



# New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club

## Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



# The Thunder Heard

## November 2021

### 2021 Meeting Schedule

November 12	Vince Ucci
December 4	Christmas Party
<u>2022</u>	
Feb 13	Sweetheart Brunch
	Note - the2022 mtg
	Schedule that was sent
	out is being revised

If you cannot host your meeting as scheduled, it is your responsibility to get someone to switch with.

Please let Arlene know at least 2 months before your scheduled month that YOU WILL BE HOSTING the meeting and give the date/time/etc.

# November



### President's Message



It was good to see the large turnout for our October meeting, hosted by Mike & Theresa Parrillo. Good food and plenty of it. VP Arlene ran the meeting. Still not too much going on although working on filling the many jobs Joanne used to handle. Christmas party is shaping up and will be here before you know it.

Congratulations to Bob and Toni Sabino on the marriage of Bob's daughter Angela. Bob officiated the ceremony Hope to see everyone at the November meeting.

Please take care of yourselves stay happy and healthy.

*Pat LeStrange*





### Vice President's Message



Weather is crazy! Summer, fall then back to summer, then back to fall!!! Who knows what's next, winter!!!□□□ Anyway, Joe and myself took a drive up to Sussex County the other day to look at all the Fall foliage, well the trees are as confused as we are. Most have not even turned color yet, they are still green, which tells me we have a lot of Fall left, sooo get your cars to car shows and /or out for a beautiful drive before the cold and bad weather comes in.

Thank you Mike and Teresa Parillo for hosting our October meeting. We had a great turn out of members, meeting was good and food was very good and plenty of it.

Pauline Schroll had cataracts removed from both eyes. She had a few problems, but all taken care of and doing better. George Gayet is doing better every day. Hope to see him at the Christmas party.

We had nominations and voting for President and Secretary. Pat LaStrange was re-elected as President and Toni Sabino was reelected as Secretary. Congratulations to both of them.

Congratulations to Bob and Toni Sabino on the marriage of Bob's daughter, Angela and her new husband Eric. They were married on October 21st and proud Dad officiated the Ceremony and pronounced them Husband and Wife.

Congratulations to Mark Santimauro for winning first place in Ford division and tied for Best in Show at a car show in Ridgewood, NJ

We are starting a new article for the newsletter. Every month a member who has not had an article in the newsletter about their Thunderbird will write an article. Hopefully I will pick the member to write the article. Mark Santimauro is writing on the story of his Tbird in this newsletter and Suzanne Gayet will be writing an article about her Tbird for the December issue. Hope this works. Thanks to you in advance. We enjoy reading about how and why you have a Tbird.

Christmas party, December 4th, Saturday 5:30 pm. Cost \$130.00 per couple (\$50.00 dues

paid for 2022) \$65.00 per single (\$25.00 dues paid for 2022). We will have Toys for Tots, a \$25.00 grab bag gift (bring a gift get a gift) and plenty more. Please mail your checks to me (new address) Arlene Kubat, 520 NEWARK POMPTON PARKWAY, UNIT 107, POMPTON PLAINS, NJ 07444 (do not forget UNIT 107). Please give me your check or cash at meeting or mail to me. I must have payment by NOVEMBER 22nd, no later. I have to give Bella Italia a count by then.

Happy Halloween to all. Do not eat too much candy. Stay safe. Arlene

### October Meeting

The meeting was held at a new location and was very well attended. Mike put on a very nice spread. It was a rainy day and all the little Birds were home snug in their nests. Thanks to Teresa and Mike for hosting

### Highlights of the Business Meeting

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

Arlene announced the nominations for president and secretary. Since there was only one nomination for each post, the secretary was instructed to cast a vote for each.

Sue asked for pictures for the calendar.

A new application for membership was discussed.

Arlene noted that the Christmas party is all set for 12/4.

Pat said he has been doing some updating on the website.

Arlene has requested that members who have not previously written a story on their Thunderbird for the newsletter to do so. She is asking people submit their story. Mark was asked to do one on his car for the next newsletter.

Next meeting is Nov. 12th.

Mark won the 50/50



# Membership News



Al & Lorraine Cirinelli 2nd  
Paul & Sheryl Adamoff 16th  
Charles & Lisa Musto 16th



Susam Nirro 3rd  
Phil Guidone 4th  
Ray Braun 4th  
Mary Green 11th  
Izabela Costa 14th  
Ailene Corbett 23rd



George Gayet

## November Ford Trivia

11/25/25 Model T production set a one day record of 9,109 cars built

11/9/55 Introduction day for the 56 Thunderbird

11/15/77 The 100,000,000th Ford was built in America - a 1978 Fairmont

11/20/59 The last Edsel was driven off the assembly line, in Louisville KY

11/18/2003 Ford produced its 300 millionth vehicle, a red Mustang GT

## Thunderbird Trivia

All classic Thunderbirds were supplied with Holley carburetors. All 55's and 56's had 4 bbl carbs, the 57 offered a 2 bbl option



November 2nd

## 2021 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

### President

Pat LeStrange

### Vice President

Arlene Kubat

### Treasurer

Steve Handy

### CTCI Representative

Toni Sabino

### Recording/Corresponding Secretary

Toni Sabino

### Editor: Thunder Heard

Paul Schroll

### 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)

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	

## Time to Fall back

Remember to set your clocks back one hour.



**November 6**



## Club Announcements

### November Meeting

This meeting is scheduled for **November 12th**  
(Note Date change) **Friday night 7 PM**  
Venue is The Car Lofts, 10 Kingsbridge Road,  
Fairfield, NJ. Be sure to RSVP, including  
regrets

### Christmas Party

It's almost that time of year even though the weather says differently. The Christmas party is on **December 4th**. Same venue, Bella Italia Restaurant, 535 Central Ave, Orange NJ. **Time is 5:30 PM**. Cost is 65.00 per person. As in the past, attendees will get credit for next years' dues - A couple full credit, single half credit. Arlene is the host, call her if you are coming. Make checks out to NJORTC. There will be a grab bag and collection of toys for Toys For Tots.

### Sweetheart Brunch

Julie and Lucille have gotten a head start on this. Scheduled for February 13. Details to follow. Keep the date open.



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973-980-4312 MOBILE  
VINCENT.UCCI@GMAIL.COM

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.

### Car Shows

11/6 Egg Harbor-Pumpkin Run Flemings  
Auto Parts-353 Zion Rd (Rte 615)  
Any one interested in going to this, especially  
with their car - I would like to go, need  
company (Editor)

### Cruise Nights

No Cruises that I am aware of.

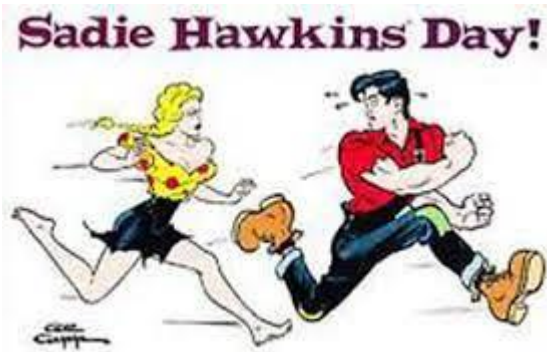


Join CTCL now if you haven't yet. The Early Bird magazine alone is worth the dues









November 13

## Fun Facts On What was Happening The Years the Early Birds were in Production

1957

**AD TAGLINE:** Adventures in motion: the Ford Family of Fine Cars

"Leave it to Beaver" premieres on CBS television; October 31 1957

Toyota exports its first cars into the United States

Oklahoma celebrates its 50th anniversary since statehood in part by burying a 1957 Plymouth Belvedere in an underground concrete vault in Tulsa

Cadillac debuts the Eldorado Brougham, priced at \$13,074 - the most expensive production car to date

The baby boom climaxed in 1957 with 4.2 million American babies born

From Sal Perrotta, Thunderbirds of New York

### Keep Healthy & Safe

#### Use your mask

While mask mandates are somewhat relaxed, they are not all gone because of the Delta variant. They are required in certain places. And if you're one of those people that think the vaccine is a hoax, then you should still wear a mask so you won't infect the like minded others when you come down with Covid 19. Over 97 percent of new cases (and deaths) are unvaccinated people.



From Old Cars Weekly



Nov 11



Starts Nov 28

Every day is a new adventure, and it starts  
when you get out of bed



## **MY EARLY BIRDS**

### **Mark Santimauro**

My love of Thunderbirds began in June of 1969 when I got my driver's license. My first bird was a honey gold 1965 that I used my senior year of high school. By 1970 I purchased my second bird, a Britany blue 1964. By the time I was 18 I owned two (2) birds. How cool is that?

I sold the '65 and kept the '64, since it had less mileage and had air conditioning. I had this car while I was dating Joyce and sold it in 1974 to finalize the purchase an engagement ring for Joyce.

My next bird was a new red 1987 Thunder Bird Sport that had an electronic dash and a 302 V8, which was a fast and reliable car that I drove for 20 years.

My fourth Thunderbird I found in Vermont while leaf peeping. Joyce insisted I buy it, since it was identical to the car I had while we were dating. I still own this car and it's next on my list for restoration.

My 1955 Bird....was in a detached garage directly behind our property. The owner lived in Maine and would not sell the car. It sat in the garage from 1973 until finally he decided to sell it to me in 2018. The car was not for sale during its 45 year restoration project of having the engine rebuilt, new exhaust system and new brakes. Apparently the car was never driven because there was no brake fluid in it. The Maine owner had the car painted army green and the interior was black. The car was worse after the 45 year restoration project than it was the last time it was driven.

After purchasing the car it was towed around the block to my garage where the true restoration began. With the help of Steve Schmitt and Barry Lear the car was dismantled, parts bagged and tagged and both layers of paint (army green and the original Thunder Bird blue) were removed. The body of the car was then sent to Bob O'Connor at Classy Chassie in Midland Park where the frame off restoration began in June of 1919. The car was repainted its original Thunderbird Blue color and Thanksgiving weekend 1999 the car was returned to my garage with the doors, trunk and engine hood off as well as the hard top.

Beginning in February 2020, during the pandemic (I call it the pandemic restoration), the entire car was reassembled. Parts that could be salvaged were cleaned and repainted. The original chrome was re-plated and the aluminum was polished. A completely new interior was installed along with the rebuilt wiper motor, radio, clock and speaker. The convertible top and the seat covers were done by Master Upholstery in Newton and he did a fabulous job.

By July 2021 the car was ready to be driven to work out the kinks. In August I was driving it locally and it was running ok. In September I entered my 1955 Bird in the Ridgewood N.J. car show. There was a tie for Best in Show between two (2) 1955 Thunderbirds; a red 1955 that was restored by Hibernia and mine. The Ridgewood Mayor's wife choose the red bird for Best in Show and I took First Place Ford Division.

It was a long time consuming experience. Not to mention expensive. But well worth it! I would personally like to thank Steve Schmitt and Barry Lear for all their help with this wonderful project.

I hope to drive my 1955 Thunderbird for many years!

**Garage Find - 35 Years later**



**The only thing nice about being imperfect is the joy it brings to others**





Florida runaways





## Tech Tips

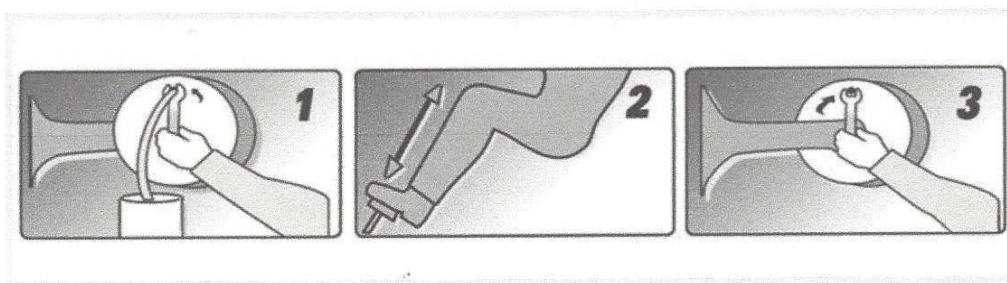
### Speed bleeders

*Dave Tulowitzky*

Something fairly new on the market are called Speed Bleeders. Why all car makers do not use these as stock equipment in their cars is beyond my understanding. These bleeders make a one man brake bleed a very easy job. With conventional bleeders you have to either have a helper pump the brakes and hold or use a vacuum bleeder to extract the air in the system. With these you crack them open and just pump the brake pedal since each time you lift off of the pedal the internal ball on spring will rise and seal off any air from entering the brake system. It is also a good idea to buy the Speed Bleeder Bag for an additional \$11.00.

Go to the manufacturer website to see the animation of how it works. If your brake system is shot and has very dirty fluid with chunks of rust in it then these are not for you. Debris will get caught in the ball/spring mechanism and cause it to get stuck. Your best bet in that situation is to remove the brake line from the caliper or wheel cylinder and flush the entire system. Rebuild or replace the caliper or wheel cylinder before putting it all back together. Don't try to save a few bucks when it comes to brakes.

One Person System Takes The Work Out of Brake Bleeding...Bleeding your brake or clutch line has never been easier or simpler! Revolutionary double-patented Speed Bleeder replaces the original bleeder valve in your caliper/wheel cylinder with a spring-loaded one-way ball and check valve design. This unique design opens to allow the old fluid and air out, then closes automatically between pumps to prevent the old fluid and air from re-entering the line. It's a real time saver!



**Step 1:** Open Russell Speed Bleeder screw 1/4 to 1/2 turn. Attach hose to Speed Bleeder bag or catch can to collect brake fluid.

**Step 2:** Pump brakes until air is purged from wheel cylinder. No need to close the screw between pumps as with a stock brake bleeder screw.

**Step 3:** Close valve. Repeat previous steps for other wheels, adding brake fluid to master cylinder as needed to maintain level.

### From the Trail Birds of Southwest Florida

