



**Chapter of VTCI Publication of the LONG ISLAND THUNDERBIRD CLUB Silver Award 202
APRIL 2026**

Frank Del Rossi 1966 Q code Thunderbird Convertible

I have owned this 1966 Thunderbird Q code Convertible for 45 years. I purchased this car from California in 1981. It was a rust free car. I had the body completely stripped down to bare metal and painted it is original color Raven Black. I also rebuilt the 428 and C-6 automatic transmission. The entire front end was also rebuilt. This car is equipped with most options offered for 1966 such as 428 motor, A/C tinted glass, power windows and vents, dual power leather seats, cruise control, power antenna, AM-FM radio convenience group, power door locks, fender skirts and spinner wheel covers. It has won many trophies at local car shows. Everything is in working order but the cruise control. I have owned this car longer than I have owned anything else. I was 21 when I purchased this car. It was one of my first cars owned. I intend to keep her until I no longer can drive.



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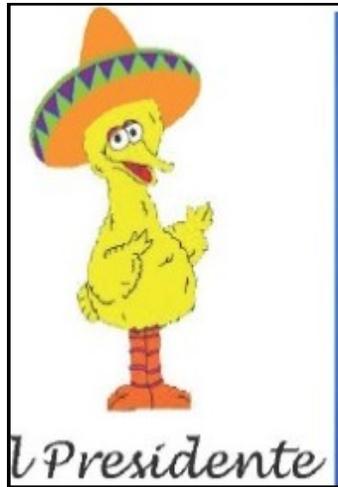
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Happy Easter & Passover



First Outdoor Meeting of 2026, Wednesday, April 14th at Burger King in Farmingdale First Pitch is 6 PM

Hi Everyone,

Hope all are well and safe. With April of 2026 just around the corner our first outdoor meeting is Wednesday April 14th at Burger King in Farmingdale. Please try and be proactive with your e-mails and as we get closer to the event; I will e-mail everyone where we are meeting etc. Also, every year for the last seven we supported and showed up at Cars and Guitars in Commack at Millers. Dean has informed me that he is done and moving on to other things. It was always a great way to start the show season and for us it was breakfast in the morning and off to the show. I will be looking for a substitute event that we all can get behind, so stay tuned.

Wednesday April 14th @ Burger King First Pitch 6 PM

Burger King Wednesday April 14th / First Outdoor Meeting 2026: BK is at the intersection of Route 110 and Main Street in Farmingdale. Start time is about 6 PM. From the Southern State Parkway take Exit 32 North and when you exit the Parkway get over to your left immediately and make a left at the traffic light and after a very short distance you will see the entrance to BK on your right. If for some reason, (mainly the weather), cancels us, it will move to the following Wednesday April 22nd. Don't forget your coupons.

Front Cover

Front Cover-Frank DelRossi's 1966 Thunderbird: Frank now lives in North Carolina and is one of our founding fathers of LITC. I met Frank for the first time many years ago when the club was doing an event at Park Inn Ford in Valley Stream. His Bird is a "Q" code car and it's absolutely beautiful. We miss you Frank.

Retraction

I'm reconsidering my previous statement regarding the October 4th All Ford Show @ Kings Park: I may have been a little too hasty when in last month President's Message. I beat up TONY about the past etc. Moving forward I retract my comments and will make an effort to support their event. I will have more info as we get closer to October,

April Events & Shows

April Events & Shows: First off: is the Garden City Parade on Easter Sunday April 5th. The flyer and all the info are in the extra pages of this edition of BT. Kiwanis Rock Show Sunday April 19th in Brightwaters, flyer again is in extra pages. If you feel like crossing a bridge there is a car show in Yonkers on Saturday April 18th supported by Franky's Field of Dreams Foundation and you guessed it, the flyer is in the extra pages. Sunday April 19th Yaphank Garage Open House 10 AM-2 PM. April 26th The Town of Oyster Bay at Tobay Beach Car Show. No flyer at this time. Lastly, April 26th again 11th Annual Long Island Motor Parkway Memories Classic Car Show Williston Park American Legion #144 in Williston Park "Long Island Needs a Drag Strip" at Mt Carmel Church in Patchogue open up Tuesday April 7th

Thunderbird Appreciation Day Sunday May 17th First Pass

Sunday May 17th/Thunderbird Appreciation Day: It may be a little early for this event but right now we have a situation happening and we need your input. Unofficially we have been invited by TONY to come to the Ford Garage at the Smith Haven Mall and enjoy the day with them or off to Kings Park for breakfast and lunch with only us. We need your input weather is "A" or "B". It seems if we go for "A" that we can park our Birds at the restaurant in an area by the mall and hopefully go untouched while we are inside or off to Kings Park and the club will supply bagels, coffee and pizza for lunch. If you sit on your hands and don't contact us maybe we will go nowhere and just stay home for the day. So now you make the call for the 17th.

Continued on Page 8

A message from John Bianco, Co-President

Apparently, word is getting around that Elliott is stepping down as El Presidente, and that I have been “anointed” to take the reins from him in 2027. One of our club members advised that I reach out to Alan Leon, head of Thunderbirds of New York (TONY), to discuss the prospects of holding Thunderbird Appreciation Day, May 17th, at the Ford Garage in Smith Haven. Seeing an opportunity to build bridges between the clubs, on March 12th, I called Alan. What follows is a synopsis of that call - no fluff or spin. As Joe Friday would say: “Just the facts”:

Alan’s introduction included a very brief resume of his service in Vietnam and his mention of being a successful business owner.

He then proceeded to discuss about half a dozen or so accomplishments he had made since January (of this year), which is a mere two and a half months since he was elected President of TONY.

I was told that TONY (no mention of LITC) had raised over \$30,000 for their charity, Homes for Heroes.

After about twelve minutes into his monologue, I interrupted him to ask about Thunderbird Appreciation Day at Ford Garage.

Yes, he would like to have us (details to follow).

He then expressed his desire to merge our club, the LITC, into TONY and anoint me as Director to represent the needs and desires of LITC’s members.

He referred to a quote from General George S. Patton (the one who kicked Nazi ass) which I believe was “Lead me, follow me, or get out of my way.”

I stated that I could not facilitate any such merger into TONY and such would be disrespectful to Elliott since he is still President of LITC.

I stated that any such consideration to merge would not happen until some time in 2027 or thereafter. Key word: consideration.

He then reiterated his desire to merge the clubs and restated Patton’s quote.

His last request was for me to forward to him a listing of our members and their contact info, including email addresses. I declined that request.

I expressed my interest in working together with his club going forward.

I encourage you to re-read the above bullets. How would you characterize the nature, the tone and the intent of call?

The next day I texted Alan and expressed the following:

I expressed my appreciation for his accomplishments at TONY.

LITC looks forward to working together with TONY on events and shows.

Together, both TONY AND the LITC have raised \$30,000 for our charity, Homes for Heroes.

The OSS had Patton killed.

I am going to be optimistic and positive, perhaps foolishly, about the call. On a national level Thunderbird clubs are working together. Perhaps they will merge. They should. Let’s face it, current Thunderbird owners are a dying breed. What classics will the next generation be driving? Perhaps Mitsubishi 300GT VR4s, Toyota Celica Supras, BMW E30s? We hope Thunderbirds of all years are also included in the list, from Baby Birds to Retro Birds.

At a minimum it is imperative that we keep things positive and leave egos in the trunk of our classics. That should apply to all club leaders. But as someone who has worked on Wall Street since 1990, I am being naïve as I recall, every merger and acquisition has an element of ego and personality to it. As Elliott would say: “it’s a study in human nature.”

Conclusion: Our club should hold elections to select our leaders. Our club members should decide at some point whether we should merge into TONY, or not. But if a merger ever happens, let us hope we will not receive the Rodney Dangerfield treatment: No Respect.



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Cruise Listings

MONDAY

Autofest Cruise night 5:30-9pm Syosset VFW Hall 20 Queens St

Stop & Shop West Islip Union Blvd east of Higbe Lane

Main St East Rockaway @Villa Marcia Restaurant 6pm

Bald Hill Farmingville

Town of Oyster Bay - Main Street

TUESDAY

Patchogue - Mt Carmel Church 495 N Ocean Ave

WEDNESDAY

Village of Westbury Madison St parking field #4 5pm to 9pm

Shirley KFC - William Floyd Parkway

Sea Cliff Fire Dept Cruise Night Sea Cliff Ave & Main St starts June 13th
5:30 to 8:00pm \$5.00 car fee

King Kullen parking lot Jericho TPK Garden City evenings

THURSDAY

Milleridge Inn Restaurant Jericho Starts 3pm

Downtown Mineola Classic Motor Night Main St 6-9pm 7/7 thu 9/29

Village of Lynbrook - Street Show (Atlantic Ave.)

Kings Park Plaza, Kings Park Indian Head Rd (Key Food) Sponsored by
Kings Park Chamber of Commerce Room for several hundred cars

Riverhead on the water front behind Main St weather permitting including
DJ & Refreshments

Glen Cove School St & Glen St Sponsored by Glen Cove Fire Dept \$5 Dona-
tion info Bob Citko 516-676-0366

Yaphank Fire Dept Yaphank Thursday

Town of Oyster Bay - Main Street

West Islip Villa Monaco Restaurant 778 Montauk Hwy 6pm Room for 150
cars food & facilities on site Long Island Road Gents-Ray Rendina 516-523-
7130 or 631-661-3838

Friday

Bellmore train Station Lot Sunrise Hwy & Bellmore Ave Sponsored by
Town of Oyster Bay

Valley Stream Rockaway Ave Cruise Night 5/31 to 8,30 6-9pm

SATURDAY

Islip Town Hall 655 Main St Islip 5-9pm

McDonalds Sunrise Hwy West Islip

Event Schedule 2026

Breakfast with "The Boss"

Saturday March 7th Hauppauge Palace diner

Easter Parade- Garden City—April 5th

National Thunderbird Appreciation Day

Sunday, May 17th Keyfood Shopping Center Kings Park

Ford Nationals Carlisle, Pa. June 4– 6th

North Jersey Thunderbird Club Show June 20th Saturday

Cross Road Church 649 Franklin Ave Franklin Lakes New Jersey

ST Anthony Car Show Dix Hills Centurion Cruisers

Sunday June 14th 275 Wolf Hill Rd S Huntington

Sunday June 14th All Ford Show Pt Jefferson

Collector Car Appreciation Day July 10th

Wednesday July 15th St Elizabeth in Dix Hills

Garage Stop Legendary Motion Bellmore July 18th

Smithtown Rehab Center Wednesday August 10th 2-4pm

391 N Country Rd Smithtown Hours 2-4 pm

All Ford Charity Show Bank of America parking lot East Islip

Pre Register Event

Sunday September Sat 13th—Rain Date Sun 20th

Must pre register

Sayville Ford All Ford Show

Sunday October 11th

September 13th Sunday

Mustang-Shelby Club at the Vanderbilt Museum

November 1st Sunday **Must pre register**

Food & Toy Drive Brookhaven Town Hall

Sunday, November TBA

Sunday November 1st All Ford Show Vanderbilt Museum

Operation Enduring Caring Sunday November 8th

Walt Whitman HS

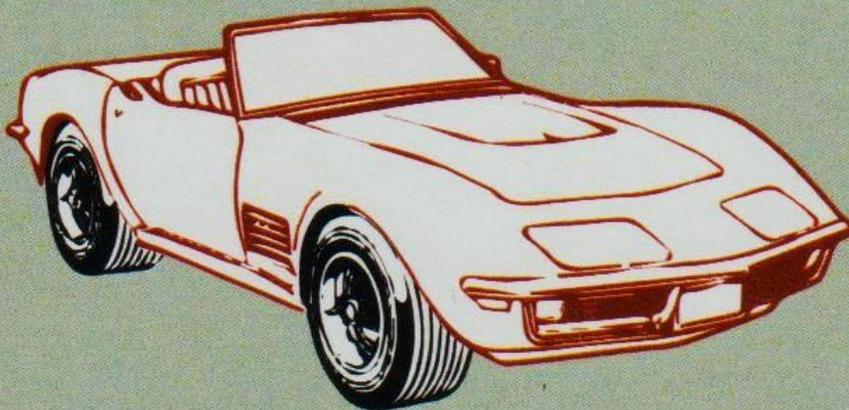
Buy & Sell

Parts for Sale: 1964-44 Ford Thunderbird, New Drivers Side quarter repair panel, motor, transmissions, fenders ,trunk lids, glass, interior, parts bought & sold. **Frank Del Rossi (704) 483-9554** 1965 Ford Thunderbird Special Edition Landau NOS Deluxe Spinner wheel covers (TWO) with Ford Boxes. \$400.00 Firm. Plus shipping.
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Club Jackets Contact Elliott Wiener for details and orders



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Show Update

Show Update/November 15th @The Vanderbilt: In my mail this week I received the contract for the show in November. Presently, they want us to kick back \$10.00 per Thunderbird but that's up for discussion. At this point in time our registration costs will be between \$30.00 and \$35.00 per Bird. We will be negotiating that amount and when it is cast in stone then you can register.

Quebec Thunderbird Club

Tournee des

Regions

2026

Quebec Thunderbird Club: In the extra pages is the art work for Pierre's Bourdeau Club in Canada I think the art work is excellent. Pierre and I are on Facebook almost every day. Maybe someday Big Bird and I will travel north. The Cream & Gold in the poster is his. This year Thunderama is in Quebec and I wish it was much closer.

Breakfast with the Boss's

&

Can You Count to 10?

Saturday March 7th Breakfast With The Boss's. It was a very nice turnout, but no Thunderbirds because of the weather. Ten lost souls for the annual breakfast. In the house John Bianco, Matt Gullo, Robert Fligel all the way from Westchester, Rich Kamin, Billy Kiely Jr, Ron Kohlmann, Mr. & Mrs. Rosina, Roger Stamile, and yours truly. I talked about our show and that BK in Farmingdale is back and open for April. I discussed the Mustang dates in detail, and that we are looking to add another board member to handle the web site and Facebook. We got to meet Robert from Westchester,

If Your Interested Department

If You Are Interested Department: While thumbing through Hemmings Motor News this month I came across two Porches for sale The first one is a 1957 Porsche 356A This Speedster is beautifully finished in its original color which is Stone Gray and only 301 miles since restored and 1 of 6 to come in this color only \$550,000 negotiable! Next is 1959 Porsche 356A only 481 miles and fully restored in 2018 and numbers matching, \$400,000 and negotiable. Anybody want to go half's?

Stick a Fork in You and You're Done

We have come to this point in time *"No ticket No shirt"* If you have not paid your club dues for 2026 this is your last newsletter. No begging, no phone calls you're done.

Stay safe and warm and you're welcome...



**First Annual
All Thunderbird Car Show
Sunday November 15, 2026
9 :00 AM – 3:00 PM**



Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Road Centerport New York

(No Rain Date)

This is a Pre-Registered Event

Cost is \$30.00



Checks Payable to Long Island Thunderbird Club

87 Ruth Street Smithtown New York 11787

Top 25 Awards



Food and restrooms on site

Music by ?



Fire Extinguishers

Highly Recommended

Vehicles must be on show field by
10 AM in order to be judged



Portion of the proceeds to Building Home for Heroes

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1091 Willamette Falls Drive
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LITC Scheduled Outdoor Meetings 2026

(Rain dates one week later)

Wednesday April 14th-Burger King Farmingdale

Sunday May 17th Thunderbird Appreciation Day

Pizza Night

Gino's Restaurant Kings Park

Wednesday June 18th 6:pm RSVP

July & August TBA

Scheduled Indoor Meeting 2026 Thru March

LITC meets Wednesdays starting at 7 PM

Hauppauge Palace Diner

525 Smithtown By Pass See Ad Page 7

Wednesday January 7th

Wednesday February 4th

Wednesday March 11th

Wednesday September 16th

Wednesday October 14th

Wednesday November 11th

CLUB STORE

For Merchandise Call Elliott Weiner

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Denim Jackets - All Sizes - \$62

Pro Mesh Adjustable Hats - \$15

Short Sleeve Henley Shirts with Logo
Assorted Colors \$15.00

Ash colored Sweat Shirts Embroidered,
with Club Logo - 8oz - \$26.00

Club Pins - \$5.00

Club Masks \$10.00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL

Art Fleming

John Guiliano

Hank Parlinson

Bobby Tansey

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L.I. THUNDERBIRD CLUB NEXT INDOOR MEETING

DATE : Aril 14th Wednesday

PLACE Burger King Farmingdale

TIME : 7:00pm

Directions : See Page 3



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Long Island Thunderbird Club
87 Ruth Street
Smithtown, N.Y. 11787
516 445 2630
Phone

December 1, 2025

Dear LITC Member,

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

2026 DUES OF \$30.00 ARE DUE

LITC Offers:

- Bird Talk Our Monthly Club Newsletter
- Five Outdoor Meetings at various location on the Island
- Six Indoor Meetings
- Annual Elections – Suspended For 2025
- Tech Articles, and Advise All Year Long
- Parts Through Our Advertisers & Classifieds
- Special Bonding of Hobbyists with Common Goals
- All Thunderbird Show at the Vanderbilt Museum in 2026

Please take a moment now, to write your check made payable to Long Island Thunderbird Club to continue receiving the benefits of membership in the Club, and mail to me at the above address, and thank you for continuing with us.

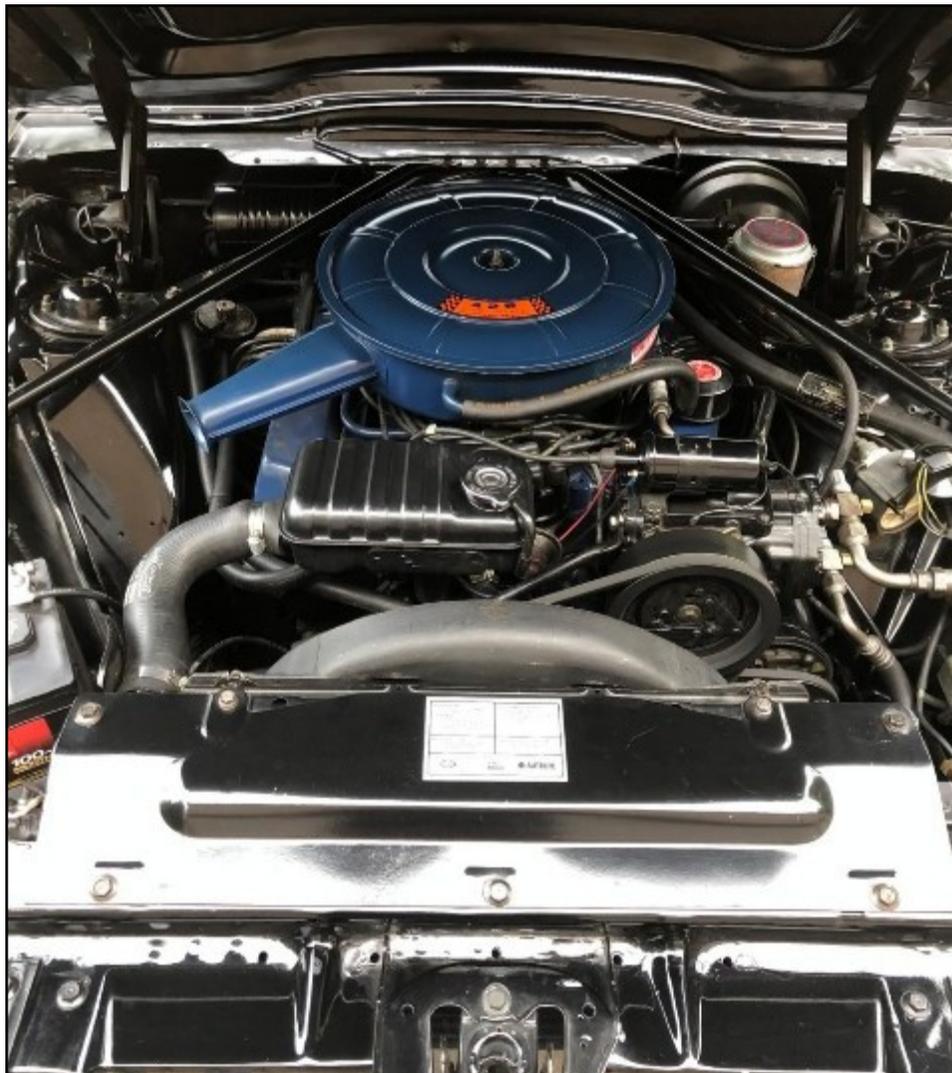
Don't forget if you wish to donate additional monies for Building Homes for Heroes just add that amount to your check and we thank you

Essiett

Frank Del Rossi 1966 Q code Thunderbird Convertible



Frank Del Rossi 1966 Q code Thunderbird Convertible



Garden City

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

71st Annual

Easter Sunday

CAR PARADE

Celebrate Easter in Garden City

Sunday, April 5, 2026

12:00 PM • Garden City



\$20 per car *Register Now!*

\$25 day of event or mail check to:

GARDEN CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
730 Franklin Ave • Garden City, NY



LI NEEDS A
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OPENING DAY
APRIL 7, 2026



CAR
SHOW



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5 PM - DUSK

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OUR 1ST ANNUAL SHOW



PRESENTS

SATURDAY APRIL 18, 2026 10 AM - 3 PM

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FREE GIFTS

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RAFFLES AND
TROPHIES

\$20

ENTRY PER CAR



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\$5.00

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10704



RAIN DATE APRIL 25
FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CALL 914-963-5263



KIWANIS Rocks!



CAR SHOW

Sunday, April 19, 2026 • 9am - 2pm

raindate: April 26th

Mamma Santina Pizza/Restaurant

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<https://kiwanis-of-the-islips-bay-shore-inc.square.site/>

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11TH ANNUAL
LONG ISLAND MOTOR PARKWAY MEMORIES
CLASSIC CAR SHOW – FAMILY DAY
AND SWAP MEET



Williston Post 144 – American Legion
730 Willis Avenue
Williston Park, New York 11596
Sunday, April 26th, 2026 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Show Information: Rob 631-875-7733

Rain Date: Saturday, May 2nd, 2026

**Antique, Vintage Cars, Special Interest, Stock, Muscle Cars,
Hot Rods, Unique Vehicles, Trucks, Motorcycles, and Modified Cars
Seminar: Tips and Tricks on Fiberglass Mold Making**



DONATION

Adults: \$5.00; Children under 12: FREE

Show car and passengers: \$10.00

Vendors: \$10.00

The first 100 cars will receive a dash plaque

EACH VEHICLE MUST HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER!

There is no Pre-Registration – Come meet new friends!

Save the Date! 4th Annual Fall Show, Sunday, October 25th, 2026

Suffolk County Police Historical Society

Spring Open House

Sunday April 19th

The Garage/Museum
will be open for viewing

10AM
to
2PM

T-Shirts And Hoodies will
be available for purchase

Yaphank Garage

3 Yaphank Ave, Yaphank, NY 11980

Vintage Suffolk Police Cars
and other *invited* classics will be on
display for your viewing.



Help us preserve
and repair the
Yaphank Garage

The Yaphank Garage is part of the Suffolk County Historical Society and Police Museum. Volunteers are responsible for the upkeep. Come by and check out this great historical property and the people who care for it.



Tournée des Régions 2026

Club



Thunderbird Québec sera présent

À L'EXPOSITION DE VOITURES
★ ANCIENNES DE LA MAURICIE! ★

Organisé par



★ Samedi 30 Mai 2026 ★

Au parc Laviolette, Trois-Rivières



Venez rencontrer l'équipe de *Thunderbird Québec*
et profitez d'un rassemblement avec d'autres passionnés de *Thunderbird!*

★ info@thunderbirdquebec.com ★



THUNDERBIRD QUÉBEC

PRÉSENTE



TOURNÉE DES RÉGIONS 2026



- 30 mai - Trois-Rivières
- 13 juin - Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu
- 20 juin - Chicoutimi
- 27-28 juin - L'Ancienne-Lorette (QUÉBEC)
- 11 juillet - Chambly
- 25 juillet - Sainte-Agathe
- 30 août - Sherbrooke
- + AUTRES DATES À VENIR

À TRAVERS LE QUÉBEC CET ÉTÉ!

60TH ANNUAL SPRING MEET AT OLD WESTBURY GARDENS



SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH, 2026, 8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026

Pre-Registration: \$20.00 per car, if registered before May 27, 2026. Stock vehicles 1927 & earlier \$5.00.
Day of show: \$25.00. Space permitting, field limit 500 cars.

Judging: Pre-registered vehicles will be visually judged, per GNYR standards.

Day of Show vehicles will be judged as one large group, visually by GNYR standards.

Classes include Stock and Modified/Hot Rod, 25 years or older welcome.

Each vehicle must have its own **FIRE EXTINGUISHER, VISIBLE.**

Completed judging forms become the property of the GNYR.

TROPHIES & AWARDS: 1st, 2nd, 3rd per class. Over 20 classes; over a dozen Memorial Awards.

TENTS OR CANOPIES ARE NOT PERMITTED. No loud music. No BBQs. No Burnouts or Revving.

- All drivers must abide by all rules of Old Westbury Gardens.
- All vehicles being judged must be on the field by 10 AM.
- The GNYR reserves the right to combine or delete classes.
 - Show cars may use the 60 Post Road entrance.

OVERSIZE VEHICLES OR TRAILERS MUST USE POST ROAD ENTRANCE.

VISIT THE GNYR WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, APPLICATIONS, ETC.

(www.greaternewyorkregion.org)

Information: (516) 488-4962; Day of Show Hotline: (516) 353-7870

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

YEAR: _____ MAKE: _____ MODEL: _____

CIRCLE ONE: Stock/Restored Modified/Hot Rod Original/Unrestored/Preserved AACA Senior Award Winner



Would you like to assist with judging this show? Yes ___ No ___

Make check payable to: Greater New York Region

Mail to: Robert Rickenbaugh, 8 Campden Lane, Commack, NY 11725

Home: 631-470-1177 Cell: 631-875-7733 email: r22reo@aol.com

Long Island Thunderbirds
Membership/Renewal Application

Indoor meetings are held on the 2nd or 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Renewal _____ New Member _____

Dues: \$30.00 (Jan 1st-Dec 31st)

****Voluntary Contribution to Club's Charity Fund: \$10 __ \$15 __ \$20 __ Other \$ __**

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone () _____ E-Mail _____

Fax Number/Other Phone () _____

Birthday Month _____ First Name of Significant Other: _____

How did you hear about LITC _____ ?

What is your reason for joining _____ ?

Would you be willing to serve on any committees _____ ?

Car Info

Year _____ Model _____ Color _____

Year _____ Model _____ Color _____

Please enclose a color photo of your car (optional)

**Mail completed application
and check payable to:
Long Island T-Bird Club to:
Elliott Weiner
87 Ruth St
Smithtown, NY 11787
516-445-2630
Email: Bigbird1900@aol.com**

VTCI Membership Application Form

NAME: _____

SPOUSES NAME: _____

MAIL ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE / PROVINCE _____ ZIP: _____

COUNTRY: _____ PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

LIST NAME IN ROSTER? YES NO

LIST E-MAIL ADDRESS IN ROSTER? YES NO

LIST TELEPHONE IN ROSTER? YES NO

PLEASE LIST THUNDERBIRD YOU OWN: _____

YEAR: _____ MODEL: _____

*Annual dues: \$40.00 United States and Canada, \$60.00 all other countries. Due the 31st of January each year. Canadian and overseas payment must be in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank

For NEW members only Send initial dues according to the month you join. You will then receive a renewal notice mailed with the November/December Scoop.

	US and Canada	All Other Countries
January / February	\$40.00	\$60.00
March / April	\$35.00	\$55.00
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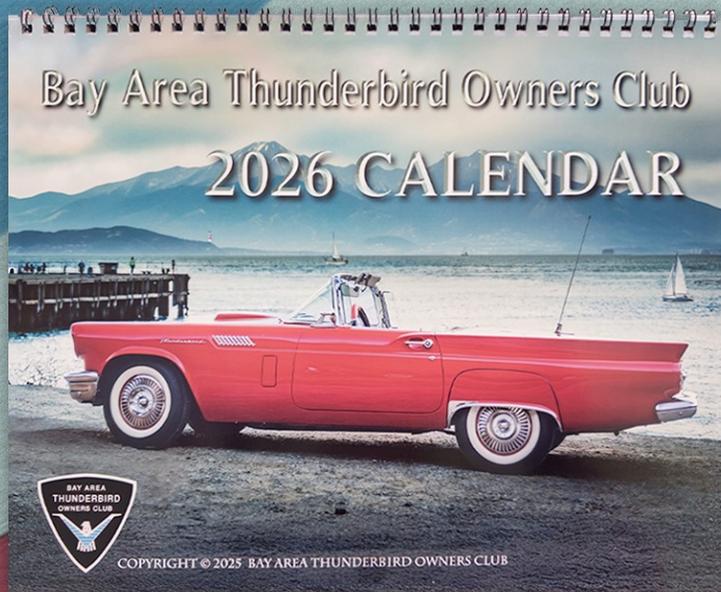
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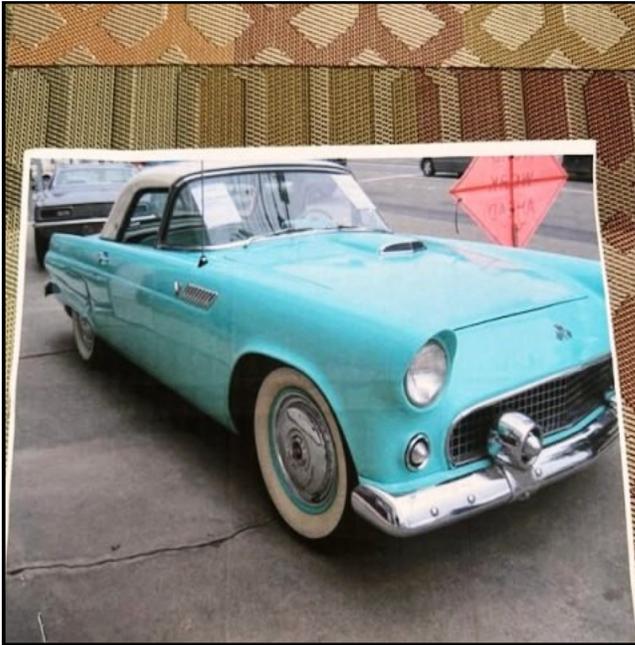
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