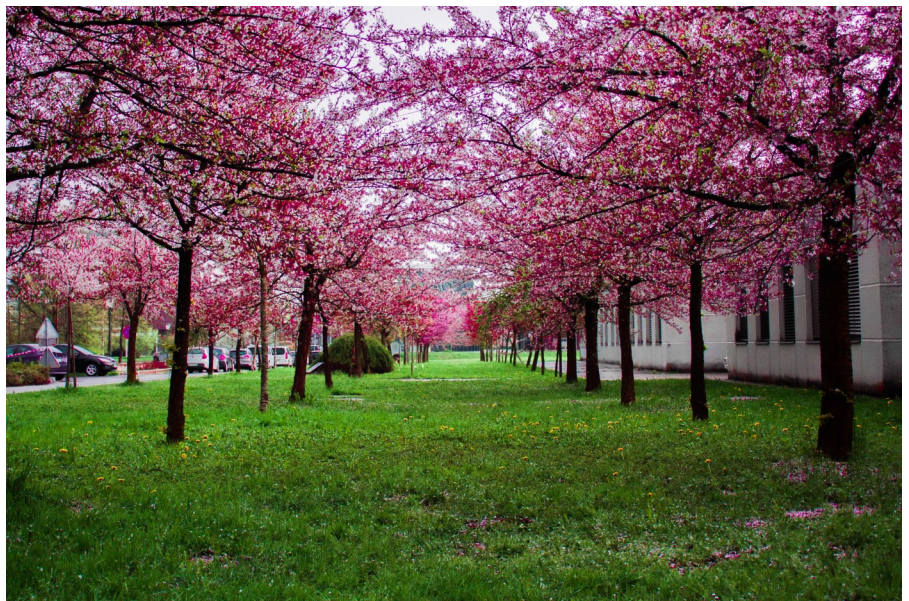


Thunderbird Special

A Thunderbird Midwest Club publication

May 2025 issue

Visit our Website: thunderbirdmidwest.com



Time to get those Thunderbirds out

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Newest Member

Brett Helser, joining us with a '66 Landau
presently in Mora, MN

Vintage Thunderbird Club International
From 1955 to 2005 All years welcome
The VTCl is for you



Contact: Jack Wake

secretary4vtci@gmail.com

OR visit

www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net

and join VTCl online!



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May 10th Meeting Info

May meeting will be at the **Broadway Pizza**

11822 Aberdeen St. Blaine, MN

The menu is Pizza and Salad\$23/person

Price includes soft drink, tax, and gratuity.



Your caller will contact you the weekend prior to the meeting. If for whatever reason you don't receive a call before the Thursday before the meeting, contact by email or phone Donn Olson with the number of people attending the meeting and their menu selection.

Club Merchandise

Item	* note: 2XL or larger additional cost	Cost w/logo
Lt weight jacket, black only		\$71.20 w/name see note
Heavy weight jacket, black only		\$109.98 w/name see note
Crewneck sweatshirt		\$26.89 w/emblem see note
Hooded full zip sweatshirt		\$38 w/emblem
Denim jacket (mens or ladies)		\$95.06 w/name see note
TShirts (mens or ladies)		\$23.78 w/emblem see note
Polo Shirts Men or ladies		\$23.98 w/emblem see note
Caps		\$21.98 w/emblem

If you have any questions concerning the merchandise, please contact Darlene Roehl: her contact info is just above and to the left on this page. You can also see additional info on these items on our Website, Thunderbirdmidwest.com.

President's Message

Happy May to everyone. This month looks to be a pretty busy month for the club, as three out of the five weekends in the month we have something going on. We have the monthly meeting a week early, then the following weekend is Thunderbird appreciation day in which we will be driving to Wabasha to the Eagles Center. It would be great to have a nice showing of Thunderbirds for this event. Let people see what the Thunderbird is all about and the Eagle Center is a great place to visit. There is also Dam Days on the last weekend of the month. This event is also a good event and has been going on for many years and is pretty well attended. It takes a lot for Gloria and Jim to host this every year and it is truly appreciated. If you have not attended one of these, I would suggest to think about attending. Those that drive their T-birds will put them in the Car show, some people may partake in some of the fun stuff going on, the women might go shopping etc. There is a Facebook page if you want to check out the happenings: <https://www.facebook.com/morristowndamdays/>. Look forward to seeing you at some of these events. As always Stay Safe, Stay Healthy.

Sincerely, Deborah Vangel President

April 2025 T-Bird Club Meeting Minutes

There were 33 people including members and 1 guest present for the April meeting, which was held at a new venue for our club, Stockyard Tavern in South St. Paul, MN on Saturday April 19th at 1pm. Our meal options were a Cobb Salad, Cod Sliders, Patty Melt, Cuban Sandwich, or Mac & Cheese.

The meeting was called to order by President Deb Vangel. Birthdays and anniversaries were listed, and we sang the birthday song for those that had special days in April. The free meal winner was Pam, Rick Madson's friend. The card game winners were Bruce Nelson, Renee Olson, and John Cobb. Deb introduced the board members that were present and reminded everyone that this is an election year. Elections will be held at the annual Christmas party in December. There will be an opening for treasurer due to term limits, as this is Randy Mattson's 2nd term. Any club member can run for any office. Deb encouraged everyone to give some thought to stepping up to run for a board position. Any questions, contact one of the board members for information on what their job entails. A new/returning member was present, John Kroska, and he has a 1955 and a 1960 T-Bird. He had previously been a member up until 1996.

The spring cruise to Wabasha on Sunday, May 18th was discussed. Our event planner Gloria Lonergan has organized a visit to the National Eagle Center. The admission is \$10 for seniors and \$12 for non-seniors. There may be a price reduction to \$10 for everyone if we have enough attending to meet the group rate. We will have lunch across the river at a creamery in Nelson, WI. This cruise will coincide with Thunderbird Appreciation Day. The meeting point will be in Faribault. A sign-up sheet was distributed, and further information will be in the newsletter or contact Gloria with questions or to let her know you are going to attend.

A sign-up sheet for the Dam Days car show on Saturday, May 31st in Morristown, MN was distributed for the potluck items to bring to Jim & Gloria Lonergan's home. They live near the car show site and will host the gathering. The club will provide burgers and brats, bring your own beverage and dish to pass. The meeting place to caravan to Morristown is Exit 81, I-35 south at the McDonald's parking lot in Lakeville, MN. The departure time is 8:15 am. If you have questions, please contact Gloria.

Information was provided regarding the Carlisle All Ford Nationals in Carlisle, PA June 6th-8th and for the VTCI/CTCI convention in Grapevine, Texas on September 9th – 13th. Deb shared a video about the 2000's retro edition of the Thunderbird. It had a lot of interesting information about these cars. Of the 4 years of production, only 68,098 were made.

The next club meeting is scheduled for Broadway Pizza in Blaine, MN on Saturday May 10th, 1:00 pm. **Please note: the date is changing this month to 2nd Saturday instead of 3rd. This will also be the case for the June meeting, which will be held on June 14th due to Back to the 50's weekend June 20-22.**

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Hepler, Club Secretary

Club History File by Randy Mattson

30 YEARS AGO...

According to Thunderbird Midwest News, May, 1994

- There were 39 members for the April meeting at the Park Tavern. A raffle was held where the winner would receive a pair of director's chairs among other prizes.
- We are invited to participate at a Ford show at Tousley Ford, hosted by the Shelby club and showcasing the 40th anniversary of the Thunderbird.
- Randy Mattson, Jack Harris, Joe Wishy and Stan Jirasek will be holding a practice judging session prior to our next meeting. Come and learn what VTCI judging is all about.
- New members welcomed were Brian & Heidi Anderson and their baby daughter, they own a 1966 hard-top. Also, George Zilligen and friend Bill O'Dowd. George is looking for a 1961 – 1963 convertible.
- We'll be meeting at a new meeting place this month...The Venetian Inn.

20 YEARS AGO...

According to Thunderbird Midwest News, May, 2004

1. We had 45 people at the April meeting at Al Baker's.
2. John & Karen Ryan volunteered to lead the caravan to the VTCI Regional convention in Indianapolis.
3. The Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club invites everyone to Dearborn for Ford's celebration of the 50th anniversary of Thunderbird this June.
4. Several cars shows were featured this issue for membership participation: Jefferson High School, Willmar, Morristown's Dam Days, Groovy 60's Car Show in Redwing and Back to the '50s in addition to our own get-togethers and the VTCI Regional.
5. Our newest member is Dave Trucksess from Burnsville. He brings a 1955 to the club.
6. May's meeting will be at Gulden's in Maplewood.

10 YEARS AGO...

According to Thunderbird Midwest News, May, 2014

- 52 members attended April's meeting at Old Country Buffet. Judy Aunet and Kim Culp made the drive from Superior, Wisconsin for the meeting.
- The spring cruise will include a morning car show at Fiedler Ford in Grantsburg, WI and catered luncheon at the Lion's Park in St Croix Falls.
- The classified ads filled a page with 8 nice T-Birds for sale.
- Jay White has new club merchandise for you to review and order.
- May's meeting will be Timber Lodge Steakhouse in Bloomington.

We need to thank Randy for doing this article every month. He saves every monthly newsletter and then goes into his filing system and reviews the contents and selects the ones he thinks is right for that newsletter. He's been doing this for quite a few years. He deserves more than just a thank you for all of his extra work for the club. So thank you Randy for your work. We appreciate it very much.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU

THANK YOU!

Article and Tip by Jack Nessen

For those of you planning to go to Grapevine, TX in September for the Thunderbird Convention, there are a couple of "must" stops while enroute:

#1. The 1st Missouri Visitors Center, after leaving Iowa, on I-35 (near Eagleville, MO.). They have an unbelievable mosaic mural & metal sculpture walkway. This is the finest visitors center that we have encountered anywhere in the U.S.

#2. Chickasha, OK. If you are familiar with the movie "A Christmas Story" you have to visit the iconic giant "Leg Lamp" (lit up at night). People from all over the world are going to Chickasha to see it. It's not far off your drive to Grapevine (40 miles south of Oklahoma City on I-44) & from Chickasha, you can take Hwy 81 to near Grapevine.

HIGHLIGHT: OKLAHOMA



A leg lamp modeled after the prop in "A Christmas Story" is displayed in Chickasha.

NATHAN J. FISH/USA TODAY NETWORK

Chickasha: The town of Chickasha paid homage to the classic film "A Christmas Story" when it placed a 50-foot tall replica of the iconic leg lamp and box labeled "fragile" in 2022, driving a tourism boost and generating millions in downtown investments. According to documents, Warner Bros. sent a letter to the Chickasha Community Foundation in 2024 demanding the \$1.4 million sculpture be "removed and destroyed," claiming the foundation had committed copyright infringement. But the foundation's attorneys responded to that letter, arguing against the infringement claims. Warner Bros. has not been in contact since, said Jim Cowan, president of the Chickasha Chamber of Commerce and representative for the Chickasha Community Foundation.

JANUARY

No Club Meeting

MARCH

15...Meeting-VFW

MAY

10—**Club Meeting-Broadway Pizza**

1PM, Social Hr Noon-1

18—**Spring cruise.** Wabasha Eagle

Center+Cruise—TBird Appreciation Day

31—**Dam Days-Morristown**

JULY

19—**Club Picnic-Park**

TBD—All Ford Show Spire Building

2025 Larpenter Ave W Falcon Hts

SEPTEMBER

6_Jesse James Car Show Northfield

21_**Club Meeting-TBD**

1PM Social hr Noon-1

NOVEMBER

16_**Club Meeting-TBD**

1PM Social hr Noon-1

FEBRUARY

17—**Club Meeting-Broadway Pizza**

1PM Social hr Noon-1

APRIL

19..**Club Meeting-Stockyard Tavern:**

1PM Social hr Noon-1

456 Concord Exchange S, South St Paul,

1PM Social hr Noon-1

JUNE

14—**Club Meeting-Caspers** *1PM,*

Social Hr Noon-1

20-22—**Back-to-the-50's**

Fair grounds

AUGUST

16—Club Meeting– Inver Grove Heights-

Pizza Pub *1PM, Social Hr Noon-1*

OCTOBER

5—Fall Cruise

19—**Club Meeting-TBD**

1PM Social hr Noon-1

DECEMBER

1—**Club Christmas Party-Caspers**

in Eagan

Want Ads

1973 Thunderbird for sale, by a club member

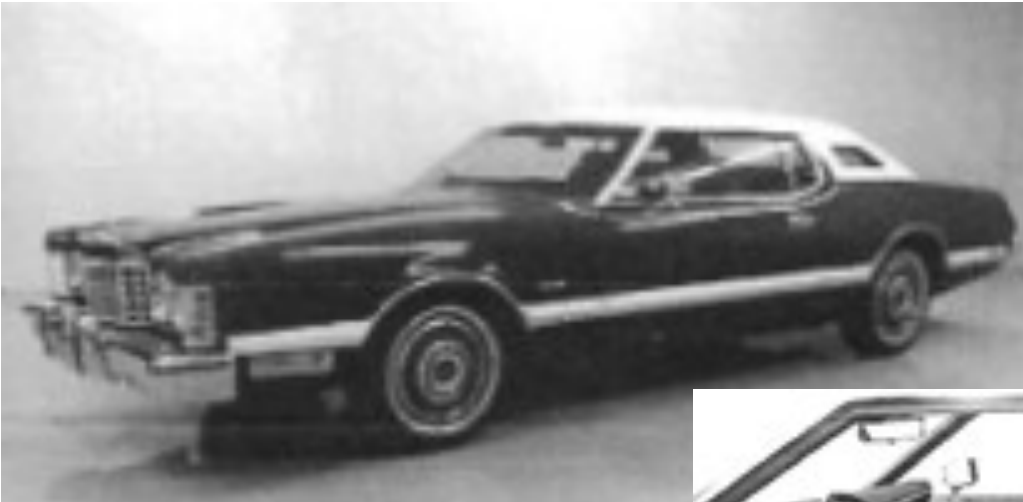
Exterior color: Dark Gold Metallic Interior color: Tobacco

Engine: 460 ci Transmission: Automatic

Milage: 51,740

Contact info: Ray Koski Phone: 612-866-1921 or 612-240-0628

Email address: raymondkoski@hotmail.com



2003 Retro for sale

Exterior color Desert Sky Blue

Interior color black and cream

Milage: 143,600

Car originally came from Tennessee

3.9 V8 Automatic

Asking \$10K firm

Contact info: Allen at 763-226-5473

Email address: allen.schlipp@gmail.com



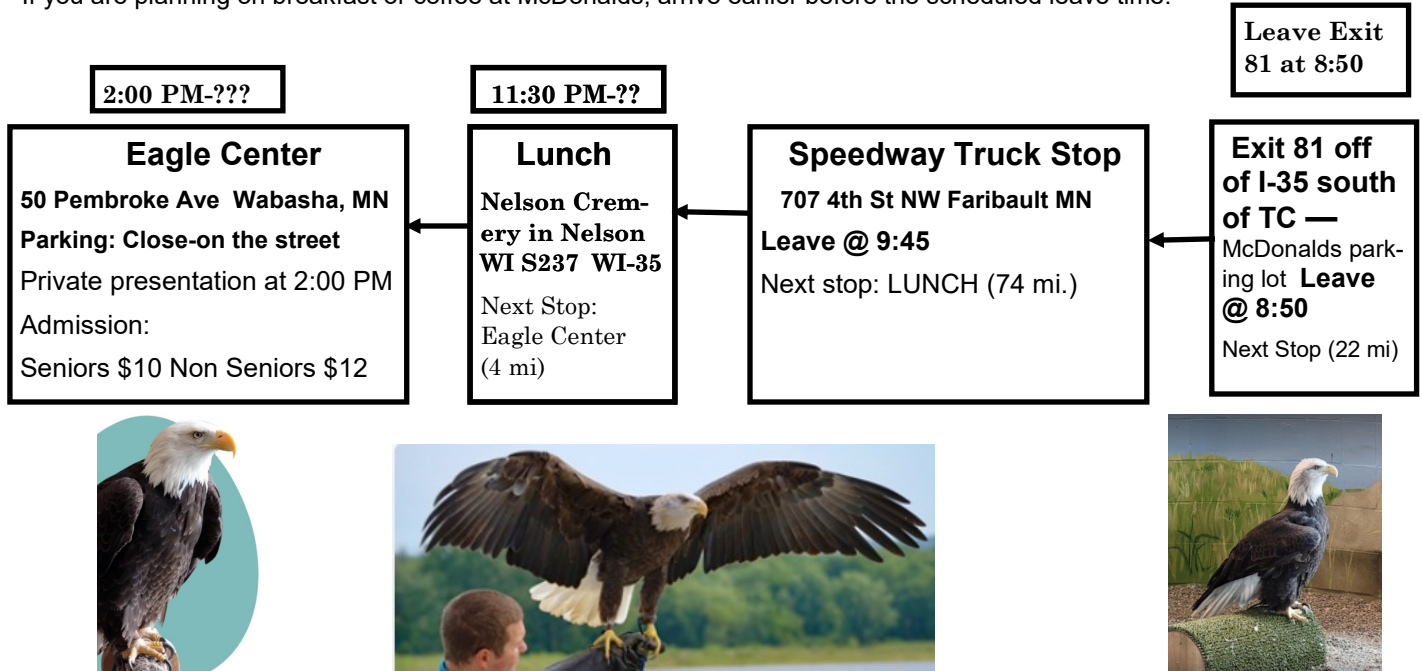
Spring Cruise/TBird Day Info Saturday May 18th

For our SPRING CRUISE this year, we are going to go to the National Eagle Center in Wabasha. This event is scheduled for SUNDAY MAY 18TH. This is in conjunction with the annual **Thunderbird Appreciation Day**. This is a special day as it commemorates Thunderbird's 70th Anniversary.

If you haven't signed up, you should call **Gloria at 507-685-4486**. You can also leave a message for her at the number.

If there's any questions concerning the schedule shown below, call **Cliff at 612-616-3862** or email cwlieske@comcast.net.

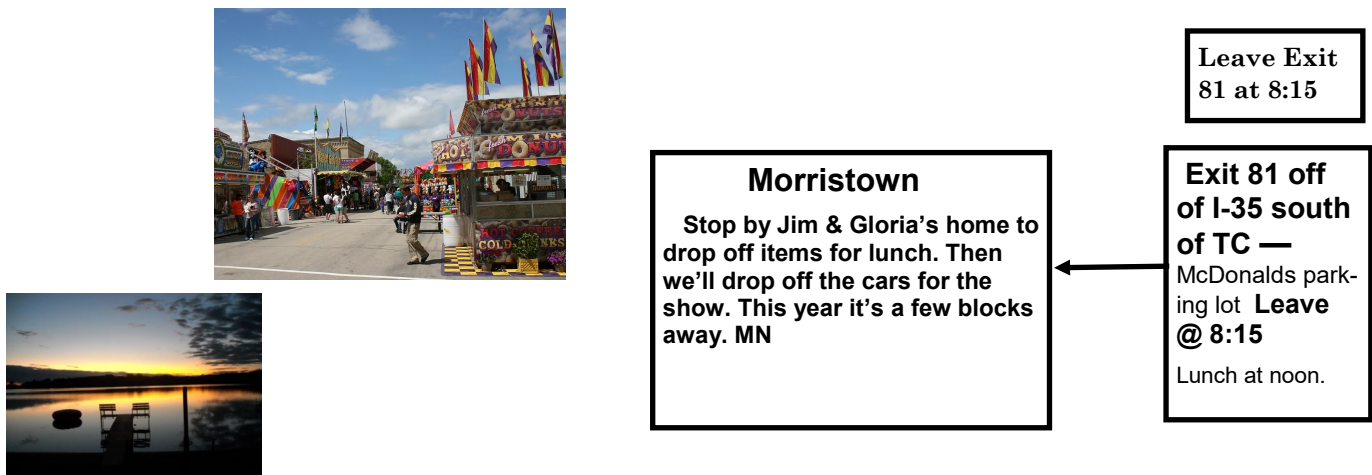
If you are planning on breakfast or coffee at McDonalds, arrive earlier before the scheduled leave time.



Dam Days——Saturday May 30th

Our annual Dam Days Car Show in Morristown will be Saturday, May 31st. We will meet at McDonalds Interstate 35 exit 81 south of the Twin Cities. Leaving at 8:15.

There will be a Pot Luck at noon at the Lonergan's. Bring a dish to pass and your beverage of choice. The club furnishes the hamburgers and Brats. There will be a sign up sheet at the May meeting. If you won't be at the meeting but would like to come you may Gloria at 507-685-4486.



Member's Special Days

May Birthdays

1...Gail Trenholm	23...Jay White
4...Kevin Biermann	25...Deb Vangel
8...Juan Monzon	25...Bob Irvine
9...Daniel Trenholm	28...Debbie Cobb
12...Doug Plocek	
17...Connie McKay	

Your special day not listed? Send me your info

May Anniversaries

11...Roger & Iris Huber
23...John & Kathy Norlien

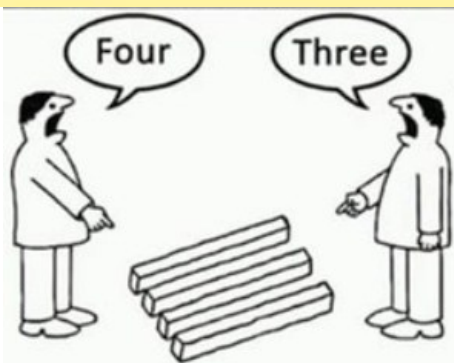


A Bit of Humor

An old lady offers the bus driver some peanuts... so the driver happily munches them.
Every 5 minutes she gives him a handful more peanuts..
Driver: Why don't you eat them yourself?
Old lady: I can't chew. Look, I have no teeth..
Driver: Then why do you buy them?
Old lady: "Oh, I just love the chocolates around them."

Me: (sobbing my heart out, eyes swollen, nose red)...I can't see you anymore... I am not going to let you hurt me like this again!

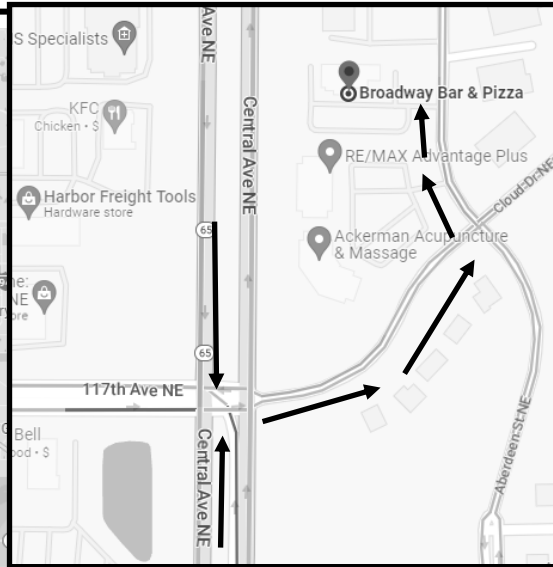
Trainer: It was a sit up.
You did one sit up.



**"Vaping"
back in
my day.**



The three hardest things to say are:
1. I was wrong
2. I need help
3. Worcestershire Sauce



Broadway Pizza Saturday May 10th at 1 PM.

Social hour: Noon-1PM

Address: 11822 Aberdeen St NE, Blaine, MN

Cliff & Pat Lieske

2501 38th Ave NE #163

St Anthony, MN 55421