



Established 1981
Chapter of the Vintage Thunderbird Club International
www.MichiganTBirds.org

Chapter of the International Thunderbird Club

January, 2022

Volume 42 Issue 1

Presidents Report

January 2022

Hope everyone had a relaxing Christmas and we will all have a wonderful New Year 2022.

Due to our inability to get a response from the Detroit Historical Museum we are cancelling the planned January event to visit the J. L. Hudson display at the museum.

Bee's In Detroit – February 19 – 12:00 to 2:00 – Ford Community & Performing Arts Center – 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, MI. Richard Anderson, a southwest Detroit Farmer and Bee Keeper will present a talk about Farming in Detroit and Bee Keeping for honey. We will have lunch of Pizza and Salad at \$10.00 per person. Please RSVP to JoAnn phone/text 248-719-0160 or e-mail joannbill801@comcast.net by February 16. Lunch will be paid for at the event.

On March 26 at 11:00 Dave Holt and Jim Herrera are inviting the club to their Oak Fern Galleria at 8520 W. 9 Mile, Oak Park. They have 16 cars, scale models, license plates and automotive brochures. Also in the rec room is a model car collection. Plans are to have lunch at Crispellis on Woodward in Berkeley. Complete details will be available in February Newsletter.

Hope to see you in February.

JoAnn Rodriguez, President

Dear Thunderbird Friends,

As of today, we have 134 member families in our club! Our goal is to get 2022 following everyone's name – meaning you have paid your 2022 dues. New members who joined at All T-Bird Day or later should have 2022 following your name. Let's everyone pay your 2022 dues and make this a great year. Marie Brucker, WWTC Membership Director.

WWTC Board Members
P.O. Box 2597
Taylor, MI 48180

JoAnn Rodriguez, President
248-719-0160
Joannbill801@comcast.net

George Roscoe, Vice President
egroscoe@charter.net

Nancy Seyfarth, Secretary
nancyloseyfarth@gmail.com

Elaine Roscoe, Treasurer
eroscoe626@icloud.com

Jim & Marie Brucker, Membership
810-227-5379
m.brucker@comcast.net

Deb Jameyfield, Newsletter Editor
debjohnson@accesstoledo.com

Rick Carniga, Tech Advisor
rickcarniga@gmail.com

Dave Lau, Tech Advisor
toomanycars@charter.net

Advisor:

Larry Seyfarth 313-436-8327

2022 Schedule of Events:

Jan – Detroit Historical - **Cancelled**

Feb 19 – Bee’s in Detroit

Mar 26 – Oak Fern Galleria

Apr – Classic Appreciation

May – Spring Dust Off

June – Crusin’ Down River

July – Annual Club Picnic

Aug- Pre-Dream Cruise

Sept. – All T-Bird Day

Oct – Annual Hines Park Cider Cruise

Nov – Annual Planning Meeting for 2023

Dec- Club Christmas Party





MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

New Member

Renewal

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____ Zip/Postal _____

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

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.

VTCI (Vintage Thunderbird Club Interntl) # _____ ITC (Interntl Thunderbird Club) # _____

CTCI (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 (VTCI) 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, or contact Membership Director Marie Brucker (email: m.brucker@comcast.net, phone 810-227-5379). We hope to see you soon!

Check No. _____ Check Amount _____ Check Date _____

Getting to know our members and their Thunderbirds

Don Morton & His Custom '55 Thunderbird

By Larry Seyfarth & Don Morton

In 1958 Don became the third owner of this '55 Thunderbird. However, his story with the car began in 1955 when the second owner contracted him to sketch a rather radical custom design for the Bird.

Don's creation began to take shape using a very early Ford dealer poster for the art work. It was designed to be shown, but also to be driven and enjoyed. With the concept complete, the construction and restoration were contracted to Clarkaiser, a well-known custom shop on Warren Avenue in Detroit. All body work was accomplished with metal and lead, using no plastic filler. Custom parts were fabricated using pieces from other cars to create the bumpers, fender skirts and more.

Soon after completion, Don became the third owner and began showing the Bird, immediately winning many awards at events including the Ford Rotunda, Detroit Autorama, Boca Raton FL., the Gilmore and many others.

During the early years he did some engine modifications and raced the Bird at the Detroit Drag Way. Due to the many pounds of lead in the construction, he did not set any records, but thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Don was no stranger to speed, having set a wheeled vehicle speed record of 202 MPH on the Bonneville Salt Flats with his modified 1930 Ford Model A.

Don's pride and enjoyment of his creation continues to this day.

Say hello to Don and his TB in the upcoming 2022 collector car season!!

Members are encouraged to submit articles with a couple of photos to: larryseyfarth@yahoo.com for inclusion in future newsletters.



Christmas Party 2021

