

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



The Thunder Heard

July 2024

2024 Meeting Schedule

July 21	Steve Schmidt
August 11	Picnic
September	Marco Totaro
October	Charles Musto
November	Bill Downing
December 8	Christmas Party

The next meeting, is on July 21. Steve & Annette Schmidt are the hosts.
 RSVP asamarschmidt@optimum.net or 201-637-5737

If you cannot host your meeting as scheduled, it is your responsibility to get someone to switch with.
 Please let Arlene and Toni 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



Welcome summer ? We have all been waiting for the car show season. However now it is too hot to drive our T Birds much less sit in a car show. I'm sure it will get back to normal soon.

Our June meeting was well attended covered many business items. It was held in a very different location, the Raritan Yacht Club. Thank you Mel and Carmen Ramos for hosting.

We are gearing up for our picnic on August 11, please help where you can. I have secured the insurance and park permit. Arlene Kubat will make sure everything goes smoothly.

Stay safe
 Patrick Le Strange
 President NJORTC



Steve Schmidt's 57





Vice President's Message



The weather has been extremely hot. Very unusual for June, but because of global warming this is where we are at!!! It's kind of too hot to sit out with our little birds at car shows or cruise nights. Hope it doesn't stay like this!

Get well - Joan McMillian having to have more chemo, so prayers for her, she is doing great. We all know Joan is a fighter and very strong. Lucille Chabala, feeling better, Don Dubres, was at last meeting, looking good, waiting to see what's next for him. Bob Heissler's significant other, Judy, not doing good, needs our prayers. Dorothy Guidone feeling better. Joan Notar recovery nicely from knee surgery.

I want to thank Mel and Carmen for hosting last months meeting at their Yacht Club. We had a good turnout of members, food very good, the Yacht Club was very nice, just looking out the windows at the sail boats was so beautiful and relaxing. After dinner some of us had dessert on deck just to watch the water and sail boats. Thank you Mel and Carmen.

Donna Jesse sent an email to CTCI President asking questions about different issues going on such as, why is CTCI losing so many members. As of our meeting she has not received any answers.

There really isn't much going on in the next couple of months, except our annual picnic. Paul just sent out a list of foods, drinks, etc. that is still needed. Please get back to me as soon as possible with what you will bring and if you are coming or not coming. Once again phone 973-900-1921 email finallyak@yahoo.com. Please don't ignore, thank you!

Our next meeting will be hosted by Annette & Steve Schmidt, Sunday, July 21st, **1:00** at Franks Pizza, Wycoff. Please let them know if you are attending or not.

Have a Happy and safe 4th of July. See you soon Arlene

June Meeting

This meeting was held at the Raritan Yacht Club in Perth Amboy. Hosted by Mel & Carmen Ramos. It was a very well attended meeting. The food was very good. The venue gave us a great view of the Raritan Bay with all the sail boats. Thanks to Carmen and Mel for hosting.

Highlights of the Business Meeting

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

Donna reported on a letter she sent to CTCI headquarters regarding CTCI membership

Arlene reported on the upcoming picnic and to contact her on any suggestions, specifically on possible games.

Arlene also spoke on the Christmas party -DJ has been hired and would like a list of songs people want. Party is to be held at the Elks Club in Mt. Arlington.

50/50 won by Rosemarie Ingersoll
Next meeting July 21

May Meeting Pics



Did you know July 17th is National Hot Dog Day ?

Membership News

Happy Anniversary

Frank Gloss/Mary Green 1st
 Gene & Diane Szura 2nd
 Mike & Theresa Parillo 27th
 George & Susan Gayet 26th

HAPPY Birthdays

Rich Iuso 11th
 Julie Ann Andriolo 1th
 Frank Gloss 12th
 Bob Notar 12th
 Suzanne Gayet 12th
 Paul Adamoff 16 th
 Pauline Schrol 17th
 Charlie Costa 18th
 Diane Szura 21st
 Jere Klein 22nd
 Danya Totaro 14th
 Bill Downing 31st

GET WELL SON!

Don Dupres
 George Gayette
 Lucille Chabala



2024 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President

Pat LeStrange 201-920-7226
rolodexp@aol.com

Vice President

Arlene Kubat 973-900-1921
finallyak@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Steve Handy 201-337-1746
stevehandy85@gmail.com

CTCI Representative

Donna Jessie 845-786-2985
tbandmetro@aol.com

Recording/Corresponding Secretary

Toni Sabino 201-336-4368
tonisabino@yahoo.com

Editor: Thunder Heard

Paul Schroll 201-652-7027
ptschroll@verizon.net

Trustees:

Paul Schroll 201-652-7027
 John Pyrros 201-487-2943
 Phil Guidone 908-879-6261

Mailing Address: NJORTC, PO Box 615 Hewitt, NJ 07421

web site: www.njortc.org

Face Book: www.facebook.com/NJORTC/

Registered Agent	Phil Guidone
Awards/Plaques	John Pyrros
Membership Chairman	Paul Adamoff
Name Badges	John Pyrros
Club Historian	Lucille Chabala
Club Photographer	Paul Schroll
Sunshine	Lucille Chabala
Master at Arms	Rob Sabino
Activities Coordinator	Julie Ann Morrison
Webmaster	Pat LeStrange



Sorry for the fuzzy pic - long shot

Club Announcements

July Meeting

The July meeting is scheduled for **July 21st**. Venue is Frank's Pizza, 350 Ramapo Valley Rd (Rte 202) Oakland, NJ. Located in the Coppertree Shopping Plaza. **NOTE-TIME IS 1:00 PM** . Be sure to RSVP our hosts, including regrets.

Club Picnic

The picnic is **August 11 th**. Same place, Schooley's MTN County Park. A list of items needed was sent around. Contact Arlene on what to bring and RSVP (including regrets) if you are coming. Family members are invited. More info next month

September Meeting

No info on this meeting yet



Cars & Coffee

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

Cruise Nights

Monday

Paramus- 314 Paramus Rd Taverna
Rockaway-152 Rte 46-Red Hut Diner

Tuesday

Wayne-1560 Rte 23 North-Wendy's
Clifton-417 River Rd-Rutt's Hut
Elmwood Park-111-95 Rte 46 west-Pizza Town
River Edge 259 Johnson Ave-Prime 259

Wednesday

Wycoff-422 Cedar Hill Ave-Christian Ref.
Church

Thursday

Wayne-1800 Rte 46 North-Kohl's

Friday

Boonton-Walmart Shopping Center

Saturday

Towaco-445 Main St-Diane's Dairy

Car Shows/Swap Meets

7/7 Paterson-61-127 Preakness Ave. JFK High school

7/6 Pompton Plains-Cruise in-411 Rte 23S-Plaza 23 Diner **10:30-1:30**

7/14 Oradel-900 Fifth Ave-River Dell High Sch.

7/25 Saddle Brook-545 N. Midland Ave-Wallington Plumbing **5 - 8 PM**

7/28 Wayne-493 Black Oak Ridge Rd. Care One at Wayne

8/4 Rutherford-201 Rte 17 S-Care Point Health

8/10 Hackettstown-219 Mountain Rd-Lowes

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



For Sale




1955 T-Bird

Goldenrod yellow clearcoat. 1989 Mustang H.O. , Fuel Injection, Paxton supercharger. 12 Volt. Griffin radiator. T-5 trans, Hurst shifter. Disc brakes (Lincoln Versailles), dual master. Continental Kit. Flowmaster mufflers. Traction bars. Power steering. Hard (white) and soft (black) tops. 55 Fairlane headlight rims. 56 Merc station wagon tail lights. Wire wheels and radials.

Custom Sound radio with 10 CD changer. Located in New Jersey. \$ 38,000. For additional information and pictures contact Joe Kubat 973-900-1923 900-1923



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Mike Meehan sent this in - his car



was featured on a poster for a local show



Gene sent this pic of another fixer upper.
Trailer included.



FLASH !!!!!

Donna Jessie received a First Junior award at the AACA Saratoga Springs Eastern Spring Nationals



"HEY, RUBY - WANT TO GIVE THIS GUY AN ESTIMATE?"

Old Car Brochures -Find your car

<http://www.lov2xlr8.no/broch1.html>



The

FIVE MILE BEACH

Sun.

BY-THE-SEA

Clean, crisp, bright, snappy, read it daily and be happy!

WATCH THE TRAM CAR PLEASE!



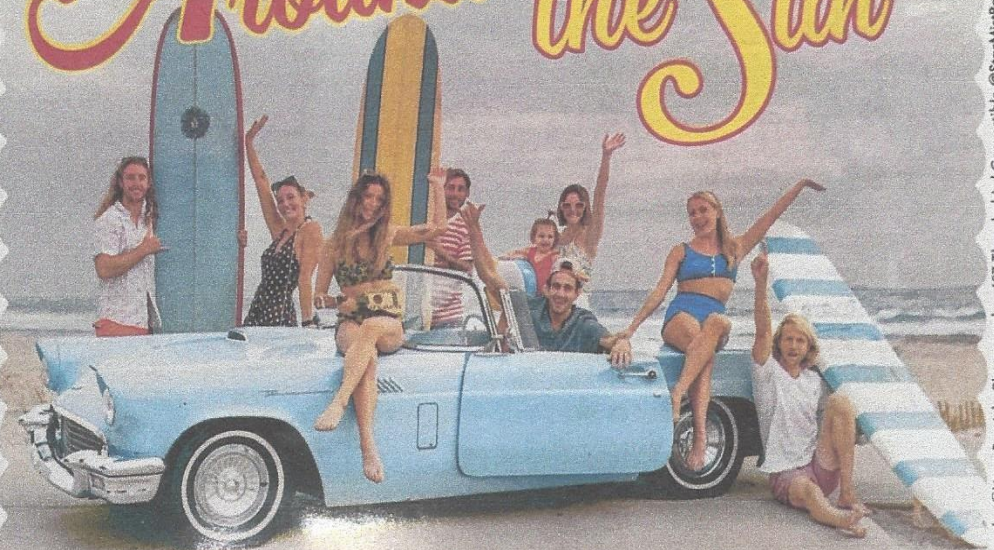
July takes the sandiest journey
 Settles into the sunniest spot
 Creates Summer memories
 Celebrates Xmas in July
 Heads to the Boards attempts
 to win a "SUNNY seagull"
 Feels forever Young & Poses ...
 for picture-postcard moments ...
 Travels by T-Bird Cruises
 into August. Aligns with the SUN.
 "seas" the world in shades of blue
 Surfs with the best crew
 Dolphins included
 Finds Peace and Power in the Perfect Wave
 Wanders from Anglesea to Diamond Beach
 Tries a different ice cream
 flavor every night NEVER
 misses a sunset
 and Friday night Fireworks... dreams
 of **WILDWOOD BY-THE-SEA**

words by Meg Corcoran / designed by Dorothy

Celebrating 20 Trips

Around the Sun

IF IT'S
FREE
IT'S FOR ME!!



(L-R) Tommy Bolle, Ivy Bolle, Arden Bolle, Steven Bolle, little Poppy Bolle, Zoe Bolle, Billy Bolle, Sophie Silnicki & Ian Barret

Photo by @Liza_Barrick_Photography. '57 Thunderbird Convertible @StarNiteRentals

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Brand New Exclusive Items for Summer 2024!

3304 Pacific Ave., Wildwood, NJ 609-522-7604 MSBrownJewelers.com
 5 South Main St., Unit 103, CMCH, NJ 609-463-8799

WILDWOOD CHRISTMAS IN JULY

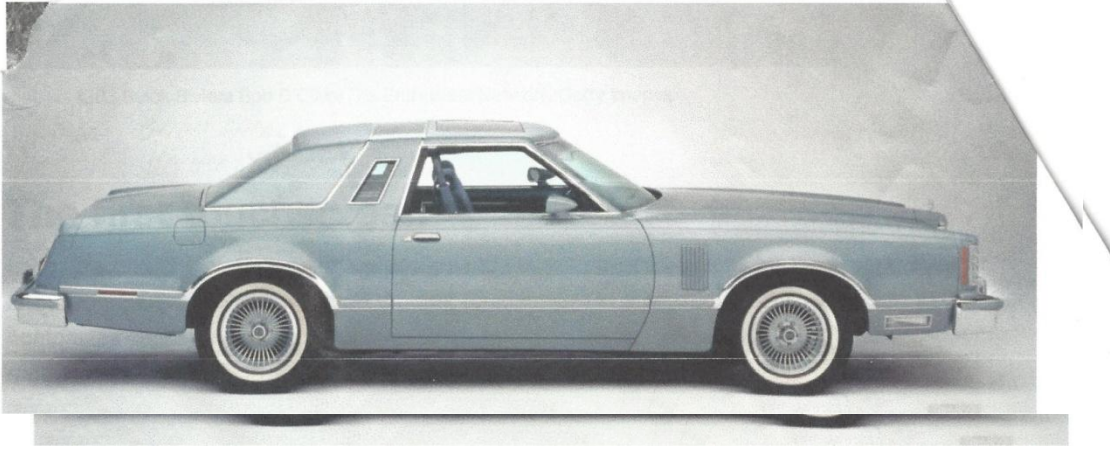
Golf Cart Parade
begins at 10am
Along the Wildwood Boardwalk

SATURDAY July 27, 2024

- Register on RecDesk to enter and participate
- Enjoy a summer visit from Mr. & Mrs. Claus!
- Golf Cart Judging 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place

For More Information: (609) 522-5837 • www.wildwoodnj.org

From Charles Musto



Whatever happened to the two-door car?

CNN) - During the 1990s, a certain type of American car that had existed for decades became virtually extinct. Big, inefficient, not very practical but strikingly showy and handsome, they still evoke a certain period of over-the-top American style.

These were cars like the Chrysler Cordoba with its "Corinthian leather" seats - roll those Rs like Ricardo Montalban in the ads - the Buick Riviera, the Cadillac Eldorado and the Oldsmobile Toronado. (Spanish-sounding names were big, too.) Driving one of these "personal luxury cars" made a statement about your superior taste and, also, your carefree lifestyle not requiring the mundane practicality of back doors.

There are still two-door cars today, of course, but they're almost all high-performance sports cars not intended for comfortable cruising. But the forty- and fifty-year-old "personal luxury coupes" can command higher prices from car collectors than their four-door peers, evidence of their continued allure.

"I think the term started in the 60s," Brian Rabold with the collector car company Hagerty, said of so-called personal luxury coupes. "But that was the heyday in the 70s. There were still some offerings, but they sort of started to decline in the in the 80s and 90s."

Long, low and stylish, they were the design and technology showpieces for their respective car brands. In 1986, the Riviera offered the first touchscreen in a production car, according to GM. Car companies could do that because these cars sold in lower numbers, even then, than four-door models

Because you had lower volumes you could you could afford to put in higher technology," said Kevin Kirbitz, a former GM engineer who's now head of the company's heritage collection. "You commanded a premium price anyway." Over the years, these cars left their mark. Even today, one of these big two-door American models has a certain allure at a car show. With its long hood, ample chrome and two massive doors allowing awkward access to often reasonably-sized - once you manage to get in there - back seats, they still make a statement

For car designers, two-door models can offer more striking proportions to play with, long hoods that evoke power and tapered, aerodynamic back ends.

"They can get a more raked windshield," said Kirbitz. "They can get that longer proportion that they're looking for."

Many models were offered with either a two- or four-door body. Today, the two-door is generally worth about 67 % more to modern car collectors, attesting to the style's appeal. Of course, someone

buying a 50-year-old car is also probably even less concerned with practicality than shoppers were back in the day, Rabold pointed out.

Enter. the Thunderbird

Two-door cars have existed for about as long as cars have had doors but Rabold credits the real upsurge in "personal luxury" styling to the Ford Thunderbird. Introduced in 1955 as somewhat of a competitor to the Chevrolet Corvette. The Thunderbird soon went in a different direction. While the Corvette evolved into a serious sports car, Ford designers added back seats and turned the Thunderbird into a comfortable cruiser. The style quickly caught on.

"That set the stage and then a lot of cars followed on after that," Rabold said. "And so every manufacturer kind of had to have an entry to compete with that segment."

Four-door cars were still more common, but a two-door car said something about you, said Scott Krugger, vice president of design for Stellantis's Dodge division

"As time went on, two-door cars became an individual statement, or a performance statement, or a specialty statement, where the four-door was more of that practicality need, that family need, and they kind of diverged that way," he said.

The run of roomy two-door models lasted a few decades but, by the 1990s, something had changed. Today, it's rare to see a two-door car that isn't a performance model like the Mustang or Corvette. Even the cheapest cars on the market, like the Nissan Versa and Kia Rio, come with four doors. Back doors, even on pickups, are just a default today.

Why did they become extinct?

A number of factors have conspired to push two-door cars to their current niche status. First, the rise of SUVs has pushed cars of all sorts - as in, personal vehicles that are not trucks, vans, or SUVs - to the fringes, regardless of how many doors they have. Today, actual cars make up less than 20 % of all new vehicles, according to data from Cox Automotive. Also, child safety regulations have, no doubt, played a major role, said Kirbitz. By the-1980s, child

safety seats were required throughout the United States, so the days of kids clambering over the folded front seats to buckle themselves - or not - into the back seats are over. Today, if you have a two-door car and you have kids, you also have a backache. You've got to lean awkwardly into the back to buckle the youngsters in and, before that, to install the seat itself.

While some two-door cars used to be bargain items - the cheapest entry-level cars were almost always two-door hatchbacks - today two-door models are seen mostly in European luxury cars.

"A car is a representation of yourself and your taste," he said. "And you bring that out more expressively with the coupe, right?"

Article from CNN Business. (Peter Valdes-Dapena) This article had been edited, pictures mostly. Some content. Article submitted by Rich Burns

