



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

Chapter of the International thunderbird Club

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President's Report

June 2020

Attached are pictures and days events of the Saturday May 23 Annual Dust Off lead by David & Jo Lau. Glad to see the cars out and everyone enjoying the day.

Due to the governors Stay at Home Order and no more than 10 people per gathering we will not have a June event.

The Board is planning the July Picnic scheduled for July 12. It may have a different look this year but we hope to continue with the picnic.

Depending on the Governors Orders the remainder of our year's events are being planned and hope to continue as scheduled.

The Board and I are hoping you are all surviving the "stay at home" order but you are getting the Birds out and going for a drive. The weather has finally warmed up and we need the fresh air.

Hope to see all of you soon.

Happy Father's Day to all the Dads and Grandpa's.

JoAnn Rodriguez

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2020 Schedule of Events:

Jan 18 (Sat) – Larry Seyfarth presentation – Ford Racing.

Feb 23 (Sun) – Chi Town Train and Prime 7 for Lunch (JoAnn)

March 14 (Sat) – Feather Bowling

April 26 (Sun) – Tech Talk (David & Rick)

May – Date TBD – Annual Dust Off (David)

June

July 12 (Sun) – Annual Club Picnic – Merriman Hollow (JoAnn)

July 31 (Fri) - Non sanctioned Club Event – Chelsea Car Show and Jiffy Mix Tour (**Cancelled**)

Aug 9 (Sun) – Pre-Dream Cruise (JoAnn)

Aug 30 (Sun) - Non sanctioned Club Event – Hines Park Cruise (JoAnn)

Sept 17-19 - 65th Anniversary & ITC National Convention

Oct 18 (Sun) – Annual Hines Park Cider Cruise (Nancy & JoAnn)

Nov 14 – 2021 Planning Meeting – (JoAnn & Marie)

Dec 6 (Sun) – Annual Christmas Party (Venue and Entertainment TBD) (Nancy & JoAnn)

2020 Dust Off

Fifteen cars showed up right on time to Jo and David Lau's house on N. Territorial Road. Participants were evenly split between the Falcon and Thunderbird clubs. The prediction was for sunny skies rather than cloudy but at least there was no rain in sight. We pulled out at 10:15 with Gene Johnson's MGB in the lead. We made it a full mile before the first casualty. Mike Fontana's beautiful black '64 Fairlane pulled off with steam coming out due to a problem with his electric water pump. David's 1959 Thunderbird convertible featured in the last newsletter represented the oldest while several Retro Birds were among the newest cruisers.

The sun slowly poked through the clouds as we proceeded down Gene's well-planned route along some of Michigan's prime two-lane roads. This was a beautiful time of year for a cruise as leaves were emerging on trees and forming tree tunnels over the roads. One of the more touching moments was leaving Grass Lake where the streets were lined with photos of high school graduates, a sign of the pandemic. Fortunately, we arrived at Rudy's Drive-In southeast of Jackson in time to park mostly together. It is one of the few drive-ins open for take-out that you eat in your car and it has become a very busy place.

Not far from Rudy's lives a cousin of Gene Johnson's who has been battling cancer for two years. We were proud to make a little detour past her house bearing signs and blowing horns to give her something to smile about. Since every good cruise has to wrap up with an ice cream stop most of the group headed back east to Saline where we lowered our masks long enough for dessert at Mickey's Dairy Twist. Except for one-wheel cover that flew off the '59 Bird in Grass Lake the rest of us made it through in fine form. Gene and David were determined that this event could take place safely while so many of our car events are being cancelled. With everyone properly distanced—with masks—we think we accomplished that.

David and Jo Lau





Dick Klein

He is moving again...to a senior apartment.

Dick is the oldest member in our club at age 95. His mind is as sharp as a tack. He graduated from high school in 1943. In his years of being a writer and reporter he has met and interviewed Herbert Hoover and John Wayne and worked with the Ford Company for many years. He was able to make connections with Ford for our club. Like sponsoring and providing venues for All Thunderbird Day. He was president of the club for a couple of years, but was newsletter editor for about a dozen years. We can also thank him for serving in the Navy during World War II.



For Sale

Len Coleman 734-677-4100

Multilayer fitted car cover purchased from Car Covers For Sale. Was used for one month inside garage before car was sold. New it sold for \$225 and would like to sell it for \$125 as it is like brand new. Is in original box it was shipped in and can be shipped to your address with you paying postage.

Water Wonderland Tunderbird club

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