



San Antonio, Texas



# MARCH 2024

*Birds Of A Feather*



*2003 Ford Thunderbird with U.S. Air Force Thunderbird Jets*



## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE FOR MARCH 2024**

**Due to unforeseen difficulties Bruce has been unable to get our March Newsletter completed and mailed out to us. First his computer “lost” where it placed his nearly completed March edition. He has not been able to find it. Then a series of unfortunate events occurred that left him in a “Crappy” situation that requires his immediate and full attention. This is my attempt to get something in the way of the March Newsletter out to our membership. Ray Clark, STTC President.**



# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## MARCH

### BIRTHDAYS

NO MARCH BIRTHDAYS



### ANNIVERSARY



Jerry & Barbara C	3/04
Jack & Nellie W	3/16
Walt & Pocahontas C	3/31



**March Zodiac Sign**  
 There are (2) Zodiac Signs that encompass the month of March.  
 They are  
**PISCES** (February 19 – March 20)  
**ARIES** (March 21 – April 19)



PISCES



ARIES

**SUNDAY  
MARCH 12TH**



March Birthstone  
Aquamarine

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS!**

# **STTC Schedule of Events**

## **MONTHLY CLUB MEETINGS**

**On the 4th Saturday of each month (Usually). Next scheduled meeting:**

**March 23rd, SATURDAY (4th weekend-NOT 31st Easter weekend!)- Wildflower Cruise to Marble Falls. 9am Departure, for an 11am, Pot Luck Lunch at Cathy Miller's Home by her invitation. Followed by a Wildflower Cruise to the abandoned farm house and its famous Wildflower display and several other close by areas known for their Wildflower displays. Distance from downtown San Antonio to Marble Falls via 281N 68 Miles, 1hr 28mins. Just 15 mins, 22 miles north of Johnson City. See recently detailed email.**

**April 5,6&7 Randolph AFB Air Show featuring the USAF Thunderbirds. We have been invited to and will provide our Tbirds for display with the Thunderbird jets on the flight line each of the three days. Full details have been provided by Danny Varella who coordinated this with the Base. See the emails that have been generated by this invitation.**

**Apr 28th Saturday-11am Lunch Good Time Charlies, Brackenridge Park & Broadway followed by downtown Botanical Gardens tour**

**May 18th Saturday Thunderbird Appreciation Day, 10am-4pm, Northside Ford hosting and providing free food. Also earlier that morning will be the Live Oak Parade. Those attending the Parade could join us at Northside Ford to show off their Tbirds and enjoy lunch with the rest of the Clubs. Both events are open to the STTC and SATC Tbird Clubs. See Brian Carron or Jerry Cowl for additional info on the Tbird Appreciation Day, or Gary Faught regarding the Live Oak Parade.**

**Jun 23rd (4th Saturday) 11am Lunch (TBD) followed by Wimberly Glass Works tour**

**Jul 28th, 10AM-Business meeting (if needed) or 11AM social lunch**

**August-to be discussed by Activities Committee. Boing Center visit does not seem possible for us. They are not conducive to our kind of visit.**

**September-Cruise to Commemorative Air Force San Marcos on 18 September Wednesday-11am Lunch in Sam Marcos first at Chuy's Restaurant. Cannot visit on a Saturday due to WWII Aircraft not being there. Full details have been emailed to members.**

**October-to be discussed by Activities Committee**

**November-normally a month with no meeting due to Thanksgiving but there are several events earlier in November that we may want to attend.**

**December-Christmas Party Danny & Kathy Vallera? More information to follow.**



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## Events That May Interest You

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**See the Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCl) website for their upcoming activities. <https://www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net/>**

**During our Wildflower Cruise to Marble Falls last Saturday I had asked ya'll to email your pix to Bruce for him to feature in the April STTC Newsletter. For the time being, please hold onto them and do NOT send them to him until after he informs you as to when to send them.**

**Below is the information regarding the upcoming May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cadets & Cars Show and May 18<sup>th</sup>, Thunderbird Appreciation Day event.**



**There are also other events that have been covered in previous STTC Newsletters you can refer to.**

**CANYON LAKE HIGH SCHOOL JROTC  
MAY 4, 2024**

**5th ANNUAL  
CADETS & CARS  
CAR SHOW & EVENT**

**TROPHIES & PRIZES**

**VENDORS & CONCESSIONS**

**MORE INFO & REGISTRATION**

**SHOW: 9AM-2PM FREE TO SPECTATORS AWARDS: 1PM  
LOCATION: CLHS 8555 FM32, FISCHER, TX  
WWW.CLHS HAWK BATTALION.COM**

**THUNDERBIRD APPRECIATION DAY**  
**SATURDAY MAY 18, 2024,**  
**10am-2pm**  
**AT**  
**HOSTED BY NORTHSIDE FORD – SAN ANTONIO**



Owners of Ford's Thunderbird From Around The World Will Be Sharing Their Iconic Cars With The Public On **THUNDERBIRD APPRECIATION DAY** Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Join The San Antonio Thunderbird Clubs: San Antonio Classic Thunderbird Club (Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI)) And the South Texas Thunderbird Club (Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCI)) As We Display Our 1955-2005 Thunderbirds, At Northside Ford. What A Great Way to Celebrate These Beautiful Cars, Market Benefits Of Club Membership, And Enjoy Some Host Provided Food And Drink.

With Over 4 Million Thunderbirds Produced By Ford Motor Company From 1955-2005, It Is Still Not Common To See Them On The Road Today, Even Later Models.

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.

Come meet Thunderbird Owners As They Show Off Their Thunderbird And See That These Automobiles Are "Unique In All The World".





**Rail Road Transportation Museum of SA Photographs!**  
**Unfortunately, I don't have the pix that Bruce took of our Club members who attended this event. First 6 Pix are courtesy of Stan Andrews.**















## TECH TIP OF THE MONTH



### TIPS FOR GOING TOPLESS

With Spring upon us and Summer fast approaching, the desire to remove the Winter hardtop on our Thunderbirds and raise the soft top becomes more and more tempting. Utilizing the soft top always gives us more options for the upcoming warm sunny days.

Here are a few suggestions for waking that soft top from its Winter's nap.

1. Remove the hard top. This is a two-person job. DO NOT try it alone unless you have a hoist.
2. Pick a warm, sunny day. (Preferably 70-80 degrees.)
3. Place the car in the sun and raise the top to where it will sit relaxed on top of the car. DO NOT latch at this time.
4. Let the top sit in the sun for 3-4 hours to really warm up. (This warm-up period will allow the material to stretch properly which will ultimately prolong the life of the top.)
5. When top is nice and warm, follow proper latching procedure.
6. Clean top with a damp cloth or soft bristled brush. (A clean top is a happy top)
7. This procedure should be used before latching any soft top that has been sitting in the boot for an extended period of time. Now that you've properly stretched the top, it should be ready to put up or down for the rest of the Summer.





# PARTS / SERVICE



## List of Dealers for Parts

- ✚ 58-66 Bird Nest 800-232-6378 [www.tbirdparts.com](http://www.tbirdparts.com)
- ✚ 55-72 Classic Auto Parts 800-654-3247 [www.classicautoparts.com](http://www.classicautoparts.com)
- ✚ 55-86 Concours Parts 800-722-0009 [www.concourspartd.com](http://www.concourspartd.com)
- ✚ 58-94 Thunderbird Ranch 715-884-6546 [www.tbirdranch.com](http://www.tbirdranch.com)
- ✚ 55-56 Casco 800-374-0914 [www.classictbird.com](http://www.classictbird.com)
- ✚ 55-56 Hill's Classic Cars 740-949-2217 [www.hillsresto.com](http://www.hillsresto.com)
- ✚ Rock Auto [www.rockauto.com](http://www.rockauto.com)
- ✚ Hi-Tech Electronic/Radio Repair Service, (Modern ClassicT-Birds and more)  
Van Nuys, CA, 818-785-8085  
[Service@Hitechserv.com](mailto:Service@Hitechserv.com)  
or <https://hitechserv.com/electronicrepairs/oem-navigation-dvd-ed-charger-repair/>
- ✚ Rick Monroe "Straightnshinybygolly" Chrome Straightening & Polishing  
Phone: (210) 584-5856. Email: [mongooserpm@gmail.com](mailto:mongooserpm@gmail.com)



# PARTS / SERVICE





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San Antonio, Texas 78238  
210-647-4200 Fax 210-520-1854  
Rudy G. Pena



[www.penabrosautotops.com](http://www.penabrosautotops.com)  
[www.penabrosrim@yahoo.com](mailto:www.penabrosrim@yahoo.com)



Specializing in 55/57 Thunderbird Parts  
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Fax: 740-948-1957  
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2104 Dabney Ln Balch Springs, TX 75180



**Thunderbirds Southwest**  
4635 E. State Highway 71  
La Grange, TX 78945

<https://thunderbirdssouthwest.com/>  
Owner Lance E. Herrington  
Full-Service Thunderbirds  
1955-1979

Featuring restoration,  
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Southwest Chrome Plating  
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Saturday: 8:00-1:00  
Sunday: Closed  
[info@concoursautosalon.com](mailto:info@concoursautosalon.com)





## About South Texas Thunderbird Club

San Antonio Texas Thunderbird Club (STTC) Inc. has been in existence for 44 years 1979-2023. STTC is a family-oriented organization with the goal of enjoying, having fun and preserving our Thunderbirds among friends and elevating the interest of these beautiful cars within our community. Our annual membership is \$20.00 and prorated throughout the year for new members. These dues entitle members to a club roster and the club's monthly newsletter. Most importantly membership provides the opportunity to contribute and participate in Regional/International Conventions. Dues are due on January 1st and no later than January 31st.

**We welcome all Thunderbirds from 1955-2005**



### Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCI)



South Texas Thunderbird Club Inc. (STTC) is a chapter of the Vintage Thunderbird Club International. This organization is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of all Ford Thunderbirds 1955 - 2005. If you are not a member of VTCI and would like to join, you can go to VTCI's website at

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

download an application form, include fee and mail it to

**VTCI**

**P.O. Box 75308**

**Wichita, KS 67275**

- or -

fill it out online.

- or -

You can join through our website

**[www.southtexasthunderbirdclub.com](http://www.southtexasthunderbirdclub.com)**

if you prefer.

**SOUTH TEXAS THUNDERBIRD CLUB  
VINTAGE THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL CLUB  
OFFICERS & COMMITTEE DIRECTORS**

STTC OFFICERS	COMMITTEE DIRECTORS	VTCI OFFICERS
<b>President</b> Ray Clark (210) 875-1411	<b>Newsletter Editor</b> Bruce Reader (630) 464-8200	<b>President</b> Rod Wake
<b>Vice-President</b> Stan Andrews (210) 296-4726	<b>Auto Technical Advisor</b> Ray Clark (210) 875-1411	<b>Vice-President</b> Bob McNeill
<b>Secretary</b> Stan Andrews (210) 296-4726	<b>Website Assistance</b> Ray Clark (210) 875-1411	<b>Executive Secretary</b> Jake Wake
<b>Treasurer</b> Danny Varella (210) 215-7163	<b>Historian</b> Marilyn Carron -----	<b>Treasurer</b> Randy Mattson
	<b>Name Tag Coordinator</b> Jerry Cowan -----	<b>Concourse Director</b> Paul Prokop
	<b>Activities Chairman</b> Gary Faight	<b>Technical Director</b> Alan Tast
		<b>Publication Director</b> Terri McNeill
		<b>Country Store</b> Laura Wahrmond
		<b>South Central Regional Director</b> Brian Carron



Websites  
[www.southtexasthunderbirdclub.com](http://www.southtexasthunderbirdclub.com)  
[www.vintagehunderbirdclub.com](http://www.vintagehunderbirdclub.com)







**South Texas Thunderbird Club** (STTC), located in San Antonio, Texas, is a local chapter of the Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCI)

- STTC dues are \$20.00 per year, prorated at \$2 per month
- VTCI dues are \$40.00. You can apply on their website: [www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net](http://www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net)

Member info: your name: \_\_\_\_\_ birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
first / last month / day

spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_ birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
first / last month / day

anniversary date: \_\_\_\_\_ VTCI #: \_\_\_\_\_  
if currently a member

address: \_\_\_\_\_  
street city st zip

telephone: hm ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ cell ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

T-birds owned: year: \_\_\_\_\_ model: \_\_\_\_\_

year: \_\_\_\_\_ model: \_\_\_\_\_

year: \_\_\_\_\_ model: \_\_\_\_\_

**Waiver And Release From Liability**

As a member of the South Texas Thunderbird Club (STTC), I am solely responsible for any damage or injury to third parties, or to myself resulting from anything connected with STTC Club activities. I agree to indemnify and hold STTC Club, and Officers harmless for, or in any claim, loss, damage, injury, or liability, that may be asserted by me, or by any third party as a result of my activity. The foregoing covenants of exculpation and indemnity are intended to be and are complete, general and without restriction and include, but are not limited to, negligence (active or passive) or willful reckless or wanton activity. I further warrant that I carry automobile liability insurance on the vehicle, meeting or exceeding all Texas statutory requirements and that this insurance will be in force and effect for all STTC activities in which I participate. This release will be active for all STTC Club activities/events in which I participate.

member's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

spouse's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SOUTH TEXAS THUNDERBIRD CLUB**

**mail application (with check) to:** Danny Varella  
27302 Park Loop Road  
New Braunfels, TX 78132

**for more club info, please contact:**  
Ray Clark [rayclark07@att.net](mailto:rayclark07@att.net) (210) 875-1411



## VTCI Membership Application Form

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

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

MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE / PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

LIST NAME IN ROSTER? YES  NO

LIST E-MAIL ADDRESS IN ROSTER? YES  NO

LIST TELEPHONE IN ROSTER? YES  NO

PLEASE LIST THUNDERBIRD YOU OWN: \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Annual dues: \$40.00 United States and Canada, \$60.00 all other countries. Due the 31st of January each year. Canadian and overseas payment must be in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank

For NEW members only Send initial dues according to the month you join. You will then receive a renewal notice mailed with the November/December Scoop.

	US and Canada	All Other Countries
January / February	\$40.00	\$60.00
March / April	\$35.00	\$55.00
May / June	\$30.00	\$45.00
July / August	\$25.00	\$40.00
September / October	\$55.00	\$90.00 includes next year
November / December	\$50.00	\$80.00 includes next year



VISA / MasterCard (circle one)

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

(if different from above-please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable & mail to:  
Vintage Thunderbird Club International

P.O. Box 75308 Wichita, KS 67275

\*Annual dues include a subscription to "Thunderbird Scoop" magazine.