



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

**January 2023**

**Joe Minahan's 1997 Thunderbird LX**

I always loved these cars and was hoping to find a nice one. It's May of 1998 so buying brand new wasn't an option. My wife and I stopped by a Ford dealer in the area and there it was! A left over demo with only 6600 miles, salesman tells me it was buried in the lot and forgotten. It's as close to as a new Thunderbird as I'm going to get. Here in Massachusetts, if a car hasn't been registered and under 10K miles it can still be sold as a new car."

Not a lot of options. Bare bones! Plastic steering wheel and shifter, manual drivers' and passenger seats. 4 wheel disc brakes, 3.8L V6, automatic.

The color is what Ford called Light Denim Blue Clear coat Metallic with a Portofino Blue interior. I upgraded the stereo and speakers, added 16 inch Sport rims and tires, added factory rear spoiler, 3.73 traction lok, aluminum driveshaft.



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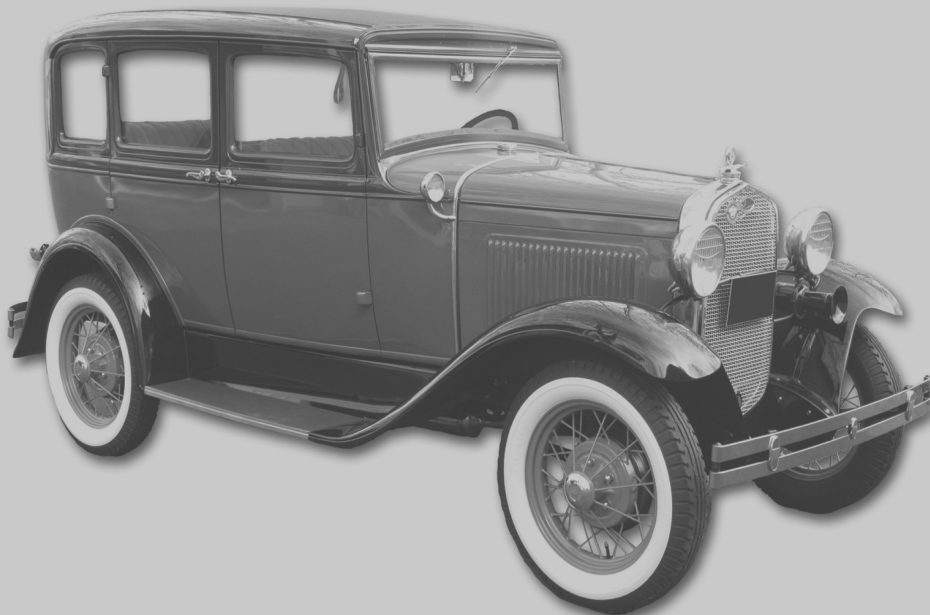
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Bayport Aerodrome May 21, 2023?

**Guest Speaker For The**

**First Club Meeting of 2023**

**Wednesday January 18<sup>th</sup>**

Hope all are well and looking forward to 2023. In an effort to put a smile on your face I have invited Jim Mularadelis from the Bayport Aerodrome Society to come to our January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and tell us about the Aerodrome and what we are trying to do for May 21<sup>st</sup>. I'm also trying to make our indoor club meetings with a theme each month. For March it will be a detail meeting and what I do to keep Big Bird show worthy. Still working on February

Game time on the 18<sup>th</sup> is 7 PM at the Hauppauge Palace Diner.

### **Bayport Aerodrome**

**Friday December 2, 2022/Bayport Aerodrome:** On this date I met with Jim Mularadelis the Activities and Event Director of the Bayport Aerodrome Society in an effort to do something different for our club in May of 2023. Since our love for Thunderbirds is our first priority why not airplanes? Last year it was the airport in Farmingdale and for those who attended enjoyed the ride. My suggestion to Jim is to make it Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> National Thunderbird Appreciation Day and he liked the idea. His suggestion: Maybe a pancake breakfast and invite all those who would be interested. The Society has a Board Meeting the first Sunday of each month and his goal is to bring May 21<sup>st</sup> to the table. If all goes well, I will be invited to the following Board meeting so we can iron out the details. I have also invited Jim to speak at our January meeting.

**Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> at Applebee's in Farmingville/Vets Home Donation/Sponsored by Impressive Motor Club:** A little history first. There was a veteran's home in Yaphank off Sills Road for many years and every December we would meet with a bunch of other car clubs and donate clothing, sometimes money to those Vets. Well that property has been sold and some of the vets are in individual homes across the Island. This year as in last, Impressive Motor Club put together a clothing drive for some of these Veterans but when I arrived it was not going well. I think the problem was lack of visibility and I explained that to them. However, our club did make a monetary donation to help them out.

### **Great Article and Story**

**In Newsday Tuesday December 20<sup>th</sup>:** There is an article on page A16 about a hero firefighter and his family. His name was Casey Skudin and he died while vacationing in Asheville North Carolina. He was an FDNY firefighter and was just short of his 20 year pension when he died. The accident was tragic, and instead of going into full details how it occurred our charity Building Home for Heroes stepped in and paid off his mortgage. BHFH has constructed and modified homes for injured veterans for 17 years. It provided its 300<sup>th</sup> home to a veteran in September and hopes to deliver number 343 around September 11, 2023 to honor the 343 FDNY members who died on 9/11.

### **New Member & Front Cover**

**New Member:** Welcome aboard Joe Minahan from Franklin Massachusetts with his 1997 Thunderbird. Joe has been to many of our shows and with his group of friends John DePinto, (LITC member) Chuck Bucchioni and the late Roger Mills. Great bunch of guys and it is always a treat when we see them together at our show.

**North Jersey Thunderbird Club/Alive and Well:** Well thanks to Steve Schmitt and a few others the club is trying to make a comeback and be active once again. Paul Rosina and I have been club members for years and always looked forward to the second Saturday in June to saddle up and head to Pompton Plains New Jersey for the annual Thunderbird show. The venue was the church grounds. Baby and Retro Birds on one side, and all the Big Birds on the other. Like anything else, the property was sold and then you make plans to move on. I know they are trying to put something together for 2023 but no details as I type this.

**Walt Freis and His Thunderbirds for Sale:** This is a quick update and his 56 has been sold. As mentioned in last month's Bird Talk his 2005 Retro is still for sale. Walt wants \$30,000 and it only has 22,000 miles on it. If you're interested in the 05 reach out to me for more info.

**Continued on Page 10**

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**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

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**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**

**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

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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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# Joe Minahan's 1997 Thunderbird LX



## Club Letterman Jackets

**New Letterman Club Jackets:** I have been wearing my Letterman jacket for over 20 years and just recently Billy Kiely Jr. (LITC) member really liked it. So I reached out to our jacket people and in the extra pages you will see two examples to what's available. Small club logo over the left chest, your name on the right chest and our club logo enlarged over the entire back of the jacket. Because of the stitch count especially on the back the cost would be close to \$150.00. Based on my jacket it's a heavy weight and I wear mine in the fall and winter. Right now we are in our exploring mode and trying to find out if there is an interest. Interested please reach out to me.

(See Page 13)

## 1 Stuffed Big Bird

**New Stuffed Big Bird:** About an hundred years ago at the Sesame Street Store in Roosevelt Field I bought my first Stuffed Big Bird. Cost was about \$75.00 back then and for years it sat in the back of my Thunderbird with its own hat and T shirt. Through the years it has turned from a bright yellow to a dull tan. Driving with the windows down will have its effect on it. So Frani was on the lookout for me on one of the market places on Facebook and found one. It's a wee bigger than the original but its bright yellow and you get the picture. Years ago when the Nassau Coliseum had its Thanksgiving show in November, I participated in it for years and one of my good friends had a life size gorilla behind the steering wheel of his truck with his own helmet. You know the rest of the story.

## I'm Batman

**Batmobile Movie Car/Old Car Weekly January 1 Edition:** The 1989 Batmobile from two Tim Burton Batman films is being sold. The car was used in Warner Bros. Pictures and Burton's live-action films "Batman" (1989) and "Batman Returns" (1992). After its movie days were over, the car was used as a prop for the Batman Returns roller coaster at Six Flags in New Jersey. It has since been acquired by a movie car collector and is now being sold by Classic Auto Mall on consignment.

The car features a gloss-black fiberglass body with "jet" engine turbine. Designed by illustrator Julian Caldow and built by John Evans 'SFX team at Pinewood Studios in England as a prop car, the vehicle actually uses an electric engine with a top speed of approximately 25-30 mph. The working flame thrower and hook launchers were both useful in catching bad guys in Gotham City. The asking price at press time was a cool \$1.5 million.

Over and out (See Page 13)

**2023 Club Dues is Due Now:** Just a friendly reminder that your dues for 2023 are due now. Please complete the form in your package and mail everything to: Ken Weinberg at 6 Bushwick St Melville N.Y, 11747

## 2023 CLUB DUES IS DUE NOW

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**L.I. THUNDERBIRD CLUB NEXT INDOOR MEEING**

**DATE:** February 15th Wednesday

**TIME:** 7pm

**PLACE:** Hauppauge Palace Diner

525 Smithtown Bypass Hauppauge

See add Page 7



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# Bayport Aerodrome







# **Long Island Thunderbirds**

## **Membership/Renewal Application**

**Indoor meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.**

**Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_**

**Dues: \$29.00 (Jan 1<sup>st</sup>-Dec 31<sup>st</sup>)**

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ ?**

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**Please enclose a color photo of your car (optional)**

**Mail completed application  
and check payable to:  
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**KEN WEINBERG  
6 BUSHWICK ST  
MELVILLE N.Y. 11747  
kjlw3@verizon.net**

# Vintage Thunderbird Club International



## VTCI Membership Application Form

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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: \_\_\_\_\_

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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.

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