

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



# The Thunder Heard

**July 2023**

**2023 Meeting Schedule**

July 22	Mike Meehan
August 13	Picnic
September	Paul Dorne
October	Gene Szura
November	Mark Santimauro
December 9	Christmas Party

The next meeting is July 22nd. Mike & Carrie Meehan are the hosts. RSVP [mike\\_meehan@verizon.net](mailto:mike_meehan@verizon.net) or 973-570-6993

**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](#)



We had our Spring Cruise to Lake Hopatcong for brunch on the Miss Lotta. We had 30 members and cruised on the ship for 2 hours. Even with iffy weather it was bright and sunny for the whole cruise. Great job by the crew of Miss Lotta, food was very good too. Then we went to Cliffs Ice Cream. All in all every enjoyed the day very much, Thank you Sue and George for chairing the event. Look on the web site for all the pictures. If anyone has taken pictures and would like to see them on the site, email me and I will send you a link.

Now we look forward to our picnic on August 13. Also look on the members page for the 2024 meeting host list and contact Toni Sabino if you have any conflicts

Thanks and take care of yourselves

*Pat LeStrange*



**Donna Jessie's 56**  
**(Also know as the Gray Ghost)**  
**(See Page 9)**





### Vice President's Message



Summer is officially here! Last week it felt like Fall and so far this week it's raining, stormy, hot, humid and sunny all at once. This is crazy weather!!! Since the beginning of May when Cruise nights started, we had one good Friday night in Boonton, New Jersey, every other Friday it has rained or been too cold. Hope the weather changes for the better soon.

Lois Martin is doing much better with her back. Don Dobres has had his lung surgery and everything turned out good, but he just does not feel good so he is going back to the Doctor to see what's going on. Feel better soon Don. Joan Mc Millian has now moved into Assisted Living. She said she has a beautiful apartment and likes it. She now can get all the help she needs. Please keep her in your prayers. Bob Heissler's significant other, Judy, has been having health issues and is on oxygen all the time, please keep her in your prayers too.

On Sunday we went on a boat cruise, Miss Lotta, on Lake Hopatcong. We had a very good brunch and saw some beautiful homes on the Lake. It was a beautiful day. The boat was a little rough because there were so many other boats, sail boats, jet skies and water skiers. It was a great cruise. When we finished our boat ride we cruised to Cliff's Ice Cream. The ice cream was delicious. We hung out there for a while and the weather was still good. We had heard that the weather was stormy all around us. I want to thank Sue Gayet for doing a great job putting this cruise together. We had thirty people attend.

Our next meeting will be hosted by Mike and Carrie Meehan at their home on **SATURDAY**, July 22nd at 2:00. Please notify Mike if you are attending or not attending.

On Sunday, August 13th is our annual club picnic. Please let me know if you are attending. My cell phone No. 973-900-1921 or email me at finallyak@yahoo.com. Set up time is 9:00, picnic starts at 11:00. Please let me know what salad you will bringing. This year we are asking you to bring pictures of yourselves in your teenage years we will have

a contest to see who can guess who is who.

We will also be playing other games this year. Joyce Santimauro will be my co-chairperson. For all you new members please try and come to the picnic. It is always a fun day. It's a good day to meet all our members and bring your cars so we can all see them.

I know it's early, but I am asking if you could bring me finished clear wine bottles for decorations for our Christmas party.

Cannot believe it, but soon it will be 4th of July. Everyone enjoy your day, whether you are going to a parade, bbq, fireworks, going up the lake or going down the shore, just be safe and have fun.

Get your cars out to cruise nights or car shows. Summer months go fast. Enjoy your cars and be safe.

See you soon, Arlene

### June Meeting

A good meeting . Great attendance. The weather was good and 11 little birds came out and showed themselves. Very colorful assemblage. Food was tasty and plenty of it.

Thanks to Jere and Linda for hosting the meeting.

### Highlights Of the Business Meeting

The reading of the minutes from the last meeting was waived. The Treasurer's report was made and accepted.

It was a pretty short meeting .

Pat mentioned that he has been updating the web page. Paul S mentioned that he put pictures of the Tune Up Clinic on the the Face Book page

Pat spoke about the upcoming spring cruise to Lake Hopatcong and cruise to the Cliff's Ice Cream. He also mentioned the memorial car show for his brother on 8/5

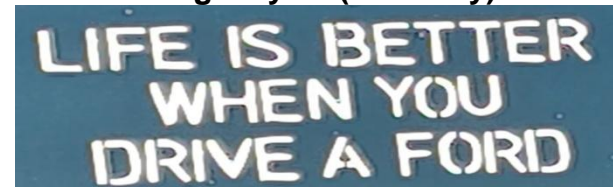
Arlene mentioned the picnic in August. She sent around a sign up sheet for food.

Steve did a comparison of our 2017 convention vs the Texas convention

Rich spoke about his trip to the Thunderbird Extravaganza.

Pat won the 50/50

Next meeting July 22 (Saturday)



# Membership News

*Happy Anniversary*

Frank Gloss/Mary Green 1st  
 Gene & Diane Szura 2nd  
 Mike & Theresa Parillo 27th  
 George & Suzanne Gayet 26th  
 Tom & Patricia Brieva 29th



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

**GET WELL SON!**

Lois Martin  
 Aileen Corbett  
 Don Dobres  
 Joan McMillan

## June Meeting Pics



## 2023 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

**President**  
 Pat LeStrange 201-920-7226  
[rolodexp@aol.com](mailto:rolodexp@aol.com)

**Vice President**  
 Arlene Kubat 973-900-1921  
[finallyak@yahoo.com](mailto:finallyak@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer**  
 Steve Handy 201-337-1746  
[stevehandy85@gmail.com](mailto:stevehandy85@gmail.com)

**CTCI Representative**  
 Donna Jessie 845-786-2985  
[tbandmetro@aol.com](mailto:tbandmetro@aol.com)

**Recording/Corresponding Secretary**  
 Toni Sabino 201-336-4368  
[tonisabino@yahoo.com](mailto:tonisabino@yahoo.com)

**Editor: Thunder Heard**  
 Paul Schroll 201-652-7027  
[ptschroll@verizon.net](mailto: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](http://www.njortc.org)

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

### Auto Museum Tour

Donna Jessie is trying to set up a museum tour of the Gasoline Alley Automotive/Ford Museum located in Stafford Springs, CT. This is a private collection and reservations in advance are required. Many Ford cars and memorabilia. Proposed dates Sept 17 or 24. Contact Donna directly if you are interested in going. In addition, maybe a side trip the next day to the Mystic Seaport



## Club Announcements

### July Meeting

The July meeting will be on **July 22nd**. This is Saturday. Mike and Carrie Meehan are the hosts. Meeting time is **2 PM**. Location will be at their house, 6 Alice Court, Blairstown, NJ. Be sure to RSVP, including regrets.

### Club Picnic

The date for the picnic is **August 13th**. Keep the date open as we always have a good time. Contact Arlene if you are coming. Arlene is setting up the menu so contact her on what you will bring to the picnic. Additional info next month.



## Car Shows/Swap Meets

- 7/2 Paramus-165 Rte 4 West Panera Bread
- 7/9 Oradel-55 Pyle St-River Dell High Sch.  
(River Edge Show)
- 7/9 Paterson-61-127 Preakness Ave JFK High School
- 7/16 Fort Lee-Main St.
- 7/23 Harrington Park-200 Old Hook Road H. Park Senior Living
- 7/23 Paterson-2 East Park Ave-Eastside Park
- 7/27 Saddle Brook-545 N. Midland Ave-Wallington Plumbing **5 PM**
- 7/28 Edison-2035 Rte 27-Crown Plaza Hotel
- 8/5 Ridgefield Park-Spruce & Cedar Sts-Elks Lodge 1506-Mike LeStrange memorial**
- 8/5 Paterson-61-127 Preakness Ave-JFK High
- 8/5 Rutherford-201 Rte 17-Meadows Office Complex
- 8/12 Hackettstown-219 Mountain Ave-Wendy's
- 8/19 Hackettstown-1620 Rte 57-Riverwood Industrial Park

## Cruise Nights

### Monday

- Paramus-314 Paramus Rd -Taverna
- Paramus-165 Rte 4 West Panera Bread
- Rockaway-Red Hut Diner Rte 46 E

### Tuesday

- Elmwood Park-Pizza Town-89 Rte 46W
- Hewitt-1926 Union Valley Rd-COSMOS

### Wednesday

- Carlstadt-317 Washington Ave
- Wycoff-422 Cedar Hill Ave-Christian Ref Church

### Thursday

- Rockaway-Miller's Ale House-Rockaway Mall
- Hackettstown-Wendy's-219 Mountain Rd

### Friday

- Boonton-Walmart Plaza

### Saturday

## Cars & Coffee

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

**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.**

As a child my family's menu consisted of two choices: take it or leave it - Buddy Hackett





HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup>  
OF JULY!



## Spring Cruise

Another great outing. While the weather forecast was mixed, the sun gods smiled on us for the entire time of the cruise from getting there, the ride on the boat and the cruise to Cliff's ice cream stand. Sunny, not too hot, not too cool, temps were just right. While some members were reluctant to bring their cars, 5 did. The boat, Miss Lotta, traversed the lake very smoothly. There were very nice views of the area around the lake from the top deck for those that went up. The brunch they served had a wide variety of foods that were very good and there was a good choice of drinks. Everything went very smoothly and the boat crew were very accommodating with excellent service.

Sue had coffee waiting for everyone before we were to board the boat. The ice cream was delicious. We got everything in just before the rain gods decided to appear. Many thanks to Sue and George for setting up the good time.







**From the Mouth of Babes**

Teacher: Peter, what is the chemical formula for water?

Peter: H I J K L M N O

Teacher: What are you talking about ?

Peter: Yesterday you said it was H to O







**For most people when you lose your "khakis" you've lost your pants. When you're from Boston and lose your "khakis" you can't start your car**





Plenty more pictures on our website

**VINNY'S**  
VINTAGE VEHICLES

- ALL MAKES, YEARS & MODELS
- BUY • SELL • CONSIGN • INSPECT
- LOCATE • APPRAISE
- ONLINE AUCTIONS

**VINCENT UCCI**  
973-980-4312 CALL/TEXT  
VINCENTUCCI@GMAIL.COM

## For Sale

### TBird New and Used Parts

Interior door handles  
 Heater box – New  
 Heater coil – used  
 Rear window stainless trim – NOS / used  
 Stone guards for rear quarter panels  
 Distributor caps  
 Kenwood 12 volt AM / FM stereo w/ disc player & remote control  
 JVC 12 Disc player w/ remote control  
 Spin on oil filter adapter – new  
 Air cleaner w/ dry element  
**SEVERAL** other items must see  
 Predator portable 5 gallon gasoline generator, battery electric / hand start w/ wheels – used 3 hours. 9500 w, 115/-240 V outlets \$1,600.00.  
 Contact Paul A, 201-286-4781



#### 1955 T-Bird

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

#### TBird Radio

Upgraded radio for 55-57 Tbird.

Call Vince, 201-973-980-4312

#### RIP

DAN McCORMICK, a past member, recently passed away.

### GG's Grand Adventure (or Donna and Bill's Great Adventure)

Some of you already know me (GG = Grey Ghost). I've been to several CTCI conventions first on a trailer then came off my trailer after the Memphis Convention (2012). My owner wanted to start driving around our wondrous country. We've driven to multiple conventions: San Diego, Albuquerque, and Flagstaff to name a few. However, this trip was purely for fun!

My owner Donna retired in July 2022 and my mechanic Bill (her husband) wanted to show her areas of this country he had visited with the boys from NJORTC while she was still working. A perfect opportunity arose with the "Thunderbird Extravaganza" hosted by the Sacramento Classic Thunderbird Club. (Continued next page)



So the route out was planned - West 70 to West 50; reservations were made and some sightseeing planned. On May 25<sup>th</sup> the three of us were off with every inch of me packed with parts, tools and yes some clothes. First night St. Clairsville, Ohio; next day we stayed in Vandalia, Il. and saw a fire breathing dragon (didn't want to get too close); also visited the Statehouse where Abraham Lincoln first started his political career. Had a little hiccup with my starter! We continued to Salina, Kansas did a slight detour to St. Joseph, Mo to see where Jesse James was gunned down and a wonderful museum with all kinds of transportation items, Pony Express history and period storefronts post office, drug store, dentist office, and general store (housed in the Patee House Hotel 1858). Oh no!! another starter or non-starter hiccup. We made it to Salina and decided to call Rich Martin to see what could be done about the starter before he and Lois left to meet us in Sacramento. We decided to do our planned sightseeing in Salina (Steve Fossett : solo nonstop flight of the globe in 2005: 22,936 miles in 67 hours took off from the Salina airport). I guess I shouldn't complain about driving Bill and Donna to California that's only approx. 2,900 miles. Next day Richard called back and advised a new starter was ordered and being shipped directly to Ross Woodman's house (chairperson of the show). Donna called Ross and he advised that another club member, Steve Countryman would bring a jack, jack stands and tools to change out the starter on the show field! WOW! Of course, I made sure there were no more hiccups with my starter going across!

On to Colorado with snow in the mountains and an overflowing Colorado River! Toured the amazing Red Rock Park and Amphitheatre (just missed a hail storm the day before). Bill and Donna did an early morning climb while I rested in the parking lot. Visited a Dinosaur dig site so glad they're not around today (though I guess they wouldn't be worse than those three tandem Fedex trucks on the highway). It was a surprise to see Pronghorns (similar to our deer) and prairie dogs in the wild! We went around and around this windy road to Lookout Mountain elevation 7,377, where the Buffalo Bill Museum and Gravesite is.

We continued seeing snow in the mountains all the way. We arrived in Moab, Utah amazing rock formations in Arches National Park. I felt very small. More winding roads you go around and around to get to the other side of the mountains, again some elevations 7,000 to 9,000 ft (haven't they heard of tunnels?). We ended up in Ely, NV boy I was tired! Stopped to take a photo shoot at a 1940's art deco movie theatre in town. Tomorrow we arrive in Sacramento where my new starter is waiting for me!

We have arrived on June 1<sup>st</sup> it was great to see the Hamm's and Stubb's cars again after the Covid shutdown. As well as some new car friends from the Sacramento Club. The next day Bill was changing out my starter with help from the supporting staff and tools from everyone - it was a great group effort.

I received a "Spa Treatment" which I really needed and the club had a wonderful wash station with individual buckets, soap, micro clothes, etc..

The show was absolutely fabulous. Great tours planned to an automobile museum (I learned that Henry Ford dabbled in making planes too); McClellan Airport Museum and an Art Museum (which I didn't attend). The show was relaxing and filled with good times and camaraderie. We received a \$100.00 Gift Certificate for our long distance drive. They did a wonderful tribute to Gil Baumgartner who I admired greatly for all his technical tips and vast knowledge of us Birds! Part Two: Stay tuned for Homeward Bound.... Donna

**See our web site for pictures of their adventures**

Did you know that July 19th is National Hot Dog Day ?