

# The Thunder Heard

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



EDITORS: Alec Johnstone  
Pat LeStrange

[BRONZEBYRD@WEBTV.NET](mailto:BRONZEBYRD@WEBTV.NET)  
[ROLODEXP@AOL.COM](mailto:ROLODEXP@AOL.COM)

1267 Paddington Rd, Mahwah, NJ 07430  
280 Kipp St. Apt 3A Hackensack, NJ 07601

2005

## Springtime Springtime Springtime

### 2005 Meeting Schedule

May 22	Alec Johnstone
June	Vinnie & Jamie DaSilva
July 17	<b>** Mini-Concours **</b>
Aug	Bob & Arlene Perruso
Sept	Bruce & Aileen Corbett
Oct	Ron Rauschart
Nov	Stan & Cindy Gersch
Dec	<b>** Christmas Party **</b>

### 2006 Meeting Schedule

Jan / Feb	Mike & Wendy Meehan
March	Arnold & Linda Dworkin
April	Ken & Linda Herb
May	Phil & Dorothy Guidone
June	Rodger & Debbie DePiero
July or Aug	Dominick & Eva Tucci
Sept.	Rich & Lois Martin
Oct.	?

The April meeting was hosted by Gene Szura at Panera Bread. About 25 members attended. There were 3 Birds in the parking lot a '57, a '63 and a '04, later joined by 2 more '57s. A motion was made to donate \$100.00 to Dee Bartle's favorite fund. Minutes and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted. Thanks Gene

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

With nice weather here I thought that I would devote this space to some "HELPFUL" tips on getting our vehicles ready for the road and all the fun activities ahead of us.

An overheating tip that may help you keep the temperature down in your car this summer is: Try spraying the fan side of the radiator with a water-soluble cleaner (Simple Green or Gunk Engine Degreaser), let it soak in, and then flush with a fine spray from a garden hose. Be sure not to use too much water pressure as you could close some of the radiator fins. A radiator with clean fins will cool more efficiently.

Some tips for the placement of decals on your T-Bird  
(Getting ready for the Mini Concourse)

#### Jacking Instructions Decal:

55 On the divider board-centered  
55-57 Center of the trunk lid

#### Heater Decal:

On heater box top surface in engine compt.  
Reads when viewer is facing the rear of the car.

#### Folding Top Decal:

Glove box door

#### Tire Pressure Decal:

Glove box door

#### Automatic Transmission Decal:

Glove box door

See you down the road, John

**THE MAY MEETING** is scheduled to be hosted by Alec

Johnstone on Sunday May 22 at 2 PM at the  
Paddington Square Club House, "Chad's Barn"  
Mahwah, NJ (see map on page 7)

RSVP Alec by May 18 if planning to attend

Call (201)934-4058 or E-Mail

[BRONZEBYRD@WEBTV.NET](mailto:BRONZEBYRD@WEBTV.NET)

**Editor's Ramblings**

After a stretch of perfect days, the weather turned *ugly* and damp for the first show of the season "Blue Oval Over Butler", held at Rt. 23 Auto Mall. This has turned into quite an event each spring. It was the largest turnout in the 5 year history of this show. Eight Club members were in attendance.

On the other hand, the weather was ideal at the Lake Mohawk event, where a great time was had by the members that attended (see article elsewhere in this newsletter)

Let us hope the season will favor old car events. I hope to see everyone at as many shows and cruise nites as possible.

Yours for good weather, Alec



# MEMBER NEWS

We are looking for suggestions and amount of people interested in a CTCL sanctioned weekend cruise for region #1. E-mail Wendy Meehan or bring the info to next meeting

## Last Months Events Lake Mohawk



Barbaranna, and 2 non-members (Steve & Roz) to a 50's "American Graffiti" dance. They had contacted the club for cars to put on display. As it turned out, she did not want to have all Thunderbirds, so after asking several club members we ended up with 2 T-Birds, 1 Vette and a '57 Chevy. There were several other local cars there too. My car (Pat's) was put on the Boardwalk, with a '32 yellow Ford Coupe and a VW. All other cars were parked down by the front door. Joanne and I won a CD for 2<sup>nd</sup> place costume, and I won a \$50 gift Certificate, for 1<sup>st</sup> place guessing titles, artists and dates of old songs. We almost won a prize for the dance contest but one of us got a cramp in his leg and could not continue. All had a great time.

Submitted by  
Pat LeStrange



Our 10th annual bowling event was held on Sunday, April 10 at the Hanover Lanes.

Our bowling banquet was held at Frank's Restaurant where awards were presented. They are as follows:

**Men's High Bowler**

**John Pyrros 567**

**Women's High Bowler**

**Sandy Pyrros 363**



- Most Improved Bowler - Arlene Kubat
  - Best Bowling Form - Rich Martin
  - Best Team Spirit - Eva Tucci
  - Most Enthusiastic Bowler - Judy Bosco
  - Best Dressed Bowler - Alec Johnstone
- Congratulations to all the winners and Special Congratulations



to John Pyrros who had 5 strikes in a row

and **Pat LeStrange** who had 4 strikes in a row,  
 And a special Thank You to our Scorekeeper Linda Herb  
 who worked so diligently in keeping all scores in order.  
 Thank you to everyone who participated:  
 Lucille Chabala



## On a Sad Note In Memoriam

As many of you know, our fellow club member and dear friend, Dorothy Bartle passed away this past Easter Sunday. Our older members will remember her as a very enthusiastic T-Bird lover (Along with her late husband, Bill) who used to go with us to Regionals and Nationals in the 1980's and 90's. She loved her car. Her dad had bought it new and she was proud to show it off. Many a day she sat in the sun and heat nervous as a schoolgirl waiting for her car to be judged. We caravanned with her and our family enjoyed these trips and will miss her.

One of her cars last club showings was at our regional in 1999. She wanted so much to be there but her health started to be a problem. We saw that her car made it anyway. We were so glad that Dennis Gage used her car as the sign off for his program, "My Classic Car", that was taped that day. Those of you that have seen the video of this can see Dennis driving away in the final scene riding in D's pride and joy.

Our thoughts and prayers are with D's family and friends at this time. We will all miss this very kind and lovely lady.

Submitted by Rich and Lois Martin

There will be a Memorial Service held in Caldwell, at the First Presbyterian Church, on Saturday, April 30th at 11:00 am.

For more information you can contact Rich & Lois Martin.

GET WELL SOON

 *A Speedy Recovery Wish To*  
 At this time everyone seems to be fine  
 ( Well, I did have a little heart procedure done, again! But I'm OK, Pat)

*Happy Anniversary to.....*  
 Vinnie & Jamie DaSilva  
 May 23

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY*

<i>Lorraine Cirinelli</i>	<i>May 2</i>	<i>Tom Eckert</i>	<i>May 14</i>
<i>Ariene Perruso</i>	<i>May 5</i>	<i>Harry Young</i>	<i>May 17</i>
<i>Stevi Glorit</i>	<i>May 6</i>	<i>Stanley Gersch</i>	<i>May 19</i>
<i>Pat LeStrange</i>	<i>May 7</i>	<i>Sandy Montanino</i>	<i>May 24</i>
<i>Susan Titone</i>	<i>May 10</i>	<i>Arnold Dworkin</i>	<i>May 29</i>
<i>Gene Szura</i>	<i>May 13</i>		

**JULIE'S TRIVIA QUESTION**  
 How many times was the Thunderbird awarded  
 MOTOR TREND CAR OF THE YEAR ?

ANY ITEMS YOU WANT US TO PUBLISH IN THE NEWSLETTER  
 MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE THE 20<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.  
 THEY CAN BE E-MAILED DIRECTLY TO ME  
 Pat LeStrange      rolodexp@aol.com

**Region # 2      Regional Convention**  
**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

*Proud to beDriving an American Icon*

### Buying an early T-Bird

Want one? Then be prepared for several things. First, the price. Expect a 1955 – '57 Thunderbird to top out around \$ 64000, although there are always exceptions. In a No. 3 condition a \$ 25000 tag is not uncommon. A Thunderbird that begs for tons of work may be priced at the \$12000 range and could be a prize winner after hours of effort and many expenses.

Next be ready for stiff competition. Commonly an over-restored car. Early Thunderbirds have become the focus of a cult following, automotively speaking. Like the Corvette, owners fuss about perfection in minute details and pride themselves on ownership. It can be intense and come across as elitism in the eyes of non-Thunderbird collectors. If truth be known, developers and promoters of those early Thunderbirds probably wanted it that way. It enhanced the image.

Third, decide what you want and stick to it. Some collectors hope and dream for a 1956 Thunderbird, but settle for a 1958 because it's about half the price. What they get is a four-passenger two-seater, larger and less sporty in many respects. If you want the initial classic design, save your dough and cash it in when the right car surfaces. If you jump for the '58, be comfortable with your choice. They are fine cars in their own right.

Fourth, be ready for cautious fun. Early Thunderbirds are adopted more than owned. They are the objects of affection, and cannot be left alone at a car show or on the street. They must hold the owner's attention to avoid finger prints, dust, and scratches. If you pop for an early Thunderbird, give it its own comfortable nest in a safe and dry garage, blanket it for full protection, and use it sparingly.

Reprinted from "Old Cars Weelly Market Place" March 31,2005

Found on the Classic Thunderbird of Houston web site (not sure how old it is)

For Sale--Black 57 T-Bird with white hardtop and white soft top, new trunk kit, motor & transmission rebuilt last year, 98,000 miles on car, good seats, fender skirts, bias ply tires, automatic, 312 V-8, power seat (does not work), power steering, power brakes,

Town & Country radio, no air conditioner, no power windows, car is in League City. **Owned 3 57s since 1959 (wife has totaled 2 of them)...**\$22,500

Thunderbird East is moving!  
Andy Lovelace is closing his store and will be working out of his house as of April 1  
Phone # 1-610-429-8960 or 1-800-416-4444  
Fax 1-610-429-8963

*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

**JULIE'S TRIMA ANSWER**  
4 Times 1958,1987,1989 & 2002



### **This Months Show Winners**

As Reported  
(If you know of any others, please let us know)

- Tom Trotto  
1<sup>st</sup> Place '49-'59 Stock Blue Oval Over Butler  
John Pyrros \*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place '49-'59 Stock Blue Oval Over Butler  
Dennis Chirico \*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place '49-'59 Stock Blue Oval Over Butler  
Alec Johnstone  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place '49-'59 Stock Blue Oval Over Butler  
Henry Semmler

Service Award

2nd Place '80-'04 Stock Blue Oval Over Butler  
(\* tied)

2005 Future Events



May 1 Sun. (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 1 Sun.  
1st Annual UPS/United Way Car Show and Poker Run  
UPS Saddle Brook  
280 N. Midland Ave., Saddle Brook, NJ 201-794-4260

May 14 Sat. 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 Sun.  
14th Annual Auto Show & Fair  
Princeton Carnegie Center  
Rt 1 & Alexander Rd.  
Princeton, NJ

May 15 Sun. 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 Registraation)  
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](mailto:usr2005@optonline.net)

May 15 Sun. (rain date 5/22)  
13th Annual Millburn Classic Car Show  
Downtown Millburn, NJ 973-379-2341

May 21 Sat. (Rain date 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 21 Sat.  
2nd Annual Hackensack  
High School Classic Car Show  
First & Beech Streets, Hackensack, NJ 201-646-7925

May 21 Sat. 9AM  
3rd Annual SAM  
(Support American Military)  
Charity Fun Run  
Shumacher Chevrolet 8 Mian St Little falls  
Convoy to Picatinny Arsenal Minimum Donation \$25  
Must preregister for access into Arsenal  
Open to all year cars, bikes and trucks  
Call Dave 973-208-6615 or email [davedunn@optonline.net](mailto:davedunn@optonline.net)

May ????



Tune-Up Clinic  
Aileen and Bruce Corbett  
65 Ponderosa Place, Hewitt  
RSVP at [corbett2@optonline.net](mailto:corbett2@optonline.net)  
or phone 973-728-2135

May 29 Sun.



Franklin Lakes  
Car Show and Flea Market  
Pre-Register ONLY  
No Day of Show  
<http://clubs.hemmings.com/jlrcca>



June 3-5  
ALL FORDS NATIONALS



50th Anniversary Thunderbird Evolution Display

June 5 12 –6PM  
Greenwood Lake Fire Dept.  
A Day of Nascar Racing  
At the  
American Legion , Greenwood Lk.,NY  
Tickets \$10  
Contact GLFD 845-477-2236

June 11 Sat. 9am-3pm  
North Jersey Thunderbird Assoc.  
All Thunderbird Show  
Sunset Rd., Pompton Plains, NJ

June 18 Sat. 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, but not available until around mid-May)  
<http://www.richardnader.com/index.html>

Sept. 28-Oct. 2 FALL CARLISLE



**June 25 Sat** **Warwick Fire Dept.**  
**Memorial Field, Warwick, NY**  
**\$5 registration includes Food & Dash plaque**  
**Fireworks and Carnival**  
Contact: Capt. Joe Smith 845-986-3356 for flyer or info

**July 2 Sat. 6-9Pm** **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  
Donation to the Rusty Schwartz Fund  
**RSVP Julie 973-731-5524**

July 7-10  
 **Region 5 Convention, Heartland Flight**  
Omaha, Nebraska

July 17 Sun. 9AM-8PM  
 **Mini Poncours**  
Doe Meadow Park  
Lewis Morris Park, Morristown, NJ



**Aug. 7 Sun. / RD Aug. 14 Sun.** **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 **4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.ctcno.com)

August???



Warwick, NY

August ??? **Somerville Cruise Nite**



Sept. 2-5



**Sept. 11 Sun.** **Elk's Lodge**  
Ridgefield Park, NJ  
Street Legends Car Show  
(This show is run by several NJORTC members)  
Proceeds to Elk's Handicapped Children

**September 23-25 NJ** **Englishtown Fall Swap Meet & Auto Shows**  
Raceway Park, Englishtown, NJ 732-446-7800 <http://www.racewaypark.com>

**NJORTC 2005 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES**

**President**  
John Kefalonitis 908-459-4201  
Fax: 908-459-9868  
[bjspecialties@accessgate.net](mailto:bjspecialties@accessgate.net)

**Vice President**  
Pat LeStrange 201-487-3335  
[rolodexp@aol.com](mailto:rolodexp@aol.com)

**Treasurer**  
Frank Chabala 973-731-9133  
c/o Lucille [lulusmalley@msn.com](mailto:lulusmalley@msn.com)

**CTCI Representative**  
**Recording/Corresponding Secretary**  
Arlene Kubat 973-956-5728  
[finallyak@aol.com](mailto:finallyak@aol.com)

**Editors: Thunder Heard**  
Alec Johnstone 201-934-4058  
1267 Paddington Rd., Mahwah, NJ 07430  
[bronzebyrd@webtv.net](mailto:bronzebyrd@webtv.net)  
Pat LeStrange 201-487-3335  
280 Kipp St., Hackensack, NJ 07601  
[rolodexp@aol.com](mailto:rolodexp@aol.com)

**Trustees:**  
P. Guidone 908-879-6261  
V. DeAndrea 732-548-6533  
D. Tucci 201-641-9529

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**

New Jersey Car & Truck Shows  
<http://www.njcarshow.com>



**YOGISM OF THE MONTH**

"Nobody goes to that restaurant anymore, it's too crowded."

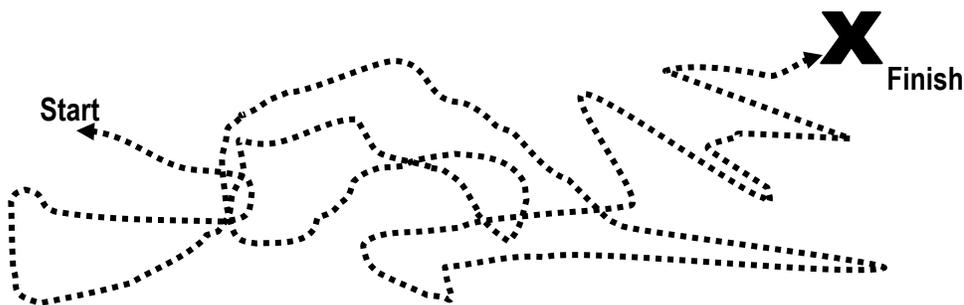
# Cruise Nites

## 2005

**MORE NITES WILL BE ADDED WHEN THEY ARE "CONFIRMED"**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Lyndhurst</b> Whiskey Café 2pm to ? Classic Cars & Acappella Groups Starts 5/15	<b>Wayne</b> Anthony Waynes Rt 46 W 6-9p	<b>Brick</b> Lone Star Steak House 6:30-10p	<b>Wyckoff</b> Brick Pizza 6-9p	<b>Hackensack</b> Dunkin' Donuts Passiac St. 6-9p	<b>Somerset</b> Amwell Rd Rutgers Plaza 6:30-9p	<b>Lyndhurst</b> Whiskey Café Wall St. 6-9p Starting 5/7
	<b>Union</b> Galloping Hill Inn Starts 5/9 - 10/24	<b>Clifton</b> 417 River Rd. Rutt's Hutt 6-9:30p	<b>Bloomfield</b> Bloomfield Center 6-9PM Starts 6/1 to 8/31	<b>Mahwah</b> Dunkin' Donuts <small>MacArthur Blvd</small>	<b>Town of Somerville</b> Main Street, Somerville, NJ. 908-725 1274	<b>Pottstown, PA</b> Vintage Rides Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat. Except Aug.
		<b>Tappan, NY</b> Rt303 Tappan Shopping Plaza 6:30-9p		<b>Pompton Lakes</b> Town Square Mall Wanaque Ave, Pompton Lakes, NJ (Starts 4/21, cars 1978 & older only)		<b>AUGUSTA, NJ</b> CHATTERBOX DRIVE-IN, ROUTE 15 & 206 6PM (5/7 through September) mailto:HOOFBEAT@OPTONLINE.NET
				<b>Secaucus</b> Harmon Meadow, Rte.3 and Harmon Meadow Boulevard 201-272-5403 (5/5 - 9/22) <a href="http://www.harmonmeadow.com/">http://www.harmonmeadow.com/</a> mailto:marilyn.mangan@hartzmountain.com		

### How to get to Alec's meeting



Directions to May meeting at Paddington Square Club House  
From the North or West

Take 287 to Rt 17 South

Continue to Spring St. exit which is just after new NJ Transit rail station

Make 2 lefts and continue over Rt 17

Continue past light at Franklin Turnpike (road changes to Hilltop Road).

Continue to end and make left onto Airmount Ave.

At the light (Masonicus Rd.) turn left into Paddiington Square and continue around almost to the end. Make a left on Chads Barn Ct..

Direction from South

Take Rt 17 North

Continue past Lake St/E.Crescent Ave. exit and shopping center

SLOW DOWN get in right lane. Then just after Macaroni Grill

Make a sharp right at (before) Dunk'in Donuts onto Airmount Ave.

Continue to light

At the light (Masonicus Rd.) turn left into Paddiington Square and

continue around almost to the end. Make a left on Chads Barn Ct..

Alex's cell phone  
201-788-1671

