

# THUNDERWORD

Volume 6 Issue 9 September 2017



### **Additional Days to Remember in September**

- 2 VJ Day, WWII
- 4 Labor Day
- 10 Grandparents Day the first Sunday after Labor Day
- 11 911 Remembrance
- 17 Constitution Day
- 20 Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown
- 21 International Peace Day (UN)
- 22 <u>Autumnal Equinox</u>
- 22 Native American Day the fourth Friday of the month
- 29 Yom Kippur



Rumor has it that everyone signed up for the ALL THUN-DERBIRD Fall Regional are pretty excited about the upcoming event. With 42 Thunderbird enthusiast and 20 vehicles coming, it promises to be a very fun event. Pottsville, PA is now a sleepy town and serves as the center for Schuylkill County. It is nestled is some beautiful mountains with some nice scenic roads. I am sure the ride to the area will be enjoyable and while everything is relatively close to the hotel, there should be enough time to take the Thunderbird out for a quick run on some of the windy roads twisting through the county.

For the latest Club Event Information, Call our Message Center: 610-218-1500

Or visit our Website: http://lehighvalleythunderbirdclub.com

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THE LEHIGH VALLEY THUNDERBIRD CLUB

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#### Club Officers

Vince Luppino
President
267-808-1989
Luppinov@verizon.net

Tom Hollenbach Vice-President 610-434-2777 spokes5662@gmail.com

**Secretary** 610-279-6279

Walter Fries Jr. Treasurer 610-759-4997 wfriesjr@aol.com

## **President's Message**

I have been receiving some calls and emails concerning this "new" logo that has appeared on our newsletter. Yep, Lehigh Valley Thunderbird Club is a chapter of the Vintage Thunderbird Club International and we will be displaying the VTCI logo on our newsletter.



If you are not a VTCI member, I ask you to check out their website and join the club. Their magazine is definitely MUCH better than some others and it contains well written articles about club members, activities and true technical articles.

Make sure you take the time and check it out!

I am pretty excited about our upcoming ALL THUNDER-BIRD Fall Regional! There are many reasons, starting with it continues our tradition of the Fall Fling, started years ago by Walt, Sandi, Tom Young, Skip, Kitty M. and supported by our surrounding clubs like the Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club, the North Jersey Thunderbird Association, the Long Island Thunderbird Club and we now have additional Thunderbirders attending from the New England area, upstate NY and Central PA.

Another reason I am excited is it will be good to see everyone and relax in a stress free, non-political environment. No one is running for anything and playing politics, it will just be fun!

This event had a very small committee that organized the event. This streamlined a lot of discussions and honestly made the event easy to put together. I hope this will be a model we can use, putting together future regional events. My only question, Who is up to the challenge next?

Vince

#### **Newsletter Editors**

Tom Hollenbach 610-434-2777 spokes5662@gmail.com

Vince Luppino 267-808-1989 Luppinov@verizon.net

## **Board of Director's Message**

As we prepare for upcoming club elections, we are asking members that are interested in running for President and Treasurer to put their names in. We will also be voting on 4 Board Members also, so if you want to get involved, put your name in. Our only requirement is you have been in the club for one year before running for a officer or board position.

Also, we can use some additional volunteers for the Newsletter, Car Show Team and the Fall Regional for 2018.

Stay Tuned for information on the Christmas Party! We will be releasing more info in the October Newsletter, once we finalize the menu.

Hope to see you at on of the upcoming meetings or events!

#### **Board Members**

Lynn Day

**Jerry Engle** 610-694-0728

**Bill Ingraham** 610-841-9021

**Mike Melnyk** 610-279-6279

**Alan Miller** 484-788-3931

Dan Mohry

**Tom Young** 

## **Upcoming Shows and Events**

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
September 5, 2017	General Meeting	Parkland Restaurant
		2702 Walbert Avenue
		Allentown, PA 18104
		610-432-2745
September 7 to 10,	ALL THUNDERBIRD	Schuylkill County, PA
2017	FALL REGIONAL	
September 26, 2017	Board Meeting	Borderline Restaurant
October 3, 2017	General Meeting	Parkland Restaurant
		2702 Walbert Avenue
		Allentown, PA 18104
		610-432-2745
October 8, 2017	North Catasauqua Car	Meeting @ Cityview Diner at 8:30 am for
	Show	breakfast before the show
October 24, 2017	Board Meeting	Borderline Restaurant
November 4, 2017	America on Wheels	America on Wheels Museum
,	Museum 10:00 am	5 North Front Street
		Allentown, PA 18102
		610-432-4200
November 7, 2017	General Meeting	Parkland Restaurant
•		2702 Walbert Avenue
		Allentown, PA 18104
		610-432-2745

#### **Please Note:**

Pertaining to the General Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting, if you plan to have dinner, please arrive at 6:00pm, otherwise, the actual meeting starts at 7:00pm.

Parkland Restaurant 2702 Walbert Avenue Allentown, PA 18104 610-432-2745

We definitely need a much bigger cake this month!

# Happy Birthday!



Alan Miller Claudia Hollenbach 9/17 John Mondin 9/5 Gretchen Heery 9/18 Michael M Albarell 9/6 Cathrine Krasley 9/23 Sandra C Fries 9/27 John E Anthony 9/7 Stephen Lear 9/13 Norma Bassil 9/28 Judy Dickinson 9/14 Edie Anzano 9/30 Lynn Horn 9/16 Michael Melnyk 9/30

Tell us if you have a Birthday in September that we missed Please call (610) 434-2777!

## **Upcoming Elections for Club Officers and Board of Directors**

The following Club Officer Positions are up for Elections for the two year term of 2018 and 2019:

Club Vice-President and Club Secretary. Anyone interested is running for these positions must submit their name by October f1, 2017.

Also the following Board of Director positions are also up for election;

Mike Melnyk, Bill Ingraham, Alan Miller and one additional Board position that is currently open.

All club members in good standing, have at least one year with the club may run for any of the positions noted above.

If you are interested, please submit your intent to any club officer or Board member by October 1, 2017. Election ballots will be developed and distributed in the November and December Newsletters. Only one ballot per membership may be submitted. The election officially occurs at our First General Club Meeting in January, 2018, with those elected taking their respective position at our first Board meeting for 2018.

## 2017 Nazareth Day Car Show Review

At our last General Meeting, we discussed having a overall review of our 2017 Nazareth Day Car Show. This annual Car Show is our club's main source of income, other than our yearly dues. With the proceeds from this Car Show, we donate 1/3rd to the Nazareth Food Bank, 1/3rd to the Lehigh Valley Pediatric Foundation and the remaining 1/3rd we retain to support additional club activities. Any feedback that you can provide to make the car show more organized, effective, larger or basically better, is appreciated. Sometimes when feedback is given, people think they have to be extremely critical. While we definitely want to be aware of negatives, we ask that you suggest a workable solution for the issue. As they say in business, "Think outside the box" and be prepared to work on the solutions. Remember, while there are a lot of thing that work well, can we make them better? Also, on the other hand, if it is working well, is it worth changing? How much benefit will it bring?

So, we would like all those who can make it to our upcoming September 5th General Meeting to attend so we can have this discussion and start working toward the 2018 Nazareth Day Car Show! If you cannot make the meeting, please feel free to email your ideas and solutions to Vince, our Club President.

## 11 VINTAGE T-BIRD - MYTHS & REALITIES

by Alan Tast

Over the years, there has been many myths circulating about Vintage T-Birds. Here are some of the most popular and the answers to them.

#### MTYH #1: A "GOLD ROOF" '60 Hardtop was offered with 2,536 being produced.

**Reality #1:** Several journals over the years have alluded to a "GOLD ROOF "1960 especially an article in one of the first issues of "Collectible Automobile" on Squarebirds, suggesting that it had the roof panel painted a shade of gold. The Golde Company of Germany was contracted in 1959 to provide the hardware for the sliding panel used in the '60 Sunroof. Production of the Sunroof was 2,536. A "Gold Roof "does not exist except for cars that may be modified by unknowing or unscrupulous individuals.

#### MYTH #2: A "retractable hardtop" version of the '58- '60 or '61 exists: we heard of one in a junkyard.

Reality # 2: Prototypes of a retractable hardtop were produced by Ford to study the feasibility of the system for the four- seat T-Bird. Descriptions of the experiments from the designers published in the book "Personal Luxury: The Thunderbird Story" By Richard Langworth indicated that a "clam shell" scheme which had the front half of the roof fold over the rear, with the assembly tumbling back into the trunk, would not allow for the low profile of the sculpted trunk. The project was abandoned when it became clear that the car would not sell due to price and complexity: the prototypes were reportedly destroyed. No physical evidence has surfaced regarding surviving examples. Confusion with the rear hinged trunk and top mechanism used on the full-size Skyliner undoubtedly has led people to believe that a hardtop T-Bird retractable exists.

#### MYTH #3: A Landau version of the "60 was produced for sale.

**Reality #3:** Again, like the "Gold Roof" and retractable hardtop stories, an answer can be found in the styling studios of Dearborn. Study examples were developed of a '60 with a vinyl roof and Landau bars, but it was not approved for production. The idea was utilized for the '62 model year, when a padded long -grain vinyl roof cover and plated "S" bars were fitted to hardtops and designated with the "Landau" Moniker.

#### MYTH #4: A "California Model" '61 was produced with no side trim.

Reality #4: The story surfaced in the early '80s in the SCOOP. Claims were made that some 61s did not receive the four spears on the rear quarter panel or nameplates on the front fenders. No literature or physical proof was ever produced to verify the existence of such a derivative. A logical answer is that the cars examined had their quarter panels replaced as a result of collision damage. Replacement sheet metal often is not drilled for emblems when it is used for several years (such as the '61to'63run), so that the body shop installing the repair panel can drill holes specific to the cars trim or if they're lazy, not install the trim at all. This would explain no holes in the panels. Another logical answer would be that someone had removed the trim from a '61 as a customizing measure, as is popular with car enthusiasts, and over the years the myth evolved to explain such a car's existence.

#### MYTH #5: A choice of a 375-hp 4- barrel or a 401-hp 3-2 barrel motor was available for the 'Bird in '61.

**Reality #5:** The only motor advertised for the '61 was the "Z"-code 300-hp 390-4v. It was also used in full size Fords: also coded "Z" were a 375-hp 390-4v, a 401-hp 390-6v and a 330-hp Police Interceptor 390-4v. This confusion would end when the Police Interceptor was given a "P" code and the 375-horse motor "Q". The 401-hp 3 deuce, introduced in mid-year retained the "Z" (it was dropped for '62, being superseded by the 406 "G").

#### MYTH #6: A chrome dress-up kit for the engine was offered with a plated air cleaner on the T-Bird in '61-'63.

**Reality #6:** The factory did not offer a dress up package strictly for the 'Bird. Intended for the full-size Ford with the 352-390-406, a kit was put together which had a plated open element air cleaner, valve covers, master cylinder cap, dip stick, radiator cap, and upper fan shroud. Parts from these kits could be used on the 'Bird, but dealers or owners had to plate the air cleaner as they were not offered by Ford.

#### MYTH #7: More than 63,313 "63 Thunderbirds were built.

**REALITY #7:** Author Richard Langworth, in compiling material for his book "Personal Luxury": states that a discrepancy existed in the figures he obtained from Ford of 2,455 units. This can be accounted for in that they reflect the production of the Limited Edition "Monaco" Landaus and 455 Sports Roadsters, which would have been included in regular production figures.

Will be continued in the OCTOBER THUNDERWORD

## **NORTH CATASAUQUA**

# **AUTUMNFEST & CAR SHOW**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017

**RAIN DATE: SATURDAY OCTOBER 14, 2017** 

AT NORTH CATASAUQUA PARK
701 GROVE STREET
11:00 AM- 4:30 PM
CARS, TRUCKS,
AND MOTORCYCLES

\*1<sup>ST</sup> 50 CARS REGISTERED GET A PARTICIPATION AWARD
(MUST BE PRESENT WITH CAR)

AWARDS, DOOR PRIZES, DASH PLAQUES (1<sup>ST</sup> 125 CARS), FOOD, LIVE

MUSIC, CRAFT & FLEA MARKET

**TOYS FOR TOTS** will be having a toy drop or you may want to make a monetary donation to help a child this holiday season.

## REGISTRATION FORM

\*Registration closes at 12:30\*

\*PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY\*

PRE-REGISTRATION- \$12.00 BY 10/7/16 \*DAY OF SHOW \$15.00
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NORTH CATASAUQUA BETTERMENT COMMITTEE

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY
STATE
ZIP CODE
MAKE
MODEL
YEAR

MAIL TO: NORTH CATASAUQUA BETTERMENT COMMITTEE

C/O MARC'S AUTO
423 ARCH STREET

NORTH CATASAUQUA, PA 18032
PHONE: 484-560-1938 SHIRT SIZE

\*E-MAIL ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (PRINT CLEARLY )
DUE TO POSTAGE COST WE WILL NOT BE MAILING FLYERS. THEY WILL BE AVALABLE AT
NORTH CATASAUQUA BOROUGH HALL OR MARC'S AUTO OR WE WILL E-MAIL IT TO YOU.

# 2017 Schedule of Planned Activities

Date	Activity	Time	Point Person (s)			
Saturday, January 21, 2017	Auto Mania	9:00 am	Vince			
Saturday, February 25, 2017	GLVADA HS Competition	7:30 am	Vince			
Saturday, March 4, 2017	Annual Pizza Party Feasta Pizza 2400 Schoenersville Rd. Allentown, PA	1:00 pm	Walt, Sandi & Jerry			
Saturday, March 25, 2017	GLVADA Auto Show Display Stabler Arena 124 Goodman Drive Bethlehem, PA	8:30 am	Vince & Tom			
Saturday, April 8, 2017	Model Train Club Invite Bethlehem, PA	10:00 am	Jerry			
May 6, 2017	"Cruise to The Hagley"	9:30 am	Ken, Vince & Walt			
Saturday, May 20, 2017	Jordan UCC Car Show	9:00 am	Bill & Sally			
Saturday, May 21, 2017	Wind Gap Car Show	9:00 am	Tom & Al			
June 2 to 4, 2017	Carlisle All Ford Nationals	6:00 am	Tom, Al, Vince & Walt			
Saturday, June 10, 2017	NLTA All Thunderbird Car Show Pompton Plains, NJ	8:00 am	Tom & Al			
Sunday, July 9, 2017	Nazareth Day Planning Picnic Nazareth Park	2:00 pm	Walt			
Saturday, July 15, 2017	Nazareth Day Car Show	7:00 am	Everyone			
August 4-6, 2017	Das Awkscht "Club Day is Sunday"	8:00 am	Tom, AI, Walt & Bill			
Tuesday, August 1, 2017	Mini Golf @ Lucky Strokes	6:00 pm	Jerry			
September 7-10, 2017	Second Annual ALL THUNDERBIRD CONVENTION Pottsville, PA	8:00 am	Vince, Walt & Sandi			
Sunday, October 8, 2017	North Catasauqua Car Show	9:00 am	Tom & Al			
Saturday, November 4, 2017	America on Wheels Museum	10:00 am	Jerry			
Sunday, December 10, 2017	LVTC Annual Christmas Party @ Iron Links	1:00 pm	Walt & Sandi			

## September 2017 Auto Shows, Cruises and Events

FRI 09/01 PACE-MAKERS FRIDAY NIGHTS CRUISE IN PALMERTON PARK 6-8:30 pm; Info: pace-maker@juno.com or 610-826-3393

FRI 09/01 FIRST FRIDAY CRUISE NIGHTS AT WARRINGTON PA Lowes Home Improvement Center, 425 Easton Road, Warrington, PA 18976; 5-9 PM DJ Gary Markus; Baketrain Dragster with hot dogs; Info: alfsturn@comcast.net; SAT 09/02 CRUISE AT COUNTRY SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER, QUAKERTOWN PA 240-3 S. West End Bivd (Route 309), Quakertown, PA 18951 4-7 PM; NO RAIN DATES; All makes, models, and years welcome; DJ Hodge Podge Donations accepted for St. Isidore Food Pantry (Quakertown); Door Prizes Ponies for Children's Petting Corral; Food discounts from sponsors First PA Mustang Club; Info: RJ 215-538-7256 <a href="mailto:guillrandolph@aol.com">guillrandolph@aol.com</a>

SUN 09/03 CAR SHOW AT SLATINGTON AIRPORT, SLATINGTON PA 18080 9-3; Rain Date 09/04; Flea Market; Car Corral; Food; DJ Music; 50/50 Pre-Reg. \$10 until 08/16, DOS \$15; Spectator donation \$3, under 16 is free The Hemi Hunter Dragster (2500 HP) starts up at 1 PM – Bring ear plugs Other nostalgic dragsters and vintage race cars on display Dash plaques first 200 pre-reg.; slate wall plaque first 150 pre-reg. Goodie Bags; Trophies; Vendors; Car Raffle Tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20 – Enter to win 1965 Mustang V8 automatic dual exhaust car! Slatington Lions Club; Info: Jeff Kunkle 610-428-3244, Charlie Sule 610-737-5667 Or Matt Guesto 610-704-2136

SUN 09/03 CRUISE NIGHT AT BLUE MOUNTAIN DRIVE-IN, DANIELSVILLE PA 4-7 PM; Host: Blue Mountain Classics www.bluemountainclassics.com MON 09/04 CRUISE NORTH CATASAQUA PARK, 710 GROVE ST, NORTH CATASAQUA PA 5:30-8:30 PM; located between Grove & Arch Streets; Door Prizes; 50/50 Info: Marc 610-264-9966; Rain Date following Monday; Labor Day Trophy Cruise

FRI 09/08 CRUISE NIGHT AT LUCKY STROKES GOLF, AIRPORT RD, ALLENTOWN PA 5:30-8:30 PM; All vehicles welcome; 50/50; Silent Auction; Door Prizes Donations accepted for Camelot House for Children; One door prize ticket per vehicle. Sponsor: Lehigh Valley Cruisers Inc. www.lehighvalleycruisers.com Info: Debbie 610-360-2632 or Dick 610-216-3510 SAT 09/09 MOPAR MADNESS CRUISE NIGHTS RELOCATED TO THE SOUTH MALL South Mall, 3300 Lehigh Street, Allentown, PA 5-8 PM; All antiques/classics/makes/models welcome; Music by Sensational Sounds Host: Mopar Madness of the Lehigh Valley www.moparmadness.org

SAT 09/09 CRUISE NIGHT AT DAIRY QUEEN IN EASTON PA Palmer Town Center, 701 South 25th, Easton, PA; 5-9 PM Lehigh Valley

SUN 09/10 CRUISE NIGHT AT EAST PENN DINER, CHESTNUT ST, EMMAUS, PA 4-8 PM; Door Prizes, 50/50, Music; Benefits Camelot for Children Host: Classy Diner Cruisers; Info: Paul Bauer 610-909-9810 or Rick Colson 610-393-5376

Region AACA; Info: 610-216-7773 or 610-759-6295 www.lvraaca.com

SUN 09/10 CRUISE DAIRY QUEEN, RT 309, QUAKERTOWN PA 4-7 PM; \$1 donation benefits Children's Hospital of Phila. (CHOP); Trophies; 50/50 Host: Goodtime Motorvators; Info: George 610-395-1558

SAT 09/16 CRUISE AT CREEK VIEW SHOPPING CENTER, 425 EASTON RD, WARRINGTON PA 5-8:30 PM; All cars/trucks/motorcycles; Trophies; 50/50; Music; Free Admission Corvette Club of Delaware Valley; Web www.ccdv.com \*\* FREE HOT DOGS \*\*

SUN 09/17 CARS & COFFEE LEHIGH VALLEY, STEEL STACKS IN BETHLEHEM PA Steel Stacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem, PA 18015; 8am-12pm; All makes/models Special Theme: Truck/Jeep/SUV

SUN 09/17 CRUISE NIGHT AT BLUE MOUNTAIN DRIVE-IN, DANIELSVILLE PA 4-7 PM; Host: Blue Mountain Classics www.bluemountainclassics.com WED 09/20 CRUISE QUEEN CITY DINER, 1801 LEHIGH ST, ALLENTOWN PA 5-8 PM; \$1 donation benefits Canine Partners for Life; Door Prizes; 50/50 Host: Found in the 60's; Info: Rick 610-682-8920; Rain Date 09/21 AUTO

SAT 09/23 CAR SHOW/CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY AT A&A AUTO PARTS, ALLENTOWN PA A&A Auto Parts, 4630 Broadway, Tilghman Square Shopping Center, Allentown, PA 18104 9-4; Rain or Shine; Music & Food; Info: Jason 610-391-9660 JDWagaman@key-stone.com

SAT 09/23 CRUISE MACUNGIE MEMORIAL PARK, 50 N POPLAR ST, MACUNGIE PA Host: Wheels of Time Street Rod Association <a href="http://wheelsoftime.org">http://wheelsoftime.org</a>

SUN 09/24 CRUISE NIGHT AT LOWE'S, 1001 S WEST END BLVD, QUAKERTOWN PA 4 th Sunday; 4-7 PM; Trophies 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place for cars and for motorcycles; Food Truck; Free Reg. Info: 215-529-4940

SUN 09/24 CRUISE POTSY'S PIZZA (KUHNSVILLE), 5925 TILGHMAN ST, ALLENTOWN PA 1-4 PM; \$1 donation benefits Canine Partners for Life; Door Prizes; 50/50; Trophies Special Potsy Food Prizes Awarded Every Half Hour Host: Found in the 60's; Info: Rick 610-682-8920

09/27-10/01 FALL CARLISLE IN CARLISLE PA Info: <a href="http://www.carlisleevents.com/carlisle-events/carlisle-fall-swap-meet-corral-auction/default.aspx">http://www.carlisleevents.com/carlisle-events/carlisle-fall-swap-meet-corral-auction/default.aspx</a>

SAT 09/30 MOPAR MADNESS CRUISE NIGHTS RELOCATED TO THE SOUTH MALL South Mall, 3300 Lehigh Street, Allentown, PA 4-7 PM; All antiques/classics/makes/models welcome; Music by Sensational Sounds Host: Mopar Madness of the Lehigh Valley www.moparmadness.org

SAT 09/30 CRUISE NIGHT AT DAIRY QUEEN IN EASTON PA Palmer Town Center, 701 South 25th, Easton, PA; 3-7 PM Lehigh Valley Region AACA; Info: 610-216-7773 or 610-759-6295 <a href="https://www.lvraaca.com">www.lvraaca.com</a>

# **Automotive**

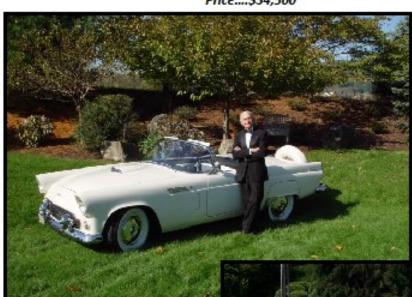
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HUB HEADS AMPS CALIPER CELLS PISTON PRESSURE WHEELCYLINDER FILTER CARBURATOR GAS STEERING TIMING BATTERY PAD PARK BRAKE HOOD OIL

## **FOR SALE**

'56 T-Bird which is probably 80-90% original with 76,000+ original miles on it. Only 15,631 of these cars were produced in 1956. It runs beautifully. It has the port hole hardtop, original soft top behind the seat and the continental tire package. It has the 312 CID engine, Ford-O-Matic transmission and power steering. The paint and chrome are in excellent condition. A lifting rack for the hard top and car cover are included. This car should belong to a new owner who values highly the originality that comes with it. If you or someone you know is looking to acquire a real special two-seater classic T-Bird, make sure you see this one. Call (610) 360-2838 if you would like to see the car or if you need further information.

Price....\$34,500







# **FOR SALE**



2002 Thunderbird

Torch Red

18,000 miles

Contact Jerry Engle
610-694-0728





#### BLACK & DECKER 12-Volt Handheld Vacuum Cleaner

12-Volt Handheld Vacuum Cleaner

 $\square$  Powerful 12-volt Dust Buster motor for quick pick-ups

 $\square$  16' power cord with 12-volt vehicle power adaptor for extend

ed reach and convenience

☐ 1-step empty means hands never touch the dirt On-board accessory storage so Dust Buster tools go where you



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- We Welcome your service Business, classic or current vehicles.
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- · All Club Members receive Free Lifetime PA State Inspection.

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# THUNDERWORD September 2017







