



## 2025 VTCI/CTCI JOINT THUNDERBIRD CONVENTION

September 9-13, 2025  
Grapevine, Texas

**Inaugural, Joint International Thunderbird Club Event:** Where Thunderbird enthusiasts from around the World are invited to this first-ever Joint Thunderbird Club Event hosted by VTCI and CTCI to promote camaraderie, share experiences, renew old and make new friendships and most importantly to just have some FUN! Trailer or drive your Thunderbird to participate in Concours Or, drive your Thunderbird and take part in two driving tours of North Texas.

### Central Location - Grapevine, Texas

The premier visitor destination in North Texas. The city welcomes 12 million visitors annually and is one of the most popular tourist destinations in North Texas. Stroll the award-winning Urban Wine Trail, the Historic Main Street District, the Grapevine Mills Shopping Mall, and a host of other attractions and restaurants that are all accessible on the Free Grapevine Visitors Shuttle.



**Concours d'Elegance:** It's a Joint Thunderbird Event to mix, meet other Thunderbird owners and just have fun. But, VTCI and CTCI Concours judging activities will be conducted separately per each organization's time-honored standards.



**Event Hotel:** The Embassy Suites, North Grapevine provides guests with a two room suite, fitness facility, pool, complimentary made to order breakfast, and drinks/snacks at night; room rate is \$159.00/night. Hotel offers Suite accommodations, is pet friendly, with plenty of FREE car parking, FREE, ample trailer and tow vehicle parking for those bringing their car in a trailer,

FREE shuttle to the Historic Grapevine shopping/entertainment district; FREE shuttle to/from the DFW airport for those flying in, and adjacent to Bass Pro Shop for all your sporting needs shopping/browsing.

### **Event Hotel Registration:**

Embassy Suites, North Grapevine, Texas  
2401 Bass Pro Drive  
Grapevine, Texas 76051

Reservations:

Group Code: C 90E, All Thunderbird Club  
(972) 724-2600

Convention Rate \$159 plus Tax and includes made to order breakfast.

Deadline for hotel reservations is Wednesday August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Deadline for judged car entries: August 12, 2025.**

\*\*\*no refund for car entry cancellations after August 12<sup>th</sup> 2025.

### **Convention News and Updates**

Follow the VTCI and CTCI websites and Facebook pages; registration forms are available on the VTCI/CTCI websites and in the VTCI SCOOP and CTCI Early Bird.



## Schedule

Tuesday Sept 9 <sup>th</sup>	Convention Set Up "Bird Bath" DIY or call Jason to make a reservation for professional detailing (505-681-7298)
Wednesday Sept 10 <sup>th</sup>	8AM-5PM Convention Check-In Begins - Embassy "Bird Bath" DIY
	1PM Depart For AT&T Stadium ...includes Motor Coach and AT&T admission
	5PM Confirmed Guest Speaker.... TBird Bob Sinickas....RetroBird Technical Presentation Dinner On Own
Thursday Sept 11 <sup>th</sup>	8AM-5PM Convention Check-In Embassy and "Bird Bath" DIY
	9AM VTCI BOD/Gen Membership/VTCI Judge Training - Dooley Board Room
	9AM CTCI Judge Training - Cross Timbers 3
	1PM (Attendee Choice) Depart For Driving Tour to Texas Motor Speedway
	1PM (Attendee Choice) Depart For George Bush Library ...includes Motor Coach and admission
	5PM Confirmed Guest Speaker...Steve Legel - "The Greying of the Classic Car Hobby" Dinner On Own
Friday Sept 12 <sup>th</sup>	8AM-8:30AM Owners/Operators Meeting - Location posted in Hotel Lobby
	9:30AM VTCI and CTCI Separate Concours All Classes - Embassy Suites Parking Lot
	10AM Depart for Dallas Arboretum-incl Motor Coach/admission-for car owners not involved with Concours Judging--lunch on own
	10AM On Your own Grapevine Historic District - Free Shuttle from Hotel
	12PM VTCI and CTCI Concours Judges Lunch
	6PM-9:30PM The All Thunderbird Bistro Buffett with cash bar and various recognition awards 7PM Entertainment Sponsored by Platinum Sponsor: Hills Automotive Classic Car Restoration and Parts
Saturday Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	7AM Swap Meet-Hotel Parking Lot
	10AM On Your own Grapevine Historic District - Free Shuttle from Hotel as available; details at Front Desk
	10AM Thunderbird Driving Tour: Sam Pack's Private Automobile Collection; Lunch followed by stop at Minter's Thunderbird Restoration facility for VIP Tour conducted by Amos and Justin
	5:30PM Cocktail Hour/6:30PM Award Banquet ...Plated Entrée w/cash bar please mark preference below. Chicken, Salmon, or Steak, (Includes Salad, Dessert) or Dietary meal (plus Coffee/Tea). All Gluten Free - -
Sunday Sept 14 <sup>th</sup>	Bon Voyage



## Events and Tours Overview

### Tuesday, Sept. 9 – Bird Bath; Dinner On Own

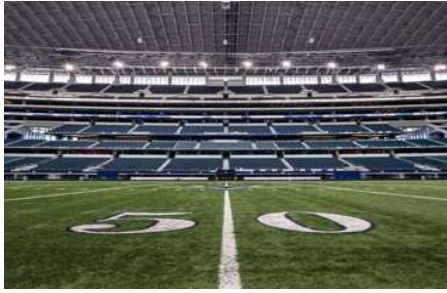
**8AM – 5PM:** “Bird Bath” area available for DIY car clean-up (Follow the signs), or you can call 505-681-7298 (Jason) to make reservations for professional detailing services.

### Wednesday, Sept. 10 – Convention Check-In Begins, Tour, Bird Bath, Thunderbird Seminar; Dinner On Own

**8AM – 5PM:** “Bird Bath” area available for DIY car clean-up (Follow the signs), or you can call 505-681-7298 (Jason) to make reservations for professional detailing services.

**8AM – 5PM:** Convention check-in begins at Embassy Suites, Cross Timbers #1.

**1PM-4PM: Motor Coach to AT&T Stadium; Enjoy the VIP Tour** of the retractable-



roof stadium in Arlington, Texas; completed May 27, 2009; Home of the **Dallas Cowboys Football Team**, the Cotton Bowl Classic, the Big 12 Championship Game, and the Southwest Classic. Guided tour will lead us around the stadium, through the player and cheerleader locker rooms, the VIP suites, press boxes, the field and more.

**5PM-6PM: Thunderbird Seminar.** Join “TBird Bob” Sinickas for a RetroBird Technical Program Presentation.



**Dinner on Your Own**

**Thursday, Sept. 11 – Convention Check-In, Organizational Meetings, Judges Training, Tour, Guest Speaker, Dinner On Own**

**8AM – 5PM: Convention check-in continues, Cross Timbers #1**

**8AM – 5PM: DIY Bird Bath Available** or you can call 505-681-7298 (Jason) to make reservations for professional detailing services

**8AM – 12PM: VTCI BOD Meeting/General Membership Meeting and Judge Training in the Dooley Board Room**



**8AM – 12PM: CTCI Judge Training in Cross Timbers #3**



**1PM - 12PM: (Attendee Optional Choice #1)** Depart on a driving Tour to Texas Motor Speedway. Take a VIP Tour of the Speedway and enjoy a three-lap escort led tour around the speedway track in your Thunderbird. (Minimum 75 cars required; price of admission includes all track services and insurance)



**1PM-4PM: (Attendee Optional Choice #2) George W. Bush, Presidential Library Tour**

Hop on board the Motor Coach for a short trip to the 13<sup>th</sup> presidential library that hold the papers and records of the George W. Bush presidency. The Library was dedicated on April 25, 2013, by Presidents, Carter, George H.W. Bush, Clinton, and Obama on the campus of Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas, Texas. What a great way to commemorate the 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 09/11/01.



**5PM-6PM: Thunderbird Seminar.** Steve Legel, DDS, and VTCI/CTCI/ITC member, presenting on “The Greying of the Classic Car Hobby”.

*Dr. Steven Legel is a full time practicing family Dentist in Lincoln Park, Michigan. In addition to patient care at his office, Dr. Legel teaches part time at the University of Detroit- Mercy, School of Dentistry. Having grown up in Detroit, he is a hands-on “Car Guy” through and through. Among his collection of American classics are his 55, 57, and 66 Thunderbirds, a 1970 Dodge Challenger, a 1959 Chevrolet el Camino (in progress) and a 1960 Buick convertible (in waiting). He enjoys the contemporary amenities of his 2002 Ford Thunderbird and 2008 Dodge Challenger SRT.*

*A prolific author, Steve has had over 250 articles published in both dental and automotive magazines. Topics of his articles include “How to...” a series of articles on repair and restoration techniques. “Report from*



*the Field,” a series of articles about nationwide car shows and swap meets. Items from his Thunderbird memorabilia collection have been featured in the, “Have you seen this...?” series.*

*Prior to the launch of the 2002 Thunderbird Steve contributed to the Mike Lamm book, “Thunderbird:2002” and participated in the History Channel documentary, “American Classic Cars: Thunderbird.”*

*Steve’s presentation will weave three themes...How simple volunteering can lead to great things, the graying of the hobby and projection for the future and fleet wide concerns for retro birds owners.*

*Steve will be available to autograph copies of the Mike Lamm book for those interested.*

**Dinner on Own**

## **Friday, Sept. 12 – Owners and Judges Meeting; Concours d’Elegance, Tour, “The All Thunderbird Party”**

**8AM – 5PM: Convention check-in for late arrivals in Cross Timbers 1**

**8AM – 8:30AM VTCI Owners and Judges Meeting, Dooley Board Room**



All VTCI Judges and owners having a car judged must attend to receive instructions and Judge paperwork.



**8AM – 8:30:AM CTCI Owners and Judges Meeting, Cross Timbers #3.**



All CTCI Judges and owners having a car judged must attend to receive instructions and Judge paperwork.



**9:30AM:** Judging begins and continues until complete. **For safety reasons, Cars**



**must remain in place on the judging field until released.**

**12PM:** Lunch provided for Judges, Runner's and Tally Room personnel participating in VTCI and CTCI Concours Judging.

**10AM - 3PM Tour:** For those not involved in or having a car judged the Tour will depart the Embassy Suites via Motor Coach; lunch is on your own. Located on the shores of White Rock Lake, the **Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden** is listed as one of the top arboretums in the World. USA Today calls it one of the 10 Best; the arboretum provides a beautiful glimpse "into the wonders of nature."



**OR, Explore On Your Own in Historical Grapevine:**



Take some time and kick-back; stroll the award-winning Urban Wine Trail, the Historic Main Street District, the Grapevine Mills Shopping Mall, and a host of other attractions and restaurants that are all accessible on the Free Grapevine Visitors Shuttle and makes stops at the Historic Main Street District, Grapevine Mills, DFW and a host of restaurants and hotels. Shuttle operating times are Wednesday through Saturday from 11AM to 9PM. A Shuttle stop is located in front of your hotel.

**6PM – 9:30PM: The All Thunderbird Party; with cash bar available**

Join Thunderbird enthusiasts from around the World and partake in this first-ever Joint Thunderbird Club party build camaraderie, share experiences, renew old and make new friendships and most importantly to just have some FUN!



The evening will include food, entertainment provided by *Cactus Country* and presentation of several Special Recognition Awards (e.g. Hard Luck, Long Distance and Newsletter). Band sponsored by our Platinum Sponsor, Hills Automotive Classic Car Restorations and Parts.





## Saturday, Sept. 13 – SWAP Meet, Driving Tour; Award Banquet

### 7AM - 9AM; Swap Meet

In the trailer parking lot area across from the Concours Judging Field. Twenty, 6 foot tables with 2 chairs will be set-up; first come/first serve.



**10AM - 1PM; Driving Tour to the Sam Pack Automobile Collection.** The Museum was constructed to house a bevy of beautiful automobiles. We're being provided a rare view of an outstanding and very private collection of eminently collectible automobiles. For background, as many convention attendees are from other States, Sam Pack is a noteworthy Texas businessman and founder of 3 major Ford dealerships in the greater Dallas area. So, you might guess there are a lot of Fords in the collection given Sam's professional focus. But it's not all Ford, and the collection's variety is about 70/30 favoring the FoMoCo.



**1PM – 3PM; Minter's Restoration Facility.** After a planned lunch stop and to complete our driving tour we'll stop for a VIP Hosted Tour, conducted by Amos and Justin, of Minter's Thunderbird Restoration Facility. A family tradition for over 50 years they serve some of the most sophisticated and particular clients in the collector car industry. See where the 2023 World Record setting 1957 Thunderbird was created. The dealership and restoration facility spans over an acre with



a top-rated service department available to service the Thunderbirds purchased from their facility.

**5:30PM: Social Hour with cash bar available.**

**6:30PM: Award Banquet festivities with cash bar available.** Banquet is a plated meal and includes salad, dessert, plus coffee/tea. (All meals are gluten free and don't forget to mark your selection on your registration.) Dietary meal is available upon request.



### **Sunday, Sept. 14 – Final Goodbyes and Safe Travels**

Enjoy one last free hot breakfast and say “so long till we meet again” to old and new friends.



Stay tuned for further event details and the registration form.

