

New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club

Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



The Thunder Heard

August 2014

Picnic Time

2014 Meeting Schedule

August 17	Picnic
September	Al & Lorraine Cirinelli
October	Bill & Pat Selby
October 19	Fall Cruise
November	Alec Johnstone
December 6	Holiday party

The August meeting will be at the picnic

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



Summer is now in full swing - most car shows and cruises have been full. The July meeting hosted by the Adamoff's at Delizia's Pizza was well attended and we covered a lot of subjects. Check the meeting minutes on the members page of the web site.

The Missouri Convention was a great time. 9 little birds made the trip as well as a couple of daily drivers, for a total of 29 members counting those who flew in. Paul Schroll and Lois Martin did a terrific job of laying out the route and hotels. Several members took extra time on the return trip to visit former members Ken & Linda Herb and other went to visit other friends and relatives.

While in Missouri I bought a new set of tires, rims and hubcaps (can you guess why?).

One big feather in our club hat was winning the Ford Johnson Award. It is awarded to the club whose members have driven their TBirds to conventions in a two year period. This is the first time it has been awarded to an east coast chapter. Good job to everyone who made this possible. Some mixed reactions on the convention, but everyone enjoyed the trip. Joanne and I had a wonderful all around time.

Our next big event is our annual picnic at Schooley's Mtn in Hackettstown. Bill Downig has been working very hard to give us a fun day, so let him know if you are coming and how many guests (including grand kids) you are bringing.

Lastly, if you are going to the two kids show in Whippany on Aug 3rd, be sure to name NJORTC as your club affiliation.

Have a happy and safe August

Pat Le Strange





A few Words From Alec

Well, the summer is about 1/2 over and our club did very well at the convention, winning the Ford Johnson Trophy.

I will be going to Florida for one week - the end of July to beginning of August and hope to see you all at the picnic.

To all of you that own a retro bird, a tip. Start stocking parts as Ford is not supporting this model. A long story, details next newsletter

Alec.

July Meeting

Attendance was very good for the meeting held at Delizia's hosted by Paul & Sheryl Adamhoff. The weather was iffy so not many birds showed up. The food was very good and it was a great meeting. Many thanks to Sheryl & Paul for hosting the meeting.

Highlights of the Business Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

The Treasurer's report was made and accepted.

We had two guests, Bob & Pat O'Conner. They are looking for any early Bird.

Lois reported that the next convention, a regional, will be in Albuquerque, NM on 2015.

Bill Downing reported on the status of the picnic in August. (See page 4 for info)

Pat commended Bill Dowling on his Early Bird article

Joanne reported that she has updated the web site and added a lot of new photos.

Pat mentioned that we had won the Ford Johnson mileage award, had 29 members and 9 cars at the convention. A discussion was held regarding the convention.

Joanne said that the fall cruise will be Oct. 19.

50/50 won by Frank Chaballa

Next meeting at the picnic.



Vice President's Message

Weather: Good summer weather. Getting in plenty of cruise nights.

Congratulations to Steve Handy on the recent marriage of his daughter and the engagement of his other daughter. Good luck to all.

Thank you Paul & Sheryl Adamoff for hosting our July meeting. The meeting was held at Delizia's and as usual there was a lot of good food and people.

We also had a great meeting. We had a good discussion about the Missouri CTCI convention. I want to congratulate all our members that brought their TBirds to the convention and who won many awards. Our club also received the Ford Johnson Award for the most miles driven to the 2013 and 2014 conventions. Last year Rich, Walter and Paul S drove across country to get to the two conventions to give us a big lead. This year we had nine cars travelling to Missouri - Rich & Lois, Walter & Maryanne, Pat & Joanne, Ron Case, Paul & Pauline, Frank Gloss, Joe & Jan Saville, Bill and Dot Hyde and Bill Downing. Bill & Donna Jessie started driving their car but had to turn back due to transmission problems, but they got in their driver and caught up with the rest of us at the second night of our journey. Donna received the hard luck award, unfortunately. We also received a gold award for our newsletter. Great job Paul & Alex.

Coming up next is our family picnic. Cannot wait. Bill Dowling has plenty of fun things for us to do. The picnic is Aug. 17th at Schooley's Mountain Park in Long Valley. If you plan on attending and you haven't told Bill yet, please do it now. Don't forget the cookie contest, so if you have a favorite cookie recipe, please make it and enter the contest. Tell Bill you will be in the contest. And don't forget the high school picture contest to see if anyone recognizes you. You must send Bill your pictures.

Please read your Early Bird magazine as Bill has another great article in there about our club.

The summer is going by fast - get your cars out on the road and enjoy them.

See you soon

Arlene

Membership News

Happy Anniversary

Rich & Lois Martin 6th
Phil & Dorothy Guidone 7th
Henry & Judy Semmler



Sheryl Adamoff 1st
Al Cirinelli 13th
Joan Notar 15th
Wendy Meehan 18
Shelly Belli 18th
Joe Kubat 22nd
Bob Belli 27th
Diane Marsiglio 27th
Mara Madden 30th
John Bolger 31st

Get Well Soon!

FOR SALE

1957 Tbird

"D" Bird, Maroon, 3 speed hardtop only
Call 973-831-7541. I have some
pics and can email them to you.

1957 Tbird

No real info on this one , color is black. Call Gene
Szura for info

1500's Facts??

Sometimes people could obtain pork which made
them feel quite special. When visitors came over,
they would hang up their bacon to show it off. It
was a sign of wealth that a man could "bring home
the bacon". They would cut off a little to share with
guests and would all sit around and "chew the fat"

2014 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President

Pat LeStrange

Vice President

Arlene Kubat

Treasurer

Frank Chabala

CTCI Representative

Lois Martin

Recording/Corresponding Secretary

Sandy Pyrros

Editors: Thunder Heard

Paul Schroll

Alec Johnstone

Trustees:

Paul Schroll

John Pyrros

Phil Guidone

Mailing Address: NJORTC, PO Box 615 Hewitt, NJ 07421

web site: www.njortc.org

Registered Agent	Phil Guidone
Awards/Plaques	John Pyrros
Membership Chairman	Paul Adamoff
Name Badges	John Pyrros
Jackets	Joe Kubat
Grill Plaques & Hats	Frank Chabala
Club Historian	Lucille Chabala
Club Photographer	Joanne Seiler
Sunshine	Lucille Chabala
Master at Arms	Bruce Corbett
Asst. Master at Arms	Alex Johnstone
Meeting Schedules & Activities Coordinator	Joanne Seiler
Webmaster	Joanne Seiler

**I want your input. Please send any items to be
included by the middle of the month if possible.
They can be e-mailed or snail mailed to me.**

ptschroll@aol.com

CTCI Convention

Here are some random pics of the CTCI convention in Springfield



On the road- PA Tunnel



Gas stop-9 Birds at the pumps



Hotel wanted a pic of the cars with their sign



Hit Rain first two days out, right Ron?

Club Events

Picnic

The picnic is August 17 at Schooley's Mountain, 91 East Springfield Rd, Long Valley, NJ.

10 Am to 4 PM. This has always been a great time with a large turnout so don't miss it. Mark it down now so you don't forget. I'm sure Bill Downing will have some surprises for us. Bill has already asked for pictures of yourself around the time you graduated high school. Get those to him before the picnic. And if you have a favorite recipe for cookies, get it out and start baking. There will be a cookie tasting contest. No wacky cookies please.

Bill says to bring the family as there will be activities for old and young. Make sure you call Bill if you are coming and with how many.

Bill needs people to help him set up. He will be there at 9AM

August Meeting

There will not be a separate meeting in August. At the picnic we will have a brief business meeting.

Fall Cruise

SAVE THE DATE

Phil has scheduled this for October 19th. This cruise has always been a real treat so make sure you save the date. Particulars will be announced at a later date, but Phil has always come through with a great restaurant and a great cruise.

Car Show Oct 4th

While not an "official" club event, the show put on by Carol and Charlie Ehm is on Oct 4th. They have door prizes and raffles. Vehicles must be over 20 years old. Breakfast and lunch available. The show is at the First Reformed Church, 60 Chapel Hill Rd, Lincoln Park. Contact Carol or Charlie to register or register online at www.frc-lpnj.org

Holiday Party

SAVE THIS DATE TOO

YaH, I know its August, but don't forget our Holiday party. It's December 6th so mark this down so you reserve the date. Particulars to be announced at a later date.

July Meeting



Car Shows-Swap Meets

- Aug. 3 Whippany- 111 No. Jefferson Rd - Birchwood Manor (Two Kids Foundation)
 - Aug. 9 Budd Lake Vasa Park, Wolfe Rd.
 - Aug 10 Fairfield, Doo-Wop & Car Show 335 Fairfield Rd (Taylors Tap & Grill)
 - Aug 16-17 West Milford Car & Air Show, Airport, 126 Airport Rd.
 - Aug 16- Parsippany-Lanidex Plaza (off Parsippany Rd.)
 - Aug 17 Newton, Sussex Comm. College, One College Hill
 - Aug 17 Boonton, On Main Street
 - Aug 24 Hawthorne, Grand Ave (Between Jefferson & McKinley) Hawthorne Farmer Mkt (Freebie)
 - Sept 7 Clifton - Rte 46 East - Crane Chevrolet
 - Sept 7 Fair Lawn, Memorial Pool parking lot
- I have flyers for most shows

For more shows go to
<http://holtononline.com/carshows.html>
www.njortc.org

Cruise Nights

- Monday
Hawthorne-Goffle Grille, 140 Goffle Road
Wharton-Canal House 47 Kossuth Ave
- Tuesday
Clifton, Rutt's Hutt
Fairfield-Taylors Tap & Grille 335 Fairfield Rd.
Saddle Brook-Bennigan's 405 N. Midland Ave
- Wednesday
Wycoff - Greenwood Ave
Clifton-The Hearth, 1146 Rte 46W
- Thursday
Emerson-Kinderkermack Rd (Emer Shop Ctr)
Wayne-Kohl's, Rte 23 North
Hackettstown-Mountain Ave (Lowe's & Wendy's)
- Friday
Boonton-Wal-Mart Shopping Center Wooten
- Saturday
Lyndhurst-1050 Wall St (Whiskey Cafe)

DON GARLITS Fans

The granddaddy of all racers, Don Garlits is appearing at Island Dragway 8/1 to 8/3 along with rear engine dragsters, nostalgia funny cars, a car show and other old time drag cars. Time trials too. Maybe he's bringing one of his old "Swamp Rat" dragsters

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

Tech Tips
Automatic Shifter Repair

Does your shifter have a lot of play and you have to wriggle it around or pull up on the shifter in order to get the car to start?

The problem may not be the neutral start switch but parts within the shifter. There are two pieces that can help this situation. Replacing part # 7A133, a bushing and part # 7241, a pin, will tighten up the assembly. Both parts are available.

So if you have any play in your shifter this is a good place to start and is not an expensive repair. And it can be done without getting under the car. However, you will need to pull up the carpet to get at everything. Lew Bachman, classicbirds, Yahoo groups



Settling in at the host hotel



Root Beer Float at Welcome party

Did You Know?

8/14 is VJ Day

8/3 is National Watermelon Day

8/30 is National Marshmellow Toasting Day
and for you lefties, 8/13 is Left Handers Day

More Convention



partial floor shot



Passed by this - twice



Showboat - The Branson Belle



Springfield, Missouri CTCI Convention

In the early morning hours {and I mean early} of Sunday June 29th some birds descended on the Clinton Station Diner. By birds I mean 1955-56-57 Thunderbirds. There were 10 of them. Their faithful drivers were...Paul & Pauline Schroll....Paul was our wagon master, Rich & Lois Martin (Rich led the way, Lois made all the Motel reservations and phone list and she mapped out the route we would be taking on this journey to Springfield Missouri for the CTCI International Convention ... **Get Your Kicks on Rte 66**)..., five first time convention goers ~Joe & Jan Saville, Ron (I don't need any stinkin top) Case, Carol & Charlie Ehm with Joe & Arlene Kubat following behind in their air-conditioned pick-up truck, Bill Downing, Walter Strohmaier & Marianne Dennig, Frank Gloss, Bill & Dot Hyde, Pat LeStrange & Joanne Seiler, and Bill & Donna Jessieunfortunately the Jessie's car was having some transmission trouble and had to return home, but they made it to Harrisburg PA and after returning home they caught some sleep got up and was back on the road by 3am in Donna's Beemer (with the top down) and they managed to catch up to us in Illinois, driving 18 hours.

Our first stop was Zanesville Ohio, lots of cows, cornfields and barns along the way, I got lots of pictures. We stayed in a Super 8 Motel, that evening we gathered in the dining area and presented Paul Schroll and Lois Martin with little thank you gifts for all the work they have done for this and the past trips to conventions. Next stop Staunton Illinois. So far all the birds are doing very well, we're stopping every 2-2 1/2 hours for gas and bathroom breaks. Again lots of cows, corn fields and barns to look at along the way. We did hit some rain but it only lasted a few minutes, Ron Case didn't even put his roof up. Most of the trip was overcast so it wasn't too hot....although some of the birds are equipped with AC. Just a few miles from Staunton, Ron did get caught in a down pour and had to pull over to put his roof up because he couldn't see it was raining so hard. Down the road from the Motel we discovered a Historic Rte 66 sign so a few of us drove there and took pictures of our cars by the sign. Next stop Springfield Missouri! This is the shortest trip only 4 hours or so. More cows, cornfields and barns! We did drive by the St Louis Gateway Arch. It was nice to see, I got lots of pictures! We had mostly sunny skies along this trip. Ron Case ran out of gas about 50 miles from Springfield. The Jessies & Ehm's and Paul stayed behind to help him out as the rest of us continued on. Down the road a bit some cars pulled off to get gas....we were trying to keep a minimum amount of gas in the car because the cars had to have 1/4 of a tank or less to enter the convention hall. A little further down the road, 10 miles from Springfield, Pat had a blow out, no one was around, we were the last car in the group headed for Springfield. This is not a new experience for Pat, it seems to happen every trip we go on, but this one was scary. We called Walter who we knew was behind us, he has an electric jack....Pat's jack wasn't working. Walter came to our rescue, in a few hot minutes they had the spare on the car and off we went. Everyone finally rolled into the University Plaza Hotel in Springfield.

Arriving by plane were Don & Dorothy Dobres, Martha Downing and Bruce & Aileen Corbett. Steve Handy drove his pickup. Now our little nest is complete, 28 of us in all. We picked up our registration package for the convention and just hung out that evening.

Wednesday evening was the Welcome Party, there were 4 ladies walking around singing, entertaining the weary travelers. Sliders, tater tots and Root Beer Floats were served. People were meeting up with other clubs from other states, people you only see at conventions, it's fun catching up.

Thursday we hopped a bus for Branson's Showboat Belle for a show and dinner cruise on Table Rock Lake. This majestic showboat took us on a 2 hour cruise on the lake, we had dinner and saw an amazing show "Made in America". What a way to kick off the 4th of July! The entertainers were absolutely fantastic; the time went by so fast.

Friday...Happy 4th of July...Concours Judging day.... All the T-Birds are all shined up sitting pretty in their assigned spots ready to be judged. Paul and Bill Jessie were judges. The ladies went shopping to Branson Landing, I think they bought out the place seems like everyone came back with a package. After a long day of judging and shopping we cruised to Nixa, Missouri to Crusin USA, a custard shop where there's entertainment and a cruise night every Friday. I made up a special tee shirt for all the members to wear to the cruise in. We looked cool! There were 140 T-Birds in attendance. The locals were really happy to see us. The custard was good too as was the chili dogs!

Saturday morning we once again hopped in our T-Birds for an extra credit cruise to Fantastic Caverns where we boarded Jeep Trams and headed into the caverns. What a sight to see, we spent about an hour in the cavern where it was a cool 60*. Afterwards it seems we all had the same idea, let's go for lunch. We all ended up at Enoch's BBQ for ribs. Boy, were those ribs good. By the time we all ordered, there were no ribs left for anyone else! We ate them all, it would be 4 hours before any more ribs would be available. We now have a few hours to kill before the awards banquet, perhaps a dip in the pool? Cocktail hour was at 6pm, everyone was looking as sharp as their cars did for

judging. The room was nicely decorated, festive center pieces made by Sandra Hood and Geraldine Knuckles. They were secretly awarded to someone at each table. After a delicious dinner the awards took place. NJORTC won the Ford Johnson Award for the most mileage driven to conventions in the past 2 years. This award has never made it to the east coast, we are so happy to be the ones to bring it east! NJ seemed to walk away with a lot of awards, everyone did very well. These are the awards, please forgive me if someone is overlooked. Jan Saville > Touring Award and Peoples Choice-Touring, Ron Case > Peoples Choice - Display, Rich Martin > 1956 Hoods Up Touring Award, Frank Gloss > 1955 Hoods Up Touring Award, Bill Downing > Concours Silver Award, Donna Jessie > Hard Luck ? Award, Walter Strohmaier > Touring Award, Paul Schroll > 1st Place - Extended Touring, Master Judge Award, Gold Award for Newsletter. Congratulations to all!

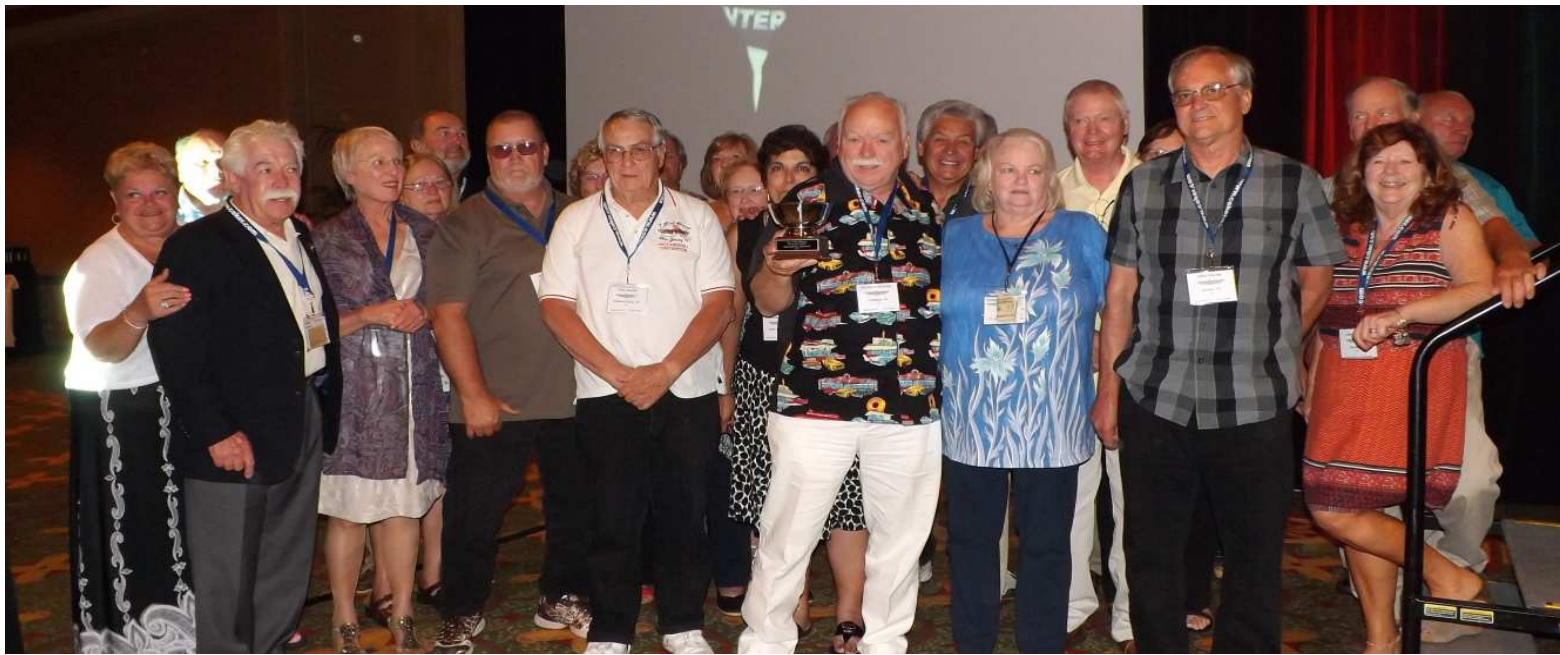
Sunday morning.....we're all headed somewhere, some home. Rich & Lois, Bill & Donna and Walter & Marianne went to visit past members, Ken & Linda Herb, who are now residing in Kentucky. Joe & Jan went to South Carolina to visit family, Pat & Joanne went south west to Cassville Missouri to visit friends and get new tires and rims. Paul, Pauline, Bill Downing, Frank and Ron booked for home, as did the Hydes and Ehms.

Overall, all the cars, with the exception of the Jessie's, ran well with out any major problems, proving that these 50+ year old cars can keep up with the best of them.

Next stop August 26-30, 2015 Albuquerque, New Mexico here we come! Drive anyone?

Joanne Seiler





Ford Johnson Award Presentation



The Cavern Tour



Bird that had trivia engine-see page 10



Tour boat going along side the "Belle"



Enjoying chili dogs at Cruisin USA



Ribs at Enoch's BBQ

I had a nice pic of Arlene with a big bowl of ice cream. Not enough space to include it. Maybe next month?



Lobby of the "Belle"



Instructions at starting off point



SIGN

In the front yard of a Funeral Home
Drive carefully, We'll wait



Charlie-can you fit this in?



Trivia Question



Blasphemy - this was transplanted in one of the Birds (see Page 9) This is a 348/409 brand X engine. These engines had a letter designation - what was it?

The answer to last months trivia was a 1960 Plymouth Valiant. Two respondents only got it partially correct