



The Thunder Heard

Editor: Alec Johnstone bronzebyrd@webtv.net

April 2005

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

2005 Meeting Schedule

April	Gene & Diane Szura
May	Alec Johnstone
June	Vinnie & Jamie DaSilva
July	** Mini-Concours **
Aug	Bob & Arlene Perruso
Sept	Bruce & Aileen Corbett
Oct	Ron Rauschart
Nov	Stan & Cindy Gersch
Dec	** Christmas Party **
2006	
Jan / Feb	Mike & Wendy Meehan
March	Arnold & Linda Dworkin
April	Ken & Linda Herb
May	
June	
July or Aug	
Sept.	Rich & Lois Martin

Please note the changes due to combining Jan/Feb meeting

President's Corner

Spring must be in the air, there were several small birds seen in the parking lot of PANERA's BREAD in Paramus. At the March meeting many ideas for upcoming activities were discussed. Keep watching the Newsletter or the web page for up coming activities and details so you can mark your calendars.

I would like to welcome new member Tom & Nancy Trotto and their son Mathew. They are the proud owners of a 1957 Torch Red Thunderbird. WELCOME, we look forward to seeing you at many more meetings and activities.

Now, lets get our little beauties out and see if we can triple the amount of " little Birds" in the parking lot at our next meeting.

Watch for details about the Mini Concourse, which will be July. Watch for the date and location for our "Tune-up Clinic. It will give us all a chance to do some of those little improvements to our little birds that we thought about doing all winter, maybe a tune-up, or a new set of shocks, anyone for a carburetor rebuild?

See you down the road,
John

THE APRIL MEETING is scheduled to be hosted by **Gene & Diane Szura** on Sunday April 24 at 2 PM at **Panera Bread**, 165 Rt. 4 West, Paramus next to Kohl's Department Store. (Same place as March Meeting) **RSVP to Gene & Diane** if planning to attend Call 201-991-8459 or E-Mail at mauszura@aol.com

Editor's Opinions

Well another winter month is gone and we are now in spring,finally!

Despite the snow, a large contingent of club members made it to the Atlantic City Convention Center for the show and auction. To me, the show/auction seemed a little flat this year. At times it resembled a Corvette and Chevy muscle car extravaganza, although there were a few excellent Ford Motor Company cars to balance things out. Also there seemed to be a lot of cars not meeting the reserve and not being sold. (Maybe a Barrett-Jackson fallout effect? Everyone thinks their car is worth at least \$100,000.)

Afterwards, on Friday night, about 20 club members went to dinner together. All had good food and good companionship.

. Happy Motoring
Alec Johnstone

The March meeting was hosted by Henry and Judy Semmler at Panera Bread in Paramus. About 30+ members attended. A sure sign of spring was the attendance of 4 '57's and 2 Retro Birds. Everyone had a very good time and the food was excellent. Thanks Henry and Judy.



Dues were due in January
Send check for **\$36.00** made out to **NJORTC**

Mail Check to:

Frank Chabala, 6 Brook Way, West Orange, NJ 07052

MEMBER NEWS

Fast Months Events



Welcome New Members

Thomas, Nancy and Matthew Trotto
Torch Red 1957



Atlantic City Auction



A Speedy Recovery Wish To

Επα Τυχη



Happy Anniversary to.....

John & Sandra Bolger
March 23

(Sorry we missed you last month's Newsletter)



- 5 Sheldon Glorit
- 12 Judy Semmier
- 20 Terri Powell
- 23 Lynda Young

27 Lucille Chabala

REASONS TO BE CAREFUL PICKING YOUR RESTORER

Or At Least Don't Guess When You Do It Yourself but most of all when buying don't take the dealers word as fact, he might not know the car either



Do you notice a few incorrect things?



This beautiful T Bird was seen March 9 on E-Bay. Item # 4533398000 It was listed by a dealer in Missouri. The bid was started at \$30,900, with 2 days left, there were no bids yet. It had a "Buy it Now" price of \$34900. Buy the end of the auction it did not sell. It states it's a number matching car and was restored about 2000 miles ago. The dealer also listed a N.A.D.A. price of \$59,850.00.

The shame is, aside from the misplaced Scripts and Hash marks (and I'd bet the hash marks are on upside down too!). The hubcaps are incorrect. Also if you can still bring up the listing on E-Bay, you will find a black engine compartment, wrong lower dash color, white sunvisors, wrong horn button and a very poor fit on the drop curtain. Maybe you can find more errors.

Am I being too critical or is this a good example of why you should use a restorer that deals in your particular car?.....

Pat

JULIE'S TRIVIA QUESTION

Why was the standard Continental Kit originally added to the 1956 Thunderbird?

(Look for answer elsewhere in this newsletter)

ANY ITEMS YOU WANT US TO PUBLISH IN THE NEWSLETTER

CAN BE E-MAILED DIRECTLY ME

Pat LeStrange rolodexp@aol.com



It's deja vu all over again

Ford tells employees Thunderbird is officially discontinued.
10 March 2005. BlueOvalNews.

10 March 2005. 2:35pm, est. Dearborn, Michigan.

Ford Motor Company will put the legendary Thunderbird nameplate back into the company's future-product vault after this model year, the company confirmed today with employees.

Production of the current generation vehicle will end in July at the company's Wixom Assembly Plant in Wixom, Mich. Since the launch of the roadster as a 2002 model, more than 55,000 Thunderbirds have been sold.

"We promised all along that this Thunderbird would have a limited production run, and we're being true to our word," explains Steve Lyons, Ford Division president. "Thunderbird was a terrific image builder for the Ford brand showroom at a time when we needed it. Now, we're in the midst of a major product onslaught, including more news on the Mustang at this month's New York Auto Show."

A Storied History

Ford Thunderbird first went on sale Oct. 22, 1954, marking the birth of a new legend that would grow with each generation. During five decades, Thunderbird went through several design changes with coupes, sedans, convertibles, hardtops, mid-size and large-size configurations. It went on hiatus after the 1997 model year. Thunderbird returned in 2001 as a retro-styled roadster to serve a similar role to its 1955 forebear - create excitement for the Ford brand.

This year, Ford Thunderbird celebrates its golden anniversary with a 50th anniversary limited-edition 2005 model. As the anniversary coincides with the end of the current generation, the special-edition models are expected to become collector's items.

"There's a place for a dream car in any car company," says Lyons. "At Ford, we're fortunate to have several dream cars, including the new Ford GT and Ford Mustang. For now, the Thunderbird nameplate will be placed on our shelf. But we'll keep it polished for future use."

The Wixom Assembly Plant will continue to produce the Lincoln LS and Town Car and remain the final assembly point for the Ford GT supercar.

• 2005-MODEL YEAR THUNDERBIRD TO BE THE LAST OF THE CURRENT GENERATION.

- Production of the roadster at Ford's Wixom Assembly Plant will end in July.
- Wixom Assembly Plant will continue to produce the Lincoln LS and Town Car and be the final assembly point for the Ford GT supercar.

(A note from me. I don't know why everyone seems so surprised. I had read when the Thunderbird was going back into production that it would be 25000 units per model year with a 4 year run. Isn't that 2002,2003,2004 & 2005? I was more surprised, when it was announced last year, that there might be a 2006 model.)..... Pat

Ford Thunderbird annual sales figures.

10 March 2005. BlueOvalNews.

10 March 2005. 2:35pm, est. Dearborn, Michigan

*(Note: These are yearly sales figures, **NOT** model year sales)*

Year	Sales	Year	Sales	Year	Sales
1955	14,190	1972	58,731	1989	120,645
1956	19,763	1973	79,759	1990	106,124
1957	15,173	1974	47,646	1991	74,189
1958	48,482	1975	36,803	1992	84,186
1959	72,859	1976	91,140	1993	122,415
1960	81,555	1977	322,517	1994	130,713
1961	85,142	1978	304,430	1995	104,254
1962	74,306	1979	215,698	1996	79,721
1963	67,871	1980	127,248	1997	66,334
1964	85,661	1981	69,775	1998	2,243
1965	72,132	1982	49,585	1999	0
1966	68,816	1983	134,710	2000	0
1967	57,313	1984	154,865	2001	5,177
1968	67,373	1985	57,209	2002	19,085
1969	49,381	1986	140,713	2003	18,100
1970	40,868	1987	132,623	2004	11,998
1971	41,801	1988	117,866	2005*	1,516

**Through February 2005*

Total U.S. sales through February 2005----- 4,261,354



Classic Thunderbird Club of Northern Ohio

"Still Nifty at Fifty"

Convention Web Site

WWW.ctcno.com

Please Let Us Know
If you have a Change of Address, Name or
Anything Else

2005 Future Events



1955 Mystere Concept

MISSING DATES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN A FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

April 10 Sun

DATE CHANGE



NJORTC Family Bowling Day
2:45 PM

HANOVER LANES
West Orange

Call Lucille before April 8 if coming, She will give you the address
Lucille Chabala 973-731-9133 Awards at Frank's Pizza afterwards

Location
Change !!!

April 15-17

Englishtown Spring Swap Meet & Auto Shows
Raceway Park, Englishtown, NJ <http://www.racewaypark.com>

April 16 Saturday

American Cruisers Annual 50's Dance
Cody Bain Fund
The Princess Chateau Rt 46 W. Lodi, NJ
6:30-11PM



April 20-24

Spring Show



April 23 (RD 4/30) Saturday 8am

South Jersey Region A.A.C.A.

7th Annual STOLTZFUS Farmers Market Car Show

Contact: Ron Scott 856-629-5746 E-Mail Ron4Dor@AOL.com

NO
JUDGING

April 24

9am-4pm
Blue Oval over Butler
Ford Powered Vehicles Only
Rt 23 Auto Mall Butler

<http://www.gsrnc.org/events.html>
Contact: John Pestrichelli 201-265-8550

JULIE'S TRIMA ANSWER
To increase the trunk space I

See inclosed flyer concerning front license plates,
it may be a good idea to keep it in your glove compartment

May 1 NJ (rain date 5/8)

54th Annual Antique Auto Show & Flea Market

Automatic Switch Grounds, 50 Hanover Rd., Florham Park, NJ
732-388-3029

<http://www.aaca.org/njaaca>

May 14 Saturday 8:00pm

Rusty Swartz Memorial Concert



Shirley Auston Reeves
and The Happenings

Edison High School

VIP Seats \$40/General Admission \$30

For Tickets call (732) 548-6533

May 15 Sunday

14th Annual Auto Show & Fair

Princeton Carnegie Center

Rt 1 & Alexander Rd.

Princeton, NJ

May 15 6am - 3pm (Reg. 8am to 11am or 'til sold out)

Upper Saddle River

Antique Car Show & Flea Market (Rain or Shine)
1980 or older \$8/DOS \$12 (1927 or older Free Registration)

Pearson Education, 1 Lake St. Upper Saddle River, NJ

Presented by Restored Rusty Relics & USR FD

Call 201-384-7661 (before 10pm) E-Mail usr2005@optonline.net

May 21 NJ (Raindate 5/22)

The 1st Annual Lincoln Tech Car Show

Lincoln Technical Institute, 2299 Vauxhall Road, Union, NJ

<mailto:loulux@comcast.net> 732-824 2506

<https://home.comcast.net/~loulux>

May ?????



Tune-Up Clinic



May 21 NJ

2nd Annual Hackensack

High School Classic Car Show

First & Beech Streets, Hackensack, NJ 201-646-7925

May 29

Franklin Lakes

Car Show and Flea Market

Pre-Register ONLY

No Day of Show

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/jlrvcca>

Rain
or
Shine

NO
JUDGING

June 3-5



ALL FORDS NATIONALS

50th Anniversary Thunderbird Evolution Display

June 11 9am-3pm

North Jersey Thunderbird Assoc.
All Thunderbird Show
Sunset Rd., Pompton Plains, NJ

June 18 Tailgate Party 3pm to 6:30pm Doo-Wop Show 7pm

Richard Nader Doo Wop
Concert, Car Show & Tailgate Party
The Meadowlands Arena Rutherford, NJ
(Duprees, Johnny Maestro & Brooklyn Bridge,
Kenny Vance & Planotones, Speedo & Cadillacs,
Lenny Welsh, Willie Windfield & Harptones,
& Johnny of Santo & Johnny)

Bring your Classic Car and get 2 free tickets to the show
(you must preregister at website)
<http://www.richardnader.com/index.html>

June 26

New England Vintage Thunderbird Club
All T-Bird Show
Portsmouth, NH

Contact: Don Seymour dseymour@worldpath.net For flyer or club brochure

August???



Drive-In Movie Cruise
Warwick, NY



August ???

Somerville Cruise Nite



Sept. 2-5



Sept. 11



Elk's Lodge
Ridgefield Park, NJ
Street Legends Car Show
(This show is run by several NJORTC members)

September 23-25 NJ

Englishtown Fall Swap Meet & Auto Shows
Raceway Park, Englishtown, NJ 732-446-7800

<http://www.racewaypark.com>

Sept. 28-Oct. 2

FALL CARLISLE



July 2

Movin on Cruisers
At the Commons of Holmdel
RT 35 S Holmdel, NJ
(Behind Barnes & Noble #100 Office Complex)
Special Invitation to Thunderbirds In a dedicated area
6-9Pm

Donation to the Rusty Schwartz Fund

July 7-10



Region 5 Convention, Heartland Flight
Omaha, Nebraska

July 17 9AM-8PM



Mini Concours
Doe Meadow Park
Lewis Morris Park, Morristown, NJ



Aug. 7 / RD Aug. 14

Cruisin' for Kids

North Rockland High School (This is a Judged Show)
The proceeds go to three needy children in North Rockland with extraordinary medical needs. Watch for forthcoming flyers

Contact: Bill Jessie

August 13-14 NJ

4th Annual NMRA Ford Nationals
Atco, NJ

<http://www.southjerseymustangclub.com>

August 25-28



"Still Nifty at Fifty"

ClassicThunderbird Club of Northern Ohio
Region 2 Convention
Beachwood (Cleveland), Ohio
www.ctcno.com

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Registered Agent	Vince DeAndrea
Awards/Plaques	Dominick Tucci
Membership Chairman	Alec Johnstone
Name Badges	Judy & Joe Bosco
Jackets	Wendy Meehan & Judy Bosco
Grill Plaques & Hats	Frank Chabala
Club Historian	Lucille Chabala
Club Photographer	Lucille Chabala
Sunshine	Lucille Chabala
Master at Arms	Bruce Corbett
Events Coordinator and Webmaster	Wendy Meehan

Cool Web Sites

Car Pictures Concept cars

http://www.autoweteran.gower.pl/concept_timeline.html

Lots of car pictures Click on letters for brand names

<http://www.seriouswheels.com/index.html>



YOGISM OF THE MONTH

(NOT NECESSARILY FROM YOGI, BUT SHOULD HAVE BEEN)

Always remember, three out of four people make up 75 percent of the population.

There are only three kinds of people; people who can count and people who can't.

Here is a math trick so unbelievable that it will stump you. Personally I would like to know who came up with this and why that person is not running the country.

It isn't really as amazing as all that, but it is pretty cool.

1. Grab a calculator (you won't be able to do this one in your head)
2. Key in the first three digits of your phone number
(NOT the area code)
3. Multiply by 80
4. Add 1
5. Multiply by 250
6. Add the last 4 digits of your phone number (this means ie: 1234 added to previous number not 1+2+3+4)
7. Add the last 4 digits of your phone number again.
8. Subtract 250
9. Divide number by 2 Do you recognize the answer? Cool huh.....

Cruise Nites

2005

MORE NITES WILL BE ADDED WHEN THEY ARE "CONFIRMED"

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Wayne Anthony Waynes Rt 46 W 6-9p	Brick Lone Star Steak House 6:30-10p	Wycoff A&P Shopping Plaza 6-9p	Hackensack Dunk'in Donuts Passiac St. 6-9p	Somerset Amwell Rd Rutgers Plaza 6:30-9p	Lynhurst Whiskey Café Wall St. 6-9p
		Clifton 417 River Rd. Rutt's Hutt 6-9:30p		Mahwah Dunk'in Donuts MacArthur Blvd	Town of Somerville Main Street, Somerville, NJ. 908-725 1274	Pottstown, PA Vintage Rides Every 2 nd Sat. Except Aug.
		Tappan, NY Rt303 Tappan Shopping Plaza 6:30-9p		Pompton Lakes Town Square Mall Wanaque Ave, Pompton Lakes, NJ (Starts 4/21, cars 1978 & older only)		



We need to update some information for the newsletter Please fill out and mail to Alec or bring to next meeting, Thanks
Alec Johnstone 1267 Paddington Rd., Mahwah 07430



DATE OF FILLING OUT FORM →						
FIRST NAME			LAST NAME			
YOUR B'DAY	SPOUSE B'DAY	ANNIVERSARY	T-BIRD 1	T-BIRD 2	T-BIRD 3	T-BIRD 4
NAME:	NAME:	MONTH:	YEAR:	YEAR:	YEAR:	YEAR:
MONTH:	MONTH:	DAY:	COLOR	COLOR	COLOR	COLOR
DAY:	DAY:	YEAR:				