



# T Bird News

North Texas Vintage  
Thunderbirds, Inc.  
Local Chapter of VTCl

Volume 14 Issue 2: Feb., 2017

Feb. 28, 2017

## From the President

**It's hard to believe it's been a year already since taking on President of the Club. In fact it's been three years leading this group one way or another. It's** been fun and rewarding with lots of old and new friends, lots of great experiences and just plain warmth. We have had a great show in Oklahoma, our own great show here in FW and we are scheduled for many more great experiences. The club has grown, the membership has been a tremendous stimulator and the camaraderie has been wonderful. Ginny and I have enjoyed every part of it.

We now enter into a new era but with old friends giving us leadership and guidance in our adventures. This year we have a great car run scheduled instead of a regional convention, many interesting and exciting experiences, and the opportunity to enjoy the company of fellow Birders.

I want to thank you all for your support in making this a terrific experience for Ginny and me. We look forward to many years of friendship and Birding and we will remember our experiences with gratitude and enjoyment of a great group of friends.

We wish you all happiness and hope you will continue to enjoy all that this great group has to offer. I know that Brad, Jim, Tom, George and now Dom, after the March elections, will continue to give us sound leadership - they deserve your full support. I want to thank them and John Congleton (past President) for their guidance in making this a truly terrific trip.

John and Ginny Garfield

## Welcome New Members!

Several new members have joined our flock recently and we are thrilled to have met a few of them at the February meeting. Scott Stoddard attended for the first time, and we welcome him. Al and Barbara MacDonald also **came, but arrived near the end of the meeting and we didn't have the opportunity to introduce them to the entire group. But we hope to see them often and get to know them as well.**

John Dulin, from Henderson, and Dennis and Marie Veit, from Arlington, have also recently joined. We welcome them and are anxious to meet them soon. *If you are a new member, please send me a picture of yourself and your T-bird! Just use "reply" to the email bringing this newsletter.*

If you meet folks with Thunderbirds, be sure to tell them how much fun our group has. **If you don't have NTVT postcards in your car, be sure to grab some at the next meeting—they are great publicity tools.**

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## March Elections

Be sure to be at the March meeting to cast your vote at our annual election of officers. We elect only one position each year, that of 2nd VP. That person will be in charge of membership (including receiving mail directed through the website). The current 2nd VP moves up into the office of the 1st VP, who handles events and presides over meetings in the absence of the President. And the current 1st VP moves up into the office of President. This gives our leadership continuity, allowing them to get a real feel for the duties of the office while ensuring that new ideas are always coming and preventing one person from getting **“burned out” by serving too long in any one position.**

That means in 2017, Brad Kershaw will be the President, Jim Young will be the 2nd VP, and the office of 2nd VP will need to be filled. So far, Dom Zanella is our only candidate for that position. If you are also interested in serving in this position, please contact John Congleton, who is in charge of nominations for the election. If no other volunteers come forward, our ballot will close and we will elect the officers as presented. The rest of our board is made up of the Secretary, George Boley, Treasurer, Tom Ossorio, the Newsletter Editor, Bonnie Kershaw, and the past president.

## Spring Tour of the Hill Country

Plans are coming together for the April 7-9 Spring Hill Country Trip. Since the VTCl, our parent organization, will not hold a regional convention this year, our board decided we should have our own fun driving event in its place. There will be no judging of cars, just the opportunity to get our birds out on the road and enjoy the company of friends.

Currently 12 rooms have been reserved at the YO Ranch in Kerrville. Our group gets a discounted daily **rate of \$127, which is a real bargain for the season in this area. If you would like to attend but haven't made your reservations yet, call (830) 203-6704 or use this online link:**

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/12007?groupID=1758735>. Then let Bonnie Kershaw know you are coming. She will be sending detailed information about the trip to those who have registered.

As an overview, we hope to meet in Bureson about 9 a.m. on Friday, April 7. Our first stop will be in **Hamilton, TX, where there is an excellent private Art Collection. We'll have lunch at a local restaurant** there in Hamilton before heading down to the LBJ Ranch for a self-guided tour, including the Johnson private home. Those who wish may make another stop at the State Park adjacent to the LBJ ranch or the Wildflower Farm between that location and Kerrville.

Once at the YO Ranch, there will be a buffet-style dinner. Evening entertainment is also available there at the hotel. On Saturday, we will be free to visit two excellent museums in nearby Fredericksburg, shop, eat lunch, visit nearby wineries, or whatever individuals or small groups may choose.

On Sunday, we will head back toward the metroplex, driving through some prime bluebonnet territory around Llano and Lampassas. And several reports say that we just may get lucky as the bluebonnet season is expected to begin early this year and extend just a little longer than usual. Hopefully that means we will see some beautiful wildflower fields.

**We plan to have lunch at Buzzard Billy's in Waco, tour the Texas Ranger Museum in Waco, and then head for our separate homes.**

This should be a great trip, and we will be inviting other local clubs to join us if they wish. Although the details may be a bit sketchy as of right now, we will get a full itinerary and maps to participants in March.





## May 6 Car Show Choices #1: Cedar Creek Lake

You can print out this page and use the form below to register for the Cedar Creek Lake Car Show. Be sure to put NTVT in the Club blank near the bottom so we can all be together. Remember to register early as the first 65 cars registered will be under the pavilion cover!

### Cedar Creek Lake Car Show & Kiwanis Krawfish Boil May 6, 2017



Proudly sponsored by the  
Cedar Creek Lake Area Chamber of Commerce  
& Kiwanis Club of Cedar Creek Lake  
[www.CedarCreekLakeCarShow.net](http://www.CedarCreekLakeCarShow.net)

#### Mabank Pavilion

(Just off Bus. 175, behind the Rodeo Arena)  
\$20 (All pre-registered exhibitors get a t-shirt)  
First 65 Pre-registered Entries will be  
under roof of the pavilion  
Registration Starts at 8:00 AM –  
Judging starts at 11:00 AM,  
Awards start at 3:00 PM.

Show is over after Awards Presentation.  
Crawfish from 10:30  
till all is sold!

Hot dogs, Hamburgers,  
other Concession items also available.  
903.887.3152  
[info@CedarCreekLakeChamber.com](mailto:info@CedarCreekLakeChamber.com)

Headquarters Hotel - COMFORT SUITES HOTEL  
Corner of Hwys. 198 & 175 Mabank 903.887.0680 for Reservations  
For a complete list of chamber member hotels serving the area, visit  
[www.CedarCreekLakeChamber.com](http://www.CedarCreekLakeChamber.com)  
Click on Member List

Bill Hanstrom  
214.683.2811  
[bhanstrom@embarqmail.com](mailto:bhanstrom@embarqmail.com)

**PLEASE FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY - THANK YOU.**

Make Checks payable to: CCLACC PO Box 581 Mabank TX 75147  
Call 903.887.3152 to pay with Visa/MC/Discover 903.887.3695 (fax)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENTRY:**

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_

Model: \_\_\_\_\_

**CLUB (If applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of the acceptance of the right to participate, entrants, by right of execution of this form, release & discharge, CCLACC, the City of Mabank and CC Kiwanis Club and all involved with them from all known or unknown damages, injuries, losses, judgments, and claims from any cause whatsoever that may be suffered by an entrant to his person or property.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# May 6 Car Show Choice #2: Sam Pack, 27th Dallas Spring Nationals Classic Car Show

You can print out this page and use the form below to register for the 27th Dallas Spring Nationals Classic Car Show (often referred to as the "Sam Pack" show). You can learn more at [ntmc.org](http://ntmc.org).

### THE NORTH TEXAS MUSTANG CLUB

For additional information please call:

Mark Powell @ 214.392.5156

Bill Wages @ 214.415.0972

David Keen @ 214.532.7031

**RAIN DATE: May 13, 2015**

## Free Admission for All Spectators!!

### Early Registration Form

Mail entry form and \$25.00 check made out to Five Star Ford of Carrollton to the following address:

SPF % Mark Powell  
235 S. Houston School Road  
Lancaster, Texas 75146

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Entry: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Engine: \_\_\_\_\_ Body Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday May 6, 2017**

**8am – 4pm**

**2070 Diplomat, Farmers Branch, Texas 75234**

**Registration Time: 8:00 to 12:00 PM**

**Registration Fee: \$25.00**

**Show Time: 12:00 to 3:00 PM**

**Awards: 3:00 PM**

- AER will donate an engine to one show entrant.
- Sam Pack will have his new Museum open to the public for a \$5.00 donation. The proceeds going to Holy Angels.
- We will have Gordy with his expanded menu. He will be open for business from 10:00 am till 3:00 pm
- The Car Pro Jerry Reynolds will broadcast both his local and national shows live from the museum.
- Major Class Changes will make for a fun event.
- Show Site is being completely redesigned.



These were the beautiful trophies awarded last year at the show. There are many categories, and the event is a lot of fun. There are food trucks and the museum/Sam Pack private collection is something everyone should see!

There will be a map in the March newsletter.



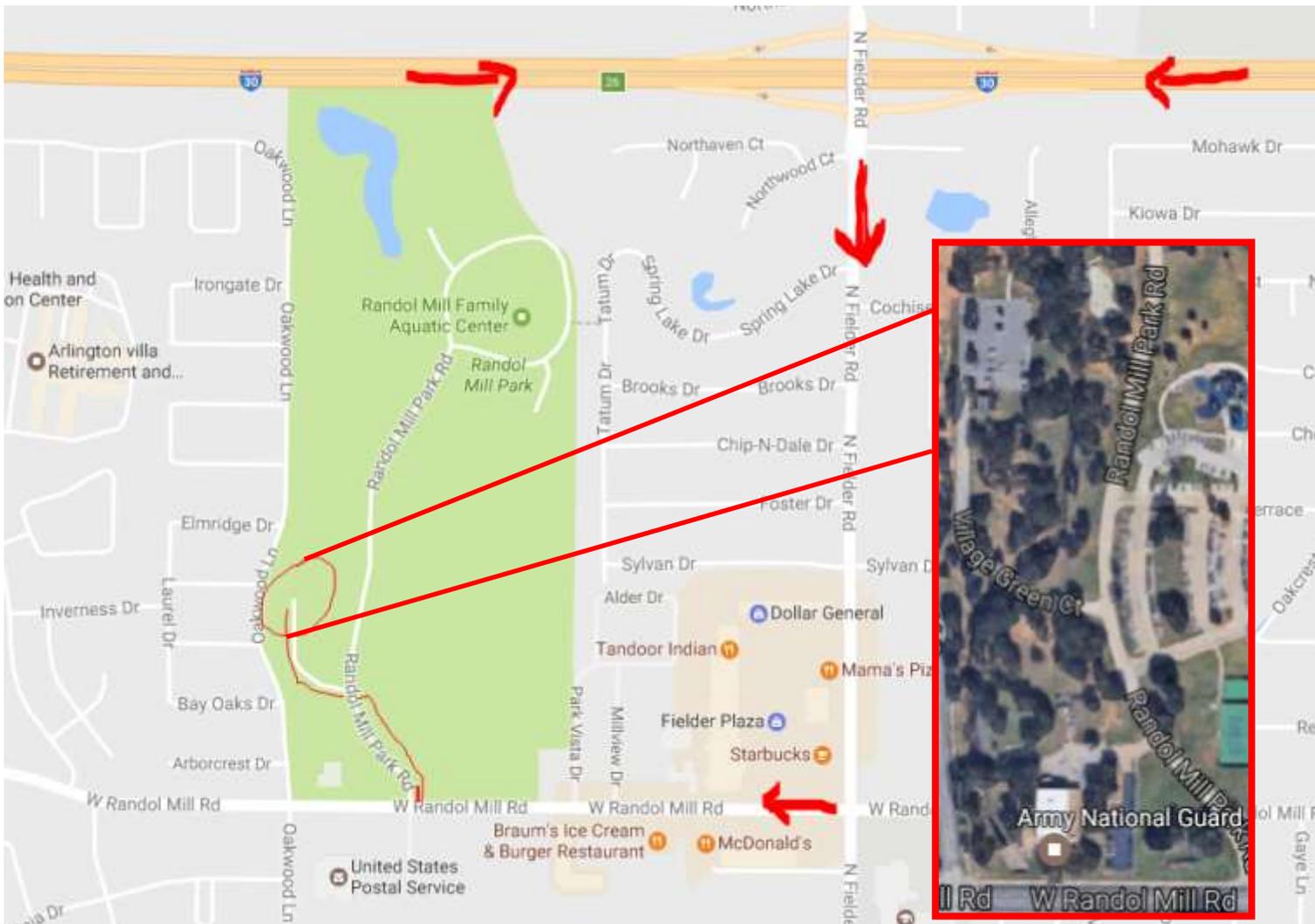
## May Meeting

In May, in addition to the two optional Car Show Opportunities on Saturday, May 6, we will have a regular meeting on Saturday, May 20, at 11:00 a.m. (a little earlier than normal as our rental agreement for the park pavilion extends to 2 p.m. and we want to make sure we have enough time!). The location will be Randol Mill Park in North Arlington.

Directions from Interstate 30: Take the Fielder Exit and go south to Randol Mill Rd. & go west and turn right in to the park entrance, on Randol Mill Park Rd.; then take the second left on Village Green Ct. This ends at a parking area adjacent to the Pavilion. If you get to the ball fields or the family aquatic area, you went too far!

**We are not allowed to “block off” parking, so try to arrive early to secure your parking spot. Bring picnic food, and enjoy the outdoors with us! Watch your email for your opportunity to RSVP and let us know what you plan to bring.**

The last time we had a picnic, we invited another car club to join us. There is a possibility we will do that again. So mark your calendar now and make your plans to join us.





## February Meeting Minutes

The February 18, 2017, meeting was held at Spring Creek BBQ, in Bedford. There were 35 member in attendance. John Garfield called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and welcomed three new members: Scott Stoddard, from Keller, who has an '02 black Retrobird; and Al and Barbara MacDonald, friends of Marian Herbst and the Quatlebaums.

Secretary's Report. The minutes of the January meeting were posted in the Newsletter. They were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report. Tom Ossorio reported that we are in good financial shape.

Old Business. Bonnie Kershaw reminded those who have not had their photos taken for the 2017 Photo Roster to stay after the meeting and get their photos taken. She also requires photo(s) of all Thunderbirds in the Club. Send these photos to Bonnie ASAP, along with any name or address changes.

New Business. Brad Kershaw reminded us that the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting will be in Fort Worth, at Buffalo West, 7101 Camp Bowie West Boulevard, 76116 (near 820). This is the meeting for election of new officers, and all nominations are in, as Dom Zanella has volunteered to run for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.

April 7-9 Trip: To replace Regionals, it will encompass Burleson, Hamilton, Kerrville, Fredericksburg, possibly Austin, and end in Waco; the Y.O. Hotel in Kerrville will serve as home base, with room rate \$127/night (rooms in Fredericksburg were \$200.) The Tentative Itinerary has been published, with more information to follow. There will be no other April meeting, due to the F/K Trip on April 7-9, Easter weekend, and the Leake Auction.

Lastly, Bonnie indicated that she is desperate for items for the Newsletter: tech articles, personal Thunderbird stories, TV programs, etc. For example, each member could report on how he/she obtained his past or current Thunderbird(s). For a newsletter to be effective, it needs more than a Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report, and Upcoming Events. Let's help out!

### Upcoming Events.

March 18 Meeting: Buffalo West, Camp Bowie Blvd, Fort Worth.

April 7-9 Trip through the Hill Country.

May 6: Sam Pack, Farmers Branch, and Cedar Creek Lake Car Shows. A preliminary vote shows a 50-50 participation in Sam Pack and Cedar Creek Lake.

May 20: Meeting: Picnic at an Arlington/North Grand Prairie Park (park TBD).

June 17: Meeting: A meeting at the Weatherford Vintage Car Museum was suggested. The museum has been expanded to include all the buildings all the way to the Square. Also, Streetside Classics was suggested for a follow-up meeting to last year's meeting there.

July 8: Meeting: At Dickey's, in Arlington, following the first day of the Yellow Rose All Ford Show (July 8-9).

August 19: Meeting: Matito's, in Lewisville.

September 13-17: VTCI Convention, Pine Mtn, GA.

September 16: Meeting: Wheels for Wellness Car Show, in Fort Worth.

October 21: Meeting: Clark Gardens, Weatherford/Mineral Wells, with a catered lunch at the pavilion.

November 11: Meeting: Cruise to lunch and tour of Audie Murphy Museum, Greenville. Details to follow. **WE NEED A HOST FOR THIS EVENT! (Editor's Note, after the meeting, Walter Martin accepted the Hosting duties.)**

December 3: Christmas Party at Humperdincks, in Arlington, 4-6pm.

John adjourned the meeting at 12:30, after thanking the members for their cooperation, and wishing good luck to Brad, who will assume the Presidency.

Prepared by George Boley, Club Secretary



## February Meeting Pics

With sunny skies, lots of our T-birds got to spread their wings and travel to Bedford! The parking lot made quite a display case and folks seemed to enjoy soaking up some of that sunshine, too.

**Inside, we continued to enjoy each other's company as well as some good bar-b-que.**





## Dumb Luck, by George Boley

Looking back, it was sheer dumb luck that I bought my 2004 Retrobird, as I had had small sports cars my entire life, whether [early] British or [later] Japanese. After retiring from Federal service in 2002, I relocated to Allen and got into boating on Lake Lavon, from sailing to runabouts to pontoon boats. Boating was fun, but I wasn't getting out on the road and going anywhere. So, in 2009, I bought a 1962 Triumph TR3B. (My first car, back in 1961, was a 1958 TR3A.) I was 19 again!

I was very active in the Red River Triumph Club – and sopping up oil - from 2009 thru 2014, when I realized that I could no longer afford to maintain the car. I got a good price for it, \$5,000 more than I paid, which sounds good until you consider the \$1.3 million put into it over the 5 years. I was at a loss for what kind of car to buy. I just knew that I wanted a convertible. With the proceeds from the sale of the TR, I was able to pay off my charge card and put some money in the bank, but I was in no shape to buy a 2014 car. I knew that if I waited a year, I would have sufficient funds to buy a new convertible, maybe the low-end Mustang.

I really didn't want a Mustang, as every Tom, Dick and Harry has one. (No offense to Tom, Dick, or Harry.) Then I remembered! Back at the Sweetheart and Orphans Car Show in Denton, around 2012, I met a lady who had an Oldsmobile convertible and a 2005 Thunderbird. We went to lunch a few times, and I got a ride in her Bird. I loved the car!! (Don't ask.) Back to 2014, I realized that I could afford a late-model Thunderbird. Still, I wanted to hold off a year to build up my finances.

What the heck! I decided to search the Internet, with no intention of buying a car, but just to see what was out there and for how much dinero. First of all, all the Retrobirds were immaculate. Then I realized: no one bought a Thunderbird with the intention of pulling out tree stumps! I spent about a month just casually looking at them. Then, I saw one that I couldn't believe, immaculate, loaded, and priced about \$5,000 less than comparable Birds. That said, its 62,000 mileage was higher than the other cars available. I figured what the hell, the dealer was in Las Vegas, so there was no chance that I was driving to Las Vegas to buy a car. I called him up, and asked a few intelligent questions about COPs (coils on plugs) replaced, condition of convertible top, and electronics (remember, I just sold a British car). He had all the right answers, although he was the Second Owner, who bought the car when it was 2 years old, and didn't know about the COP replacements.

I thanked him for his cooperation, and told him that I was in Dallas, Texas, with not much chance of getting to Las Vegas. Then he says, .....[drum roll] ....., **“You know the car is in Ft. Worth, don't you?” WHIP ME, BEAT ME, CALL ME RUTH. I could hear my ex-wife, yelling in my ear, “NO, NO, NO.”** Ignoring my ex-wife, my neighbor and I drove to Ft. Worth. The car was even better than its photos. Although, when the owner and I lifted the 85-lb top off the car, I felt some **“pops” in my nether regions.** After running the convertible top up and down, we put the hardtop back on. Not a pretty sight. I had to lift my **side three times and it would not fit. I literally was done, and THEN he tells me, “Oh, yes, you have to pull the lever forward.” While my neighbor went into the kitchen and got me a glass of water, bless her heart, I sat down on the garage floor and made a novena.** What a way to die, on the floor, in somebody else's garage, with wet pants.

I got the car home, and it has been love ever since. A good friend in the Morning Maniacs has a Merlot '04, so he has filled me in on a lot of history of the car. Looking back, God bless that lady with the Oldsmobile and Retrobird!

Epilog: I am still afraid to run the convertible top up and down. With a lifetime in Lucas electrics, I realize that every time I touch that electric switch, three things can happen, and two of them are bad.



## Retros on the Road to “Thunder in The Ozarks”

Several NTVT members will be among the 40+ Retro Thunderbirds heading to Arkansas March 23-26, 2017. There will be cars caravanning from the DFW area. If you would like to meet up with the group there, you can make your own reservations for the Staybridge Suites in Rogers, Arkansas, at <https://www.staybridge.com/hotels/us>. Use the TCC group code when making your reservations; or you can call 1-479-845-5701 and tell them you are with the Retro Thunderbird Car Club to get the group rate (\$84-\$104 depending on the accommodation choices you make.)

These trips often book up way in advance, but there may still be spots available if you would like to join in the fun. Check the [Thunderbirdnest.com](http://Thunderbirdnest.com) for more information.

## Magnetic Logo Signs



Any time you drive your Thunderbird, especially on a road trip or at a group event, it would be great to advertise your love for our club. And you can do that easily with the magnetic NTVT Logo signs that are now available.

If you would like one (or a pair—one for each side of the car!) talk to Dave Egan or George Boley. Between the two of them, they put a great idea into action, and we can now order these for our cars. Dave has several on hand now for only \$10 each or \$20 for a pair.

Be sure you also keep a few NTVT post cards in your glove box. They are convenient to hand out at events and they point folks to our website: [www.ntvtbird.org](http://www.ntvtbird.org)

## Embroidered Patches Available

These embroidered patches are now available for purchase for \$3.50 each. Measuring 4 X 3 inches, they are of excellent quality. They come with a heat-sealing backing so you can iron them on or stitch them in place. They are the perfect size for placing on ball caps, shirt pockets, or on jackets.

Contact Brad Kershaw by email or phone; you can pick yours up at the next meeting or get it mailed to you for the cost of postage + the cost of the patch.





## Officers 2016-2017

### President:

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### 2nd Vice President:

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[hannibal195520@yahoo.com](mailto:hannibal195520@yahoo.com)

### Secretary:

George Boley  
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[tr3agab@gmail.com](mailto:tr3agab@gmail.com)

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### Newsletter Editor:

Bonnie Kershaw  
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[bradandbonnie@yahoo.com](mailto:bradandbonnie@yahoo.com)

## NTVT Calendar

**March 18: NTVT Club Meeting 11:30 a.m.** Buffalo West Restaurant, 7101 Camp Bowie West, Ft Worth, 76116. Note: Elections held at this meeting!

**March 23-26: Thunder in the Ozarks** (not a club sanctioned event, but lots of fun for Retro owners.) See [www.Thunderbirdnest.com](http://www.Thunderbirdnest.com) for details.

April 7-9 Spring Hill Country Tour, sponsored by NTVT but open to other Thunderbird clubs. See page 2 for details. No regular NTVT meeting in April.

May 6: 2 Car Show Opportunities: Sam Pack in Farmers Branch and Cedar Creek Lake in Maybank.

**May 20: 11 a.m.** NTVT Club Meeting /Picnic at Randol Mill Park., 1901 W Randol Mill Rd, Arlington, TX 76012

**June 17:** NTVT Club Meeting. Details to be announced.

**July 8:** NTVT Club Meeting at Dickies on Ball Park Way in Arlington; the club will attend the Yellow Rose Classic Car Show at the Arlington Convention Center that same day.

**August 19: NTVT Club Meeting, 11:30 a.m. Matito's, 1640 S Stemmons** Freeway, Lewisville, 75067

**September 16:** NTVT Club Meeting at Wheels for Wellness Car Show in Downtown Ft Worth

October 14: TAMU Commerce Homecoming Parade

**October 21:** NTVT Club Meeting at Clark Gardens, Mineral Wells

November 11: Driving Event—Lunch and Cruise to Audie Murphy Museum, Greenville. Details to follow

**December 3:** Sunday, 4 p.m. Christmas Party at Humperdinks in Arlington.

**Regular Meetings/Events: Club sanctioned "extra" events; Non-Club events**

### Visit These Websites:

NTVT

[www.ntvtbird.org](http://www.ntvtbird.org)

Or check us out on Facebook:

[NTVT Thunderbirds](https://www.facebook.com/NTVTThunderbirds)

VTCI, our Parent Club

@ [www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net](http://www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net)

The Thunderbird Registry

<http://www.tbirdregistry.com/>

## Pictorial Directory Coming Soon

If you attended the January or February meeting, you had your **picture taken for the new Pictorial Directory!** If you weren't there, you'll have a chance at the March meeting. But if you don't make the meetings, please help me out by sending me pictures of yourselves and your Thunderbirds. The pictures can be separate or combined.

A club directory with pictures of people and cars along with email addresses and phone numbers will help us stay in touch with each other more easily. I will be contacting all members to "proof" their page when finished. This way we can verify all your contact info is correct.

Email pictures to the newsletter editor at  
[bradandbonnie@yahoo.com](mailto:bradandbonnie@yahoo.com)