

New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club  
Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



# The Thunder Heard

April 2023

## 2023 Meeting Schedule

April 16	Harold's Deli
April 23	Frank Gloss
May 21	Tune Up Clinic
May 21	Paul Adamoff
June	Jere Klein
July	
August 13	Picnic
September	Paul Dorne
October	Gene Szura
November	Mark Santimauro
December 9	Christmas Party

The next meeting is April 23rd. Frank Gloss is the host. RSVP fegloss@optonline.net or 845-986-2030

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

Please let Arlene know at least **2 months** before your scheduled month that **YOU WILL BE HOSTING** the meeting and give the date/time/etc.



## President's Message



Thank you to Sue and George Gayet for hosting the March meeting. We had good attendance. We went over the highlights of the NJORTC Board meeting. You can always see meeting minutes (as well as much more) on the web site. We explained the changes to the By-Laws, mostly updating outdated phrases. Old and new versions are on the web site.

We are now getting into the Spring cruising season. Our old favorite is back Harold's Deli in Edison on April 16. (regular cars due to location). Sue G. is working on the Spring cruise, hopefully a Lake Hopatcong lake cruise. It would be great to see some of the members that we haven't seen in a while at the meetings and events. We have members who work very hard to put these together, so please give us your support.

I want to send my condolences to Walter on the passing of Marianne Denning as well to her family.

That's about all for now. Stay healthy and enjoy the Spring  
*Pat LeStrange*



Tom Mirros 56 (see page 6)





### Vice President's Message



It's Spring, yeah! Pretty soon we will be able to get our little birds out of hibernation.

We are all sorry to hear of the passing of Marianne Denning. She had a rough few months, first having a heart attack followed by two strokes. Glad she is at peace now and no longer suffering. Walter, our prayers are with you and Marianne's family. Joan McMillan is now going through chemo and is staying strong. Aileen Corbett is still having a few small problems after her stroke, getting better every day. Don Dobres is better from his double bypass, but now has a non cancerous growth on his lung that has to be removed. Surgery has to be scheduled. Lois is still having back problems. She had two shots that gave her some relief, but now they finally found the real spot where pain is coming from, next week she will get another shot in that area and then will have surgery. We have had many members get cataract surgery, which we all go through at our ages. The two most recent are Vince Ucci and Gene Szura. Vince has had a few problems, hope he is getting better now. Gene just had his done after last meeting, hope he did good. Anyone else hope all did good and can see better. Mel and Carmen are just getting over Covid. I hope I covered all our members who are not feeling good. Please let me know if I forgot anyone and if I did I am sorry. Our prayers are with you all to start to feel better soon.

It was good to see Gerry Ingersoll at our last meeting. Glad he is feeling better.

We are still putting together the spring cruise, which will be a boat cruise around Lake Hopatcong on the Miss Lotta. We will be having a brunch in June on a Saturday or Sunday. Upcoming is Harold's Deli on April 16th. Please let Toni Sabino know if you are going by April 3rd so she can make reservations. This is a pay on your own event. If you never been to Harold's Deli, they serve the biggest and best sandwiches and desserts around. Well worth the day out, you definitely will not leave hungry. Mike Perrillo and Gene Szura have come up with a couple of cruise ideas, which they can discuss at next meeting.

As of now we will be going back to McLoone's Boat House for our Sweetheart Brunch. Lucille and Julie Ann are checking out other places, but brunches are hard to find to fit a large group like ours.

Next meeting hosted by Frank and Mary Gloss on Sunday, April 23rd at Delizia's in Boonton. We will be having a Tune-up Clinic in May, hosted by Tom and Susan Mirro. The same day we will be having our regular monthly meeting hosted by Paul and Sheryl Adamoff at the Mirro's home. The meeting will follow the tune-up clinic.

Happy Passover for our members who celebrate this Holiday.

Happy Easter to all. Happy Greek Easter John Pyrros

See you soon Arlene

### March Meeting

Very well attended meeting, good to see some members we haven't seen in awhile, including

Gerry Ingersol who has recovered from a serious illness. Birds are still tucked away, but should be out soon. Thanks to Sue and

George for hosting

### Highlights of the Business Meeting

The reading of the minutes for the last meeting were read and the Treasurer's report given. Both were accepted

Pat reported on the CTCI BY-Law changes that were announced. Looks like CTCI Board is backing into the retro bird acceptance question

It was noted that the Sweetheart Brunch has been posted to both the web page and Facebook

Pat reported on the Board meeting and noted the minutes were posted on the web site. Changes are being made to the By-Laws and those changes are also posted there.

A poll was taken re members going to the convention in Florida. No members present said they are going'

Pat went over the upcoming events - Harold's (4/16), Spring Cruise (June), picnic (8/13) Christmas party (12/9). Nothing on the fall cruise at this time.

The members decided to stay with McLoone's for brunch although Lucille will be looking at other venues.

Lucille won the 50/50  
Next meeting, April 23rd

# Membership News

Happy Anniversary



Mel Ramos 1st  
Annette Schmidt 13th  
Charles Musto 16th  
Paul Werner 24th  
Lucille Chabala 27th

GET WELL SON!

Lois Martin  
Mel & Carmen Ramos  
Aileen Corbett  
Don Dobres  
Joan McMillan

## March Meeting Pics



## 2023 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

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Lucille Chabala  
Rob Sabino  
Julie Ann Morrison  
Pat LeStrange



**I want your input. Please send any items to be included by the middle of the month if possible. Email is best, snail mail ok.**

## Club Announcements

### April Meeting

The April meeting is on **April 23**. Frank Gloss is the host. Venue is Delizias in Boonton. Start time is **2 PM**. Be sure to RSVP Frank, including regrets

### Harold's Deli

Back to Harold's. Date is **April 16**, time is **1 PM**. Toni is the co-ordinator so be sure to notify Toni by 4/3 if you are going. See the flyer on last page

### May Meeting/Tune Up Clinic

The May meeting will be on **May 21st**. The joint meeting will be at Tom and Susan Mirro's. Start time for the clinic is **8:30**, meeting **1 PM**. Additional information to follow.

### June Meeting

The June meeting will be **June 11**. Gere Klein is the host. Additional information to follow.

### TBird Kitsch For Sale



Cookie Jar and Tbird monopoly Game  
Contact Jackie Nolan jnolan024 @gmail.com



Join CTCL now if you haven't yet. The Early Bird magazine alone is worth the dues

## Car Shows/Swap Meets

4/1 West Milford 67 Highlander Dr. **2 PM**  
Food Truck show 10 AM  
4/20 Carlisle- PA Carlisle Fair Grounds  
5/5 Rhinebeck NY-Dutchess Cty Fairgrounds  
5/6 Park Ridge-123 Coilony Ave Town pool  
5/7 Carlstadt-197 Washington Ave-Nam  
Knights show  
5/7 East Hanover-175 Rt 10-Neilsen Dodge\*  
5/13 Lodi-460 Passaic Ave \*  
\* Same day entry over \$ 20

### Cruise Nights

### Cars & Coffee

Saturday - 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month -  
Franklin Lakes-649 Franklin Ave. Crossroads  
Church

If anyone has any info on Cruise nights, car shows, etc please let me know.



**FOR SALE**

### 1955 Thunderbird

Black, Auto, p/s, p/w, B/W interior, TC radio, continental kit, many mechanical upgrades. White porthole hardtop. \$29,995. Call Vince, 201-973-980-4312



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Happy Passover

The word "car" comes from the Latin word "carrus" which was a 2 wheeled wagon

**More March Meeting**



**2023 Filing Date is 4/18**

## My Story of My T-Bird

The car has a 312 V8 with dress up kit and a 3 speed over drive transmission, power brakes, power windows, power steering, town and country radio, wire wheel hub caps, a full safety package which includes padded dash padded visors and seat belts.

I am the second owner of this car and have owned it for the last fifty years. I also did the complete Restoration myself, in my three car garage. It took me with help from my wife, my son and my grandsons over three years to complete.

This car was Manufactured in 1956 with a special " S " Paint Code Data Plate. Which means that it could be any color In this production year of 1956. This car is one of one the only one that was ever painted in Lincoln Cinnamon

This car also has very rare driving lamps In the front bumper.

This car is a multiple AACA Grand National Senior winner and multiple CTCI Thunderbird Club Senior Gold Medallion Winner

It also has won at the Hemming Concours d' Elegance and the New Jersey Concours d' Elegance.

In February 2018 we were awarded with the AACA National Thunderbird Award in Philadelphia and was on display for eight days at the Philadelphia International Car Show.

In 2020 the car was nominated for the AACA Zenith Award. I was nominated out of 1500 cars across the world and then it was narrowed down to the top 18 cars in the world for best Quality Restoration. My car was the only car that was self restored, all of the other 17 cars were done by professional restorers. This was the first Thunderbird ever to be in this competition. The car ended up ranking in third place overall.

I just wanted to thank the Open Road Thunderbird Club for all the support they have giving me over the years in my journey with my car. They are a great club with a lot of great people that really care about all their thunderbirds and each other. They are always there to try to help in any way that they can. We all try to help each other no manner what. I am proud to be a part of our club. Thanks to all of you

**TOM & SUE MIRRO**



From Vince (CHIPS TV Show)



From Gene "Edselbird"

## Tech Tips

### Soft Top Stowage Instructions

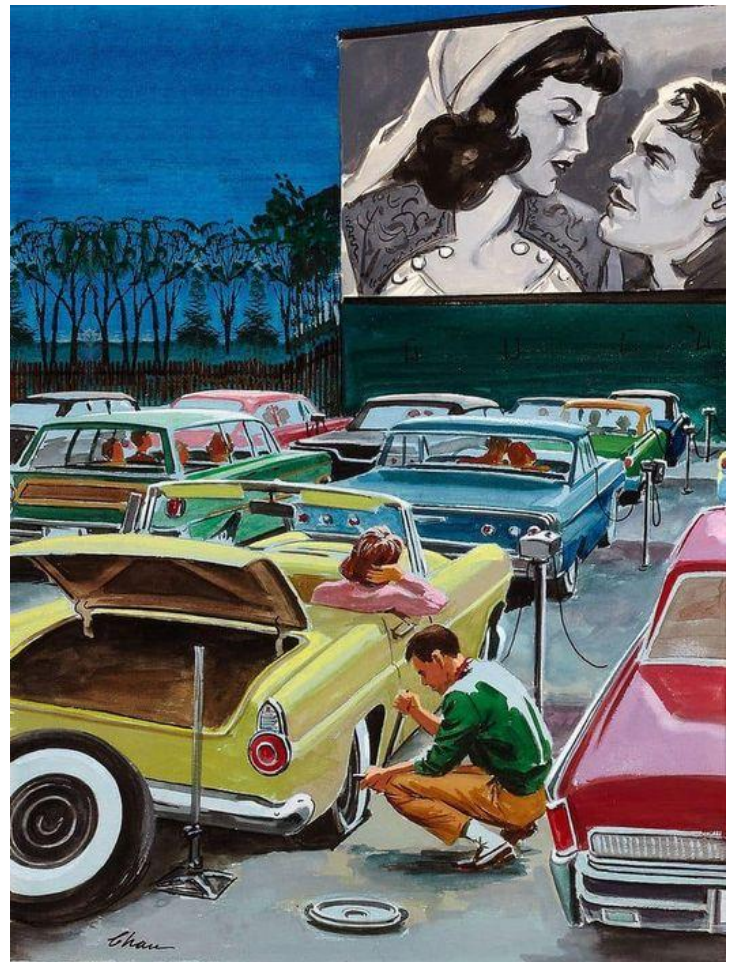
Now that spring is here, some info on lowering and storing that soft top

Before starting, move the seat as far forward as it goes.

1. Clean the window inside and out (every time you put it down)
2. Loosen all clamps
3. Make sure the rear clamp handles are turned back to their "locked" position parallel to the window
4. Lift the back up slightly from the rear deck
5. Spread a large towel (or similar) out on the rear deck and under the rear bow of the top
6. Unzip the window and lay it down on the towel
7. Fold the towel up over the window so it covers it completely
8. Lift the front of the top from the windshield header and start lowering it
9. Pull all material from the pinch points as the top folds down (really work at this, no material in the pinch points)
10. Release the over the center braces just above the side clamps (late 56, 57)
11. Continue to fold the top down and continue to pull ALL material out of the pinch points
12. Again, inspect all pinch points and clear the material from them
13. Lift the entire top assembly from the rear deck and swing it down behind the seat
14. If you have a drop curtain you will have to move it out of the way for step 13
15. Carefully work the top behind the seat, it will drag on the windlances so it take a little finesse to make it fit

Take your time and do it right. Cleaning the window gets any dust off so it won't get scratched. Unzipping it allows it to hang straightdown w/o a fold. All of these are critical to keep from damaging the window and not allowing the material to get caught in the folding mechanism

John Sailors - Oregon



Lucky he had a 55 instead of a 56



Mike Meehan's car on show flyer

Henry Ford made 8 different models of cars - A, B, C, F, K, N, R, S before producing the famous Model T



Who wants to eat???

We're going to ...



Postal Address 3050 Woodbridge Ave Edison NJ

GPS Address 1173 King Georges Post Rd Edison NJ

We're going to our NJORTC Annual Harold's Lunch  
guaranteed to fill you up

Sunday April 16th 2023 arrive 12:45pm for 1 pm  
seating

Please contact **Toni Sabino** 973-618-8085 or  
[tonisabino@yahoo.com](mailto:tonisabino@yahoo.com) and let her know who is  
coming RSVP by 4/3

pay as we go.



Don't I wouldn't even



No' advanced payment - we pay as we go