



# T Bird News

North Texas Vintage  
Thunderbirds, Inc.  
Local Chapter of VTCl

Volume 14 Issue 7: July, 2017

July 28, 2017

## From the President

### President's Message

Congratulations to the participants and winners at the Yellow Rose car show. We saw some new vehicles including a nice green 1970 Cougar. Members of NTVT came away with several awards.

Plan now for the Wheels for Wellness show in Fort Worth September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We will need commitments from members of the club by the end of July. This is a great show and we usually fill up a street in downtown. Your car does NOT have to be a show car. Our presence en-mass is what gets the clubs name and diversity of cars out to the public. Entering the show provides several treatment and research organizations with funds to combat prostate cancer and gives you a great parking spot to go and view all the great cars on display.

Car clubs are the best resource for keeping our cars on the road and enhancing our enjoyment of them. This past meeting, we were able to connect a member with someone who may be able to do some much-needed work on their car. We have a nationally recognized authority on the Turbo Coupes and several certified judges of other model years in the NTVT. Being a chapter club of the VTCl we also have the resources of national experts on all things Thunderbird. I have used local and national club resources many times myself. If you have questions or discovered repair solutions yourself please let me know so we can include them in the newsletter. We are all in this hobby together so let's make use of the talent we have.

Bonnie and I will be in Colorado on vacation for next month's meeting. Jim Young has a great meeting planned for a Lewisville restaurant. Enjoy the food and fellowship and I will see y'all in September.

Brad

Editor's note: Will someone take some pics at the August meeting and send them in for the newsletter, please?

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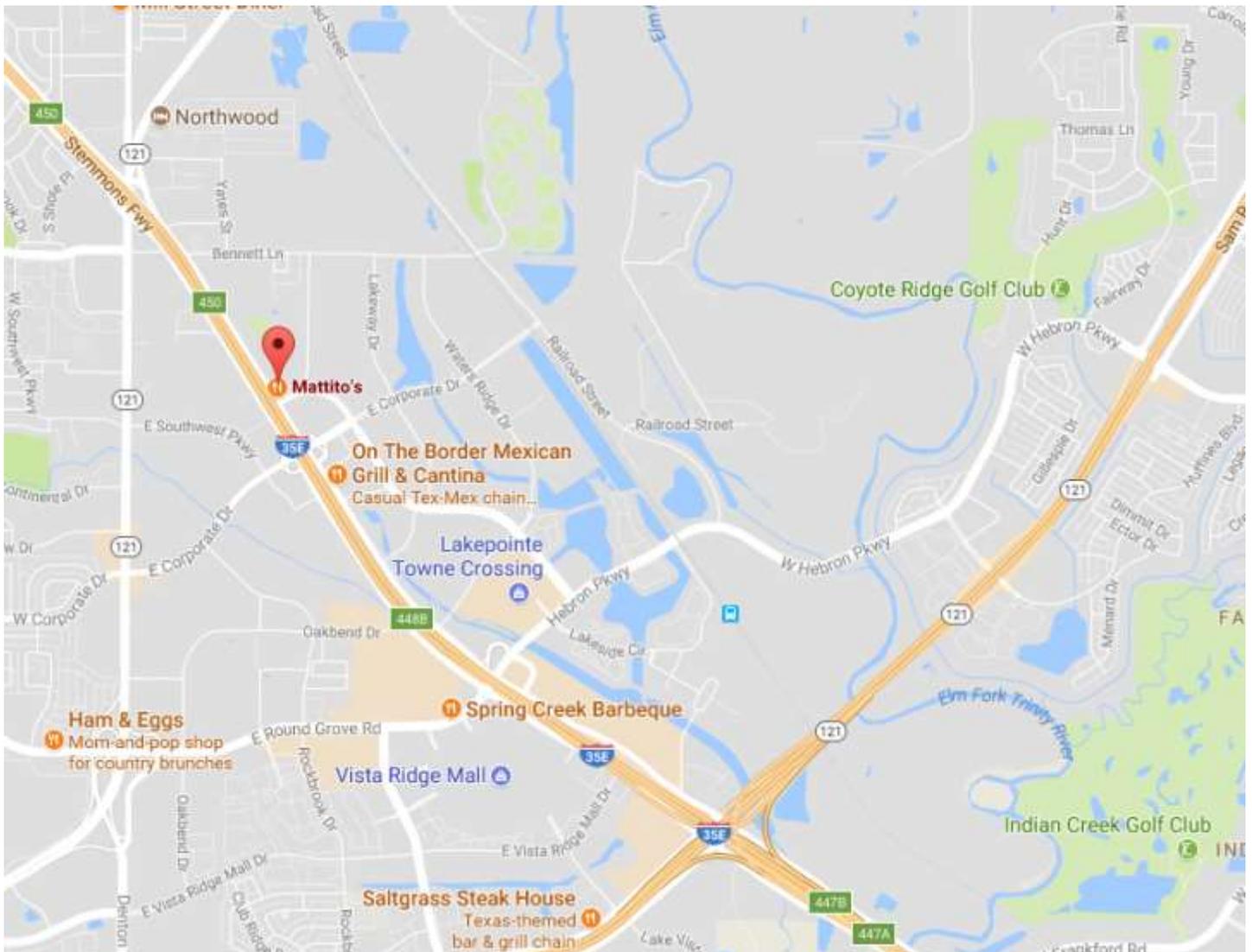
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## August Meeting—Saturday, August 19

Come enjoy a great Mexican meal and the company of your fellow T-bird enthusiasts at Mattito's, 1640 S Stemmons Freeway, Lewisville, 75067, on August 19, 2017, at 11:30 a.m.

Jan and Jim Young have chosen one of their favorite restaurants for this meeting, and you won't want to miss it! Jan says to take I35 to Corporate Drive in Lewisville. The restaurant is on the north-bound frontage road, and it is easy to find!





## The Ladybirds of NTVT Take Flight!

Some of the ladies of NTVT decided there just wasn't enough time at our regular monthly meetings to visit and really get acquainted. So on Saturday, July 15, the first meeting of the Ladybirds of NTVT was held! Since we didn't have much notice (but, hey, great things often happen on the spur of the moment!), there were only three ladies who could make the meeting. But members Marian Herbst and Regina Lowenberg and guest Wendy Higginbotham met for lunch at the Tea Room in the Antique Outlet Mall on Pipeline Rd in Hurst and had a great time!



Due to vacation schedules and summertime travel plans, the ladies decided to wait until Saturday, September 23rd to hold the next outing. We plan to return to the same tea room this time, and perhaps in the future, we will move around the metroplex and sample some tearooms in other places. Ladies, mark your calendars now, and plan to join us at the second meeting of the **Ladybirds of NTVT, at 12:30 on Saturday, September 23rd! Watch your email for your chance to RSVP.**

## Car Show Winners

NTVT members have been showing off their birds and bringing home the awards! Below, left, Dave Egan shows his award from the May 27th All Ford V8 show at Sandy Lake. Below, right, the Pickards were decked out for the Red White and Blue show on July 1st in Granbruy. And right, Dom Zanella's Turbo Coupe took a 1st place in Alvarado on July 4th! Way to represent, folks!





## July Meeting Minutes

27 members met July 8th at Dickey's Bar B Que on Ballpark Way in Arlington. Brad brought the meeting to order, beginning with announcements of future events:

The August meeting will be Saturday, August 19, 2017 at Mattitos, 1640 S Stemmons Fwy, Lewisville, TX 75067, at 11:30 a.m. Watch your email inboxes for information and a chance to RSVP.

The September meeting will take place at the Wheels For Wellness Show (formerly Cruisin' for a Cure) on September 16th in downtown Ft Worth. Deadline for signing up will be soon; fill out and send your registration form (available from the Wheels for Wellness website or attached to the email that you will receive next week from NTVT) to Tom Ossorio at 1619 Caplin Dr in Arlington (76018). Include your check made out to NTVT so that Tom can register the whole club together, ensuring us a block like we have had the last several years. Tom needs to hear from members immediately to reserve spaces.

Brad distributed the printed pictorial directories to members who had not yet picked theirs up. Bound copies can still be ordered from Bill Stepina for the cost of \$10.

Brad has the small embroidered patches for sale for \$3.50 each and Dave Egan has the Magnetic Door Signs for \$20 a pair.

Brad gave an update on the Burleson Trunk or Treat Car Show that was discussed at the June meeting. In June, the members decided to partner with Broader Performance to sponsor that show; but a different sponsor was secured before we could get back to the promoter. Dom Zanella will be in contact with Brian Zimmerman of DFW Carshows. Brian has expressed an interest in doing a "judged" car show with us sometime in the fall. NTVT would provide the judges and our Thunderbirds could be displayed for a "People's Choice" award. Dom will let us know if this becomes a possibility.

Brad asked for any members who have insight on rear window defroster problems in a Retro to see Scott Stoddard. He also asked Bill Stepina to let Bill Strickland know of the source for the interior fabric/headliner for the 1966 model. Several people wanted recommendations for mechanics.

Betty Pickard reported on the July 1 event in Granbury, the car show held at the Nissan dealership there. She said there were only two Thunderbirds in the whole show and encouraged members to come out for it next year. Dom reported he had attended a car show in Alvarado on the 4th of July

Brad asked Dave Egan to tell the club how former member George Boley was doing after suffering a slight stroke recently. Dave reported that George had no lasting physical effects but was suffering memory issues. However, the doctors have told him he should eventually return to his pre-stroke condition. Brad asked Dave to give George the best regards from the club.

Bonnie asked the new members to send pictures of themselves and their cars so she can update the pictorial directory and print off some additional pages. She also asked members to submit stories, tech articles, pictures, etc. for the newsletters.

Door prize drawings were held and Betsy Haber, Ray Coulter, and Betty Pickard were all winners.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Kershaw, substitute secretary



## July Pictures



Betsy and Ralph Haber entered their "new" 1970 Cougar and came away with a class award.



Jim and Janet Young were Winners in their Class.





## July Pictures, continued



Outside the Arlington Convention Center which housed the 2017 Yellow Rose All Ford Classic Car Show, members Dom Zanella and Bonnie and Brad Kershaw took advantage of the beautiful backdrop of Globe Life Park to snap some great photos of their Turbo Coupes.

## Thunderbirds in the Press!

We all love our Thunderbirds, but not many of us get to see pictures of it and an article about our car in the renowned Wall Street Journal. Recently, however, a 1957 Thunderbird was featured in just such article in the July 18th Life and Arts section of that respected national publication.

The story, by A.J. Baime, covered an artist/designer by the name of Merle Mullin, from Los Angeles who had once owned a 1957 Thunderbird, but had sold it many years ago. She had never really gotten over selling that car (and who would?) and mentioned it often to her husband, who just happens to be Peter Mullin, founder and owner of the Mullin Automotive Museum in Oxnard, California, and chairman of the board of The Peterson Automotive Museum in Los Angeles.

Then one evening after they had dinner out, the valet brought up a beautiful white 1957 Thunderbird to them instead of the BMW in which they had arrived. Ms. Mullins said, "This is not my car" thinking the valet had made a mistake. But her husband handed her the keys and said she had better get in and drive it home. What a wonderful surprise that must have been!

Not many of us have the resources to make our spouse's dreams (or our own!) come true in such a grand fashion, but it is fun to see a car that many of us love getting such good press coverage! Articles like this one give us all the more reason to get our own beautiful Thunderbirds out on the road as much as we can so people everywhere can see them and appreciate them for the works of art that they are.

Editor's note: Thanks to Sara Coulter for bringing this article to our attention. You can read the whole article at <https://www.wsj.com/articles/thunderbirds-don-t-get-more-fabulous-than-this-1500385215>



## Birds and Bits

**Parts:** Dom Zanella has Deluxe Felpro Gaskets for a 352-428 FE engine. He has a set for the oil pan and one set for the valve covers. He'd like to sell them both for \$15. Give him a call or call Brad, who has the parts at his house right now.

**Parts:** John Garfield has miscellaneous engine parts that fit from a 352 to a 428 for sale - real cheap. Ask for list. Includes headers, manifolds, carbs, gaskets and lots of components, etc. 817-426-2614 or [j-g.garfield@att.net](mailto:j-g.garfield@att.net)

**1960 Thunderbird for Sale**—352 Engine, Corinthian White, new black leather upholstery. Color and upholstery match vin tag. Original yellow valve covers in trunk. Aftermarket radio mounted under original. Still has original vacuum operated windshield washer. No A/C, power seat, or power windows. Chrome shows age. Old bias ply (wide white) tires need replacing. Top of left front fender needs some paint work. New fuel tank. Recent brake work, power steering work. Many new parts over last ten years. Good maintenance records. Asking \$20K or trade for large (45hp) gasoline tractor. Price may be negotiable. Call Brad (817-447-8243) for more pictures or to see the car (in Burleson, TX).



## T-Bird T-Shirts

Several people asked about the T-shirt Brad wore at the Yellow Rose Car Show and club meeting on July 9th. It pictures of a '60 on it. The front of the T-shirt has a view of the front of the car and the back has a view of the rear of the car. This T-shirt was purchased at [www.Sunfrog.com](http://www.Sunfrog.com). They currently have designs for 1956-63 and 66 Thunderbirds. They also have the forms to create custom T-shirts with a picture of your own car or artwork. The custom T-shirts are approximately the same price, about \$29 each. They have hats and other merchandise as well.





## Officers 2017-2018

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## NTVT Calendar

**August 19:** NTVT Club Meeting, 11:30 a.m. Mattitos, 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:** Meeting at Ralph & Betsy Haber's. Details to follow.

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

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

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

## Logo Patches and Magnetic

### Visit These Websites:

NTVT

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

Or check us out on Facebook:

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

VTCl, our Parent Club

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

The Thunderbird Registry

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



If you would like to purchase magnetic door signs for your Thunderbird (especially good for parades and traveling!), they are \$20 per pair. See Dave Egan to get yours.

Bonnie or Brad also have small embroidered logo patches for \$3.50 each.