



Chapter of VTCI Publication of the LONG ISLAND THUNDERBIRD CLUB Silver Award 2022

December 2022

Rosario Pizzirusso's 1979 Thunderbird

This car was purchased June 14th of this year from a Barrett Jackson Auction in Nevada. He is the third owner and the car was stored in California for 12 years and then sold to CJ Automotive.

Under the hood is a 351 V8 with a two barrel carb with interior is all cloth - the bird is all stock. Rosario bought a 79 Heritage new in 79 and when it was lost he always wanted another one.



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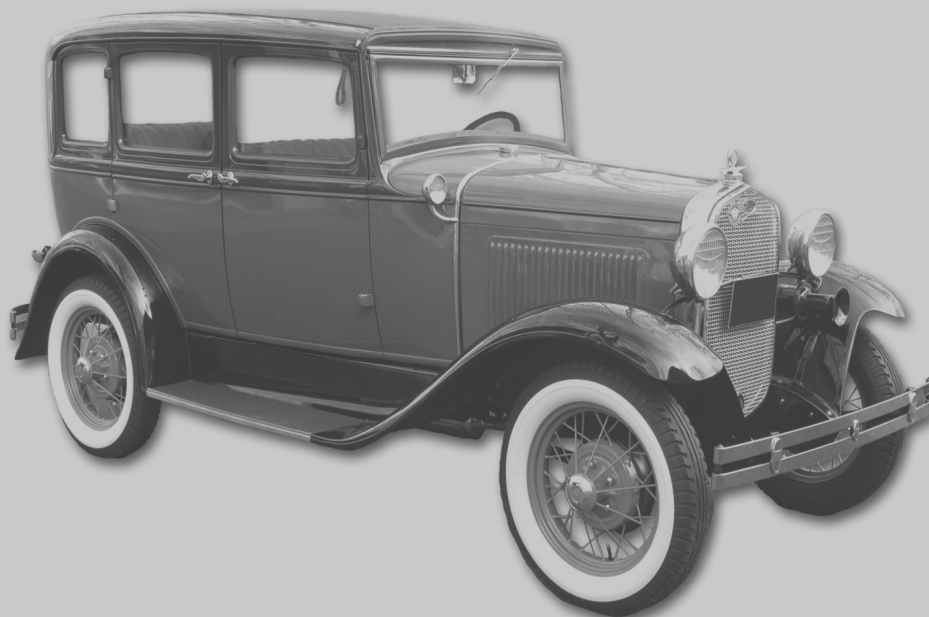
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SEASON'S GREETINGS & A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2023 NEW YEAR

DUES ARE DUE IN DECEMBER

This is a great time of year with the Holidays approaching, and spending time with family and friends, and just enjoying the ambience of this time of year, and for me being vertical and to be able to talk about it. As you read on you will see this issue is filled with all sorts of stuff. 'New this,' 'old that', ...read on and enjoy!

Part 2

Ken Weinberg informed me that we donated \$2,200.00 to Building Homes for Heroes and an anonymous donor matched us and the new total is \$4,400. Just a footnote to the show: in case you did not know Ken Weinberg, Dennis Benfante and yours truly basically organize and run the show. We do not get our cars judged but do pay for entrance to the show. Sometimes, when I hear some of the pissing and moaning that occurs and it's very sad. It is a study in human nature.

Sunday October 30th/3rd Annual Riverhead Ford Roundup at Tanger Outlet Mall in Riverhead: Excellent weather, and for us, six LITC members. Let's do numbers first. Over (110) cars of which there were (7) Thunderbirds of which (6) belongs to us The Only winner for the day for our club was Billy Kiely Jr and his 05 Retro, (a really nice car). Judging is simple and only (40) winners and no classes but (6) best in show. A few independent judges spent about five minutes on your car, hood open trunk closed, passenger side window up and driver's window down. They look for cleanliness, no rust or rot, dings or dangs. I'm sure you get the picture. It is an interesting concept when you look at the big picture. They had many items to raffle off plus a 50/50 for cash and the winner went home with over \$200.00. They also had many different items to raffle off, like a large TV and many restaurants on the island. Overall, you know what I say: "*no injuries and nobody got hurt*". In the house for the day was Dennis Benfante from TONY, and from LITC was Billy Kiely Jr, Billy Rappel and his plethora of key chains and assorted memorabilia, Hank Parkinson, Ken Weinberg and yours truly.

A quick footnote: From Pat McNulty from the Mustang Shelby Club: Ramp Ford in Port Jeff was recently sold and the new owners may want to have a show. Pat commented that we could do a Mustang / Thunderbird event and all proceeds to go to charity. His club would pick one and us BHFH.

November 21, 2001 in Ford History: Motor Trend Magazine announced that the 2002 Thunderbird is their 2002 car of the year and the stories begin. Thanks to Skip Panowitz from the Mid Atlantic Thunderbird Club AKA (MATC).

Show Your Colors

Club Sweatshirts & Hats: Yes, it's been a while since we ordered club sweatshirts and hats but with fall around the corner this is a perfect opportunity to order one of each. They are light weight sweatshirts with our club logo on the left chest. The cost is \$20.00 and right now I do not need money, but I do need your sizes. **Call e- mail or text me your size.** The color is ash which is a lighter grey, and the hats will most likely be black and adjustable and about \$15.00. If you would like a denim jacket with the club logo on the left chest that is a pre- order and I will need a check. If interested in any of the above, please contact me.

Have Two Birds for Sale – Contact Walt 610 759 4997

Birds for Sale: A good friend of ours, his name is Walt Freis. His wife Sandy and I have known both for over thirty years. Because of Walt's health they are putting up his two Thunderbirds for sale plus his vast collection of Thunderbird toy cars. Walt and Sandy live in Pennsylvania just outside of Morgantown. Both of the Birds are unique. The Retro is a 2005 Cashmere Edition (only 1500 produced) with only 22,000 miles on the odometer and he is asking \$30,000. Included are both tops, 2 boots, dash protector, outside mirror protectors and a custom bra to match the cashmere color, and a second boot that matches the bra color. Based on the current market value he is in the ball park and that is just my opinion. Next, his 56 Baby Bird which right now is pictured on a web site called "classicismotormall.com. Click on inventory and year, type and model. There are two for sale and his is the bigger number. Walt tells me there are over forty pictures of his car and the trunk is filled with all sorts of paper work and goodies. He is asking \$57,000. If interested please reach out to Walt directly. You will not be disappointed.

VTIC Newsletter Contest: Every year the VTIC has a newsletter contest and this year Art won a Silver Certificate Award. Our club newsletter has been old school since day one, and Art does a great job with it. We congratulate him....

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with Club Logo - 8oz - \$20.00

Club Pins - \$5.00

Club Masks \$10.00

LITC Scheduled Outdoor Meetings 2023

(Rain dates one week later)

Wednesday April 12th-Burger King Farmingdale

Sunday May 21th Thunderbird Appreciation Day

Wednesday June 14th 6:pm

Spuntinos Restaurant Dix Hills Pizza Night

Wednesday July TBA

Saturday August TBA

Our 17th Annual All Ford Car Show

Sunday October 1—Rain Date 10th

Kings Park KeyFood Plaza

LITC Scheduled Indoor Meeting 2023 Thru March

LITC meets Wednesdays starting at 7 PM

Hauppauge Palace Diner

525 Smithtown By Pass See Ad Page 7

Wednesday January 18th

Wednesday February 15th

Wednesday March 15th

Wednesday September 13th

Wednesday October 18th

Wednesday November 15th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DECEMBER

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Allen Lipp

Alan Nathanson

Elliott Weiner

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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

Yaphank Fire Dept Yaphank Thursday

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.)

Lake Grove Houlihan's Middle Country Rd 5pm

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

Wendy's Oakdale - Montauk Hwy & Locust Ave Sponsored by Still Crusin
Car Club contact Ish 631-205-0510 6pm

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

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

SATURDAY

Islip Town Hall 655 Main St Islip 5-9pm

McDonalds Sunrise Hwy West Islip

Event Schedule 2023

All dates to be updated when confirmed

Breakfast with "The Boss"

Sunday March 5th Southbay Diner Lindenhurst

Easter Parade- Garden City-April 9th

Car's and Guitar's @ Miller Ale House Commack
Sunday April 23th

National Thunderbird Appreciation Day

Sunday, May 21th

Keyfood Shopping Center Kings Park

Ford Nationals

Carlisle, Pa. June 1-4th

Westbury Gardens - Sunday June 4th

ST Anthony Car Show Dix Hills Centurion Cruisers TBA

275 Wolf Hill Rd S Huntington

Collector Car Appreciation Day Friday, July 14th

Thunderbird/Ford Show

@ Keyfood Shopping Plaza Kings Park

Sunday October 1

Rain Date October 8th

Sayville Street Fest - Sunday, TBA

ST Joseph The Worker Knights of Columbus 3rd Annual Car Show

TBA

Food & Toy Drive—Brookhaven Town Hall

Sunday, November 5th

Operation Enduring Caring

November TBA

Buy & Sell

We would like his 76 Thunderbird to go to someone who can appreciate it. It has been garage kept the whole time he has owned it. It has 37992 miles on it. It does need some attention. If you know anyone who would be interested please let me know. We are asking \$5000.00 Judy 973-303-5662 Picture last

For Sale Ken Leamans 1976 Thunderbird

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. Frank Del Rossi (704) 483-9554

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3rd Annual Riverhead Ford Roundup Sunday 10/23/22

Billy Kiely Jr Won one of 40 awards



Billy Rappel with his Key Chains and Collectables





Vintage Thunderbird Classic International Club: As our mast head notes we are a chapter of the VTCL, and proud of it. For me, I have been a member for a long time and have been to two of their events over the years. Both are in New Jersey, one this past August. The question is why join and be a part of a great national club? The answer is simple and let me explain Lucy. Some of the articles and info you get is priceless. You want to know more about your Bird just reach out to them. They have many tech people covering all the years that the car was produced, and for me to go to an event sponsored by them is outstanding.

In this issue and moving forward is an application for the club, and I would suggest you sign up.

Dues are due in December: Shortly, you will be receiving our annual dues letter from Mr. Weinberg. Please fill out the data sheet and return everything to him with your check for \$29.00. Remember you can donate additional monies to our charity fund, and feel free to do so.

Please don't forget to fill out your Birthday Month line on the form. There will be no increase in dues for 2023. For your convenience in replying, a self-addressed envelope will be enclosed.

2023 Calendar: Our 2023 club calendar is included in this issue. Some TBA's because we are not sure what's going on with certain events. After the President's Council meeting in February, we will fine tune the event and calendar page. We are always looking for suggestions for our outdoor meetings and events.

LITC Annual Board Meeting/Saturday, November 26, 2022: The Board met on Saturday, October 26th for *breakfast* and *discussion* in regard to 2023. In attendance were John Bianco, Paul Rosina, Ken Weinberg, and yours truly. We updated our 2023 events and meeting listings which are in this issue of Bird Talk. With Paul's guidance we updated some of the Thunderbird and Mustang classes for next year's car show. Our agenda was kind of basic after all these years. There are dates for events, our show, and bringing back breakfast with the "Boss" in March. Also, what to do for our July and August outdoor get together. Trying to get speakers for our January, February, and March indoor meetings.

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L.I.THUNDERBIRD CLUB NEXT INDOOR MEEING

DATE: January 18th Wednesday

TIME: 7pm

PLACE: Hauppauge Palace Diner

525 Smithtown Bypass Hauppauge

See add Page 7



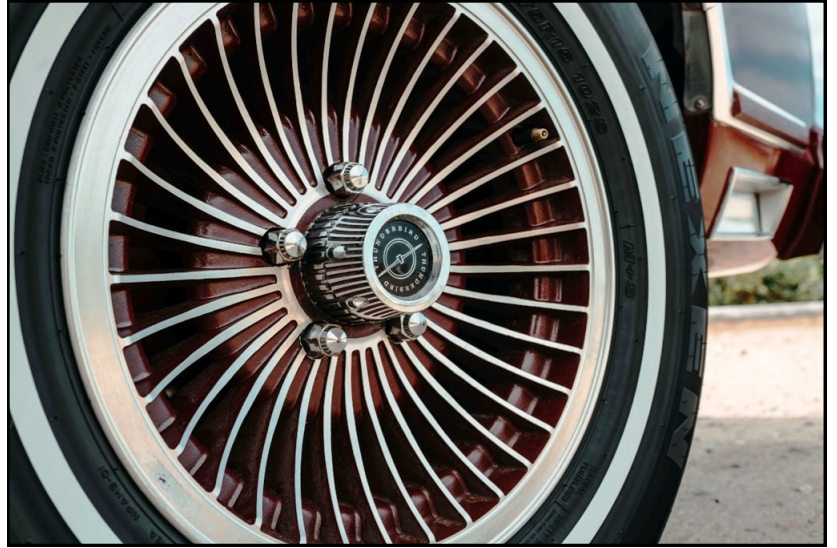
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Rosario Pizzirusso's 1979 Thunderbird



Veterans Gather in Support of Others

November 13, 2022 21:40:30 Author Pam Robinson

Veterans and others gathered Sunday to support their own, collecting personal care items for former members of the service in need of assistance.

The event, held at Walt Whitman High School, included a car show and music. The collection was part of Operation Enduring Care, a program run by American Legion Post 1244 of Greenlawn. It benefits veterans living in the Northport VA Medical Center homeless shelter by supplying such basic items as personal hygiene and comfort items, gently used clothing, packaged new underwear, socks and non-perishable meals.

The day's events were sponsored by the Greenlawn post and the Centurion Cruisers Car Club.



Operation Enduring Care Sunday 11/13/22



Operation Enduring Care Sunday 11/13/22



Operation Enduring Care Sunday 11/13/22



3rd Annual Riverhead Ford Roundup Sunday 10/23/22



3rd Annual Riverhead Ford Roundup Sunday 10/23/22



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: \$5__ \$10__ \$15__ 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 _____

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:

**KEN WEINBERG
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kjlw3@verizon.net**

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

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