

Thunderbird Owners of New York

1955's 1956's 1957's

Member, Classic Thunderbird Club International – Chapter 49 – Dec. 2023 edition

TALES OF A TWO-SEATER

clubs.hemmings.com/tony/

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DECEMBER 2023

NEXT Meeting

Monday, December 4th

Bethpage Library
47 Powell Avenue, Bethpage, NY 11714
516-931-3907

Time: 7 p.m.

(up-coming events/meetings: Jan.7, Feb. 5, Mar. 4



"It's the most Wonderful Time of the Year!"

Thunderbird Owners of New York

SECRETARIES REPORT:

Meeting Notes for November 2023

Prepared by ***John Cattonar***
T.O.N.Y. Club Secretary

Our November meeting was held at Victor's Pizza & Pasta House in Huntington where we combined our usual monthly club meeting with a "Pizza night out." We had 27 members show up. A special thanks to ***Allen & Teresa Leon*** who set everything up for the club. The 9 pizzas with garlic knots and even salad was almost totally devoured by the time, ***Stan Matusewicz***, our Club President, called the meeting to order.

Jim Mezey, our Treasurer, reported that we had \$2,939.13 in the treasury and anticipated we will be getting additional funds when members renew their membership for 2024. It's still only \$20.00 for the year and \$25.00 for a couple (married or not).

We are still looking for someone to take over as Editor from ***Arlene Swenson***, who will not be doing it any longer by the time you read these notes. This is a big problem for our club. We were supposed to nominate club officers but we will push that off to the December meeting where it will be less noisy and members can discuss it more thoroughly. Our December meeting will be back at the Bethpage library on December 4th.

Up next we handed out the CLUB TROPHIES to the T-Bird winners from the All Ford Show held in October. Thanks to ***Allen Leon*** for picking up these nice trophies for the winners in the club. This little extra for our winning members, from our other club members, was a result from our last meeting where it was agreed, a license plate is not a trophy.

Tony Cardone started the discussions about next year's Ford Show and talking to The Port Jefferson Ford dealership about becoming our sponsor for that show, since ***Steve Siben*** will not be

a sponsor any longer. Thank you ***Steve*** for the years you did graciously contribute.

The next item on the agenda was where to hold our Christmas Party. If you have a place you think might be a good place for our yearly January party, please let us know. (Not Burger King).

Even though ***Dennis Benfante*** wasn't present, he did contact our club President about the yearly "Meet Santa Parade" held in Patchogue and the need to contact the Chamber of Commerce that our club will be going. Only 4 people at the meeting, agreed to attend. If you wish to join Stan and the others, please contact ***Stan Matusewicz*** our President A.S.A.P..

Last but not least, ***Allen Leon*** brought up a number of interesting ideas including, having the women of the club get together and plan some different outings, which might include a Jersey Boys show which is currently running in Huntington. He also spoke about creating a new class for judging for those that hit GOLD status with their car to move to a "Heritage Class" where they can't compete for a GOLD award again. Allen also questioned whether the club should take over the All Ford Show next year and also that there should be a requirement for a balance sheet to show where the monies collected go etc.

As he usually does at the end of our meetings, ***Allen Leon*** gave an interesting technical presentation about the master cylinders used on our Thunderbirds: the fluids, bleeding procedure and a switch to of all things, to a Harley Davidson rear brake switch if you are using DOT5 brake fluid. The meeting concluded before 8:00 P.M. with everyone stuffed with pizza.

WARNING: Don't try to purchase a power steering cylinder from ROCK AUTO, (BASED ON MY EXPERIENCE), the unit is shorter by 3" and your hydraulic lines will be too short to reach the piston. Also the rod that moves back and forth, is thinner than the stock Ford rod. Buy a remanufactured unit from a T-bird parts supplier. John C.

...MORE:

THUNDERBIRD GRILLE PLAQUES - Bob Ceraso has a price on new Thunderbird Grille Plaques - \$50 - contact Bob to get one to place on your Thunderbird!! legendbirdbob@hotmail.com or 631-877-9476 - They look "cool" !

...from Arlene -

Hello Thunderbird Members,

I am writing to inform you that this will be my last newsletter. I am leaving my position as Thunderbird Car Club Editor, with this December 2023 issue of Tales of a Two-Seater.

Writing and putting together the newsletter for our car club over the years, has really been enjoyable. It led to the driving to car shows and car events and making many new friends.

It was a privilege to serve the club and I thank you - I honestly had fun. This was a wonderful experience - I learned something new every time I sat at my computer. I enjoyed reading about cars and all things Thunderbird.

Now, it is time for me to step down and to let a new face with new ideas, take over.

I will remain a member, and if you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch.

In the meantime, I send good cheer to you, your family and your friends, for a happy holiday season.

I wish for the club, continued growth and of course, FUN.

Arlene

Arlene Swenson

swenson@optonline.net

631-277-9511

11-21-23

DUES ARE DUE FOR 2024

Dues are due, by December 31, 2023

Please mail your check, made out to: T.O.N.Y., prior to December 31st 2023, to our Treasurer:

Jim Mezey, 38 Appletree Lane, Carle Place, NY 11514

Enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope to receive your Membership Card

\$20 REGULAR MEMBERSHIP; \$25 FAMILY MEMBERSHIP; \$36 ADVERTISER

Dues are FREE for Board Members & it is a \$5.00 fee for the Spouse of a Board Member.

DECEMBER DATES OF INTEREST - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Monday, December 4th - T.O.N.Y. Car Club meeting – Bethpage Library, 7 p.m.

Thursday, December 7th – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day - <https://www.pearlharborevents.com/>

Thursday, December 7th to 15th – **Hanukkah**

December 14th – NASCAR founded in 1947 -

Thursday, December 21st - Winter begins

Monday, December 25th - **Christmas**



Sunday, December 31st – New Year's Eve

Sunday, January 7, 2024 - THUNDERBIRD CLUB PARTY - dinner-dance TBA

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know that **Advance Auto Parts** has FREE loaner tools for all different jobs ?

...From spring compressors to specialized pullers and more, we've got the tools you need to get the job done right. The Advance Auto Parts Loaner Tool Program is easy.

1. Select the desired tool kit to borrow from your local Advance Auto Parts.
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3. return the tool to any Advance Auto Parts store within 45 days for a full refund.

<https://shop.advanceautoparts.com/o/loaner-tools?term=rental%20>

CLUB WEBSITE: <https://thunderbirdownersofnewyork.godaddysites.com/>

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

MARY BENFANTE — 1ST
FRAN PACI — 1ST
JEFFREY HEILIG - 4TH
ROBERT MCMINN — 7TH
AL CONTINELLI — 10TH
DENNIS BLINDER — 11TH
JOE MARCHIONE - 19TH
LUCILLE MARCHIONE - 21ST
ANDREW SIGNORIELLO — 22ND



2004 Ford Thunderbird, Concept

“No other man-made device since the shields and lances of the knights quite fulfills a man's ego like an automobile”. ~William Rootes



CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL

For owners and admirers of the 1955 – 1956 – 1957 Thunderbird, an iconic American sports car.

Classic Thunderbird Club International (**CTCI**) was formed to bring together owners and admirers of the 1955-1957 Ford Thunderbird. To serve as a medium of exchange of ideas, technical information and sources for parts. CTCI is recognized and sanctioned by Ford Motor Company.

OUR OBJECTIVE: Every classic Thunderbird owner should be a CTCI member!

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- **Early Bird magazine.** Published six times per year, each issue contains news, information and tech tips for maintenance and restoration. Averages 64 pages, full color. Winner of 15 Golden Quill awards for excellence in publishing. Early Bird magazine is only distributed to CTCI members.
- **Chapters.** Local Chapters hold tours, meets, and other outings designed to encourage participation and get the classic Thunderbirds out of the garage. Enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship of a group of people with the same interest and passion. Check our web site for a chapter near you! www.ctci.org
- **Technical and reference information.** CTCI members can purchase manuals from a one-sheet wire wheel cover illustration up to a complete Restoration Manual of over 400 pages. Wiring diagrams, carburetor manuals, parts catalogs and more. You can build your own reference library from the CTCI store if you are a member.
- **Events.** CTCI sanctions Regional and International Conventions, hosted by Chapters. Concours judging is a highlight and there are always activities and entertainment unique to the host location. A great opportunity to greet old friends and make new ones.
- **Invoices.** CTCI has the original factory invoices for 1955 Thunderbirds starting with serial 232214, and virtually all the 1956-1957 models. CTCI members can obtain the original factory invoice for their car.
- **Vote/hold office.** CTCI members get to vote to select their representatives on the board of directors and other matters. Members who have the motivation and desire to serve the club can run for office and help guide the club into the future.

Need more information? We would love for you to contact us! Browse our web site: www.ctci.org

Email: CTCloffice@ctci.org 816-421-8273 M-F, 9-5 Central time

CTCI
PO Box 2053
Mission, KS 66201



[illegible]

"I wish for you, the Happiest & the Merriest of Holidays"

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day, Their old, familiar carols play, And wild and sweet The words repeat Of peace on earth, good-will to men!" — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Merry Christmas! **Happy Hanukkah!**



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