





MAY 2025



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Welcoming all years of Thunderbirds in the San Antonio area.



Presidents Message For May 2025

The comments I have received indicate that those who participated in the displaying of their Tbirds at the Gateway Classic Cars event in New Braunfels April 26, 2025 thought it was an excellent event to participate in. There were more than two dozen STTC member families (25 members) who signed up and joined us in this endeavor. Many heartfelt thanks go out to them, and especially to Stan A & Dené B who did the photography for us and Dené the beautiful videotaping. Weather conditions on Saturday was good, with no rain and an overcast sky to keep the temperature down. Since we are collecting new and unpackage toys for the KENS5-TV Bill Taylor Toy Drive each month we were able to add to our growing collection also. Everyone I spoke with seemed to have enjoyed this special event and hopefully, as a result of the turnout, we will receive a nice donation from Gateway to our toy fund. We all seemed to have enjoyed the many classic cars on the floor that are availabe for sale. There are some great classics in their collection!

We are certainly looking forward to the upcoming Thunderbird Appreciation Day celebration at Northside Ford dealership again this year. It is Saturday, May 17th, at 10am-4pm. We are looking forward to the SACTC Little Bird Club joining us in this activity. We should be under cover again this year and Northside Ford will be providing food and drink again. Make sure to bring your lawn chairs for this one! We had an excellent turnout last year and are looking forward to another good one. Dené should be here to videotape this event, and also intends to do some video interviewing of our membership!

I was saddened to hear of the passing of longtime STTC Member Jack Dowda, after a long battle of health issues. More information regarding funeral arrangements are forthcoming.

The STTC Activities Committee will be meeting soon to plan 2 social luncheon events for June and July. It is our intent to stay intown during these hot Summer months. More information will be forthcoming on them. Our August meeting will be a Business meeting at our Sponsor Jordan Ford dealership location, IH-35 & 1604N.

See details in this newsletter and here. https://southtexasthunderbirdclub.com

Best Regards, Ray Clark, STTC President





Birthdays & Anniversaries

MAY

BIRTHDAYS

5/1	James A
5/14	John C
5/13	Marilyn C
5/19	Michael H
5/21	Linda D
5/26	Perry D
5/29	Barbara C

ANNIVERSARY

Stan & Olga

5/24



Monday May 26, 2025









Sunday May 11, 2025

May Zodiac Sign There are (2) Zodiac Signs that encompass the month of May

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20) GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)







May Birthstone Emerald







































































































STTC Schedule of Events

May 17, Saturday Thunderbird Appreciation Day, <u>10AM-4PM</u>. Northside Ford Dealership. Lunch & drinks will be provided. Bring lawn chairs to sit in. We will also be collecting new and unpackaged toys & stuffed animals each month for the Bill Taylor KENS5-TV Toy Drive. GPS: 12300 San Pedro Ave 78216. Below is a photo from Kathy as to what toys we have collected so far.



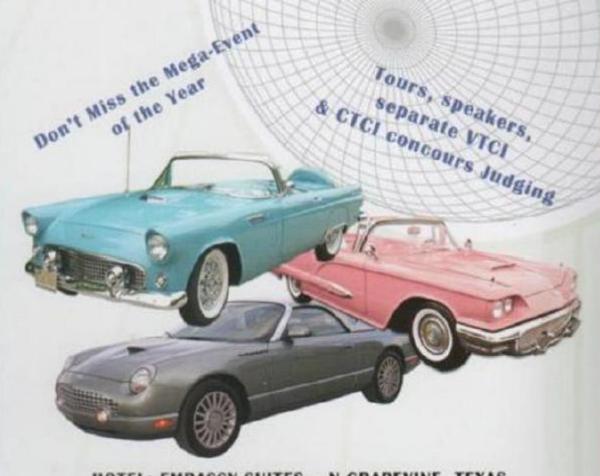
June 28, Saturday, Social Luncheon, location TBD.

July 26, Saturday, Social Luncheon, location TBD.

August 23, Saturday, 10AM Business meeting Jordon Ford dealership to cover club's participation in the VTCI convention in North Texas in September. Lunch TBD.







HOTEL: EMBASSY SUITES - N.GRAPEVINE, TEXAS SEPTEMBER 09-13, 2025

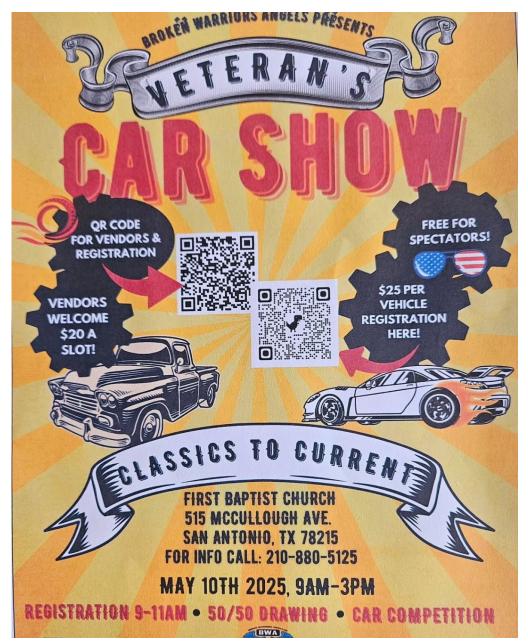
SEPTEMBER 09-13, 2025 HOSTED BY



CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL (CTCI) AND VINTAGE THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL

(VICI)







THUNDERBIRD APPRECIATION DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025

10AM-4PM

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 17th 2025.

Join The San Antonio Tbird Clubs: San Antonio Classic Thunderbird Club (Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI)) And 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 fun and fellowship. Northside Ford will provide lunch and drinks.

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 20 Years, 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 Thunderbirds And See That These Automobiles Are "Unique In All The World".











EDITOR'S



Book Review

I am always "thinking" - my wife believes I do way too much "thinking". Especially when I am "thinking of doing something". Well as thinking would have you I thought it would be nice to occasionally add a different (new) element to the T Bird Tales Newsletter. As such I thought an element of books, books that may be of interest - at least to someone.

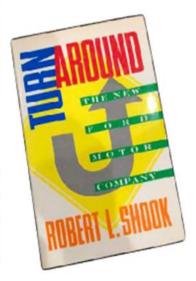
Since my last name is "Reader" I tend to do a lot of reading.

The book I have chosen for "The Book Corner" is automotive related (imagine that). In addition it is related to the Ford Motor Company. The book is - Turn Around, The New Ford Motor Company by Robert L. Shook.

The book examines the one of the greatest turn arounds in automotive history. Some may find the read to be business oriented but I found it to be entertaining and filled with numerous behind the scenes stories related to the auto industry in particular Ford.

Excerpt from the inside book cover -

Between 1980 and 1983, the ford Motor Company lost a staggering \$3.3 billion (that is a B), the most severe loss ever suffered by any corporation. Ford, a notional institution long synonymous



Continued - Next Page



Book Review

with American automobiles and ingenuity, stood on the verge of meltdown, a collapse that would have shaken the entire U.S. economy to its core. Yet Ford not only survived but emerged as on of the most admired and profitable companies in the world. Here is an behind-the-scenes account of Ford's near disaster and spectacular comeback – the greatest turnaround ever achieved in American industry. It is a story played out in the Glass House boardrooms and plant assembly lines, in small-town courthouses and big city newspapers – a story of corporate power plays, billion-dollar gambles, dismal failures, and dramatic successes.

There is something for anyone interested in the drama played out in auto industry. Many stories that provide historical perspective, such as Henry (The Duce) Ford II mission to kick Enzo Ferrari's ass at LeMans. How the Ford Taurus came about.



Robert L. Shook

The book is out of print but there are used copies available - eBay being one source. I also noticed that Amazon has used editions as well.



If any STTC members have a book recommendation that may be of interest to other members please let me know and I will put it in the "Editor's Book Corner"



Soundtrack of the times

Blonde in the Blue T-Bird

Walter Egan

A moonlight night, the highway shines
A pair of beams approaches mine
And as she pulls up close
We share a glance; my heart awoke

The blonde in the blue T-Bird (blue Thunderbird)
The blonde in the blue T-Bird (blue Thunderbird)
The blonde in the blue T-Bird

We drove along a long, long way
I followed in my Chevrolet
And soon it became clear
The reason why she brought me here

The blonde in the blue T-bird (blue Thunderbird)
The blonde in the blue T-bird (blue Thunderbird)
The blonde in the blue T-bird

And in the dawn my car looks fine A night of love can make it shine But as my engine whines The blue T-bird is on my mind

The blonde in the blue T-bird (blue Thunderbird)
The blonde in the blue T-bird (blue Thunderbird)
The blonde in the blue T-bird

The blonde in the blue T-bird (blue Thunderbird)
The blonde in the blue T-bird (blue Thunderbird)
The blonde in the blue T-bird

(Blue Thunderbird, Blue Thunderbird) (Blue Thunderbird, Blue Thunderbird) (Blue Thunderbird...)









A Little Humor

Marketing 101 - Humor Imitates Life It's All How You Spin It . . .

707

INDUSTRIAL THESAURUS

- NEW . . . different color from previous design
- . . . parts are not interchangeable with the previous design
- EXCLUSIVE . . . made in Italy
- UNMATCHED . . . almost as good as the competition
- DESIGN SIMPLICITY . . . costs cut to the bone
- FOOLPROOF OPERATION . . . no provision for adjustment
- ADVANCED DESIGN . . . Sales Dept. doesn't understand it
- FIELD TESTED . . . manufacturer doesn't have the time.
- · RUGGED . . . too heavy to lift.
- · LIGHTWEIGHT . . . lighter than rugged.
- YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT . . . finally got one that worked.
- UNPRECEDENTED PERFORMANCE . . . nothing we ever had before worked this way.
- FUTURISTIC . . . can't figure out why it looks like it does.
- ENERGY SAVING . . . achieved when the unit is shut off.
- NO MAINTENANCE . . . impossible to fix.
- HAND CRAFTED . . . too complex for machining operations.
- PERFORMANCE PROVEN . . . good chance it will operate through the warranty period.
- MEETS QUALITY STANDARDS . . . ours, not yours.
- IMPROVED RELIABILITY . . . you will get one more day out of it than the last one.
- SATISFACTION GUARANTEED . . . our's, upon receipt of the check.

T-BIRD TALES

Remember TV Car Stars!

77 SUNSET STRIP

It was hip to be on the "Strip"

1958 to 1964 (206 Episodes)

Starring

Efrem Zimbalist Jr. Roger Smith Edd "Kookie" Byrnes Richard Long





Dino's Lounge - Actually owned by Dean Martin



In the intro, we see Bailey hop into his convertible at Dino's Lodge, Kookie's workplace. The restaurant was real, a joint opened by Dean Martin at 8524 Sunset Boulevard in 1958. Don't go looking for it. A few years ago, the entire block was demolished.





In 1959, Byrnes cut a novelty tune for the newly formed Warner Bros. Records. The actor teamed with Connie Stevens for "Kookie, Kookie (Lend Me Your Comb," a teen pop number that would become the No. 37 song of the year.



PARTS / SERVICE









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

https:thunderbirdsouthwest.com/

Owner Lance E. Herrington Full-Service Thunderbirds 1955-1979

Featuring restoration, mechanical service, consignment, sales, and parts.



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PARTS / SERVICE



Pena Bros. Upholstery Co. Automotive Interior Center 5305 Bandera Rd San Antonio, Texas 78238 210-647-4200 Fax 210-520-1854 Rudy G. Pena



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> Converse, Texas 210-658-8087

Email: swchrome@hotmail.com

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and deliver back to this location for your
chrome plating needs. Email is the best way
to get hold of them from the website or
call the Balch Springs location.



Specializing in 55/57 Thunderbird Parts Ford & Motorcraft Parts Classic Car Restoration 29625 Bashan Road ~ Racine, Ohio 45771

740-949-1956 Fax: 740-949-1957 tbirdcenter@sprintmail.com www.hillsresto.com

Tim Hill Parts Manager



2450 Babcock Road # 138 San Antonio , Texas 78229 Phone 210-616-9669 Hours: Monday-Friday: 8:00-6:00 Saturday: 8:00-1:00 Sunday: Closed info@concoursautosalon.com

GIVE US A CALL (210) 341-1171



Established 1968 - Family Owned & Operated

2002 - 2005 Thirds Only

8411 Speedway Dr, San Antonio, TX 78230

PARTS / SERVICE



List of Dealers for Parts

58-66 Bird Nest 800-232-6378 www.tbirdparts.com

55-72 Classic Auto Parts 800-654-3247 www.classicautoparts.com

55-86 Concours Parts 800-722-0009 www.concourspartd.com

58-94 Thunderbird Ranch 715-884-6546 www.tbirdranch.com

55-57 Casco 800-374-0914 www.classictbird.com

55-57 Hill's Classic Cars 740-949-2217 www.hillsresto.com

Rock Auto www.rockauto.com

02-05 Retrobird Used Parts

TbirdBob-www.TbirdBob.com. Bob Sinickas

Specializes in FEM & REM rebuilding.

219-992-0953 Email: Retrobird@outlook.com





About South Texas Thunderbird Club

San Antonio Texas Thunderbird Club (STTC) Inc. has been in existence for 45 years 1979-2024. 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 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:

https://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

- if you prefer



South Texas Thunderbird Club Support Material





STTC Brochure

Bruce San Antonio



STTC Patch



STTC Member Name Tags





STTC Website Providing Club News, Activities, Membership, Gallery www.southtexasthunderbirdclub.com



The New VTCI Country Store Manager is Renea Steffens - vtcicountrystore@gmail.com

TRUE BAGE LARGE DUFFLE BAG LARGE DUFFLE BAG LARGE DUFFLE BAG S49 Z INCLUDES X SHIPPING X SAIDE WINDSHIELD DECAL Thurderbird TRUE BADGE TRAVEL TRAVEL

To view all products for sale or to purchase online, please visit the Country Store

WWW.VINTAGETHUNDERBIRDCLUB.NET



SOUTH TEXAS THUNDERBIRD CLUB VINTAGE THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL CLUB

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

STTC OFFICERS	COMMITTEE DIRECTORS	VTCI OFFICERS
President Ray Clark	Newsletter Editor Ray Clark (210) 875-1411	President Bob McNeill
(210) 875-1411	(210) 8/3 1411	
Vice-President Stan Andrews	Auto Technical Advisor Ray Clark	Vice-President Vacant
(210) 296-4726	(210) 875-1411	
Secretary Stan Andrews (210) 296-4726	Website Assistance Ray Clark (210) 875-1411	Executive Secretary Jake Wake
Treasurer Danny Varella (210) 215-7163	Historian Marilyn Carron	Treasurer Randy Mattson
	Name Tag Coordinator Jerry Cowan	Concourse Director Paul Prokop
	Activities Chairman Gary Faught	Technical Director Alan Tast
	STTC Photographer Stan Andrews	Publication Director Terri McNeill
	STTC Videographer Dené Ballantine	rem wichem
		Country Store Renea & Scott Steffens

South Central Regional Director
Brian Carron



Websites www.southtexasthunderbirdclub.com

https://www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net







www.SouthTexasThunderbirdClub.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

Member info:	your name:	birthday:
	spouse's name:	
	anniversary date:VTD	#:if currently a member
	address:	st zip
	telephone: hm () cell (
	email:	
T-birds owned:	year: model:	
	year: model:	
	year: model:	
to myself resulting harmless for, or in of my activity. The f restriction and incl warrant that I carry that this insurance consent to STTC to	Waiver And Release From Liabile South Texas Thunderbird Club (STTC), I am solely responsible to from anything connected with STTC Club activities. I agree to it any claim, loss, damage, injury, or liability, that may be assert oregoing covenants of exculpation and indemnity are intended to ude, but are not limited to, negligence (active or passive) or various automobile liability insurance on the vehicle, meeting or excervill be in force and effect for all STTC activities in which I parause photographs and video of you, the members in your party, ast television. This release will be active for all STTC Club activities.	for any damage or injury to third parties, or indemnify and hold STTC Club, and Officers ed by me, or by any third party as a result to be and are complete, general and without willful reckless or wanton activity. I further eding all Texas statutory requirements and rticipate. By becoming a member, you give , and your vehicle(s) for promotion in print,
mem	ber's signature:	date:
spou	se's signature:	date:
MAKE CHECKS	PAYARLE TO: SOLITH TEXAS THUNDERBIRD CO	LUB

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 (210) 875-1411



revised 4.15.2025

NAME:			
SPOUSES NAME:			
MAIL ADDRESS:			
CITY	STATE / PROVINCEZIP:		
COUNTRY:	PHONE		
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LIST NAME IN ROSTER?	YES I NO I		
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PLEASE LIST THUNDERS	BIRD YOU OW	N:	
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January / February	US and Canada S40.00	All Other Countries \$60.00	
July / August	\$25.00	\$55.00 \$45.00 \$40.00	
September / October November / December		\$90.00 includes next year \$80.00 includes next year	
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