

T-Bird Topics

The official publication of the
Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club
Established 1981

June 2026

Volume 45 Issue 6

President's Message...



You will all agree! May was an incredible month to have your Tbird out and about. We started out the month by awarding **two \$1000.00** vocational scholarships. One to the Wayne Westland Community School District and one to the Plymouth Canton Community Schools. Each scholarship will be used for further training in a career as a mechanic. The scholarship funds are paid to the institution at the time the student enrolls and begins attending. In 2027 we will be adding an additional scholarship in the Oakland County area either at Troy High School or at Oakland Community. We will also be looking into the program at Washtenaw Community College. Please let me know if you would like to be part of the team that reads the application and then scores the application with the score sheet that our club will provide. We will also host a mini car show at the presentation. See the pictures in this issue of the recent presentation events.



Thank you for everyone participating in the **Thunderbird Appreciation Day** and to **Nancy S** and **JoAnn R** for setting this up for us.

Our club participated in the dinner, car show and theatre presentation at the Matilda Dodge Wilson, Meadowbrook Estate in Rochester Hills. We will be looking forward to this being an annual event! Great to celebrate with the former TARTC members too.

What a way to start off the 2026 motoring season with a day cruise to beautiful Mason, Michigan and then lunch at the Capital Grill! Watch for pictures of this event too!. Thank You **David Lau**.

It is great to see our new members joining us. Stay tuned as the month of June will be even more embracing!

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

See you all soon in your Thunderbird, President Barry

The new directory is coming soon! Watch for it!

Visit: **www.MichiganTbirds.org** · WWTC · P.O. Box 51027 · Livonia, MI 48151 · 586.703.4435

Club Events 2026

June 14th - Bakers Car Show, Milford

July 19th - WWTC Club Picnic

August 9th - Pre- Woodward Dream Cruise

September 20th All T-Bird Day

October 18th - Hines Park Cider Cruise

November 7th - 2027 Planning Meeting

December 6th - Annual Club Holiday Party

Event Details and Other Car Events Will be in the Newsletter

Also, Gary Rellox has supplied us with business size cards with our logo and website address. If you see a Tbird while you are out and about and they are not members, give them a card and direct them to the website to fill out an application for membership!

Weekly Car Shows!

Monday Nights-Belleville, Main, 5pm-7:30pm, Memorial Day-End of September

Thursday Nights- Ypsi, N River & E Cross, Depot Town, 4-8pm Mem Day -Labor Day

Thursday Nights- Romulus, Eureka & Huron River Dr, Blue Sky (ice cream) 4-7:30pm

Friday Nights- Riverview, Fort Street & Sibley, 4PM -dark (May-Oct)

Other Great Events

June 13th—Maumee- Valley Picnic

June 20-21st—Motor Muster

June 20th—Down River Cruise

June 20th—Canton Car Show Heritage Park

June 27th—Chelsea Car Show

July 11th—Cruise US-12, Wayne

July 11th—Grosse Ile car show

August 1st—Bladow's See July Flyer

August 2nd—Troy Traffic Jam

August 17th—Hines Park Cruise

Sept tbd—Old Car Festival

Know
of
An Event
We'd like?

The Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club now has the largest collection of Ford Thunderbirds in the entire State of Michigan!

Be Proud to Own a Tbird!

Watch for details in upcoming issues.

Bird Talk



Happy Birthday Members!

Mary Beth Beal	2	Carol Littleton	16	Linda Millerick	28
Chris Thompson	5	Matthew Mihm	19	Steve Ickes	28
Carl Spamer	5	Derrick Colley	20	Sue Thompson	28
Blake Alexander	6	David Koto	20	Kenneth Coll	29
David Bolla	11	Sally Gill	21	Ken Barnes	30
Charles Harvey	13	Glenn Beal	24	Craig Champagne	30
Glenda Day	14	William Oppat	25		

June



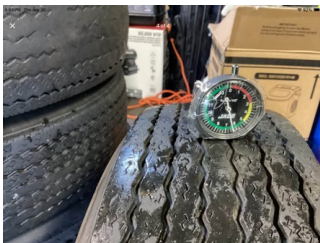
Welcome! New Members

William Pruett, Michael LaLonde and Bruce Bell

Car models will be published in the new directory

Something to Sell or Trade?

2002 Thunderbird Press Kit/Customer Gift Pack. Five boxes of promo material including die cast of 2002 Tbird. Hardly ever touched—in excellent condition \$400.00. Call Charlie Henry, Cmhenry57@outlook.com. 248.476.1668



I have four tires that came off my 62. Three are in decent shape and the fourth would make a good spare. Please see attached pictures. Im Selling all four for \$60.00.



Contact Mark Young:

myoung1512@yahoo.com

Classic Thunderbird Maintenance Tech-Tips

The subject of this month's tech-tip is maintaining your brake system. If you notice that your brakes are not working properly such as a spongy brake pedal, vehicle pulls to one side or excessive pedal travel, have your brake system inspected and serviced by a professional brake technician don't take chances. Also, your brake fluid needs periodic changes. The automotive hydraulic brake system is sealed however; the fluid reservoir is vented to allow air to enter as fluid is drawn into the system if a small leak occurs. Brake fluid is hygroscopic by design (it can absorb moisture) otherwise, water would sink to the bottom and cause corrosion. This safety requirement leads to a slow degradation of the fluid's boiling point which is critical for proper operation.

Remember, friction is what stops the vehicle and the heat generated which is transferred to the fluid during braking can be significant therefore; periodic inspections of the brake fluid's color should be done at least once every year.

Brake fluid degradation is evident when a change in color over time from clear amber when it's fresh to a brownish tint showing significant moisture has been absorbed. It wasn't until the late seventies when Ford installed master cylinders with translucent fluid reservoirs. This made it easier to see the brake fluid's color.

Also, for any vehicle you could use the inexpensive sensor pictured below.



***Brake fluid sensor indicates
fluid is okay.***



Thunderbird Appreciation Day



Barry & Nancy Burnham



David Lau



Gregg, JoAnn, George & Elaine



Jo & Nancy



Sharon & Patti



Nancy & Larry Seyfarth, Keith & Pam Bentley



Gary, Vytas, Mike & Susie



Canton High School—Auto Tech Scholarship Presentation

GLOBALLY FOCUSED. LOCALLY CONNECTED.



Jeff Bladow, Fred Birchard , Barry Burnham, Evan, Dave Lau



Cooper Gillette receives scholarship from President Barry Burnham

MVTC

Seymour's Homestead Cookout



June 13th

1:00 P.M.

7813 Crabb RD., Temperance, MI 48182

(734) 777-5673



Burgers, Brats & Drinks

Bring a dish to pass.... appetizers, veggie tray, fresh fruit, baked beans, chips and dip, salads baked beans, mac and cheese... etc. or desserts

PLEASE RSVP BY JUNE 10th!!!



Seymour Bray- (734) 777-5673 [Norma Johnson \(704\) 453-3138](mailto:njohnson@mvtc.org)



You're invited!

Sunday, June 14th All Day

Arrive Early—look for our club banner

Cars • Music • Food

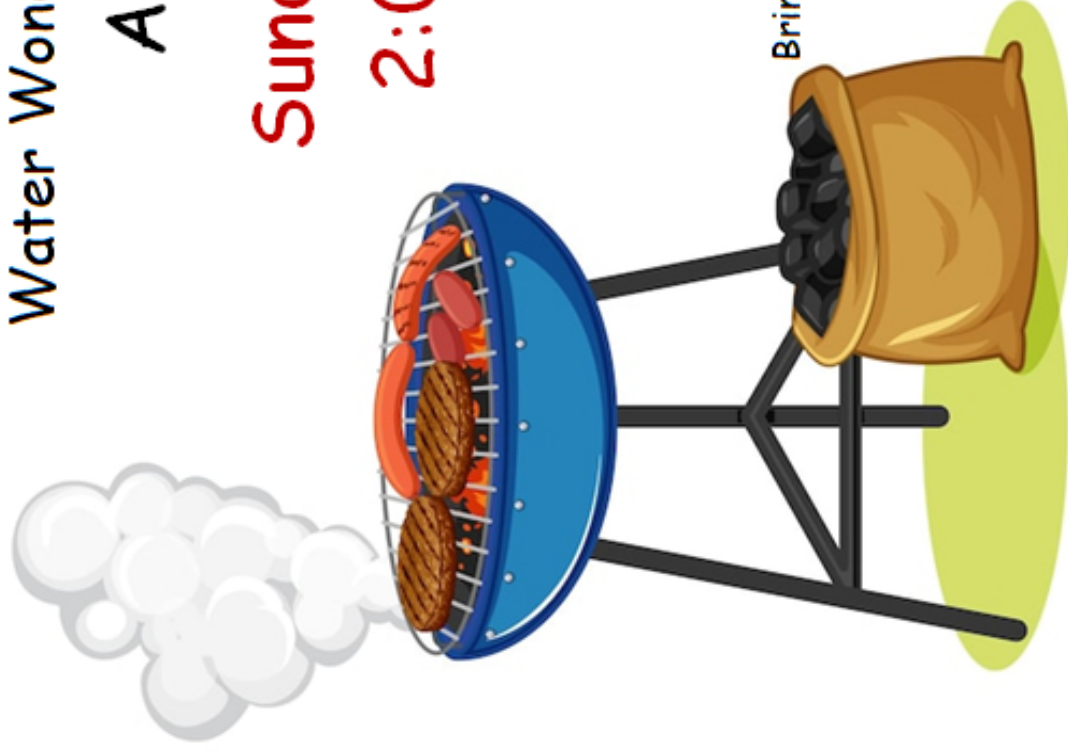
Looking Forward to Seeing You There!

Baker's of Milford -American Restaurant
2025 S Milford Rd
Milford, MI 48381



Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club Annual Picnic

Sunday, July 19th 2:00 pm to ???



Menu:

Hot Dogs
Hamburgers
Chicken
Soda Pop
Water

Bring a Dish to pass!
(sorry: no Alcohol)

Bring Your Car Tool



Treasure Chest
Drawing Tickets
Available onsite!

R.S.V.P to JoAnn at 248-719-0160 by July 17th • Location: Merriman Hollow @ Merriman and Hines Drive
Or Joannbill801@comcast.net

Spring Dust—Off 2026



Great job organizing!





A record 45 attendees!



70th Anniversary Pin

While Supplies Last!

\$10.00 each

Celebrating the
Thunderbird

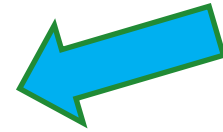


Order Today! Mail check and indicate quantity to:
Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club

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 and request a form to mail in.



Have you checked out our
brand new website?

Michigantbirds.org

Please let me know what you think too!



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Don't Wait Any Longer!

Pick an event, get your Tbird
ready and join us!



Happy Father's Day

♥ HAPPY ♥
FATHER'S
♥ DAY ♥

Barry Burnham, Newsletter
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