



T Bird News

North Texas Vintage
Thunderbirds, Inc.
Local Chapter of VTCI

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January 31, 2022

The President's Message by Dave Egan

We had a great board meeting last week. It is a good thing when people can come together to discuss issues and make decisions that will affect our club this year and for years to come. We have what we think is a good plan for the year, but still more decisions are left to make about the travel events. Overnight suggestions included travel to College Station and the Bush library would be the focus. Another suggestion is to travel to Kerrville and Fredricksburg would be the focus. Maybe Marfa with Big Bend as the focus. The Talahena highway in Oklahoma would be a great trip and the winding roads and scenery would be the focus.

For day trips there is Mineral Wells and the car museum, or if we want to go further down the road, there is Mary's (restaurant) in Strawn. A couple of years ago we went to the Horton museum in Nacona, and we could do that again. It's one of the best car museums I have been to in our area.

We will talk about this subject in the next meeting. As soon as we have destinations determined we can begin planning. We will also review the plan for this year at the next meeting.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions about travel events, please let one of the officers know. It's not too long until the VTCI Convention in Kansas City. Please consider attending. It would be very cool to caravan a group of Thunderbirds for that trip. Details are in The "Thunderbird Scoop."

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February Meeting—11:00 A.M. on Saturday, Feb 19, 2022

According to the results of the recently conducted poll, most of the responders are ready to resume in-person meetings in restaurants, parks, and other places. 34 responses were received: 23 were in favor of meetings at restaurants, 6 wanted meetings in parks or outdoor places, and 5 would favor remaining virtual at this time.

Therefore, the **February meeting will be held on Saturday, February 19th from 11:00 a.m. until 1:15 p.m. at No Frills Grill in Burleson, 12846 South Fwy Suite 100, Burleson, TX 76028-8451 (see map on page 2).**

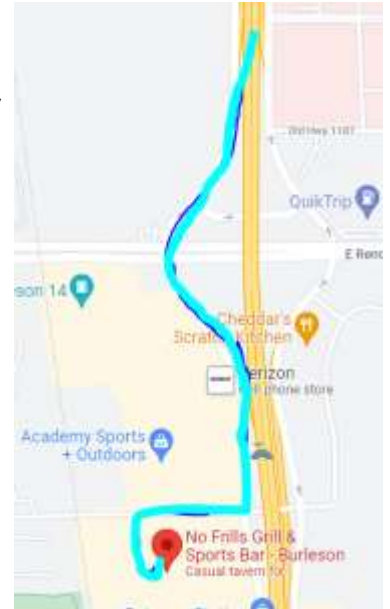
Notice, the meeting will start a little earlier than normal as the restaurant has an



other group coming in to the private room at 1:45. We will order soon after arriving and conduct the meeting while we wait for the food to arrive!

Because some of our members prefer virtual, we will attempt to set up a zoom meeting live from the restaurant. If you are coming in person, you can ignore the invitation to the zoom link that will be arriving by email several days before the meeting.

Directions: Exit 35 W at Rendon-Crowley Rd (Hwy 1187). Follow frontage road to McAlister. Turn right. Go past Best Buy and turn in between the strip center and Conn's Appliance Store. No Frills Grill is on your left facing Conn's.



January 2022 Zoom Mtg Minutes

Fifteen people attended the January meeting via Zoom arranged by Bonnie Kershaw.

Dave Egan opened the meeting welcoming everyone.

Jan and Jim Young attended from their room on a cruise ship while waiting for it to depart. She noted that the NTVT cruise planned for March is still a go.

Betsy sent a report on the Christmas party showing attendance and expenses. Betsy noted that the room at Saltgrass Steakhouse in Bedford was larger than previous venues. She also noted and Tom agreed that we continued to dip into club savings for the expenses. The board will investigate dropping gifts to save approximately \$750. Lower 50/50 income due to fewer meetings had an effect on the club's income. We are still open to other venues from member suggestions.

Brian Carron, our VTCL regional director, noted that the international convention is set for August 10-14, 2022 in Kansas City. The application is in the latest Scoop and online. Brian also suggested that if we hold a driving event, could we consider including other clubs in the region, similar to the Rocky Mt. Annual Bird Bath event.

The attendees made several suggestions of activities for consideration by the NTVT board. The board is scheduled to meet January 22nd.

Several members provided tech tips involving gas canisters, oil filter adapter 'O' rings, and coil packs, from their recent experiences. Bonnie asked that those be sent to her so she could include these in future newsletters. Brad noted that it is important to share these tip on repairs and part sources now. A tech tip he shared with the Squarebird forum several years ago and which was recently picked up by the Scoop has shown some parts are no longer available. Share tips now!

The newsletter will share more information on planned events from the board meeting January 22nd.

Submitted by Brad Kershaw, NTVT Secretary



Member Tech Tips

The tech tips and discussions at the meetings have been very popular. We thought it would be helpful to publish those, a few at a time, in the newsletter so all the members can benefit from the tech lessons other Thunderbird owners have learned. If you have a tech tip to share, be sure to send it in to bradandbonnie@yahoo.com

The following is a tech-tip comes from Jim Sasso. He says that he has used this for years-on-end, and it has proved quite beneficial. He doesn't take credit for it, though, saying, "my dearly departed brother who was the super all-car gearhead gave me this information."

To keep soft rubber trim supple, do this: take a clean, lint-free cloth (micro-fiber) and thoroughly wipe down the trim pieces with plain water (I never use soap) to remove dust and dirt, . Allow the trim pieces to dry. Apply a silicone solution to the soft rubber trim pieces by, again, using a micro-fiber cloth. Spray the cloth with the silicone solution, do NOT apply directly to the trim pieces. I use the brand name of CRC. Drying time is minimal. I do this simple procedure once a year, normally in the Spring. However, the time-of-year isn't important. It's just that being repetitive on a timely basis generates the best benefit to help the rubber trim do its job of avoiding water-leaks and keeping squeaks to a minimum.

Ross Walker also sent in this tip:

Interstate Battery sells a MT66, which is what Ford recommends. It has a vent and fits the cars tube in the trunk. It is easy to connect once you locate the vent on the battery (not round). If someone installs your battery for you, make sure they connect the vent tube. Most workers do not know about the vent, and it is needed with the battery located in the trunk.

Thanks, Jim and Ross, for sending in those tips! Watch for more tips next month.

Flashes from the Past—Looking Back



John and Cece Congleton and Dom Zanella at the 2005 Convention



Group picture from 2011, taken in front of then club president Dan Bishop's shop.



Meet in the Middle—VTCI in KS City

The 2022 Vintage Thunderbird Club International (our parent organization) will hold its International Convention in Kansas City, MO from August 10-14, 2022. Three local thunderbird clubs (Vintage Tbirds of KC, Mid KS Vintage Tbirds and, Thunderbird Midwest Club) are coming together to host.

These events are always terrific! If you have never attended one, you owe it to yourself to make your reservations for this one. In addition to all the Thunderbird fun, attendees can choose to go on two tours which highlight local historical locations. This time, the Thursday half-day tour will feature the National World War I Museum and Memorial. This museum houses one of the world's largest and most comprehensive "Great War" collections with over 350,000 items.



Kansascityonthecheap.com



Then the Friday full-day tour will head to Independence, MO, to view the Bingham-Waggoner Museum & Estate, with a lunch provided on the grounds. George Caleb Bingham was a renowned artist and Missouri politician of the mid 1800's and owned the estate which is adjacent to the original Santa Fe Trail. There will be lunch on the grounds of the estate, followed by an afternoon visit to the acclaimed and newly renovated Truman Library & Museum.

Although Truman left office with the lowest approval rating of any president in history, historians now consider him one of the top six American presidents. You can choose one or both of these interesting tours. For more details on these tours, check out this link:

<http://vintagethunderbirdclub.net/meet%20me%20in%20the%20middle.pdf>



Of course, T-birds are the main feature of most conventions. You'll have the opportunity to see some truly beautiful Thunderbirds! If you choose to put your T-bird on the judging field, you can learn a great deal about what it would take to make your thunderbird a #1 car. Having your car judged isn't everyone's cup of tea, but there are several categories for judging to choose from. Learn more about judging at this link from the VTCL website: http://vintagethunderbirdclub.net/judging_classes.htm

In fact, if you have never explored the [Vintagethunderbirdclub.net](http://vintagethunderbirdclub.net) site, be sure to take a look at it. There is a wealth of information available there. And, if you aren't already a VTCL member, you can join our parent organization on their website.

You can download the registration form for this year's convention from the [VTCL website](http://vintagethunderbirdclub.net). You will also find one attached to the email delivering this newsletter.



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Or check us out on Facebook:

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

VTCL, our Parent Club

www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net

The Thunderbird Registry

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

T-Birds and Tidbits For Sale

- **For Sale:** Marian Herbst has a brand new Bra Kit for a Retro available for \$100. Give her a call at 817-705-5925.
- **Free Car Parts:** Brad Kershaw's shop is the temporary depository for several Squarebird parts. If you need something for a Squarebird, give him a call.
- **For Sale:** The club was recently contacted by someone who would like to sell a 2003 Retro. It belongs to his daughter who has used it as her "fun" car. It has been driven less than 40,000 miles. If you are interested in more pictures or information, please contact Mr. Tandy C. Walker by email (rdb435021@icloud.com or aerotan1503@outlook.com). Or message the newsletter editor for his phone number. Please note, nobody in the club has seen this car; we cannot comment on its condition. Mr. Walker noted it has a current 2022 inspection sticker.



In Memoriam



Doug Neal, (former NTVT member and club President) evidently cracked up Brad Kershaw just before the camera clicked. (2011)

Doug passed away December 21, 2021. We send condolences to his husband, former NTVT member, Juan Sanchez.

Harley Eaton, (2-17-1930 to 1-21-2022) was a local Thunderbird expert and lifetime member of NTVT. This picture was taken in Sept, 2020, when we surprised him with a Thunderbird Parade at the facility where he lived in Keller shortly before he moved to Austin, TX, where he could be closer to his daughter, Leah Eaton. The club members extend their deepest sympathies to his family. He will be missed.

