## The Thunder Heard

### New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club

Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



EDITORS: Pat LeStrange ROLODEXP@AOL..COM
Alec Johnstone BRONZEBYRD@WEBTV.NET

4 Ford Rd., Landing, NJ 07850 1267 Paddington Rd, Mahwah, NJ 07430





## Happy St. Pat's Day



2006 Meeting Schedule	
March 25 7pm	Arnold & Linda Dworkin
April	Ken & Linda Herb
May	Phil & Dorothy Guidone
June	Rodger & Debbie DePiero
July	Dominick & Eva Tucci
Aug 6	** Mini-Concours **
Sept.	Rich & Lois Martin
Oct.	Stan & Cindy Gersch
Nov	Bob & Christina Calvo
Dec 2	** Christmas Party **
0007 Marting Calcadula	

#### 2007 Meeting Schedule

If you cannot host your meeting as scheduled, it is your responsibility to get someone to switch with.

THE March MEETING is scheduled to be hosted by Arnold & Linda Dworkin on 3/25 at 7pm at Panera Bread in Edison

Jan. 21, Meeting Car Count 1 '56 / 2 '02 Thunderbirds Thanks Wendy & Mike for the Hospitalities

#### **President's Message**

I am pleased to announce that our Regional Show has been accepted by National CTCI, the dates are August 1-5,2007. The tentative schedules of events are:

Wednesday: Registration, and a "Welcome Dessert" Thursday: A Judges Seminar, and a 50's concert

Friday: Judges and Owners Meeting, the Concours and Touring

Event

Saturday: Tours will be offered and the Awards Banquet in the evening

Sunday: A farewell brunch

Committees will be forming very soon, please remember to volunteer; working together we can have another outstanding Regional Show.

I would like to thank Vince DeAndrea and the rest of the Board members, Pat LeStrange, Arlene Kubat, Dominick Tucci, Frank Chabala, and Phil Guidone for doing an outstanding job on the revisions of our clubs by-laws. At our March meeting, the revised club by-laws will be presented and discussed, at which time we will vote on the revisions.

Our yearly club activity calendar will also be discussed, if you have an idea for an event or activity for our club to take part in, now would be the perfect time to add it to our calendar.

I am looking forward to seeing you Saturday evening, March 25,2006, 7:00 PM at Panera's in Edison Please RSVP if you are planning to attend to Linda and Arnold Dworkin. (information in the Newsletter.)

See you down the road, John Kefalonitis

#### A few words from Alec

As winter is drawing to a close, it is time to look forward to enjoying the coming season. All-in-all it was not a bad winter. Be sure to check the newsletter for dates and times of upcoming meetings and related car events. We would like to know how many members are planning to attend the National, in Wichita, this July

#### **Happy Motoring, Alec**

#### Pat's Message

During the Board meeting these possible Activities for 2006 were mentioned. If you have any more suggestions please bring them up at the next meeting. Sweetheat Brunch, Dinner at the Racetrack, Bowling, Drive-in Movie, Fund Raiser, Tune-up Clinic, Harold's Deli Cruise, Boat Cruise, and a Mystery Cruise.

Thanks Pat



#### Our 2007 Regional IS Going to Happen......

We have the dates and the place. We will keep you posted as we iron out the details.



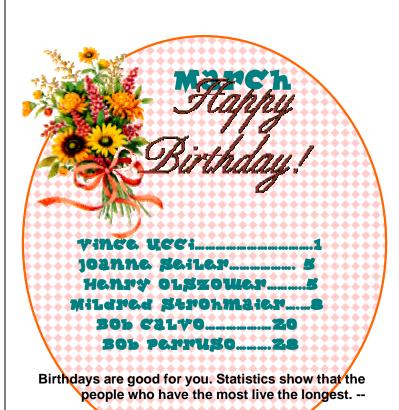
We need a name for the Convention! Let's get some ideas submitted at the next meeting.

#### 

The Atlantic City Auction was following the recent trend of muscle cars being the majority of cars auctioned. There was very little for the T-Bird fans to rejoice about. There were only about 4 or 5 T-Birds (of all years) for sale or auction and no T-Bird parts vendors

ANY ITEMS YOU WANT US TO PUBLISH IN THE NEWSLETTER MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE THE 20<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH THEY CAN BE E-MAILED DIRECTLY TO ME Pat LeStrange rolodexp@aol.com.







# member news

## Dues are Due





to New Jersey and the NJORTC Ed and Theresa Powell

They have returned from Palm Coast Florida new address is: 64 Pigeon Hill Rd., Wantage, NJ 07461 973-702-2375





Hi everyone,

Hope this finds everyone in good health and anxiously waiting for spring.

Well we reached the minimum for going to Pegasus on 4/27/06 for our night at the track. They are going to send us a contract and we must place a 25% deposit and payment in full is due 2 weeks ahead of our affair. We have received some checks but are missing a few. Would you please forward a check in the amount of \$91.68 (this is the charge per couple) made out to NJORTC to:

Bob Belli 57 Longview Drive Emerson, New Jersey 07630



## THE POINT SYSTEM FOR BRINGING A T-BIRD OR CLASSIC TO A MEETING WORKS AS FOLLOWS

1 point for bringing a '55, '56, '57 Thunderbird to a club meeting or function.

½ point for bringing any other year Thunderbird or classic/antique auto to a club meeting or function.

Please let Joanne know if you bring one of these cars to a function

I've got a Friend with an 18 year old daughter. She is vibrant, and cute

A few months back, when the gas prices in Los Angeles were sky rocking.

she came home from work and announced that she was really sick of the high gas prices.

And furthermore, she was really tired of having to by 'that old gas'.

"I always have the buy the gas from '87, it's all I can afford. It would really be nice to be able to buy some of the newer gas.

like the '89 or even the '91. As a matter of fact, I was wondering:

Why haven't they made any gas since 1991?"

Now there's a daughter to be real proud of!

## A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THE WIXOM ASSEMBLY PLANT.

T-birds were built at Wixom '58-'76 (it was the only assembly plant for them from '58-'67) and '02-'05, so there's a lot of significance in Ford's announcement yesterday about closing it down. But, time marches on.



It will be interesting to see what happens with Wixom, since they currently build Lincolns and the GT-40 there. The place has grown from its inception in 1957 of around 1.5 million square feet for the '58 Lincoln/T-bird to over 4.7 million square feet today – one of the largest assembly plants in the USofA. Idling the plant by 2008 and holding it in reserve for an anticipated turnaround will probably be a short term option that I predict will evolve into demolition and disposal, and the land turning into a retail mega-mall or industrial park site since it's off I-96 and Wixom Road.

#### 

Our New granddaughter was born yesterday, February 2 at 12:01 (noon) pm. Her name is Trinity Angelina Cirinelli. She was 6 lbs. 13 oz. and 19 inches tall. Her parents are Brent & Sofie Cirinelli. From, her happy grandma, Lorraine:)

2006 Club Calendar

??? Bowling

Johnnie Maestro & the Brooklyn Bridge March 17

> Lakeside Manor, Hazlet, NJ Dinner/Show Reg.\$70/VIP\$80

March 25 Club Meeting ??? Bowling

April 27 Big "M" Night at the Track

??? Tune-Up Clinic

Rusty Swartz Memorial Concert, Edison May 6

High School, Edison, NJ Contact Vince DeAndrea

732-548-6533

8pm (I forgot to get a price)

B. Barbella-Streets of the Bronx Band

Andri & Cerell

Comedy & Singing Group (Originally from the "Knockouts" Vito Picone & the Elegents (Little Star) Reading, NJ / Memorial Day Parade

May 29

June 30-July 4 CTCI International Convention

??? Drive-In Movie Aug 6 Mini Concours

??? Somerville Cruise Night

???

Dec 2 **Christmas Party** 

#### By ERIC PETERS Made in America

"Buy American" sounds great -- but the problem is, there isn't much to buy anymore that's truly American.

You buy a Ford hybrid, but guess what? Its hybrid systems are Toyota-sourced. That General Motors small SUV you have your eyes on? Well, take a look under the hood. It may say Saturn -but the engine's built by Honda (GM buys engines for the Saturn Vue and other vehicles from Honda -- as well as Honda-built transmissions). Chrysler is now DaimlerChrysler -- and a whollyowned subsidiary of a foreign industrial conglomerate (Daimler AG). Chrysler-badged cars like the popular 300-series sedan and Crossfire coupe are basically custom-bodied knock-offs of Mercedes-Benz designed vehicles -- specifically, the E-Class sedan and SLK roadster. For some time (and pre-Daimler) several Chrysler vehicles used Mitsubishi-built engines -- or were, in fact, Mitsubishis with slightly different exterior styling and a "Dodge" badge glued to the fender.

Many of today's cars (or their major components) are assembled in different countries before being sold under the nameplate of their home country -- and this goes for the "import" as well as the "domestics." GM and Ford have plants in Mexico; Nissan, Honda and Hyundai have plants in the United States. There are "American" cars that are built entirely in Mexico -- and

"Japanese" cars that are built entirely in the United States.

Which of these is the "foreign" car?

But when you buy an American car, the profits stay in America -or so the argument goes. In fact, the profits can (and do) go overseas or across the border, to finance (for example) new plants in other countries -- and by definition, jobs for foreign workers at the expense of American workers. Contrariwise, if

you buy a Nissan built in Tennessee by an American worker you have helped to support an American worker. Right?

This is the reality of the global free market -- and of the multinational conglomerate. There is no such thing anymore as an "American" car company -- or, for that matter, a "Japanese" one. Money is fungible; which means, it shifts and moves about as easily as dry leaves on a windy October afternoon. Your dollar might be split in myriad ways -- a portion going to pay for your new car's Brazilian-sourced transmission, its German electronics or maybe its Japanese engine. Even if you carefully research and confine your buying expedition to only those cars with an "American" nameplate that are built entirely in U.S. plants, you will still be purchasing some degree of foreign content -- and the profit earned from the sale will go to support the company's operations, including those across-the-border plants and the purchasing of foreign-built parts and components.

It's like trying to unstir coffee you've already put the creamer in. or buying the Blow-Pop just to get the little nugget of candy in the middle. You still have to buy the whole lollipop.



#### Ellen Catanzaro

This year, cancer will strike more than 1.3 million Americans and take more than half a million lives. As friends and family. we can do something to save lives and help those already fighting this disease. That's why I'm taking action against cancer by supporting the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life® of in Cliffside Park

Relay is an overnight event that unites our community in a common effort to support the American Cancer Society's lifesaving mission to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. The Society works every day to prevent cancer and save lives by supporting groundbreaking research, affecting public policies that protect us from cancer, and educating people on how to prevent or detect cancer early. The Society helps people in our community who have cancer through its many programs and services. Together, we can help the American Cancer Society accelerate the progress toward a cancer-free future.

I hope you'll be able to join us for this year's event. Please click on the link below for more information, including details on the inspirational Survivors' Lap and the moving Luminaria Ceremony. If you can't join us, will you please visit the site and make a donation to support our efforts? Either way, you will make a real difference in the lives of people facing cancer and in the lives of the people who love them. Thank you!

For state fundraising notices and the American Cancer Society's privacy policy, please paste this link into your browser: http://www.cancer.org/docroot/SU/su 0.asp

6th Annual Blue Oval Over Butler All Ford Show

April 23, 06 9:00 am until 4:00 pm, rain or shine

Place: Route 23 Automall; Butler, NJ

Registration from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

\$10 for pre-registration \$15 the day of the show

Over 20 Judged Classes.

All Vehicles Must Be Ford Powered

Limited To 125 Cars

No Charge For Specatators

NO VENDORS OR CARS FOR SALE

Special Appearance by Bigfoot, The Monster Truck

#### Helpful Tip

(I have not tried this yet; I got an E-Mail on it)

Lock you keys in your car?

If you have a car with a keyless entry fob, this may save the day

If you have a spare fob at home (and someone is there) or someone else has it, and you have a cell phone (not left in the car) try this.

Call the person with the spare fob. Have them hold it next to the mouthpiece on their phone and press the unlock button. Hold your cell phone near the your car at the same time. This should unlock your door. Good luck and I hope you don't need to use this tip. If you try it and it works let me know

In case anyone was wondering what the CTCI Headquarters in Signal Hill, California looks like. Here are some pictures taken during the trip to the Annual CTCI Board Meeting







**NJORTC 2005 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES** 

**President** 

John Kefalonitis 908-459-4201

Fax: 908-459-9868

bjspecialties@accessgate.net

**Vice President** 

Pat LeStrange 201-487-3335

rolodexp@aol.com

**Treasurer** 

Frank Chabala 973-731-9133

c/o Lucille <u>luluchab@aol.com</u>

CTCI Representative

Recording/Corresponding Secretary

Arlene Kubat 973-956-5728

finallyak@aol.com

**Editors: Thunder Heard** 

Pat LeStrange 201-920-7226

4 Ford Rd. Landing, NJ 07850

rolodexp@aol.com

Alec Johnstone 201-934-4058

1267 Paddington Rd., Mahwah, NJ 07430

bronzebyrd@webtv.net

Trustees:

P. Guidone 908-879-6261 V. DeAndrea 732-548-6533 D. Tucci 201-641-9529

Registered Agent Vince DeAndrea Awards/Plaques Dominick Tucci Membership Chairman Alec Johnstone Name Badges John Pyrros Wendy Meehan Jackets Grill Plaques & Hats Frank Chabala Club Historian Lucille Chabala Club Photographer Lucille Chabala Sunshine Lucille Chabala Master at Arms **Bruce Corbett** 

Meeting Schedules & Activities Coordinater Joanne Seiler

Webmaster Wendy Meehan