



# T-Bird Topics

The official publication of the

Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club

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## President's Message...



It is time to **renew** your **dues for 2026**. Mail your check to the post office box **by December 31, 2025**. Please find the **Renewal Application** on **page 4**.

We had a record number of attendees at the Hines Park Cider Cruise. The foul weather did not hold anyone back! We all ended up in the **Pour House** in Plymouth. The food was good but the near outdoor patio was chilly, to say the least. But in the end we all went home with warm doughnuts and fresh cider thanks to **JoAnn** braving the cold and rainy weather to make our annual visit to the cider mill. Thank you JoAnn! It was great to see so many new faces joining us and I hope you all come back to the **Holiday Party December 7th**. See the flyer on page 3.



A special thank you to everyone that came out to the **Planning Meeting** held at the Gateway Classic Cars in Dearborn. **Ed** made his famous Sloppy Joe's and there were plenty of sides and desserts to round out the menu. Thank you to **Pam and Keith, Ed and Denise, Nancy S,** and **JoAnn** for setting it all up. Be sure to check out our new 2026 calendar of upcoming club events and all of the other events we will have the opportunity to attend. The new calendar can be found on page 2 in this issue.

What an exciting year we have had as we close our **70th Anniversary Celebration** of the Ford Thunderbird! Thank you all for coming out and supporting our events and programs. I personally met so many new people this year! *It was great.*

*Special Note:* As the current elected officers of the Board of Directors are serving a two year term, there will be no elections in 2025. If you want to help out the club on any committee feel free to contact me. We love new ideas!

Get the most out of this newsletter. *Take a moment to read every page!*

See you all soon in your Thunderbird, President Barry

Visit: [www.MichiganTbirds.org](http://www.MichiganTbirds.org) · WWTC · P.O. Box 51027 · Livonia, MI 48151 · 586.703.4435

# Club Events 2026

- January 17<sup>th</sup>** - Historian Jerry Franchina to present Ford Village Industries.
- February 6<sup>th</sup>** - Ford Engineering Laboratory Archives.
- March 15<sup>th</sup>** - Historical Michigan Central Train Station Tour
- April 19<sup>th</sup>** - Milbury Classic Car & Truck Museum, Milbury, Ohio.
- May tbd** - Spring Dust Off
- June 7<sup>th</sup>** - Bakers Car Show
- July 19<sup>th</sup>** - WWTC Club Picnic
- August 9<sup>th</sup>** - Pre- Woodward Dream Cruise
- September 13<sup>th</sup>** All T-Bird Day
- October 18<sup>th</sup>** - Hines Park Cider Cruise
- November 7<sup>th</sup>** - 2027 Planning Meeting
- December 6<sup>th</sup>** - Annual Club Holiday Party

**Event Details and Other Car Events Will be in the Newsletter**

## Something New is Coming!

We will list the weekly car shows when information is available during the May through September issues of the newsletter. If you don't see one listed—send me the information, thanks.

# Meet Carl & Jeri Spamer

Jeri and I have been club members since we purchased a new 2004 Merlot Retro T-Bird. It is a beautiful car and fun to drive. We have been married 57 years and enjoy outings with the club. After working at Ford Motor Company for 32 years, I have enjoyed retirement since January of 2000. Over the years we have owned a 1930 4-door convertible Model A, a 1966 T-Bird convertible and at present our Retro Bird. I enjoy many hobbies including fishing, golfing, and vegetable gardening. My current special interest is photography.

Jeri is a dedicated flower gardener, continually planting and moving around flowers and plants to enjoy. Along with a love of quilting, for many years Jeri has been researching her family ancestry and is finally about to have books printed for family members. In my opinion, Jeri is one of the very best cooks and bakers in the world and should have opened a pie bakery.

Looking forward to next year.





*Water Wonderland  
Thunderbird Club*

# *Holiday Party*



**Sunday, December 7th  
5:00 pm**

**DeLuca's Italian  
Restaurant  
27424 Warren Road  
Westland, MI 48185**

- ◆ \$35.00 per person
- ◆ R.S.V.P. to [joannbill801@comcast.net](mailto:joannbill801@comcast.net) by November 28th
- ◆ Mail your check to **WWTC, P.O. Box 51027, Livonia, MI 48151** to arrive by 11/28/25
- ◆ Dinner and Dessert
- ◆ Stuff-the-Box Holiday Gifts
- ◆ Cash Bar

*Thunderbird Club Holiday party 2025.pub*



# Membership Renewal Form

*Please complete only information that has changed*

\* Renewal Information Required

**First and Last Name\*** \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: Month and Day : \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse/Partner First and Last Name\*** \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: Month and Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone C or H \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Membership in other club (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Body Style \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

Description of your Thunderbird \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Body Style \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

Description of your Thunderbird \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail payment and membership form with changes to:

**WWTC**  
**P.O. Box 51027**  
**Livonia, MI 48151**

Dues { \$25.00, with email  
\$35.00, without email

## Things We Do:

- ◆ Monthly Activities
- ◆ Sponsor club events and day cruises
- ◆ Publish a Club Newsletter
- ◆ Publish a Club Directory
- ◆ Maintain a Club Website
- ◆ Enlist Technical Advisors
- ◆ Offer a vocational scholarship

Received: Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_, check # \_\_\_\_\_, cash \_\_\_\_\_, Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## 70th Anniversary Pin

While Supplies Last!

**\$10.00** each

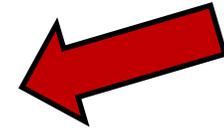
Celebrating the

**Thunderbird**



**Order Today!** Mail check and indicate quantity to:  
Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club  
P.O. Box 51027  
Livonia, MI 48151

Pin size 1.25" w ◦ Supporting our scholarship program ◦ 586-703-4435



## Who Owned Your Car?

Curious? Vehicle title history records are available by mail for \$15.00, or \$16 if certified. To request a copy of your vehicle's record, complete the [Record Lookup Request form](#) online and return with payment made out to State of Michigan to the address on the form. You can also email me at [barry.burnham@me.com](mailto:barry.burnham@me.com) and request a form to mail in.



# Bird Talk

## Happy Birthday Members!

December



## Welcome! New Members

**Joe Mooradian** can be reached at : [motorworld@gmail.com](mailto:motorworld@gmail.com)

Car models will be published in the new directory



# Make a Connection—Member to Member



A Labor of Love 



The story of the 1956 Thunderbird:

This car was the first car purchased in 1956 by a young 20-year-old immigrant from Italy. While he was going to high school and later to college, he worked many parttime jobs and when he graduated, he had saved enough money to purchase the "first love of his life" the 1956 Thunderbird convertible and has been the sole owner for 58 years.

As a young 20-year-old driving a sports car, he was the envy of many and unfortunately was challenged to race from pretty much all that he met: a race that by the way, he always won.

It was during this time that he met and married the 'second love of his life' and many more wonderful memories were made. One of the most precious was driving his pregnant wife to the hospital where his first child was born.

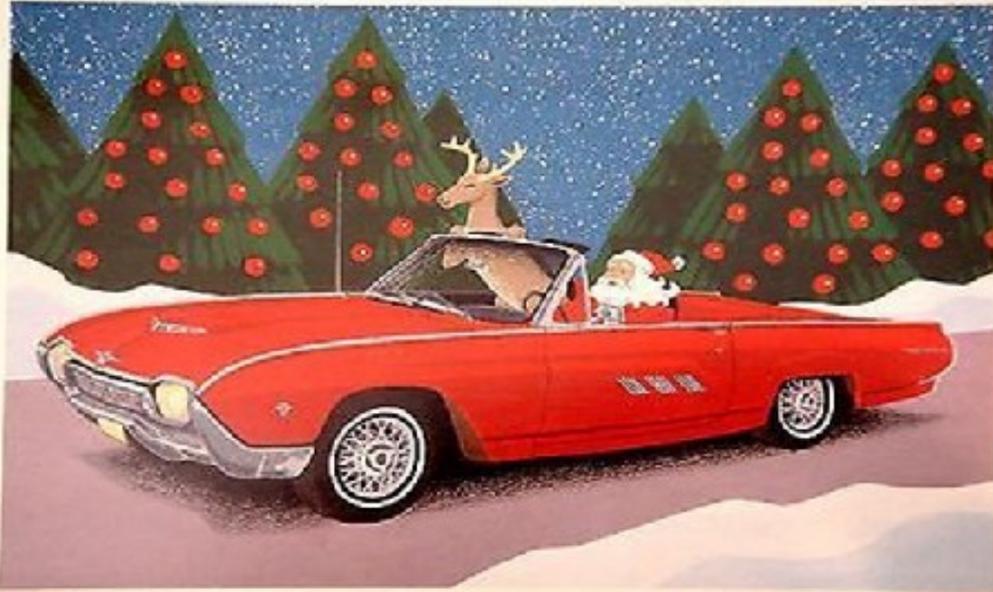
During the many years that he worked as an engineer for Chrysler, he drove many one-of-a-kind prototype automobiles and purchased several beautiful ones. However, the only one that he kept for 58 years was his beloved Ford Thunderbird. It was his dream to restore this car and keep alive a piece of their family history. Email: Roger DeLuca: [claradeluca@yahoo.com](mailto:claradeluca@yahoo.com)

"This car, as shown in the pictures, is available for sale by the family. Although disassembled each part was personally labeled by the owner."

Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year



*From your Water Wonderland Board  
and Directors!*



# Executive Board

**Barry Burnham, President**  
586-703-4435  
[barry.burnham@me.com](mailto:barry.burnham@me.com)

**Keith Bentley, Vice President**  
734-812-5404  
[klbentley01@yahoo.com](mailto:klbentley01@yahoo.com)

**JoAnn Rodriguez, Immediate Past President, ex officio**  
248-719-0160  
[joannbill801@comcast.net](mailto:joannbill801@comcast.net)

**Nancy Burnham, Secretary**  
586-747-6805  
[nburnham1152@gmail.com](mailto:nburnham1152@gmail.com)

**Pam Bentley, Treasurer**  
734-812-4781  
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# Directors

**Denise Sikora, Membership Director**  
313-719-1588  
[56tbird@sbcglobal.net](mailto:56tbird@sbcglobal.net)

**Rick Charniga, Technical Director**  
734-740-3556  
[rickcharniga@gmail.com](mailto:rickcharniga@gmail.com)

**David Lau, Technical Director**  
734-358-6071  
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**Nancy Seyfarth, Entertainment Director**  
313-436-8327  
[nancylouseyfarth@gmail.com](mailto:nancylouseyfarth@gmail.com)

**Larry Seyfarth, Advisor**  
313-436-8327  
[larryseyfarth@yahoo.com](mailto:larryseyfarth@yahoo.com)

**Don't Wait Any Longer!**  
Pick an event, get your Tbird  
ready and join us!  
**We Want You!**



Our **70th Anniversary** lapel pins are still available. JoAnn and I will have them now at all of our events. Remember the pin money goes directly to our Scholarship Fund. Won't you please buy one?

