



T Bird News

North Texas Vintage
Thunderbirds, Inc.
Local Chapter of VTCI

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Feb 28, 2018

From the President

I would like to announce my retirement as president of NTVT in March to spend more time with my family and cars. OK,OK, my time is up in March and Bonnie would just as soon have me spend my time in the shop just as I do now!

We have a great system of rotating officers that keeps the club fresh and promotes more involvement from the members. This next year promises to keep that legacy moving forward. I would like to thank all the past, present, and future officers for making this club a place where you can make some interesting people your friends.

I am confident that the spring trip to Jefferson/Marshall in East Texas this May will make some great memories. Please make your arrangements with the hotel in Marshall. Between now and April please email me or the Youngs with suggestions on places to visit or activities in and around Jefferson. Several people have already sent me information and we will compile a "list of things to do" and distribute this to the people making the trip.

Last year the club supported two students from the Mansfield ISD automotive technology program with \$500 scholarships to advanced institutions. At the March meeting we will have a presentation by someone on the staff of the MISD Automotive Technology department. Please make plans to attend so you can see what your dollars are supporting.

I hope all of you will review the 2018 schedule and place as many meetings/events on your calendars as possible. There are several opportunities this spring to get those Tbirds out of the garage and show them off. We will try to showcase as many as possible in the newsletters so let us know if you have one the other members may be interested in attending.

I love seeing and talking to everyone, and after March I will not have presidential duties and can just hang out with Y'all.

Brad Kershaw

March Meeting

Join us for lunch at Fat Daddy's, **781 W Debbie Ln, Mansfield, TX 76063. at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 17th.** This is an important meeting as we will have a special presentation from the Automotive Program of the Mansfield Independent School District in addition to our annual officer elections. Watch your email for directions and a map as well as your chance to RSVP.

We still need a volunteer for the position of secretary. Please let an officer know if you are willing to serve in this capacity. The rest of our ballot has been filled. Our rotational officer system means that our new President will be Jim Young; Dom Zanella, our 2nd VP will move to 1st VP; and Dave Egan is on the ballot to be the new 2nd VP. Upon vacating the presidency, Brad Kershaw will continue to serve on the board as a past president.

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Spring Trip—May 18-20

The NTVT spring trip will be to Jefferson/Marshall in east Texas this year so put May 18th – 20th on your calendar now. The current plan is to have two caravans, from either the south metroplex or north metroplex; then we will meet at the East Texas Oil Museum in Kilgore, Texas. After lunch and the museum, we will continue from there to the **Quality Inn** motel in Marshall. The calendar for Jefferson shows a local cruise-in on that Friday night. We thought it would be fun to take all the Tbirds for the cruise-in. Marshall is only 22 minutes from Jefferson. We will be gathering information on activities and places to visit in the area so members can pick what most interests them. We should have more information in the next newsletters. This should be as much fun as last year's trip to Kerrville/Fredericksburg.

Book your room now to insure that we get the special rate of \$71.25 + tax for a single king. This rate is good if we reserve over five rooms and the Kershaws have booked their room so only four to go. The month of May can be a busy time for graduations, so we want to reserve our rooms early.

Quality Inn Marshall (Chantelle was very helpful)

Address: 4911 E End Blvd S, Marshall, TX 75672

Phone: (903) 935-7923

VTCI Convention Time!

Our parent organization, the Vintage Thunderbird Club International, will be hosting an International Convention in Tulsa, OK, from July 11th through the 15th. Normally a local club hosts such an event, but due to extenuating circumstances, the VTCI Board of Directors will be the hosting group this year. This also happened a few years ago when the Board hosted an international convention in Coshocton, OH, and that proved to be a very successful and wonderful event.

We know this year's efforts will have similar results!

Mark your calendars now, and reserve your room at the Marriott Tulsa Southern Hills in Tulsa, OK, in southern Tulsa off of Interstate 44. The hotel phone number is 918-493-7000. Tell them you are a VTCI attendee and you can reserve your room with a king-sized bed or a 2 double beds at the great rate of \$94 per night. The 11-story hotel sounds very nice with an on-site full-service restaurant, lots of amenities, and several restaurants nearby.

There will be more information on activities and schedules coming from the Board soon. Watch your email! And if you are interested in assisting with the preparation for this event, the Board would welcome your help. By the way, this is the latest information from Rod Wake, president of VTCI. If you have read other dates in the Scoop, that information no longer applies. These are the new, correct dates!

For the intrepid travelers in the club, there are some other Thunderbird events coming up this summer as well. Check out the VTCI Northwest Regional May 25 – 29, 2018, a three-day Show and Shine hosted by the Okanagan Classic Thunderbird Club in the beautiful Okanagan Valley of British Columbia. Then in June, you can attend the VTCI North Central Regional June 7th-10th, in Minnesota. Find out the details on both regional VTCI Conventions at <http://vintagethunderbirdclub.net/events.htm>.





February Meeting Minutes

22 Members met at Fuddruckers in Grapevine. Brad welcomed new member, Wayne Kirk, who has recently purchased a 1957.

Brad discussed the Spring trip to Jefferson/Marshall May 18-20. He encouraged members to make their reservations as soon as possible. The group will probably caravan from two starting points, a northern route and a southern route, meeting in Kilgore to tour a museum there and then caravanning together on to the Quality Inn Motel in Marshall. There is a "Cruise-In" Friday evening in Jefferson, and Brad mentioned it would be fun to take as many Birds as possible to that. We will be compiling information on other activities available in the area so that on Saturday people can pursue their own choices. We will try to find a place to have dinner together on Saturday evening. Mark Ibbotson mentioned that there will be a Balloon festival in Canton that weekend in case anyone is interested. We still need someone to coordinate the northern route for this trip. Dominic Zanella will coordinate the southern route.

Brad mentioned the Ladybirds met in January for lunch at Mitra's Tearoom in Hurst. He encouraged any ladies to contact Marian if they are interested in doing this or if they have ideas for other locations for the future. Watch your email for details on the next date for a Ladybird gathering.

Brad mentioned that updated pages for the directories will be created and distributed to include members who had joined since the publication of the last pictorial directory. If you have joined since the publication, please send a picture of your Thunderbird and a picture of yourself (singly or together) to Bonnie so she can create the pages that can be added to the existing directories.

Brad also reminded members that if anyone needs embroidered patches (about 2 x 3 inches in size), they should see him or Bonnie. The cost is \$3.50 per patch. Dave Egan still has 3 sets of Door Magnets (Logos, about 6 x 9 inches). We also have the clear window stickers with NTVT logos available (no charge) and post cards for spreading the news about the club.

Brad thanked Mark Ibbotson for volunteering to take on the maintenance of the Website for the club. This has been an area that needed help since our previous webmaster ended her term at the end of last year. Pat Bishop had handled that job and we appreciated her service, but she and Dan have left the club. Bonnie will share the necessary information with Mark, and he will soon begin updating our website.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 11:30 at Fat Daddy's in Mansfield. Brad informed the group that we will have a guest speaker from the Mansfield School District Automotive Program, two of whose students were the recipients of NTVT scholarships last year. There is a possibility of a tour of the Mansfield facilities or a visit to House of Hot Rods, both of which are near Fat Daddy's. Watch your email for details.

Brad reminded members to get their reservations in ASAP for the July 11-14 VTIC International Convention in Tulsa, OK. The VTIC is our parent organization, and in the absence of a local club to host an international, the Board of Directors is putting this one on. See the January newsletter for details on location.

Marian mentioned that members wanting body work should check out a Collision Shop in Euless. She has the name and contact info if you need it. The owner has done extensive work for Amos Minter Restorations, so we know he knows his Birds!



February Meeting Minutes, cont.

Several Car Shows were mentioned. John Congleton shared info on one his church is putting on in Athens on Saturday, March 24. He asked for anyone who is available to come to help provide judging. Judges will get a free lunch. The Cedar Creek Show (and Crawfish Boil) is coming on May 5th, and this is always a huge, terrific show. Get your registrations in early and let John Congleton know you are coming. The same day, there is a **Sam Pack Show in Farmer's Branch that is also a lot of fun. Try to attend one or the other.** Watch your email for registration forms. Betsy also said on April 7th, the **Height's Church puts on a great** show in Richardson. Brad reminded everyone who attends any shows to be sure to take photos and send them to Bonnie for the newsletter. He also reminded everyone how important it is to get our thunderbirds out to these shows so the public can see and appreciate them.

Brad reminded the group that the August meeting will be at the Sam Pack Museum in Farmer's Branch. We thank Harmon Robinson for making those arrangements.

Door prizes were awarded to Jim Haney and Dave Egan. The \$70.00 50/50 prize went to Marie Dobson.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted respectfully in the absence of John Garfield, the Interim Secretary

Bonnie Kershaw

February Pics



Photos by Mark Ibbotson



Tech Talk...Vent Window Division Bar Restoration

Submitted by Wendell Fennell

I had some difficulty locating the fix for my 1963 vent window division bars. I gave certain information I learned about an installer (restorer for these division bars), which I gave to Mike at TBIRD Hdqt and he set up a working relationship with the installer. Since I have a good working relationship with TBIRD Hdqt., I choose to have them be my vendor; someone I trust.

One can buy these bars for the Flair Birds from several vendors. However, this vent window bar channel is different than the Flair Birds, etc., since the door glass for 1961-63 is curved, the vendor-restorer can only install a new glass run in your original curved vent bars. Send them in to Thunderbird Hdqt and they will ship to the installer who will install new linings with stainless steel beading just like Ford originally had.

Photos below shows the two curved division bars, end of one with PN showing fuzzy inserts and beads, center area of the two bars.



Get Acquainted with Our New Member, Wayne Kirk!

New member Wayne Kirk sent us his T-Bird story:

My first interest in a 57 T-Bird was about 1962 when I made an offer on one that the bank had repossessed. After waiting 6 weeks, I gave up and bought another car. The next day, the bank called me and said come and get it, but it was too late. About June 2017, I looked at another 57 T-Bird, a solid car but it had a poor paint job. Then I saw this 57 about 3 weeks ago on Craig's List. I was impressed with the car and the owner, Todd, is a great guy. I saw Marian at a restaurant, and showed her picture of it on my phone, saying, "Look what you made me do," and she asked if I was buying a T-Bird. She immediately asked where I was getting it; and when I told her Rockwall, she knew who I was getting it from. After seeing her pretty T-Bird, I decided I really wanted one too! Marian said she would help me go get it, so we did.



Ironically the convertible top used to be Marian's as she had just sold it to him recently!



NTVT Events Calendar for 2018

- Mar 17 Elections @ at Fat Daddy's (781 W Debbie Ln, Mansfield, TX 76063): Presentation by Mansfield H.S. Automotive Technology Department.
- Apr 21 Weatherford museum/café: Chandor Gardens or Clarke Gardens for those interested (will research costs and special events). Host needed!
- May 5 [Support the Sam Pack or Cedar Creek Lake car shows; watch for info soon.](#)
- May 19 Spring Trip to Marshall/Jefferson: Brad will arrange hotel in Marshall; All are encouraged to research optional activities in/around Marshall and Jefferson.
- June 16 Picnic @ Randol Mill park in Arlington; Bonnie Kershaw, host.
- July 6-8 [Support the Yellow Rose All Ford Show \(usually the first Saturday\)](#)
- July 11-14 [VTCI International Convention; Tulsa, OK.](#)
- July 21 Streetside Classics For those not planning on Tulsa Bill Stepina will sponsor.
- Aug 15-18 [CTCI Convention; Knoxville, TN](#)
- Aug 18 Sam Pack Museum Tour. 2070 Diplomacy building from 11-1pm. Harmon Robinson, host.
- Sept 15 Wheels for Wellness, all day event, downtown Ft. Worth; Tom Ossorio, host.
- Oct 20 Regular NTVT Meeting in Grapevine. 11:30 a.m. Location and details TBA. Bob & Betty Pickard hosting.
- Nov 10 Fall day-cruise Brad & Bonnie hosting. TBA around Burleson (Winery?)
- Dec 2 Annual Christmas Party at 4 p.m. on Sunday at Humperdinks.

Legend: Regular Meetings in black font; [Other Opportunities](#)—not NTVT events in blue



Upcoming Car Shows

11th Annual All Ford Picnic 2018
Show & Swap

Sandy Lake Amusement Park, Carrollton

Saturday May 26th

\$18 per vehicle, \$2 for park entry
(\$15 if pre-registered by May 12)

AllFordPicnicDFW.com



Location: The Heights Baptist Church – 201 West Renner Rd. Richardson, Texas (South West corner of Renner Rd. and 75)



Cedar Creek Lake Car Show and
Crawfish Boil,

May 5, 2018

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mabank Pavillion

Call Dorene at 903 887 3152 to
register. Let NTVT member John
Congleton know you are com-



May 5, 2018

Details Coming—
Watch your email!



T-Bird Appreciation Day



Owners of Ford's Thunderbird from around the world will be sharing their iconic cars with the public on **"Thunderbird Appreciation Day" Sunday, May 20th, 2018.**

The three large Thunderbird clubs: International Thunderbird Club (ITC), Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI) and Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCI) are encouraging their members to take their Thunderbirds out, individually or in groups, to places for the general public to see, to learn more about and to just plain enjoy.

With over 4 million Thunderbirds produced by Ford Motor Company from 1955 to 2005, it is still not common to see a Thunderbird on the road today, even later models. This is the reason that the three Thunderbird clubs have agreed on Sunday, May 20th as a day to share their Thunderbirds with the world.

For a vehicle that has been out of production for over a decade, their presence is still felt worldwide. Thunderbird owners can be found all over North and South America as well as Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the Middle East and Europe.



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Fall: Thunderbirds and Trains!

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of VTCI has invited us to join them for their annual fall trip, called The Bird Bath, from September 14th through the 17th. They are traveling to Albuquerque, NM.

Attendees will be staying at the Best Western Inn & Suites Albuquerque Airport 2400 Yale Boulevard SE • Albuquerque, NM 87106. **Reserve your room at 1-505-242-7022.** The rate is \$79.99 + tax for 1 King or 2 Queens- \$79.99; they need a final count by 8/10/2018)

The hotel offers a Full Hot Breakfast Buffet (6-10am) and a relaxing Free Evening Social Hour (5-6:30pm). Within walking distance are several restaurants including an Applebee's, a Fuddruckers, an International House of Pancakes & a Village Inn. The day may end with games in the lobby of the hotel.

On Saturday, 9/15, those who wish will depart the Hotel by shuttle to the New Mexico Rail Runner Express going to Santa Fe (about 1 hour train ride) and spend the day touring (\$11) (Free shuttle from Hotel to Albuquerque Station) OR stay in Albuquerque & go to the Unser Racing Museum (\$10)

On Sunday, 9/16, the group will drive to the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History (\$12) morning and then have lunch at the Route 66 Diner with an afternoon tour of Downtown Albuquerque

Attendees will depart for home on Monday, 9/17.

If you are interested in joining in the fun, call the president of the Rocky Mountain Thunderbird Club, James Merritt. Ask Brad or Bonnie for his phone number. If several of us decide to attend, we will organize a caravan for the 9-hour drive to Albuquerque.

Visit These Websites:

NTVT

www.ntvtbird.org

Or check us out on Facebook:

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

VTCI, our Parent Club

@ www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net

The Thunderbird Registry

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

NTVT Merchandise



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

Bonnie and Brad also have small embroidered logo patches for \$3.50 each. These can be sewn/glued on to hats, shirts, etc.