

New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club

Chapter 41 - Classic Thunderbird Club International



The Thunder Heard

March 2012

MARCH - SPRINGTIME

2012 Meeting Schedule

| | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| March 4 | Harold's Deli |
| March 25 | Al & Lorraine Cirinelli |
| April 15 | Ken & Linda herb |
| May 20 | Lois & Rich Martin |
| May 20 | Tune UP Clinic |
| June | Wendy & Mike Meehan |
| July | Aileen & Bruce Corbett |
| August | Picnic |
| September | Paul & Pauline Schroll |
| October | Gene & Diane Szura |
| October | Fall Cruise |
| November | Frank & Lucille Chabala |
| December 1 | Holiday Party |

The March meeting will be on March 25th at 1:00 PM and will be hosted by Henry & Judy Semmler. See "Club Events" for meeting location. RSVP 201-262-5508 or tbirdhs@yahoo.com

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



Can you believe we are almost finished with Winter!!!! Great so far.

Our last meeting, hosted by Alex Marsiglio at the unofficial T Bird Club House at Alec Johnstone's condo, had a very good turnout. Thanks to both Alec and Alex.

Prior to the regular meeting, we had our Annual Board Meeting. We audited our books and set up the 2012 agenda of activities. The audit showed everything was in order and the 2012 schedule is full of activities to look forward to. Thanks to all who have volunteered to Chair these events. Set up that calendar you got at the Christmas party and mark those days. It will be a fun filled season. We are looking forward to our first event of the year, the "Sweetheart Brunch" (it will be over by the time you read this). This annual event is always well attended. Lots of food and good company.

I have been busy with CTCL matters. I went to California for the Board Meeting and I am learning a lot about the workings of CTCL. I will share it with you at the next meeting. CTCL is encouraging Region Chapters to plan some events together. I am in the process of contacting other Region 1 Chapters and hopefully will be able to do some mutual events. I think we can learn a lot for each other.

I know this has been said many times, but if you are going to Memphis get your registrations in. This convention is sounding better and better, it should not be missed.

See you at Henry and Judy's meeting

Pat Le Strange





A few words from Alec

We had a very good turnout for the Brunch on the 19th. My twin granddaughters had a great time sampling everything on the desert table.

It is quite a spread between our club meetings at this time of year. Our last meeting was Jan. 29th and our next meeting is Mar.25th, a two month gap but the brunch gave us a chance to get together.

The March meeting will be at the Clubhouse in my condo complex-same place as the Jan. meeting.

This winter so far has been very enjoyable compared to last winter. See you at the next meeting.

Happy Motoring,
Alec

Jan/Feb Meeting

The day(Jan 29th) was just like an early spring day. Sunny and fairly warm, it brought out 6 early birds, 2 retro birds and a 54 Ford. Our host were Alex and Diane Marsiglio who put on a very nice food spread. Attendance was very good and it made for a very enjoyable get together. Thanks to Alex and Diane.

Highlights of the Business meeting

The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were made and accepted.

Pat mentioned that the Annual Board meeting was held prior to this meeting.

Joanne passed out new rosters.

Rich Martin reported on the Memphis convention and the additional (early) river cruise that was to be included.

Joanne listed the events scheduled or proposed for the coming year. A "cruise" to the Walpack Inn was suggested and Dominick is going to make arrangements. It is scheduled for April 22nd. See page 4 for the schedule.

A 50's dance was suggested. Pat & Joanne are looking for a venue. Some were suggested.

Pat & Joanne had a suggestion for club listing on Facebook. Sheryl Adamoff will look into it and offered to handle it. Also suggested was a club yearbook-pics of club members and their cars.

Next meeting March 25th.

"Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity and I'm not sure about the universe"
Albert Einstein



The Vice President's Message

Weather - It has been a good winter. As I am writing this it is 50 degrees out. I hope the next month will also be mild. Some of us put our little Birds away for the winter and some of us did not and have used them all season, but soon all our Birds will be back on the toad.

I hope that everyone read the mini-newsletter that Paul put together which had a narrative that Sandra wrote about their trip to Scottsdale. It was great. I know Joe had a great time. it was a wonderful experience. He also said thank god for the golf cart. It sounds to me that they (Joe and Rich) enjoyed plenty of ice cream.

I heard that Eva Tucci was in the hospital with an asthma attack. Eva, I hope you are feeling better. Frank Chabala is going into the hospital (the beginning of March) to have a hip replacement. Our prayers will be with you and hope you have a speedy recovery.

We had a great time at our Sweetheart Brunch. As usual the food was plentiful and delicious. Like always we were full and were with great people, way more could you ask for. Joanne & Pat put together a picture for Frank with all the years of him being Santa Claus. It was a great idea. I know Frank loved it.

Pat, thank you for the rose and also the picture of all us women taken at the Christmas Party. Once again thanks Joanne for all your work on the picture, candy and cake pops.

On March 4th we are going to Harold's Deli (more food). If you have not told Mike you are going, please tell him so he can make the reservations.

Feb 24-26 is the Atlantic City auction and car corral. If anyone is going have a good and safe time.

The beginning of February Pat went to CA for the CTCI Board Meeting. He said he had a successful trip. He will tell all about the meeting at our March meeting.

That's it for now, see you seen

Arlene

Membership News



Bill & Pat Selby 12th
Bruce & Eileen Corbett 30th



Joanne Seiler 5th
Susan Gaeta 9th

Get Well Soon!
Frank Chabala
Eva Tucci

FOR SALE



Happy St Patrick's day

Got any stories about the past regarding a NJORTC event, preferably with pictures, that you would like to tell us about? Write them up and send it to me along with the pictures and we will use it in the newsletter.

NJORTC 2012 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

| | | |
|--|----------------|---|
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|--|-----------------|
| Registered Agent | Phil Guidone |
| Awards/Plaques | John Pyrros |
| Membership Chairman | Alec Johnstone |
| 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 |
| Meeting Schedules & Activities Coordinator | Joanne Seiler |
| Webmaster | Wendy Meehan |



A Joyous Purim

Jan/Feb Meeting



SPRING

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

Club Events

March Meeting Location

The March meeting (Mar 25th) will be held at the Paddington Square Clubhouse (Chad's Barn Court), Airmont Rd to Masonicus Rd. Mahwah, NJ (same place as January's meeting). Remember to RSVP Henry or Judy Semmler.

Harold's Deli

Again we trek to Harold's Deli for some of that fantastic food with portions that are hard to believe. It is scheduled for March 4th at 1 PM. Call Mike Meehan if you are going to attend. Harold's is located at 1173 King Georges Rd, Edison, 08837 (www.haroldsfamousdeli.com)

Walpack Inn Cruise

This is scheduled for April 22nd. Details as far as time and meeting place have not been set. Watch for details.

Preliminary 2012 Schedule

March 4 - Harold's Deli
April 22 - Walpack Inn Cruise
May 20 - Tune Up Clinic
June - Chatterbox (& drive in movie?)
July 20 or Aug 5 - Picnic - Schooley's Mtn
August - Memphis Convention
Sept - Warwick, NJ Drive In movie ?
October - Fall cruise
December 1 - Holiday party



Recognize this guy with his 34 Ford?

My Tbird - Bill Downing



The first time I recall seeing a classic Tbird was 1966. I saw one leaving a high school sporting event. It was a 56 and it made a lasting impression on a 14 year old just getting interested in cars. The next recollection is two years later when I saw one for sale at a local Ford dealership, another 56. I talked my father into going to look at the car, but couldn't persuade him to loan me the money I needed - after all the car was ten years old and I didn't even have a driver's license!

Fast forward six years to 1974 and college graduation. What better gift to buy oneself than a baby Bird. The hunt was on, however the funds were low. After several tries, and several offers, I found a 55 with the "right" options - both tops, full power and a standard trans. The car was rough, but it was mine. Now the plan was to save some money and have the car restored to "mechanically strong, cosmetically perfect".

The restoration was going according to plan, I joined CTCI, went to swap meets, accumulated parts info, even visited a couple of perspective shops to have the work done. And then came a major setback. her name was Martha, and the car just couldn't compete.

Fast forward to 2003, we just had a health scare and decided that the TBird restoration project was long past due. So out the car went and now it's back.

Born 11/3/54 in Dearborne, MI with an automatic (we think) the car now has an overdrive and has been restored to its original Torch Red with a red and white interior. Back on the road, we look forward to a lot of good times with the car and our new friends.

Car Shows Swap Meets

3/22-3/25 Bethlehem PA-Lehigh Valley Auto Show-
Stabler Arena

Mar 25 Woodston (Sharpton) NJ Swap Meet-Salem Cty
Fairgrounds



January Meeting

CTCI Convention-Birds at Beale

For 2012 - the Memphis National Convention. A schedule and registration forms are available online.

<http://memphisthunderbirds.com/2012-convention/reservationsandregistration.html>

Elvis fans should certainly plan to attend and the list of events includes plans for a riverboat cruise on the mighty Mississippi and a Memphis Music Tour to name a few. Plus the show is inside. Make your plans now and get your Bird ready.

NOTE

The special rate rooms at the host hotel have all been booked. There are additional rooms available but at a higher rate. There are rooms available at other hotels which are close by at the original rate. An email was sent out with the contact information.

If you do not have this information please contact the editor of the newsletter.

NOTE

There has been a significant number of registrations already. It is advisable to get your registration in early as space for the tours and other events may be limited - so if you want to go to these register now.

Jan/Feb Meeting



Continued from right

If it is dry or its teeth are stripped, the speedometer will not register correctly. The transmission-mainshaft nut must be tight or the drive gear may slip on the mainshaft, causing inaccurate speed readings.

From the Early Bird

Tech Tips

Speedometer Cables

The speedometer has two main parts - the indicating head and the drive cable. When the speedometer fails to indicate speed or mileage, the cable or cable housing may be broken.

Drive cable. Most cables break due to a lack of lubrication or a bend or kink in the housing. A cable also might break when the head mechanism binds. In this case the head should be repaired or replaced before a new cable or housing is installed.

A "jumpy" pointer, along with a scraping noise, is often caused by a dry or kinked cable. The kinked cable rubs in the housing and winds up slowing down the pointer. The cable then unwinds, and the pointer "jumps".

To check for kinks, remove the cable, lay it on a flat surface and twist one end with your fingers. If it turns over smoothly, the cable is not kinked. If the cable flops over as it's twisted, the cable is kinked and should be replaced.

Lubrication. The cable should be lubed with a cable lubricant or a lube like lithium grease. Fill the ferrule on the upper end of the housing. Insert the cable, starting at the upper end. Turn the cable around carefully, while feeding it into the housing. Repeat filling the ferrule, except for the last six inches of the cable. Too much lube, at this point, may cause the lube to work into the indicating hand.

Installing cable. During installation, if the cable sticks when inserted in the housing and won't go through, the housing may be damaged inside or kinked. Check the housing. Straighten any bends by relocating clamps or elbows. Replace the housing if it badly kinked or broken. Position the cable and housing so that they lead into the head as straight as possible.

Check the new cable for kinks, before installing it. Use wide gradual curves where the cable comes out of the trans and connects to the head so the cable won't be damaged during installation. Keep the cable away from any heat sources.

If inspection indicates that the cable and housing are OK yet the pointer is erratic, check the head for possible binding. The speedometer drive pinion should be checked. (cont'd left)

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

Sweetheart Brunch

On Sunday Feb 19th all our handsome men of NJORTC took their sweethearts to the Bethwood for our annual Sweetheart Brunch. Everyone had a great time feasting on champagne, breakfast and dinner food. And of course who could forget the fabulous desserts, the choice was out of this world. You can be sure Rich and Joe had their fill of ice cream. As guests, Alec's granddaughters attended and had their fill of chocolate syrup.

Bill Hyde even brought his 57 even though the trip was long and hard (maybe 10 minutes?)

Cupid, in the form of Pat, presented each lady with a rose and a valentine favor and a smooch to boot. Each lady also received a beautiful picture of the ladies that was taken at the Christmas party. Many thanks to Joanne for putting together all the favors and pictures.

Joanne presented Frank with a collage of him as Santa through out the years.

It was a wonderful Valentine celebration.

(And thanks to Lucille for putting the event together-editor)

Lucille



Note - Sorry about the orange pictures, I can't get the hang of my new camera.



More Barrett-Jackson



Good friends are like stars - you don't always see them, but you know they are there.



Holiday Party The Dancers



