



Chapter of VTCI Publication of the LONG ISLAND THUNDERBIRD CLUB Silver Award 2023

JANUARY 2025

Tom Rocco's 2002 Thunderbird

Always had a lover for Thunderbird's when I was a teenager I had a 1961 Ford Thunderbird , a few years later I married , had children and had to trade in my beautiful Thunderbird for a family car much to my sorrow, however I was able to reconnect to a Thunderbird auto in 2002 brand new. It's kept in the garage, covered and never out is out on rainy days. It's my first love but don't let my wife know. Pleasure to meet you and the members of the club.



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El Presidente

**...Wishing You a Happy Holiday Season
And a Healthy, Prosperous New Year**

**First Club Meeting of 2025
Wednesday January 8th**

Hope all are well and looking forward to 2025. Our first club meeting of the year is Wednesday January 8th at the Haupauge Palace Diner. First pitch is at 7 PM.

Dues Experiment 2025

Dues Experiment 2025: First off I want to thank those members that adhered to my request for dues for 2025. Also for the many of them that donated to BHFH and their generosity was over whelming, with close to a third of our members who have already paid and has saved the club a few bucks.

New Member

New Member: Let's welcome aboard Matthew Gullo and his 2004 Red Retro Thunderbird. Matthew resides in East Moriches.

Front Cover

Front Cover for January: Is New member Tom Rocco and his 2002 Retro Bird. Tom came to our last meeting and he is the original owner of this Thunderbird.

Thank You Letter

Thank You Letter from The Centurion Cruiser Car Club & American legion Post #1244: In the extra pages of this edition of Bird Talk you will find a thank you letter in regards to Operation Enduring Care.

Who Loves a Parade?

Saturday November 30th Thanksgiving Parade in Patchogue: So who loves a parade when it's freezing cold on a Saturday night in November? Go ahead raise your hand because you are sad that you missed the event, but I did not. I arrived at Dennis Benfante HQ about 4:30 PM and at that time it was only 30 degrees but no wind, yes no wind. So I followed Dennis to the staging area in the Village of Patchogue. I believe it was on West Avenue, a stone's throw from Main Street. Parked right next to a local pizza place and was I excited, because when it comes time to relieve myself it was right there. Took some pictures which will appear in our extra pages and for me I was dressed in layers. A heavy weight hoodie, lined pants and gloves with a heavy jacket. Parade kicked off at 6 PM and we were on Main Street by 6:30 ish. A very large crowd in attendance and I was done in about fifteen minutes. One of my son's friend's, Pat was in the crowd and took a picture of Big Bird which is in the extra pages. If I must say so myself the picture is outstanding. Dennis tells me this is one of the largest parades in Suffolk County. Just a footnote; I think I have participated a number of times throughout the years, but this year was one of the coldest. I had the heat on full blast for awhile until I could feel my hands and feet again. From TONY, which is Dennis's club, two baby Birds and his 57. He has been living in the town for a hundred years and usually puts the Kings and Queen from the high school in his bird into the parade but this year they were a no show. And you tell me this generation is not the swiftness, but this night right to the head of the class.

Continued on Page 10

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West Linn, OR 97068

LITC Scheduled Outdoor Meetings 2025

(Rain dates one week later)

Wednesday April 16th-Burger King Farmingdale

Sunday May 21th Thunderbird Appreciation Day

Wednesday June 18th 6:pm

Ginois Restaurant Kings Park Plaza

July TBA

August TBA

LITC Scheduled Indoor Meeting 2025 Thru March

LITC meets Wednesdays starting at 7 PM

Hauppauge Palace Diner

525 Smithtown By Pass See Ad Page 7

Wednesday January 8th

Wednesday February 5th

Wednesday March 12th

Wednesday September 17th

Wednesday October 15th

Wednesday November 12th

CLUB STORE

For Merchandise Call Elliott Weiner

(631) 724 - 3756

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 - \$20.00

Club Pins - \$5.00

Club Masks \$10.00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JANUARY

Darryl Dowers

A. Stephen Koller

Ed Muro

Bill Rappel

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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

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 and Kevin Denis of Professor's Diner
Room for several hundred cars

Kings Park Plaza, Kings Park Indian Head Rd (Key Food) Sponsored by
Kings Park Chamber of Commerce and Kevin Denis of Professor's Diner
Room for several hundred cars All Welcome

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 2025

All dates to be updated when confirmed

Breakfast with "The Boss"

Sunday March 2nd Southbay Diner Lindenhurst

Easter Parade- Garden City-April 20th

Car's and Guitar's @ Miller Ale House Commack
Sunday April TBA

National Thunderbird Appreciation Day

Sunday, May 21th Keyfood Shopping Center Kings Park

Mustang Ford Show at Smithtown Ford

May TBA

Ford Nationals Carlisle, Pa. June 6th – 8th

Mustang Ford Show Pt Jefferson Ford TBA

ST Anthony Car Show Dix Hills Centurion Cruisers

Sunday June 29th 275 Wolf Hill Rd S Huntington

Collector Car Appreciation Day Friday, July 11th

Smithtown Rehab Center Wednesday August TBA

391 N Country Rd Smithtown Hours 2-4 pm

Mustang -Shelby Club -Newins Ford a Pre Register Event

Sunday September Sat 6th—Rain Date Sun 7th

Mustang-Shelby Club at the Vanderbilt Museum

October TBA

Food & Toy Drive Brookhaven Town Hall

Sunday, November TBA

Operation Enduring Caring Sunday November 9th

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

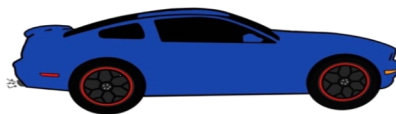


Chip and Leroy

For fun, entertaining, and sometimes informative car videos, subscribe to **Chip and Leroy** on YouTube!

Scan the QR code or click the link below to go to Chip and Leroy's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@chipandleroy2130>



Saturday 11/30 Patchogue Christmas Parade



Long Island Thunderbirds
Membership/Renewal Application

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

Renewal _____ New Member _____

Dues: \$29.00 (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**

December 2nd

On Monday December 2nd Dennis Benfante and I stopped by BHFH in Island Park and made an additional donation in the name of both clubs. Dennis found we had some petty cash leftover from the show so we donated it BHFH Also, I picked some more hats and this time they are Camo style. If you're interested in any of the hats let me know.

L I Club Council

LI Club Council: Many years ago just about the time I became President, a club council group was created on Long Island to help minimize the amount of car shows you could have on a particular Sunday. Plus, it was also a small social event except for the main purpose which was to give a fair break for your show date. So here we are a hundred years later and where we are with this council. First off, there are two councils now because there was some bad blood between Council "A" and "B" and bang. A little history first; every year there would be a council meeting in February or March to discuss the year we are in. The meeting was hosted by different clubs at different locations every year. The Cost for each club to attend was ten bucks, and you could bring a member. For the money you received maybe a stale roll and some coffee, tea and conversation. One year it was hosted by the Centurion Cruisers Car Club and it was like a small wedding with a lot of food etc. Now Council "A" wants to charge each club thirty dollars annually where the hosting club gets ten dollars, and the remaining twenty gets divided between servicing the council website and not sure who or what gets the extra ten bucks. Council "B" has gone deep and silent as the title of the movie tells us. Presently there is some pissing and moaning going on. E-mails back and forth about the thirty dollars; some are OK with the numbers and some, like me, are not. Every year I would look forward to going and bringing Ken Weinberg who would play Tonto and try and keep me under control. The original premise was excellent, but that is gone now. Clubs do whatever they want to do and thru the years there has been some movement to move your show and rain dates on a Saturday but for the most part not so. So in 2025 we will not be participating in the new Ford Thunderbird show hosted by TONY; and more about that in 2025. There is really no need for yours truly to attend and listen to all the P & M which usually occurs at this get together.

So what's the bottom line for us? Not sure yet but when I write about stuff like this I say "it's only a hobby"

Show Me the Money

2025 Club Dues is Due Now: Just a friendly reminder that your dues for 2025 are due now. Please mail your check to:

Elliott Weiner at 87 Ruth Street Smithtown N.Y, 11787

2025 CLUB DUES IS DUE NOW

...any drone sittings and, you're Welcome.....

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L.I. THUNDERBIRD CLUB NEXT INDOOR MEETING

DATE: February 5th Wednesday

TIME 7:00pm

PLACE Hauppauge Palace Diner

See add page 7 for information



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Saturday 11/30 Patchogue Christmas Parade



Saturday 11/30 Patchogue Christmas Parade

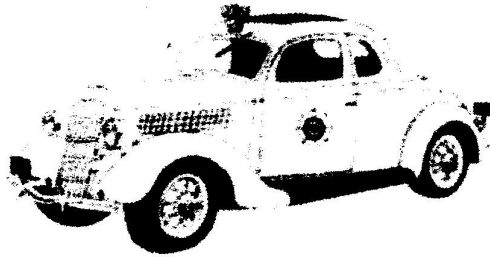


Dan and Charlotte



Saturday 11/30 Patchogue Christmas Parade





**Centurion Cruisers Car Club
P.O. Box 295
Merrick, N.Y. 11566- 0295
CCCarclub@aol.com**

Dear Mr. Elliott Weiner:

November 19, 2024

On behalf of *The Centurion Cruiser Car Club* and the *American Legion Post 1244* we want to express our sincerest appreciation to *The Thunderbird Club* for your generous donation to the *Operation Enduring Care Drive With Supplies Benefit Car Show* held on Sunday, November 10th, at Walt Whitman High School. As you know the event was held to benefit our veterans in need.

Thanks to the support and cooperation of Mr. John Murphy, the principal, Mr. Ken Costa, the Supervisor of Administrative Services, Dr. Vito D'Elia, Superintendent of S.D. 13, the Sea Scouts, and the founder of *Enduring Care*, Al Statton, we were able to pay special tribute to our military veterans in need.

It was an honor to be part of this memorable event. Words cannot express how grateful we are to you, to the businesses who made donations, to the many local residents who donated essential items, and to the many car, truck, and motorcycle enthusiasts who put their vehicles on display and made this event such a success.

We thank you again to all of you for your involvement and your generous spirit.

Sincerely,

Veronica Sarno
Veronica Sarno, Secretary
Centurion Cruiser Car Club

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Broker, Appraiser, and Locator of Fine Automobiles
Former president, Studebaker Drivers Club

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MORNING SAM



MORNING RALPH

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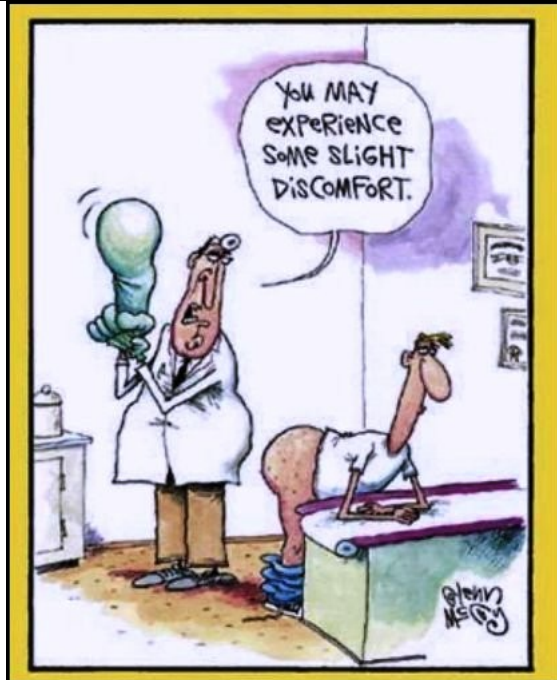
STUPIDITY IS NOT A HANDICAP

PARK ELSEWHERE

JOE'S RADIATOR

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YOU MAY EXPERIENCE SOME SLIGHT DISCOMFORT.



Vintage Thunderbird Club International



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
January / February	\$40.00
March / April	\$35.00
May / June	\$30.00
July / August	\$25.00
September / October	\$55.00
November / December	\$50.00

All Other Countries
\$60.00
\$55.00
\$45.00
\$40.00
\$90.00 includes next year
\$80.00 includes next year



VISA / MasterCard (circle one)

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Name on Card _____

(if different from above-please print) _____

Signature _____

Please make check payable & mail to:
Vintage Thunderbird Club International

P.O. Box 75308 Wichita, KS 67275

*Annual dues include a subscription to "Thunderbird Scoop" magazine.