# T-Bird Topics

*The official publication of the*

Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club

*Established 1981*

October 2026 Volume 45 Issue 10


## President's Message...



It was a wash! All Tbird Day will go down in the books as the ATD where it rained steady all day. However, thank you to our members that braved the rain and showed up to have a hot dog and participate in the Stuff the Box Raffle.

Mark your calendars now for the Hines Park Cider Cruise. Not only will we be going on a mini color tour to a destination restaurant, each member will receive a half gallon of cider and six freshly made donuts from a local cider mill. Look for the flyer in this newsletter.

I am working on getting a team of club member volunteers that have indicated that they will travel to your garage or the place where your Tbird is kept and give it some TLC and get it running. Just let me know if you would like the Bird Crew to visit you! Thank you **Dave Lau**, **Dave Salzman**, **Keith Bentley**, and **Charlie Henry** for volunteering.

It is time to pay your dues for 2027. Go online or use the membership renewal for in the newsletter.

We are the largest Ford Thunderbird Club in Michigan, so lets keep it great with you as a member. Send in your renewal today!

See you all in your Thunderbird,
Barry



# Club Events 2026

October 18th - Hines Park Cider Cruise (see flyer)

**November 7th** - 2027 Planning Meeting (see flyer)

**December 6th** - Annual Club Holiday Party at the Iroquois Room (see flyer)

*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



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.

# HINES PARK CIDER CRUISE




## SUNDAY OCTOBER 18, 2026

MEETING AT **PARR PARK IN HINES PARK**
(Telegraph & Hines Park) **1:30 pm**

WILL LEAVE AT **2:30 pm** TO CRUISE THRU HINES PARK TO OUR LUNCH DESTINATION AT ****MOES ON 10****, 39455 W. 10 Mile, Novi 48375
TO ARRIVE AT **3:30 pm** (DIRECTIONS TO MOES WILL BE PROVIDED AT OUR MEETING DESTINATION.)

Moe's on 10
RESTAURANT & BAR

BUFFET LUNCH **$25.00**
INCLUDES TAX & GRATUITY
(DOES NOT INCLUDE POP, COFFEE OR BAR DRINKS.
WILL BE PAID AT THE RESTAURANT)

## Menu

LEMON CHICKEN | ROASTED POTATOES | VEGETABLE | MOSTACCIOLI | SALAD | ROLLS | BROWNIES






EACH MEMBER **RSVP** WILL RECEIVE
½ Gallon Cider
AND 6 DONUTS!

Please RSVP!

RSVP TO **JOANN RODRIGUEZ**
CALL/TEXT (248) 719-0160 | E-MAIL joannbill801@comcast.net
BY THURSDAY OCTOBER 15

WATER WONDERLAND

Thunderbird FORD

THUNDERBIRD CLUB

# Annual Event Planning Meeting

## ★ HELP US PLAN 2027! ★

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026**
**NOON to 2:00 PM**




**GATEWAY CLASSIC CARS**
**15011 COMMERCE DRIVE S**
**DEARBORN, MI 48120**

**MENU:**
**BRING YOUR FAVORITE CHILLI:**

**BRING A DISH TO PASS OR BRING A DESSERT TO PASS.**

**WATER & POP PROVIDED**

**R.S.V.P. TO JOANN:**
*Call or Text*
**248-719-0160**

OR

*Email to*
**joannbill801@comcast.net**

**BY OCTOBER 30, 2026.**


WATER WONDERLAND
Thunderbird Club
Annual Club
Holiday Party
Sunday, December 6, 2026
5:00 pm Cocktails
5:45 pm Dinner
The Iroquois Room
43248 Woodward Avenue
Bloomfield Hills, MI
48302
$50.00 per person
Menu
Prime Rib or Chicken Piccata
Holiday Stuff the Box Raffle
Cash Raffle
Cash Bar
R.S.V.P
Text to 248-719-0160 or email to joannbill801@comcast.net. Mail check to
WWTC
P.O. Box 61027, Livonia, MI 48151
by November 23. 2026.

WWTC

# Election News

## Meet the Slate for 2027-2029

| | |
|---|---|
| President | Barry Burnham |
| Vice President | Keith Bentley |
| Secretary | Nancy Burnham |
| Treasurer | Pam Bentley |

## Congratulations!!!!

Every member in good standing and a member for at least one year, has the opportunity to run for the Elected Positions of the Board of Directors. Each position is a 2 year commitment. The new term will begin January 1, 2027. If you would like to get your name placed on the ballot, I must have your nomination in to me by midnight of July 31, 2026. The board meets at least once a quarter and the meetings may be in person or virtual.

Three directors round out the Board of Directors and they are appointed by the president.

The Standing Committees are appointed by the President.

# Bird Talk

## Happy Birthday Members!

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 05 | Maria Quirolo | 17 | Jim Zych |
| 07 | Fred Birchard | 20 | Gary Brewer |
| 08 | Ken Mailoux | 26 | Gary Rellox |
| 09 | Mendi Edwards | 26 | Jeri Spamer |
| 11 | Patti Baranyai | 29 | Lucky McConaghy |
| 14 | Ruth Gurber | 29 | Larry Walton |
| 16 | Howard Lieblich | | |

October



## Welcome! New Members

William “Bill” Peterman

wm.peterman@gmail.com

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**

SOLD

## *Classic Thunderbird Maintenance Tech-Tips*

The subject of this month's tech-tip is storing your Thunderbird for the winter months. Living in Michigan, we all know winters can be harsh; the following tips should preserve your vehicle and keep it ready for the next season.

· Make sure you have fresh fuel in the tank at least ½ full,
· Tires are properly inflated,
· This is also, a good time to check your battery's condition along with the vehicles charging system using a Volt meter. The attached photos show the surface voltage of a typical lead-acid automotive battery fully charged with the charging source disconnected (engine stopped) and, with the engine running the voltage increases indicating the charging system is returning energy to the battery. If after charging, the battery voltage steadily decreases below 12.4- to-12.6 Volts, this may indicate the battery can't store the charge and needs to be replaced.



**A Charged Battery 12.6 V Engine Stopped**



**Engine Running Voltage Increases Charging System Ok**

Additional Storage Tips:

· Try to stop your engine on a warm day it's better that the engine and exhaust system cool down slowly to avoid condensation in the system,
· If possible, drain the carburetor of fuel remember, today's fuel contains ethanol which can absorb moisture,
· Next, always disconnect the battery ground post first to prevent an accidental short circuit,
· Connect a battery tender to keep it charged until needed again,
· Avoid exposing the battery to extreme cold,
· Open doors to the secondary catch to relieve pressure on the door weather-stripping,
· If your car is going to be stored for an extended period (greater than six months), it's a good idea to add some fuel stabilizer to the fuel tank.

## *Classic Thunderbird Maintenance Tech-Tips Cont.*

· Add some fragrance to your interior and trunk areas to repel mice (bar soap works well),



**Add Fragrance To Your Interior & Trunk Areas**

· Cover your car with a quality car cover,
· Since most engine wear occurs at start-up, water condensing in the exhaust system etc., refrain from starting your car in the cold,
· If you have some nuisance leaks, put a drip pan under the source so you can identify what it is. If it's transmission fluid or engine oil below are two products I highly recommend I'm a big fan of Lucas products!










Send your question to my email address and I will post the question/answer in next month's newsletter. Also, any suggestions you have for future tech-tips.

# All Tbird Day a Wash!


















CATHOLIC
CENTRAL





Due Date: December 31, 2026

WATER WONDERLAND FORD THUNDERBIRD CLUB

# Membership Renewal Form

*Please complete only information that has changed*

* Renewal Information Required

**First and Last Name*** _____

Birthday: Month and Day :_____

**Spouse/Partner First and Last Name*** _____

Birthday: 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

*Do to the increase in postage the Newsletter can no longer be mailed.*
*Please inquire as to how you can obtain a copy, thanks.*

## Things We Do:

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

Revised: October 2026

Received: Amount $_____, check # _____, cash _____, Date: _____

# Executive Board

**Barry Burnham, President**
586-703-4435
barry.burnham@me.com

**Keith Bentley, Vice President**
734-812-5404
klbentley01@yahoo.com

**Nancy Burnham, Secretary**
586-747-6805
nburnham1152@gmail.com

**Pam Bentley, Treasurer**
734-812-4781
pcbentley21@yahoo.com

# Directors

**Rick Charniga, Technical Director**
734-740-3556
**rickcharniga@gmail.com**

**David Lau, Technical Director**
734-358-6071
**toomanycars@charter.net**

**Denise Sikora, Membership Director**
313-719-1588
**56tbird@sbcglobal.net**

# Standing Committees

**Nancy Seyfarth, Event Coordinator**
313-436-8327
nancylouseyfarth@gmail.com

**JoAnn Rodriguez, Event Reservations**
248-719-0160
joannbill801@comcast.net

**David Campbell, Transition Team**
248-464-1597
hzvggb@charter.net

**Larry Seyfarth, Advisor**
313-436-8327
larryseyfarth@yahoo.com

**Don't Wait Any Longer!**

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

# We Want You!




## Enjoy the Fall!

Visit our Website:

Michigantbirds.org

WATER WONDERLAND
Thunderbird
FORD
THUNDERBIRD CLUB




Thanks for joining us on the Pre-Dream Cruise

**Barry Burnham, Newsletter**
586-703-4435
barry.burnham@me.com