

October 2026

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents

Steve Kelley

443-371-3030

skelley@gottogotravel.net

Cathy Kelley

443-417-0441

cathykelley49@gmail.com

V. President,

Membership

Mike Melnyk

610-279-6279

thunderbirdmike@juno.com

Treasurer

Ron Hill

410-569-8539

randjhill@verizon.net

Secretary

Lynn Horn

410-377-5824

lynnhorn704@gmail.com

Directors

Phyllis Cherry

410-747-1209

pacherry@comcast.net

Tom Young

443-744-6338

Tbirdtoms60@verizon.net

Steve Dameron

703-303-7456

Brokenboat2@verizon.net

Editor

Skip Panowitz

410-456-5276

skip.panowitz@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Steve Kelley

443-371-3030

skelley@gottogotravel.net

Sunshine Lady

Barb Panowitz

Ladyofthelake21014@yahoo.com

443-504-5542

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



Our 52nd Year!!

e. This Month in *Thunderbird* History:

October 22, 1954: The iconic 1955 Thunderbird goes on sale.



The Fun, Fun, Fun, begins.

Mark Your Calendars For These Great Activities & Events:

Tuesday TBird Lunch – TBD

Leelyn's Dining Room, 9495 Old Annapolis Road, Ellicott City, MD

RSVP Phyllis by August 17th, 410-747-1209, pacherry@comcast.net.

Note: The first Tuesday lunch has been every other month so far.

Consideration is being given to having a lunch in the intervening months in the same area. Stay tuned.

Second Wednesday TBird Lunch – October 14 @ Noon

Inn 94, 4805 Carlisle Pike, New Oxford PA, 17350. RSVP Earl Dickinson @ 717-873-8051. Join the Dickinsons and Scholls.

Third Thursday TBird Lunch- October 15 @ 11:30 AM***

Madonna Seafood House, 4105 Norrisville Road, White Hall, MD 21161

RSVP: Cathy Kelley, 443-417-0441, cathykelley49@gmail.com by August 18th

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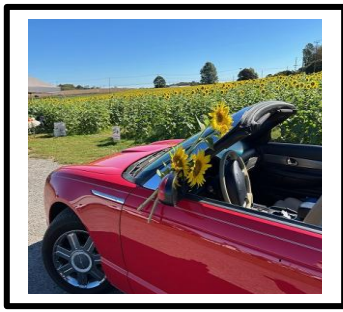
Sunday December 13, 2027 – 11:30 am to 4:00 pm
2026 Mid Atlantic Thunderbird Club Christmas Dinner

Dobbin House / Gettysburg Pennsylvania.

See attached response form. You can also pay your 2027 dues and support our charitable partner "Classic & Custom Car Educational Foundation".

Also attached is the ballot for the 2025-2026 slate of officers.

Many responses can be completed electronically online.



President's Message October 2026

The **VTCL convention** was Sept 8-13, in Flagstaff AZ. The Melnyks and Tom & Rosemary attended. Our illustrious Newsletter Editor, Skip Panowitz, won the Gold Award again for the 3rd year! Next year's convention is planned for here in the Northeast so we will probably have a lot of involvement. More on that later.

The **Mummert Picnic** on **Sat, Oct 3 at 1pm** was a fabulous event. Lots of people turned out, most in their Thunderbirds, and there was delicious food. We played the Show Me game again and had some fun with that. Marsha & Dwight Dixon came down from NJ, Steve Dameron & Kathy came from VA as did Ron Davis, who we haven't seen for a while. He gave us the sad news that his wife Diana passed away recently, so keep Ron in your prayers. The Dickinsons, Bossolis, Panowitzs, Carolyn & Phil, the Schrolls, Phyllis Cherry, Lynn Horn, Ridolfis and Kelleys enjoyed the fun on the back patio at Scott & Stephanie's lovely home. We thank them for having us!

Bob and Candy Bossoli have sent us a flyer for the Sons of the **American Legion Italian Festival** at the American Legion in Havre de Grace on Saturday, October 17, 3-7pm. We've been before and the food is 'delizioso' at a good price. We plan to go so let us know if you'd like to meet us there at a certain time.

We want to join this ride again. Let us know if you'd like to join us too. **Veteran's Cruise to Perry Point Nov 14**. Line up at 1:30; start cruise at 2. Rain or Shine. Staging area Perryville Fire Co. 920 Principo Furnace Rd. Perryville, Md.

Also, club **elections** will be coming up in November. If you'd like to serve your club in any way, let us know and we'll find a place for you. Lynn Horn will be stepping down as secretary after serving with us for 7 years. We thank her so much for staying with us that long. Rosemary Desmond has volunteered to step up to that position so you will see her name on the ballot.

Christmas Dinner will be at Dobbin House again, Sunday, December 13, 12-4pm to make everyone happy! Registration form will be in next month's newsletter. We are still raffling off tickets for the patriotic quilt Cathy made and the winning ticket will be drawn at the Christmas dinner. Proceeds go to Save the Hobby.

The Show Me Game winners
With their WaWa card prizes!

Cathy & Steve

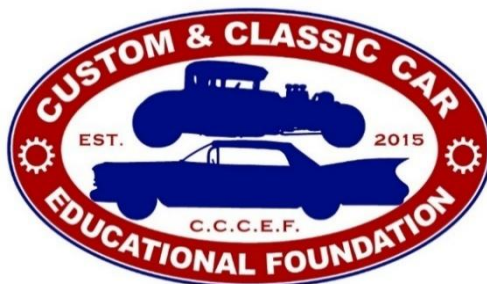


MATC EVENTS CALENDAR

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
First Tuesdays @ 11:30 am	Southside Tuesday TBird Lunch	***MATC	To Be Determined Each Month	Will be scheduled on an occasional basis
2nd Wed Noon	Second Wednesday 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.
Sundays 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				
October 3	Pot Luck @ Scott & Stephanie's (this replaces the Cherry Fest this year only)	***MATC	Hanover, PA	Details To Follow
October 8-11	Endless Summer-Ocean City, MD	Special Products	Various-OC MD	Specialeventpro.com
October 17	Rockville Car Show	City of Rockville	603 Edmonston Dr Rockville, MD	More Details To Follow
October 17	American Legion Post 47 - Havre de Grace, MD	AM Post 47 Havre de Grace	501 St. John Street Havre de Grace, MD	MATC members Candy & Bob Bossoli are AL members and could be your servers.
November 14	Cruise To Veteran's Center		Perryville Fire Co. 920 Principo Furnace Rd. Perryville, Md.	Meet at Fire Hall @ 1:30 PM
December 13	MATC Christmas Gathering	***MATC	Dobbin House Gettysburg, PA	Additional Details Forthcoming
2027				
June 4-6	Carlisle Ford Nationals	***MATC VTCI	Carlisle, PA Fairgrounds	Details To Follow. Reduced price Gate Passes available now.

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.



Open to the
Public

Yummy!!

Italian Festival

Delizioso!!

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026, 3 - 8pm
American Legion Post 47 Hall

Menu: Cup of pasta fagioli soup, Meal choice of, sausage & peppers, meatballs & sauce, or chicken parmesan, with spaghetti, bread, and dessert.

Taste of Italy: A platter with everything! \$24

- Meals with choice of one item, soup, spaghetti, bread, and dessert. \$15

Children's Menu (under 10 yrs old)

- Spaghetti, 2 meatballs & sauce, bread, & dessert. \$8

CASH BAR



Brought to you by our Sons of
The American Legion – Squadron 47

2026 Mid Atlantic Thunderbird Club Christmas Dinner



The Dobbin House
89 Steinwehr Ave.
Gettysburg PA

Earlier Time!

Sunday, Dec 13, 2026

Social Time 11:30-12:00pm – cash bar

Dinner at 12:00pm –2:00pm

Presentations and comments 2:00-4pm

Cost: \$35.00

Holiday Buffet Menu

Salad and Bread Bars

Entrees

Chicken coq au vin
Ham w Pineapple Raisin sauce
Penne Pasta w Tomato sauce

Vegetables

Oven Roasted Red Potatoes
Rice Pilaf
Buttered Dill Carrots
Green Beans Almondine

A variety of Holiday Desserts

Beverages

Coffee, Ice Tea, & Soda

Directions

From PA, come across Rt 30 or down Rt 15.

From the South, come up Rt 15.

From the East you can come over I70 and up Rt 15 or use GPS and the back roads.

Set your GPS to Dobbin House, 80 Steinwehr AV, Gettysburg PA



Member Name(s) _____

_____ Number of adults @ \$35.00 = \$ _____

_____ 2027 Membership Renewal (optional)
\$25 includes email newsletter
Please include Membership Application found in newsletter

Total Remittance \$ _____

**Please send bottom of form and check made out to MATC,
by Nov 27, 2026 to:
Ron Hill, 1905 Cypress Dr, Bel Air MD 21015**

Don't forget our charity this year has been Save The Hobby, who support The Custom and Classic Educational Foundation. The vision of that organization is to bring in and inspire future generations of youth into the car hobby. They also publish the Car Show and Cruise Guide.



MATC MEMBER NEWS & HAPPENINGS:



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

October Birthdays:
John Loving, Lucy Samorodin

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Membership News:

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

- Our deepest sympathies are with Ron Davis whose wife Diana recently passed. Ron and Diana attended many MATC activities including the Christmas Party/luncheon and weekend field trips. We will miss seeing her at MATC events.
- Barbara Melnyk is recovering at home after a recent racoon bite. Their dog was also bitten and had a much better experience at the veterinarian's than Barb had at the ER. Timewise anyway.
- Bob Ridolfi continues to recover at home after a dermatological procedure.
- Sunshine Lady Barb Panowitz continues to recover from a recent fall. She continues PT to work on improving her mobility from injuries experienced from several other falls last year.
- Please keep our members dealing with a variety of medical issues in your thoughts and prayers:

Dan Denham, Mike Melnyk. Bob Ridolfi

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.

The most recent MATC Membership Roster was recently distributed in a separate email. It traditionally is distributed twice per year – in April after all renewals are confirmed and in November with any updates. It is updated on an ongoing basis. Can't find yours? Contact Cathy, Steve or Skip for another copy.

2026 Walk to End Alzheimer's

Do you know someone experiencing the early signs of dementia or in the grips of the disease? I know several people and this is the reason I will again participate in the **Walk to End Alzheimer's**. I will be walking at Sandy Point State Park on Sunday October 18th. and hope you will support me.

I know research is coming closer to finding ways to stop the progression of this disease and maybe one day preventing it. Let's work together to provide the funds needed to continue the research before another of our loved ones (or ourselves) are afflicted

To make a donation and support me:

1. Go to the "2026 Walk to end Alzheimer's" website.
2. You will find my name listed under participates. I will be walking with the **AARSPA with a Heart team**.

(Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association)

Thank you in advance for your support.

Phyllis Cherry



Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club Ballot For the 2027 Term

(Please submit to MATC Secretary Lynn Horn by November 30, 2026.

Send via **email** to: secretary@midatlantictbirdclub.org, or

mail to 8810 Walther Blvd, Apt 2209, Parkville, MD 21234

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

A) For President (vote for one):

Steve & Cathy Kelley _____

_____ (Write in Candidate)

B) For Secretary (vote for one):

Rosemary Desmond _____

_____ (Write in Candidate)

C) For Board of Directors (vote for two):

Phyllis Cherry _____

_____ (Write in Candidate)

Member Name (printed) _____

Signature _____

Member Name (printed) _____

Signature _____

MATC Picnic @ Stephanie & Scott's October 3, 2026







Stephanie & Scott are now an official MATC annual event hosts!

And the Winners are.....

Thunderbird Celebrity Contest Winners



Bob Bossoli - September 2026



Dwight Dixon - March 2026

Show Me Game Winners



*VTCI Convention Coverage Preview
(more photos and details in the November newsletter)*



Here Come Da Judges...



What to take when the TBird isn't show ready yet!!



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

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Retro Thunderbird Headlight Bulb Replacement

One of the complaints often heard from Retro owners is how weak the illumination is from the headlights on their cars. Our member Tom Young has resolved this problem by replacing the factory bulbs with state of art LED versions. The cost of doing this is about \$185 for the headlights and running lights. Tom has graciously agreed to assist all members interested in making the change. We are considering a tech session depending on how many folks are interested.

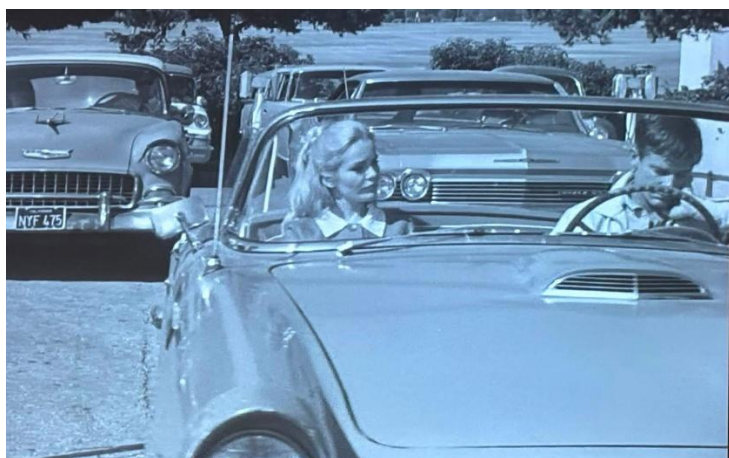
The procedure is relatively simple. It only requires removing both front fenders, hood, valance panel, grille radiator and fan. **JUST KIDDING!!** Tom says all that is needed equipment wise is a screwdriver and gloves.

I am going to contact the seller when I see what interest there is to see if we can get a break on the price. Or at least save on shipping. The cost for the headlight bulbs is \$126.40, for the running light bulbs \$28.78. Tom says you don't need to do both, but he thought the running light upgrade made a bigger difference than the headlights.

Please let me know your interest by November 15th if possible.

Skip

October
Thunderbird Celebrity Quiz



Who are the celebrities in the TBird?

What year is the Thunderbird?:

Bonus: What is the title of the movie these are screen shots from?

September
Celebrity Thunderbird Quiz



Who are the celebrities in The TBird?:

Natalie Wood, Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.

What Year Is The Thunderbird?: **1957**

Bonus: What is the name of the movie the screen shot is from? **Bombers B-52**

Congratulations to Bob Bosolli who got all of the answers correct.

Previous Winners:

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

2026

January: Stephanie Nagy
February: Cathy Kelley
March: Dwight Dixon
April: Cathy Ridolfi
May: Judy Dickinson
June: Sandy Read
July: Cathy Kelley, Earl D, Mike Melnyk, Marsha Dixon
August: Melnyk
September: Bob Bosolli

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 Hardtop - Fieldstone Tan



1962 Hardtop-Sahara Rose



'57 TBird-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. A great birthday or Christmas gift for the Thunderbird or car enthusiast.

Thunderbirds For Sale

As most of you know, long time MATC member Joe Zentgraf passed on last year. His two Thunderbirds are now for sale. The details and photos are listed below.



2005 Thunderbird

- Medium Steel Blue-A one year color
- 42K miles
- Two Tops
- Asking price: \$20k

Contact is Joe's daughter for both cars
Both cars located in the Ellicott City, MD area
Deanna Smith 443-980-3129



1957 Thunderbird

details:

- Colonial white
- White hard top
- Genuine Thunderbird soft-top w/ swing bar & tan canvas top installed by Prestige
- Black & tan interior
- Classic Auto Air AC & heat that utilizes stock controls
- Overdrive AOD automatic transmission
- Borgeson power steering box
- 5 wire wheels with new radial whitewall tires
- Original Town & Country radio converted to AM/FM. and transistorized
- 312 CI V8 rebuilt less than 1000 miles
- 312 heads reworked and valve seats hardened for no-lead gas
- Front brakes converted to Disc
- Dual master cylinder with power brakes
- Rear brake wheel cylinders replaced
- All front suspension bushings replaced
- Price: \$38,500.

ed note: This is likely one of the finest '57 Thunderbirds you will find. It was Joe's pride and joy. I talked often with him about the car and his efforts and challenges restoring it. The soft top repair story alone would have made for a good newsletter article. I am sure he would want to see it, and the '05, go to a good home.

2005 Thunderbird

- Medium Steel Blue Metallic-one year color
- 74,800 miles
- Hardtop and stand, Blue Accent Interior.
- Service records available
- Asking Price: \$15,000. Car is located in Hagerstown, MD
- Contact: Craig Wachter, 240-520-8753, c.wachter@myactv.net



Need Technical Help with your Thunderbird??



Are you sure this is how to change the oil?

Here are some MATC members that may be able to help:

<u>1955 – 1960</u>	<u>1961- 1966</u>	<u>2002-2005</u>
Tom Young Tbirdtoms60@verizon.net 443-744-6338	Mike Melnyk thunderbirdmike@juno.com 610-574-5738	Skip Panowitz Skip.panowitz@yahoo.com 410-638-6446
<u>Commercial Service Shops</u>		
Classic Car Shop 1413 Shoemaker Rd Baltimore, MD (Mount Washington area) 410-828-5165	Treasured Motor Cars 917 E. Tolna Road New Freedom, PA (near Maryland line) <u>717-227-6787</u>	

If these guys can't answer your question, they will sure know where to find it. If you know someone that we should add to the list, please share them with us.

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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.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).

(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	All Other Countries
January / February	\$40.00	\$60.00
March / April	\$35.00	\$55.00
May / June	\$30.00	\$45.00
July / August	\$25.00	\$40.00
September / October	\$55.00	\$90.00 includes next year
November / December	\$50.00	\$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

