October 2023

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

MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB

Charter & Founding Chapter, International Thunderbird Club



MATC THUNDERBIRD NEWSLETTER 49TH ANNIVERSARY



http://www.midatlantictbirdclub.org

This Month in Thunderbird History:

• October 22, 1954: Sales of the iconic 1955 Thunderbird commence. And the Fun, Fun, Fun begins.

Thursday –October 19th @ 9:30 AM - Third Thursday TBird Breakfast
Greek Village Restaurant - 129 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, MD 21014
Please let Cathy know if you are planning to attend so the restaurant can be prepared.

Mark Your Calendars-Upcoming MATC Activities

Rockville, MD Annual Car Show, October 14, 2023

See details below. You don't need a qualifying car to appreciate and enjoy this great event.

2023 Election of Officers

The ballot or the 2022 election of officers is included beginning with this newsletter. Please consider running for office to have a voice in the administration of your club. Positions available include President(s), Secretary, and two board members. Please advise Cathy or Steve if you would like to be a candidate for one of these positions.



MATC Christmas Party
Saturday, December 2, 2023
(Please Note Change Of Day from Sunday!)
Friendly Farms Restaurant, Upperco, MD

Please mark your calendars for the date. Reservation form is attached below. We are returning to Friendly Farms Restaurant as part of the plan to alternate between Dobbin House and Friendly Farms on a rotating year basis as decided by the MATC Board of Directors. Friendly Farms has redecorated their party room and the staff and management look forward to again hosting our group.



President's Message October 2023

We had a great time at the annual **Cherry Fest** at Phyllis Cherry's camp in Western MD on Sunday Sept 17, as usual. It was a rainy day again this year but somehow we all fit in the cabin. Phyllis and her daughter did a great job. Skip presented prizes to winners of the last few Thunderbird trivia pictures in the newsletter, and we had a group birthday cake for all the September birthdays. We were pleased to see new and old members there. Next year we might need to plan for a rain date...

We had to cancel our joint trip to NJ with the LVTC and NJTA due to illness on many folks' part. Marsha Dixon did a lot of work to set it up, so we hope to try again in the spring.

The Rockville MD Car Show is Oct 14 from 11-3:30 (show cars 8:30). Some of our cars are old enough to be shown and the retros could go as visitors. Skip pointed out that we used to have a big presence there and Bob & Kathy Ridolfi won the Mayor and Council Award in 2022 for their Cadillac Biarritz. Congrats to them! Please contact Cathy on 443-417-0441 if you would like to go with us as a group. We'll look for a place for ice cream after the show.

<u>MATC's 50th anniversary as a club is next year, 2024</u>. That's a big milestone! We'd like to celebrate in a big way and use the anniversary to advertise the club. Please let us know if you have any ideas for it.

We have a Board Meeting coming up October 8. Please let any board member know if there is anything you would like the board to consider or discuss.

The annual election is coming up in November for VP and one board member. Look for the ballot in next month's newsletter.

The Christmas Party is Saturday, Dec 2 from 11-3 this year is at Friendly Farm in Upperco MD. They have recently remodeled the banquet room and it's in a rustic farmhouse chic motif. Should be pretty with holiday decorations. The registration form is included in this newsletter. We hope to see a lot of you there to enjoy country food with us.

Congrats to our VP Mike Melnyk on being selected as the Northeast Regional Director of Vintage Thunderbird Club International. We hope to get good coverage for MATC in the club now so let's be sure to keep Mike informed of our activities and events.

Cathy & Steve

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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 Third Thursday **Greek Village Diner** (https://www.facebook.com/pages **Monthly Breakfast Gathering** / Greek-Village-9:30 AM ***MATC 129 Baltimore Pike Monthly Bel Air. MD 21014 Restaurant/203026953055071 Cars & Coffee: No Competition, 7-9 Am, Every Sunday May thru Bel Air Plaza SC No Trophies, Just Fun & Weather permitting October Bel Air, MD Socialization **Rockville Classic & Antique Car Glenview Mansion** City of October 14 specialevents@rockvillemd.gov Rockville Show 603 Edmonston Drive ***MATC November **Election of Officers** Consider running for an office Friendly Farms **December 2 MATC Annual Christmas Party** ***MATC More Details Later Saturday!! Restaurant 2024 ***MATC **TBD May 19 Thunderbird Appreciation Day TBA** Make Your Hotel Reservations May 31-June 2 **Carlisle Ford Nationals** Carlisle, PA Now!! **National Collector Car** July 14 **TBD Appreciation Day** Details and reservation info to be August 7-11 **VTCI Annual Convention** VTCI Grand Rapids, MI provided as available

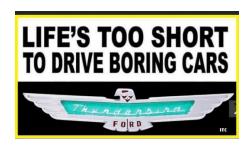
There are many car shows and cruise nights in our service area on a weekly basis. Some of the more popular events are listed above. Please also check out the complete list of events on the Car Show & Cruise Guide website @ www.cruiseguide.com. If you know of a "local" show that you think will be of interest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



There is still a chance to enjoy a game before the season ends!!

Oct 7- PIRATES 9:30 am
PHILLIES 10:15 am
BLUE JAYS vs MARLINS 11 am
NATIONALS vs ORIOLES 12 noon
OCT 14 - PIRATES 9:30 am
PHILLIES 10:15 am
ORIOLES vs MARLINS 11 am
BLUE JAYS vs NATIONALS 12 noon

OCT 21 - PIRATES 9:30 am
PHILLIES 10:15 am
NATIONALS vs MARLINS 11 am
BLUE JAYS vs ORIOLES 12 noon
OCT 28 - PIRATES 9:30 am
PHILLIES 10:15 am
MARLINS vs BLUE JAYS 11 am
ORIOLES vs NATIONALS 12 noon



October Birthdays



The officers and members of MATC wish the following members a very happy birthday

Elizabeth Kilcullen John Loving Lucy Samorodin

If your birthday was overlooked, please let the editor know ASAP.

Membership:

Please be sure to use the recruitment cards and/or attached flyer when you see prospective members and their cars.

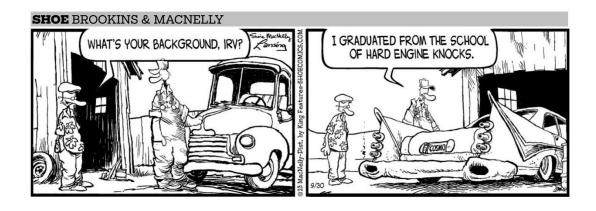
Need an application for MATC, ITC or VTCI? Contact Cathy, Steve, Mike or Skip

MEMBER NEWS & HAPPENINGS:

- Please continue to keep Christine Young, John and the Young family in your thoughts and prayers as she continues her treatment for breast cancer. We will continue to keep you aware of her progress and condition.
- Congrats to our VP Mike Melnyk on being selected as the Northeast Regional Director of Vintage Thunderbird Club International.
- Several of our members continue to receive on-going medical treatment for various medical issues. These include Dan Denham, Dwight Dixon and Mike Melnyk. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Best wishes for a quick, complete, and successful recovery for our members.

Please submit your news, special occasions, etc., to the editor for publication in the Newsletter to keep the membership up to date on member happenings, health, and well-being. Remember, inquiring minds want to know!



"Cherry Fest" 2023















Newsletter Celebrity TBird Owner Quiz Winners



Celebrating September MATC Member Birthdays



TBird Cookies provided by
Maddie Panowitz



Mom's Helper



Mr & Mrs Prez

Upcoming "Thunderbird" Events 2023/2024

Rockville, MD Annual Car Show, October 14, 2023

The Rockville Show was always a major annual event for MATC in the past. Many of our members still attend as well as our friends from the Potomac Thunderbird Club. Participation has dwindled a little as our membership became more central Maryland focused and many of our newer members have newer cars which do not meet the minimum 25 year old requirement of the show management and AACA. But now every Thunderbird meets the 25 year requirement except the retros, and some of us are only a few years away. The Board and officers of MATC would like to get more involved in this very large, well-attended, and important car show if only as visitors. The number and variety of cars on the show field is overwhelming, plus there are automotive themed vendors too. It is well worth the trip. Check out the registration form at www.rockvillemd.gov/carshow. It is too extensive to include in the newsletter plus it is fillable. Bea and Orville Zastrow were very actively involved with the show in the past and their son Earl has taken on some of those responsibilities. Plans are being considered to make this a MATC event even for those who do not show a car. Stay tuned.

Thunderbird Friends Reunion #2, Carlisle, PA, May 31-June 2, 2024

A reunion of Thunderbird friends is again being planned in conjunction with the 2024 Carlisle Ford Nationals. This time we started our homework early and have been able to secure a block of rooms in the Carlisle area for the nights of Friday, May 31 and Saturday June 1, 2024. This allows for the group being together in the evening, for breakfast, etc., which was not the case this year. We have a block of 25 rooms guaranteed which can be increased as deemed necessary. The rate is \$185 per night, which is discounted from the standard rate, plus taxes. Room reservations can be cancelled up until 6 PM the night of the reservation. The rate includes a breakfast and other amenities. We will also have the use of a meeting room as a hospitality room. There is plenty of free parking. The "host" hotel is:

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

The hotel is an easy drive from the Carlisle Fairgrounds right off of 1-81. The block of rooms will remain available until 30 days before May 31st, so it is imperative to make your reservations ASAP, *like right now*, even if you are not certain you can be there. The sooner reservations are made, the better the chance of increasing the number of rooms in the block if needed. It is fortunate that we were able to reserve a block of rooms and at a favorable rate. The online reservation link is below:

Thunderbird Friends Reunion

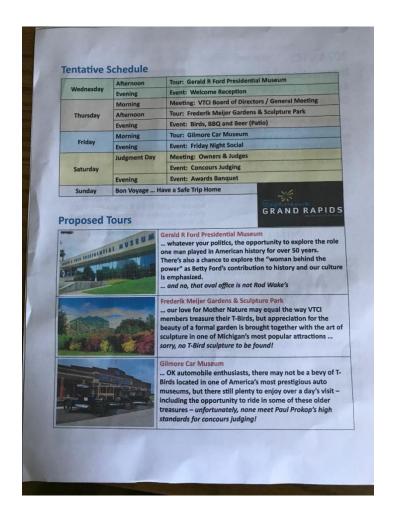
If the link does not work, call the hotel direct at the above number. We will provide more details as they become available. There will be a dinner on Saturday night, like this year, and possibly Friday night too. We hope to have a larger tent this year as multiple clubs are expected to be included.

Please get your reservations taken care of early. We look forward to lots of Fun, Fun, Fun in 2024.



GRAND RAPIDS

MICHIGAN





In Memoriam: Lois Eminger (1920-2008)

Known as "Mrs. Thunderbird" at Ford Motor Company

Lois Eminger worked for Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan, and eventually retired after many years of service to the company. She had earned the nickname of "Mrs. Thunderbird" among Ford employees, and for good reason. She was the lady given the task of communicating with Thunderbird owners who corresponded with Ford about their cars, especially if it were an older model that was no longer covered by a warranty. This author remembers well the letter received from Mrs. Eminger in 1973 when I wrote to Ford inquiring about how to purchase a Shop Manual and an Owner's Manual for my 1966 Thunderbird. In her letter to me, she explained that she was known as Mrs. Thunderbird, and went on to advise me how to order the literature I had inquired about.

While employed at Ford Motor Company, Eminger discovered that original invoice copies were being destroyed when no longer needed. These invoices are actually the #2 sales copy, and were one part of the multi-part form that also produced the window sticker that appeared on new car windows. Eminger felt this information might be of importance to people down the road, so she asked for permission to save these copies for future reference, and permission was granted by Ford for her to do so.

Eminger was the original owner of a Dusty Rose 1957 Thunderbird, known as the "Pink Lady," and had membership number 0004 with the Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI). By all accounts, she was a very lovely lady that everyone enjoyed knowing, and she certainly shared a strong admiration for the Ford Thunderbird, as well as other Ford cars. Eminger often wore pink, which was her favorite color. People who requested invoice copies or other information often received a handwritten note from Lois as well, which shows what a true enthusiast she was. She was reportedly thrilled to receive an invoice request and discover it was for a particularly rare car and was happy to know that it had survived and was in the hands of someone who was caring for it.

The exact accounting of how Lois Eminger came to save all these invoices was told by Eminger herself in the 1990s: In 1967, Lois worked in the Legal Department at Ford, and needed to research a particular 1955 Thunderbird. When she asked the people in archiving for the invoice, she was told that they were all thrown away after 10 years, which of course meant that the information she needed had been destroyed two years earlier. Concerned about this newly revealed information, she asked Ford management for permission to have the archive send her all invoices instead of destroying them. She received the OK, and from that point forward the original invoice copies were sent to her. When one considers the monumental task of storing all these invoices over the years, it's apparent Eminger's dedication to the classic Ford hobby was very strong. She said she stored the invoices in envelopes, each of which contained about 50 invoices.

For many years, Lois Eminger supplied original invoices to Ford Motor Company vehicle owners. They only needed to provide proof of ownership for their vehicle and pay a modest fee. Countless rare cars have been documented over the years thanks to Eminger's foresight to retain these invoices. In her later years, Eminger sold her invoices to Kevin Marti of Marti Auto Works [link opens in new window], who now provides them to owners with proof of ownership (copy of title or registration), and upon payment of a fee. (Click the link for details.)

In addition to her 1957 Thunderbird, Eminger has garaged various Ford cars over the years, including a 1967 Ford Mustang Hardtop, 1967 Ford Mustang Convertible, 1971 Ford Mustang Mach 1, and a 1963 Ford Thunderbird Sports Roadster. Most of them were reportedly painted pink (the Sports Roadster is Rangoon Red). Lois C. Eminger died on Sunday, August 24, 2008, in Spokane, Washington after an extended illness.



Editor's Note: Lois is well known in Thunderbird history circles, especially related to the "little" Birds. Thanks to Earl Dickinson for submitting this article.

September Thunderbird Quiz



Who Is The Actor?: William Hopper What Year Is The Thunderbird?:1958 Bonus: Who was his famous mother?: Hedda Hopper, Hollywood Gossip Columnist

(you thought the bonus question would be what was the famous TV show he appeared in didn't you?) Private Detective Paul Drake, TV Show-Perry Mason

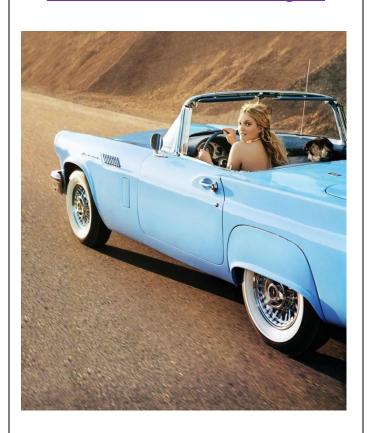
Winner: Bob Bossoli

Previous Winners:

May: Judy Dickinson & Steve Kelley

June: Tom Young July: Mike Melnyk August: Al Herman September: Bob Bossoli

October Thunderbird Quiz



Who Is The Actress?
What Year Is The Thunderbird?
Bonus: What is her first and among her
most famous movie roles?

Respond to Skip with your guesses...er answers.

Note: All previous winners are not eligible to participate.

It is never too late to submit your answer.

Mid Atlantic Thunderbird Club Christmas Dinner



Friendly Farm Restaurant 17434 Foreston Rd Upperco, MD 21155

Saturday, December 2, 2023 Social Hour 11-11:30pm – NO alcohol Dinner at 11:30pm – 2 pm Presentations and comments 2-3 pm

Cost: \$38.00, Children up to 10 years - \$12.00

Holiday Menu

<u>Entrees</u> Fried Chicken Ham

Country Sides

Apple Butter, Cottage Cheese, Cole Slaw, French Fried Potatoes, Hot Vegetables like corn and green beans, Hot Rolls, Sugar Biscuits

Desserts

Cake & Homemade Ice Cream & Sherbet

Beverages

Coffee, Iced Tea, & Soda

Directions

Follow I-83 to Exit 27, Mt Carmel Rd Head West for 5 miles Turn Right onto Foreston Rd (small sign, hard to see, just past Gorsuch Mill Rd on Left) The restaurant will be ½ mile on the Left.

Follow signs for banquet parking.

For Google Maps directions please see this link: https://goo.gl/maps/Na3rMEKfaVTr3a5i9



Member Name(s)	
Number of adults @ \$38.00 =	\$
Number of children up to 10yrs @ \$12.00 =	\$
2024 Membership Renewal (optional) \$25/\$40 Please include Membership Application	\$
Total Remittance	\$

Please send bottom of form and check, <u>by December 1, 2023,</u> to: Frank Long, 331 Sullivan Dr., Bel Air MD 21009

Don't forget this year's community charity. Bring check payable to:

Miracle League of Harford Co.

Miracle League's goal is to provide children and adults of <u>all abilities</u> the chance to play baseball.





Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club Ballot For the 2024-25 Term

(Please submit to MATC Secretary Lynn Horn by December 1, 2023. Send via email to: lynnhorn704@gmail.com, mail to 704 Walker Ave. Baltimore, MD 21212, or submit with your Christmas Party registration)

(If you Write In a candidate, make sure they have given you permission.)

A) For Vice President (vote for one):	
Michael Melnyk	
B) For Treasurer (vote for one):	
Frank Long	
	(Write in Candidate)
C) For Board of Directors (vote for one):	
Tom Young	
	(Write in Candidate)
Member Name (printed)	
Member Signature	
Member Name (printed)	
Mambar Signatura	

CLASSIFIEDS



2005 50th Anniversary Cashmere Thunderbird: MATC friends and Thunderbird enthusiasts Sandi & Walt Fries are selling their 2005 50th Anniversary Cashmere Edition Ford Thunderbird. Owned since new, the car has 23,330 mostly highway mile, plus_custom features including color-keyed car cover, boot, seat covers, dash cover and front-end cover. The asking price is \$32,500. Contact Walt at 610-759-4997 (h), 484-515-4008 or wfriesjr@aol.com

Also, Walt's extensive collection of Thunderbird model cars and memorabilia is now being auctioned by Tom Hall Auctions in Pennsylvania (tomhallauctions.com). Check it out. There are so many items they are being auctioned in three sections. The auction is "live" now.

For Sale

Set of four BFGoodrich Silvertown 14-inch whitewall tires on Thunderbird (58- 60) rims for \$560.00 or best offer. Deliverable within reasonable distance. Contact Frank Toth at 202-329-5473 and leave voice mail message.









F

Still Available
MATC & TBird T-Shirts
While They Last!

_A = 45th MATC Anniversary T-Shirt; Sizes - L, XL, XXL; \$10 each - 2 for \$25 plus S&H

B = Retro TBird Logo T-Shirt; XXL only; \$10 each plus S&H

Note: Classified ads are inserted at no cost for MATC members until the item is sold depending on space. Non-member cost to advertise is complimentary for the first month then \$10 for each three months thereafter. This policy is subject to change.



Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club

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

First N	ame:	Last Name:		Birth month:	
Spouse	es Name: _		B	irth month:	
Street	Address: _				
City			State	Zip	
Home	-	Work	Cell		
Email :	<u> </u>				
Your o	ccupation	Spou	se occupation		
l was r	eferred by	/:			
	ur Thunde				
	Year	Style (HT, Conv, Landau,	Use (show, pleasure,	VIN	
Car		color)	restoring)		
1					
2					
3					
4					
Annua	l Dues	\$25 due each January, newslet	ter delivered electronically, o	or	
		40 due each January, newslett	-		
New N	-	artial Dues:			
	\$:	15 if joining after June 1st of the	e year.		
	Fı	ull dues if joining after October	1 st of the year, BUT		

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:

Frank Long, Treasurer; 331 Sullivan Drive, Abingdon, MD 21009; 410-569-8539

Visit us at www.midatlantictbirdclub.org Like us on Facebook: mid-Atlantic thunderbird club. The Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club is a tax-exempt Association under IRC 501 (c) (7).

IT INCLUDES FOLLOWING YEAR DUES (3 months free)

(Revised September 2022)



NAME:			
SPOUSES NAME:			
MAIL ADDRESS:			
CITY			ZIP:
COUNTRY:			
E-MAIL ADDRESS:			
LIST NAME IN ROSTER?	YES NO		
LIST E-MAIL ADDRESS II	N ROSTER? YE	S 🗆 NO 🗆	
LIST TELEPHONE IN RO	STER? YES	NO 🗆	
PLEASE LIST THUNDER	BIRD YOU OW	N:	
YEAR: MOD	DEL:		
countries. Due the 31 payment must be in I For NEW members of you join. You will the November/December January / February March / April May / June July / August September / October November / December / Decemb	J.S. funds dra only Send init en receive a r Scoop. US and Canada \$40.00 \$35.00 \$30.00 \$25.00	awn on a U.S. bar ial dues accordi renewal notice All Other Countries \$60.00 \$55.00 \$45.00 \$40.00 \$90.00 inclu	nk ng to the month
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Vintage Thunderbird		TOTAL	
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MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OUR 49TH 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 Breakfast (Third Thursday @ Greek Village-Bel Air)
- Monthly Newsletter
- Affiliation with national clubs
- Tech Sessions
- Great, Exciting Excursions and Field Trips
- Community Activity and Support
- "Fun, Fun, Fun" with your Thunderbird

