

Thunderbird Owners of New York

1955's 1956's 1957's

Member, Classic Thunderbird Club International – Chapter 49 ~ May 2023 edition

TALES OF A TWO-SEATER

clubs.hemmings.com/tony/

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MAY 2023

NEXT Meeting:

Monday, May 1, 2023

7 p.m. @ BETHPAGE LIBRARY
47 Powell Avenue, Bethpage, NY 11714 516-931-3907

(up-coming meetings: June 5, July 3, Aug. 7)



Thunderbird Appreciation Day- Sunday, May 21, 2023

...club to meet at Kings Park - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Sunday, May 21st is THUNDERBIRD APPRECIATION DAY!



The Seventh Annual Thunderbird Appreciation Day is Sunday, May 21st, 2023!

Our club members will celebrate with FREE pizza.

Kings Park, at the Key Food Shopping center: 66 Indian Head Rd, Kings Park, NY 11754

BETWEEN 10 o'clock & 2 p.m. (no rain date) please bring your own drink

It is time for fun! - Thunderbirders around the world are celebrating their 'baby-birds' - their 1955, 1956 and 1957 Ford Thunderbirds!!!

Make sure to share photos from the day with Thunderbird groups or the CTCI or VTCI Facebook pages!



It's all about the Thunderbird, on Sunday, May 21st

Wixom, Michigan –Ford Motor Company produced over 4 million Thunderbirds from 1955 to 2005 but it is still uncommon to see a Thunderbird on the road today, even late models.

This is the reason that the

- Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI),
 - Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCI)
 - and International Thunderbird Club (ITC)
- have set **the third Sunday in May** as **"Thunderbird Appreciation Day"**;

...a day Thunderbird owners **worldwide** are encouraged to get their "T-birds" out into the public so that everyone can enjoy them.

Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI)

Website <https://www.ctci.org/index.php>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Classic-Thunderbird-Club-International-113788211976374/>

Vintage Thunderbird Club International

Website http://www.vintageThunderbirdclub.net/club_info.htm

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VintageThunderbirds/>

International Thunderbird Club

Website <http://www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ITC.TBird.Club/>

Thunderbird Owners of NY <https://thunderbirdownersofnewyork.godaddysites.com/>

SECRETARIES REPORT/MESSAGE

THUNDERBIRD OWNERS OF NEW YORK- APRIL 2023 MEETING NOTES

Our April meeting kicked off at 7:08 P.M. with the usual Pledge of Allegiance led by our President, **Stan Matuszewicz** - Fifteen members in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

Each year our club donates monies to a worthy charity of our choosing. In the past Don Shaffer, (now deceased) would usually ask for \$100.00 for one of his local charities. I came up with something a little different, since we have a fair amount of dollars in the bank. I suggested 2 charities that are certainly worthwhile. \$100.00 to the Tunnels to Towers Foundation and \$100.00 to St. Judes Children Research Hospital. The attending membership approved of these choices.

Next, our Treasurer, **Jim Mezey** reported we will still have \$3,455.63 in the bank.

There was a brief discussion on the CTCI National Convention to be held in October in Florida. At this point, the club will be unable to attend.

Club event entertainment committee chairman is still up for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Dennis Benfante brought up the Thunderbird Appreciation Day coming up in May. The discussion was whether to have that held at the Key Food parking lot or the Bayport Aerodrome as some members have

proposed. (Vintage Wings and Wheels pancake breakfast at Bayport Aerodrome, 60 Vitamin Dr., Bayport - 5/21/23 - \$20 entry, includes breakfast).

If the meeting was held at the Aerodrome, there is an entrance fee and you would have to pay for food. A vote was taken and we will be back at Key Food Shopping Plaza in Kings Park where there is no cost to park and the pizza is free.

Jim Mezey reported on our "Breakfast /Brunch" coming up on April 16th, at the Hauppauge Diner, that we will have a good turn-out of club members. So far, 31 members have signed up.

Closing out the evening, **Allen Leon** discussed the history of oils and their uses and also gave out some great advice about what we should be using in our Thunderbirds. Allen has been a real asset to the club since he joined. AN ACTIVE MEMBER.

A huge 'thank-you' goes to Bill Carberry from the Galaxy Car Club, for organizing and printing up the Show Car Schedule for the 2023 Classic Car Show season! Thank You, Bill! www.caparadiator.com

Meeting wrapped up at 8:05 with the 50/50 being won by **Bob Groen**, \$27.00 Next meeting: May 1, 2023

HAPPY T-BIRDING! **John Cattonar, T.O.N.Y. Club Secretary**

TECH REPORT

...another hood release option from C.T.C.I.

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September-October 2015

Another Option for an Emergency Hood Release

While visiting New Zealand, Ross Woodman and Barry Hogan came up with another hood release option. WHEN your main hood cable breaks, you can have a back-up system in place that lets you open the hood. Other options were shown in the September 2014 *Bind Bits* newsletter. But, this is new.

There is a convenient screw in the fire wall that needs to be removed. The original reason for the screw is unclear, but the hole lines up with this new device.



Ross used a thick wire from the top of a cyclone fence. It is about 8 gauge. (2 pieces—approx. 13 1/2" and 8 1/2" long)



He threaded the wire using a 10/24 die. He bent the wires (as shown) and purchased a 10/24 coupler.

This method allows the device to be easily inserted, won't fall off when put into use, requires no drilling and is easy to access/use when needed.



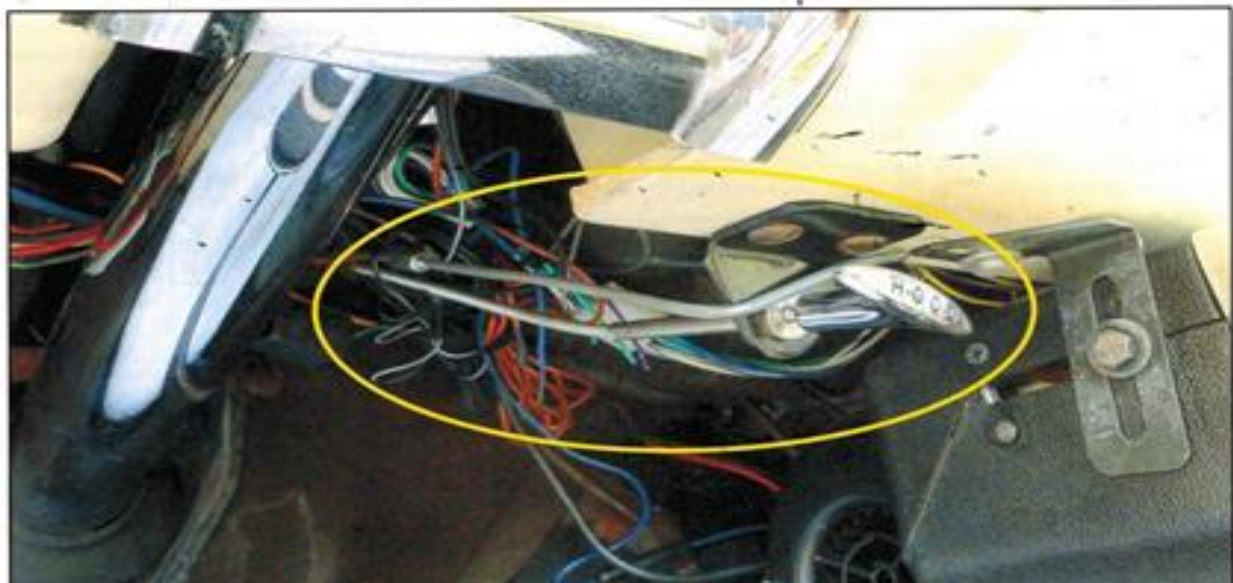
If your car is a trailer queen, you can easily disconnect the cable and re-insert the original screw for that all important judging at a Concours event.

Indeed, a better idea!

Ross Woodman,
CTCI #673
Elk Grove, California

Barry Hogan,
CTCI #36939
Auckland, New Zealand

Photos by Roger Fuller



QUOTE: "I've always been asked, 'What is my favorite car?' and I've always said 'The next one.'" Carroll Shelby

MEMBER EVENTS

THUNDERBIRD DUST-OFF APRIL 2023

Well, the weather wasn't great for our yearly "Spring Dust-off" on Sunday, April 16th but we still had five members drive their T-Birds to the diner: **Allen & Teresa Leon**, white '57, **Jim Mezey**, white '57, **Dennis Benfante**, red '57, **Marc Grodinsky**, red '57 and **Dan & Charlotte Burko**, bronze '57. We had good luck - no rain!

There were 27 members in attendance at the Hauppague Palace Diner, (even though 31 had signed up) which was still a good turn-out for our club. Most folks had a nice breakfast but you could have ordered anything on the menu with the club treasury picking up some of the tab.

It was nice to see at least some of our members who drove their Thunderbirds to our first event of the 2023 season.

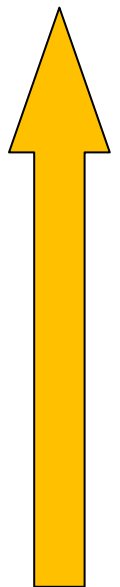
Hope to see a much bigger turn-out of cars for our next event.

HAPPY T-BIRDING *JOHN CATTONAR*, TONY CLUB SECRETARY

Photos by Sal Perrotta







MEMBER NEWS

FEATURE-CAR-OF-THE-MONTH - We're still looking for Member's cars to feature in our newsletter section: 'Feature Car of the Month' series..... We know you have a story to tell, so share it with us, on how your Thunderbird made it into your garage!

CLUB WEB-SITE: . Web-Site URL: <https://thunderbirdownersofnewyork.godaddysites.com/>

...If you have some content that you would like to share on the web site, or any feed-back about the site. please send it to Sal Perrotta: salperrotta1951@gmail.com

- T.O.N.Y. and the L.I.T.C. are planning our 17th annual Thunderbird and All-Ford Car Show at Kings Park, NY again on, October 1st 2023. Mark your calendar! Fill out the flyer in this newsletter & mail to Dennis Benfante

Long Island Gas Prices: (copy & paste into your computer browser) <http://www.longislandgasprices.com/>

MAY CAR SHOWS

ALSO, check out Howard Kroplick car show web-site: <https://www.vanderbiltcupraces.com/events/2023/05>

MAY - DATES OF INTEREST:

Monday, May 1st regular meeting at the Bethpage Library - 7 p.m.
 Sunday, May 7 - Mother's Day -
 Saturday, May 20 - Armed Forced Day - 3rd Saturday in May -
 Sunday, May 21 - Thunderbird Appreciation Day - Kings Park, NY
 Sat/Sun - May 27, 28 - Bethpage Air Show - <http://airshow.jonesbeach.com/>
 Sun., May 28 - Indianapolis 500 - www.indianapolismotorspeedway.com
 Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day



May

7th	Sunday	Dust Off Show & Swap Meet by LI/NYC Olds Club Open to All!!	Merrick	5/21/2023	917-509-0528
7th	Sunday	St Patricks School Car Show /Fundraiser 284 E Main St	Smithtown	5/21/2023	631-724-0285
13th	Saturday	Car Show by Mustang Shelby Club & Village of Farmingdale	Farmingdale	5/20/2023	631-371-1432
19th	Friday	Showing of Classic Cars for Seniors at The Luxor 273 Moriches Rd	St James	None	631-252-9997
20th	Saturday	Classic & Exotic Car Show benefitting E Williston Fire Dept	E Williston	None	516-746-0782
21st	Sunday	Kings Point Auto Club Car Show @ US Merchant Marine Academy	Kings Point	None	262-477-3338
21st	Sunday	Car Show with vendors by Fungawee Car Club at West Hampton Beach Brewery	None	None	631-873-6068
21st	Sunday	Car Show for Veterans by Still Cruisin Car Club @ AM Vets Hall	Ronkonkoma	6/4/2023	631-624-0982
21st	Sunday	Vintage Wings & Wheels @ Bayport Aerodrome	Bayport	None	516-381-4408
21st	Sunday	Car Show for Paws of War by Faulous 50's 60's Car Club	Nesconset	6/4/2023	631-402-2798
21st	Sunday	Cadillac-LaSalle Car Show @ Vanderbilt Mansion & Museum	Centerport	None	917-699-6693
24th	Weds	Showing of Classic Cars for Seniors @ Atria Senior Living - Lake	Ronkonkoma	None	631-252-9997
28th	Sunday	Buick Only Car Show by LI Buick Club @ Wantagh Train Station	Wantagh	8/11/2023	516-606-4620
29th	Memorial Day	Parade by VCCA Queens Cnty Region @ Jayson Ave & Northern Blvd, Little Neck	None	None	718-225-3438
29th	Monday	Memorial Day to remember all of our Veterans and what they have done for us !!!			

(COMPLETE 2023 Carberry Classic Car Show Calendar was sent to all Thunderbird Club members in April, 2023)

CTCI SANCTIONED EVENTS:

2023 Regional Concours Convention - FLORIDA

October 24th to 29th -- The Villages

- A Pre-Registration form is available on the CTCI Website home page – www.ctci.org
...see more in Early Bird Magazine, p. 64

Join C.T.C.I. www.ctci.org click on 'Membership'; or go here: CTCI-2021-Membership-Application-V1-1.pdf

<https://www.ctci.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CTCI-Membership-Application-rev-3-14-2023.pdf>

MAY BIRTHDAYS:

Michael Tinnirello – 4th
Larry Werkstell – 15th
Mindy Matusewicz -16th
Margaret Zengel – 16th
Dennis Terrell -26th
Colleen Wolcott – 27th
Arlene Swenson – 28th
Pat Scomello – 31st



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Happy T-Birding
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swenson@optonline.net
631-277-9511
APRIL, 21, 2023



The Long Island Thunderbird Club
and
Thunderbird Owners of New York
present the



**17th ANNUAL
SIBEN & SIBEN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
THUNDERBIRD & ALL FORD CAR SHOW**

Sunday, Oct. 1, 2023 - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

(Rain Date October 8th)

**58 Indian Head Road
Kings Park, New York 11754**
(in the Keyfood Shopping Center)

VEHICLES MUST BE ON SHOW
FIELD BY 10AM IN
ORDER TO BE JUDGED

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

T-shirt to the first
100 Vehicles

Judging by



Awards in all classes

Food and restrooms on site ■ 50/50 drawing ■ Door Prizes

Portion of the proceeds to Building Homes for Heroes

Vendors welcome – Call ahead

Contacts: Elliott Weiner, 631-724-3756 or Dennis Benfante, 631-447-3847

Music by:
DJ Bob Marketta

Registration Info: Pre-Register: \$15.00 Day of Show: \$20.00 Voluntary Donation to Charity: \$5 ___ \$10 ___ \$25 ___ Other \$ ___

Make checks payable to Dennis Benfante and send to: 15 Foxcroft Lane, East Patchogue, NY 11772

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Year & Model _____ Stock _____ Modified _____

Shirt Size: (check one) - Large _____ XL _____ XXL _____