

**JUNE
2016**

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MID-ATLANTIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB
Charter Member, International Thunderbird Club



**MATC
THUNDERBIRD
NEWSLETTER**



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

Monthly Third Thursday Bird Breakfast in Bel Air
July 21, 9:30 AM

Greek Village Diner, 129 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, MD 21014

July 10, Sunday, 1:00 PM

\$2 a Plate POTLUCK SOCIAL Hosted by Zoeanne and Dan Denham,
5626 Williams Rd, Hydes MD, 21082

(Near Boordy Vineyard), See later page for directions. So our hosts can prepare,
Please RSVP if you will be attending at least 5 days in advance,

Home Telephone: 410-592-2329, email: garagex4@comcast.net

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.

"M to S" Salad "A to L" Main Dish "T to Z" Dessert

If bringing a salad or main dish, please provide enough to serve at least 8 people. If bringing a dessert, please provide enough to serve at least 10 people.

Directions: To Dan and Zoeanne

From Bel Air: Go south on Bel Air Road to Mount Vista Road (traffic light at Hubers) and turn Right.

Follow Mount Vista Road, cross over Harford Road. Road name Changes to Glen Arm East. Follow Glen Arm Road, turn right onto Williams Road.

From Beltway 695 Inner-loop: Exit 29A, onto Cromwell Bridge Road, turn left. Follow Cromwell Bridge Road to the end and turn left onto Glen Arm Road (cross over the bridge).

Follow Glen Arm Road to Long Green Pike (4-way Stop). Turn left onto Long Green Pike. Follow Long Green Pike to Williams Road. Make a right turn.

From York PA: (All Highway route) Go 83 South to Balt. Beltway East. Follow the directions for 695 above.

From York PA: (the cross country route) Go South on Int 83 to Maryland Line Exit, Route 439.

Follow Route 439 to Route 23 (Norrisville Road), turn Right,

Follow Route 23 to Route 146 (Jarrettsville Pike), turn right.

Follow Route 146 to Route 152 (Fallston Road), turn left.

Follow Route 152 to Route to Route 165 (Baldwin Mill Road) turn Right.

Follow Route 165 to Long Green Pike, turn Right. Follow Route 165 to Williams Road, turn Left.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2016 TENTATIVE EVENTS CALENDAR

Official MATC/ITC activities are 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
Thursday, July 21 9:30 AM	Monthly Third Thursday Breakfast Gathering	MATC	Greek Village Diner 129 Baltimore Pike Bel Air, MD 21014	https://www.facebook.com/pages/Greek-Village-Restaurant/
July 10 Sun	Potluck Social hosted by Dan & Zoeanne Denham	MATC	Hydes, MD	
Aug 5,6,7 Fri to Sun	Das Awkscht Fescht		Macungie Mem. Park Macungie, PA	http://awkscht.com/entertainment.html
Aug 28	Potluck Social hosted by John and Phyllis Cherry	MATC	Cascade, MD (near Thurmont)	
Sept 6 - 11	ITC Convention	ITC	Harrisburg, PA	
Sept 13-18	LVTC TBird Convention	LVTC	Bethlehem, PA	
Sept 17	41 st Edgar Rohr Memorial Antique Car Meet	Bull Run AACA	9101 Prince William St. Manassas, Virginia	www.bullrunaaca.org/
Oct 5 - 8 Wed - Sat	Fall Hershey	AACA	Hershey, PA	http://hersheyaaca.org/fallmeet.html
Oct 6 – 9 Thurs - Sun	Endless Summer	Special Event Productions	Ocean City MD \$45 by April 30	https://www.specialeventpro.com/endless-summer-cruisin
Saturday Oct 15 Rain Date: 22	Rockville Antique and Classic Auto Show 8:30a – 3:30p	MATC	Rockville Civic Center Park, Rockville MD	See website for registration. http://www.rockvillemd.gov/events/carshow.htm
Oct 22 - 23	Shenandoah Valley Tour	MATC		
Nov	Tech Session	MATC		
Nov	Officer Election	MATC		
Sunday December 4 1:00 pm	Annual Christmas Party	MATC	Dobbin House 89 Steinwahr Avenue Gettysburg, PA	Menu, registration and directions enclosed in November Newsletter
Third Thursday, Every Month 9:30 AM	Monthly Breakfast Gathering	MATC	Greek Village Diner 129 Baltimore Pike Bel Air, MD 21014	https://www.facebook.com/pages/Greek-Village-Restaurant/

Other Events:

CRAACA: See <http://chesapeakeaaca.org/pages/activities/calendars/craaca/default.html>

June 24: Antique Car Show: Baltimore Streetcar Museum - Falls Road, Baltimore, MD

July 4 Towson Area Independence Day Parade, Towson, MD , 9:00 am assembly, Burke Avenue, west of York

July 9 Antique Car Show: Fire Museum of Maryland - 1301 York Road, Lutherville, MD 21093

Hunt Valley Horsepowering: Every Saturday 8:00a to 10:00a, Location: Hunt Valley Town Center (Shawan Road) in the parking lot between Joe's Crab Shack and the former Best Buy location. <http://horsepowering.com/>

Lowes' Cruise: Friday Nights, 4:30 – 11:00 , All Vehicles, 414 Constant Friendship Blvd, Abingdon, MD

Car Cruise and Show Guide: <http://carmacruise.com/>

For Sale: 55 Thunderbird Project Car, Disassembled, Have soft and Hard top. Have most all parts to rebuild. \$11,000.
Dan Denham, 410-592-2329,

For Sale: A 35 year collection of T Bird Parts ,many NOS. For sale individually or by lot. Contact; 703-560-8014, Frank Toth or email franktoth@AOL.Com for an email list of parts,

For Sale: 2002 Thunderbird . We are the original owners – purchased April 10, 2002; Current mileage: 9063; Black with White Hardtop – also comes with Black Soft-top and dark grey leather interior; Premium Model; Includes Storage Cart and Car Cover; Stored in climate controlled garage; Full service records (Serviced at Battlefield Ford); Car in excellent condition and treated as a Classic T-Bird should be; Price: \$ 25,000; Contact Warren Hayes at (703) 368-0170 or warrenhayes@aol.com



For Sale: 1966 Thunderbird Convertible miles. It is an extremely rare car with a Q-Code , 428 engine, and Factory A/C. The color is a Thunderbird only 1966 color called Sapphire Blue with a White Interior. Some other rare highlights are the factory 8-track radio, Power Antenna, Power Windows. We repainted it the original color about 6 years ago but the interior is completely original. If you need more info, please David at 615-566-1975, Georgia.

26th Ocean City Crusin' May 19 -22



Bob Ridolphi w/ Black 66 Convertible
@ the OC Convention Center



Blue Bird at the OC Convention Center

57 Thunderbird Kit Car



From The Editor:

Remember John Marowski in your prayers. He is still recovering at home from spinal surgery.

The 26th Ocean City Crusin' happened May 19 -22. Zoeanne and I located Kathy and Bob Ridolphi at the Ocean City Convention Center Parking Lot display. Three Thousand – Five Hundred Cars were registered for the Show, but more than that number attended unregistered. The show was massive. Shopping Center parking lots from 118th street to 131st Street were packed with vehicles. The rain on Saturday and Sunday was unfortunate. Blue Bird returned home before the rain arrived.

Retro Thunderbird Battery Adventure, *by Steve Kelley*

My Thunderbird is a Red 2003. I'm not sure but that may be the only color it came in. Anyway, I went out to take it for a spin and found the battery tender showing a green light. Great. I disconnected it and closed the trunk. I went forward and opened the driver door, which felt funny. I got in and hit the ignition switch and...nothing. Well now I knew why the door felt funny, the window did not lower like it should have. No problem, my buddy Skip had told me that there was an emergency trunk release. Now let's see where did they put it? I know I'll just get out my service manual and check it. Oh wait, it's in the trunk. Drat!



Well I'll call Skip and ask him to refresh my memory. He told me to look for a key hole behind the driver's seat. Sure enough it was in plain sight. I inserted the ignition key turn it to the right and....nothing. Back on the phone to Skip and had him check his service manual. We did a little comparison to his Bird and mine and determined mine was not working. Double Drat!!

The next day was the monthly MATC breakfast meeting and I thought it would be a great subject for my Third brain trust. (Skip, Ray, John, Harry, Dan and Ron) As it turned out no one at the breakfast had experience this problem. We talked about removing the trunk release button in the driver side door and applying 12v to see if we could jump the switch. But my buddy Harry warned that if I did that it might go to the ECM and then to the trunk release switch. If so it may damage the ECM. We talked about trying to get through the wall behind the seats, but with the hard top on and the soft top filling the bay, there was no way. We talked about trying to take out the emergency key release and pulling the cable manually, but that would be a lot of work and besides, what if the cable had broken on the trunk latch end? After a lot of discussion and a great breakfast it was decided the best course of action was to discuss it with the service department at Plaza Ford.

So a few days later Skip and I made a journey over and picked up a new battery. In talking to a service manager and mechanic the suggestion was to crawl under the car and attach a battery jumper box to the positive pole of the starter and ground the other side. He was not sure that would work and he had not tried it himself but if I towed it in that's what he would try.

Before I go further I would like to add that, as you may know the Retro Thunderbirds require a battery with a drain, so you are probably not going to find one at Wal-Mart. I shopped online and called a few super stores. To my surprise the best price was at the Ford Dealer! Not only did it cost 20% less but it was a 100 month battery! All the others I found were 36 or 48 month. So thanks FoMoCo.

Now back to the adventure.

I called another buddy of mine, Jack, although he owns a lot of cars he does not own a Thunderbird. But he is a pretty good guy. I'm sure it's only a matter of time before he sees the light. He does have a 29' Ford pickup. As we made our plan, and drank a Coors Lite, it became plain to see that the car was going to need to be jacked up if Jack was going to fit underneath. That's right I said Jack. No way to get my God like body (Buddha) under a Retro Tbird. But no worries the Tbird came with a handy dandy jack... wait it's in the trunk. Triple Drat!

But no worries I have a 4-ton floor jack, which of course won't quite fit under the side of the car. A Coors Lite later and we came up with the idea to inflate the passenger side front tire. Voila it worked! After setting the parking break and chocking the rear tires, I slid the jack under, pumped it about 10 times then I slid Jack under with the jumper box. He made the attachments and I hit the trunk release button on the driver's door... Nothing. Jack said let me wiggle the connections a little. All of a sudden the driver window went down slightly. Success!! I quickly hit the release again and heard that wonderful sound of the trunk popping open.

One other thing I wanted to mention. In taking out the old battery I found that it had not been installed correctly or the vent hose had slipped off. In any case it had "vented" onto my trunk floor. But with a little water, baking soda and elbow grease it was cleaned up. Might be something you should check from time to time. Also I'm going to see how much trouble it would be to run a red battery cable from the starter nut to a mounting spot under the hood so if this comes up again it will be much easier to jump. I'll let you know how that project works out.

President's Message June/July 2016

First, let me apologize for the tardiness in this President's Message and newsletter. A lot has been going on, as you will see later in my message, so Dan and I have decided to combine two issues into one. The proposed June activity, the railroad trip in New Freedom, PA has been postponed until later in the year. There have also been suggestions for other activities that might be coordinated in its place. Any of your ideas are always welcome.

I want to share with the group an experience I had in May. I made my yearly trek to the Annual Ford Stockholder's Meeting in Wilmington, DE. I won't recap the details of the general meeting as it is available through various sources on-line. Things are generally very good from a company standpoint, especially growth, sales numbers and profit. One exception was concerns by stockholders about the stagnant stock price. But overall the future looks good.



While there I had an opportunity to chat with Bill Ford. In the past, I have asked him about his Tbird (a TB '02) as well as the possibility of seeing a Tbird in production again. Generally his answer has been the market is just not right for that type of car. This year was a little different. When I entered the meeting room he was talking with someone across the aisle from the row I was sitting in. When he was finished, I had a chance to briefly chat with him as there were a number of folks trying to get his attention. I asked him how his car was doing, and what were the chances we would

see the TBird back in production again. He said his car was great, he had just had it out recently, and then an assistant ushered him away to meet with someone. I sat down, and a few minutes later someone tapped me on the shoulder from behind. It was Bill Ford. He apologized for being pulled away. And we must have spent 5 minutes or more talking about the return of the TBird and TBirds in general. Keep in mind this is a lot of time from his perspective before the meeting began. He told me he has three TBirds, including the '02 and a '57. And he indicated that a revival of the TBird "is something we really need to do".

He felt it should be a two seater (yay!!) which I agreed with. He also indicated that it must be a world car and commented on the success of the Mustang in Europe. I advised him that there were thousands of TBird enthusiasts in the numerous TBird organizations I belong to that are anxious to see the car return. He said he understood and really appreciated the enthusiasm that collectors and enthusiasts had for the car. He felt that the Bird had lost its way to some extent in the past and that was the reason that he felt it should be a two seater. I suggested to him "please, no SUV models when it returns" which he laughed and agreed with. Overall, a very unexpected and encouraging dialogue. Now, I am not so naive to think that his conversation is a guarantee that we are going to see a next generation TBird soon. Or maybe ever depending on the condition of the market and the Ford Motor Company. But it is promising that the Executive Chairman of the Board is thinking along those lines. It certainly is the most optimistic I have been for, well, 11 years.

I have attended three great events since the last newsletter. First was the OC Cruisin' event in Ocean City, MD. Dan and Zoeanne Denham as well as Kathy and Bob Ridolfi also attended. Bob had his '66 convertible on the show field and had his '59 hardtop entered in the Saturday auction. Several thousand cars were on display at the two venues which included the Inlet parking lot and the OC Convention Center. And there were a few TBirds participating. I provided the owners with MATC and ITC applications and information so we might get a few new members. I have included a few photos of the TBirds that participated in the event. Next was the All Ford Nationals in Carlisle, PA. This is always well attended by MATC members. I was only able to attend Friday, but there was a good showing of MATC members including Phil Hack, the Raekes, the Fries' and Nick Anzano. ITC was represented with a tent as were the Lehigh Valley TBird Club, the Eastern Carolina TBird and Ford Club and NATO. And there was a very good showing of TBirds of all vintages. And there were even more on Saturday when the weather was better. This show is always a great showcase of TBirds and all Ford products.

Next, in my capacity as the Mid-Atlantic District Advisor for ITC, I attended the North New Jersey Thunderbird Association annual all Thunderbird show in Pompton Plains, NJ. What a great show! There were over 60 TBirds participating representing many vintages of the marque. Again, threatening weather probably kept the attendance numbers lower than usual, but it was still a great showing. As usual, the show was well organized and coordinated. It was great chatting with folks I have not seen for a while, meeting some new folks and socializing with old friends. Not only was this the 34th edition of the show, but the club is celebrating its 40th anniversary. There was a celebration with cake and ice cream for all. I didn't have my car judged, but did receive a great participation plaque. This show is a little bit of a trek for MATC folks, about a 3 hour run from my home, but it would be great to have the club represented in the future. Members from the Long Island and Lehigh Valley clubs attended this year's event.

The NJTA 40th anniversary celebration got me thinking a little bit. MATC, in all of its iterations, is at least 42 years old because I have been a member that long. It looks like we should have the opportunity for an important milestone celebration in the near future. I will need to do a little bit of research to see when the club was started. Perhaps one of our long term members might have some thoughts on this. Kitty? Earl Zastrow? I see a party in our future.

Barb and I had an interesting experience at the Friday night cruise at the Abingdon Lowe's earlier in June. While admiring a very nice '64 driver, I asked a young man standing near it if it was his. To our surprise he said yes. He indicated that he has four of them all in some stage of restoration. He went on to say that he would be a senior in college next year, studying chemical engineering. He is looking forward to graduating and getting a job so that he has the financial resources to work on his cars. I presented him with one of our recruitment cards, and he showed us that he already had one. Thank you John Markowski! I asked him why he had not joined yet. His response was to ask me if there was anyone near his age in the club. I told him other than the member's kids, not so much. But that we are friendly and don't bite. And our members are great resources for his questions on restoring his cars. Hopefully we will see him at an event soon. Please keep your eyes and ears open for prospective new members.

If you are planning to attend either or both of the Thunderbird conventions this summer please get your hotel reservations made and your registration submitted ASAP. This helps the coordinators with planning. Registration and hotel information are included with this newsletter. They are also available on the ITC and Lehigh Valley TBird Club websites. Both are well planned and organized events.

Steve Kelley and I continue working on another apparel order. We should have some additional ordering information for you in the near future.

Please, please support your club by regularly visiting the MATC website and Facebook page at least weekly. This will not only help you keep up to date, but will also help make certain that these important MATC sources will be ranked as high as possible on the internet listings when folks are searching for TBird clubs and activities. Also, please submit your car and event photos and a profile of yourself and your car to Dan and Steve Kelley for inclusion in the newsletter and website.

Barb and I look forward to seeing MATC members at the forthcoming annual event at the Denham's. Bringing or inviting a prospective member would be great too, as well as to the Third Thursday TBird breakfast.

Cruising season is here, so enjoy your car(s). And, as always, be careful out there - But have fun **Skip**