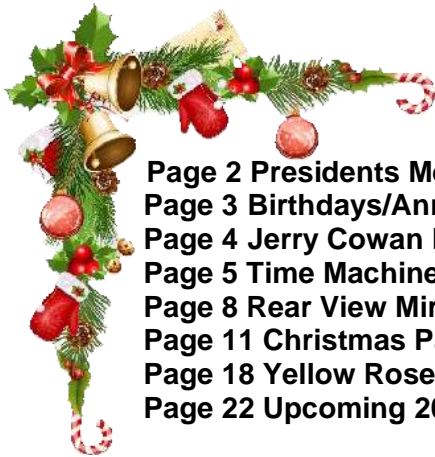




December 2024



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Welcoming all years of Thunderbirds in the San Antonio area.



Presidents Message for December 2024



We are about to complete another year of South Texas Thunderbird Club history and I believe that it has been another very good year for the Club. We have gained a few more Club members and not lost to many of them. We have had a very good year of Club activities enjoying a variety of different and exceptional events that our Activities Committee members have put together for us. I am pleased to inform you that they were busy recently in December planning the upcoming 2025 Activities for the Club. A good part of the New Year has been planned. I think we will once again have an interesting and exciting list of activities ahead of us. As is always the case, we need input from each one of you as to what YOU will like to see the Club do each year. Please either call or email our Activities Committee members of Gary & Carolyn Faught, (Committee Chairmen), Stan & Olga Andrews, (our VP & Secretary), and Danny & Kathy Varella (Danny is our STTC Treasurer) with your input.

I hope all of you are having a very Merry Christmas and the best of a coming 2025 New Year. For those of you who had prior commitments & could not attend the STTC Christmas Party at the Power Plant Restaurant, we understand. You missed a very enjoyable event!

It is important that you attend the Saturday, 10AM January 26th, 2025 STTC Business Meeting Jordan Ford dealership IH-35N & 1604N . We will be discussing and possibly voting on important information that might very well impact our STTC Club in the future. See ya there!

Ray Clark STTC President.

**I Pray you had a
Happy Thanksgiving**





Birthdays & Anniversaries

DECEMBER

Merry
CHRISTMAS
Y'all



BIRTHDAYS

Jerry Cowan	12/03
Kathy Varella	12/03
Danny Varella	12/04
Cheryl Busald	12/07
Pat Curcija	12/11
Ed Powers	12/19
Jesus	12/25
Pocahontas Cole	12/26
Denise Liedtka	12/27
Stan Andrews	12/31

ANNIVERSARY

Jack / Linda Dowda	12/11
Larry Quisenberry &	12/16
Cindy Ross	
Terrell / Robbie Hough	12/23
Bruce / Linda Reader	12/24
Jeanne Brown &	12/27
Micheal Psencik	

LOVE



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

2025 IS A
COMIN'



December Zodiac Sign

There are (2) Zodiac Signs that encompass the month of December

SAGITARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 21)

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 20)



December Birthstones

Blue Zircon · Tanzanite · Turquoise



Since the Middle Ages, Blue Zircon has been believed to aid in spiritual growth and to promote wisdom. Those who wear blue zircon, it is said, will find beauty and peace.



As a relatively new gemstone, Tanzanite does not have any mythical or mysterious powers associated with it. But what it lacks in history, it compensates with beauty in its deep blue and purple tones.



Turquoise attracts money, success and love. Its powers include protection, healing, courage, friendship, and luck. It relaxes the mind, and eases mental tension.



A Very Special Birthday Announcement!



For quite a few years, I thought that I, being 88 years young , was the currently oldest member of the STTC! But I was mistaken because there is currently another member (and there may be more!) who is older than I am! That would be Jerry Cowan, our Keeper of the STTC Club Hats! Jerry surprised me recently with some pix of his birthday cake as he celebrated his 90th Birthday walking this Earth with us on Dec. 3rd! Surprise Birthday Party, Longhorn Cafe Boerne with 30 family and friends. He got an eatable Retrobird Birthday cake and a new Pace Maker! To celebrate his Birthday, he ate his Tbird! At last report he had eaten one of its taillights and it is all gone now! See the pix. Enjoy them! Belated Happy Birthday, Jerry!





THE TIME
MACHINE

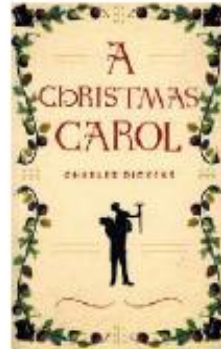
DECEMBER

Notable Events

December 19th, 1843

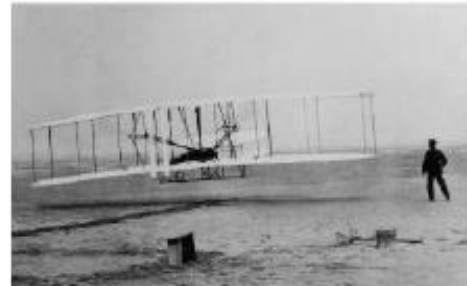
Charles Dickens' classic work, *A Christmas Carol*, was published.

Dickens produced this iconic work in a six-week flurry of writing that began in October 1843 and finished on 19th December. By December 24th, the first edition of 6,000 copies had sold out and by 2nd January 1844, a second edition of 3,000 copies had been sold.



December 17th, 1903

December 17, 1903 was a day that would launch the world into the future all thanks to two brothers. Orville and Wilbur Wright, known as the Wright Brothers, took the first ever successful flight in a man-powered airplane.



December 21st, 1968

Apollo 8, the first manned mission to the moon, was successfully launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, with astronauts James Lovell, Frank Borman, and William Anders on board.

A few days later, on Christmas Eve, the crew entered into orbit around the moon – making history as the first ever manned spacecraft to do so. During Apollo 8's 10 orbits around the moon, incredible images were taken of the moon and of Earth from the spacecraft and sent back home.

Apollo 8 landed safely in the Pacific Ocean on 27th December





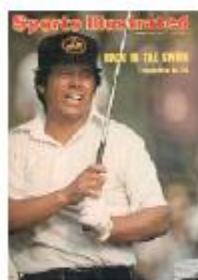
DECEMBER

OKAY!
Light the
candles!



Notable Birthdays

- December 1, 1939 – Lee Trevino, PGA golfer
- December 3, 1951 – Rick Mears, auto racer
- December 6, 1920 – Dave Brubeck, jazz musician
- December 7, 1947 – Johnny Bench, Cincinnati Reds
- December 10, 1928 – Dan Blocker, actor, “Hoss Cartwright”
- December 12, 1915 – Frank Sinatra, actor, singer, actor
- December 24, 1905 – Howard Hughes, industrialist
- December 25, 1924 – Rod Serling, host of “The Twilight Zone”
- December 29, 1947 – Ted Danson, actor, TV series “Cheers”
- December 30, 1935 – Sandy Koufax, MLB baseball pitcher
- December 31, 1943 – John Denver, singer, songwriter

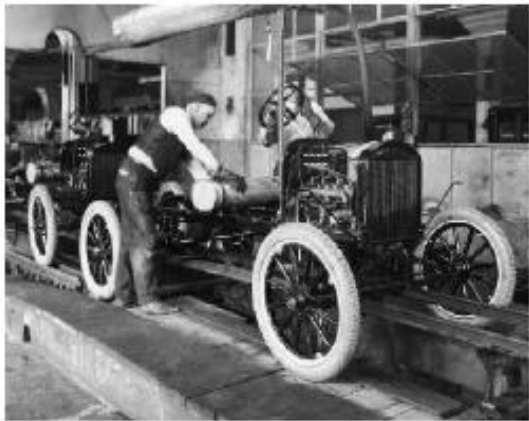




DECEMBER

Notable Automotive Event

On December 1, 1913, Henry Ford installs the first moving assembly line for the mass production of an entire automobile. His innovation reduced the time it took to build a car from more than 12 hours to one hour and 33 minutes.





The Rear View

"Bill's Elves" Toy Drive



Our first venture with the Bill Taylor "Bill's Elves" KENS5-TV Toy Drive was considered to be a resounding success by all who participated. Thanks to the outstanding action of Danny & Kathy Varella for putting this together for us as a Club Charity Activity. Danny, using his many contacts, was able to get us an invite to participate in this year's first Toy Drive Activity at JC Penny at the Forum on **November 15th at 4pm**. We were asked to provide 10 Tbirds for the event and our STTC Members came through. We gathered there at 3:30pm as Danny & Kathy handed out the new, unwrapped toys the Club had bought with \$500 from our piggy bank. In addition to those, our STTC members also donated more than an additional \$500 to the event. At 4pm we drove through the Toy Drive line, many of us decorated for Christmas. "Bill's Elves" gladly accepted our toys from each car as we drove through the line. Hopefully, many of you were able to see this live or later on KENS5-TV as we did so. Thanks to Kathy, & her pix I was able to post the video on our website of the lineup of our cars, and a short link to the Toy Drive as we went through the line. As Tail End Charlie, I was able to have a short personal conversation with Bill, who was thrilled to have our activity. Danny will be in discussion with Bill Taylor regarding the Club, as expressed by those participating, to make us an official sponsor of the annual Bill Taylor "Bill's Elves" Toy Drive. My goal would be for there to be NO limit on the number of Tbird owners next time. I will let you know how that goes. Here are pictures of us preparing to go through the line. Some of the pix are from the TV video which might explain some fuzziness.





The Rear View

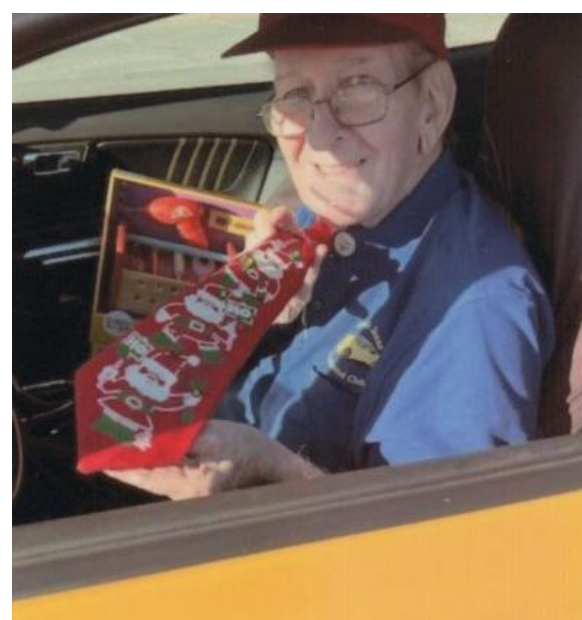
"Bill's Elves" Toy Drive





The Rear View

"Bill's Elves" Toy Drive





2024 STTC Christmas Party, Saturday, Nov. 23rd, Seguin Power Plant Restaurant Generator Room. A rather unusual and unique location for our annual Christmas Party! It gave us an opportunity for our members in the Seguin area to show off their location to us! Great location, food & service and a great time was had by all! Here are some pix of the event.





CHRISTMAS PARTY!



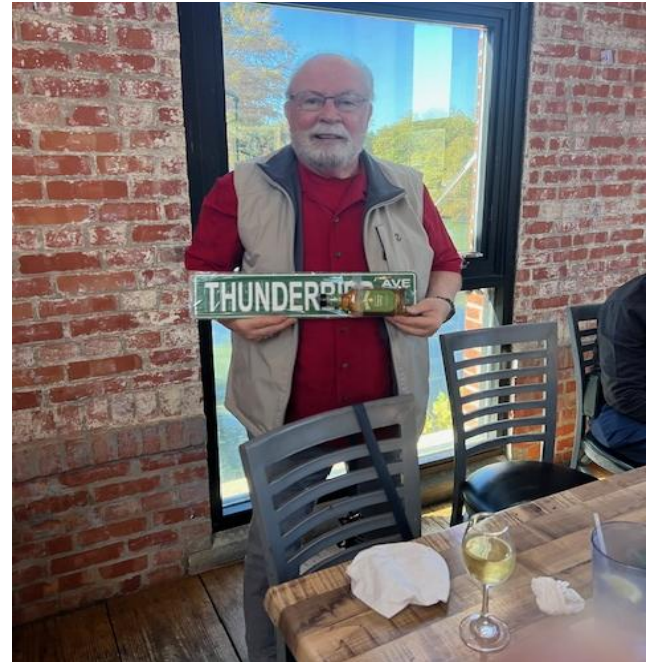


CHRISTMAS PARTY!





CHRISTMAS PARTY!





CHRISTMAS PARTY!





CHRISTMAS PARTY!





CHRISTMAS PARTY!



**Lou & Marilyn Paliani ~ Recipients
The STTC Yellow Roses Award for
Excellence & Service to the STTC**



**Brian & Marilyn Carron ~ Recipients
The STTC Yellow Roses Award for
Excellence & Service to the STTC**



**Danny & Kathy Varella ~ Recipients
The STTC Yellow Roses Award for
Excellence & Service to the STTC**

**If the pix make you look a bit wider it is probably not a result of having too much Christmas Party food!
But caused by me trying to fit in the pix!**



STTC



Yellow Roses Of Texas Award



Some weeks ago, I determined that the STTC did not have a way of honoring those who have led this Club for so many years or served in other positions. I decided to create such an award to recognize several of our STTC Members who have either been long time past Leaders of this Club or served us in other ways. As a result, we now have an award that can be given by any future President of STTC to deserving Members. Since the recipients have long worked well together, please notice the crossing of the Rose stems, and the touching of the small green leaves between the Roses. Indicating the teamwork between them. Throughout the history of this Club and the Little Bird Club, Women have played a very important part in leading both Clubs. Marilyn Paliani, Marilyn Carron and thrice past President of the Little Bird Club, Carrilee Adkins come to mind. Carrilee never even owned a Tbird! The Award is available from Texas Trophies which happens to be in the Lackland AFB area where I live. Here are the first Recipients of this Award as presented at our Christmas Party in Seguin.



STTC



Yellow Roses Of Texas Award



Lou & Marilyn Paliani

Awarded For

Outstanding Friendship & Service!

Lou & Marilyn Paliani! They became my Mentors as I rose up through the Club to Leadership positions within it. If I have proven to be a good Club leader then please thank them when you communicate with them. Marilyn became a 3 times STTC President, also served in all other offices, before I joined the Club. Lou became VTCI Regional Director, VTCI VP, then VTCI President, for about 9 years and Marilyn his VTCI Secretary. Some of the things they completed during their STTC tours of duty include creating our present STTC patch that we wear, changing the Club name to STTC to make it more area inclusive, and moved to have closer ties with the Little Bird Club by attending their activities. And much more.



STTC



Yellow Roses Of Texas Award



Brian & Marilyn Carron

Awarded For

Outstanding Friendship & Service!

Like Lou & Marilyn, Brian & Marilyn have also been my Mentors as I progressed through various Leadership positions in the Club. The same comments I made regarding Lou & Marilyn's Mentorship also apply to Brian & Marilyn. Both Brian & Marilyn Carron served as STTC Presidents, after my first Presidency and Marilyn also served as our Newsletter Editor for a good number of years and earned us many VTCI Newsletter Gold Awards. Brian, while serving as STTC President, also served and still does, as the VTCI Regional Director at the same time, and for some time as the CTCI Little Bird President. Brian is presently our key contact in setting up the 2025 International VTCI Conference in the DFW area next year. Marilyn, as I recall, also served as CTCI Secretary during his tour of duty. Like me, and others in this Club, he and Marilyn have worn several Hats at the same time. Marilyn continues to serve us as our Historian.



STTC



Yellow Roses Of Texas Award



Danny & Kathy Varella

Awarded For

Outstanding Friendship & Service!

Danny & Kathy Varella. Both have served as our STTC Treasurer, and also as a member of the Activities Committee, as does Kathy. They have been very active in keeping our STTC Roster up to date and taking care of our Piggy Bank. They have also been very pro-active in finding ways to further promote our Club to the public. Danny used his USAF Band Of The West contacts to get us into Randolph AFB when the USAF Thunderbirds appeared here earlier this year. They were also instrumental in getting the Club involved with the KENS5-TV Bill Taylor "Bill's Elves" Toy Drive, which we just recently completed and had great FUN in doing so. Between the Club donation of \$500 in new unwrapped toys (who Kathy obtained for us) and personal donations by Club members, we donated in excess of \$1,000 in toys to needy children, and those in hospital. It is something that we, as STTC members may want to make part of our annual activities in the future as a Sponsor of this event. That is a decision we will be discussing in the future.



STTC 2025 UPCOMING ACTIVITIES!



Activities Committee Proposed 2025 STTC Club Activities.

Jan: Business meeting at 10am Jordan Ford followed by lunch at Mama Margie's.

Feb: A cruise to Blanco Buggy Museum. Combined club with CTCI SATC Little Bird Club lunch in Blanco at BBQ restaurant. Details to be set.

Mar: A wildflower cruise yet to be set. Gary Faught is to ask about someone's field property for photos with cars. More later.

Apr: Return to Gateway Classic Cars in New Braunfels as featured club, April 26, 8am-Noon. Lunch at Freidman's Store. Stan to set restaurant reservation.

May: A set up for Thunderbird Appreciation Day. Date is Saturday, May 17th Jerry Cowan will see what can be set up like last year's Northside Ford.

Jun: Nothing set up yet.

Jul: Nothing set up yet.

Aug: Business meeting to cover club's participation in the VTCL convention held in North Texas in September.

Sep No meeting planned due to VTCL convention.

Oct: Possible cruise to Stonehenge II Ingram, Texas or return visit to neon sign store.

Nov and Dec not discussed yet.

It is hoped that the above 2025 Activities will also be with the participation of the Little Bird Club...



**"Stronger Together '55-'05 in '25,
Driving The Past Into The Future"**

**Don't Miss the Mega-Event
of the Year**

**Tours, speakers,
separate VTCL
& CTCI concours Judging**



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SEPTEMBER 09-13, 2025**

SEPTEMBER 09-13, 2025 HOSTED BY



**CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL
(CTCI) AND
VINTAGE THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL
(VTCL)**





A PERSONAL COMMENT REGARDING THE MEDICAL STATUS OF ANDREA YAUDAS



Over the last years I have received a good number of questions regarding the status of Andrea & Steve Yaudas. Though they are no longer active in our Club due to her life-threatening auto accidents and his nearly deadly heart attack that he has survived. He has been back at work for quite some time now, with that heart issue behind him. Andrea is recovering at home and has been for some time now. She may be facing future surgeries to combat damages caused by her first Tbird accident that nearly ended her life. Also, perhaps from the 2nd auto accident that destroyed her beautiful Mustang, but again, she survived. The last time I saw them both was the day some months ago now, when I visited them in hospital the day she was being released. That involved the photo I sent out with her wearing that black "Pirate" eye patch over her right eye. That has passed and is no longer needed.

I contacted her today to wish them a Merry Christmas and she responded with the following info. Her home, like many of ours, is full of their Daughters and dogs as they celebrate Christmas. She is doing better, but has not been released to drive yet, however, she says she can. She will be seeing her Neurologist soon to see if they are ready to release her for driving and also wean her off some of the meds she is required to take now. She will also be seeing a Spinal doctor to see what can be done to improve that area. Then she will start looking for another 2005 Retrobird (50th Anniversary edition I assume), either Red or Black! She said there is nothing wrong with her accelerator foot! (Smile!). Here is a recent photo of what she looks like now since they got all the life saving tubes, and attachments off her before she left the hospital. They miss the friendship of the Club Membership and wish ya'll a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.



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55-57 Casco 800-374-0914 www.classictbird.com

55-57 Hill's Classic Cars 740-949-2217 www.hillsresto.com

Rock Auto www.rockauto.com

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About South Texas Thunderbird Club

San Antonio Texas Thunderbird Club (STTC) Inc. has been in existence for 45 years 1979-2024. STTC is a family-oriented organization with the goal of enjoying, having fun and preserving our Thunderbirds among friends and elevating the interest of these beautiful cars within our community. Our annual membership is \$20.00 and prorated throughout the year for new members. These dues entitle members to a club roster and the club's monthly newsletter. Most importantly membership provides the opportunity to contribute and participate in Regional/International Conventions. Dues are due on January 1st and no later than January 31st.

We welcome all Thunderbirds from 1955-2005



Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCI)



South Texas Thunderbird Club Inc. (STTC) is a chapter of the Vintage Thunderbird Club International. This organization is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of all Ford Thunderbirds 1955 - 2005. If you are not a member of VTCI and would like to join, you can go to VTCI's website at

www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net

download an application form, include fee and mail it to

VTCI

P.O. Box 75308

Wichita, KS 67275

– or –

fill it out online.

– or –

You can join through our website

www.southtexasthunderbirdclub.com

**SOUTH TEXAS THUNDERBIRD CLUB
VINTAGE THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL CLUB
OFFICERS & COMMITTEE DIRECTORS**

STTC OFFICERS	COMMITTEE DIRECTORS	VTCL OFFICERS
President Ray Clark (210) 875-1411	Newsletter Editor Bruce Reader (630) 464-8200	President Robert McNeil
Vice-President Stan Andrews (210) 296-4726	Auto Technical Advisor Ray Clark (210) 875-1411	Vice-President Vacant
Secretary Stan Andrews (210) 296-4726	Website Assistance Ray Clark (210) 875-1411	Executive Secretary Jake Wake
Treasurer Danny Varella (210) 215-7163	Historian Marilyn Carron _____	Treasurer Randy Mattson
	Name Tag Coordinator Jerry Cowan _____	Concourse Director Paul Prokop
	Activities Chairman Gary Faught	Technical Director Alan Tast
		Publication Director Teri McNeill
		Country Store Renea & Scott Steffens
		South Central Regional Director Brian Carron



South Texas Thunderbird Club Support Material



STTC Hats



STTC Brochure



STTC Patch



STTC Club Cards



STTC Member Name Tags



STTC Website
Providing Club News, Activities, Membership, Gallery
www.southtexasthunderbirdclub.com



The New VTCI Country Store Manager is Renea Steffens - vtcicountrystore@gmail.com

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TRAVEL MUG



LARGE DUFFLE BAG



WINDSHIELD DECAL



To view all products for sale or to purchase online, please visit the Country Store

WWW.VINTAGETHUNDERBIRDClub.NET





South Texas Thunderbird Club (STTC), located in San Antonio, Texas, is a local chapter of the Vintage Thunderbird Club International (VTCI)

- STTC dues are \$20.00 per year, prorated at \$2 per month
- VTCI dues are \$40.00. You can apply on their website: www.vintagethunderbirdclub.net

Member info: your name: _____ birthday: _____
first / last month / day
spouse's name: _____ birthday: _____
first / last month / day
anniversary date: _____ VTCI #: _____
If currently a member
address: _____
street city state zip
telephone: hm (_____) _____ - _____ cell (_____) _____
email: _____ T-birds
Owned" year: _____ model _____

Waiver And Release From Liability

As a member of the South Texas Thunderbird Club STTC, I am solely responsible for any damage or injury to third parties, or to myself resulting from anything connected with STTC Club activities. I agree to indemnify and hold STTC Club, and Officers harmless for, or in any claim, loss, damage, injury, or liability, that may be asserted by me, or by any third party as a result of my activity. The foregoing covenants of exculpation and indemnity are intended to be and are complete, general and without restriction and include, but are not limited to, negligence active or passives or willful reckless or wanton activity. I further warrant that I carry automobile liability insurance on the vehicle, meeting or exceeding all Texas statutory requirements and that this insurance will be in force and effect for all STTC activities in which I participate. This release will be active for all STTC Club activities/events in which I participate.

member's signature: _____ date: _____
spouse's signature: _____ date: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SOUTH TEXAS THUNDERBIRD CLUB
mail application (with check) to: Danny Varella

27302 Park Loop Road New Braunfels, TX 78132

For more club info, please contact:
Ray Clark rayclark07@att.net (210) 875-1411

revised 11.28.22

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

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.

	US and Canada
January / February	\$40.00
March / April	\$35.00
May / June	\$30.00
July / August	\$25.00
September / October	\$55.00
November / December	\$50.00

All Other
Countries

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\$45.00
\$40.00
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\$80.00 includes next year



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(if different from above-please print) _____

Signature _____

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