

The Flivver Flash

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

The Model T Ford and Destination Imagination (DI)

By Bill Severn

Never underestimate the value of the [Space City T's of Houston](#) website. The following is part of a message that Steve Havemann sent out that was received on the website. The message was a request from a young woman named Tricia Danto who lives in The Woodlands, Texas.

"I am the team manager for two Destination Imagination (DI) teams that earned spots at the Texas state tournament to be held on March 29th in Arlington, Texas. DI is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) team challenge for Intermediate and Junior High School students, that encourages them to use their creativity to develop innovative solutions to complex problems, fostering teamwork, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills. One team has three members in 5th grade at Mitchell Intermediate School and the other has six members in 8th grade at McCullough Jr. High School. Through their hard work, both teams have advanced to the Southeast Region 6 Tournament being held in Arlington, Texas on the weekend of March 29 – 30, 2025.

Part of our team competition involves researching and showing, through Improvisation, a skit about the Model T Ford. Since these students have dedicated significant time outside of school as a team to solve this STEM based challenge, if it could be arranged, it would be a HUGE help for them to see a Model T Ford car. Thanks in advance for your help, Tricia Danto"

Since Ms. Danto lives only 4 blocks from my house, I volunteered to provide a car for her students. We got together on Sunday March 23rd at her home. Eight students who are working on the project attended.



I described the history of the Model T and basically how it worked.



Then the high point, some rides around the community in a Model T Ford (horn sounding of course).



Looks like [Space City T's of Houston](http://www.spacecityts.org) website may generate some Model T interest in the younger generations. That's just what we need.

PS: After this article was written, I got the following text from Ms. Danto:

FYI, the younger kids placed 2nd in the state and my older kids placed 1st in the state!!! Both teams are headed to the global competition. Thank you for being a part of their success. The judges loved hearing about your Model-T!

Space City Ts Website: www.spacecityts.org

Email: modelt@spacecityts.org

FB: [Space City Ts of Houston Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/spacecityts)

The North Side goes to Breakfast

By Bill Severn

Hunger and comfortable Model T driving weather was the catalyst. Another North Side breakfast run to the Whistle Stop Café was in order. A quick survey by Steve Havemann found that three drivers, Denny Irvine, me and Steve, with cars were on board. I made a call and found that Peter Adey was still in town. Add Peter and the 1914 Whiskey Wagon to the mix and there were four cars and drivers. At 8:30 AM all four Ts were at the café. This time, no car problems or adjustments required.



Three 'Box Cars' and one special order and breakfast is on the way. (Box Car is a menu item at the café). Good friends and good conversation. This is what Model T'ing is all about.



Come on South Side, let's hear from you!

The George Ranch Upcoming Events in 2025

Here are some new events that we would like the Space City T's to be a part of this year at the George Ranch.

1. Wildflower Wheels and Wellness- The Space City T's will only have to loop the ranch as the opener to event 9am -9:30am.

The Space City T's will be able to use George Ranch as a trailer drop 9am-4pm while they tour the town Saturday, April 5, 2025.

2. Display Cars at 1930's for Father's Day Celebration- Saturday, June 14, 2025: 9am-2pm.

3. Frontier Days: November 14, 2025 (Friday is mostly schools) 8:00am-2pm, and November 15, 2025 (Saturday open to public) 8:00am-5pm

The George Ranch can be a trailer drop, but we will need dates to schedule a trailer drop with the Space City T's. It can only be a 9am-4pm same day trailer drop if approved on George Ranch calendar. No camping. Let me know if you have any questions and for each event, I will need to know who will be attending.

Victoria Martinez Weaver
Education Coordinator, Education Department,
The George Ranch, 10215 FM 762, Richmond,
Texas 77469

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

36th Annual Burton Cotton Gin Festival - Saturday, April 26, 2025, from 10am to 6pm!

Join us in Burton, home of the 1914 Burton Farmers Gin, for a **FREE** family friendly event featuring a day full of fun and history! The day begins with a parade through Burton and continues at the grounds of the Texas Cotton Gin Museum.

Watch skills demonstrations like blacksmithing, butter churning, spoon carving, and more. Enjoy our Tractor, Engine, and Classic Cars on Display. At 3pm, the Oldest Operating Cotton Gin in America will come to life, and a bale of cotton will be ginned!

For more information on all the great parts of the festival click:

<https://www.texascottonginmuseum.org/festival-2025.html>

Texas Cotton Gin Museum, 307 N. Main Street, Burton, TX 77835

[Parade Rules](#) [Parade Entry Form](#)

Lecture at McFaddin-Ward Museum, May 8th

From: Greg Riley <greg@gsriley.com>

This is information regarding the Thursday, May 8th lecture at the McFaddin-Ward Museum in Beaumont. Key points:

On Thursday May 8th McFaddin-Ward Museum will host a lecture by Matt Anderson, Curator of Transportation at The Henry Ford Museum. I was asked to locate a small group of museum quality cars to display a couple of hours ahead of the lecture. Lecture is from 5-6:30.

We are asking to have the cars in position at the McFaddin-Ward visitors center by 3:30 p.m.

Here is a preliminary list of cars for the display:

1910 Bianchi Landaulet Limousine (thought to be the only remaining example)

1913 Ford Model T "wide-track"

1919 Locomobile Touring Car

1936 Cord 810.

1937 Packard LeBaron Town Car

1956 Continental Mark II (if not able to attend I will bring my 1957 Ford Skyliner)

1961 Pontiac Bonneville convertible (Beaumont car)

2006 Ford GT Heritage Edition (Beaumont car)
Although this is a newer car but is historically important.

Please advise if I have made any errors regarding the year/make/model of your car.

We will have a small reception for the group of display cars before the event starts.

I will make restaurant reservations for the group after the lecture is over.

Anyone is welcome at the lecture. We are encouraging everyone to drive their collector car to the event. The exhibition cars will have reserved parking in front of the visitor's center.

I'm going to Beaumont and will send hotel information soon.

On Friday May 9th I will host an abbreviated tour of historic Beaumont.

If there is enough interest, I can make this a Friday/Saturday tour such as we did last year. Please advise your thoughts.

All members of your club are welcome at the lecture and on the Friday (and potentially Saturday) tour.

All tour cars will be given walkie-talkies for rolling commentary.

McFaddin-Ward Museum has asked me for a list of the clubs to which you belong for use in their press releases.

Antique Automobile Club of America – Katy Cruisers

Antique Automobile Club of America – Gulf Coast Region

Packard's International – Lonestar Packard's Model T Ford Club of America – Space City Ts of Houston, TX.

Classic Car Club of America

Please advise if I have missed anything.

Please send me your favorite glamour shot of your car.

Please submit one or two paragraphs about your car for the press release.

I will have my Beaumont friends to assist with everything, and we will have a chase car equipped to deal with roadside issues. For more serious issues a truck and trailer will be standing by.

McFaddin-Ward Museum and city government have asked me to share how excited they are to see you, and the red carpet will be out!

All Space City Ts of Houston club members are welcome to attend the lecture on Thursday May 8th and join the tour on Friday (maybe Saturday). Bill Severn's 1913 Touring will be one of the display cars. They are expecting standing room only for the lecture.

One important addition is that we will tour the spectacular J. Cooke Wilson house which has

many similarities to Ima Hogg's home Bayou Bend. This is a private residence which is not open to the public. J. Cooke Wilson was the founder of Humble Oil Company, and the house reflects the taste of someone of unlimited resources. Please advise if there is interest in a Friday/Saturday tour, or Friday only. I will be back at you soon with hotel information. Thanks so much,

Greg Riley 832-934-4281 work, 936-524-7346 mobile

Help! I Can't Steer!!!!

By Peter Adey

Fewer things can terrify a driver more than losing all steering. Now have that happen in your 1914 Whiskey Wagon! I was out and about running some errands in my T, happily cruising along at about 40 MPH on Woodlands Parkway. Car running beautifully, enjoying the day and waving to the frequent admirers. I pulled into Trader Joe's and parked to grab some stuff – most notably a few boxes of those mini-ice cream cones. Returning to the car and after a few conversations with onlookers, I hopped in the car to head home.

I backed out of the parking spot and started to turn the wheel when I felt some grinding – kind of like grit in the steering. Then I lost all ability to turn the wheels. I had to get out of the car to manually turn the wheels to aim back into the parking spot. After a brief inspection I thought I may have sheared off the key on the Pitman Arm but was not sure. So, a call to get a tow home was in order.

A three hour wait for the tow truck to arrive and a belly full of ice cream cones later (can't let them melt!) we managed to get the car up on the truck. Then the wishbone ball pulled out of the socket during the pull onto the truck.

Isn't it always the case that problems seem to cause ripple effects? Finally home we lowered the car on to the driveway and Mr. Tow Man headed home. I managed to get the wishbone ball back in the socket temporarily so I could get the car into my garage.

Safe at home, I posted a Facebook post about the situation, simply querying others about their experiences with pitman arm pin shear. Within seconds my phone rang – Ross Lilleker! Ross said he was coming to Houston the next day and offered to swing by and help. What a man that Ross! After further inspection it was NOT the pitman arm pin at all. The steering shaft itself had sheered in half!

Ross mentioned that original Ford steering shafts were a single piece of forged steel. The reproduction shafts are forged in two pieces and welded together. Ross had never seen this before and knowing the manufacturer of these parts he wanted to take the sheered shaft to show him what happened. Hopefully the manufacturer can do something to test the welds better in the future.



Just imagine if I had gotten back on Woodlands Parkway and was zooming along when this weld failed. It could have been catastrophic and certainly life threatening! We managed to replace the steering column and button her back up in no time. I have since replaced the pitman arm as the ball was worn. The wishbone ball was fine but replaced the ball cap that was very worn. Ready for the next exciting adventure!

**2025 TEXAS T PARTY, MARSHALL, TX
OCTOBER 7-12, 2025**



FOUR DAYS IN EAST TEXAS!

Host hotel:

Hampton Inn Marshall, 5100 E End Blvd S, Marshall, TX 75672

To book: 1. Go to www.hamptoninn.com

2. In Where to? Type Marshall, TX

3. Select Check-in Check out dates.

4. Click Special Rates, Scroll the Group Code type: **TTP**

5. Click Find a Hotel

It will be the first hotel in the list. Room rate \$119+tax

(You may also call 1-800-426-7866. Inform agent of code **TTP**)

Hot breakfast, Pet Friendly. **Group rate expires September 23, 2025**

2nd Hotel:

Quality Inn Marshall, 4911 E End Blvd S, Marshall, TX 75672

903-935-7923, Call to book, use code **Texas T Party**.

Room rate: \$86+tax single \$90+tax double

Hot breakfast, NOT pet friendly. **Group rate expires July 30, 2025**

Other hotels:

Clarion Pointe Marshall

5301 E End Blvd S, Marshall, TX 75672, 903-927-0009

Comfort Suites Marshall

5204 E End Blvd S, Marshall, TX 75672, 903-927-1139

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.

2025 Space City Club Officers and Board Members
 President Steve Havemann 281-433-5182
 Vice President David Veir 713-823-2359
 Secretary Rosie Stokley 832-444-9927
 Treasurer Craig Neuman 346-855-0544
 Board Member Bill Severn 936-443-8006
 Board Member Mike Schlitzkus 281-387-6658
 Board Member Dave Lucas 713-299-3059

The FLIVVER FLASH

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.

\$8995 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**

ROSEMARY STOKLEY

KATY, TX 1-832-444-9927

New Members Wanted

Please visit our [Space City T's of Houston Texas web site](#). If interested in becoming a member, please provide your name, address, mobile phone, & email, and make a \$25 check payable to the:

Space City T's

Please mail your [information form](#) and check to the Treasurer at:

Craig Neuman
2302 Lord Nelson Drive
Seabrook, TX 77586

A special "Thank You" to all club members who paid their 2025 dues!

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

-April 9th – 7:30pm Face to Face at LifeBrook Church
with Zoom and Demeris BBQ

-May 14th – 7:30pm Zoom virtual meeting



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

located at

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



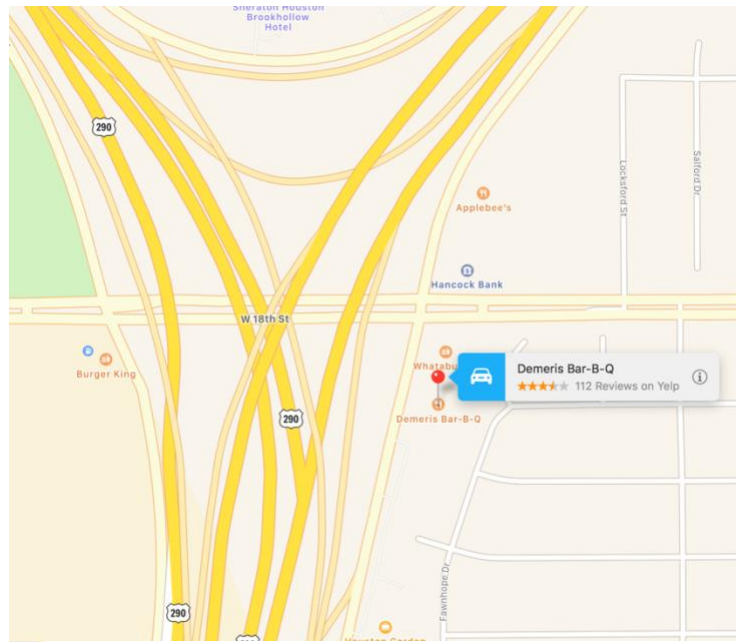
**Then attend the
Space City T's Meeting at 7:30 P.M.**

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



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League City, Texas 77573

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