

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



The Thunder Heard

December 2019

2019 Meeting Schedule

Dec. 7	Christmas Party
2020	Schedule (Tentative)
Jan/Feb Jan 26	Paul Schroll
March	Joe Matrone
April	Vince Ucci
May	Bruce Corbett
June	Joe Kubat
July	Jim Messersmith
Sept	Steve Handy
October	Rich Iuso
November	Bob Sabino
There is no December meeting. Christmas Party	

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

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and season's greetings to all who celebrate religious holidays at this time of year.

We had a good turnout for our last meeting. Special thanks to John Pyrros, with the help of his daughter Mary, who stepped up to host the meeting, when the scheduled host did not respond to efforts to reach him. As you may know, refusal to host a meeting, is grounds for termination of membership. Joanne schedules meeting hosts a year in advance, so if you have a problem with your assigned month let her know. Joanne will also soon be setting up all the club activities for 2020, so if you want to chair or have an idea for an event please let her know.

In January, I will be taking my position on the CTCI Board as Region 1 Director. I would like to thank Joanne Seiler for her 4 years as Region 1 Director, she has done a fantastic job. With her help I hope I can keep up the pace. CTCI will be going through some very hard decisions in 2020 and working with Toni Sabino, your CTCI Rep, we will keep NJORTC informed to all of the changes. As a sad note, 2019, brought us news from CTCI on the passing of 2 good friends. Keith Zimmerman from California, whom I served on the board with. Also CL Hood from Texas, husband of Sandra, he was very active for many years with CTCI in many capacities.

The Birds on the Bay Convention in Florida is filling up fast, so if you are going get your registration in soon. i am looking forward to a good time there..

NJORTC lost one of the clubs favorite members in 2019, Alec Johnstone. He is truly missed.

In closing I am hoping and praying for a better year for all our member's health and personal problems.

Stay safe, see you all at the Christmas Party December 7



Pat LeStrange

November Meeting

The host for this meeting was John Pyrros who was assisted by his daughter Mary. The weather was sunny but being November, most of the little Birds must be snuggled down in their nests although there were a few that flew the coop. The turnout was very big and as usual the food was plentiful and good (love those garlic knots).. Thanks to John and Mary for hosting

Highlights of the Business Meeting

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

Joanne mentioned the Edison estate tour with the Mercedes club with meeting times and places and the cost

Pat reported we had come to an agreement with Delizia's on the meeting costs in order to keep it as low as possible.

Plans for those driving to Sarasota drivers were discussed. Two caravans, leaving the same day but different stops. Rich (Lois) and Donna are the ones to contact.

The orders for the club clothing were distributed. Pat showed off the vest and hat, Joanne the fleece jacket. The "store" will be open again in March.

Pat mentioned all the things Joanne does for the club and a round of applause was given her.

Lucille mentioned he Sweetheart Brunch, usually being in February. She is heading it up again this year.

Joanne mentioned that the Christmas lighting party at their home will be on 12/13 and 12/21

Suzanne won the 50/50

NOTE The complete minutes are on the web site



Vice President's Message



Wendy has been staying close to home lately, she is having trouble breathing with this cold weather. Mike did say to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Dorothy Guidone is home from rehab and is improving everyday. Joanne is having some issues, but hanging strong. Bob Heissler's significant other, Judy, is having lung and breathing issues. Our newest member, Melvin Ramos, was having a stent put in heart this week. A couple of weeks ago Bob Notar suffered a heart attack while in the ER in hospital having an EKG test. He had to have a stent put in and is doing good. One lucky man. Hope all goes well for him. Let's pray that all will feel better and stronger soon.

Just a reminder our Christmas party is Saturday, December 7th, 5:00 at Bella Italia in Orange, NJ. Same place as the last two years. Grab bag \$25.00 for lady, \$25.00 for man. Bring a toy for tots. We will be having a DJ because, as we know Pat has retired. We will also have our yearly visit from Santa and Mrs. Clause.

Another year is coming to an end and it will be time to put together activities for 2020. If you have any ideas please let a member of the board know what your planning. It's always good to have new ideas and places to go.

Joe and I want to wish everybody a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Happy healthy New Year. May God bless you all.

See you soon, Arlene



12/21-Winter Soltice

Shortest day of the year - Days start getting longer



Membership News

Happy Anniversary

Happy Birthday

Bill Jessie 3rd
 Toni Sabino 4th
 Paul Schroll 15th
 Bruce Corbett 20th
 Mike Parillo 21st
 Lois Martin 21st
 George Gayet 25th

GET WELL
 SON!

Wendy Meehan
 Joanne Seiler
 Dorothy Guidone
 Mel Ramos

November Meeting



What disease did cured ham actually have

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Club Photographer	Joanne Seiler
Sunshine	Lucille Chabala
Master at Arms	Rob Sabino
Meeting Schedules & Activities Coordinator	Joanne Seiler
Webmaster	Joanne Seiler

CTCI International Convention 2020

The 2020 convention will be held in Sarasota FL on May 4 - 9 . Hotel is the Hyatt Regency. Now taking reservations. Direct telephone # 941-953-1234. Make your reservations early. **Registration form is ready. Submit your registrations now as events are being filled up.**

Points to Ponder

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned people die from natural causes

Club Announcements

December Meeting

There is no official December meeting as we have the Christmas Party

Christmas Party

LAST CALL

Time flies and December is almost upon us. The Christmas party is **12/7** at the Bella Italia Restaurant, 535 Central Ave, Orange, NJ . As we have done in the past, those attending will have their dues forgiven, 1/2 for a single, full for a couple. Toys for Tots collection (unwrapped) and a grab bag (\$25), both optional. Cost is **65.00** per person. Let Arlene know if you are coming by **11/25**. Time is 5 PM. Make checks out to NJORTC.

January/February Meeting

This meeting will be on January 26th, hosted by Paul & Pauline Schroll. It will be at Delizia's at 2 P.M. Be sure to RSVP, including regrets.

Fall Cruise 2020

We need a volunteer for this function - you have almost a year to set it up. Step up and help the club.

Dues

For those who are not attending the Christmas Party, the \$50 dues are payable by January 20th. May be paid at the Jan/Feb meeting on 1/26

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

Ford History In December

12/1/1913 Ford introduced the continuous moving assembly line

12/13/1957 Last production day for the 57 TBirds

Cornering the Market?

Charles Musto just purchased direct from Mecum, 3 1957 F Birds: an Azure blue, a Gunmetal Gray and a Dusk Rose. He goes on to say he now has 4 of the 5 Dusk Rose F Birds ever made and he has almost all the colors. He says NJORTC now has more F Birds than any other club. But he added that Liza owns them too and he thanks God she also likes Thunderbirds.

Cruise Nights

Tuesday

Clifton - Rutt's Hut

Saturday

Hawthorne-. 8 AM to 1 PM-MGM Auto Body Supplies, 344 Wagaraw Rd

Car Shows-Swap Meets

1/17-19 Allentown, PA Swap Meet



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

FOR SALE

Parts For Sale

4 original wire wheel covers for a 56. Includes clips, outer rings and center covers. Good shape. \$325. Paul 201-286-4781

Portable Generator

Powermate portable 3250/4050 Watts. Wheels. Used only 48 hours. Paul 201-286-4781

Vinny's Vintage Vehicles

1957 TBird, white, O/D \$19,000 Orig Dusk Rose

1993 Camero, Black/Silver Pace Car

1983 Mercedes 380 SL Conv Silver

1965 Corvette Red Conv.

Call Vince, 973-227-4001 or 973-980-4312



National
Pearl Harbor
Remembrance Day
December 7



Happy Hanakkah

Edison Tour

A number of our members took a tour of the Thomas Edison Glenmont estate and laboratory in conjunction with the Mercedes club. Here are some pics taken by Mike Parillo



Home



Lab



Brewster Ford



Henry Ford's Quadricycle ??



Otto Mechanic

BY JAY PIERSANTI



Below is the article Rich Luso wrote for the Early Bird. For some reason, it did not make the edition

New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club Chapter 41

Fall in all its colorful splendor has descended upon the Northeast. What a lovely time of year (what time of year isn't if possible) to climb into your baby bird and wing it to just anywhere. Well that is just what NJORTC did on Sunday October 20, 2019 as it held its annual fall colors cruise. The forecast was for latter day showers increasing to rain. The day started out bright and blue and several audacious NJORTC T-Bird owners eager to show off their baby birds were not fearful of a bird bath. Our President Pat LeStrange and his Co-pilot Joanne Seiler led the flock on its flight. 5 Little birds, a 1957 Starmist Blue, 1956 Buckskin Tan, 1956 Raven Black 1955, Raven Black and a 1957 Inca gold, 1 gray retro bird and Paul Schroll's beautiful green classic 1954 Ford braved any potential inclement weather. However the clouds slowly but surely built in and obscured the sun. The showers that followed did not dampen the spirits of the attendees of this splendid event.

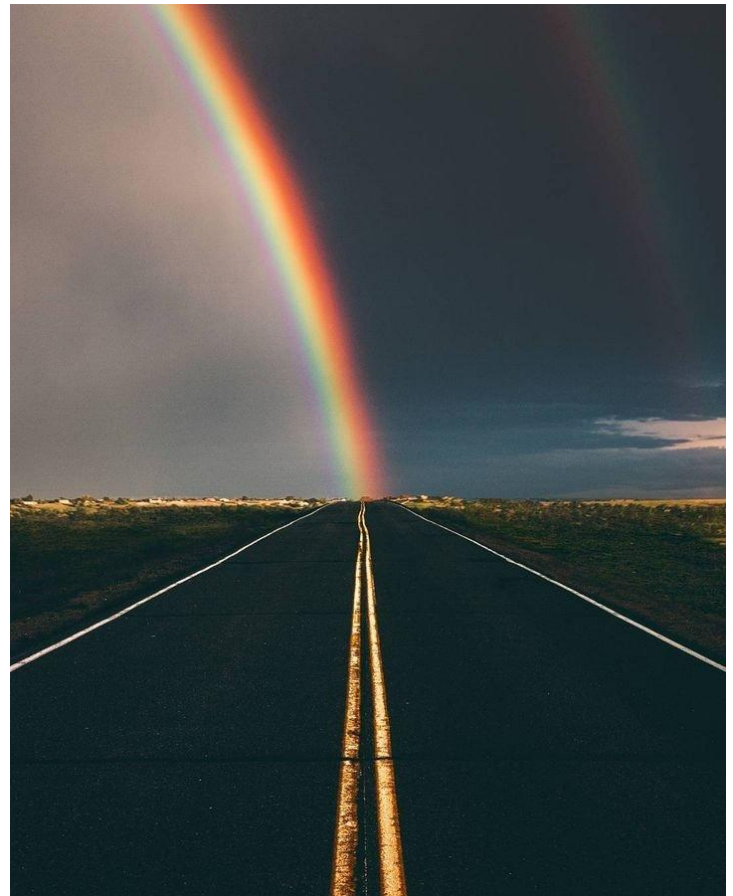
Our jaunt took us from Boonton NJ to Lambertville NJ and the Lambertville Station Inn, Riverside Ballroom for Sunday Brunch. The trees along the way were peaked with color. The Riverside Ballroom is a lovely setting with all glass walls viewing the Delaware River. There were several sculling crews practicing their craft for our viewing pleasure. The North Jersey Thunderbird Association invited our club, New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club (NJORTC) and several other thunderbird clubs (Lehigh Valley Thunderbird Club, and Mid-Atlantic Thunderbird Club) to join them for brunch at this locale. The attendance was wonderful and totaled 60 Thunderbird partisans. The menu had numerous and varied fare. Especially delightful were eggs Benedict prepared with various ingredients. There was something for everyone. Joanne Seiler prepared Halloween Trick or Treat Goody bags for all. Joanne is a wonderful girl, beautiful inside and out. She is kind, thoughtful, extremely hardworking with a marvelous personality and sense of humor.

The long ride home in a rain storm was not what operators of the baby birds were hoping for. My porous little bird performed admirably and only discarded a windshield wiper rubber insert when I was very close to home. My left hand pant leg readily absorbed all the moisture my porous windshield allowed into the cockpit. I had never flown with the old girl with so much rain and pavement spray before. She handled solidly and I mindfully applied the manual brakes early to try and ensure and improve their stopping power. Nonetheless we came across mindless drivers who pull out in front of you and go nowhere or cut across lanes to make an exit, both, forcing you to brake hard and my foot applying the pedal pressure is all the anti-lock braking system I have.

We would like to thank two fine gentleman Mr. Don Dobres for hosting our September meeting at his lovely home in Lakewood NJ and Mr. Paul Dorne for hosting our October meeting at Delizia's Restaurant in Boonton NJ. At our most recent meeting the purchase of club apparel was discussed. Several of the members wanting to make a purchase could not as the store closed until next spring. I would like to urge all club members to make a purchase of club apparel. Show your colors proudly. You belong to "the best club in the world" and wearing the club's apparel displays your affinity for our organization. Please try your best to participate in club events and attend club monthly meetings. The more you participate the

more enjoyment you and other club members will have. NJORTC is a wonderful resource in order to keep your vehicle and your spirit properly tuned.

In passing I want to mention a great experience I had recently. My little bird, never at a loss for the want of attention, intimated to me that she desired a new carburetor. She was happy enough but felt a little adjustment and manipulation might improve her energy level. Upon inspection by NJORTC's wonderful mechanical genius Rich Martin it was discovered that the proper adjustments were not able to be made to the old girls throat. I then turned to the man with the answers on whom, what and where when it comes to T-birds, Paul Schroll. Paul knows what to get and where to get it. He told me about a few places that would perform the service of a carburetor rebuild. I was fortunate to settle on lovely gentlemen in Michigan, Mr. Sal Cicala. Sal is just the man to trust if you want a concours job on your carburetor. He has been doing this since 1967 and doing it well. Sal is friendly, knowledgeable and delightful to deal with. He will work on your carburetor like he is working on his own. My carburetor came back in brand new condition, absolutely beautiful. When installed on the birdie, flight performance soared. I cannot say enough nice things about Sal Cicala. He is concerned about doing the best job and takes great pride in his work and it shows. Should you like to contact him, his e-mail is sal_cicala@yahoo.com his phone number is 586-612-1650. If you are need of an expert carburetor rebuild then please do yourself a favor and use Sal's services you will be thrilled you did. Many thanks to both Sal and NJORTC.



Here's the pot of gold

Money will buy a fine dog but only kindness will make him wag his tail