

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



# The Thunder Heard

July 2015

## Season in Full Swing

### 2015 Meeting Schedule

July 26	Carol & Charlie Ehm
August 16	Picnic
Sept	Mike & Wendy Meehan
October	Gene & Diane Szura
October	Fall Cruise
November	Charlie & Izabella Costa
December	Christmas Party

The July meeting will be hosted by Carol and Charlie Ehm on July 26th, 2 PM..  
RSVP at 973-696-1713 or cehm1219@optonline.net. See page 4 for location

**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



Summer is here. I hope all the Dads had a nice Fathers day. Our Tune up clinic at Rich & Lois Martin's home was a tremendous success. The meeting was hosted by Bill & Martha Downing after the clinic. This is a great club, for a turn out like this, it takes a lot of work along with some very good mechanics, great cook, great food and great hospitality. Check out the website for Joanne's pictures of the clinic.

Several of us members are gearing up for the Pittsburg trip, the New Mexico convention, Bob and Toni's wedding and the club picnic. It is a busy Summer.

The club had an impressive showing at the North Jersey Thunderbird Association's All Thunderbird show.

We have several new Thunderbirds for sale listings on the web site. Some are nice and some are, you know, need work!

We are wishing a speedy recovery to Bob Heissler, after his fall.

Joanne had announced her candidacy for my Region 1 Director position. Ballots should be in the Sept/Oct Early Bird. Please give her your support.

Hope everyone can get their T Birds out a lot this year.

Pat LeStrange





### A few Words From Alec

It was a long time coming but it looks like summer is here stay, for a while anyway.

Our club made a great showing at the Ramapo Concours, winning 3 trophies. This was the first Concours and there are plans to make it an annual event at Ramapo College in Mahwah. Our TBirds were front and center at the show and drew a lot of attention through out the whole show.

Happy motoring, Alec

### June Meeting

Hosted by Bill and Martha as an adjunct to the Tune Up Clinic, it was very well attended. Martha and Bill provided great food. Thanks to Bill and Martha

#### Highlights of the Business meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted as was the Treasurer's report.

Lois reported on various CTCL matters, including a possible new chapter in eastern PA and that CTCL is looking for a host for a convention in the NY area for 2017 or 2018.

Pat reported that CTCL has contacted him about NJORTC being the host for a Region 1 convention under their auspices. He also mentioned that Joanne has become a member of CTCL and will be running for Region 1 Director.

Bill Downing reported on the picnic preparations. A sheet was passed around for members to sign up for food items that they will be bringing.

Various car show and dates were mentioned.

Arlene is going to check out the Russian Hall for a possible venue for the 50's dance.

Next meeting - June 26th.

### Travel Plans (part 2)

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore. I also have been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there often.

I have been in Sane. They don't have an airport and you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my children, friends, family and work.



### Vice President's Message

Hope all you Dads had a great Fathers Day. Our condolences to Shelley Belli on the passing of her mother. Our prayers are with Shelley and her Mom.

Bob Heisler has fallen off a ladder and was hurt. He is at Kessler Rehab in West Orange. He has a problem walking and talking, hurt pretty bad. Praying for him to get better soon.

Thank you Lois and Rich for hosting our tune-up clinic. I think that we had about 20 thirds that came out that day. We looked like we were having car show. The weather was beautiful. The guys worked on a few cars, the women sat around and talked. Plenty of good breakfast food. Also thank you to Martha and Bill Downing for hosting our monthly meeting. We had the meeting right after the tune-up clinic at the Martins. Bill and Martha had plenty of food, desserts and drinks.

After the meeting, Rich and Lois's son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter, Erica came to say hi and eat with us. Erica went around and judged all the TBirds. Erica also won our 50/50. As usual we stayed all day. It was a fun day. Thanks to all.

The weekend of July 16th some of our members will be driving to Pittsburg, Pa. For Thunderbird 60th Anniversary car show. Those of you who are going drive safe. Also coming up in August is the Regional convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. If you are thinking of going you better make reservation now, time is running out.

Before you know it our annual family picnic will be here, August 16th. At our meeting we sent around a sign up sheet to see who is coming to the picnic and what food you are bringing. At our next meeting we will send the sheet around again for those who did not sign up. Thanks in advance. Bill has plenty of activities planned. We always have a great time so please come one and all.

CTCL news: Joanne Seiler is running for Region 1 Director and Rich Martin will be running for Director at Large. Good luck to the both of you.

Summer is officially here, so get the TBirds out on the open road. Next meeting July 26th at Delizia's in Boonton. Meeting will be by Charlie and Carol Ehms.

Happy 4th of July. Have a sweet day !!!  
Arlene

# Membership News

**Happy Anniversary**

Frank Gloss & Mary Green 1st  
Gene & Diane Szura 2nd  
Mike & Theresa Parillo 27th



Frank Gloss 12th  
Bob Notar 12th  
Sandra Pyrros 16th  
Paul Adamoff 16th  
Charlie Costa 18th  
Pauline Schroll 17th  
Lorrie Matrone 19th  
Diane Szura 21st  
Alec Johnstone 24th  
Bill Downing 31st

**Get Well Soon!**

Bob Heissler

**FOR SALE**

1957 TBird

Red. 312, Auto, two tops, wire wheels, WW's stainless exhaust , engine dress up. Call Tom, 973-464-3093

1992 T-BIRD

26K MILES, BLACK WITH GREY INTERIOR, GARAGE KEPT, BOUGHT NEW, 5.0 V8 ENGINE, AUTOMATIC.....GENE...201-991-8459

Condolences

To Shelley Belli and family on the passing of her mother

To Lucille Chabala on the passing of her brother

## 2015 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

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Awards/Plaques	John Pyrros
Membership Chairman	Paul Adamoff
Name Badges	John Pyrros
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	Joanne Seiler

Bob Heissler

Joanne has sent out information about Bob's accident. He is at Kessler Rehabilitation, 1199 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, NJ 07052. I am sure he would appreciate a note or card. Call 973-731-3600 to see if he is still there before you send.

## Tune Up Clinic and June Meeting

You couldn't ask for a more perfect day for the clinic. Sunny, moderate temperature and low humidity. The clinic, combined with the monthly meeting, drew a large number of members, perhaps the largest this year. Twenty classic TBirds attended as well. The cars were judged by Rich's granddaughter Erica and she picked a certain fiesta red 56. Four cars were worked on, ranging from an oil change to a front disc brake install. There was coffee (thanks Lois) and bagels and doughnuts to start off the day. Thanks to Joanne for the pictures.

The meeting part in the afternoon was hosted by Bill and Martha who supplied very delicious food,

Many thanks to Rich and Lois for the facilities and help for the clinic and many thanks to Bill and Martha for hosting the meeting and the great food.



## Events

### July Meeting

The July meeting will be held on July 26th at Delizia's Pizza in the Wal-Mart Shopping Center in Boonton. Carol and Charles Ehm will be the hosts. 2 PM. See page 1 for RSVP

### Picnic

Don't forget the picnic - August 16 at Schooley's Mountain Park, the same place as last year. If you are bringing a dish (salad, dessert, etc) let Arlene know. Notify Bill if you are going to attend and how many you are bringing. Relatives are invited. If you need directions, email Paul Schroll.

See Page 9 for additional info.



### CTCI Convention

#### Albuquerque, New Mexico, August 26 - 30

If you plan to attend, get your hotel reservations in now. It will be held at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel. The hotel is fully booked, but there are others for the same price. For reservations call 800-325-3535 or 505-830-5781(direct). Ask for the Pajarito Thunderbird Club rate (\$99 single, \$109 double). Additional details can be found at the CTCI website or [www.thunderbirdsnm.com](http://www.thunderbirdsnm.com)

**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](mailto:ptschroll@aol.com)

July 10th has been designated Collector Car Appreciation Day by a resolution of the U.S. Senate

### Signs

#### Outside a Muffler Shop

No appointment necessary-we hear you coming

## Car Shows-Swap Meets

7/4 Livingston Livingston High School 30 Robert Harp Drive

7/12 Hawthorne 344 Wagaraw Rd MGM Auto Body Supplies

7/12 River Edge Continental Ave @ Memorial Pk

7/18 Ringwood St. Catherines 112 Erskin Rd.

7/18 Dumont Calvery Meth Church. 185 West Madison Ave.

7/25 Plainfield Plainfield High Sch 950 Park Ave

8/15 West Milford Greenwood Lake Airport 126 Airport Rd.

For more shows go to

<http://holtononline.com/carshows.html>

<http://www.newjerseycarshows.com/>

[www.njortc.org](http://www.njortc.org)

## All Thunderbird Show

At the all Thunderbird show, we had 13 TBirds attending, a number of whom won awards. There were about 23 classic Birds attending, and in order to celebrate the 60th anniversary the host club had ice cream and cake for all the entrants. The day was beautiful despite some warning about rain in the morning. Pics from Martha and Joanne). In addition, two Thunderbird owners who were not members expressed interest in joining NJORTC.



## Cruise Nights

### Monday

Fair Lawn-14-26 Plaza Rd. Railroad Tavern

### Tuesday

Clifton, Rutt's Hutt

Wayne, 1560 Rte 23 N Wendy's

Saddle Brook-405 N.Midland Ave-Bennigans)

### Wednesday

Wycoff- Greenwood Ave

Paterson-Pep Boys Speed 261 McLean Blvd

Clifton - 1116 RTE 46W-The Hearth

### Thursday

Wayne - 1800 Rte 23 N Kohl's

Hackettstown Mountain Rd Wendy's

### Friday

Boonton-Wooten St, Wal-Mart Shopping Ctr.)

Midland Park, Godwin Ave, Wendy's

### Saturday

Lyndhurst -1050 Wall St (Formerly Whiskey Cafe)

### All TBird Show



Henry II Intro to new TBird

## My TBird - Leonardo

I've been riding in my Tbird since I was a little girl. I would travel from Easton, Pa, to Roseto, Pa., where my grandmother lived. The Tbird was purchased by my uncle, Dr. Leon J. Pinto, an Optometrist and First Lieutenant World War Two Veteran. He enlisted in the US Army Air Corps after graduating from Optometry school in 1942. He was then stationed in Dayton, Ohio, for the rest of the war, developing high speed reconnaissance photographs for the Air Force. His photo was in the April, 1944 edition of Popular Science Magazine. Following the war, he opened his own practice with my father, a dentist, in Easton, PA. Years later, I graduated from the Audiology Division of the same school my uncle attended.

My car was manufactured in Jan, 1956, and it was the 219<sup>th</sup> TBird made that year. Its code shows that he may have received a military discount. My uncle drove it on his daily commute to work, 16 miles in each direction. Unfortunately, my uncle suffered a stroke in the 1980's, and he didn't drive the Tbird very much after that. I asked him for years to let me take the car, but he refused. It sat in the garage for about 15 to 20 years, needing a fuel pump, he said. Our last photos showed my daughter and son posing in front of the car circa 1996, when we took it out for a spin. Finally, in June, 2012, my uncle gave me the car, and I registered it in New Jersey. In September, 2012, his friend/mechanic got the car running and took him for a drive. It was his birthday, and he was 92 years old. He then passed away the following January 25, 2013.

Fast forward to 2014, a friend told me about the North Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club. We drove the car 77 miles to Wyckoff, NJ, and the wonderful members of the club advised me on how to get it running in better condition. Rich Martin worked on the car, and I purchased new tires, but most of the parts are original. I love this car! It's a part of MY family history. Thank you for your friendship and advice, you are a wonderful club!

### TRIVIA

Last month it was the first drive thru service. This month it is the first drive in restaurant. Clue - before 1935. And the location. Joanne got the correct answer for last month's - IN-N-Out Burger



### Tune Up/Meeting



## Pittsburgh TBird Anniversary Show July 16-19

The Pitt Birds Thunderbird Club, in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, is hosting a 60th anniversary celebration of the Tbird. The TBird display will be the centerpiece of the car show. You can drive your Tbird on the road race track on Sunday (2.3 miles). Activities include a tour to the Flight 93 Memorial, tours of the pit and paddock areas of the race track and the parade lap. Some dinners and lunches are provided. For full information, hotel accommodations and a schedule of events go to [www.pittbirds.org](http://www.pittbirds.org). Click on PVGP. Registration fee is \$100 plus 50.00 for the Flight 93 Tour and Banquet. The host hotel is the Comfort Inn at RIDC Park 412-963-0600. There is a special rate of \$109 plus tax. Let Paul S. know if you are interested in going. Currently we have 7 cars going

## Concours D'Elegance

While the only "official" activity was the Tune UP Clinic there were a lot of other goings on. A number of our members attended a Concours D'Elegance with their Birds and three were given awards for their cars - Vince Ucci (Julia shown), Charlie Costa and John Bolger.



## Tune Up/Meeting

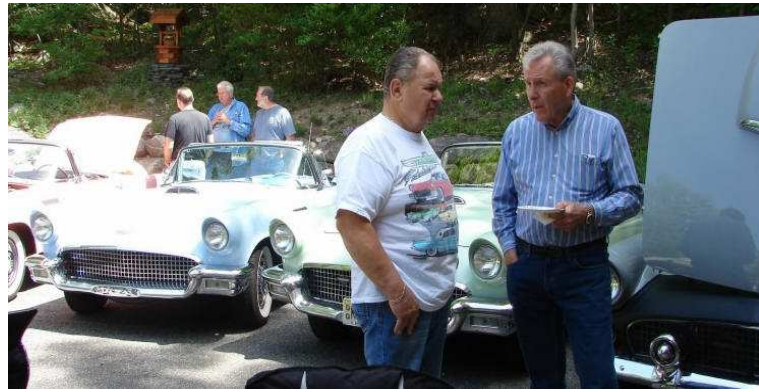


## Tech Tip

### Timing with a Vacuum Gauge

1. Adjust carb to obtain the smoothest idle at the factory suggested RPM level by adjusting the air/fuel mixture.
2. Attach vacuum gauge to a vacuum source
3. Adjust distributor to obtain the highest vacuum at idle
4. Go back and readjust carb
5. Adjust distributor to decrease vacuum by 1 inch mercury on gauge
6. Road test to see that you get no more than a slight ping on hard acceleration in high gear.
7. If it pings, reduce vacuum by small increments until it is per # 6 above





## July

July has its own special days

National Fried Chicken 6th

National Strawberry Sundae 6th

National Peach Ice Cream 17th

Vanilla Ice Cream

National Cheesecake 30

And July is National Hot Dog and Ice Cream month





# NJORTC ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup> 10 am ~ 4 pm



Club members and their families are invited.



Some special guests are welcome.



Schoolzy's Mtn State Park.

Bill Downing will have a fun filled day planned with games, horseshoes, much more. He will be hosting a cookie contest again this year; details for the contest will be coming soon. Frlene Kubat is asking for volunteers to make side dishes such as salads and appetizers, dishes to go along with hamburgers and hot dogs and chicken. Also desserts other than cookies.

This is a rain or shine event, we do have a very large pavilion to sit under. In the past some of our rain picnics have turned out to be some of the best times.



Questions: contact Bill Downing [wdowning@optonline.net](mailto:wdowning@optonline.net)

Contact Frlene Kubat re food dishes [finallyak@yahoo.com](mailto:finallyak@yahoo.com)

More discussions will be done at the next meeting July 26th