

## Texas T-Party

**C**ool your coils and buff your brass, because October's "T" time in Texas.

For three nostalgic days (October 5-7) the piney woods backroads around Nacogdoches will wind to the sound of a different driver: the characteristic puttering of vintage Ford Model-T's. The 18th annual Texas T-Party road tour promises to attract some 85 fully-restored Model-T's representing almost every model built from 1906 to 1927.

The Model-T photo-op of the year takes place Saturday, October 6, at 9 a.m. at Millard's Crossing, 6020 North Street (U.S. 59 North), in Nacogdoches. Model-T owner-drivers and their passengers dress in period costumes, posing beside vehicles which range from gleaming roadsters and shiny pickups to wood-grained paddy wagons and early fire trucks. Classic Model-T's from the early Teens--resplendent with brass radiators, side lamps, and trim--remain perennial crowd pleasers.

Sponsored by the Space City T's Chapter of the Model-T Ford Club of America, the car buff extravaganza began with Houston Model-T'ers love of weekend touring. When clubs in other Texas cities joined in, the Houston group started what remains one of the nation's oldest and largest Model-T tours. The T-Party tours a different part of Texas each year and typically covers 125 miles per day.

The quaint car convoy travels in and around historic Nacogdoches on Thursday, October 5. Friday's tour covers the Lake Sam Rayburn area, as well as stopovers in Lufkin and Diboll. Saturday's tour travels through Garrison, Timpson, Center, and San Augustine. Periodically, the tour makes a slow drive-by for wide-eyed pupils at local schools and for reminiscing old-timers at nursing homes.

"We invite the public to come up, kick the tires, and ask lots of questions," says 1995 chairman Delton Stokes. "We restore the Model-T's for the public to enjoy them."

For more information and exact stopover times and locations of each day's tour, write co-chairmen Delton and Mamie Stokes at 10607 Cypresswood, Houston 77070 or call 713/469-0580.

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