

The Flivver Flash

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

Brenham to Fayetteville Spring Tour

By Doug Brough, Dave Veir, & Steve Havemann

Star-Date February 25, Christmas in February!
The first [Space City T's of Houston](#) tour of the season finally happens, after two rained out Saturdays. While the day started very cloudy and foggy, it gave way to sun and a gorgeous blue sky.

We met at Scott and Leslie Grants at 9:30am. We guys drooled over Scott's man cave (happy place) at his cars, signs and collection of hit-n-miss engines. Scott pulled back the cover to reveal his model T fire truck. He was kind enough to allow Vivian to climb in ... she sure looks happy. Scott, if the fire truck goes missing, you know where to look. 😊



We enjoyed some donuts before hitting the road. We hit the road at 10am, our target time! So, Scott, Doug & Shelley Brough, Dave

Veir, and Steve & Vivian Havemann set out for the day. It was on to Industry, TX for gas stop and pit stop. The morning was cool and just perfect for a closed car. We understand the heater in Steve's open car couldn't quite overcome the cool breeze!



An aside, I (Doug) remember my grandfather telling me that he and my grandmother had a Model T (their daily driver), and that they would heat up bricks, put them in a coffee can and place that in the car for heat.



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.

We all made it to Industry without issue although as soon as we stopped, Steve's car started steaming and "burped" antifreeze all over the ground. So, the heater was working! Thankfully, after the car cooled, he just added some water and all was well.



On to Fayetteville. Again, the drive went well. All morning traffic was very light, and we just allowed the modern cars to pass us when we saw them queuing up behind us. Lunch was at [Orsak's Cafe](#).



There, Tom and Diane Supak met us, in their Model T. They were able to join us for part of the drive back to Brenham, before they turned off back to their home (they live close to Fayetteville).



About 10 minutes out of Fayetteville, it was time for a bonding opportunity, also called a roadside repair. My (Doug) car started sputtering and backfiring. Decades ago, I had put a chemical liner/sealer in the tank. Well, for whatever reason, it started flaking off years ago.

While I keep thinking that the last is out, surprise, some more flakes! They make very good gasoline restrictors. With three pairs of hands, we removed & cleaned the clog in the sediment bowl and got back on the road.

MY MODEL T JOURNEY

by Bobby Wright

Bill Severn contacted me about writing an article for the Flivver Flash about how I got interested in Model Ts and how I obtained my first Model T. So, here it is.

First, I have to say I really don't remember *not* having some interest in automobiles. Antique and classic vehicles have caught my eye as long as I can remember. As a very young child I remember being fascinated by my grandparents 50's something Buick with fake exhaust stacks on the hood sides. Not functional but looked cool. I remember going to the Houston Rodeo and seeing Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, but what I really wanted to see was Nelly Belle the Jeep.

Finally, when I was 16 or 17 years old, I got a car. It was a 1957 Chevy V8. It was green and my daily companion in my daily life. It replaced my bicycle as my transportation to work, school, and play. Life was good because my circle was now much larger than the bicycle could ever be.

College required me to move into something a bit more practical, so my car wasn't special any longer but rather just a mode of transportation. There was no money for a "fun" car.

Eventually, I got out of college, became employed, and even made what seemed then like a decent income. I got interested in classic Mustangs. Not at one time, but over time I had ten Mustangs, all 1965 through 1968 Models.

Even while I had Mustangs, I wanted something "older". Back in my high school days I went to church with a guy named Clifford Price who



We got back to Scott & Leslie's around 3pm. Though few in number, we had a great time bonding and enjoying the day. Take advantage of the next tour or outing to get to know your fellow club member and enjoy some scenic drives.



And thank you Scott & Leslie so much for allowing us to meet at your place!

Space City Ts Website: www.spacecityts.org

Email: modelt@spacecityts.org

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

had Model A Fords. He was always encouraging me to get one. Now I could, so I did. Under Clifford's guidance, I purchased a 1930 Tudor Model A, which I had for years. During that time, I had four other Model As of one body style or another, but I wanted to own a car that was 100 years old. It just sounded cool.



Of course, having so many Fords, the Model T was the choice that got my attention. I looked at them, but no one that I knew of owned one. The little I knew about them made me think they were weird vehicles, and for that reason I avoided them. It was odd things like engine oil and transmission oil being one and the same, three pedals on floor that were not familiar to me, and driving with your feet was even more unfamiliar.

Plus, there was that strange ignition system with those four odd coil boxes. I thought nope, too weird for me. Then a few years passed, and a major hurricane did serious damage to Galveston Island. A friend of mine that lived on the Island had a WW2 Jeep, and an antique tractor, as did I. Unknown by me, he also owned a 1924 Model T Touring. All his vehicles and his house went under salt water. His adult children got his vehicles off the Island and cleaned and serviced them for him while he took care of their home.

Unfortunately, he became very depressed over the losses and died a few months after the hurricane. In the process of selling his collectable vehicles his wife contacted me because she felt that due to my relationship with him, she could trust my advice. I rather reluctantly agreed. I did not want to deal with his adult children.

One of the things she asked me to do was to start the Model T. I did not even know how, but with the help of the internet, I went to the Island to try. To my surprise, I got it started, but I wasn't about to try and drive the thing. In the next several weeks, lots of things happened. I was correct in my original assumption that I did not want to deal with the adult siblings. I did my best to separate myself from the whole situation.

Then one day I got a call from the wife. She wanted me to come get the car. I told her I didn't have any interest in buying the car. Several calls later she said just come get it and all she wanted was the money she invested in new upholstery and top. Seemed too good to pass up, so I didn't. I figured I could resell it if nothing else and make a buck or two.

Now what? I don't even know how to drive the thing. I went back to the internet. I went looking for how-to-drive Model T videos. I found a few, one of them by Tony Marino. I bet I watched them a hundred times. Now I am confident that I can do it. I head to the Island with my trailer. I got the car started again. I even backed out on the street easy enough. I started to drive around the block, but I figured that would be better later at home.

Now the very first time I ever drove a Model T, I was to load it on an open trailer.

I do not recommend that be your first drive. Things were happening faster than my brain could manage. Fortunately for me the trailer was a pipe-rail trailer, and the front wall pipe-rail stopped me when I hit it very hard. The impact killed the engine, which was a good thing. I was still on trailer which was also good. Now I just needed my heart rate to get back to a reasonable range.

I strapped the car down and off to home I went. I got lots of thumbs up on the drive. Suddenly, I am starting to like owning a Model T. I get home and need to unload the car so I can finally take it for a test drive, still with no instructor other than the internet. I was able to drive it, but I was not comfortable and didn't see how I could ever be.

I was correct, they are weird cars, but then the weirdness became what interested me. Maybe I can learn something new about cars. Dang-it, I was hooked. Plus, sooner than later, I would satisfy my desire to own a 100-year-old car. Several Model Ts later, I sold that car. I did make a few bucks.

Today I have combined my fire service life and my collector vehicle life together. I own three Model Ts, all of which are red fire service vehicles: two TT Fire trucks (a 1924 and a 1927), plus a 1915 Model T Runabout chief's car. Yep, two 100-year-old vehicles.



Life is weird and good with Model Ts. I thought it might be a good idea to add a bit of personal information with Bill's request. I hope future contributors will consider the same. We all do not actually know each other well. So, here is my addition.

My Name is Bobby Wright. My wife is Rebecca. Yes, my name is Bobby, not Robert. We live in Santa Fe, Texas. I am part of what we call the 'South Side' Space City Ts of Houston, Texas group. The South Side group meets for coffee on an unscheduled frequency, and from time to time, we get together for dinner. I am 73 years old and have been retired for several years. After college, I briefly worked for Houston Lighting & Power (HL&P). Most of my employment life was as a first responder with Fire/EMS. The last 30 years of employment I was Executive Director of 9-1-1 for Galveston County.

I am so old, that when I started in EMS, we worked for the funeral home who operated the ambulance service. We had very little training, and EMS was mostly about speed. It was all about loading and going fast. That is probably why we did it. We drove fast. The goal was getting the patient to the hospital before they expired. EMS has come a long way since.

The sick and injured have a much better chance of survival now. My real passion was firefighting. That was fun, even if a bit dangerous at times. I went through the ranks as a firefighter all the way to the chief's position. There you have it, now I am just an old firefighter that still plays with fire trucks.

Fourth Annual Ford Model T Event at Pioneer Flight Museum Saturday, March 29, 2025, Kingsbury, Texas

Featuring: The Model T Olympics and Tailgate Swap Meet. **Open to the public, spectators welcome. The [Pioneer Flight Museum](#) will be open.**

[The Chevy C20 Raffle Truck](#) will be on display with tickets for sale: Drawing on May 3, 2025

Bring your Model T and join the fun. Don't have a T, or yours is not up to the challenge? Come on out anyway for a ride. Special parking available for all classic, vintage and antique cars.

Want to learn to drive a T, or are your driving skills a little rusty? **Driving lessons and coaching available.** Model T's or parts for sale, bring them out for a tailgate swap meet. There is no entry fee, however your small donation will keep the event going in the future.

Free parking for cars and trailers, camp here or park your T overnight and stay at a nearby hotel. Vintage fashion encouraged

Have your photo taken wearing your vintage clothing for our online fashion show.

Saturday:

- **8AM to 9AM** – Registration for Model T Olympics and weenie roast
- **9AM Model T Drivers meeting**

- **9:30AM – 10:00AM** – Model T Games Begin
- **Model T Olympic Games**, Driver Test Course, Potato Race, Backseat Driver Test, Teeter-totter and more games played involving the Ford Model T.
- **Food truck** will be onsite (Saturday for lunch only)
- **3PM – 7PM** Self-Guided Tour or continue to play games
- You can go to dinner on your own or join us for a campfire **weenie roast** (7:00PM) in the evening complete with **smores**.

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](#)

**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

Space City T's Dues Are Due

Remember, the deadline for dues payment was 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.

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

-March 12th – 7:30pm Zoom virtual meeting

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



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

located at

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

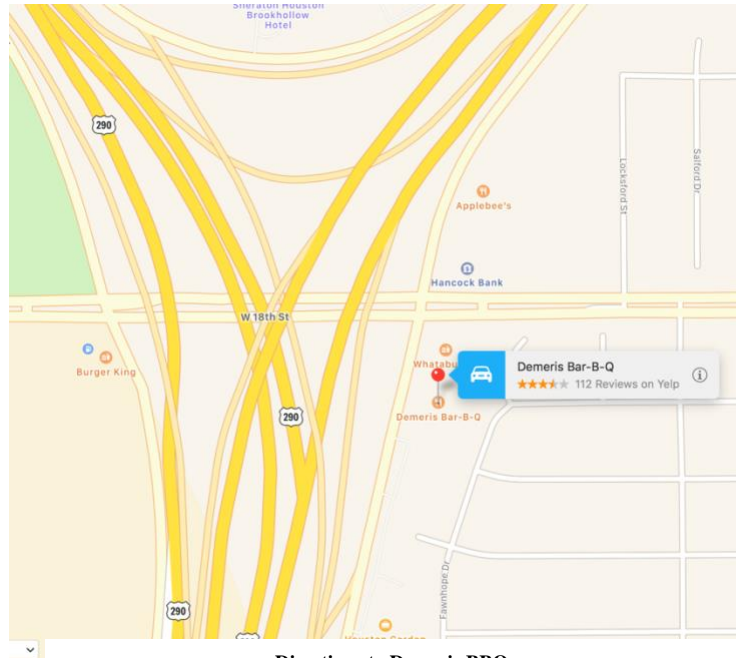
**Then attend the
Space City T's Meeting at 7:30 P.M.**

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



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Anthony J. Marino
302 Torrey Court
League City, Texas 77573

The FLIPPER FLASH