



# New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club

## Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



# The Thunder Heard

## May 2025

### 2025 Meeting Schedule

May 18	Tom Mirro -MTG
May 18	Tom Mirro-Tune Up
June	Pat LeStrange
July	Steve Handy
August 10	Picnic
September	Phil Guidone
October	Rich Iuso
November	
December 7	Christmas Party

The next meeting is May 18  
Tom & Sue Mirro are the hosts.  
See flyer for RSVP info.

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

Please let Arlene and Toni 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

Our April meeting was well attended and several items were taken care of. 2 donations were approved, the Mike LeStrange Foundation Car show and Michael Schroll for his Eagle Scout project. Michael also sent a very nice thank you card.

Thanks, Mike Parillo for putting together another great Spring cruise to the Armour-Stiner Octagon House in Irvington, NY. followed by lunch at the Hudson Social Restaurant in Dobbs Ferry We had 21 members and 6 T-Birds in attendance. See all the pictures on our website.

Looking forward to our May 18th meeting and tune-up clinic

Stay safe and healthy  
Patrick Le Strange  
President NJORTC



Tom Mirro's 56



### Vice President's Message



It looks like Spring has finally sprung! We have had some real nice weather in the last few days, finally. Hope it stays. Some cruise nights have started and I believe the rest will start the first week of May. Sooo now it's time to get your cars out of storage and get them on the open road. Please when out driving and enjoying your car, be careful and drive safe.

Hope everyone enjoyed Easter Sunday, Greek Easter and the end of Passover. It was a beautiful day.

Lois Martin tried an explanatory procedure on her back. She did get some relief, not what she thought, but I think she is going to have it permanently implanted. A little relief is better than none at all. Good luck Lois. Donna Jesse is also having back problems again. A different area than last time. The Drs. are going to try some different procedures on her to see if she gets any help. Praying for both ladies to get help. Our prayers do help. I heard Pat is going to another Dr. about his throat. Maybe something else will help him. Again prayers for Pat. As far as I know everyone else seems to be doing fine. Thank god.

The Fall Cruise was April 27th. Hope that everyone that went had a good time touring the Armour Steiner Octagon House. I heard it is very nice.

At our next meeting we will start talking about our yearly picnic, which is August 10th. If anybody has any new ideas please bring them up at the meeting. It's always good to try new things.

Our next meeting is the Tune-up Clinic, hosted by Sue and Tom Mirro at their house on Sunday, May 18th. Tune-up Clinic starts at 8:00 in the morning. Tom asked that if you are having any work done on your car to please let him know so that he is prepared. The meeting is also hosted by the Mirro's at their house at 1:00 pm.

On Sunday, May 11th is Mothers Day. Joe and myself want to wish all you moms and grandmas a very Happy Mothers Day.

See you soon Arlene

### April Meeting

It was a very nice spring day and like the robins, some of our local birds, the first two of the season, came out. The meeting was well attended. Thanks to Bob and Toni for hosting.

#### Highlights of the Business Meeting

The reading of the minutes from the last meeting were read and accepted, as well as the the treasurer's report.

Pat mentioned that he has put on the pictures from Harold's. Also updated pictures on the web page.

Tom Mirro talked about the tune up clinic coming up in May in conjunction with the May meeting.

Club donations were approved for two charities.

Pat had some Restoratin manuals to give away.

Lorraine won the 50/50

Next meeting May 18th



A Ford will also drive you as far as a Bentley



# Membership News

*Happy Anniversary*

Gerry & Rosemarie Ingersol 15th

Bob & Joan Notar 25th



Lorraine Cirinelli 2nd

Tom Mirro 3rd

Pat LeStrange 7th

Lisa Musto 8th

Gene Szura 13th

Gerry Ingersol 20th

Bob Sabino 22nd

Irene Douma 27th

Theresa Parillo 22nd

Rosemarie Ingersol 28th

Mark Santimauro 30th

**GET WELL  
SON!**

## 2025 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

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Sunshine  
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John Pyrros  
Lucille Chabala  
Paul Schroll  
Lucille Chabala  
Rob Sabino  
Julie Ann Morrison  
Pat LeStrange



## Club Announcements

### May Meeting/Tune Up Clinic

This combo is on **May 18th**. Tom & Sue Mirro are hosts for both. See flyer for information. Let Tom know in advance if you plan on doing any work to your car. Be sure to bring parts, oil etc that you will need.

### June Meeting

The June meeting is scheduled for **June 15th**. Additional info next month



## Cars & Coffee

Saturday - 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month -  
Franklin Lakes-649 Franklin Ave. Crossroads Church

### Cruise Nights

#### Monday

#### Tuesday

Wayne -Wendy's-Plaza Sq. Shopping CTR-637  
Hamburg TPKE (**New Location**)

Elmwood PK 95-111 Rte 46W Pizza Town(4/1)

#### Wednesday

Wycoff 422 Cedar Hill Ave-Christian Ref.  
Church (4/16)

#### Thursday

Wayne-1800 RTE 23N-Kohl's  
River Vale 636 Westwood Ave-Dunkin

#### Friday

Boonton-Walmart Shopping Center

#### Saturday

### Car Shows/Swap Meets

5/3 Park Ridge-123 Colony Ave-Town pool

5/4 Elmwood Park-300 Market St-St Leo's Sch

5/4 Carlstadt-350 Michele Pl.-Nam Knights

5/4 Morristown-170 Ridgedale Ave-Nielson  
Ford

5/17 Creskill-100-120 3rd St (Rusty Relics)

5/17 Ringwood-130 Skyline Dr-Fieldstone Park  
Shopping Center

**5/18 Paramus-200 Rte 17N Paramus Elks Mike  
LeStrange Memorial Show**

5/18 Hackensack-80 So. River St-COSTCO

5/24 Sparta-385 House's Corner Rd-Sparta  
Church

5/25 No. Haledon-515 MountainRd

5/31 Rockaway Township-508 Green Pond Rd-  
HolyTrinity Church

6/1 Waldwick-4 Hewson Ave-Train Station

6/7 Clifton-426 Rte 3W Pizzeria Uno & Grill

6/8 Paramus-165 Rte 4W-Panera Bread

**6/21 Franklin Lakes-649 Franklin Ave-Cross  
Roads Church-TBIRD only show**

If you have info on other cruise nights or  
shows please email me the info.

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic  
called rush hour ?



## For Sale

### 1961 TBird



1961 Thunderbird one owner (although now titled in my name) Rebuilt 390, rebuilt; Radiator, exhaust, brakes, rear leaf springs, battery and battery tray, hood pad, trunk mat set, carpet and front seats, ps, pb, pw. Car is garaged and located in Butler, NJ 13k or best offer. Contact Steve Schmidt 1524

## WANTED

Peacock Blue 1956. Top dollar paid.  
Call Vinny 973-980-4312

### WHAT'S MY CAR WORTH?

**Call Vinny!**

We can arrange a complimentary informal appraisal and on-site inspection of your prized classic. Including competitive market values and tips to prepare your vehicle for top-of-market sale.

**VINNY'S VINTAGE VEHICLES**  
VINCENT UCCI  
973-980-4312 CALL/TEXT  
VINCENT.UCCI@GMAIL.COM  
www.VINNYSVINTAGEVEHICLES.COM

### 1955 Tbird



I'm putting my 55 up for sale after enjoying it for the past 40+ years. Less than 25k miles since a complete body off restoration, PH HT, skirts, 2x CTCI gold, 3sp OD, pwr seat, 312, 12volt, replica AM/FM radio with mp3 adapter, electronic ignition, AC, front disk brakes, upgraded suspension..., Diamondback radials installed 2022. The car has always been maintained and is in excellent condition with I believe every safety and reliability upgrade there is. Details, photos on request, everything documented asking \$26,000. Frank Gloss 845-642-8484





## Spring Cruise

It was a chilly, windy day but mostly sunny and a good day for a cruise. The cruise was relatively short for me (longer for others) . The

Armour-Steiner house was an unbelievable sight. It was built as a summer get away.

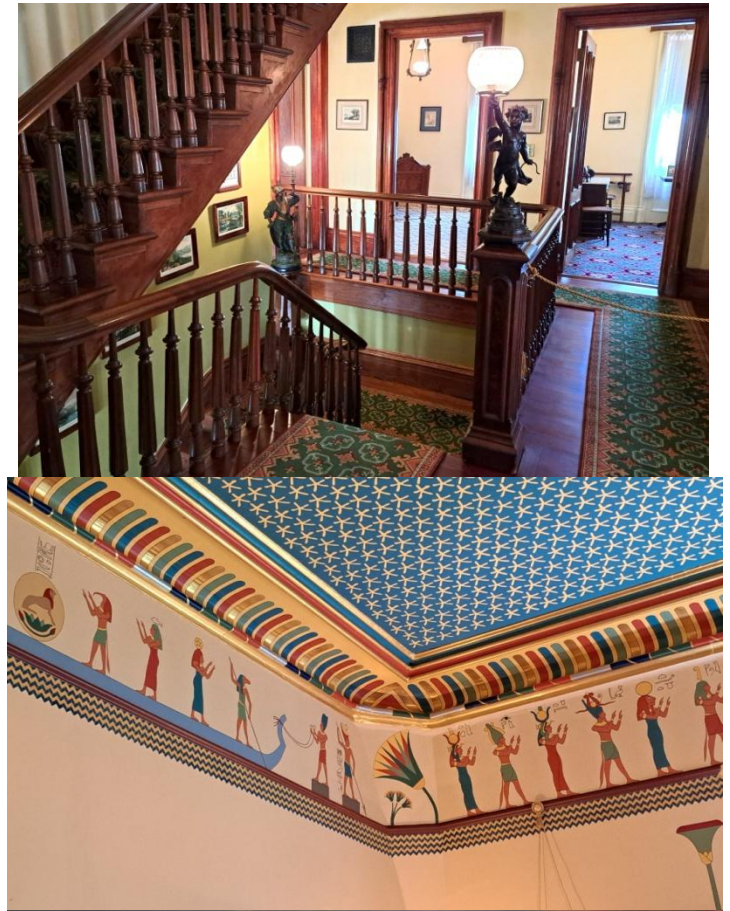
It is a private residence (but no one lives there?) built in the Victorian Era (1859-60) and has various owners over the years. The dome was added on by the second owner (Steiner) and now is owned by Joseph Lombardi, a preservation architect who did the restoration Unbelievable detail throughout.. After our tour, we went to a restaurant for drinks and food, which was very good. We had 21 members and 6 Birds attending. Some of the house and grounds are pictured here, but see our web site for a lot more pictures. Thanks to Mike & Theresa Perillo for putting this together



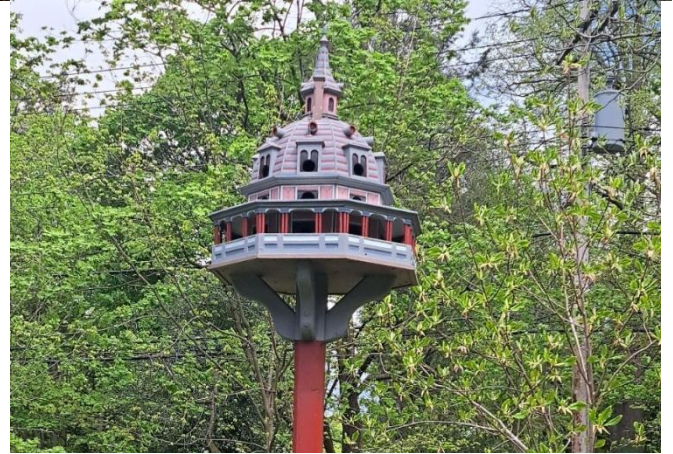












Things My Mother Taught Me  
RECEIVING-You are going to get it when you get home.

Thanks to Sue for the new Tune Up flyer



## Truths From The Toolbox (So You Can Skip Learning The Hard Way)

By Mike McNessor – Hemmings Motor News

I switched on the lights and shuddered a little. The inside of my garage looked like an improvised explosive device made of used tools and parts had detonated in the center of it. Full stop. Every other stupid project went on hold until I could get reorganized. Or at least slightly less disorganized. Soon, faithful old tools were being returned to their drawers. Benches and tool carts, groaning beneath the weight of spray oils and greasy parts, were unloaded. The roar of my 20-year-old ShopVac filled the silence, sucking up metal shavings, paint chips and broken fasteners, like a black hole of garage tidiness. Order was being restored and the process was meditative.

Clarity of mind accompanied this clarity of workspace and, from the fog, a series of truths emerged. I jotted them down on the back of a greasy auto-parts-store receipt and now I'm presenting them to you. These irrefutable truths from the toolbox

**Accidentally smashing your thumb** or a finger with a rubber mallet hurts just as much as smashing those digits with any other blunt-force tool. This is because you'll swing a rubber mallet like Sammy Sosa at a home run derby, secure in the knowledge that the mallet is soft, so there's nooooo way you'll damage whatever it is you're pounding on. You know, until you do.

Here's an easy way to **prepare a half-used tube of RTV sealant** for long-term storage: A) Clean the threads around the tube opening and inside the cap. B) Roll up the used portion of the tube and secure it with a rubber band. C) Wipe off any excess sealant and screw the cap on finger tight. Then, give the cap an additional one-half turn. D) Now, take your "storage-prepped" tube and throw it in the garbage, then buy a new tube the next time you need it. It will be less heartbreaking than realizing at midnight in the middle of a job that your heirloom RTV is now a rubber ball.

The proper place for **long-term storage of half-used spray-paint cans** is next to the RTV sealant in the garbage can. A place where they can never spit globs of paint into a lovingly sanded, primed, freshly tackclothed surface.

**No lights? Won't start?** Taillights look like you bought them at the Yankee Candle Store? Check the grounds. It's always the grounds.

There's a **wise old guru on your favorite old-car internet forum** who is hailed by users as a hero. That person always knows the exact procedures for rebuilding critical components, knows just how many quarts an engine's coolant system holds, and can recite valve clearances, timing specs or the proper amount of torque to apply to any fastener from the intake manifold to the oil pan. Genius! That guru has a secret superpower that AI chatbots on your smartphone don't have: books. Milk crates full of old factory shop manuals, assembly manuals, and parts manuals that he or she looks up everyone's stupid questions in.

**Finally, the truest of truths.** The more fond you are of a pair of pants or a special shirt, the more likely it is that you will destroy them during a quick trip out to the garage after dinner, "...just to make sure I locked everything up." Once there, it will be impossible to resist the siren song of that welding project (One more quick tack!) and subsequently burn a hole in that brand new T-shirt. Or the freshly painted water pump that needs just one more light coat—most of which you will spray over the right leg of your best wrinkle-free chinos.

I ran out of room on that greasy autoparts-store receipt and had to stop but my garage and mind were all clear for the next round of projects. I glanced back proudly at the clean benches, and spotless floor, and then switched off the lights

**From the Pitt Birds**





**always time for a nice sit down meal**



**Crafter's philosophy - why pay \$7 for it when you can make it with \$92 of craft supplies**



# TUNE-UP CLINIC

SPRING TUNE-UP'S BRAKES, OIL CHANGES, ETC.

**Sunday May 18 at 8:00 am**

**Tom & Susan Mirro's home  
20 Forman Road, Millstone, NJ**

**RSVP Ssnowflake7593@msn.com or 732-239-0924**

**Call Tom Mirro two weeks prior if you are planning to do any work on your car. Be sure to bring any parts, oil etc that you will need for your project**

**Tom and Sue are also hosting the meeting  
so be sure to RSVP as above. Club  
meeting to start at 1 PM.  
Lunch at 2 PM**

Ladies are welcome to come hang out to chat and watch the guys work.

**Please let Susan know if you are coming early. RSVP as above**

Can you help me out here?

