



## WATER WONDERLAND THUNDERBIRDS

Established 1981

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Chapter of the VTCl International

April 2008

### Presidents Message

Hope everyone had a Happy Easter and a safe St. Paddy's Day



Thanks Steve Legel for the interesting article in last month's newsletter on the Auto Shows featuring Chicago and Philadelphia. I know that I enjoyed reading it!

And, thanks to George Roscoe for putting together the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House Tour. We had 26 people attend. Great job folks, it was wonderful getting together with everyone. Thanks for coming. We missed you Jean and Ed. Get well soon....And it was great to see Dick Klein out and about looking dapper as ever!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for April 19 for the Roush Racing Collection, at 2:00p.m. Check out all the details in the right column.

Looking forward to seeing you all there. This is going to be a *FREE EVENT* thanks to the WWTC Officers.

Mark

Mark Koehler  
markkoehler@att.net



Where: **Roush Automotive Collection**  
11851 Market Street  
Livonia, MI 48150  
Main Phone: 734-779-7290

When: **Saturday, April 19 at 2:00 p.m.**

**No Charge Private Tour for WWTC Members**

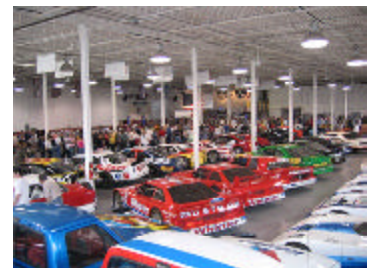
After Tour: **Atlantis Restaurant**

RSVP: **Joanne Rokicki, 248-353-0740**  
**joanne.rokicki@comcast.net**

The Roush Automotive Collection is a 30,000 sq. ft. private facility. Housed within the collection are a wide variety of displays, multi-media exhibits, artifacts, memorabilia and 110+ vehicles dedicated to the preservation of the heritage of Roush Enterprises.

The Collection has some of the early 1982 TransAM cars, NASCARs, early 1980's (CART) PPG Pace cars. Also included in the collection is the 1982 Detroit Grand Prix Pace car, a ROUSH Viper, a few late 30's and early 40's automobiles and other artifacts signifying 40+ years of motor sports achievements.

**DIRECTIONS:** The Roush Collection is located at 11851 Market St. in Livonia, north of Plymouth Rd. To get to Plymouth Road off the Jeffries Freeway (I-96) Exit 173B on Levan Rd. Go south to Plymouth Rd, turn Right (west) proceed 1 block to Market St. Roush is located on your right. After the tour, we will head west on Ann Arbor Road to the Atlantis Restaurant (right side) just east of I-275 for a bite to eat....



a publication of the

# Water Wonderland Thunderbirds Club Board Members

## PRESIDENT

**Mark Koehler**  
47633 Bentley Dr  
Belleville, Mi. 48111  
734-699-6900  
markkoehler@att.net

## VICE PRESIDENT

**George Roscoe**  
19257 Hannan Rd.  
New Boston, Mi. 48164  
734-753-5255  
egroscoe@aol.com

## SECRETARY

**Jean Ross**  
586 Bridge Park Dr  
Troy, Mi. 48098  
248-828-7825  
rossfam@wideopenwest.com

## TREASURER

**Nelson Zuchetto**  
15207 Philomene  
Allen Park, Mi. 48101  
313-928-7692  
nrzuch@hotmail.com

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Joanne Rokicki**  
3516 Trentwood Dr  
Commerce Twp, Mi 48382  
248-910-0984  
joanne.rokicki@comcast.net

## MEMBERSHIP

**Jim & Marie Brucker**  
191 Liddy Dr.  
Brighton, Mi., 48114  
810-227-5379  
m.brucker@comcast.net

## ADVERTISING

**Marie Brucker**  
191 Liddy Dr.  
Brighton, Mi. 48114  
810-227-5379  
m.brucker@Comcast.net

## WEBMASTER

**Paul Nichols**  
WWTC WebSite  
<http://members.aol.com/vintagetbirds>

## ACTIVITIES

**Aaron Reavis**  
7236 N.Territorial  
Dexter, Mi. 48130  
734-424-2633

## ACTIVITIES

**Janet Widrig**  
2254 Heritage Pte Dr  
Sterling Hts, Mi. 48314  
586-731-5496  
BBS928@comcast.net

## ACTIVITIES

**Dee & Ron Branham**  
221 Mason Ave  
Ann Arbor, Mi. 48103  
734-663-9317  
grandsons2@sbcglobal.net

## WWTC TECH ADVISOR

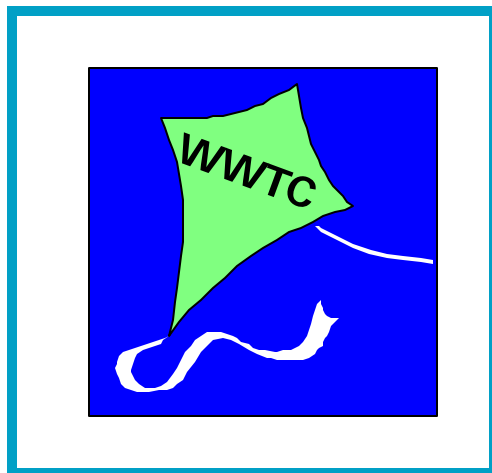
**Joe Brugel**  
*Our man with the answers*  
313-928-2278

## ACTIVITIES

**Dave Frank**  
42276 Fulton Ct.  
Sterling Hts, Mi. 48313  
586-254-1973  
Dafins1958@wideopenwest.com

## ACTIVITIES

**Bob VandeKerkhove**  
3933 Acadia  
Lake Orion, Mi. 48360  
248-393-2461  
mvandekerkhove@bdo.com



# WWTC Member News

## Extra Thoughts...

By Mark Koehler

I was thinking of an overnight trip and as I was looking through the VTCI Thunderbird Scoop magazine, I noticed a VTCI Northeast Regional Meet in Dublin, Ohio (only about 200 miles).

I have never been to a Regional Meet and I am going to the one in Colorado in August. But I thought this would be a FUN way to enjoy the cars, and more importantly, support The Central Ohio Classic Thunderbird Club!! The meet runs Thursday – Sunday, June 19-22. Deadline to Register May 1, 2008.

Possible Member Caravan? Hope to see you there.



### **YOU KNOW YOU LIVE IN CALIFORNIA WHEN:**

1. A co-worker has 8 body piercings and none are visible.
2. You make over \$300,000 a year, and still can't afford a house.
3. You take a bus and are shocked at two people carrying on a conversation in English.
4. Your child's (or grandchild's) 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher has purple hair, a nose ring, and is named Flower.
5. You have a very strong opinion about where your coffee beans are grown, and you can taste the difference between Sumatran and Ethiopian.
6. A really great parking space can move you to tears.
7. Gas costs \$1.00 per gallon more than anywhere else in the U.S.
8. Unlike back home, the guy at 8:30am at Starbucks wearing a baseball cap and sunglasses who looks like George Clooney—really IS George Clooney.
9. Your car insurance costs as much as your house payment.
10. It's barely sprinkling rain and there's a report on every news station: "STORM WATCH."
11. It's barely sprinkling rain, but you still leave for work an hour early to avoid all the weather related accidents.
12. You pass an elementary school playground and the children are all busy with their cell phones or pagers.
13. Both your neighbor and his dog have therapists.
14. The Terminator IS your governor.
15. If you drive illegally, they take your driver's license. If you are HERE ILLEGALLY, they want to give you one.

From Ron Hitter, native Detroit & TARTC member now living in California.



# CLUB CALENDAR

## UPCOMING EVENTS... REMEMBER THESE DATES

### APRIL

Saturday, **April 19** - 2 p.m. (WWTC Event)  
Rousch Racing Museum tour, Livonia and dinner  
at the Atlantis Restaurant in Plymouth.  
*Front Page News!*

### MAY

Sunday, **May 27** - 2 p.m. (WWTC Event)  
Hines Park Cruise and Station 885 restaurant

### JUNE

Weekend **June 6-8** - All Ford Nationals  
Carlisle, PA (show, cars and parts)

Nautical Mile Cruise (WWTC Event)  
Jefferson Ave, St Clair Shores, *Members Caravan*

Weekend **June 14 & 15**  
Motor City Muster at Greenfield Village  
*\*very popular with members*

Sunday, **June 15**, Eyes on Design Show

Saturday, **June 21**, Downriver Cruise on Fort  
Street... members will have a place to "roost".

Long weekend, **June 19-22**  
VTCI Northeast Regional Meet in Dublin, OH.

### JULY

Sunday, **June 1**, Orphan Car Show  
12th Annual 2008 Ypsilanti, Riverside Park  
Featuring DeSoto & Plymouth cars  
Call: 734 - 482 - 5200  
Or write: 100 E. Cross St., Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Friday, **July 11**, Rolling Sculpture  
Ann Arbor, *Members Caravan*

Sunday, **July 13**, 12 Noon (WWTC Event)  
Annual WWTC Picnic, Ford Park, Dearborn

Telegraph Tomorrow Classic Car Cruise  
9a.m. - 9p.m.

### AUGUST

**August 9** - Pre-Woodward Dream Cruise  
Pizza Party (WWTC Event)

**August 16** Woodward Dream Cruise  
Charity Event Parking

Sunday, **August 17** - Pancake Breakfast  
Marysville, 7a.m.-10a.m. and Cruise  
(*Members Caravan*)

Sunday, **August 31**, Romeo Peach Festival  
(WWTC Event)

### SEPTEMBER

Sunday, **September 7**  
Frankenmuth & Moldel T 100th Birthday

Sunday, **September 14** - All T-Bird Day  
Wilson Barn, Livonia (WWTC Event)

### OCTOBER

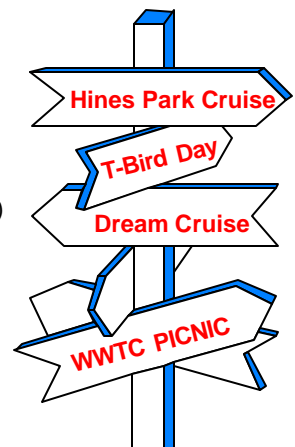
Cider Cruise - Edward Hines Drive &  
Parmenter Cider Mill (WWTC Event)

### NOVEMBER

Sunday, **November 16** - Detroit Historical  
Museum & Dinner (WWTC Event)

### DECEMBER

Sunday, **December 7**  
WWTC Holiday Party  
Hawthorne Valley  
Country Club (WWTC Event)



## If You Are In The Market For A Classic Car *This Is Your Chance...*

Dear WWTC Members,

Paul Nichols received the following letter from RM Auctions. Paul was kind enough to be our 'ticket resource man' for this event. He will request 25 free tickets and catalogs for this Auction to be held at Rock Financial Showplace on April 25, 26 & 27.

*If you are in the market for a classic car, this is your chance to be right there among the action.*

**WHAT TO DO:** Email Paul Nichols at [tbirdpaul@aol.com](mailto:tbirdpaul@aol.com) or phone him at 313-561-8895 to have him reserve one or two tickets for you. We are anticipating that RM Auctions will be able to mail them to Paul prior to our Saturday, April 19 event at Roush Racing Museum (see page 1 for Roush Event). You need to have your requests to Paul by 'tax day' April 15, so he can have the tickets ready. Obviously this is 'first come, first served.'

*Thank you so much Paul for helping out our club this way!*  
*Marie Brucker*

Letter from RMAuctions:

Dear Paul,

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you and the members of Water Wonderland Thunderbirds – VTCI to attend an upcoming classic car auction that will be held in your area.

On April 25-27, RM Auctions will be holding our annual Classic Car Auction of Michigan at the Rock Financial Showplace. This three-day event is the Midwest's largest indoor auction. Nearly 400 cars from the golden age of motoring are expected to cross the block, with an emphasis on America classics and Detroit muscle.

Included in this sale are two remarkable collections to be offered without reserve.

**The Bud Mick Collection:** Comprising an eclectic assortment of classics from a 1956 Ford Thunderbird to a 1934 Bugatti Type 57 Galibier Sedan, this collection is the product of many years of acquisition by noted Michigan collector Bud Mick.

**The Oberhaus Collection:** A love of classic Cadillacs encouraged Ed Oberhaus to begin collecting some 30+ years ago, and they remain a cornerstone of this outstanding American collection today. These two private collections, along with hundreds on individual consignments promise an exceptional offering.

I am pleased to offer you and all the car enthusiasts in your club complimentary admission to this exciting auction event. In addition to the tickets I will forward copies of our color catalog, which along with our website, [www.rmauctions.com](http://www.rmauctions.com) provides a great preview of the many cars we will be offering.

If you or your members are interested in attending this auction, kindly provide me with an address for delivery of the tickets and the catalogs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. I greatly appreciate your assistance in this matter and hope you and your members can attend.

I look forward to further discussing this event with you.

Kind Regards,

*RM Auctions is the world's leading collector car auction house. We offer a diverse selection of auctions that cater to the broad spectrum of automotive enthusiasts. As a company, we are not only in the business of buying and selling cars; we celebrate automotive history and strive to provide unique experiences that allow our clientele and car lovers around the world to connect and share their collective passion.*

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# REPORT FROM THE FIELD: DETROIT AUTORAMA, MARCH 2008

Winter doldrums give way to spring's folly as the International Auto Show meanders throughout the country, displaying manufacturer's latest concepts and new production offerings. Classic, custom and hot rod aficionados are both rewarded and tempted by the Autorama. This large scale, indoor, late winter fest kicks off in the Motor City. Local enthusiasts have a full plate of activity considering the Detroit Red Wings and Detroit Pistons and Detroit Shock are perennial contenders in professional athletics as their regular season draws near to end, and playoffs are just on the horizon.



**Cathie Kaczmarek's red 1955, local American Road Thunderbird member**

Autorama takes center stage for one weekend, luring young and old alike with something to offer every attendee. The long running custom bicycle and motorcycle exhibition is worth a look. The ever-enlarging toy and memorabilia show can occupy a day for the die cast and literature collector. The charming car corral was absent this year, perhaps giving way to the increasing space requirements of the toy show.



**Fred Birchard's Bronze 57 local TARTC member**

The cars, of course, are the stars, and 2008 was no different than any other Autorama. Many new entries graced this year's Cobo exhibit hall. And a welcome change it was. For many years, consistent repeat entries occupied the floor. Local clubs and many vendor shops brought previously not displayed cars to the show. As always, many nostalgic 50's, 60's and some 70's everyday cars were on hand. New categories this year included restored customs. That's right, those fiberglass way out cars from California shows of the 1960's that once graced jean pocket magazines in black and white, have been found and redone. They are as wonderfully nostalgic as the, pretty as can be, stock Galaxie 500 or Dodge Demon.

Plenty of drag racing cars are on display with tubbed rear ends and monster blowers protruding through fiberglass hoods. Street muscle of the late 60's and early 70's were present in record numbers. Though few Chevilles were on hand, there was plenty of 1967 through 69 Camaros, Pontiac GTO and Mopar Muscle on hand. The new concept Dodge Challenger must be raising the stakes of the classic Challengers as plenty were on hand and well presented too.



**Goldenrod 1955**

I saw only three Thunderbirds, and they were all Early Birds. Local club members Cathie Kaczmarek (red 55) and Fred Birchard (bronze 57) had their cars on display next to each other. A few rows over a Goldenrod 55 with black and yellow interior caught my eye.

As always, Autorama is pleasant evening of car stuff, whetting the appetite for the upcoming summer season.

Steve Legel, Lincoln Park, MI.



**Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club**  
**Joanne Rokicki - Editor**  
**3516 Trentwood Dr**  
**Commerce Twp, MI 48382**