

November 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:

- **November 21, 2001:** 2002 Thunderbird named Motor Trend "Car of The Year".

Thursday –November 16th @ 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

Federal Armored Express/Dunbar Armored Museum Tour & Lunch

Saturday, November 11, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

See Details Below IN Newsletter. RSVP Skip NLT Nov 6, 2023

2023 Election of Officers

The ballot or the 2022 election of officers is included with this newsletter. Please consider running for office to have a voice in the administration of your club. Positions available include Vice President, Treasurer and one board member. Please advise Cathy or Steve if you would like to be a candidate for one of these positions. ***It Is Not Too Late to Run***

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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 November 2023

The biggest news this month is unfortunately very sad. One of our dear members, John Young, Christine's husband and Tom's brother, passed away suddenly on October 13. It was devastating news, but our members rallied, and we had 10 Thunderbirds (6 red of course) in a tribute caravan from the funeral home to the cemetery. We thank the Melnyks, Longs, Horns, Dickinsons, Panowitzs, Doug Read, Ron Hill for joining us and of course Tom, who drove John's award winning '57 with his grandson.



The family was so pleased with the caravan and support of the club.



MATC's 50th anniversary as a club is next year, 2024. That's a big milestone! We'd like to celebrate in a big way and use the anniversary to advertise the club. We plan to have a big presence at All Ford Nationals in June, a Thunderbird Appreciation weekend near St Michaels in May and perhaps a trip to the Pittsburg area to see the solar eclipse with the Pitt Birds in April. Be sure to come to the February meeting to hear all the plans!

We had a **Board Meeting on** October 8. We had a guest speaker, Doug Wood, to tell us a little about Save The Hobby, which is an organization we hope to support next year. More to come. We'll cover everything at our members' meeting in February.

The annual **election** is this month for VP, treasurer and one board member. Mike, Frank and Tom are all willing to serve another term, but please vote to show support for them. The ballot is in this 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 and fellowship with us.

Cathy & Steve

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
Third Thursday 9:30 AM Monthly	Monthly Breakfast Gathering	***MATC	Greek Village Diner 129 Baltimore Pike Bel Air, MD 21014	(https://www.facebook.com/pages/Greek-Village-Restaurant/203026953055071)
May thru October	Cars & Coffee: No Competition, No Trophies, Just Fun & Socialization	-	Bel Air Plaza SC Bel Air, MD	7-9 Am, Every Sunday Weather permitting
November 11	Federal Armored Express/Dunbar Armored Museum Tour & Lunch	***MATC	130 Lakefront Drive Cockeysville, MD	RSVP to Skip NLT November 6 th (skip.panowitz@yahoo.com)
November	Election of Officers	***MATC		Consider running for an office
December 2 Saturday!!	MATC Annual Christmas Party	***MATC	Friendly Farms Restaurant	See Registration Info Below
2024				
February TBA	MATC Kick-Off Meeting	***MATC	TBD	TBD
May 19	Thunderbird Appreciation Day	***MATC	TBD	TBA
May 31-June 2	Carlisle Ford Nationals		Carlisle, PA	Make Your Hotel Reservations Now!!
July 14	National Collector Car Appreciation Day		TBD	
August 7-11	VTCl Annual Convention	VTCl	Grand Rapids, MI	Details and reservation info to be provided as available

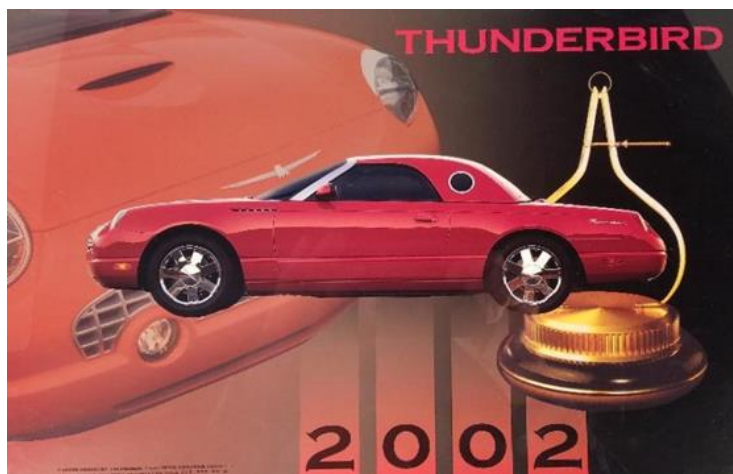
There are many car shows and cruise nights in our service area on a weekly basis. Some of the more popular events are listed above. Please also check out the complete list of events on the Car Show & Cruise Guide website @ www.cruiseguide.com. If you know of a "local" show that you think will be of interest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

Correction:

Earl Dickinson was recognized in the October newsletter for submitting the article about long time Thunderbird enthusiast, supporter and Ford employee Lois Emminger. It was actually Judy Dickinson that submitted the information and article. Our apologies and thanks are extended to Judy for providing this important, informative and interesting article. We regret the error. Ed.

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MOTOR Trend Car of The Year: 2002 Ford Thunderbird!



Nancy Gioia-Chief Engineer

November Birthdays



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

Jean Hill (4) Robin Luber Daniel Forte

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

Membership:

Welcome aboard to the following new members:

- **Lori & Donald Rouzer, Manassas, VA: 1960 Thunderbird under restoration, 1959 Thunderbird for pleasure**

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:

- Sadly, in the past month a long time member of MATC, A friend of MATC and father of a member, and a celebrity with a Thunderbird connection have passed away. See the "in Memoriam" column below. Please keep their families, friends and our club members in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.
- Please keep co-President Steve Kelley in your thoughts and prayers as he undergoes prostate surgery on November 7th.
- Several of our members continue to receive on-going medical treatment for various medical issues. These include Dan Denham, Dwight Dixon, Mike Melnyk and Christine Young. . 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!

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Congratulations:

To Kathy and Bob Ridolfi. They have just acquired a low mileage 2003 James Bond edition 007 Thunderbird. Welcome to the retro owners group of MATC members.

MATC is developing a register of 2002-05 Retro Thunderbirds owned by our members by year, color, and specialty model as applicable (Niemann Marcus, 007, Pacific Coast Roadster, Cashmere). Included with this edition of the newsletter is the updated roster of members. If your retro Thunderbird year and color are not indicated, please notify Skip @ skip.panowitz@yahoo.com with the information so that the register is as accurate as possible. Thanks!

In Memoriam

Sadly, in the past month a long time member of MATC, A friend of MATC related to a member, and a celebrity with a Thunderbird connection have passed away.

John Louis Young

AUGUST 31, 1944 – OCTOBER 13, 2023



John and his wife Christine are long time members of MATC. John's 1957 Thunderbird has won numerous awards from the most stringent judging organizations: CTCL and AACA. And he recently purchased a 2004 retro Thunderbird to carry on his interest and enthusiasm for the iconic marque. In addition to his love for classic and special interest cars he also loved boating. In addition to cars and boating, John enjoyed fixing and refurbishing things to get them to work again. Most of all he loved his friends and family, especially his daughter and granddaughter. We will certainly miss seeing John at MATC and other Thunderbird and special car events.

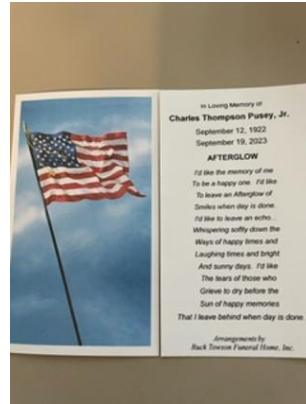
Farewell To John TBIRD Caravan



Charles "Pop Pop" Pusey

September 12, 1922 to September 19, 2023

Although not an official member of MATC, Mr. Pusey was certainly one of our club family. He is the father and father-in-law of MATC members Sandy and Doug Read. He was Doug's passenger as a very popular WWII veteran in the Towson 4th of July parade for the past three years. Born and raised in Princess Anne, MD, he served in the Army Air Force, later Army, during WWII as a worked on radios and radar. He moved to Baltimore after marrying Sandy's Mom in 1946 where he as employed by the Baltimore Sunpapers as a linotype setter until his retirement. He lived at Oakcrest until his passing where he enjoyed playing Upwords and Bridge. He also loved dancing. He had just reached 101 years of age before ghis passing.



Suzanne Somers

October 16 1946-October 15, 2023



. B

She was not a MATC member or likely a member of any TBird club, or even a Thunderbird owner. But she unquestionably was featured in one of the most famous photographs, and movies associated with a Thunderbird. Although best known as starring in the TV comedy series "Three's Company", as well as for her fitness business, her role while driving a 1956 Thunderbird in the movie "American Graffiti" is certainly a high point in the Thunderbird hobby as well as an important step for her early career. Especially to men of a certain age. This was being considered as a monthly quiz contest photo but was considered to be too easy.

Upcoming "Thunderbird" Events 2023/2024

Federal Armored Express/Dunbar Armored Museum Tour & Lunch, November 11 @ 10 AM

This is an opportunity to visit a museum dedicated to a great American success story. Founded in 1956 by James Dunbar, it grew from a one armored vehicle operation to the #3 armored car service in America with nearly 1000 vehicles and operations nationwide. Acquired by Brinks a few years ago, the museum showcases the vehicles and history of the company. Cost is \$25 per person which includes lunch. The museum is located at 130 Lake Front Drive, Cockeysville, MD. Please RSVP Skip (skip.panowitz@yahoo.com) NLT November 6th as space may be limited.

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 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 I-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.



VTCI 2024 International

August 7th-11th

GRAND RAPIDS




MICHIGAN

Tentative Schedule

Wednesday	Afternoon	Tour: Gerald R Ford Presidential Museum
	Evening	Event: Welcome Reception
Thursday	Morning	Meeting: VTCI Board of Directors / General Meeting
	Afternoon	Tour: Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park
Friday	Evening	Event: Birds, BBQ and Beer (Patio)
	Morning	Tour: Gilmore Car Museum
Saturday	Evening	Event: Friday Night Social
	Judgment Day	Meeting: Owners & Judges
Sunday	Evening	Event: Concours Judging
	Evening	Event: Awards Banquet
Sunday		Bon Voyage ... Have a Safe Trip Home



Proposed Tours

	<p>Gerald R Ford Presidential Museum ... whatever your politics, the opportunity to explore the role one man played in American history for over 50 years. There's also a chance to explore the "woman behind the power" as Betty Ford's contribution to history and our culture is emphasized. ... and no, that oval office is not Rod Wake's</p>
	<p>Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park ... our love for Mother Nature may equal the way VTCI members treasure their T-Birds, but appreciation for the beauty of a formal garden is brought together with the art of sculpture in one of Michigan's most popular attractions ... sorry, no T-Bird sculpture to be found!</p>
	<p>Gilmore Car Museum ... OK automobile enthusiasts, there may not be a bevy of T-Birds located in one of America's most prestigious auto museums, but there still plenty to enjoy over a day's visit – including the opportunity to ride in some of these older treasures – unfortunately, none meet Paul Prokop's high standards for concours judging!</p>

2024 VTCI

International Convention

August 7-11, 2024

Grand Rapids MI



Earlier in 2023, the VTCI signed a contract to bring "The VTCI Experience" to the largest metropolitan area in Western Michigan ... Grand Rapids. The idea to bring the VTCI to the Grand Rapids area originated with former Vice President, Ed Elzinga, who not only provided the idea, but also the basic agenda for this convention.



Starting in 2022, the Board of Directors began working with the Experience Grand Rapids Convention and Visitors Bureau. As Interim Regional Director for the Northeast Region (NE), VTCI's Vice President, Bob McNeill, working with the North Central Region's Director (NC), Larry Graham, began to explore hotel options and potential tours to serve VTCI's members. An exploratory information sheet was provided to various hotels and proposals were solicited.

Joined later by the real management team of Terri McNeill and Kate Graham, Larry, Bob and company visited the Grand Rapids area in April 2023 to review the hotels and evaluate each hotel to enable the best choice for the club. The eventual choice:



DoubleTree by Hilton
Grand Rapids Airport
4747 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512
\$105 / Night



November Thunderbird Quiz



Who Is The Actor?

What Year Is The Thunderbird?

Bonus: What is the movie that this actor and car appear in?

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.

October Thunderbird Quiz



Who Is The Actress? **Drew Barrymore**

What Year Is The Thunderbird?
1957

Bonus: What is her first and among her most famous movie roles? **She was the little girl in ET.**

Congratulations to Phyllis Cherry for correctly answering all of the questions. She will be duly recognized at a future MATC event.

Previous Winners:

May: Judy Dickinson & Steve Kelley

June: Tom Young

July: Mike Melnyk

August: Al Herman

September: Bob Bossoli

October: Phyllis Cherry

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

Entrees

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 \$ _____

Please include Membership Application

Note: Newsletter will only be available electronically beginning in 2024.

Total Remittance \$ _____

Please send bottom of form and check, by December 1, 2023, 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 all abilities the
chance to play baseball.





Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club 2023 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 _____

_____ (Write in Candidate)

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) _____

Member Signature _____

CLASSIFIEDS



2004 Thunderbird Premium Rare one year only Light Ice Blue metallic color. Options include black accent interior, SST, and 7 spoke chrome wheels. Includes rare and desirable folding convertible top boot. Hard top and stand included. Mileage 41,400 miles. One of only 87 made equipped like this specific car. Second owner, Garage kept, very good condition. Original MSRP: \$38,952. Service records available. Asking price \$18,000. Will consider offers. Contact John Horn 410-377-5824 or email lynnhorn704@gmail.com.
(11/23)

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 a voice mail message.



A

B

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 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.

New Members Partial Dues:

\$15 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 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.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 November 2023)

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 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**

