

June 2024

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

Frank Long

410-569-8539

fglong1@hotmail.com

Secretary

Lynn Horn

410-377-5824

lynnhorn704@gmail.com

y

Editor

Skip Panowitz

410-456-5276

skip.panowitz@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Steve Kelley

443-371-3030

skelley@gottogotravel.net

Sunshine Lady

Peg Long

410-569-8539

peglong3@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Phyllis Cherry 410-747-1209

Ron Hill 410-569-0106

Tom Young* 410- 653-3108

Skip Panowitz* 410-456-5276

*Past President

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

MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB

Charter & Founding Chapter, International Thunderbird Club



<http://www.midatlantictbirdclub.org>

This Month in *Thunderbird* History:

- **June 5, 2001:** Official production start date for the 11th generation, 2002 Thunderbird. Included cars for dealers, customers and special order.
- **June 16, 1903:** Ford Motor Company begins operations.

Thursday-June 20, 2024 @ 9:30 am****

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.

MATC Wins BIG At Carlisle Ford Nationals!!

See Details in the Newsletter

Put These Dates on Your Calendar Now!!

July 4th Parades – Towson & Bel Air MD

Here is an opportunity to drive your Thunderbird in two great parades: the July 4 parade in **Towson MD** and the July 4th parade in **Bel Air, MD**. We made a great impression on the organizers of the events and have been invited back to participate for the fourth time in Towson and third time in Bel Air. Anne, Phyllis, Cathy, Doug, Calvin and Skip have participated previously. Sandy Read's dad rode with Doug last year – he was 100! We are hoping to get some veterans to ride with us like in prior years. If you know a veteran, please ask if they would like to participate with you. Let Cathy know ASAP as we have to get the paperwork in. Send email or text 443-417-0441.

July 14, Sunday, 1:00 PM: Annual Potluck Social @ Denham's

\$2 a Plate POTLUCK SOCIAL

**Hosted by Zoeanne and Dan Denham,
5626 Williams Rd, Hydes MD, 21082**

(Note: their house is at the end of a long driveway that goes between other houses)

Please RSVP at least 5 days in advance if you will be attending.

Home Telephone: 410-592-2030

email: zoeanne9@yahoo.com

Please bring a dish in the food category listed by the first letter of your last name. The \$2 goes to the host to offset costs. Zoeanne and Dan will be providing venue, paper goods, utensils, beverages, condiments, etc.

"S-Z" Salad "A-H" Main Dish "I-R" Dessert



President's Message June 2024

It's 'Bird Season!'

A nice group of us joined LVTC at **Boyertown Vintage Vehicle Museum** on Sunday, May 5. What an amazing collection of vehicles, mostly from the local area. After a tour with expert guides, we went over to the **Americana Diner** for lunch. Fabulous diner food. It was a great day! It was so good to see many of you there.

To celebrate **Thunderbird Appreciation Day, May 19** and **MATC's 50th anniversary** a bunch of us met for lunch at **Friendly Farm Restaurant** in Upperco MD. It was an absolutely beautiful day for a ride in the country and we got some great pictures. We sure wish more of you had joined us, but it was planned last minute. Anne Collins is looking for things to do between Baltimore and DC maybe this summer. Got ideas?

All Ford Nationals in Carlisle PA! Skip and Earl worked hard to make this a reunion of many of our Tbird friends and what a reunion it was with LVTC! Skip has photos elsewhere in this newsletter. We had **SIX** winning cars from our club! MATC had a Thunderbird themed **quilt for raffle** there and it will be at the Denham's picnic and VTCl convention. We hope to donate proceeds to Save the Hobby, our current charity group.

Don't forget our participation with veterans in the **Towson and Bel Air 4th of July parades**. We are well like by the crowds and would love to have you join us. Those who have agreed will be some detailed info about time and meeting place soon.

Our annual **picnic at the Denham's** will be on Sunday, July 14 at 1 pm. This is always a great get-together so plan to be there. There may be games...and prizes... Skip will have food assignments and directions in July newsletter.

This year the **VTCl convention** is in Grand Rapids MI Aug 7-11, and we are planning to go, arriving on the 8th. They have lots of things planned, like a visit to the Gerald R Ford Museum, Gilmore Car Museum and Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park as well as BBQs, Buffets and Banquet. Oh, and of course Tbird judging and awards. We met some great people at the convention in GA last year. Won't you join us this year? The flyer and registration are in this newsletter. Let us know if you register.

It's that time of year when we need to get the 'Birds out for some exercise. **Ice cream** in Havre de Grace is being planned, maybe near the water. Look for emails about meet up time and place.

Cathy & Steve

MATC birds at
Friendly Farm
Restaurant in May.



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
2024				
June 8	Go Topless!	CMC	Classic Motor Museum St. Michael's, MD	Possible MATC activity
July 14	National Collector Car Appreciation Day		TBD	
July 14	Potluck Annual Gathering @ The Denham's	***MATC	5626 Williams Road Hyde, MD 21082	More details to follow
August 4	Das Awkscht Fest TBird Club Day	AACA	Macungie, PA	Details to follow
August 7-11	VTCL Annual Convention	VTCL	Grand Rapids, MI	Details and reservation attached.
September 15	"Cherry Fest" @ Phyllis Cherry's Cabin	***MATC	Cascade, MD	More details as we get closer
December 8	MATC Christmas Dinner	***MATC	Dobbin House Gettysburg, PA	Details and reservation info to be provided as available
2025				
June 6-8	Carlisle Ford Nationals	Carlisle Productions	Carlisle Fairgrounds Carlisle, PA	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.



Save the hobby.org

This is our new charitable partner beginning in 2024.



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

June Birthdays:

Carol Schroll (16)

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:

- Jean Hill is recovering from a serious fall that resulted in a head injury requiring staples to close. She is doing well, and a complete recovery is anticipated.
- Dwight Dixon has been diagnosed as being cancer free!!! Very good news!!
- Several of our members continue to receive on-going medical treatment for various medical issues. These include Dan Denham, Dwight Dixon, Steve Kelley, 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!



Registry of Retro Thunderbirds By Color:

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!

Mid Atlantic Thunderbird Club 50th Anniversary Shirts

Here you see a picture of the latest MATC 50th anniversary polo shirts that we have ordered Listed are your options. They are of nice quality. Another order is in progress. At least six items are required to place an order.

Men's Polo XS –XL \$22

2x \$24, 3X \$27, 5X

\$32

Black

Navy

Graphite Gray

Forest green

Red

Ladies Polo XS – XL

\$22

2X \$24, 3X \$27

Black

Navy

Graphite Gray

Forest Green

Red

Ladies Scoop Tee

XS – XL \$17

Black

Navy

Graphite Gray

Forest Green

Red

Azelea Pink

Sweatshirt Unisex

S-XL \$28 , 2X \$33, 3X

\$35

Black

Navy

Charcoal Gray

Forest green



Thunderbirds On Display

**Quilt designed and made by
Cathy Kelley**

Co-president of Mid Atlantic Thunderbird Club

>->-> Raffle tickets \$5 each <-<-<

Winning ticket drawn at VTCl convention



**Proceeds from the raffle will be donated to
Save the Hobby for Custom & Classic Car
Educational Foundation**

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we have recently learned of the passing of John Markowski, former MATC member and treasurer. John joined MATC after purchasing a 2002 evening black Thunderbird and became very active. John and Mary regularly attended most MATC activities and functions. John agreed to accept the position of treasurer and with his extensive and valuable experience he recommended changes to the recordkeeping and Articles of Association which were implemented. As a result these important administrative requirements became more professional. John was an important asset to MATC, and the hobby. He will be missed. Please keep Mary and the Markowski family in your thoughts and prayers.

John Michael Markowski **April 4, 1947 — March 13, 2024** **Jarrettsville**

John Michael Markowski, age 76, of Jarrettsville, Maryland passed away on March 13, 2024, at Upper Chesapeake Medical Center in Bel Air, Maryland. Born in Reading, Pennsylvania, he was the son of the late George and Mary (Dorcsak) Markowski and husband of 52 years to Mary (Brantner) Markowski. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He was a member of Jarrettsville VFW and the Disabled American Veterans. He retired in 2010 from Harford County Public Schools after many years of services as their Chief Financial Officer. He enjoyed reading, watching tv and eating out. He was an avid Ravens fan. He loved his Ford Thunderbirds and was active with the Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club.

In addition to his wife John is survived by his grandchildren, Matthew Markowski, Owen Markowski, Carter Markowski, Evelyn Markowski, and Kinzey Melton; great-grandchild, Joshua Markowski; and daughter-in-law, Tessa Markowski.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Karen Anna Melton, and son, Kevin Andrew Markowski.



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
	Evening	Event: Birds, BBQ and Beer (Patio)
Friday	Morning	Tour: Gilmore Car Museum
	Evening	Event: Friday Night Social
Saturday	Judgment Day	Meeting: Owners & Judges
		Event: Concours Judging
	Evening	Event: Awards Banquet
Sunday	Bon Voyage ... Have a Safe Trip Home	



Proposed Tours



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



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!



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!

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



NOTE: Registration form and the event schedule are included as email attachments with the MATC newsletter.

Thunderbirds at Boyertown Historic Vehicle Museum

On a dreary, rainy day, May 5, 2024, MATC joined LVTC for a road trip to the Boyertown Historic Vehicle Museum. There were 25 people total who braved the weather. Thanks to Mike Melnyk who arranged a guided tour of the old body-building facility that was converted into a museum in 1990. They had vehicles and memorabilia from carriages and horse driven hearses to award winning cars and trucks, most donated or found in the Berks Co, PA area. There was a gas station and diner too! The docents were extremely knowledgeable, and it was a very interesting tour, covering 3 floors of a huge building. Then we headed to the nearby Americana Diner for some wonderful comfort food, perfect for a rainy day.





Thunderbird Appreciation Day – May 19, 2024
Friendly Farm Restaurant



Carlisle Ford Nationals - May 31-June 2, 2024

What a great weekend. The weather was perfect, a rare occurrence for the Carlisle Ford Nationals weekend. No rain, blazing heat, or jacket temperature chilly. A great group of new and old friends socializing. A great hotel accomodation. Two great dinner restaurant venues. A special thanks to Ann and Steve Longaker for trekking from Georgia to represent VTCI and join us. And thanks also to VTCI for suppoerting the cost of the tent that we all gathered in. We anticipate that VTCI will have a larger presencve in the future. Thanks to And the crowning aspect of the weekend was that six **MATC** member's cars won awards. Mark your calendars for next year when the 70th anniversary of the Thunderbird will be recognized and celebrated. June 6-8, 2025. Hotel accomodations and the Saturday night dinner venue have already been arranged. Stay tuned for more information.



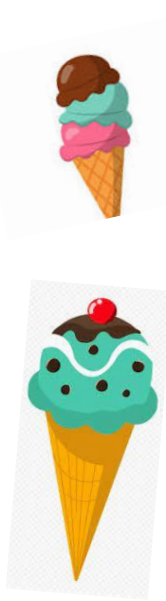


TBird Trivia Quiz Award Winner



Breakfast Club





**It Is Always A
Good Time
For Ice Cream!!**



And The MATC Award Winners Are.....



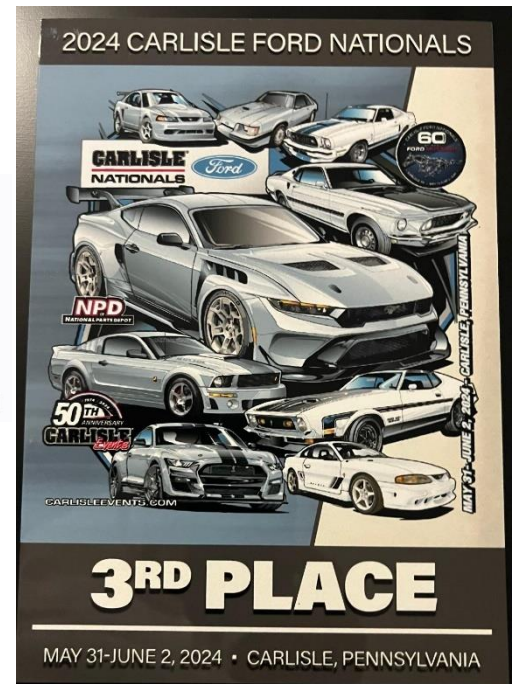
Ron Davis, 2nd Place, 1967-71 Thunderbird



Scott Mummert, 3rd Place, 1964-66 Thunderbird



Skip Panowitz, 3RD Place, 2002 & Up Thunderbird



Tom Young, 3rd Place, 1955-57 Thunderbird

Bob Ridolfi, 2nd Place, 2002 & Up Thunderbird

Bob Free, 1st Place, 1983-1988 Turbo-Coupe

May Thunderbird Quiz



Who are the Actors: **Hayley Mills, Brian Keith**

What Year Is The Thunderbird?: **1960**

Bonus: What is the movie this scene appeared in? **The Parent Trap**

Congratulations to Anne Cillins, Scott Mummert & Gary Faircloth who all responded with the correct answers in record time!! I guess I need to make these more challenging.

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

It is never too late to submit your answer.

June Thunderbird Quiz



Who Is The Celebrity in the TBird?:

What Year Is The Thunderbird?:

Bonus: What is the celebrity famous for?

(This could be very easy or very difficult for Marylanders).

Previous Winners:

May: Judy Dickinson & Steve Kelley

June: Tom Young

July: Mike Melnyk

August: Al Herman

September: Bob Bossoli

October: Phyllis Cherry

November: Dwight Dixon

February: Judy Dickinson

March: Ann Collins / Scott Mummert

April: Marsha Dixon

May: Gary Faircloth / Anne Collins / Scott Mummert

CLASSIFIEDS



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 \$15 plus S&H

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

Beautiful Torch Red 2002 Thunderbird Bird for Sale - Hyattsville, Maryland.

2, 97.5k miles, 2 owners. \$12,000. Contact Allison by phone or text at 301.792.5826 or by email at allison.in.hyattsville@gmail.com if interested.



(6/24)

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.

Collector's Corner:

For those of us that are collectors of Thunderbird models and memorabilia, the diecast model makers have finally discovered that there is a market for the "big" Birds, the 1972-76 versions of this great marque. These are previewed below. Let me know in advance if you are interested in any of them to be certain I have enough to meet demand. *Skip*

GREENLIGHT
1:64 SCALE DIECAST CARS
©GLCOLLECTIBLES

SHOWROOM
Floor



1974

These are 1:64 scale produced by Greenlight. Price will be about \$7.00 each. I expect to have them available mid-year.



39150E - 1:64 1976 Ford Thunderbird
"Treat Yourself to One of the World's Great Luxury Car Buys"

These are by Goldvarg. They are superb quality and are very well detailed. And they are pricey, about \$80 each to MATC members, retail is \$100+. Other manufacturer models of the same quality are 2-3 times more expensive. The model year is 1976. I expect to have these later this year. A very limited quantity of about 150 each is being produced so if interested let me know ASAP. They are sold out at Goldvarg and my source only has a few still available from their allotment.



BOOMERISH by Steve Greenberg

www.boomerish.com

steve@greenberg-art.com



Cool shirts & more at www.boomerish.com

NOW THAT I HAVE THE
SPACE AND THE MONEY,
I DECIDED TO FINALLY
LIVE MY DREAM...



...OF DRIVING A CAR THAT'S MORE THAN HALF
A CENTURY OLD, WITH 278,000 MILES, NO AIR-
BAGS, NO INTERMITTENT WIPERS, NO CD PLAYER,
NO CRUISE CONTROL, NO NIGHT MIRROR, NO...





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:

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.



MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OUR 50TH 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

