



Established 1981  
Chapter of the Vintage Thunderbird Club International  
[www.MichiganTBirds.org](http://www.MichiganTBirds.org)

Chapter of the International thunderbird Club

December, 2020

Volume 40 Issue 12

Presidents Report

December 2020

The pandemic year 2020 is nearly at an end and hoping that 2021 gets off to a good start. Our lives can get back to normal and we can all meet again for some good times together and enjoy our T-Birds.

The Board is still focusing on meeting in January to get a schedule of events in place for 2021. We are only as good as our members make us so please submit your ideas to any board member to make this a fun 2021.

Marie and JoAnn are still updating the Repair List. Notify us if you have a recommendation of a repair shop that has given you good service or if there is a company on the list that has moved or should be removed from the list.

Also don't forget to pay your dues for 2021. The Membership Form is attached.

Look forward to seeing all of you in 2021. Have a Very Merry Christmas and the happiest New Year. Please stay safe.

JoAnn Rodriguez, President



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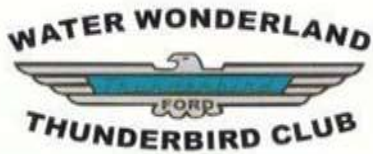
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## **2021 Tentative Schedule of Events:**

Jan  
Feb  
Mar  
Apr  
May – Annual Dust Off  
June  
July – Annual Picnic  
Aug- Pre-Dream Cruise  
Sept. – All T-Bird Day  
Oct – Annual Hines Park Cider Cruise  
Nov – Planning Meeting for 2022  
Dec- Annual Christmas Party





## MEMBERSHIP FORM

WWTC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, restoration and enjoyment of all Thunderbirds.

**New Member**

**Renewal**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Birth Date (month/day) \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/partner's \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

T-Bird \_\_\_\_\_ Style \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

T-Bird \_\_\_\_\_ Style \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW:** If you are a member of other Thunderbird Clubs, please provide us with those membership numbers:

VTCL (Vintage Thunderbird Club Interntl) # \_\_\_\_\_ ITC (Interntl Thunderbird Club) # \_\_\_\_\_

CTCL (Classic Thunderbird Club Interntl) # \_\_\_\_\_ Other: name \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO WWTC TO:

**Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club**

**P.O. Box 2597**

**Taylor, MI 48180**

Email Newsletter \$25/member/year

Mailed Newsletter \$35/member/year

WWTC was established in 1981 as a non-profit Michigan organization. We are also a local chapter of the Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCL) as well as a current chapter in International Thunderbird Club (ITC). WWTC is dedicated to the preservation, restoration and enjoyment of all Thunderbird automobiles. Our members are from all walks of life sharing one common interest: the love of Thunderbirds.

We publish a monthly newsletter full of interesting articles, technical tips, events and want ads for T-Bird enthusiasts. We meet on a monthly basis for a variety of social events and encourage participation by driving our Thunderbirds to the event - although you do not have to own a running Thunderbird to be a member.

We welcome ALL years of T-Birds! Why not come join us? For more information, visit us at [www.MichiganTbirds.org](http://www.MichiganTbirds.org), or contact Membership Director Marie Brucker (email: [m.brucker@comcast.net](mailto:m.brucker@comcast.net), phone 810-227-5379). We hope to see you soon!

FOR OFFICE USE:

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ Check Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Check Date \_\_\_\_\_

## LOW RISK ACTIVITIES

TO AVOID CONTRACTING  
THE CORONAVIRUS  
(COVID-19)



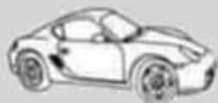
Hang out with your **CAR**

Detailing your **CAR**



Driving your **CAR**

Washing your **CAR**



Looking at your **CAR**

Reminding your **CAR** it is a  
good **CAR**



Replying to this with a picture of  
your **CAR**

## NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED

sunshine is not cancelled  
love is not cancelled  
relationships are not cancelled  
reading is not cancelled  
naps are not cancelled  
devotion is not cancelled  
music is not cancelled  
dancing is not cancelled  
imagination is not cancelled  
kindness is not cancelled  
conversations are not cancelled  
hope is not cancelled



## 2020 Full Parking Lot

Our club continues to be vibrant and active—thanks to all of you participating & handing out membership forms and our monthly newsletters to friends and passersby. We now have 125 family memberships with 137 T-birds!

### Classic Birds 1955-1957

1955 = 10    1956 = 6    1957 = 13

### Square Birds 1958-1960

1958 = 1    1959 = 2    1960 = 7

### BULLET BIRDS 1961-1963

1961 = 2    1962 = 7    1963 = 6

### Flair Birds 1964-1966

1964 = 8    1965 = 9    1966 = 13

### Glamour Birds 1967-1971

1967=3    1968=3    1969=1    1970=3  
1971=1

### BIG BIRDS 1972-1982

1973 = 1    1977=1    1979=3

### Aero Birds 1983-1988

1983= 1    1986 = 1    1988 = 1

### Super Birds 1989-1997

1990=1    1991=1    1994=1    1997=1

### Retro Birds 2002-2005

2002=12    2003=6    2004=10    2005=5

## Interesting WWTC Club Facts

We have...

- 137 Thunderbirds in WWTC
- 20 members who own more than one Bird
- 8 members who own NO Birds but like them a lot—and US too!
- 5 members own 3 Birds!
- Several members own 2!

Comparing old and new Birds?

- 29 original “Baby Birds”
- 33 Retro Birds

### Interesting facts...

All original baby Thunderbirds and the recent Retro Birds are classified as Roadsters. All 1956s had a continental kit! All 1957s were 9 inches longer than previous models. Some came with a hard top, some with a soft top, and some required an umbrella.

### YOU:

**See a T-bird? Find and recruit them for membership--especially 70s, 80s & 90s Birds!**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

When you own a Thunderbird—You only need a flight plan!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Antique Car Owners:

*We collectors are merely caretakers*

*of history. When it comes time to sell...*

*We pass the relics on to a new caretaker.*

# Mechanic's Tool Guide

**Hammer:** Originally employed as a weapon of war, this tool is used today as a kind of divining rod for locating expensive parts not far from the object you are trying to hit.

**Mechanic's Knife:** Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons. Works particularly well on boxes containing canvas, rubber, and leather items.

**Electric Hand Drill:** Normally used for spinning steel pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age. Also works well for drilling mounting holes in fenders right over the brake line.

**Hacksaw:** One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

**Pliers:** Used to round off bolt heads.

**Vise-grips:** Also used to round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**Oxyacetylene Torch:** Used almost exclusively for setting flammable objects in your garage on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside a brake drum from which you are trying to remove a bearing race.

**Whitworth Sockets:** Once used for working on older British cars and motorcycles, they are now used mainly for impersonating that 9/16" or 5/8" socket you've been searching for for the last 15 minutes.

**Drill Press:** A tall upright machine useful for snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest without warning and flings your soda can across the room, spilling the contents on the freshly painted part you are drying.

**Wire Wheel:** Cleans rust off old bolts and then throws them under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprint whorls and hard-earned guitar callouses in about the time it takes to say, "Ouc..."

**Hydraulic Floor Jack:** Used for lowering a vehicle to the ground after you have installed new brakes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the front fender.

**Eight-foot Long Douglas Fir 2x4:** Used for levering a vehicle off a hydraulic jack.

**Tweezers:** Useful for removing wood splinters.

**Phone:** Used to call your neighbor to see if he has another hydraulic floor jack.

**Gasket Scraper:** Can be used for spreading mayonnaise on bread for a sandwich, but used primarily for removing dog doo from your boot.

**E-Z Out Bolt and Stud Extractor:** A tool that snaps off in bolt holes and is ten times harder than any known drill bit.

**Timing Light:** A stroboscopic instrument for illuminating grease buildup.

**Two-ton Hydraulic Engine Hoist:** A handy tool for testing the tensile strength of ground straps and brake lines you forgot to disconnect.

**Craftsman 1/2" x 16" Screwdriver:** A large motor mount pry bar that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip at the end without the handle.

**Battery Electrolyte Tester:** A handy tool for transferring sulfuric acid from a car battery to the inside of your toolbox as you confirm that your battery is dead as a doornail.

**Aviation Metal Snips:** See *hacksaw*.

**Trouble Light:** The mechanic's own tanning booth. Sometimes called a *drop light*, it is a good source of vitamin D, "the sunshine vitamin," which is not otherwise found under vehicles at night. Health benefits aside, its main purpose is to consume 40-watt light bulbs at about the same rate that 105mm howitzer shells might have been used during, say, the first few hours of the Battle of the Bulge. More often dark than light, its name is somewhat misleading.

**Phillips Screwdriver:** Normally used to stab the lids of old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splash oil on your shirt; can also be used, as the name implies, to round off Phillips screw heads.

**Air Compressor:** A machine that takes energy produced in a coal-burning power plant 200 miles away and transforms it into compressed air that travels by hose to a Chicago Pneumatic impact wrench that grips rusty bolts last tightened 60 years ago by someone in Springfield and rounds them off.

**Pry Bar:** A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding a clip or bracket you need to remove so you can replace a 50 cent part.

[This has been making the rounds in British car magazines and various newsletters and we thought you'd enjoy it too.—DHA]