **\$12,000 OBO**

ROSEMARY STOKLEY

KATY, TX 1-832-444-9927

2024 Space City T's Christmas Party

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8, 2024

MONUMENT INN

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 \$25.

You may also bring a new unwrapped Toys for Tots toy gift.

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
Richmond, IN 47374-3034
Phone: 765-373-3106

Email: rachel@mtfca.com

\$50 annual dues includes six issues of the Vintage Ford

Join or Renew at: [MTFCA Join or Renew](#)

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](#), [videos](#), or [links](#) to: topkick7@outlook.com

CLUB MEETING MONTHLY SCHEDULE

- December 8th – 5pm Christmas Dinner at The Monument Inn Restaurant
- January 8th – 7:30pm Zoom virtual meeting TBD



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

located at

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



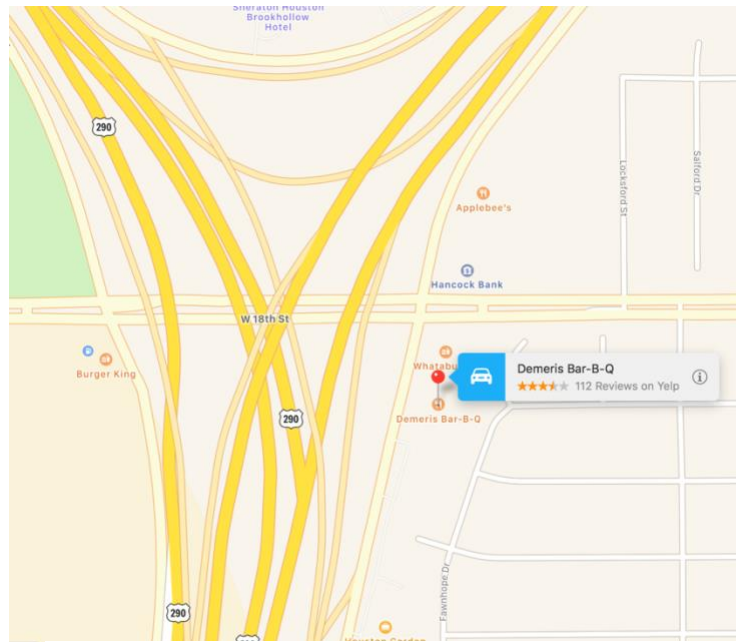
**Then attend the
Space City T's Meeting at 7:30 P.M.**

Place:

**Lifebrook 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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