



New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club

Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



The Thunder Heard

April 2021

2021 Meeting Schedule

Tentative

May	Bob Sabino
June	Lucille Chabala
July	Paul Werner
August	Picnic
September	Bob Notar
October	Mike Parillo
November	Vince Ucci
December	Christmas Party

No meetings are scheduled due to the pandemic

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



Still not too much to talk about but, welcome to Spring 2021, We have some events and meetings planned for 2021. All are very flexible date, so we will see how it goes. We understand everyone's feelings and if you do not feel safe attending any event it's ok.

Dues are almost all in, if you have not sent yours in yet please do. Dues were cut by 50% from \$50 to \$25. Several of you have sent in \$50, and we will soon send you a refund.

I hope everyone is doing well especially health wise. Joanne and I have gotten our 1st Covid vaccine and will get our 2nd in early April.

Heath wise Joanne is still the "Warrior" and doing great. Myself, as you may have read in last month's newsletter, am doing ok. As of this writing I have completed 20 of the 30 radiation treatments doing 5 days a week. The treatments are only about 10 minutes each. No too many side effects, except a slight sore throat, some neck redness and my voice is down to a whisper.

I miss everyone and hope to see you all soon

Pat Le Strange

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.

Point to Ponder

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?



Vice President's Message



Happy Spring to all. I am sure we are all glad to see Spring has finally arrived and hopefully say goodbye to cold cold temperatures and snow!!! Now we can clean up our Thunderbirds and get them out of storage and back on the road. I believe Boonton cruise nights start the first Friday in May.

On a sad note the Chatterbox was knocked down (March 23rd). They are replacing it with a WaWa. The Chatterbox was a fun place to cruise to on a Saturday night with a classic car. There were always so many beautiful cars to see and many people to talk to. As for the Chatterbox itself, it was a very good fast food restaurant. Food was excellent, service was very good. The owner always had teenagers working for him and they were very friendly and polite. We always had a good time and will definitely miss the Chatterbox.

As of the writing of this newsletter, Joanne is in Hackensack Hospital emergency room. She has not been feeling too good for a while now with stomach and liver issues. She seems to be in a lot of pain and having trouble eating. All tests are showing gastro problems so trying to work out issues. Please say extra prayers for her and that they find right treatment. She is getting so disgusted, but as we all know, Joanne is a fighter and will fight this issue too. Pat is getting radiation on his vocal cords. He is doing ok, voice not too good, but hopefully will be better after this radiation. The both of them have their hands full, but like I said they are both strong and will survive. I have not heard anything on Marianne Dunning, hoping all is good with her. I just found out that Jackie and Paul Werner had COVID 19. Paul ended up in the hospital, Jackie did not. Paul is home and both on road to recovery. Hope everyone else is good.

I hope by now we all have gotten our COVID vaccines or at least one. Even though we cannot let our guard down with getting the vaccine, at least we will be able to get out a little bit more. Remember always wear your mask!!!

Joe and myself are supposed to host the April meeting. We are going to put the meeting off another month. Still cannot hold indoors yet and too cold for outside. Hope we can have a meeting in May. Joanne will get back to you on that.

Please everyone try to help Paul out with articles for newsletter. Write a story about your car, when you got it, why you picked a baby bird, memories you have with your bird, anything. It will only take a few minutes to write something anything, please!!!

A couple of thank yous, first Bill and Martha Downing on doing Picnic Trivia through this whole Pandemic thing. It has been a lot of fun and many mornings frustrating trying to figure a song out that's on the tip of your tongue and you cannot figure it out! I know Joe and myself are going to miss it. Thank you Suzanne Gayet for volunteering to get COVID vaccines for our members who were having a hard time getting an appointment.

Happy Passover and Happy Easter to all.

Love you guys, miss you guys, hope to see you guys soon. Stay safe and healthy.

Arlene



Membership News

Happy Anniversary



Mel Ramos 1st

Charles Musto 16th

Lucille Chabala 27th

Annette Schmidt 13th

**GET WELL
SON!**

Pat

Joanne

Paul Werner

Club Dues

At the recent Board Meeting, it was decided to cut the dues in half because of the limited schedule expected this year. So the dues are \$25.00. Send to Pat. Payment is due now.

Keep Healthy & Safe Use your mask

Some groups think they lose their personal freedom or can lose their masculinity by wearing a mask in public. They are self centered persons who have no respect for others or don't care about their personal health in these times. Or they think they may look silly. In a hospital, with a tube down your throat, you do not look any better. Mask wearing is smart. This virus is not over - people in NJ are still getting infected and dying on a daily basis. Even if you have no symptoms, you can be a carrier. Just because you may be vaccinated doesn't mean you should let your guard down

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

Be careful reading the fine print - there's no way you're going to like it

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Club Historian

Lucille Chabala

Club Photographer

Joanne Seiler

Sunshine

Lucille Chabala

Master at Arms

Rob Sabino

Meeting Schedules & Activities Coordinator

Joanne Seiler

Webmaster

Joanne Seiler

Car Shows

4/25 Totowa-515 Union St Wells Fargo Bank

5/1 Sparta-385 Houses Corner Rd Veritas

Academy

5/1 Park Ridge-123 Colony Ave Park Ridge

Municipal Lot

5/16 East Hanover-175 Rte 10 Neilsen Dodge

Cruise Nights

Saturday

Oakland-Lenapi Valley Grill 176 Ramapo Valley Rd (RTE 202)

Club Announcements

Remaining Meetings

All future meetings have been canceled due to the virus, including the Sweetheart Brunch and Harold's.

As discussed at the recent Board meeting, we are planning to have the picnic in August (Phil is trying to get a permit). The Spring Cruise, Fall Cruise and the Christmas Party are maybes.

We will try to have some club meetings during the warmer weather so they can be outside. Any member having a scheduled meeting for this year but will not be held because of the virus will be scheduled for next year.

April Ford Trivia

4/6/34 Whitewalls included as an option Price- \$11.25

4/24/41 Ford introduced its tomato juice

4/14/57 First production Skyliner was given to President Eisenhower

4/29/59 The 50 millionth Ford was produced
4/14/64 The Mustang debuts

FOR SALE

Vinny's Vintage Vehicles

1993 Camaro, Black/Silver Pace Car 29K
\$13,000

Deck lid lock cylinder with keys Pad - deck lid lock cylinder 55/56

Set 4 orig. 55/56 wire hubcaps with clips B/O
Bird white tonneau cover B/O

1947 Pontiac

Convertible - Recent restoration. Original owner car. Contact Gene Szura for information and pictures 201-991-8459

For SALE 1955-1957 memorabilia

model cars, books, trucks, etc. plus other year memorabilia. Please call Joe Kubat at 973-900-1923 anytime. We are downsizing and I have a lot of stuff to sell.

T-5 5 Speeds For Sale

(2) One from a 87 Mustang, the other from a 83 Mustang GT. \$300 each.
Call Paul A 201-286-4781

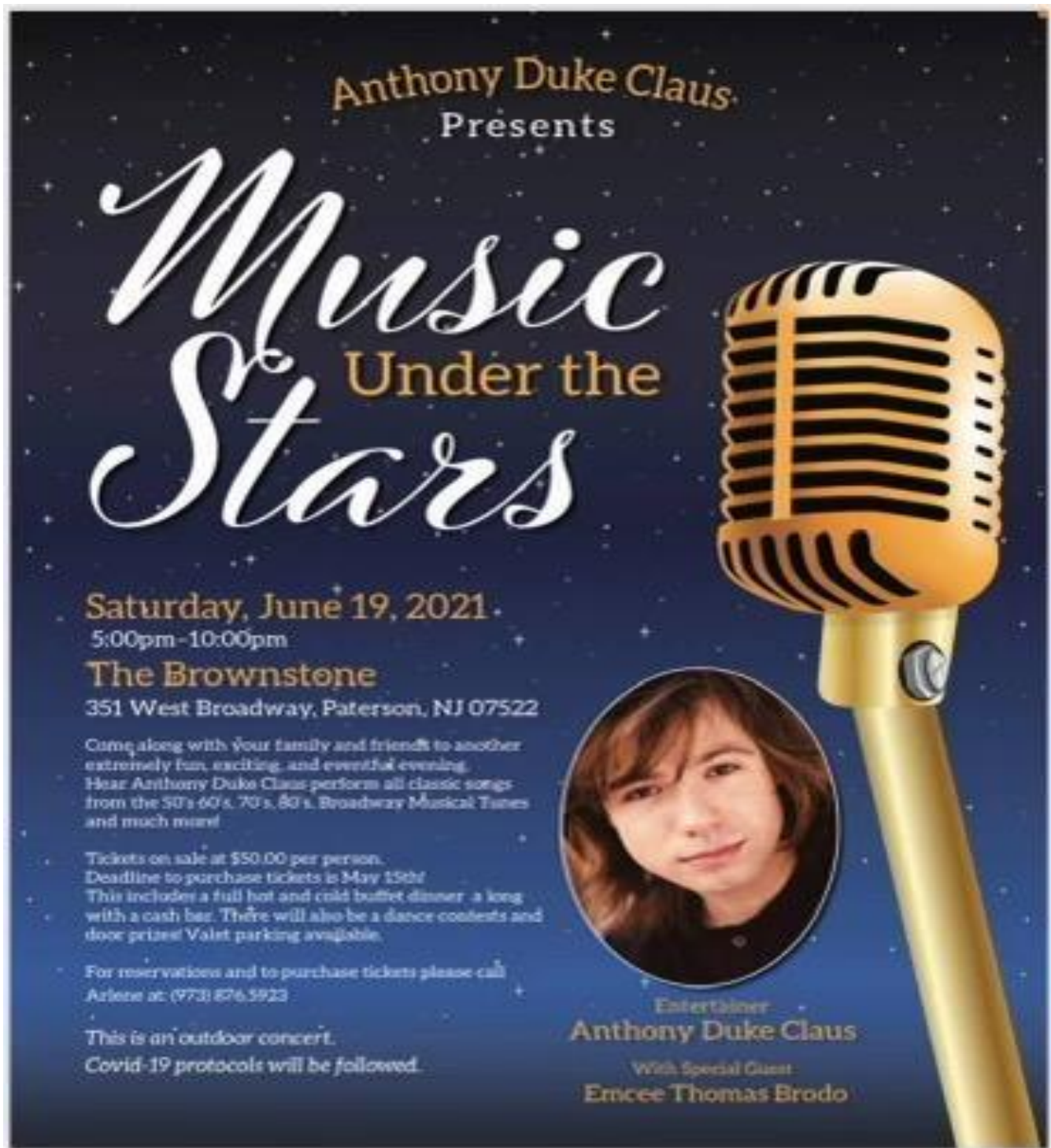


Mark Santimauro sent this picture showing progress to date
The seat goes in and hub caps go on and it will be ready to drive (Mark)

Many thanks to Bill Downing for the "Picnic Trivia" games over the last year (Martha also)



Anyone recognize this intersection? Bergenfield, Washington & Church, circa late 50's. Station still there
Cars shown - 56 Bird, 55 Buick, 57 Nomad, 53 Packard, 57 Lincoln?, Model T? 57-58 Ford pickup?



Sorry about the blurred writing, best I could get it . Contact Lorraine Cirinelli for any info

HISTORY OF THE CAR RADIO

Seems like cars have always had radios, but they didn't.

One evening, in 1929, two young men named William Lear and Elmer Wavering drove their girlfriends to a lookout point high above the Mississippi River town of Quincy, Illinois, to watch the sunset. It was a romantic night to be sure, but one of the women observed that it would be even nicer if they could listen to music in the car.

Lear and Wavering liked the idea. Both men had tinkered with radios (Lear served as a radio operator in the U.S. Navy during World War I) and it wasn't long before they were taking apart a

home radio and trying to get it to work in a car.

But it wasn't easy: automobiles have ignition switches, generators, spark plugs, and other electrical equipment that generate noisy static interference, making it nearly impossible to listen to the radio when the engine was running.

One by one, Lear and Waverling identified and eliminated each source of electrical interference.

When they finally got their radio to work, they took it to a radio convention in Chicago. There they met Paul Galvin, owner of Galvin Manufacturing Corporation. He made a product called a "battery eliminator", a device that allowed battery-powered radios to run on household AC current. But as more homes were wired for electricity, more radio manufacturers made AC-powered radios.

Galvin needed a new product to manufacture. When he met Lear and Waverling at the radio convention, he found it. He believed that mass-produced, affordable car radios had the potential to become a huge business. Lear and Waverling set up shop in Galvin's factory, and when they perfected their first radio, they installed it in his Studebaker. Then Galvin went to a local banker to apply for a loan. Thinking it might sweeten the deal, he had his men install a radio in the banker's Packard. Good idea, but it didn't work – Half an hour after the installation, the banker's Packard caught on fire. (They didn't get the loan.)

Galvin didn't give up. He drove his Studebaker nearly 800 miles to Atlantic City to show off the radio at the 1930 Radio Manufacturers Association convention. Too broke to afford a booth, he parked the car outside the convention hall and cranked up the radio so that passing conventioners could hear it. That idea worked -- He got enough orders to put the radio into production.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

That first production model was called the 5T71. Galvin decided he needed to come up with something a little catchier. In those days many companies in the phonograph and radio businesses used the suffix "ola" for their names - *Radiola*, *Columbiola*, and *Victrola* were three of the biggest.

Galvin decided to do the same thing, and since his radio was intended for use in a motor vehicle, he decided to call it the *Motorola*. But even with the name change, the radio still had problems. When Motorola went on sale in 1930, it cost about \$110 uninstalled, at a time when you could buy a brand-new car for \$650, and the country was sliding into the Great Depression. (By that measure, a radio for a new car would cost about \$3,000 today.)

In 1930, it took two men several days to put in a car radio -- The dashboard had to be taken apart so that the receiver and a single speaker could be installed and the ceiling had to be cut open to install the antenna. These early radios ran on their own batteries, not on the car battery, so holes had to be cut into the floorboard to accommodate them. The installation manual had eight complete diagrams and 28 pages of instructions. Selling complicated car radios that cost 20 percent of the price of a brand-new car wouldn't have been easy in the best of times, let alone during the Great Depression.

Galvin lost money in 1930 and struggled for a couple of years after that. But things picked up in 1933 when Ford began offering Motorola's pre-installed at the factory. In 1934 they got another boost when Galvin struck a deal with BF Goodrich tire company to sell and install them in its chain of tire stores. By then the price of the radio, with installation included, had dropped to \$55. The Motorola car radio was off and running. (The name of the company would be officially changed from Galvin Manufacturing to "Motorola" in 1947.)

In the meantime, Galvin continued to develop new uses for car radios. In 1936, the same year that it introduced push-button tuning, it also introduced the Motorola Police Cruiser, a standard car radio that was factory preset to a single frequency to pick up police broadcasts.

In 1940 he developed the first handheld two-way radio -- The Handy-Talkie -- for the U. S. Army.

A lot of the communications technologies that we take for granted today were born in Motorola labs in the years that followed World War II. In 1947 they came out with the first television for under \$200.

In 1956 the company introduced the world's first pager; in 1969 came the radio and television equipment that was used to televise Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon.

In 1973 it invented the world's first handheld cellular phone.

Today Motorola is one of the largest cell phone manufacturers in the world.

And it all started with the car radio.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO

the two men who installed the first radio in Paul Galvin's car? Elmer Wavering and William Lear, ended up taking very different paths in life. Wavering stayed with Motorola. In the 1950's he helped change the automobile experience again when he developed the first automotive alternator, replacing inefficient and unreliable generators. The invention lead to such luxuries as power windows, power seats, and, eventually, air-conditioning.

Lear also continued inventing. He holds more than 150 patents. Remember eight-track tape players? Lear invented that.

But what he's really famous for are his contributions to the field of aviation. He invented radio direction finders for planes, aided in the invention of the autopilot, designed the first fully automatic aircraft landing system, and in 1963 introduced his most famous invention of all, the Lear Jet, the world's first mass-produced, affordable business jet - (not bad for a guy who dropped out of school after the eighth grade.)

Submitted by Paul Adamoff



Plant a tree - Earth Day April 22nd



Plant a tree Arbor Day April 30