

New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club

Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



The Thunder Heard

March 2013

Back Into Spring

2013 Meeting Schedule

March 3	Harold's Deli
March 23	Todd & Mara Salamon
April 21	Phil & Dorothy Guidone
May	Bill & Dot Hyde
June	Bob & Joan Notar
July	Joe & Arlene Kubat
August 11	Picnic
September	Joe & Lori Matrone
October	Fran & Lucille Chabala
October	Fall Cruise
November	Walter Strohmaier
December	Holiday party

The March meeting will be on 23rd at 4PM and will be hosted by Todd Salamon and Mara Madden, 15 Delwick Lane, New Providence, NJ 07974 **RSVP** 908-219-4093, 917-751-6749 or maramadden@yahoo.com

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



I hope everyone is getting through the winter ok. Spring is just around the corner. The meeting at Bob & Shelley Belli's home was one of the best attended in a while. Sorry to say it was also not the smoothest, but we covered a lot of items. I would like to apologize to anyone who may have been hurt or disheartened - I try to run a good club and hopefully make the best decisions. This is a great club and I want to continue to make it better. If there are problems, I want to hear about them and take action to fix them.

We had a board meeting before the regular meeting. We went over the finances and I'm happy to say we are in good shape. We talked about a new web site Joanne and I have been developing. It is not published yet but soon will be after we straighten out a few problems. We talked about hosting a 2014 convention, which was approved when put to a vote. Sorry to say we have had to cancel it. Not enough time or interest plus there were problems with the contracts. I would like to say thank you to Shelly Belli for all her efforts.

During the meeting we talked about the expense and the attendance size affecting the meeting hosts. As the club is getting bigger many members cannot accommodate the increased attendance at the meetings. A motion was made to charge a surcharge of \$10 per person for the next three meetings to see if this is a feasible way to handle the problem of cost. The motion was passed. I encourage everyone to make your feelings known. There were several people who thought this was not fair. As this is a trial, we have time to think about it and I hope it does not keep members from attending the meetings.

I am asking Paul S. to include my Regional Directors Report in this newsletter so you know what happened at the CTCI Board meeting in California. The report is generally sent by each Director to the chapters in their region to share with their clubs.

Joanne has set up a Facebook page "New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club". Check it out and let her know what you think of it.

Be sure to let Mike Meehan know if you are going to Harolds on March 3rd.

Pat LeStrange.





A few Words From Alec

One month to go! No, not putting my Bird on the road but the end of this miserable winter and the beginning of what I hope will be a pleasant Spring.

Our sweetheart brunch was well attended . My twin granddaughters regard it as a end of winter rite and can't wait to go every year. They have gone since they were 5 years old.

Looking forward to going to California and Iowa for the two Regionals this year - make your plans now!!

Alec

January/February Meeting

Despite snow two days prior, this meeting was one of the most highly attended meetings ever. Practically all the members were present. Bob & Shelley hosted and they had plenty of food and drink. Four members brought their Birds. John B. even had his top down.

Thanks to Shelley and Bob.

Highlights of the Business Meeting

The Secretary's minutes and Treasure's report were given and accepted.

A discussion was held regarding our hosting of a CTCI convention is 2014. A lot of details need be worked out. Any decision was tabled until the next meeting. (Note - see Pat's column regarding final disposition)

A discussion was held on the increasing size of the club with the problems regarding the hosts costs and space to hold the number of people. Also included were members failure to RSVP the host. In order to offset the hosts' costs, a motion was made and passed to charge members \$10 dollars per person attending the meeting which would be given to the host. This will be a 3 month trial basis. As far as the space situation, members discussed different ideas but no decision was made.

Pat told the group the he and Joanne have set up a new website which is more user friendly. A discussion was help regarding the old and new sites. The new site address will be sent to members when fully ready. Further discussion was tabled to the next meeting.

Lucie mentioned the Sweetheart brunch and Mike mentioned Harold's Deli.

Prizes were given to Lois and Carol Ehm for the correct answers to the newsletter trivia quiz.

Joanne read off a list of activities and events proposed for 2013. Members are encouraged to submit any ideas for a club event.



Vice President's Message

The ground hog did not see his shadow so that means SPRING will be her soon (I think I have that right about the ground hog). All I know is they say SPRING EARLY. I hope so!!!

We were glad to see Paul Adamoff at the Sweetheart Brunch after his back surgery. Good going Paul. I hope your back heals fast. It has been a rough winter with the flu, some sort of virus followed by a cold and wicked cough. Phil Guidone missed the brunch because of whatever this virus is. Phil, feel better soon. We missed you and Dorothy.

We started our year with our first meeting in January. Thanks to Bob and Shelley Belli. We had a record breaking attendance. I think everyone had cabin fever and came to the meeting. All I can say that it was great to see everyone. We have a great club!!! We had a lot of issues resolved and the meeting was a little rough but I think Pat did a great job in running the meeting. Just one thing I have to say EVERY club has some issues. They eventually get resolved. We have a fantastic club and we all get along and always have a good time together. I hope we can all remember this.

On Sunday the 17th we had our yearly Sweetheart Brunch. It was a great turnout. Like usual the food was plentiful and delicious. Thanks to Lucille for putting it together, Joanne for goody bags, Pat for roses for the ladies and Lucille for the lottery tickets distributed to the men. I believe we had a couple of winners totaling \$3.00. I hope you guys don't spend it all in one place Maybe some day one of our members will win big.

Our next event is Harold's Deli on March 3rd at 1:45 in Edison. Please tell Mike if you are going so he can make the right number of reservations.. I hope we have a great turnout. Once again we will be eating. They have the biggest sandwiches and desserts that I have ever seen and enjoyed.

Arlene

March 14 is National PI day - why, because PI equals 3.14

March 22 is National Goof Off Day - some of us don't need a special day to goof off.

Membership News

Anniversary

Bill & Pat Selby 12th
Bruce & Eileen Corbett 30th



Joanne Seiler 5th
Susan Gaeta 9th



Frank Chabala
Paul Adamoff

FOR SALE

Little Bird Console

Red console. Very good condition.
Has covered storage and two cup holders. \$100. (new, they are 165)
Call Al, 732-496-2506
Also can be used in a big bird



Milestones

Joe and Laurie Matrone became grandparents for the eighth time. Name Amelia Grace. Looks like he will have to get one of those old Ford mini school buses to haul them all around.



NJORTC 2013 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

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

Vice President
Arlene Kubat 862-221-9773
finallyak@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Frank Chabala 973-731-9133
c/o Lucille luluchab@aol.com

CTCI Representative
Lois Martin 973-728-8652
Loislane21@optonline.net

Recording/Corresponding Secretary
Sandy Pyrros 201-487-2943
sandypy@optonline.net

Editors: Thunder Heard

Paul Schroll 201-652-7027
51 Glen Ave. Midland Park, NJ 07432
ptschroll@aol.com

Alec Johnstone 201-934-4058
1267 Paddington Rd., Mahwah, NJ 07430
bronzebyrd@optonline.net

Trustees:
Mike Meehan 973-267-2958
John Pyrros 201-487-2943
Phil Guidone 908-879-6261

Mailing Address: NJORTC, PO Box 565 Hewitt, NJ 07421
web site: www.njortc.org

Registered Agent	Phil Guidone
Awards/Plaques	John Pyrros
Membership Chairman	Paul Adamoff
Name Badges	John Pyrros
Jackets	Joe Kubat
Grill Plaques & Hats	Frank Chabala
Club Historian	Lucille Chabala
Club Photographer	Joanne Seiler
Sunshine	Lucille Chabala
Master at Arms	Bruce Corbett
Asst. Master at Arms	Alex Johnstone
Meeting Schedules & Activities Coordinator	Joanne Seiler
Webmaster	Wendy Meehan

Got any stories about the past regarding a NJORTC event, preferably with pictures, that you would like to tell us about? Write them up and send it to me along with the pictures and we will use it in the newsletter.

Sweetheart Brunch

For those of you who missed the Sweetheart Brunch, we had a fabulous time. Great friends, great food and Lucille negotiated some additional wine. Pat again played Cupid (his chance to kiss all the girls) and passed out roses to the ladies. Lucille passed out lottery tickets to the boys (Walter was a big winner) and Joanne passed out little goodie bags to take home.

It was good to see Paul A, just back from the hospital after back surgery (nice brace Paul).

Bob Sabino showed us pictures of his latest addition, a 59 TBird named Cally (for California??)

There were stations and stations of food and the dessert table was overflowing. Lots of calories. Ice cream with toppings was available, so guess who made sure they got plenty of it. There was a difference of opinion on the Yukon potatoes, Bob with a thumbs down and Pat with a thumbs up -ballots to be given out at the next meeting (NOT). Good thing the next day was President's Day, everyone could go workout at the gym (I bet)



I want your input. Please send any items to be included by the middle of the month if possible. They can be e-mailed or snail mailed to me.
ptschroll@aol.com

Club Events

Harold's Deli

How about some nice pastrami or corned beef sandwich, maybe a pickle or two or anything else that meets your fancy. We are getting together at Harold's Deli in Edison. Date is March 3rd. Call Mike Meehan if you plan to attend. Time is 2PM. **Everyone must be there by 1:45PM or they will not seat us.** Address is 1173 King Georges Post Rd,

Edison, NJ 08837

March Meeting

Be sure to RSVP the hosts, Todd Salamon and Mara Madden if you are attending. Info on front page. Don't forget that the new \$10 per person goes into effect with this meeting.

Walpack Inn Cruise

The cruise to Walpack Inn will take place April 28th. We will meet at 1PM at the Olde Lafayette Village at the corner of Rtes 15 and 94 (75 State Rte 15) in Lafayette, NJ and then cruise to the Walpack Inn. Contact Dominick Tucci if you plan to attend. 201-641-9539, cell 201-370-9824

April Meeting

Phil and Dorothy Guidone will be our hosts and it is scheduled for April 21st. Details next month.

Proposed 2013 Activities

March 3rd - Harold's Deli

April 28th - Walpack Inn Cruise

May-Tune Up Clinic

June/July-Chatterbox Cruise (and movie?)

August 11th-Club Picnic

August-San Jose and Des Moines CTCI

Conventions

September-50's Dance??

October - Fall Cruise

Members are encouraged to submit suggestions for any activities

**Happy
Easter**

Cruise Nights

Tuesday
Clifton, Ruts Hut

More Brunch



Hmm-Mr. M or Mr. K

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

Car Shows-Swap Meets

March 1-3 Atlantic City Car Auction and Swap Meet
March 29-NYC Int'l Auto Show Javits Arena

For more shows go to
<http://holtononline.com/carshows.html>
www.newjerseycarshows.com (reactivated)

Jan/Feb meeting



Trivia Quiz

Black Eyed peas are not peas - What are they?
First correct answer receives a prize
Winner of last month's Trivia Quiz was Lois Martin
and the answer was Seltzer

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

Thanks to Joanne and Donna for contributing to this newsletter

Brunch



Spring

March 20th is the Vernal Equinox. That means Spring is coming. Hoorah!!!

Jan/Feb Meeting



Do You Know the Way to San Jose?

If any of you are thinking about joining Rich, Walter, Paul and Bill on their cross country trip, think fast. The trip has been finalized and there were difficulties getting hotels in places like Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse and Yellowstone (stops that will be made along the way). Many places are sold out already. The trip will go from NJ to Oregon and then to the CTCI Regional at San Jose. Return trip will include a stop at Hot August Nights in Reno and then to the CTCI Regional in Des Moines. The caravan leaves July 20th and will be back in NJ on Aug 27th. Contact Rich Martin if interested. There will be an extra seat if you want to come as a navigator.

Some members are flying out to San Jose and some are going to Reno and then flying back.

Region 1 Director's Report

Spring 2013

From CTCI Region 1 Director, Patrick LeStrange.

I want to share with you some CTCI information from our Annual Board Meeting that was held February 7-9 in California. CTCI completed the 2012 year strong with a very successful International Convention in Memphis in August. The event generated lots of publicity and the club store sold a significant amount of 50th anniversary merchandise. We ended the year with approximately 5700 members which is similar to last year.

Jack Gray was hired as Managing Director this past October and has proven to be a valuable asset. He has updated our accounting system, inventory, and policy and procedures manual.

Several projects are in development that will relate to member recruitment and Chapter benefits. Unfortunately our 2012 budget ended in the red due mainly to increased personnel expenses and required some supplement from our savings. We also will be over budget for 2013 due to some needed capital improvements and computer replacements. Since most of our revenue is from membership dues a Board working committee was set up to develop a strategy to increase membership. Hopefully we will not need to increase member dues for a while but may need to in the future. Watch for more CTCI involvement with our Chapters this coming year with a Chapter benefit program and a member recruitment program.

The New 2013 President of the Board is Bill Long, a retired Ford executive from Tennessee; Vice-President is Geraldine Nuckels (TX) and Secretary is Sandra Hood (TX) all from Region 5; Sue Smith (CA) will serve as interim Treasurer until her replacement is found.

Two Regional Conventions are scheduled for this summer. Region 3 will host a Convention in San Jose, CA July 31- August 4 and Region 2 will host a Convention in Des Moines, Iowa; August 21-25. I would encourage as many Region 1 members to attend either Convention if possible. Both clubs have been working hard to develop a Convention that will be fun and enjoyable. As of this report we do not have a club to host the 2014 International Convention. My club the New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club made an effort to host it, but the deals fell through. We will look at it again but it really does not look possible at this time. If anyone in Region 1 is willing to host it, NJORTC will help in any way we can. If no club comes forward CTCI itself may need to sponsor the Convention. Many classic car clubs have the national office develop and sponsor their Conventions but CTCI has always had local Chapters willing to volunteer in the past.

This will be my second year on the Board and I am trying to keep in close contact with all of you. I hope to meet with some of you this year and attend one of your functions or meetings.

Thanks and let's get the Thunderbirds out this summer.

Patrick LeStrange
CTCI Region 1 Director, President NJORTC

