



New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club

Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



The Thunder Heard

January/February 2022

2022 Meeting Schedule

Jan/Feb	Joe Matrone
Feb 13	Sweetheart Brunch
March	Lucille Chabala
April	Joe Kubat
May	Bruce Corbett
May	Tune-Up Clinic
June	Donna Jessie
July	Al Cirinelli
August	Picnic
September	John Pyrros

No meeting in for January/February.
The March meeting is on March 20th.
Hosts are Julie Ann & Lucille. RSVP
Lucille at 973-731-9133

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



Happy New Year, I hope everyone's Holidays went great. Our Christmas party was well attended and everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves

Our club activities are still being delayed or canceled due to Covid and all its variations, I hope that changes soon. Please keep up your interest in our club as the cancellations of meetings and events can have a detrimental effect on it. Keep reading your newsletters, web site (NJORTC.org) our face book page as well as the club email notices.. We will be looking for a member to take over updating the Face book page.

In addition I would like to thank Sue Gayet for the great Job she did on our calendar..Thanks to everyone for submitting your pictures. Dedicating the calendar to Joanne, personally, brought tears to my eyes.

Please stay safe and hope to see everyone very soon

Pat LeStrange





Vice President's Message



Happy And Healthy New Year to all.

Boy it's cold outside!!! I, for one, cannot wait for Spring!!! I wish I was one of our Snow Birds:))

Hope Judy (Bob Heissler's significant other) is feeling better. She is on oxygen all the time. Walter is having serious back issues. Julie Anne is recovering from surgery. Lucille had COVID. George Gayet fell ended up in hospital and also had COVID, but no serious injuries and over COVID. If there is anyone I missed, please forgive me. Hope everybody else is ok.

Hope everyone had a great holiday season. Our Christmas party was fun. There is an article about the party elsewhere in the newsletter. Bella Italia has been very good to us. They have given us whatever I asked for. The food is great, the owner, Sal is great. The service this year was way too fast, I felt very rushed. Cocktail hour, dinner and dessert ran into one another even though I told them what time to serve each course, they did not listen. Coffee came out before Santa came, so after Santa left a few guests started to leave (around 9:00) we still had a hour and half of music. It was hard on the DJ. We are going to look for a new venue 2022 Christmas party. I already know of a few good places.

Dues are due, so if you have not paid them please do.

As of now our Sweetheart Brunch is still February 13th. Please mail your check to Lucille Chabala, 6 Brook Way, West Orange, NJ 07052 in the amount of \$100.00 per couple. The Brunch is at McLoone's Boathouse, 9 Cherry Lane, West Orange.

We will be having our yearly Board meeting in a couple of weeks. If you have anything you want discussed get in touch with Pat or me or a Board member and we will go over it at the meeting. If anyone is interested in hosting Spring Cruise, please let us know. Due to COVID our next meeting will be March 20th, hosted by Lucille Chabala and Julie Ann. Location is Anthony Franco Pizza, 1176 Hamburg Turnpike, Wayne, NJ at 2:00 pm. Please let Lucille or Julie Anne know if you are coming or not.

Please get your booster shot if you have not already did it. Wear your mask, stay out of crowds. Please be safe and stay healthy. See you soon
Arlene

Christmas Party

We had a good Christmas party, having forty two people. We dedicated this year's party to Joanne. She was a big help to me in planning the party every year. RIP Joanne. We had members cancel due to COVID and some who had other plans. Food was great, music good and, of course, our people were fantastic and had fun. We danced (I did get on the dance floor with my cane, oh what a fool!!!). Santa came for a visit and gave out Club gifts. Unfortunately, the main gift did not get here in time, they were in the middle of the ocean on the big boats:)):) They have since arrived and I will hand them out at the Sweet Heart Brunch.

Merry Case won the 50/50. Carrie and Mike won the Welcome sign for their porch. I do not remember who won the money tree. The DJ played games and gave out lottery tickets to the winners.

Thank you Lois for making the money tree. Thank you Richie I for being a great Santa and a dancing one at that. Thanks to Pat and Joanne for table center pieces. They were purchased after our last Christmas party. Also thank you Toni for other decorations purchased. A big thank you to Suzanne Gayet for helping with Christmas gifts and doing a great job on the calendar.

One more thing Steve Schmidt looked great on the dance floor with his many dance partners. He is a great dancer. Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas
Arlene



Membership News

Happy Anniversary

Tom & Susan Mirro Feb. 8th
Charlie & Izebela Costa Feb 8th



Julie Ann Morrison Jan. 3
Steve Handy Jan. 6th
Jackie Werner Jan. 13th
Steve Schmidt Jan. 16th
Joe Matrone Jan. 22nd
Donna Jessie Jan. 20th
Martha Downing Jan. 26th
Linda Shepard Jan. 26th
Merry Case Jan. 29th
Bob Heissler Jan. 29th
Rich Martin Jan 30th
Dorothy Guidone Feb. 2nd
Paul Dorne Feb. 7th
Larry Shepard Feb. 10th
Sean Dillon Feb. 19th

**GET WELL
SON!**

Lucille
Julie Ann
George Gayette



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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	

THE SALT 'T' BIRDS OF NEW JERSEY
Chapter 41 of CTCI



Invites You To Join Us
At Our Next Meeting

Please Phone
Call-----#-----

Anyone, besides Gene, remember this??

Club Announcements

January/February Meeting

Due to the Covid resurgence, it was decided to cancel this meeting

Sweetheart Brunch

The Sweetheart Brunch is scheduled for **February 13**. Venue is McLoone's Boathouse, from **11:00 to 2:00**. 9 Cherry Lane, West Orange. Amount is \$ 50.00 per person. Contact Lucille if you are going. Send check to her, make out to NJORTC.

March Meeting.

The March meeting is **March 20th**. Time is **2 PM**. Julie Ann and Lucille are hosts. The meeting will be held at Anthony Francos Ristorante, 1176 Hamburg Tpke, Wayne. Be sure to RSVP Lucille, including regrets



FOR SALE

55-56 Wheel Covers

Set of wire wheel covers with hub caps & clips for a '55 or '56 T-Bird or Ford. Asking \$250.00
Contact Paul Adamoff 201-286-4781

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Christmas Party





Toys for Tots



Money Tree



**Febuary 21st
Lincoln Feb. 12, Washington Feb. 22**



Member's Cars Bob Heissler

I grew up in Union County, NJ and like most young guys in the 50's, my dad gave me his six year old Mercury when I got my driver's license in 1959. I also got a job driving a truck for a newspaper distributor, and he owned a 1959 Thunderbird which he let me drive on occasion. In 1960, he purchased a used '55 Thunderbird for his daughter's 17th birthday and had it repainted Colonial White. On a warm spring day he took me along with him to pick up this car. In fact, he let me drive it. That was all it took, I was hooked. I began looking at all three years of the baby birds and made a plan to get one ASAP. Those were tough years financially for my family and instead, I wound up paying for my education at Bloomfield College using the money I made from my driving job. After college came the U.S. Army, a career in the insurance industry, the purchase of a house, a marriage and two children. The money and extra space for a two seater was just not there. I did, however, manage to acquire and enjoy T-birds from '59, '66, '68, and '73 which I purchased, doubling as family cars and vacation vehicles. But I never lost sight of my dream. Fast forward to 2012 and a chance meeting with Bill Selby, who encouraged me to attend an NJORTC meeting. I was a little shy about that but I soon realized that it might be the best way to find a good car. At the Christmas party in 2015, I spoke to Bill Hyde who was getting ready to sell his '57 T-Bird. It had basically what I wanted— 312 4V, PS, PB, but most of all, manual transmission with overdrive. He had taken good care of it and made improvements to it over the nine years that he owned it. I felt comfortable with him and the car, and we reached a mutual agreement on the price. My long awaited dream finally came true after fifty years. Since then I have had many hours driving and working on my dream car. I always look forward to our club meetings and special

events, and I try to participate in as many as possible. It is very interesting to share stories and educational tidbits with the other members. A special "thank you" to Rich Martin, who has helped me to learn about the car in detail, and has also made upgrades and necessary repairs. We are so lucky to have him as our resident guru. I plan on keeping and driving my '57 T-Bird as long as humanly possible. After that, I think my son Zach has his eye on it



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.



6 weeks- which one? Ground Hog Day-Feb 2



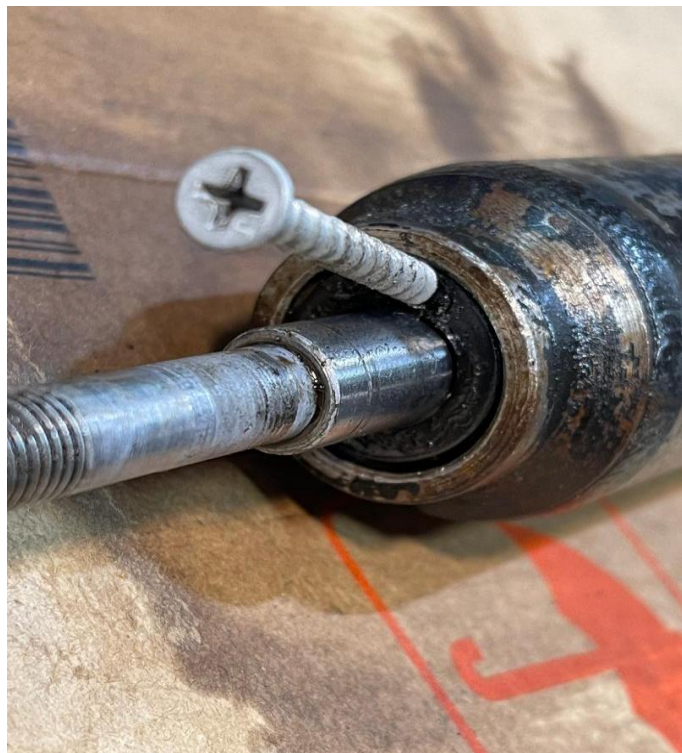
Keep Healthy & Safe
Use your mask

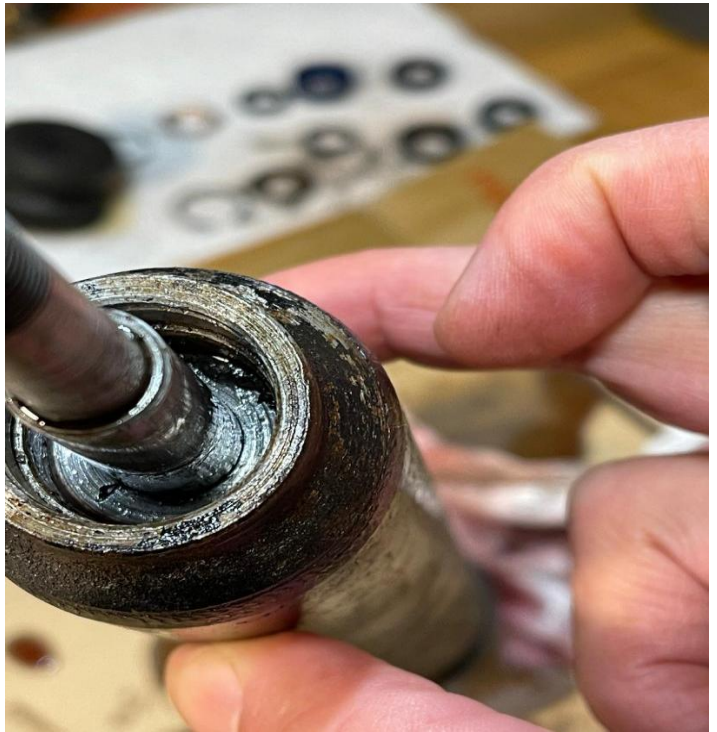
While mask mandates are somewhat relaxed, they are not all gone because of the Delta and Omicron variants. They are required in certain places. And if you're one of those people that think the vaccine is a hoax, then you should still wear a mask so you won't infect the like minded others when you come down with Covid 19. Over 97 percent of new cases (and deaths) are unvaccinated people

Tech Tip

1957 Thunderbird Power Steering Cylinder Seal Replacement By Tom Brievia

Thanks to all of the club members who chatted with me about changing the seals of the power steering ram cylinder for my 57. Since nobody I spoke with (including the vendor that sold me the seal kit) had worked with the seals before (more on that later) and the 1957 is different than 1955 and 1956, I thought others might find a brief review to be useful. The symptom I was addressing was a leak from the end of the power steering cylinder, which otherwise worked perfectly. Changing these seals only addresses leaks from that location and would not address a weak, worn cylinder or leaks from the hose fittings, so my cylinder was a candidate. The seal kit I bought from CASCO (Part# 3A764B) was cheap (about \$15) and included all of the parts from the retaining ring to the seals. All of the parts came out easily except for the seal itself. That seal held tight in place even with 100psi of air pressure. It was a hard material that made me question whether it was a seal or part of the cylinder housing itself and I was afraid of breaking something more. This is where I consulted others and the only part that wasn't common sense. Finally, I was able to remove the inner seal using the drilled hole with screw trick. I was comfortable trying it once I saw it demonstrated in a very similar Mustang cylinder in a YouTube video [67 Mustang Restoration - Power Steering Cylinder Part 1 of 2](#). Everything went back together easily and I have driven the car numerous times without a drop of fluid escaping (from the cylinder that is, the car still leaks everywhere else). It worked! In hindsight, I could have changed the seals with the cylinder still on the car pretty quickly. I think that the most useful lesson for me is not the job of changing the seals and removing the inner seal, but the debate on whether to replace the entire cylinder or to change the seals (only an option if just leaking at the seals). It probably takes the same amount of time to change the seals as to change the entire cylinder, although changing just the seals without removing the cylinder saves additional time by not needing to prime the system. The only appreciable advantage of changing the seals is saving about \$250, but lacks the advantage of having all new parts in the cylinder. I now understand why everybody I spoke with changed the entire cylinder instead of changing out the seals. I suspect that all of this might have been obvious to most, but wanted to share my experience in case this comes up for somebody like me that needs a little help.





Happy New Year



Sweetheart Brunch
Sunday February 13, 2022
11:00 AM- 2:00 PM
McLoone's Boathouse
9 Cherry Lane
West Orange, NJ
\$100.00/couple

Please mail money and reservation to:

Lucille Chabala 6 Brook Way West Orange NJ 07052

973-731-9133

Make Check to NJORTC

