

**APRIL
2020**

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**Deadline for submitting
Newsletter photos, articles,
etc., is the 20th of each
month.**

**MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB
Charter Member, International Thunderbird Club**



**MATC THUNDERBIRD
NEWSLETTER
46TH ANNIVERSARY**

<http://www.midatlantictbirdclub.org/>

<http://www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com/>



Due to the Corona Virus quarantine, please keep in mind that events listed below may be cancelled or postponed.

Thunderbird Bird Breakfast in Bel Air

Apr 16, 9:30 AM, Greek Village Diner, 129 Baltimore St., Bel Air, MD 21214

This has been cancelled

Romancing the Chrome

Saturday, April 25, Rain Date May 2

Jarrett's Field – 3791 Norrisville Road, Jarrettsville, MD 21084

Car Online Pre-registration is \$15 by Apr 8,

Car Registration at Gate 8:00-10:00AM, \$20, Spectators are FREE

Romancing the Chrome is a Classic Car Show and Flea Market event. The show benefits the Jarrettsville Lions Club and Bel Air Corvette Club. If you plan to attend, please notify Dan Denham, garageX4@yahoo.com or call 410-592-2030. MATC Attendees will meet at the 7-11 parking lot at Rts 165 & 23 at 9:00 AM, caravan to the show field and park our T-Birds as a group.



Probably cancelled. Watch for emails.

Thunderbird Appreciation Day

Sunday, May 17, 11:00 AM

Brunch @ John Wright Restaurant, Wrightsville PA.

RSVP to Lynn Horn by May 17, at lynnhorn704@gmail.com.

MATC is supporting the promotional day at the John Wright Restaurant.

2020 Officer Election Results

President: Steve and Cathy Kelley

Secretary: Lynn Horn

Board of Directors: Phyllis Cherry

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Earl Zastrow

Due to the Corona Virus, some social events listed below may be canceled or postponed. We will keep you updated with emails.

2020 TENTATIVE 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	Details
Saturday April 25, ??? Rain D. May 2	Romancing the Chrome		Jarrett's Field 3719 Norrisville Rd., Jarrettsville, MD 21084	10AM – 4 PM www.facebook/romancingthechrome.com
Thu to Sun May 14 - 17	30 th Cruisin O.C. (Rods, Customs, Classics 1976 -older)		Ocean City Md	https://www.specialeventpro.com/cruisin-ocean-city
Sunday May 17	Thunderbird Appreciation Day	ITC	John Wright House Restaurant Wrightsville, Pa	www.johnwrightrestaurant.com
Fri to Sun Jun 5 - 7	All Ford Nationals With 65th Thunderbird Celebration	Carlisle	Carlisle Fairgrounds Carlisle, PA	http://www.carlisleevents.com/carlisle-events/carlisle-ford-nationals/default.aspx
Sat June 13 9 AM – 2:30 PM	Bel Air United Methodist Church Car Show		21 Linwood Avenue Bel Air, MD 21014	www.belairumc.org
July 5 Sun	Potluck Social hosted by Dan & Zoeanne Denham	MATC	Hydes, MD	garagex4@yahoo.com
Jul 31 - Aug 2 Fri to Sun	Das Awkscht Fescht		Macungie Memorial Park Macungie, PA	See website for registration. http://awkscht.com/
Sunday Sept	Potluck Social hosted by John and Phyllis Cherry	MATC	Cascade, MD (near Thurmont)	
Sep 17 – 20	International Thunderbird Convention	ITC	Double Tree Hotel Detroit, Michigan	Sponsor: Water Wonderland TBird Club http://www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com/
Oct 7 - 11	AACA Eastern Fall Hershey	AACA	Hershey, PA	http://hersheyaaca.org/fallmeet.html
Oct 8 – 11 Thu to Sun	Endless Summer Cruisin		Ocean City MD	https://occean.com/events/endless-summer-cruisin2020
Oct 17 Sat	Rockville Antique and Classic Auto Show 8:30a – 3:30p	MATC	Rockville Civic Center Pk 603 Edmonston Drive Rockville MD 20851	https://10times.com/rockville-antique-and-classic-car-show
Oct 23 - 25	Ocean Grove New Jersey Weekend w/ NJTA and LVTC	NJTA	Ocean Grove, NJ <u>Contact Cathy Kelley for more info</u>	Watch for Emails
Nov – Jan 1 st Fri, Sat, Sun	Koziars Christmas Village	MATC	782 Christmas Village Rd. Bernville, PA 19506	https://www.koziarschristmasvillage.com/home/
Dec 5	Weekend in Gettysburg	MATC		Steve is checking motels and activities in Gettysburg
Sunday December 6 1:00 pm	Annual Christmas Party	MATC	Dobbin House 89 Steinwahr Avenue Gettysburg, PA	See Menu, registration and directions enclosed in November Newsletter
Third Thursday, Every Month 9:30 AM	Monthly Breakfast Gathering Breakfast will resume	MATC	Greek Village Diner 129 Baltimore Pike Bel Air, MD 21014	(https://www.facebook.com/pages/Greek-Village-Restaurant/203026953055071)

Suggestions: Car Museum St. Michaels <https://www.classicmotormuseum.org/visit>

Other Events: Car Cruise and Show Guide: <http://carcruiseguide.com/>

Hunt Valley Horsepowering: Every Saturday 8:00AM to 10:00AM, Location: Hunt Valley Town

Center parking lot between the Iron Rooster and Marshals / Pier One. <http://horsepowering.com/every-saturday-morning> TEMPORARILY CANCELLED DUE to COVID19

FOR SALE:

1964 Thunderbird: Older restoration and still shows and runs well. Wimbledon White with a black landau roof and black interior. Has power windows and power driver seat. Recliner passenger seat with head rest. Owned by same family since 1965. Have documented history from restoration in 1998 to present.
Call Earl or Judy Dickinson @ 717 767 2973. (9/19)



2003 Thunderbird: Red Hardtop, Steve Kelley 443-371-3030, skelley@gottogotravel.net
(1/18) See attached flyer.



1966 Thunderbird Convertible: Red with Red Interior and White Top. 390 CID Engine, Power Steering, Power Brakes, Electric Windows. Lots of New Parts. 80,000 Miles, \$28,000.
Richard Trimble, Hampstead, Telephone: 410 – 374 – 6037

President's Message



We hope everyone is safe and well during the worldwide corona virus pandemic. Are you staying home and out of germs way? We are doing our best. We're fortunate we have a lot of hobbies to keep us busy and Steve has suddenly become very busy in the kitchen. I hate to cook so that's a good thing, I think. I'll have to ask the scales.

Unfortunately the fundraiser at Greene Turtle for the Miracle League of Harford County was canceled on March 19 and our rescheduled breakfast was also. Hopefully we can get back on track in a month or two. We just heard that MD schools have been delayed opening again until April 24 (and I suspect until the end of the semester will come next) so we don't expect things to be back to normal soon. With that in mind, we can't be too sure about events on our calendar, so we'll try to keep you updated in a timely manner via email if things change.

We did get to visit the America on Wheels Museum in Allentown, PA on Feb. 29, 2020 before the curtain came down on America. Two of our members, John and Tom Young have their Thunderbirds on loan to the museum. It was a great visit and we had a wonderful time at the Starlite Diner afterwards. Thanks to Tom Young for setting up a wonderful outing.

Also this year on Thunderbird Appreciation Day, May 17th, we hope to go to Wright's Restaurant in Wrightsville PA again for their outstanding Breakfast Buffet. We'll reserve tables overlooking the Susquehanna River. Let Lynn Horn know if you will attend (unless still quarantined). Lynn is at lynnhorn704@gmail.com.

We have sent you all an email telling you of an outing that New Jersey Thunderbird Association has invited us to join. It will be October 23-25 at the Carriage House B&B in Ocean Grove NJ. Lots to do nearby and it sounds like a fun time. Several couples have already expressed interest so please let us know if you want to join us.

Also remember, even though we have to stay 'socially distant' you can always get in your T-bird and RIDE! Hardly anybody on the roads and gas prices are down. As always, please continue to visit, use and contribute to the MATC website and Facebook pages.

Steve & Cathy Kelley



TBird Brake Overhaul

Phil Hack

From 35 years of working at BGE, I've had Safety instilled in me and try to consider it with everything I do, including speaking and writing. After all, without good health, we have nothing. I must admit though, I don't always heed my own advice. This begins with one of those cases. The brakes on my '63 Thunderbird. I've been having issues with the brakes on this car for several years. They were somewhat spongy and I often experienced the odd problem of the pedal not returning after applying the brakes. The problem was severe enough that often the brakes would not release without me sticking my toe under the pedal and pulling it up. Last year replaced the brake hoses and bled and adjusted and bled and adjusted until I finally corrected 80% of the sponginess. The sticking pedal issue was not resolved. I've driven the car very little the last couple years but never felt the brakes would actually fail. The sticking pedal was at worse, an annoyance. This proved wrong back in January when I took the car out for a drive on one of those beautiful, sunny winter days. I was driving in the passing lane on I-95 when traffic suddenly and unexpectedly came to a halt. I had to hit the brakes hard...really hard. All four wheels locked up and I began skidding uncontrollably towards the stopped car in front of me. I immediately eased up on the brake pedal to allow the tires to grab pavement again. Didn't work. The wheels stayed locked and I continued to skid. Fortunately, I was able to pull the pedal up with my toe, releasing the brakes and ending the skid. I had just enough time to hit them hard again, skidding again, but stopping just short of the car in front of me. Hey folks! It's disappointing when your car won't go. It can be disastrous if it won't stop. If your brakes aren't working properly, fix em. Don't drive the car thinking it'll probably be okay. I came to the conclusion that the issue had to be within the master cylinder or power brake booster. If internal valves are sticking in either one, it could cause the brakes to not release. Regardless, I decided to embark on a total brake job including replacing all brake cylinders including the master, hydraulic lines and shoes. All this stuff is 57 years old. No more taking chances.

This brake job has turned into quite the ordeal. I'm not going to praise any one vendor over another or bash any either for less than stellar service. I'm only going to state what I've come across.

SOURCING PARTS

Sourcing parts for these old cars always seems to be an ordeal. I must admit, I haven't been particularly satisfied with many parts I've purchased for this Bird, whether they've come from Thunderbird specialty shops or local parts stores. I think this is a common problem throughout the old car hobby. Many replacement parts just aren't a particularly great fit and often are of "lesser" quality than the originals from Ford Motor Company. With that in mind I decided to send my booster and master cylinder to White Post Restorations down in Virginia. They do high end, award winning restorations and specialize in restoring brake parts. They're not cheap, but they came highly recommended. It's about a 2 hour drive so Shelly and I took delivered the parts to them ourselves. It was well worth the drive. Fascinating facility and very friendly people. They gave us a full tour and then opened up my power brake booster right there in front of me. The root cause of my sticking brakes was immediately obvious to them. The master cylinder was leaking fluid into the booster and damaged the diaphragm. They both were overdue for overhaul. The manager estimated a 3-week turnaround. One week later they were done. We decided to have them shipped back.

I ordered a complete set of stainless brake lines from MACS. I ordered rear brake shoes and all four wheel cylinders from my local NAPA dealer. They were in stock and relatively inexpensive. The pre-bent lines were very good requiring only minor bending and adjustments to fit. The shoes looked right so I immediately returned my old ones to NAPA for the core charge. MISTAKE. The shoes didn't fit right. With the automatic adjusters fully retracted, the shoes were expanded too much. The drums wouldn't fit back on. I immediately went back to NAPA to hopefully retrieve my cores so I could do a better comparison. Too late. They were gone. I ordered a new complete set for all four wheels from Pat Wilson's Thunderbird parts. These fit. A close comparison revealed a difference in the adjuster location. Picture attached. NAPA happily accepted my return and refunded me.

With the rear brakes completed, I moved on to the front. In order to replace the wheel cylinders, the backing plates must first be removed from the spindle arm to provide access to the mounting bolts. Loosening those four bolts was brutal. An impact socket on a 2 foot breaker bar was required. Upon reinstalling the backing plate with the new wheel cylinder, I quickly realized these cylinders would not work. The bleeder valve was smaller and mounted slightly differently from the original and interfered with the spindle arm. (See pictures). There was no way to loosen the valve to bleed the brakes. So, I ordered new cylinders from MACS. These turned out to be the same as NAPA's. The best choice would be to rebuild my original cylinders. Off to White Post they went.



3.25



PRESS RELEASE: 2020 ORPHAN CAR TOUR 3-15-2020 -- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.
For questions contact Jon Battle, detailed@verizon.net, tel. 540-364-1770

Plans finalized for 29th Orphan Car Tour

The 2020 Orphan Car Tour will get underway on the morning of Saturday, June 6 in Burkittsville, Maryland. From there, participants will drive their cars along a 60-mile route over mostly-rural roads to Bluemont, Virginia, following printed directions and proceeding at their own pace.

Along the way, drivers and their passengers will have the opportunity to stop and visit a private collection of 25 cars (1908-1970), an operating grist mill, the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, an antique auto repair and restoration shop, and several other places of interest. Upon arrival at Bluemont, participants will enjoy a buffet dinner. The Tour's nickname this year is "A River Runs Through It", because of the route's several river crossings.

This is the 29th running of the Orphan Tour, an event designed to encourage the driving enjoyment of antique "orphan" (discontinued-make) vehicles which are at least 25 years old. Each Tour takes place in a different location in the greater Washington-Baltimore area, usually rural, and whose low-speed roads are old-car friendly. Over the years "orphaned" nameplates spotted on the Tour have ranged from the familiar (Pontiac, Mercury) to the obscure (Moline-Knight, Hupmobile), and cars dating back to 1912 have been driven.

The Tour's six sponsors -- all local chapters or regions of national "orphan" car clubs -- are the Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the H-E-T Club, the DeSoto Owners Club of Maryland, the Keystone Region Chapter of the Studebaker Driver's Club (SDC), Mid-Atlantic Packards (a region of The Packard Club), The Potomac Region of the SDC, and The Potomac Ramblers (an affiliate of the AMO and AMCRC clubs).

Further details, a flyer and tour updates are available on the Tour's website at <http://www.orphancartour.org/>. In the unlikely event of cancellation of the meal and/or driving tour due to the coronavirus, those who have pre-registered will be notified and pre-payments will be refunded. Further information is available from Jon Battle at (540) 364-1770, or via e-mail at tourdirector@orphancartour.org.

END

29th Annual Orphan Car* Tour

TOUR NOTES

"A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT"

Saturday, June 6, 2020

Burkittsville, MD.

Our route winds through the Maryland and Virginia countryside, over river and stream. In your printed directions you'll be given the choice of several places to visit along the way: a collection of 25 cars, 1908-1970, Early American Auto Repair (a restoration shop), the Burwell-Morgan grist mill, the C.S. Arms antique firearms shop, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, various wineries and antique shops. The route's a pretty one, and you may even recognize some of the roads or stops from previous Tours.

This year we've decided to put our traditional "observational quiz" on hold so that you can turn your full attention to enjoying the scenery!

We'll meet at the Burkittsville Ruritan Club starting at noon. Cars will be released onto the route starting at 11:00 AM (and for the next half hour). We suggest you grab lunch before arriving. The nearest gas at the start will be outside Brunswick, Md., but there are stations along the way.

Dinner will be a barbecue, with home-made sides, at the Blueridge Volunteer Fire & Rescue hall, outside of Bluemont. (Dinner reservations required.)

As always, the Tour will be held "rain or shine". If it rains, bring an umbrella (and if necessary, drive a modern car). We'll still have a great time and see some beautiful scenery, and several of the stops along the way, will be indoors.

There's "real" gas at the Liberty in Charles Town, and you'll find trailer parking at the Walmart there as well. So, join the fun. Bring friends, family and your "orphan" and your thirst for adventure!

NOTE: We are monitoring the coronavirus situation. Should it become necessary to cancel the Tour and/or meal, we will advise those who've pre-registered, and all pre-payments will be refunded. Watch our website for updates!

10:30 AM	Registration begins at Burkittsville Ruritan Club, 500 E Main St, Burkittsville, MD 21718
11:00 AM	Cars will released onto tour, one-by-one, for next half hour.
5:00 PM	Assemble for dinner, Blueridge Vol. Fire & Rescue Co., 131 Retreat Rd., Bluemont, VA 20135

Important: Bring a navigator to read driving directions! Tour will be held RAIN or SHINE. Dinner reservations must be postmarked by June 1. Entry fee of \$10 per car can be paid beforehand or at the Tour. (Note: you may do both the dinner and tour, or either one!)

DINNER NOTES

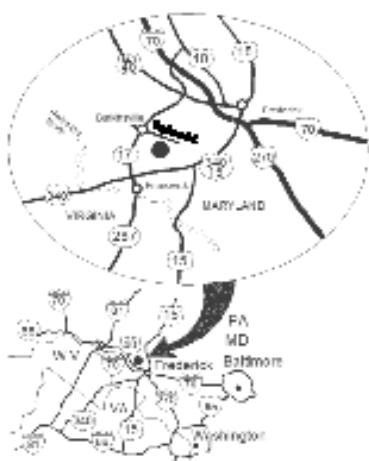
Buffet menu: choice of barbecued glazed grilled chicken or smoked beef brisket; herbed red potatoes; whole green beans with shallot butter, or roasted asparagus; roasted carrots with brown sugar & butter; tossed salad with assorted dressings; rolls & butter; assorted cakes & pies; sweet and unsweet iced tea, water and coffee.

Reservations required (deadline: June 1). Your meal ticket will be given to you at the Tour. No meal refunds are guaranteed after June 1, but we'll attempt to sell your ticket for you if you cancel before June 5.

* The Tour is open to antique "orphans"— vehicles at least 25 years old which were produced either by now-defunct manufacturers or the discontinued divisions of still-existing companies.

Info: (640) 284-1770 before tour;
(708) 986-8765 on tour day only (text)
e-mail: tours@toursbyoptilane.com

Check for updates at www.english-test.net/



DIRECTIONS: Take Rte. 17 north from Rte. 340 or south from Rte. 70 / 40 / Alt 40, to Burkittsville. Go east on Gapland Rd. 1/4 mile to Burhan Club.



RESERVATION – PLEASE POSTMARK BY JUNE 1!

Make checks payable to "Potomac Car Events" and mail to Harley Smith, 307 Fifer Trail, Annapolis, MD 21401. Dinner reservations must be postmarked by June 1. Tickets are handled out of the Tomb. Call now or return a postcard to Potomac Car Events.

NAME _____

ADDRESS

E-mail address **Phone**

ADULT MEALS @ \$ 19.....\$

KID'S MEAL (age 5-12) @ \$9.50 (4 & under, free!) \$

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

Miles of gas you plan to drive on tour

Bel Air United Methodist Church Car Show

June 13, 2020 10:00 AM – 2:00PM

21 Linwood Avenue, Bel Air, MD 21014

Open to All Vehicles, Years & Models

Awards for Top 25 & "Best of Show"



Pre-Registration: \$15 per vehicle - Must receive registration by June 1

Day of Show Registration: \$20 per vehicle

Staging 9 – 11AM

Proceeds- Welcome One Emergency Shelter and Chabadza Medical Clinic in Zimbabwe

Food and Music

Rain Date: June 27

Check Facebook under events or www.belairumc.org for indepent weather --- Please, no canopies

CAR SHOW ENTRY FORM: Pre-register on-line by 6/6 at <https://bit.ly/2020BAUMCCarshow> or make check to: Bel Air UMC. Mail entry & check to: Bev Talhot, 1536 Parkland Dr., Bel Air, MD. 21015
Name _____

Email address _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Year /Make _____ Model _____ Color _____

++++SPECTATORS WELCOME TO ENJOY THE EVENT++++



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 _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Birth Month _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Home: ____ - ____ - _____ Work: ____ - ____ - _____ Cell: ____ - ____ - _____

Email: _____

Your Occupation: _____ Spouse's Occupation: _____

I was referred by: _____

List Your Thunderbirds:

Car	Year	Style (HT, Conv, Landau, etc.)	Comment (Show, Pleasure, Under Restoration, etc.)
1			
2			
3			
4			

Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Annual Dues: \$25.00 due each January, newsletter delivered electronically, or
\$40.00 due each January, newsletter delivered by US Postal Service

New Members Partial Year Dues:
\$15.00 if joining after June 1st of the year
Full dues if joining after October 1st of the year, BUT
IT INCLUDES FOLLOWING YEAR DUES (3 months Free)

Name Tags \$10.00 each: _____

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

Send to: Make your check payable to **MATC**.

Please Mail Application with your check to:

**Harry Skruch, Treasurer
4804 Torpoint Road
Nottingham, MD 21236
410-256-2740**

Visit us at www.midatlantictbirdclub.org

Like us on Facebook

2003 Ford Thunderbird

Maryland State Inspected and Ready to Roll



**Asking Price:
\$12,300.00**

Contact:

Steve Kelley

410-812-5596

443-371-3030

VIN: 1FAHP60A23Y100879

Mileage: 82000

Warranty: Does NOT have an existing warranty

Vehicle Title: Maryland—Clear

Engine: 3.9L V8 Gasoline 282 H.P.

Transmission: Automatic with Manual Shift Option

Interior Color: Black w/Red Inserts/Trim

Exterior Color: Torch Red

Body Type: Power Convertible w/ OPT. Red Hardtop

Sub Model: Two Door - Premium

For Sale by: Owner

Present Location: Bel Air, MD—Delivery available

OPTIONS: 17" 7 Spoke Chrome Wheels—Anti-Spin Brakes—AM/FM Stereo w/6-CD Changer—Audio-phile 9 Speaker Sound System—Heated Seats—Engine Oil Cooler—Thunderbird Branded Floor Mats—Perimeter Anti-Theft—Supplemental Fog Lights—Daytime Running Lights - About 8000 miles on tires.

I'm the second owner and I have always kept it in the garage. It has seen no snow and very little rain. It is clean inside and out.

**Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club
5626 Williams Road
Hydes, MD 21082-9533**

FIRST CLASS MAIL

MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB.....
Charter Member, International Thunderbird Club

