

May2022

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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 48<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

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



### This Month in *Thunderbird* History:

- **May 2017:** The very first Thunderbird Appreciation Day is celebrated. The brainchild of Tom Prezdwowski of the Northwest TBird Club, it is held on the third Sunday in May (traditionally) as an opportunity for Thunderbird owners and enthusiasts to display and share their iconic cars with each other and the public.

### **Mark Your Calendars-Upcoming MATC Activities**

### **Thunder Over Dover Airshow Thunderbird Appreciation Day May 22, 2022**

This year we will be celebrating Thunderbird Appreciation Day in conjunction with the Thunder Over Dover Air Show at Dover Air Force Base in nearby Dover DE. Attractions will include the USAF Thunderbirds, the USN Blue Angels, a parachute show by the Black Dragons, vendors, and static displays. Admission is free. We will attend the air show on Sunday. For those interested, arrangements have been made for an overnight stay at the nearby Hampton Inn on Sunday night with activities being planned for Monday in the area. More details will be provided as soon as they are available. Please let Cathy & Steve know if you plan to attend as soon as possible.

**Note:** *The hold on a block of rooms has been cancelled. But if you would like a room for Sunday night, please let Cathy and Steve know ASAP.*

### **REMINDER: Please Send US Your VIN Number!!!!**

The MATC Board of Directors continues its effort to develop a directory of VIN data (Vehicle Identification Number/ serial number) for members vehicles. If you have not submitted yours yet, please send it Skip, Cathy, Steve, or any officer. This information can be beneficial as a reference future owners when a car changes hands. New owners often inquire back to clubs like MATC to determine if the prior owner was a club member. This information can be very helpful in tracing the history of the vehicle.



## President's Message May 2022

Since our last newsletter we have lost a dear friend in MATC. John Cherry succumbed to his illness on April 11. John and Phyllis have been long time members and have opened their camp on the mountain almost every year for a fabulous picnic for the whole club. A nice group of us attended a Celebration of Life that Phyllis hosted at Matthew's 1600 restaurant in Catonsville on May 1. It was a lovely tribute to John and the club gave Phyllis a white dogwood tree she can plant to remember him and remind her of how much MATC cares for her.

*Again, we remind you of our trip to Dover AFB for the **Thunder Over Dover Airshow** to celebrate Thunderbird Appreciation Day on May 22. We have just received the schedule (see attached) for the show and since the opening ceremony is at noon **we plan to meet at Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham Dover, 1703 E Lebanon Rd, Dover, DE 19901 parking lot at 11am so we can drive into the base together.** Not only will the USAF Thunderbirds be showing off, but so will the USN Blue Angels! The free admission entitles us to sitting in our lawn chairs near the flight line. There will be vendors with things like souvenirs and food and drink. There will be many static displays of various planes and helicopters and a parachute show by The Black Daggers. We have ordered t-shirts as pictured below. Those who ordered, please have your \$20 per shirt when we meet. We have reservations for dinner at Surf and Turf in Milford at 6pm Sunday. Bob Mench has invited us to his place on Monday. He has an amazing building filled with Tbird and other memorabilia, although he has been selling much of it off. We thought we would lunch at the Smyrna Diner after visiting his place. You can check out the menu here: [www.smyrnadiner.net](http://www.smyrnadiner.net). Please let us know if you want to join us for lunch.*

Cathy wants to set up a **ladies' lunch** in June in Havre de Grace. Looking at Thursday, June 9 to avoid weekend crowds. Let her know if interested.

We are also looking for folks who want to drive their Tbird in the **July 4 parade in Towson**. The committee loved us last year and has invited us back! If you ladies still have your retro 1950's outfits, we can go that way again. Please let Cathy know ASAP.

*Cathy & Steve*



## 2022 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
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
April thru October	Weekly Cruise Night		Arctic Circle Drive In Churchville, MD	Wednesday Evenings Weather Permitting
May 19-22	Cruisin' OC	Cruisin' OC	Ocean City, MD	infoevent@specialeventpro.com
May 22	Thunderbird Appreciation Day	***MATC	Dover DE	USAF Museum & Show Weekend See Details Attached
May/June	Driving Tour of Maryland Eastern Shore	***MATC	TBD	TBD
June 3-5	All Ford Nationals	Carlisle Events	Fairgrounds Carlisle PA	CarlisleEvents.com
July TBD	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade		Towson, MD	Participate in Annual Parade
July 17	Potluck Social Hosted by Dan & Zoeanne Denham	***MATC	Hydes, MD	Details Available Soon
August 5-7	Das Awscht Fest		Macungie, PA	dasawkschtfest.com
September TBD	Potluck Social Hosted by Phyllis Cherry	***MATC	Cascade, MD	Details Available Soon
Sept/Oct TBD	Driving Tour of Western: Foliage & Train Trip	***MATC	TBD	TBD
Sept 28-Oct 2	Fall Carlisle Flea Market, Corral & Auction	Carlisle Events	Carlisle Fairgrounds Carlisle, PA	CarlisleEvents.com
Oct 4-7	AACA Eastern Fall Nationals	AACA	Hershey, PA	AACA.org
October 6-9	Endless Summer Cruisin'	Cruisin' OC	Ocean City, MD	infoevent@specialeventpro.com
October 2022 Date TBD	Rockville, MD Antique & Classic Car Show	***MATC	Rockville Center Pk 603 Edmonston Drive Rockville, MD 20851	<a href="https://10times.com/rockville-antique-and-classic-car-show">https://10times.com/rockville-antique-and-classic-car-show</a>
November	Election of Officers	MATC		Consider running for an office
December 4	MATC Annual Christmas Party	***MATC	TBD	Details To Be Provided Later
Third Thursday 9:30 AM Monthly	Monthly Breakfast Gathering	***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>

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](http://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.



### 2022 Season Starts Soon

April 13, 10 AM: Wednesday Playdates Begin

April 16<sup>th</sup>: Saturday Playdates Begin

To check the schedule:

**[miracleleagueharford.org](http://miracleleagueharford.org)**

**Mid Atlantic Thunderbird Club at  
Dover Air Force Base, Dover DE  
USAF Thunderbirds & USN Blue Angels  
Thunder Over Dover**



**Thunderbird Appreciation Day  
May 22, 2022**

**Shows are free starting at 9 am, both air show and static displays. Thunderbirds, Blue Angels, Black Dragon parachute team and many unique planes on the ground.**





2022 Thunder over Dover Air Show  
Dover AFB, DE  
Airshow Schedule  
as of 4 May 2022



**Saturday 21 May 2022**

Time	Act
9:00	Airshow Gates Open
11:30	Airspace Closes for Airshow
12:00	Opening Ceremony
12:06	USASOC Black Daggers Parachute Team Demonstration
12:10	USASOC Black Daggers Parachute Team National Anthem Flag Jump
12:12	USAF Cargo Heritage Flight (C-47 & C-17)
12:14	Rob Holland MXS Aerobatic Teaser
12:25	USAF B-2A Spirit Demonstration (3-pass)
12:35	Patrick McAlee ExtremeFlight Pitts Aerobatic Demonstration
12:50	USMC Blue Angels C-130J Demonstration
1:00	USN Blue Angels Demonstration
2:00	USAF 436 <sup>th</sup> AMW C-5M Super Galaxy Demonstration
2:15	Historical Aircraft Review (B-25, TBM, P-51)
2:30	USCG MH-65D Dauphin Search & Rescue Demonstration
2:38	USMC AV-8B Harrier II Demonstration
2:50	USAF 436 <sup>th</sup> / 437 <sup>th</sup> AMW C-17A Globemaster III Demonstration
3:05	Rob Holland MXS Aerobatic Demonstration
3:20	USAF Thunderbirds Re-Enlistment Ceremony
3:30	USAF Thunderbirds Demonstration
5:00	Airshow Ends, Gates Close

**Sunday 22 May 2022**

Time	Act
9:00	Airshow Gates Open
11:30	Airspace Closes for Airshow
12:00	Opening Ceremony
12:06	USASOC Black Daggers Parachute Team Demonstration
12:10	USASOC Black Daggers Parachute Team National Anthem Flag Jump
12:12	USAF Cargo Heritage Flight (C-47 & C-17)
12:14	Rob Holland MXS Aerobatic Teaser
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2:50	Rob Holland MXS Aerobatic Demonstration
3:05	USAF Thunderbirds Demonstration
5:00	Airshow Ends, Gates Close

*Schedule is subject to change without notice due to mechanical considerations, weather conditions, and other matters beyond the control of the Event.*

*We hope that you enjoy the show!*

**CARLISLE  
NATIONALS**



## **All Ford Nationals Gate Pass Available**

**MATC member Dan Luber has registered for a gate pass at the 2022 AFN event but has found out that he has a conflict for the weekend and will not be able to use it. He has very graciously offered it to an MATC member who might be able to use it. He has registered his '64 TBird for the show but I believe this can be changed to a different car at the gate. You should verify this with the Carlisle folks first. I have changed vehicles in the past. Contact Dan if you are interested in his offer. Phone: 443-421-4682 or [dj-Dan@comcast.net](mailto:dj-Dan@comcast.net). Thanks again to Dan for his consideration and generosity.**

# What you need to know about E15 fuel

14 April 2022 / Michael Godek



Ethanol fuels are not new, but recent legislation targeting high-fuel prices has brought the biofuel back to the forefront of the conversation. What is this change and how will you be affected? It's pretty simple: Tuesday's announcement is merely an extension of a practice already in place seasonally. The announcement made by President Biden earlier this week will temporarily allow the sale of E15-blend gasoline through the summer months, a time period in which it is typically banned. This cuts the amount of fossil fuels in each tank by raising the ethanol content of each gallon sold from the typical 10 percent to 15. Ideally, wider availability of a more ethanol-rich fuel will insulate consumers (and their wallets) from high oil prices and supply-chain issues.

Can your car safely sip this new cocktail? A 5 percent increase in ethanol content is not anything over which most drivers should worry, as the vast majority of vehicles produced after 2001 are E15-tolerant. E15's compatibility with most 21st-century engines traces back to its first implementations in 2012 across a handful of midwestern states. The Environmental Protection Agency has previously been leery of approving E15 fuels for summer use due to the evaporation during warmer temperatures, which can lead to smog; hence why, in 2022, the wider availability of E15 expires this fall.

For classic car owners, E15 fuels are best avoided due to increased likelihood of corrosion from the ethanol content and probable system incompatibilities. For instance, traditional, rubber fuel lines are known to degrade faster with ethanol-blended fuels, which also result in increased deposits if fuel evaporates inside components like fuel pumps and carburetors.

Another issue, which applies to any vehicle running on E15, is the relative energy density of ethanol blends. Ethanol releases less energy when burned compared to gasoline. The 5 percent increase in ethanol content will cause fuel economy to dip, but the change would be about the same as a small change in driving style or variance in weather conditions (such as a light headwind). [Studies have proven this](#) decrease to be in the single digits: 3 to 4 percent fewer mpg when running on E10 rather than 100 percent gas, and 4 to 5 percent when using E15.

In short, this is a change that will have minimal impact on most drivers and their budgets. Classic cars and trucks should still avoid ethanol-blended fuels if possible. (There's little chance of E15 sneaking its way into your tank unannounced: Pumps must be labeled with what type of fuel the consumer is purchasing, and thus you will know whether you are putting E10 or E15 in your tank.) Use a site like [Pure-gas.org](#) to find whether there are stations near you with the option of ethanol-free fuels. Lower-ethanol, higher-gasoline fuel may be worth the extra coin for your classic engines, but don't fret over using E15 in modern vehicles that are used on a regular basis.

## May Birthdays



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

**Linda Loving (21) Betty Marcellino (30)**

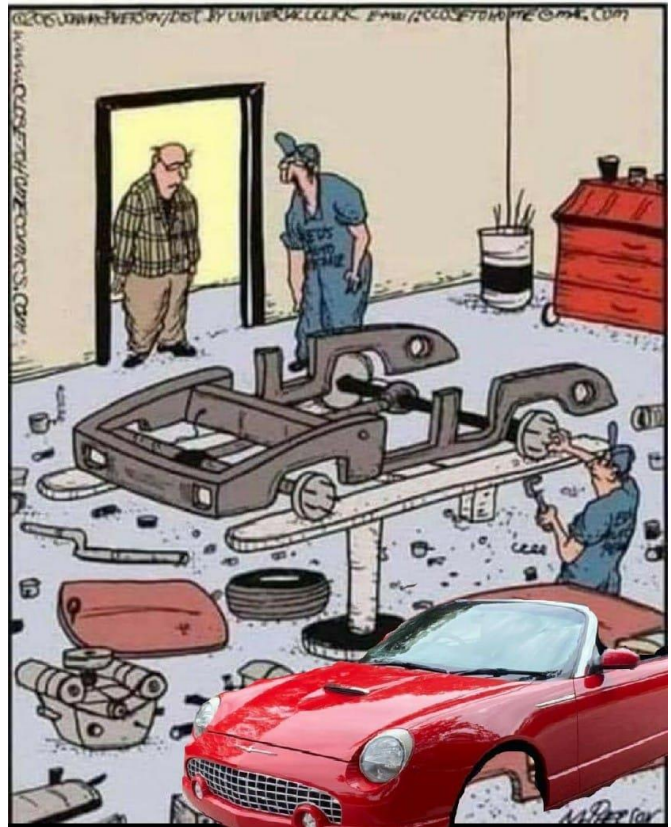
*Note: If we missed your birthday, please advise the editor. We are sorry for the oversight. Thanks!*

### Welcome Aboard to Our New Members:

Please remember to carry and use the MATC recruitment business cards and/or a membership application to distribute to perspective members. If you need more of the cards or applications, please contact any MATC officer.



Turns out it was a marble in the ashtray 😂😂





## **MEMBER NEWS & HAPPENINGS:**

- It is with great sadness that we inform the MATC membership of the passing of **John Cherry**, husband of MATC Director Phyllis Cherry. John & Phyllis graciously opened their vacation cabin in north/central MD for one of the MATC signature events each Fall, often called the “Cherry Festival.” A memorial gathering was held in John’s memory on May 1<sup>st</sup> during which a dogwood tree was presented to Phyllis and her family by MATC co-Presidents Cathy and Steve Kelley on behalf of the MATC membership to be planted in John’s memory. Please keep Phyllis and her family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



*Phyllis sends her “sincere thanks to the MATC membership for such a thoughtful gift. It will serve as a reminder of the wonderful man I was lucky enough to be married to for 52 years.”*

- It is also with sadness that we report that one of the founders of ITC (International Thunderbird Club) and its first president, **Ken Lehman**, passed away on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ken, and his wife Ann, were fixtures at ITC and other Thunderbird events since the founding of the club. Memorial plans are incomplete at the time of the publication of this newsletter.
- Several of our members are continuing to receive on-going medical treatment for various medical issues. These include Dan Denham, Mike Melnyk, Ray Raeke, and Harry Skruch. 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!*



## Who's Who In MATC

### Featured Member(s): Earl & Judy Dickinson, former MATC Secretary



Judy and Earl currently live in York, Pennsylvania, but we began our life story in the Laurel Highlands of Western Pennsylvania. We met when Judy was attending nursing school. Earl had just been retired from the Army. We were married in September 1967. Life together in Maryland began in 1968, after Judy finished nursing school. Earl worked in the electronics industry, designing printed circuit board layouts for the space and communications industry. Judy worked as an RN in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. We are now both retired, living in Pennsylvania near our daughter and her family.

Earl married into a Thunderbird family. Judy's family only drove Fords. It was a family event to attend the yearly fall introduction of the new Ford models, including Thunderbirds, at the local dealership. The family shared garage space with an elderly neighbor who just happened to have a 1964 Thunderbird Landau. In the fall of 1965, Judy's Dad bought that Thunderbird and moved it to his own space. They drove the '64 until Judy's Dad bought a new 1970 Thunderbird. Her Mother refused to sell the 1964 so it was stored in their garage where it sat untouched until 1980. That is when Earl talked Judy's parents into giving them the Thunderbird with the promise he would restore it. He had the car trailered to our Maryland home before they had a chance to change their minds. The T-bird needed an engine tune-up, shocks, and a new brake system. After the repairs and a general clean-up, it wasn't bad. It still had some rust around the rear wheel wells and some dings on the door. We drove it to club events in that condition for many years.

Our 1964 Thunderbird had a complete restoration done in 1998. Over the years, we drove it to many local events and out-of-state ITC Conventions. Driving home from the Charleston Convention we got stuck in road construction, the heat was miserable without air conditioning in that car. We decided we needed a Thunderbird with air conditioning. In 2007 we bought our 2005 Retro Bird after seeing it advertised on e-bay. It was a local Maryland car with 2,165 miles on the odometer. We have enjoyed the air conditioning and driving it to MATC events ever since.

In the early 1980s, we joined the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of VTCI and continued as members until MATC and the International Thunderbird Club were formed in 1993. We are still members of MATC but left ITC in 2013. Earl is a past vice president of MATC in the '90s (with Dan Garvey as President). Earl is also a past district advisor for ITC and traveled several years to assist with convention planning. Judy is a past MATC secretary. We have enjoyed the fellowship and friends we have made over the past 41 years belonging to MAC/VTCI, MATC/ITC, and MATC. It's great being around like-minded people, enjoying each other's company and our Thunderbirds.



# Romancing The Chrome 2022

## Jarrettsville, MD



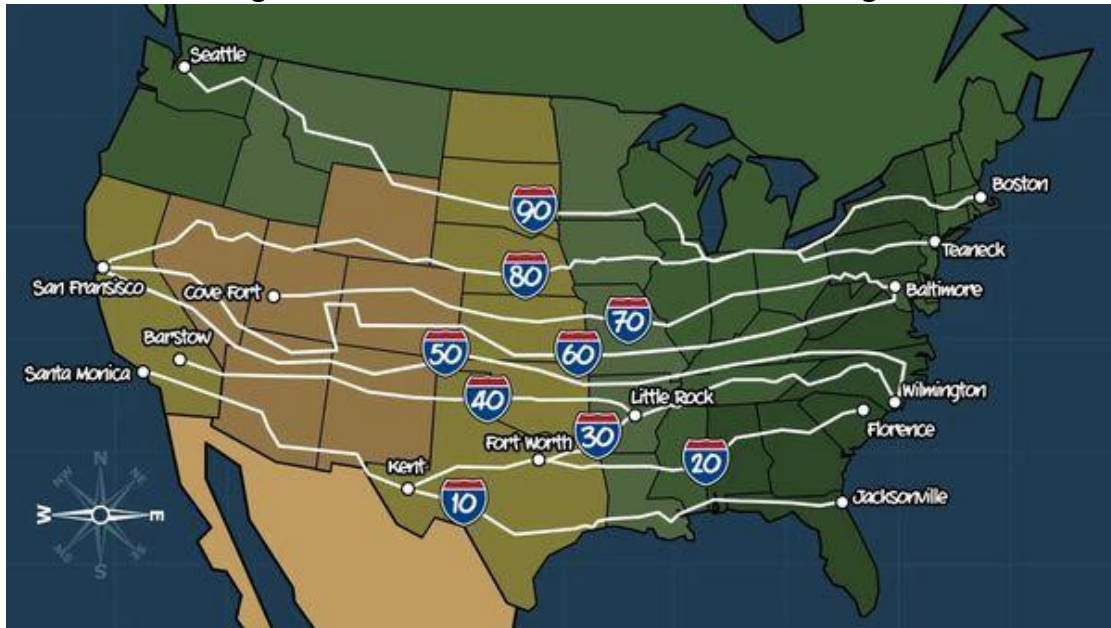
**MATC was represented by members Forte, Horn, Panowitz & Read.**



# Did You Know?

## The US Interstate Numbering System

Numbering is Even Numbers South to North in Chronological Order



Numbering is Odd Numbers West to East in Chronological Order



Editor's Note: I did not realize I-10 ran coast to coast, California to Florida, until this was pointed out by a tour guide during Barb and my recent Mississippi River and NOLA trip. I have driven on both ends of it and parts of the middle. Exciting! And I realize I-81 is not shown. I guess the native Americans took their land back.

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

**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)



A

B

### **T-Shirts**

#### **While They Last!**

**A = 45<sup>th</sup> MATC Anniversary T-Shirt; Sizes - L, XL, XXL; \$15 each - 2 for \$25 plus S&H**

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

### **Thelma & Louise TBird Collectible Models** **Coming Very Soon**



### **Coming Soon!**

**UPDATE:** The Greenlight 1964-66 model Thunderbirds will be arriving soon. There will be 1:64 and 1:43 versions, top up and top down. The series will include several versions of the famous (infamous?) TBird featured in Thelma and Louise. There will also be a '64 hardtop in red and '65 convertibles in black and white. I will have all of them available for sale when they become available at very attractive pricing for MATC members. It is really great that a toy company is tooling up for this vintage TBird for a change rather than a 55-57. Of course, I would like to see more retro versions too. Projected arrival date to me is now April and May forward. Some have popped up on various online sites so I should be seeing my order soon.

**Skip (4/22)**

**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

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, newsletter delivered electronically, or  
\$40 due each January, newsletter delivered via US Postal Service

New Members Partial Dues:

\$15 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 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 Rd.; Nottingham, MD 21236; 410-256-2740**

Visit us at [www.midatlantictbirdclub.org](http://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 2021)**

**Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club**

**9 Lake Drive**

**Bel Air, MD 21014**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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

*Charter & Founding Chapter, International Thunderbird Club*

