



T Bird News

North Texas Vintage
Thunderbirds, Inc.
Local Chapter of VTCl

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From the Prez

Hello all fellow T-birders! Things have gotten pretty busy with the club as far as planning and coordinating the meetings and events for 2020. Remember, all suggestions for new types of events and places are welcome! Your officers can't think of everything.

Be sure to start doing maintenance on your Birds to get them ready for spring flings and the summer heat. Sitting is the worst for our old birds as it causes seals to leak, varnish to build up in carburetors and such. Please check your tires for signs of wear and dry rot. You don't want to find out you have a bad tire while driving.

Cant wait to see y'all at the next meeting!

Dom

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February and March Meetings

Our next two regular meetings will be held on February 15th and March 21st.

On Saturday, February 15, we will meet at 11:30 at the Spring Creek Bar B Que, 4108 S Carrier Pkwy, Grand Prairie, TX 75052. This is south of I20, just west of the Cheddars Restaurant that sits on Carrier Parkway.



On March 21st, we will meet at 11:30 at Fuddrucker's near Bass Pro in Grapevine. The address is 2001 TX-121, Grapevine, TX 76051. This will be our election meeting, and we hope all can attend!





Minutes from January 18th Meeting

Notes from the January 18th 2020 NTVT Meeting

Dom Zanella opened the meeting by thanking David and Tina Silva for arranging the **meeting and ask them to convey to the management and staff of Tachito's how much we appreciate their hospitality.** Dom then reminded people about dues are due at the first of the year. You can pay them directly to Tom Ossorio, the treasurer. Tom reported that the club is good financially even after paying for the Christmas party.

Dom welcomed back Grant & Shaun Payne, past members who own a beautiful 1979 Tbird. Dom also welcomed the new members and asked them to introduce themselves. **Bobby Goins ('66 Conv); John (JJ) & Karen James (Blue '57); and Steven Ward (2 Retros).** Russ Foster (Retro) was also a guest of Dave Egan.

Dom noted that the NTVT Board met last week to plan a list of club events for the coming year. Bonnie Kershaw was the recording secretary for that meeting and read the list of planned meeting places. Dom and Bonnie included several events that some in the club have traditionally attended. Bonnie noted that the complete list of NTVT and other events would be included in the newsletter. Bonnie asked that people be on the lookout for places to hold the 2020 Christmas party. The Candlelite Inn was nice but a little crowded even with the lighter than normal turnout.

Bonnie presented an outline of NTVT officer duties she prepared using the club bylaws. This was a good way to refresh our memories and note that officer elections are in March. If anyone would like to nominate themselves or another for the office of second vice president please contact Jim Young, the head of the nominating committee. Bonnie noted that the Secretary, treasurer, and newsletter editor while not up for election each year we are open to others if they would like to self-nominate.

Dom noted that the VTCI Regional convention would be June 11-14 in New Orleans this year. This is always a great time and terrific location near the French Quarter. Dom noted that the only judging would be a popular vote for the top 25 cars by those attending. You can find the registration form online at www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net under "events". John Garfield added a group of tbird owners attending the VTCI International Convention in Oregon August 11-16 were planning to convoy up there. If members are interested, contact John. This event will include concours judging and registration forms can be found at the same link.

Janice Young gave an update on the NTVT April cruise (ship not car). There are twenty-two people signed up to go at this time. The final payment was due January 21st. Online check-in is open January 20th to sign up for excursions or special services.

Tina Silva won the door prize and Karen James won the 50/50.

Submitted by Brad Kershaw



2020 Will Be a Banner Year for NTVT!

The NTVT Calendar for 2020 has been set—be sure to mark your calendars so you don't miss any of the Thunderbird fun!

- Feb 15-11:30 a.m.** Spring Creek Bar B Que, 4108 S Carrier Pkwy, Grand Prairie, TX 75052.
- Mar 21-11:30 a.m.** Fuddruckers, 2001 TX-121, Grapevine, TX 76051, near Bass Pro.
- Apr 18** **No regular meeting;**
- Apr 19-26** Carnival Cruise 20+ members and friends are going!
- May 2** Mabank Crawfish Show
- May 16-11:30 a.m.** Revolver Brewery in Granbury; bring lawn chairs. Food available from good Food trucks. More details TBA
- Jun 11-14** VTCI So Central Regional in New Orleans (non-concours judged event 34 people's choice awards only). **Apply by 5/11/2020**
- Jun 20 11:00 a.m.** Picnic in Randol Mill Park, 1901 W Randol Mill Rd, Arlington, TX 76012. Possible Whole-Group T-bird picture!
- Jun 27** Elm Street Rod Run, Hillsboro. Call Brad Kershaw for info.
- Jul 18 11:30 a.m.** Mercado Juarez, 125 E Interstate 20, Arlington, TX 76018.
- Jul 25-26** Yellow Rose Classic Car Show, @ Esports Stadium and Expo Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington, TX
- Aug 11-15** VTCI International Convention, Red Lion Jantzen Beach, Portland Oregon. **Register by July 20.** Call John Garfield if you are interested in caravanning as a group.
- Aug 15 11:30 a.m.** Streetside Classics 5400 Sandshell Dr STE 100, Fort Worth, TX 76137.
- Sep 19 7:30-3:00** Wheels for Wellness, downtown Ft Worth; Tom Ossorio will announce details later.
- Oct 17 11:30 a.m.** Home of Ralph and Betsy Haber, Forney. Details TBA.
- Nov 21** Day Trip to Hillsboro Museum; details TBA
- Dec 6** **Christmas Party**—Location and Time TBA
- Jan 16, 2021** Tachitos in Dallas

Events in black text are regular meetings. Other events are encouraged!



Elections To Be Held at March Meeting

NTVT started the year off with a bang, with 43 persons in attendance. Included in that number were returning members Grant & Shaun Payne (welcome back, you two!), and guests/new members Steven Ward, Russ Foster, Bobby Goins, and JJ and Karen James. We enjoyed meeting all the new folks and hope you will enjoy the club as much as we do.

One thing that always makes our January luncheon at Tachitos special is the beautiful cake that Tina and David Silva provide! Thanks, Silvas, for your thoughtfulness!



Be sure to read the minutes of the meeting on page 2 as well as the calendar for the year on page 3 if you were not at the meeting or to refresh your memory even if you were!

In addition to presenting the calendar, Dom Zanella, president, talked about the **importance of our upcoming election in March**. Bonnie Kershaw also helped remind the club of the way our officers are elected and progress through the leadership roles of the club. Each year, we elect a new 2nd Vice President who will be in charge of membership. The current 2nd VP will move up to become the new 1st VP in charge of events. The current 1st VP will move into the President's position; the president presides over all meetings and oversees the business of the club, signing contracts, etc. when necessary. The current President becomes the Past President who remains on the executive board for one year. The Past President is the head of the nominations committee and will fill the ballot for the election.

The reason we have structured the elections and Executive Board this way is to provide continuity while encouraging participation in the leadership of the club. This way, the leaders gain experience as they progress through the chain of leadership roles.

If you are interested in serving as our next 2nd VP, please contact Jim Young, our current Past President. He will be creating the ballot soon! The remaining officers on the Executive Board (the Treasurer, the Secretary, and the Newsletter Editor) are not rotational and will continue to serve in their positions unless challenged or until they choose to step down.



Pictures from January, continued



Members on the Move

Recently, Tom Ossorio had the opportunity to head to Florida for 24 Hours of Daytona! Since we couldn't all go with him as a club outing, he decided to send us some pictures so we could all share in the excitement. Thanks, Tom, for letting us feel the racing fever by way of your photos. And I'll never complain about having to buy tires too often again—Tom says each team gets 38 sets of tires for the event!





Pictures of Past Events—Closing Out 2019!

Here are some pictures of our final events of 2019. On November 16th, we had a great day-cruise to Nocona where we visited the awesome Horton Automotive museum and then enjoyed a great pizza lunch.



Then on December 8, we had our annual Christmas party at the CandleLite Inn in Arlington. We had lots of fun at both events. At the Christmas party, we collected lots of toys that we later donated to the USMC Toys for Tots Toy Drive. Thanks to all who brought toys—we completely filled the Office Max Collection Box!



We did have a few more birds in the lot at the party, including a beautiful 1963 belonging to new members Gilbert and Aaron Barteau. But I forgot to get pics of any but these two matching “little birds” almost 50 years apart in age!



Christmas Party Fun





Officers 2019-2020

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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

VTCI—What's That All About?

The VTCI, the Vintage Thunderbird Club International, is our parent organization, begun in 1968 by Don Brix, Jr., and Don Harris. Originally, that club focused on Squarebirds, the 1958, 1959, and 1960 models and the first name for the club included the phrase "Squarebird Society;" but in 1996, the name was changed to its present form showing that the VTCI accepts all years of Thunderbirds. There are 9 regions of the International Organization: Northeast, Southeast, North Central, South Central, Northwest, Southwest, European, Pacific Rim, and Australia. Our club, NTVT, is part of the South Central Region covering OK, TX, AR, & MS. Our members are encouraged to join VTCI, but it is not required.

So what are the advantages of belonging to the VTCI? If an owner is interested in restoring his or her T-bird to factory specifications, belonging to the club is a great way to get information and advice on many year-models of Thunderbirds. A great many members are experienced in restoration, especially of the 1956-1966 T-birds. For those years, judging specifications have been developed to help guide owners. Later model years are slowly getting more attention, and you will find many international members becoming experienced with those models as well. The VTCI publication, The Scoop, has informative articles on Thunderbirds, too.

In addition to knowledge, however, we have personally found the experience of belonging to the VTCI has more to do with meeting and enjoying the company of Thunderbird owners from many different places. VTCI holds regional and International conventions offering members the opportunity to travel with their Thunderbirds, to get them judged if they wish, and to make many new friends across the nation.

This year the 2020 So Central VTCI Regional Convention will be held from June 11-14 in New Orleans, LA. The hotel will be the Holiday Inn Superdome, close to many attractions. There will be no judging at this regional convention, however. But it will be a party you won't soon forget—Let the Good Times Roll!

Then from Aug 11-15, the VTCI International Convention will be held at Red Lion, Jantzen Beach in Portland, Oregon. This will be a special time, celebrating the 65th birthday of The Thunderbird! There will be many opportunities for sight seeing at this convention, and should also be a lot of fun.

Of course, there will be concours judging on Friday with the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening.

Information and registration forms for both conventions are available online at <http://www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net/events.htm>