

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



# The Thunder Heard

**April 2026**

**2026 Meeting Schedule**

April 12	Harolds
April 19	Lucille Chabala
April 26	Spring Cruise
May	Vince Ucci
Tune Up	
June	Miles Yengst
July	Rich Burns
August 9	Picnic
September	Donna Jessie
October	Al Cirinelli
November	Bob Heissler
Dec 13	Christmas party

The next meeting is April 19th.  
 Lucille Chalaba is the host.  
 RSVP  
 Julemorr3@gmail.com

**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**



As we finally got a Board Meeting and a club meeting done (minutes for both are on the web site), hopefully we will get back to normal.

Spring is here and we have several events coming up, check elsewhere in this newsletter. Looking forward to Harold's Deli on 4/12

Happy to say all dues are up to date and our member count is staying about even.

We had a new member join the club at the last meeting. Welcome Jack Gentul.

Wishing everyone happy Easter and Passover.

Stay safe and healthy  
 Patrick Le Strange  
 President NJORTC



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## Vice President's Message



Hi everyone! I think the weather is going to start to change. Next week it is supposed to be in the sixties all week, finally! Maybe, just maybe, Spring is on its way!!! So now it's time to think about getting our cars out on the open road after being covered up all winter long.

I want to thank Irene Douma, who hosted our meeting. She did a great job. We had a great turnout of members. Food was good, but the desserts were fantastic. Irene homemade about six different desserts and each one was better than the next. The brownies and oatmeal raisin cookies were so good. Thanks again Irene.

First off continued prayers for George Gayet, he now has developed more problems. Sue prayers also with you for all your going through, you are so good taking care of George. Hang in there our friend. Lois Martin had a knee replacement a week ago, having a bit of a rough time. Each day she can do a little more. Praying for a speedy recovery. Bob Heissler hope you feel better. For the rest of us, keep up the good work!!! Donna Jesse is having a hip replacement on April 22nd. Prayers go out to her for a safe surgery! Good luck from all of us.

Donna Jesse gave us an update on CTCI. Still going back to Court. Donna will keep us informed.

We welcome a new member, Jack Gentul, who owns a 57 Starmist Blue.

Mike Perillo "Tours" is working on the Spring cruise. Cadillac museum, lunch, ice cream, touring. There is more info in this newsletter. Cruise date, Sunday, April 26th.

Toni Sabino hosting Harold's Deli, April 12th at 1:00. It's pay on your own. Let Toni know if you plan on going. If you have never been, the sandwiches are delicious and the biggest you have ever seen. You will go home with a doggie bag!

Our picnic this year will be Sunday, August 9th. We have time to talk about the picnic.

The Christmas party is Sunday, December 13th.. Again this year we put a deposit on the Mt. Arlington Elks Lodge, Mt. Arlington, NJ and we put a deposit on DJ Dan, he was so happy that we asked him to come back again.

Congratulations to Carrie and Mike Meehan for becoming first time Grandparents. Hope everyone is happy and healthy.

Next meeting hosted by Julie Ann and Lucille at Delizias in Boonton on Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 1:00 pm.

Have a great year, see you soon  
Arlene

## March Meeting

It was a very nice early spring day with sunshine and relatively moderate temps. The meeting drew a large crowd and 5 Tbirds made it out of their nests. A good selection of edibles made it that much better. Many thanks to Irene for hosting the meeting.

### Highlights of the business meeting

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting (November ) was waived and due to the treasurer's absence no financial report was given.

Lois read a thank you letter from the school that we donated the toys to.

Pat mentioned that the 2025 treasurer's report was up on the web site. He also requested members check their email address on the site for correctness.

Julie Ann went over the sweetheart brunch. It was decided to return to that venue for 2027 as members were happy with it.

Arlene reported that we have signed up for this years Christmas party at the same venue with the same DJ. Date is 12/13

Toni spoke about this years trip to Harold's. The date is 4/12 at 1 PM.

Arlene said the picnic has been set for August 9th at Schooley's MTN.

Mike went over the Spring Cruise on 4/26. He needs to know who is coming. RSVP ASAP.

Donna reported on the latest issues with CTCI

Next meeting 4/19

Mark won the 50/50

## April

April is Nat'l Car Care Month.

Special Days: Nat'l PB&J Day 2nd; Husband Appreciation Day 15th; Nat'l Jelly Bean Day 22nd; Pig in a Blanket Day 24th.

# Membership News

Happy Anniversary



Mel Ramos 1st  
 Sharon Herman 5th  
 Anette Schmidt 13th  
 Charles Musto 16th  
 Lucille Chalaba 27th

GET WELL  
 SON!

Lois Martin  
 George Gayet  
 Bob Heissler

## Welcome - New Member



**Jack Gentul**

Jack hails from Mountain Lakes and has a 57 Starmist blue bird



## 2026 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President

Pat LeStrange

[rolodexp@aol.com](mailto:rolodexp@aol.com)

Vice President

Arlene Kubat

[finallyak@yahoo.com](mailto:finallyak@yahoo.com)

Treasurer

Steve Handy

[stevehandy85@gmail.com](mailto:stevehandy85@gmail.com)

CTCI Representative

Donna Jessie

[tbandmetro@aol.com](mailto:tbandmetro@aol.com)

Recording/Corresponding Secretary

Toni Sabino

[tonisabino@yahoo.com](mailto:tonisabino@yahoo.com)

Editor: Thunder Heard

Paul Schroll

[ptschroll@verizon.net](mailto:ptschroll@verizon.net)

Trustees:

Paul Schroll

John Pyrros

Phil Guidone

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

**web site: [www.njortc.org](http://www.njortc.org)**

**Face Book: [www.facebook.com/NJORTC/](http://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



## Club Announcements

### April Meeting

The meeting is scheduled for **April 19th**. Delizia's Pizza, 308 Wooten St. Boonton (Wal-Mart shopping center). Time is **1 PM (NOTE TIME CHANGE)** Lucille and Julie Ann are the hosts. Be sure to RSVP at least a week in advance.

### Harolds

Harolds is on **April 12**. Toni is putting this together. RSVP Toni by **4/8**. See the attached flyer for information

### Spring Cruise

Mike has set up the cruise for **April 26th**. Looks like a great time. Mike has sent out information on this to all the members. If you need another let him know. Mike needs to know who is coming, so RSVP him ASAP

### May Meeting

No information on this yet.

## Pics from the March Meeting



## Cars & Coffee

Saturday - 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month-  
Franklin Lakes-649 Franklin Ave.  
Crossroads Church  
4/26 Morriston-Morristown Green 8-11

## Cruise Nights

5/13 Metuchen-Main St.

## Car Shows/Swap Meets

4/19 Randolph 906 Rte 10W Performance Ford  
4/26 Boonton-Main Street  
4/22-26 Spring Carlisle  
4/26 Totowa-Union Blvd  
5/1-3 Englishown Swap Meet  
5/1-3 Rhinebeck. NY Dutchess Cty Fairgrounds  
5/3 Denville-408 E. Main St Show & Swap meet  
5/3 Carlstadt-350 Michelle Pl. Nam Knights  
5/3 Creskill-100-120 3rd St.  
5/7-9 Wildwood  
6/20 Franklin Lakes- 649 Franklin Ave  
Crossroads Church. All TBird show

I have flyers for most of the above



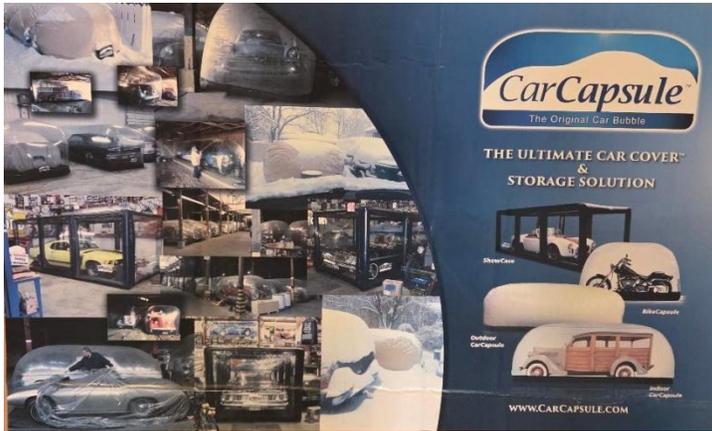
**For Sale**

**TBird Radio**

56/57 Tbird upgraded radio brand new in box.....paid \$850 with shipping ...\$ 700.00  
973.980.4312 Vinny

**Tbird Car Capsule**

: CAR CAPSULE (used) - fits baby birds.  
Model CC18F. .Asking \$300.. Contact Irene  
Douma 201.819.3385.



**Misc**

9,000 Watt portable gasoline generator, battery & pull start. Includes a 15 foot heavy duty power cord with fittings. Used about 5 hours to power our house. \$1,200.00  
Also, many used & NOS parts for '55 & '56 T-Birds. Paul Adamoff – Cell: 201-286-4781

**WANTED**

Peacock Blue 1956. Top dollar paid.  
Call Vinny 973-980-4312

An advertisement for VINNY'S VINTAGE VEHICLES. It features a yellow background with a white oval containing the text 'WHAT'S MY CAR WORTH?'. Below this, it says 'Call Vinny!' and provides details about complimentary appraisals. A QR code is present for more information. The business name 'VINNY'S VINTAGE VEHICLES' and contact info for Vincent Ucci are listed at the bottom.



**You can't stay young forever, but you can be immature for the rest of your life**



Pete Crosta really turns out for local events. Here are two pics of his car dressed up for the Nutley St Pat's parade



Arbor Day Plant one April 24 - plant a tree



The Ides of April



Pete & Gene attended one of the first events of this year, Bloomfield Cruisers Hot Dog Run to Rutt's Hut

## Tech Tip Distributor Maintenance

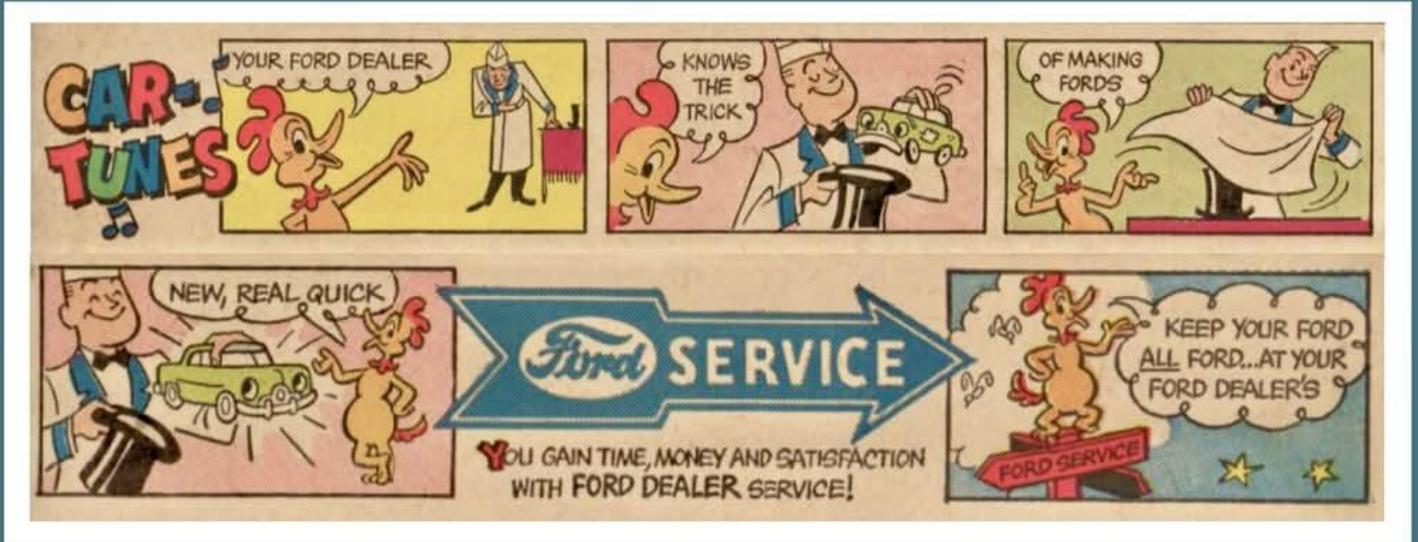
Additional Tip while you have the Disributor Cap off

Tech Tip Distributor Maintenance. The distributor must be lubricated, and the best time is when the oil is changed. Did you know that there are two places for lubrication? The first is the one that is very visible, the oil cup on the side. (see photo)



The other one, not so much. If you take off the rotor, you will see (or should see) a small piece of felt inside the shaft. That should be oiled at the same time. The oiled felt drips on the weights and springs below the plate. Even if you have an electronic conversion like a Pertronix,, the felt piece should be oiled.

Note - the 55/56 Distributor does not have the piece of felt in the shaft.  
From Trailbirds of Southwest Florida



NEW JERSEY OPEN ROAD  
Thunder  
55-56-57

ANNUAL  
**HAROLD'S**  
**LUNCH**

**PAY AS  
WE GO**

guaranteed to fill you up!

**Sunday April 12, 2026 Arrive at 12:45 for  
1 PM seating**

Postal Address: 3050 Woodbridge Ave Edison NJ

GPS Address: 1173 King Georges Post Rd Edison NJ



**Contact Toni Sabino if you are coming  
RSVP [tonisabino@vahoo.com](mailto:tonisabino@vahoo.com) or 973-618-8085**

