

NJ Open Road Thunderbird Club Minutes Sunday, July 26, 2015:

2:00 PM

37 members attended

Meeting called to order by Pat Le Strange at 3:15. Pledge of Allegiance led by Alec Johnstone. Pat thanked Carol and Charlie Ehm for hosting the meeting at DeLizia's Pizza in Boonton. He also introduced our new member Drew Eckman of Ringwood, NJ who owns a '55 Red T-Bird. The 50/50 drawing was held and \$75 was won by John Bolger.

Meeting turned over to Arlene Kubat: Birthdays and Anniversaries during July were mentioned. She recognized and wished Alec Johnstone a Happy 80th Birthday.

Sandra Pyrros read the minutes, accepted as read.

Treasurer report was given by Carol Ehm, balance is \$5,543.60. Report was accepted as read (Copy of the report attached with these minutes.)

Correspondence Lois Martin-Thank you letter rec'd from Gerry Longstreth thanking our club members for attending the Pitt Birds 60th Anniversary T-Bird show. Pat had sent Gerry a letter from our club thanking them for their hospitality and warm welcome to Pittsburgh. Their members were very friendly and our members enjoyed attending.

Sunshine Report: Arlene Kubat-Lucille Chaballa is feeling better after several procedures. Cards went out to Judy Semler and Lucille Chaballa. Apologies go out to members that were missed in receiving cards.

Membership: Paul Adamoff gave out 5 applications to interested T-Bird owners and also gave out 1 club card. We then spoke about whether we should actively look for new members. The Bylaws of the club will be reviewed to see if we should have further discussions. Also, a suggestion was made that new members should attend 3 club functions. Another suggestion, increase club dues. Suggestions will be considered after review of bylaws.

CTCI: Lois Martin rec'd email from CTCI regarding info at Albuquerque Regional convention 8/24/15. Walter & Marianne and Donna & Bill are driving their Birds, Lois & Rich flying out. Other members also going.

Newsletter: Paul Schroll Send any articles in to him soon. He mentions that Joanne Seiler and Henry Semler were recent winners of the newsletter trivia question.

Arlene was glad everyone who traveled to Pittsburgh enjoyed the show and everyone arrived home safely.

Joanne mention a lot of "hits" on our website and folks ask if they can look at pictures posted. There was a discussion whether to open the picture *portion* of the site to the public, without having to have a password. A vote was taken to open the "picture site only" to the public and it was voted in. Pat & Joanne will take care of implementing.

Old Business: Paul Schroll reported previously that getting the Grill Plaques in cast aluminum are expensive, \$40, Pat mentioned a friend of his, who is casting belt buckles can perhaps make them. He will follow up with that.

Future conventions: 2016-San Diego, CA; 2017-Pat said he hasn't heard of one; 2018-Looking for International, perhaps on the East Coast. Pat says a club would need 2 years to organize.

Pat reiterated that 12 members attended the Pitt Bird show and our showing of 6 cars impressed members there. They were happy to have us and we were glad to be there.

Friday morning, members drove in a convoy to the 9/11 Flight 93 Memorial in Stoystown, PA. Meanwhile, two of the ladies drove & toured Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Waters house. That night there was a banquet dinner at the hotel hosted by the Pitt-Birds. As president of the NJORTClub, Pat was given an award by the Pitt Birds club. Martha Downing related to us the background of the gift, a "Terrible Towel", the symbol of the Pittsburgh Steelers football team fans. It was thought up by Myron Cope, announcer & voice of the Steelers. Fans wave them at the games to encourage the Steelers players to win. Proceeds of the sale of the towels go to a non-profit organization for developmentally challenged persons and also the Autism organization. Over 4M has been raised. Also Paul Schroll mentioned that when opposing team fans abused & disgraced towels, many of the teams had bad luck and didn't win. Steeler fans hold these towels in high esteem.

Saturday & Sunday was the show downtown in Schleny Park and a delicious lunch provided. Members went to the race paddocks/pits to see the racecars preparations. On Sunday, a parade lap on the racetrack was taken by all the T-Birds in honor of the 60th Anniversary celebration. Sunday afternoon the group went downtown, rode the tram up Mt Washington and had dinner overlooking the city. What a view! Photos of the trip will be on our website.

Picnic: Bill Downing-Picnic on Sunday, August 16th. Please let him know if you want anything added to the picnic or suggestions. Bill passed around a sheet for members to note what dishes they are bringing to the picnic and who will attend. There will be new games and contests for all. There will be a "Best Brownie/Blondies" contest. Charlie Ehm will be head "chef d' picnic".

Pat thanked Bill for chairing the picnic once again; he does such a great job!

Also Pat mentioned the CTCl will have ballots for voting in October in the next Early Bird magazine. Joanne Seiler is running for Region 1 Director and Rich Martin for Director at Large. Please look for the ballots and send them in.

Pat suggested everyone ask around for sponsors for meeting locations. Joanne emailed a list of hosts for meetings for 2016. If any host has a problem with a month, let her know ASAP.

Pat said there are 3 Calendars left over for 2015 and selling at \$5.00.

Cars show dates were mentioned, a list is on our website. Carol Ehm mentioned her October 3rd show and handed out flyers. A "Classic Car" boat cruise in February leaving from Florida in February for 9 days. Bill Jesse mentioned a car show in Myrtle Beach the last weekend in September.

Pat will be calling a special board meeting soon to clarify some rules in club Bylaws and perhaps organize a list of operating rules.

Joe Kubat said that Pat was the star at the Chatterbox cruise night last night. He won a gallon of car wash.

A cake was presented to Alec Johnstone and we all sang Happy Birthday.

Badge Fines: Alec Johnstone to collect

Next meeting is in September.

Meeting Adjourned approx. 4:20 pm

Minutes Submitted by Sandra Pyrros