

January 2026

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MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB Charter & Founding Chapter, International Thunderbird Club



Our 52nd Year!!

This Month in *Thunderbird* History:

- **January 3, 1999:** Retro Thunderbird concept introduced at North American International Auto Show (Detroit).
- **January 8, 2001:** Order bank opens for 2002 Thunderbird.

Mark Your Calendars For These Great Activities & Events:

Second Tuesday TBird Lunch – January 13 @ Noon

Inn 94, 4805 Carlisle Pike, New Oxford PA, 17350. *RSVP Earl Dickinson @ 717-873-8051*

Third Thursday TBird Lunch- Jan 15th, 11:30 AM***

Madonna Seafood House, 4105 Norrisville Road, White Hall, MD 21161
RSVP: Cathy Kelley, 443-417-0441, cathykelley49@gmail.com by Jan 13th

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2026 Kick-Off Meeting and \$2 Pot-Luck Social Sunday, February 1 @ 1:00 PM

Bel Air United Methodist Church, Room 202
21 Linwood Avenue, Bel Air, MD 21014

(at the intersection of Rt. 924 & Linwood Ave)

Inclement Weather Date: Feb 15th

This is a General membership meeting to review club events for 2025 and report on the MATC Officer's Planning meeting. We request a \$2 contribution to help offset meeting expenses. If rescheduling is required due to inclement weather or COVID issues, see the MATC Website, Facebook page, or call a club officer. Please note that the meeting will be in Room 202 in the education building. Elevator service to the second floor is available. Once the upper parking lot entrance is entered, drive past the church and social hall. Entrance to the building requires going down a flight of stairs or adjacent ramp.

Please bring a Pot-Luck Dish in the category designated by the first letter of your last name:

"H to P" Salad "Q-Z" Main "A to G" Dessert

Please RSVP: Cathy Kelley, 443-417-0441, cathykelley49@gmail.com by January 28th.



President's Message January 2026

Happy New Year!



MATC's annual **Christmas Dinner at the Dobbin House Sunday Dec 14th** was a great day although only 21 people attended due to the snow storm during the night. We recognized Earl Dickinson with the President's Award for his diligence in getting Thunderbird people together by helping Skip coordinate the 'reunion' at All Ford Nationals and by setting up and urging folks to get together for lunches. Our very own 'young couple' Scott and Stephanie also announced their engagement at the dinner. Congrats to them! We thanked the Dobbin House for graciously allowing us to let them know of cancellations up until 9am that day without having to pay for them. A very nice place to deal with. Thanks to Ron for getting refund checks out in a timely manner and for some folks for donating their payment to Save the Hobby in lieu of a refund.

Due to several members' generosity and lots of you buying raffle tickets to the quilt this summer and buying a couple of the special model T-birds David Shelton donated to the club, we again raised \$500 for Save the Hobby's Custom & Classic Car Educational Foundation to help in training young people how to work on the classics.

Our annual **Members General Meeting** will be **Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 1pm** at the Bel Air United Methodist Church. Skip has more info on the front page with the address and food assignment. We'd like to see lots of you attend to socialize and plan the year's activities. We value your input. Snow date will be Feb 15.

In case you have not heard, we are no longer doing breakfast on The third Thursday each month. We've changed to **Third Thursday Tbird Lunch** and so far our favorite restaurant has been Madonna Seafood. We'll be there again Jan 15 at 11:30 so if you'd like to join us, let us know to expect you. Also you could plan to meet up with the Dickinsons and Schrolls at Inn 94 in New Oxford PA on Jan 13 at noon for the **Second Tuesday Tbird Lunch**. If interested, please contact Earl. Who is going to set another lunch somewhere else???



Please keep Zoanne and Dan Denham in your prayers, as well as Lynn Horn since John recently passed.

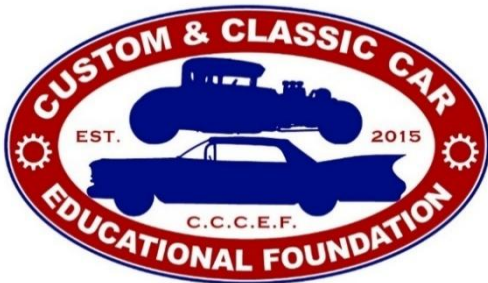
Cathy & Steve

MATC EVENTS CALENDAR

Official MATC/ITC activities are marked with *** and printed in bold. Our Thunderbird Club events are open to all years of Thunderbirds. Other events such as "AACA" events adhere to the 25-year rule or other designation. Applicable restrictions will be noted with each event.

Date	Event	Sponsor	Location	Additional Information
2nd Tuesday Noon	Second Tuesday Lunch	***MATC	Inn 94, 4805 Carlisle Pike, New Oxford PA, 17350.	Contact: Earl Dickinson @ 717-873-8051
Third Thursday 11:30 AM Monthly	Monthly Lunch Gathering	***MATC	Madonna Seafood House 4105 Norrisville Road, White Hall, MD 21161	Just north of Jarrettsville on Rt 23. Just past the flashing red light.
All Year 7-9 AM	Cars & Coffee: No Competition, No Trophies, Just Fun & Socialization	-	Bel Air Plaza SC Bel Air, MD	7-9 Am, Every Sunday Weather permitting
2026				
Jan 3	MATC Officers Planning Meeting	***MATC	Greene Turtle Aberdeen, MD	Officers and staff but activity and events suggestions are welcomed.
Feb 1	2026 Kick-Off Meeting	***MATC	Bel Air United Methodist Church	Details To Follow
May 17	Thunderbird Appreciation Day	***MATC	TBD	Details To Follow
June 5-7	Carlisle Ford Nationals	***MATC VTCI	Carlisle, PA Fairgrounds	See Details below

There are many car shows and cruise nights in our service area on a weekly basis. Some of the more popular events are listed above. Please also check out the complete list of events on the Car Show & Cruise Guide website @ www.cruiseguide.com. If you know of a "local" show that you think will be of interest to our membership, please provide the information to Skip.



Co-President Steve Kelley presents Doug Wood with the MATC donation of over \$500 to the Custom & Classic Car Educational Foundation.



The officers and members of MATC wish the following member(s) a very happy birthday:

January Birthdays:

Cathy Kelley Peg Long Dan Luber

Membership:

- **Welcome Aboard to new member(s):**
 - Charles (Charlie) Hood, 2340bGrassy Knoll Lane, Richmond, VA 23236; 1963 convertible for pleasure and under restoration.

Please be sure to use the recruitment cards and/or attached flyer when you see prospective members and their cars. Need an application for MATC, ITC or VTCI? Contact Cathy, Steve, Mike or Skip



70th Anniversary Hats

\$15 Each

(plus s&h as applicable)

While Supply Very Limited Lasts

Contact Cathy or Steve If Interested

MATC MEMBER NEWS & HAPPENINGS:



Wedding bells will soon be ringing for two of our MATC member couples:



Stephanie Nagy and Scott Mummert announced their engagement at the MATC Christmas dinner.



Rosemary Desmond and Tom Young were engaged on Christmas Day

Congratulations to both couples. Both future husbands have indicated that their marriage ceremony will be part of a MATC or other Thunderbird activity. (Just kidding Stephanie & Rosemary!!!!)

- Sunshine Lady Barb Panowitz needs continuing sunshine in her life about now. She is recovering from a second fall that injured her shoulder, face and fractured her nose while putting up Christmas decorations outside. Her pretty face shows scrapes, cuts and bruises-she tells folks her face is so colorful it is like it is decorated for Christmas. She is experiencing continuing shoulder pain which rest and medication helps to control. An ENT visit is in her future.
- It is with sadness that we must report the passing of long-time member Joe Zentgraf after a long illness. There are no formal plans for a remembrance yet. You can send thoughts and condolences to Miriam @ 3405 Jay Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21042.
- MATC VP Mike Melnyk recently was hospitalized for a few days. He was treated for a UTI and bronchitis. His temperature reached the 103 level. Fortunately his condition has improved and he has resumed most activities.
- Congratulations to long time member Earl Dickinson who was recognized with the 2025 President's Award for his efforts in getting Thunderbird people together by helping coordinate the 'reunion' at All Ford Nationals and by setting up and urging folks to get together for lunches.



- Please keep our members dealing with a variety of medical issues in your thoughts and prayers:
Dan Denham, Mike Melnyk

MATC members are reminded and encouraged to provide Barb with any important information regarding health issues, special occasions, awards, etc., for appropriate recognition. Barb's contact info: 443-504-5542 (phone or text); ladyofthelake21014@yahoo.com.

Please keep our convalescing members in your thoughts and prayers as they deal with their medical issues.

Upcoming "Thunderbird" Events 2026

Thunderbird Friends Reunion #3, Carlisle, PA, June 5-7, 2026

A reunion of Thunderbird friends is again being planned in conjunction with the 2026 Carlisle Ford Nationals. A block of rooms has been reserved. The reservation link will be posted soon. We are again getting a special room rate and a hospitality room will be available. The host hotel information is listed below. [Ask for Thunderbird Friends group](#):

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Carlisle Southwest I-81
1501 Commerce Ave
Carlisle, PA
717-241-0052

Hotel direct link: [Thunderbird Friends Carlisle 2026](#)

Restaurant arrangements:

Friday Night, June 5, Time & location TBD:
Stay tuned for more details in the future.

Saturday Night, June 6, 6:30 PM:
Rustic Tavern, 823 Newville Road, Carlisle, PA

It was a big hit last year and is back again by popular demand. There will be a dedicated menu, similar to last year, that will be published later. The food is great and prices are reasonable.

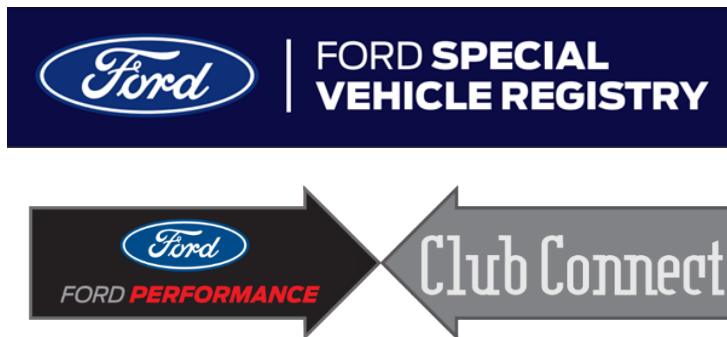
Note: Seating is will again likely be very, very limited.

2026 Carlisle FORD Nationals **June 5, 6, 7**

Check the Carlisleevents.com website for information regarding early registration discounts.

VERY IMPORTANT: Register your club affiliation as VTCI

We had a great time this year (see photos) in spite of a little rain. Well, a lot of rain in a very short period of time. Plan to join us in 2026.



MATC is now officially a part of Ford Performance-Club Connect. This is another opportunity for Thunderbird owners to learn about our club and top promote events. Check it out at:

www.FordPerformanceClubConnect.com

November/December
Thunderbird Celebrity Quiz



Who is the celebrity with The TBird?:

Mamie Van Doren

What Year Is The Thunderbird?: **1955**

Bonus: What is the celebrity famous for?

Acting and the obvious.

Congratulations to former member Dave Thomas for finally getting the correct answer. I knew this would not be real easy, but come on guys!! In the future spend more time looking at the face!!

October
Celebrity Thunderbird Quiz



Who is the celebrity with The TBird?:

What Year Is The Thunderbird?:

Bonus: What is he most famous for?

=====

Previous Winners:

2024

February: Judy Dickinson

March: Ann Collins / Scott Mummert

April: Marsha Dixon

May: Gary Faircloth / Anne Collins / Scott Mummert

June: Dave Thomas

July: Cathy Kelly

August: Phyllis Cherry

September: Scott mummert, Bob Bossoli

October: Dave Thomas

November: Barb Melnyk

December: Cathy Kelley

2025

January: Earl Dickinson

February: Dan Luber, Earl Dickinson

March: Bob Bossoli

April: Bob Bossoli

May: Scott Mummert

June: Phyllis Cherry

July: Bob Bossoli

August: Phyllis Cherry

September: Steve Dameron, Earl Dickinson

October: Judy Dickinson

November/December: Dave Thomas

CLASSIFIEDS

THUNDERBIRD PROMOTIONAL MODEL CARS

Through the very gracious generosity of club member Dave Shelton, we have four (now three-thank you Scott!) Ford Thunderbird promotional model cars available for purchase by club members. If you are not familiar with “promos”, they were produced by various model manufacturers for the car manufacturers from the late 1940s through 2017. They were most available and popular in the 1950s and 1960s. They are detailed, accurate models of the cars they represent. Car dealers gave them to customers who bought the real cars and they sold the models as well. The car manufacturers distributed them for promotional purposes, hence their name. They were also sold at various retail outlets, but these versions are slightly different in that they have flywheel motors to propel them. Although these versions were unfortunately often purchased as toys, they are still truly collector items. The cars MATC has available are true dealer promos, also referred to as coasters as they do not have the flywheel motors (with one exception, the 1957, which was only available in the version offered). The true dealer promos tend to be slightly more valuable, but condition, color, etc., is always the most important factor.

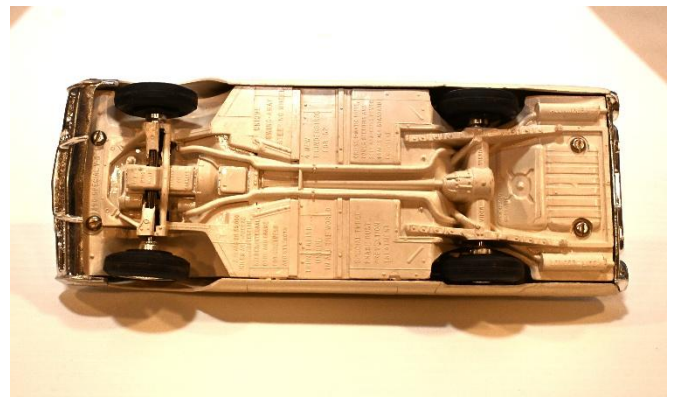
It has been decided the the funds from the sale of these cars would be donated to our charitable partner **“Custom & Classic Car Education Foundation”**(savethehobby.org). Checks for the purchase of the model cars should be made payable to the CCCEF. So you not only get a great collectible, but you support a great cause as well. The cars being offered are in very good to excellent condition. The price of the cars is **\$45** each. I will have them available at the Christmas Dinner as well as future MATC events.



1963 Thunderbird Hardtop

Color is Fieldstone Tan





1962 Hardtop-Color is Sahara Rose: Note undercarriage detail & sales info on dealer version



1957 – Color is Flame Red

Why not consider purchasing one of these great, collectible promotional model cars as your charitable partner donation? You get the deduction for your taxes as well as a great collectible.



70th Anniversary Hats

\$15 Each

(plus s&h as applicable)

While Supply Very Limited Lasts

***Contact Cathy or Steve If
Interested***

1957 Ford Thunderbird



- 87900 miles
- 312 Y block with 4-barrel carb.
- Third owner. Owned since 1987.
- It runs but issue with the front right brake right now.
- All original except for left front fender.
- Transmission: Replaced the oil seals, bearing transmission input and output shaft, filter, and other work.
- Replaced the radiator with transmission oil cooler.
- Replaced the Oil Pump
- Replaced the Shock Absorbers
- Replaced the brake shoes and drums, all wheel cylinder, all brake fluid lines, and master cylinder.
- Replaced both upper and lower ball joints assembly
- Replaced both tie rods and bushing.
- Replaced Idler arm and bushing assembly
- Bushing kit and sealing kit for power steering cylinder.
- Kit for front sway bar and link, insulators and rubber blocks to frame.
- Replaced the gas tank and gas lines.
- Replace engine steady rest grummets.
- Replace all four tires
- Replaced battery last year.
- Replace gas pump.
- Replace four-barrel Holley carburetor with original one model 4150. Last one they had at Tee Bird Products. Still have the old one.
- Replaced freeze plug wiper blades and fuel element and air cleaner
- Replace one broken window on driver's side.
- The car will need to be painted. It has the light original blue I believe from the factory.
- The carpet inside will need to be replaced.
- The rubber on the removeable hard top will need to be replaced.
- Car in Taneytown, MD
- Price: Negotiable.

Butch Colby

Tel. (410) 756-2652 / Fax. (410) 756-1954

Cell (410) 961-7535

butchcolby@comcast.net



Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club

"A Club for Enthusiasts of the Ford Thunderbird of all years"

Application for Membership

Date: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Birth month: _____

Spouses Name: _____ Birth month: _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home ____ - ____ - ____ Work ____ - ____ - ____ Cell ____ - ____ - ____

Email : _____

Your occupation _____ Spouse occupation _____

I was referred by: _____

List your Thunderbirds:

Car	Year	Style (HT, Conv, Landau, color)	Use (show, pleasure, restoring)	VIN
1				
2				
3				
4				

Annual Dues: \$25 due each January. MATC newsletter is only delivered electronically.

\$15 if joining after June 1st of the year.

\$25 if joining after October 1st, (INCLUDES FOLLOWING YEAR (3 months free)

Name Tags \$10 each: _____

Please PRINT names for tags above. Separate by comma if more than one.

Send To: Please Mail Application with your check payable to **MATC** to:

Ron Hill, Treasurer; 1905 Cypress Drive, Bel Air, 21015; 410-569-0106

Visit us at www.midatlanticbirdclub.org Like us on Facebook: mid-Atlantic thunderbird club.

The Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club is a tax-exempt Association under IRC 501 (c) (7).

(Revised January 2025)

Vintage Thunderbird Club International



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
January / February	\$40.00
March / April	\$35.00
May / June	\$30.00
July / August	\$25.00
September / October	\$55.00
November / December	\$50.00

All Other Countries
\$60.00
\$55.00
\$45.00
\$40.00
\$90.00 includes next year
\$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.

March/April 2020

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MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OUR 52ND ANNIVERSARY

More Information and Application Available At:

<http://www.midatlantictbirdclub.org>

& Facebook Too

Serving 1955-2005 Ford Thunderbird Owners and
Enthusiasts in The Mid-Atlantic Area:

MD, VA, DE, WV, So.PA

Affiliated With:



VTCI



ITC

Benefits of Membership Include:

- Tech support for all generations of Thunderbirds
- Social Gatherings
- Monthly Lunch (Third Thursday @ Various Locations)
- Monthly Newsletter
- Affiliation with national clubs
- Tech Sessions
- Great, Exciting Excursions and Field Trips
- Community Activity and Support
- "Fun, Fun, Fun" with your Thunderbird

