

December  
2020

## OFFICERS

### Co-Presidents

Steve Kelley  
443-371-3030

[skelley@gottogotravel.net](mailto:skelley@gottogotravel.net)

Cathy Kelley

443-417-0441

[cathykelley49@gmail.com](mailto:cathykelley49@gmail.com)

V. President,

Membership

Mike Melnyk

610-279-6279

[thunderbirdmike@juno.com](mailto:thunderbirdmike@juno.com)

Secretary

Lynn Horn

410-377-5824

[lynnhorn704@gmail.com](mailto:lynnhorn704@gmail.com)

Treasurer

Harry Skruch

410-256-2740

[hskruch@verizon.net](mailto:hskruch@verizon.net)

Editor

Skip Panowitz

410-456-5276

[skip.panowitz@vahoo.com](mailto:skip.panowitz@vahoo.com)

Webmaster

Steve Kelley

443-371-3030

[skelley@gottogotravel.net](mailto:skelley@gottogotravel.net)

Sunshine Lady

Peg Long

410-569-8539

[peglong3@gmail.com](mailto:peglong3@gmail.com)

### Board of Directors

Phyllis Cherry 410-747-1209

Ray Raeke 410- 676-6055

Ron Hill 410-569-0106

Tom Young 410- 653-3108

Skip Panowitz 410-456-5276

**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

### 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

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

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



## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year To All MATC Members & Their Families

### This Month In *Thunderbird* History:

**-December 13, 1957:** The last of the original two seat Thunderbirds (Early Birds) is produced.

### Upcoming MATC Activities

### December 17<sup>th</sup>: MATC ZOOM Meeting

Zoom Video calls are in lieu of our monthly breakfast meeting. Calls will be on the third Thursday at 9:30am. You will be sent a Zoom link a few days before. The next Zoom Meeting is December 17, 2020. Hope you can join us!!

### December 12<sup>th</sup>: MATC *Christmas* Dinner

Because the Dobbin House will not be able to accommodate our group this year, we have reserved the banquet room at Friendly Farms Restaurant, Upperco, MD. Details and reservation form are included in this newsletter. The response date has been changed to December 5<sup>th</sup> as the Board of Directors knows that so many folks are on the fence about attending. Please see the Presidents' Message for more details.

***Reminder:*** Our Community Outreach partner is the **Harford Miracle League**. Even if you do not plan to attend the Christmas Dinner, you can still contribute to this very unique and worthwhile organization. They have completed the athletic field and now only need to get past the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions to initiate its use. The field is designed to give those who are handicapped an opportunity to participate in popular sports. Your donation should be sent to Treasurer Harry Skruch.

**Due to the Corona Virus, the events listed below may be cancelled. Look for Schedule updates**

## **2020 TENTATIVE EVENTS CALENDAR**

Official MATC/ITC activities are marked with \*\*\* and printed in bold. Our *Thunderbird Club* events are open to all years of Thunderbirds. Other events such as "AACA" events adhere to the 25 year rule or other designation. Applicable restrictions will be noted with each event.

Date	Event	Sponsor	Location	Details
Saturday December 12 1:00 pm	Annual Christmas Party	MATC	Friendly Farms Restaurant 17434 Foreston Road Upperco, MD 21155	Menu, registration, directions in November Newsletter. <i>Because of COVID19 Dobbin House currently cannot handle groups as large as ours</i>
December 17 9:30 AM	<b>MATC Zoom Meeting</b>	MATC	Your home or other favorite place	Call In details will be provided by email
Third Thursday, Every Month 9:30 AM	Monthly Breakfast Gathering Breakfast will resume after Corona Virus hazard ends.	MATC	Greek Village Diner 129 Baltimore Pike Bel Air, MD 21014	( <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/Greek-Village-Restaurant/203026953055071">https://www.facebook.com/pages/Greek-Village-Restaurant/203026953055071</a> )

## **Welcome Aboard To Our New Members**

Gregg Jensen - (this is a belated welcome. Gregg joined in October. We apologize for the oversight.)

Lucy & Charles Samorodin, 1957

## **December Birthdays**

*Note: If we missed your November birthday, or the specific date noted is incorrect or missing, please advise the editor with the correct information. Thanks!*

Miriam Zentgraf – 9  
Harry Skruch – 20  
Barb Melnyk - 21

## **Member News:**

Update: Our treasurer Harry Skruch has had a set-back. He was recuperating at home after a three week hospital stay and over a week at a rehabilitation facility. But he has returned to the hospital as of November 30<sup>th</sup>. We will keep the membership updated on his status. Please keep Harry, Celeste, and their family in your prayers.

*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.*

## CLASSIFIEDS

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



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



**1966 Thunderbird Convertible:** Red with Red Interior and White Top. 390 CID Engine, Power Steering, Power Brakes, Electric Windows. Lots of New Parts. 80,000 Miles, \$28,000. Richard Trimble, Hampstead, Telephone: 410 – 374 – 6037 (3/20)

### **1987 Thunderbird Sport 5.0:**



5.0 EFI. V-8, AOD Automatic transmission, 8.8 rear different, Full digital dash, PB, PS, PW, Power locks, Power driver's seat, Power mirrors, Power trunk release, Power fuel door release, Cruise control, Tilt steering wheel, Alloy wheels (including extra matching wheel), K&N air filter, Mac shorty headers (not installed), Alarm system (disconnected when car was parked), Mileage is showing 130284, battery replaced in 2019, New fuel filter, New starter solenoid, includes a TurboCoupe Hood, extra passenger side door, Owners manuals, Original warranty data card, Radio book, Showroom brochure, Litter bag the owner's manuals came in, original key tags, 1 set of original keys and a few sets of after-market, some invoices. Car starts and runs. Car located in NJ. Asking \$1500. Contact: Tommy Swieder, [must93stanggt@gmail.com](mailto:must93stanggt@gmail.com), Cell 856 301 0227, Work 732 730-1780 (12/20)

### **Just In Time or Christmas:**

		<p><b>2002 Thunderbird, 1:18 scale die cast, Evening Black, <u>with working lights!</u> Includes original box and a display case. \$75 plus shipping.</b></p>
		<p>- Solid pewter 1:18 model of retro Thunderbird. This is very rare and one of only 30 produced. A great collectible. These have sold for as much as \$200+. Price: \$125 plus shipping.</p> <p>-</p>

As usual, many, many other Thunderbird collectibles and memorabilia are available. The list is being updated but will be available soon. Let me know what you are interested in. (12/20) *Skip*

*Note: Classified ads are inserted at no cost for MATC members until the item is sold as long as there is enough space. Non-member cost to advertise is \$10 for three months. This policy is subject to changeservices and resources a car club provides is .*

# This Is What It Is All About

One of the most important resources a car club provides is helping members that have questions or issues regarding their cars. Recently several of our members exemplified the importance of this resource and the willingness to help a Thunderbird owner with a problem. Even a former member. An email from a former MATC member indicated difficulty in sourcing a part for her 1969 Thunderbird. She indicated that she had been trying without luck to locate the part via internet searches, etc. We provided her with several additional sources that might have, or be able to locate, the part for her. No luck with these either. Your newsletter editor then suggested she contact MATC member Ron Davis because he has a car very similar to hers. She contacted Ron who made great strides to help her. He even called her mechanic in an effort to get more information about the problem and the needed part. And the part – a headlight vacuum actuator – was located. Ron advises that a great source for hard to find rare TBird parts is [www.MarkII.com](http://www.MarkII.com). Thanks to Ron for all of his efforts in helping resolve this issue and finding out about a new parts source.

On a related note, MATC member Phil Hack came to the “rescue” of an owner of a '56 located in central PA. He recommended a shop in New Freedom, PA, as a source to help the owner resolve their problem. The shop is Treasured Motor Cars. Thanks to Phil for taking the time to respond to the TBird owners inquiry and providing MATC members with another great resource.

We are in the process of developing a list of resources to refer club members to that have TBirds as a specialty or are at least familiar with them. All vintages. If you have a source to recommend please submit the information to Cathy, Steve or Skip.

*Editor*



Did you know that the 2002 Thunderbird was the official Pace Car for the Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona Race in 2002? The car pictured to the right is the official Pace Car. The car to the left is a replica.





## **President's Message December 2020**

As this newsletter is published we are still planning on having our Christmas Dinner at Friendly Farm Restaurant in Upperco MD on Saturday, December 12 from 1-4 pm. They have told us that even with the new restrictions for Covid, the room is large enough to seat us at a safe distance from others. Masks will be required unless seated at the table. The menu will include roast beef, BBQ ribs and fried chicken with all the sides that many of you are familiar with. Instead of buffet, the staff will place bowls and plates of food, family style on the tables of 6 people. They serve coffee and tea, iced tea and soft drinks. Ice cream and cake for dessert. We hope to have a nice get-together and see many folks we have not seen for months. The restaurant is in a beautiful location in upper Baltimore County and we hope for nice weather.

If, however, most of you are not comfortable with attending a large function (approximately 50 people) then we completely understand and will cancel the dinner. We do not want anyone taking unnecessary risks. As we mentioned in our reminder email, we will not be depositing your checks until time for the dinner and the restaurant fully supports cancellation if we feel uncomfortable.

The charity that MATC chose to support this year is the Miracle League of Harford County, which has built a sports field outside of Bel Air for players of all abilities. In other words, it is meant to give handicapped or challenged players a chance to enjoy sports, mostly baseball. They can use our support for maintenance of the field and supplies once the quarantine is lifted, so if you would like to, even if you don't attend the dinner, please send a check to Harry Skruch, 4804 Torpoint Rd, Nottingham MD 21236, made out to Miracle League of Harford County.

Speaking of Harry Skruch, he is now home from the hospital and seems to be in very good spirits. He joined our Third Thursday Tbird Breakfast Zoom call and we were all glad to see him home with Celeste. We wish him a full and speedy recovery.

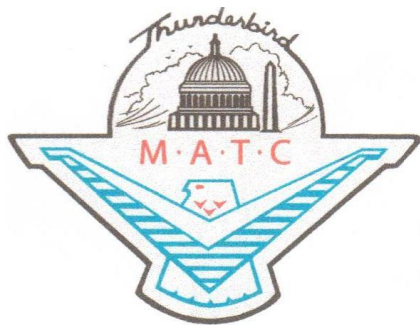
We hope you all had a very Happy Thanksgiving. And we hope that many of you have been getting out in your T-birds since we've had some beautiful weather. We are hoping everyone also has a very Merry Christmas or whatever holiday you celebrate this season, even though it will probably look a lot different than in the past. Small and peaceful seems to be the trend this year.

Hopefully we will have a much more active year in 2021. Praying that everyone stays safe and healthy so we can have some good times! Don't forget to renew your dues also...

As usual, be sure to check the MATC website, <https://midatlantictbirdclub.org/>, and our Face Book page. Send Steve photos of your cars too, especially you new members.

***Steve & Cathy Kelley***

# 2020 Mid Atlantic Thunderbird Club Christmas Dinner



**Friendly Farm Restaurant**  
**17434 Foreston Rd**  
**Upperco, MD 21155**

**Saturday, December 12, 2020**  
**Social Hour 1-1:30pm – NO alcohol**  
**Dinner at 1:30pm – 3 pm**  
**Presentations and comments 3-4 pm**  
**Cost: \$30.00**

## Holiday Menu

### Entrees

**Roasted Beef with gravy**  
**Fried Chicken**  
**BBQ Pork Ribs**

### 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, Ice 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.

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



Member Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of adults @ \$30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 2021 Membership Renewal (optional) \$25/\$40 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please include Membership Application*

Total Remittance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send bottom of form and check made out to MATC by Dec 5, 2020**

**Send to: Harry Skruch**  
**4804 Torpoint Road**  
**Nottingham, MD 21236**

Don't forget this year's charity  
outreach. 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.



# 2003 Ford Thunderbird

Maryland State Inspected and Ready to Roll



**Asking Price:**

**\$12,300.00**

**Contact:**

**Steve Kelley**

**410-812-5596**

**443-371-3030**

**VIN:** 1FAHP60A23Y100879

**Mileage:** 82000

**Warranty:** Does NOT have an existing warranty

**Vehicle Title:** Maryland—Clear

**Engine:** 3.9L V8 Gasoline 282 H.P.

**Transmission:** Automatic with Manual Shift Option

**Interior Color:** Black w/Red Inserts/Trim

**Exterior Color:** Torch Red

**Body Type:** Power Convertible w/ OPT, Red Hardtop

**Sub Model:** Two Door - Premium

**For Sale by:** Owner

**Present Location:** Bel Air, MD—Delivery available

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

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

**Note:** Car will soon be located at Classic Auto Mall, 6180 Morgantown Road, Morgantown, PA, 19543. Website: [www.classicautomall.com](http://www.classicautomall.com). The car can be viewed virtually and in person.





# Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club

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

## Application for Membership

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Home: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

I was referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

List Your Thunderbirds:

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

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

New Members Partial Year Dues:

\$15.00 if joining after June 1<sup>st</sup> of the year

Full dues if joining after October 1<sup>st</sup> of the year, BUT

IT INCLUDES FOLLOWING YEAR DUES (3 months Free)

Name Tags \$10.00 each: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Please Mail Application with your check to:

Harry Skruch, Treasurer

4804 Torpoint Road

Nottingham, MD 21236

410-256-2740

Visit us at [www.midatlantictbirdclub.org](http://www.midatlantictbirdclub.org)

Like us on Facebook

The Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club is a Tax-exempt Association under IRC 501 (c) (7).



**Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club**  
**9 Lake Drive**  
**Bel Air, MD 21014**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

**MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB.....**

*Charter & Founding Chapter, International Thunderbird Club*

