ARIZONA BIRD CHATTER

VOLUME 54 NUMBER 03 — March, 2025

March

This months featured Tbird is a Blue Starmist 1957 Tbird manufactured on March 11, 1957. The Tbird was originally shipped to Los Angles, CA from the factory. Since its restoration, this Tbird has won multiple awards including a Gold Medallion Award from CTCI. As part of the restoration; the car is now considered a modified Tbird. However, extreme detail was taken to preserve the Tbird's unique features and look, especially in the engine bay. A bit of mechanical magic was performed to use the original "Ford Dress-up" Tbird aluminum valve covers and the Air-Induction Stainless Steel Air-cleaner housing just to mention a few. Long-time ACTC member and Ex-President Jim Rodgers has provided a summary of his long road traveled with his Tbird. It all started with his attendance at the Good Guys car show back in 2013...

ACTC member Don Henderson and I were walking across the parking lot of the Good Guys Car Show in Scottsdale, AZ when I laid eyes on a gorgeous Starmist blue 1957 Thunderbird. After close examination I convinced myself and told Don the car was perfect for me and needed absolutely nothing to make it right. RIGHT! After purchasing the car; and later taking a gold medal at the CTCI meet, I thought of getting a modified 57 TBird to play with but finally convinced myself I already had the makings of a great resto-mod. So, along with the help of Don and Wes Henderson, Mike Wood and Jorge Sommerer, I set out on an adventure. I "traded" for a 1999 Ford 5.0 H.O. engine and transmission. I sold the original Tbird engine and transmission to Pat Cox who still enjoys it in her beautiful red 57'. Of course the 5.0 would not be right without Viper fuel injection, AOD automatic, special padded top, AM/FM/XM audio system, disc brakes, special Mercedes Hartz Cloth padded top and all white interior. The end result is a total of three Gold Medallion awards and five Gold Medals in CTCI concours competitions and to all who made it happen I say thank you. I have enjoyed my Tbird and not afraid to drive her as we have been to: Flagstaff, Palm Springs, San Diego, Lake Havasu and many ACTC events/meetings. Which points out; you can drive a car and still show it well. Now, like her owner the Blue Bird of Paradise is retired from major competition and is enjoyed just for the fun of driving and to venture out to ACTC events.

By, Jim Rodgers

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From the President's Desk

"Inside looking through the Porthole"

by: Douglas Shearer

Fellow T-Birders,

Now that winter is winding down and one auction (Barrett Jackson) is in the books we have another one (Mecum) coming in March which means spring is here and it's time that we get the little birds out of the nest and onto the roads. We had a wonderful time showing our cars at the Downtown Glendale BBQ, Rhythms & Rides on February 1st and winning multiple awards.

On February 8th the club also had coffee and donuts in the morning at San Tan Ford in Gilbert and had our meeting as well. Both the February events went as planned and we had a great time.

Looking forward to March, we have events scheduled for March 1st in Yuma "Midnight at the Oasis" which by the way, car show registration is sold-out. We drive all over this state even to Lake Havasu and many drive to other areas such as Payson just to name two. Also, on March 16th we are going to the "Encanto-Palmcroft Historic Preservation Association" which is an event/meeting. March 29th is a day at the "Pavilions" which is always fun to gather and meet new people and to walk around and see the many classics while talking to the owners. Let's continue to keep these events going. We do need volunteers to help assist/coordinate and make phone calls to help Bob Michele get these events confirmed. If interested please contact Bob. More events are coming in April so stay tuned.

I would like to mention the Tech Facts Article from our ACTC members in the February's newsletter addressing the Tbird Door Lock/Button and Striker Repair. Which, was very informative with the many supporting photos of how to do the replacement step by step. Good job Walt and others. Even the Historical Facts article on the Retro Birds gives us much insight as to how Ford proceeded with the new/old concept. It was very interesting and a good read within our newsletter.

Having access to both of these ACTC column articles and those published in the CTCI's Technical Sting allows us to get the necessary sources of information to get into and discuss the nuts and bolts on just about anything having to do with keeping our little birds on the road. Over the past few years I've received many texts from the CTCI Technical Group. I'm sure most of you received those emails as well but, for those who are unfamiliar with this site, type in:

ctci-technical-group@googlegroups.com. You won't be disappointed I assure you.

With that in mind, I end with this thought;

"If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone. A man, sir, should keep his friendships in constant repair".
—Samuel Johnson

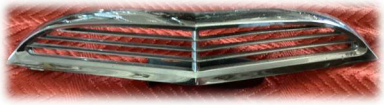
With that thought, the best to you, Doug

What's in that Tbird Trunk For Sale?

— 1957 Colonial-white Tbird, D-Code in nice condition $39,000.00 or OBO. Located in Peoria, AZ

Contact: Mike Wood Ph# (602)-568-8140

— 1957 Ford bird Colonial White (AZ car), Features a Ford 302 V8, AOD-4, AC, PS, PB, Rack & Pinion Steering, Tilt Wheel, Bucket Seats, New Interior . Asking $45,000.00. Located in Phoenix, AZ Contact: Pat Fenlon Ph# (602)-768 -5458.



—1955/56/57 Tbird Chrome Hood Scoop cover. Some minor chrome pitting. $25.00 or BO. Contact waltbonneau@gmail.com

1956 Thunderbird project car, complete with some new parts, engine needs to be rebuilt. $7500.Peroria, AZ.

Call Mike Wood Ph: 602-568-8140

New For Sale, Thousands of 2002-5 Retro Tbird parts now available at Reliable Auto Parts in Yuma, AZ.

Tech Facts

Ford/Thunderbird TACH System Failure

By: Walt Bonneau

A few if not most Tbird owners over the years have experienced their Tbird's tachometer "Tach" failing to function correctly. Either they don't work at all, the gauge starts jumping erratically and or it's making an unbelievably loud combination of noises, coming from either the Tach, Drive cable or Drive gear or all three; making the car's driving experience less than desirable.

Note: If the Tach jumps too erratically for too long, there is a likely chance the gauge indicator pointer/needle will also break.

The 55 & 56 Tbirds Tach is a bit different from that of the smaller in size 57' Tachometer but, they are pretty much similar in how their systems function. Both are mechanical Tach's driven from a cable connected to the engines distributor via a gear (*See the attached images below*). What many do not know is that both the Tach and Drive cable require a lubrication maintenance schedule, if in fact you expect all these components to remain functional. If the lubricant dries -up or becomes dirty they are likely to fail in short order. Causing the possibility of a cable/drive gear replacement and or the Tach needing repair/replacement. This re-lubrication regiment is needed maybe once every 5-6 years. It is not something needed every year nor does the Ford Shop Manual offer a specific lubrication schedule for the Tach or Speedometer components.

There are only a handful of quality companies that can actually repair/rebuild these Tbird Tach's. If you can find a rebuilt or new tach (unlikely) that has been professionally rebuilt and available through online sites, it will likely have a price tag between $400.00 and $600.00. The few quality repair shops around such as RU Gauges in Phoenix, AZ can repair most Tbird failed Tach's between $150.00—$275.00 depending on the depth of repair needed... Some Tach's may not be repairable if the failed prolonged operation of the Tach has continued, causing metal to metal extreme wear.

The Tach, as well as the cable, drive gear and needle pointer once turning on metal to metal will start to self destruct in only a few dozen miles after the loud noises start.

Tach Drive Cable;
Tach to Distributor

Tach Gear located at end of cable and inserting plugging into the Distributor.

Continued on Page-04 >>>

Historical Facts

Ford/ Thunderbird's 1955-1957 Pallet of Color Selection.

By: Walt Bonneau

Ford offered a variety of body paint choices for the 1955 Tbird, having five and expanding to nineteen for the 1957 model, with added top color variations, totaling to thirty-four possible color selections. Many of the colors were bold even for that period of the auto industry. These many color choices were a stroke of marketing genius. Ford made it easy for each customer to find the color (s) they personally desired. It did not hurt that the Tbird pretty much looked good in any of these colors. Today car manufacturers offer only 6-7 paint choices and three of them are White, Black and Gray making up 70% of the cars sold, mixing colors is also non- existent. The following, list the core colors available:

1955 Year (5 core colors)

- Thunderbird Blue
- Torch Red
- Raven Black
- Snowhite
- Goldenrod-Yellow

1956 Year (10 core colors)

- Colonial White @ approximately 25%
- Raven Black @ approximately 24%
- Fiesta Red @ approximately 16%
- Peacock Blue @ approximately 14%
- Thunderbird Sage Green @ approximately 10%
- Buckskin Tan @ approximately 3.5%
- Navajo Gray, Sunset Coral, TT-Bird Silver Gray and Goldenglow-Yel, combined @ approximately 7.5%

1957 Year (19 core colors)

- Flame Red
- Torch Red (*after August 1957)*- Popular Choice
- Bronze
- Raven Black -Popular Choice
- Dresden Blue- Popular Choice
- Colonial White- Popular Choice
- Starmist Blue - Popular Choice
- Cumberland Green
- Willow Green
- Silver Mocha
- Doeskin Tan
- Gunmetal Gray-Desired Choice
- Woodsmoke Gray
- Berkshire Green
- Springmist Green
- Dusk Rose-Desired Choice
- Inca Gold
- Sunset Coral
- Coral Sand

Continued on Page-05 >>>

**Note: Ford allowed customers to special order paint combinations such as: Flame Red with a Black Raven Top.*

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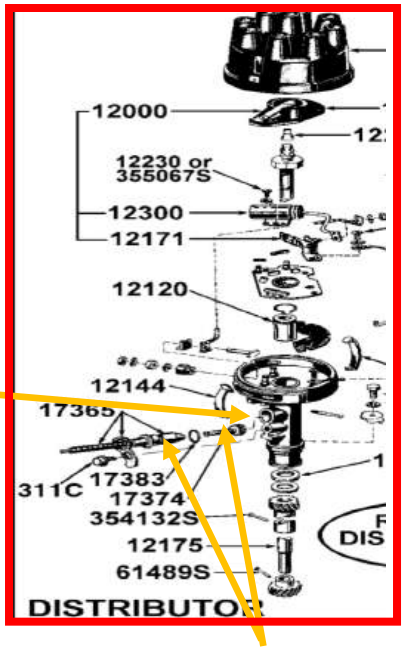
Continued from Page-03 <<

Maintaining your Tach and its connective mechanical components could save you a fair amount of money down the road. Start with lubricating the Tach components. This can be accomplished by using a non-gumming fine cable oil that can handle high-speed cable generating heat and having a pin-point applicator to access tight locations. The cable needs to be cleaned and lubricated sufficiently so that the lubricant makes its way throughout the cable housing. The same goes for the Tach, it can be lubricated at the cable opening and shaft (*See below & side images*).



Tach Drive Gear and Cable insert and attach here

Tach Drive Gear and Cable lubrication points

Destroyed Tach needle pointer due to erratic rotation (Nearly impossible to find a replacement needle for the 57' type)

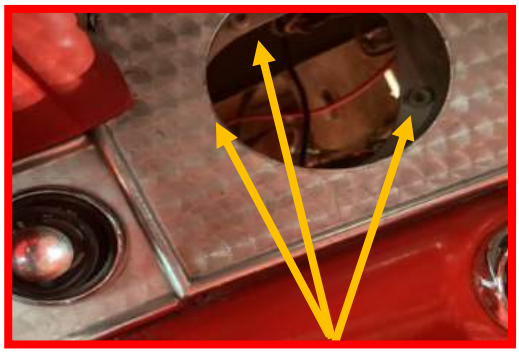
Fine metal shavings resulting from the lack of lubrication in the Tach

Tach to instrument - panel mounting screw holes.

The two "out of dash" Tach images to the right provide what the Tach mechanics actually look like and the places to lubricate, being very careful not to over lubricate.

We now know a bit about the need to lubricate the Tach assembly system, its time to remove the Tach from the dash instrument cluster. (*Note: There is no easy way to remove the Tach. The space to work is very tight/limited, especially if you have large arms/hands).* Three "Slotted" screws 3/8" x 3/8" long in size hold the Tack to the under dash instrument panel-frame. See image above for Tach mounting holes and the side image showing Tach being partially loosened. Now remove Tach with a slight pull. Next, the glass bezel is removed by placing a plastic flat thin screw driver under the bezel and gently prying it up, the metal tension fingers will release the bezel, this is a good time to clean the glass (*See bezel image below*). The center image below shows the mounting screw holes for the Tach. Right image below shows the recommended replacement screws which are much easier to reinstall. Important: it is highly recommended that any further Tach repair being required should be done by a professional classic car gauge repair shop.

Glass Bezel with fingers removed



Removed Tach showing 3/8" mounting screw holes

Install: 3/ 8" Hex or Star Screws with washers. Old type in front view

Continued from Page-03<<

As a side note: One measure of an automobiles styling beauty is that a given model looks good in a multitude of colors. Such example cars are the Corvette Stingray (1961-63), Chevy Belair (1957), Astro Martin DB5 (1964) and the (1955-57) Tbirds to name some. A few of the body colors have become as iconic as the porthole windows. These include: Torch Red, Peacock Blue, Raven Black, TT-Bird Silver-Gray, Starmist Blue and Thunderbird Blue are considered very desirable not to say other colors are not. Recently, some of the rare colors have also become very desirable to collectors. Such as Willow Green and Inca Gold.. Colonial White with a Ravin Black canvas top has its own merit, known as the "Tuxedo Look".

The Ford offered 34 two-tone body colors were complimented by the 6 matching interiors choices made-up of 9 colors. This is not fact but, it seems possible that the NBC TV Network back in late 1956 may have been influenced by the pallet of Tbird colors as they adopted the "In Ever Living Color" Peacock as their slogan and logo. Think about it; Ford's paint offerings for the 55-57' Tbird, having so many colors within the artist pallet including even the Peacock Blue color is seen on that original peacock logo. NBC staff and management referred to the Peacock's depiction of color as the "Bird". We must wonder what influenced what? In any case, displaying plenty of color became the marketing direction for automobiles, appliances and television especially from 1956-1975. The old days of black and white were just not enough to satisfy the consumer of that period.

1957 Ford Thunderbird sales brochure inside page exhibiting the 34 color two-tone choices offered.

1955-57 Baby Birds plus Retro Birds keep the color pallet of Thunderbirds beautifying the Highways.

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March

Name	Date
Jennifer Kiley	03/01
Richard Bialy	03/04
Mock Sylvia	03/06
Robyn Dodd	03/08
Julia McCoy	03/10
Mary George	03/16
ChuckThompson	03/18
Pat Fenlon	03/24
Larry Braasch	03/25
Don Henderson	03/26
Joe Arredondo	03/30
Russ Hanson	03/31

Aquamarine —

Birthstone of March

Interesting that our ACTC featured car of the month also carries a very close body color of this months birthstone.

March

Name	Date
Jon Braemer & Marilyn Miller	03/03
David & Mo Mason	03/06
Dave & Sylvia Mock	03/06
Denis & Mary Lee Frank/Winer	03/12
Ken & Iva Lane	03/17
Ed & Kennedy Torel	03/21
Richard & Shirley Bursley	03/27
Tom & Yvonne Wagner	03/29

Interesting March Facts:

The name March comes from the Latin word Martius, which was the name of the first month in the first Roman calendar. Martius was named after Mars, the Roman god of war. March was once the start of the year in many parts of Europe. Britain used March 25th as the beginning of the New Year until the year 1752.

- *Best known for the month of Spring's start as March brings the vernal equinox,*
- *The welcoming of the Full Worm Moon, (when earthworms emerge)*
- *The return of Daylight Savings Time for many,*
- *The Daffodils— the flower for March.*

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February, 2025 ACTC Board Meeting Minutes

ACTC MEETING - FEBRUARY 08, 2025
San Tan Ford - 1429 E. Motorplex Loop, Gilbert, AZ

⇒ ACTC meeting was called to order at 9:40 AM by President Doug Sheaarer, appreciation to our host.
⇒ We stood for the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Kerry Pokorski.
⇒ Minutes of the last meeting, as published, were approved.

HOSPITALITY:
⇒ Yvonne asked for members celebrating February birthdays to stand and members sang "Happy-Birthday". Congratulations were extended to members celebrating anniversaries this month.
⇒ Members shared who they thought were the oldest Club members and who had been married the long-est.
⇒ Yvonne shared information about 10 Popular Hikes in Arizona and polled members to see who had hiked them. Congratulations to Kerry Pokorski, who was the winner.
⇒ A Get Well card for Beverly Lynch was passed around for signatures.

TREASURERS REPORT:
⇒ Chuck Thompson read the balances in the ACTC accounts and he is presently searching for a Money Market Account to invest the Club savings to achieve a higher interest rate. He will report his findings at next ACTC meeting.
⇒ Tom Wagner has agreed to audit the Club books and it will take place on 02/15/2025.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:
⇒ Judy Thompson provided a membership reported – there are 67 households, 117 members
⇒ Classic T'Birds – 55'/8…56'/12…57'/35…Retro T'Birds – 02'/6…03'/0…04'/1…05'/3
⇒ The new 2025 ACTC Membership Roster was handed out to members at meeting.

2025 EVENT CALENDAR REPORT:
⇒ Bob Michele reviewed the monthly meeting dates and events scheduled through the rest of 2025 and reminded members that all information for the year will be published in the monthly newsletter.
⇒ Bob entertained with his "famous" jokes, this time the membership was treated to 3 of these jokes.

WAYS AND MEANS:
⇒ Doug Sheaarer presented Walt Bonneau's report in his absence.
⇒ The new ACTC apparel T-shirts were described and an additional email will be sent to all members with ordering information. An order of shirts is minimum of 40.
⇒ There are eight AD's supporting the monthly newsletter of which six are new advertisers/supporters.
⇒ The ACTC membership were encouraged to support all these quality advertisers.

WEBSITE: Russ Hanson not present.
HISTORIAN: Duane Foster – no report.
INSPECTOR GENERAL: - no report.
OLD BUSINESS: - None noted

Continued on Page-08>>>

February, 2025 ACTC Board Meeting Minutes Continued...

Continued from Page-07<<

NEW BUSINESS:

⇒ It was recommended to design and print Club business cards with card holders. Vote was taken to approve this motion and approved.

⇒ A brief discussion was held to do something special for "Thunderbird Appreciation Day."

⇒ Chuck Thompson presented information about coordinating and finding ways to share with ITC, CTCI and the VTCI. He further asked for more support from FORD at upcoming Annual Car Show and Convention in Grapevine, TX

⇒ Menu was discussed for the planned October-2025 Picnic and Judy Thompson, Yvonne Wagner and Nikki Musselman volunteered to coordinate a Pot Luck. Scavenger Hunt was discussed using QR Codes and selecting a location that would allow East and West side members to participate.

⇒ Member Lee Ketcham mentioned that she is looking for a place to store her T'Bird for approximately 3 months while she moves.

SPLIT THE POT:

⇒ Split the Pot— $44…. WINNER – Kerry Pokorsky.

Meeting Closure:

⇒ Meeting adjourned– called by President Doug Shearer, seconded by Kathy Michele at 11:10am.

⇒ Following the ACTC meeting: (23 of the 27) meeting attendees met for lunch at the Gilbert Cheeseburgers and Cold Beer restaurant for lunch.

Minutes submitted by: Myrna Foster (Secretary)

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Recent Events

Westwind Annual Classic Car Show-2025
Yuma Foothills, AZ—January 19, 2025

On Sunday, January 19th the **Westwind's Golf Resort** held it's annual car show on a colder than normal Yuma day. However, it was a clear day with plenty of sunshine coffee and donuts. The car show was limited to 50 pre-registered entries due to fire marshal restrictions. The show was a sellout and several hundred attended. Once again the ACTC was represented by one of our red/white 57 Tbird. There were three other Thunderbirds including a very nice restored Blue 1963 Jet Bird. Other notable cars: 56' Crown Victoria and the 31' Ford Tudor Victoria. It was interesting to see that 1/3 of the entries were from Canada and the northern US states. The White 57' Tbird depicted below was trailered in from Alberta, Canada. The organizer brought in 5 judges who addressed five categories: (Peoples Choice, Best in Show, Best Engine Compartment and Best Modified). The Peoples choice award was awarded by both the judges and attendees. We were so pleased to be told that we won "The Peoples Choice" award (holding the plaque below). As Jim Rodgers so stated in this months ACTC Newsletter's featured front page car article, "**You can drive a car and still show it well**." To the point; after 5 hours of detailing effort, our "driver" Tbird came through at the show.

Once again we were amazed how these +68 year old Tbirds attract multi-generational groups of people. The (16-25), (26-55) and those above 55 years of age all seem to zone in on seeing the Tbirds. We received so many positive comments all day long. What is interesting; the love affair of the instrument panel, color red and the iconic porthole windows.

On a funny note: A few were convinced that the engine was a Chevy small block because the distributer was located in the back (a*ll newer Ford engines have the distributor in the front*) and the engine block being painted a red-orange (typical Chevy engine color) opposed to the newer Ford blue. Not sure I convinced some of these folks that our car had the original 312 CID Ford Thunderbird engine and painted correctly.

Submitted by Walt & Lynne Bonneau

Move Recent Events, Next page>>>

Recent Events

Continued from Page-09 <<

BBQ, Rhythms & Rides -2025
Glendale, AZ—February, 01, 2025

On Saturday, February 1st. 17 ACTC members driving 11 classic cars (1-56' TBird, 8-57' TBirds, 1-56' Lincoln Continental & 1-65' TBird) met for breakfast at a really nice, quaint restaurant called "Kiss The Cook" in Glendale, AZ After breakfast we caravanned about 3 miles to the SAACA Glendale Arts & Cultural Fest: BBQ, Rhythms & Rides Festival.

The sun was out making the weather perfect for this event. There were about 150 cars, a couple of excellent live bands playing, vendors and art talent to be had by all in attendance.

The ACTC cleaned up at the awards ceremony. Bob Michele took 1st Place for Thunderbirds, Carter Rodgers took 2nd place for Thunderbirds (both1957 Starmist Blue), Jim Rodgers took 1st place for classic cars with his beautiful '56 Lincoln Continental. The best award, picked up by President Doug Shearer, was given to ACTC as the best represented car club. It was a perfect event from start to finish.

Submitted by Bob Michele

ACTC Best Club Representation Awarded presented to Doug Shearer —Nice!

Bob Michele Awarded for Best Thunderbird (1st - Place), (Too busy taking pictures, of the others, not shown)

ACTC members enjoying the event's weather

2nd Place Thunderbird & 1st Place Classic Car (56 Lincoln) Awards to Carter & Jim Rodgers

More Recent Events, Next Page>>>

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Recent Events

Continued from Page-10 <<

SAN TAN FORD — ACTC Meeting
February 08, 2025
Glendale, AZ—February, 01, 2025

This was our first ACTC Meeting to be hosted by a Ford Dealership in the greater Phoenix/Scottsdale/ Mesa/Gilbert area. Attendance and member enthusiasm for this meeting was uplifting. With a fun filled lunch that followed. The ACTC wanted to extend it's appreciation for SAN TAN FORD's hospitality in hosting the ACTC's February Meeting. The following pictures posted below provided a unique and nostalgic setting for this dealership, seeing all of those Thunderbirds parked front and center with the new Ford's being offered for sale. We keep hearing rumblings about Ford bringing back the Thunderbird, well the ACTC temporarily did just that with a good sampling of our multi-colored T-Birds.

Future Events

The Following events listed on this page are Near-term Club Events. See Page –13 for the full year events.

Friday– Sat– Sunday March 07- 09—**Yuma's Midnight at the Oasis** Car Show **(Confirmed).**
There will be 7-8 ACTC Tbirds and other Thunderbirds on display enjoying this 1000 Classic Car event.
The attendees not showing a car can attend by purchasing a $10.00 admission ticket valid for two days.
Note: The show is Sold out!

Caballeros de Yuma, Inc
PROUD SPONSOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS SINCE 1962

Sun. Mar. 16th —Encanto-Palmcroft Historic Preservation Association Annual Event
Time: 10:00AM through 4:00PM (arrive 9-ish) in conjunction with our **ACTC Event/Meeting, (Confirmed)**
This event will feature tours of historic Phoenix homes and Firehouse, Street Fair and Car Show.
Call Bob Michele to RSVP. This will be a fantastic ACTC membership event to attend.

Sat. Mar. 29th— Day at the Scottsdale Pavilions, Bi-annual Outing Reserved Parking 12:00-Noon to 4:00pm arrival via Indian Bend Rd. west of Loop 101, **(Confirmed)**

SAVE the DATE! (Confirmed) - Early Registration Starts Now
The CTCI and VTCI joint hosted Inaugural Convention will be held in Grapevine, TX (Near DFW) from: September 9th – 13th, 2025. Join other Thunderbird enthusiast for this once a year gathering. ACTC members please sign-up for this event as soon as possible. Represent our ACTC support. This will be 5 days of Vintage/Classic Tbird Information, Judging, Awards, Tours, Food and plenty of fun shared with others who appreciate the Thunderbird as one of the worlds most iconic automobiles.
Host Information:
Embassy Suites Hotel with a special rate of $159.00/night, Reservation Code: C-90E
(Breakfast Included)
Address: 2401 Bass Pro Drive, North Grapeville, TX 76051. Ph#: 972-724-2600
Cutoff Date: August 12, 2025
Link: https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/all-thunderbird-club-2025/

VINTAGE Thunderbird CLUB INTERNATIONAL

CLASSIC Thunderbird CLUB INTERNATIONAL

PLEASE NOTE !

All dates and events listed above are tentative

ACTC Year-2025 MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE (Tentative)

Friday– Sat– Sunday March 07-09—Yuma's Midnight at the Oasis Car Show – **Sold-out, (Note: Corrected Date Change -Confirmed also, there may a few cancellations out of the 1000 car reservations).**

Sun. Mar. 16th —Encanto-Palmcroft Historic Preservation Association Time: 10:00 am –4:00 pm (arrive 9-ish) **ACTC Event/Meeting, (Confirmed) Also see Page-12.**

Sat. Mar. 29th— Day at the Scottsdale Pavilions Outing, Bi-annual Reserved Parking 12:00-Noon to 4:00pm arrival via Indian Bend Rd. west of Loop 101, **(Confirmed)**

———————————————————————————————————————

Sun. Apr. 13th - American Legion (Irving B. Selmer Post 107) 20001 N. Cave Creek Rd. Phoenix, **ACTC-Meeting** Members arrive 8:30 am – 9:00 am Breakfast served @ 9:30 am Cost $16.00 ea. **(Note Changed Date—Confirmed)**

TBD Tech Date: (Need addition assistance with organizing this event!) Don Henderson, Mike Wood, Bob Michele and Walt Bonneau have volunteered so far. **Update:** We are making progress on the Tech Day Event and it will likely be held in April in Peoria, AZ. (In the works)

Sun. May 18th — Final Site In-Review (Tentative)
ACTC Meeting Members arrival and cost TBD

June Summer Break No Meeting
July Summer Break No Meeting **(There will be only 1 Summer Newsletter for the June/July/Aug months)**
Aug. Summer Break No Meeting

Sun. Sep. 14th —American Legion (Irving B. Selmer Post 107) 20001 N. Cave Creek Rd. Phoenix. **ACTC Meeting** Members arrive 8:30 am – 9:00 am Breakfast served @ 9:30 am Cost TBD, **(Confirmed)**

Sat. or Sun. Oct. 11th or 12th —TBD but… A Picnic /Meeting is being studied for these dates.

Sun. Nov. 9th —American Legion Meeting Irving B. Selmer Post 107) 20001 N. Cave Creek Rd. Phoenix **ACTC Meeting** Members arrive 8:30 am– 9:00 am Breakfast served @ 9:30 am, Cost TBD
(Confirmed but, may also change)

Sat. Nov.. 29th — Day at the Scottsdale-Pavilions Outing Bi-annual Reserved Parking 12:00 Noon to 4:00 pm arrival Event, **(Confirmed)**

Dec. 2025 Christmas party (TBD), in the works...

Note: Board Meetings will be scheduled as needed...

PLEASE NOTE !

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Other ACTC Information to Know

New ACTC Apparel Continues "In the Works"

A small committee (Austin Eaton, Chuck Thompson and Walt Bonneau) under the ACTC "Ways & Means" Board continues to evaluate bringing back ACTC sponsored apparel items in early 2025. The Committee continues to be open to hearing from the membership about your level of interest in purchasing such club appear. Offering both men round-neck and woman V-neck products. The sample T-shirt design by Austin Eaton and modified by the T-Shirt design house, is attached below for your consideration, initial pricing is estimated to be between $27.00-$30.00 each. We are working to lower the price but without compromising on the T-Shirt quality.

Latest Update: A small quantity order of 2 sample T-shirt was placed on February 05, 2025 to validate the print and T-shirt quality from this vendor, now awaiting delivery.
Membership interest in placing orders for these ACTC T-shirts continues to increase each day. These first sample shirts of men's and a women's style are an important part to insuring the final order is going to be what we actually want. These two shirts will be reviewed/evaluated for: appeal, quality, final cost and delivery). We have received an initial cost break if 50 shirts are to be ordered. Presently, we have about 18–20 ACTC members committed to these T-shirts if they live up to what is being presented in sample form. *We will only offer these shirts if sufficient interest is communicated to Walt Bonneau or Chuck Thompson by the CoD—February 16th, 2025 (That was extended 2-weeks).*

(See Page–15 for Walt or Chuck's contact information).

The Arizona Classic Thunderbird Club (ACTC)

Founded as Chapter #35 of the CTCI on October 11, 1970 and Arizona Incorporated on November 30th, 1971. Originally established with six charter members but has continued to grow with well over 100 plus members with 68 Classic and Retro Thunderbirds in 2025. We are part of Southwest Region # 06 of CTCI's Regions.

The ACTC has membership from all over the State of Arizona and participates in various classic car show events throughout the State. Our Club Emblem is the State of Arizona with the Thunderbird.

Our President's Goal in 2025; to continue the growth of the club and it's membership while working toward establishing more ways for the membership to enjoy being part to the ACTC environment.

ACTC 2025 Committee Members

Activities	**Bob Michele**	**602-768-5710**
Auditor	**Tom Wagner**	**602-448-1891**
Assistant Treasurer	**Kathy Michele**	**602-799-8518**
Bird Chatter Newsletter Editor	**Walt Bonneau**	**858-699-2883**
Buck Hoag Award	**Jim Rogers**	**602-300-5792**
CTCI Representative	**Chuck Thompson**	**480-773-0222**
Email Coordinator	**Bob Michele**	**602-768-5710**
Historian	**Duane Foster**	**602-482-4010**
Hospitality	**Yvonne Wagner**	**602-448-2962**
Inspector General	**Steve Kovacic**	**928-775-2675**
Membership	**Judy Thompson**	**602-625-2052**
Nominating Lead	**Open Position**	
Public Relations	**Don Henderson**	**602-622-3365**
Webmaster	**Russ Hanson**	**623-229-0210**

Elected 2025 Board/Officers

President	**Doug Shearer**	**516-369-4660**
Vice President	**Bob Michele**	**602-768-5710**
Secretary	**Myrna Foster**	**602-677-4558**
Treasurer	**Chuck Thompson**	**480-773-0222**
Ways and Means	**Walt Bonneau**	**858-699-2883**
Board Member at Large	**Bob Michele**	**602-768-5710**
Ex-Officio	**Jim Rodgers**	**602-300-5792**

This Newsletter is the property of the ACTC Regional-6 Chapter and is provided solely to members of the ACTC and other Regional Chapters associated with the CTCI .

Other News, Events & Misc.

Welcome New Member (s)

- **Sheri Dohm, Chandler, AZ**
- **Bill Heiden and Mary George, Surprise, AZ**
- **Lee Ketchum, Sun City, AZ**
- **Jose Louis Romero and Hannah Falkenberry, Phoenix, AZ**
- **Brenda and Aaron Smith, Coolidge, AZ**

Request for Newsletter Submissions:

Contact Walt Bonneau: waltbonneau@gmail.com

All ACTC and CTCI members **may submit a request** to have an **Event, Topic Request, Club Suggestions** or **Misc.** (Thunderbird Related) contribution (s) for publication consideration in the ACTC Newsletter.

Note: All submissions are due by no later than the 16th of each previous month to meet the publication deadline for the following month.

Special Note: **We want to extend our thanks to our sister Tbird Clubs who the ACTC shares Newsletters with, as follows: Sacramento, CA (SCTC), Palm Springs, CA (PSCTC), Smokey Mtn Classic Tbird Club, Knoxville, TN., Big "D" Little Bird Dallas, TX. And Hawkeye Classic Tbird Club Des Moines, IA. More to come...**

We would like to continue to acknowledge our 6 newest ACTC Newsletter supporters/advertisers for the 2025 year. Complimenting our existing advertisers, they are in alphabetical order: Capstone Detailing, Classic Auto Electric (Clocks & Radios), Concours Parts, Farm Bureau of Arizona, Reliable Used Auto Parts and WiseFit-Wealth Management. Let's show them our member support in return!

New Membership Request;

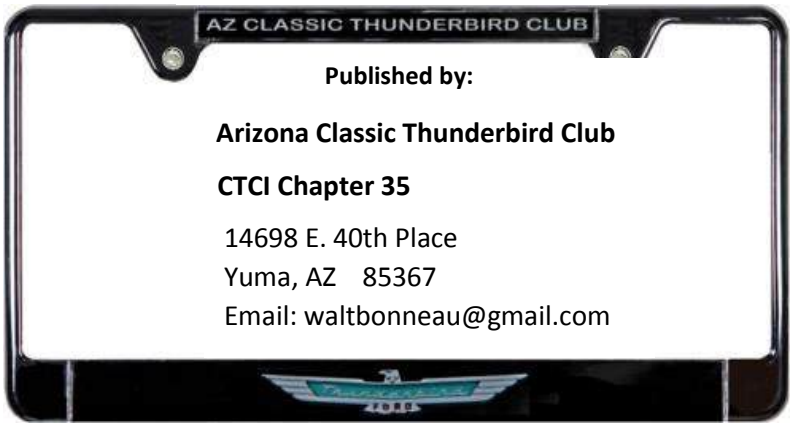
See Judy Thompson

New Advertisers Welcomed;

See Walt Bonneau /Chuck Thompson

Remember All meetings are

Arizona Bird Chatter



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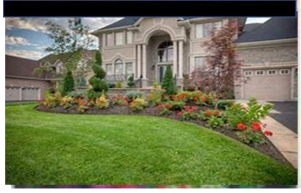

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