



Thunderbird news

JANUARY 2011 VOLUME 13, #1

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CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA
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FIRST DRIVE:
2011 FORD EXPLORER

Page 8

OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

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EDITOR'S REPORT



THE NEW ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE ON YOUR RIGHT HAND SIDE

MORE NEWS ABOUT THE "MILLE MIGLIA"

GOOD NEWS! GOOD NEWS!

I HAVE APPLIED FOR THE RACE!

I have a new copilot who is sponsoring part of the race, but I won't know if I'll be accepted until February 1st.

In the meantime, I'm preparing the trip and making some reservations [which can be cancelled]

If you are interested, call me ASAP. The hotels go fast there for those dates, and I would like all to be together in the same hotel. Reservations can be cancelled, but if we wait until February we won't get any hotel rooms at all.

I'll be sending the proposed trip to Italy, with dates and the approximate costs, in a few days

Those costs could change depending on the number of persons traveling. My numbers are based on only 5 couples [10 persons].

This is your one-chance-in-a-lifetime to see the "Mille Miglia" race, "The Greatest Race in the world." See how for the first time in 60 years that an American car, my 1956 Thunderbird, will challenge the European cars on their own turf.

Could you imagine if a Thunderbird beats 1.5 & 2 million dollar cars?

YES SIR, I'LL DO IT!

FLORIDA VINTAGE CAR RALLY

There will be a vintage car rally on March 25TH 26TH

There will be a cocktail party on the 25th at the Sofitel Hotel. We will depart from the hotel on the 26th early in the morning, and will finish with another cocktail celebration at 6:00 pm, approximately

Cost will be \$250.00 for running for fun and \$350.00 running for \$\$\$\$\$. The \$100.00 difference will go to a pot and will be given away in prizes

More information will follow.

MEMBERSHIP

It is time again. Please send your checks for \$35.00 for the 2011 year. Don't forget to fill in the registration form.

See you next month

Felipe Cos

CTCI DRIVE

Have you joined the CTCI yet?

We need to have all the members of our club enrolled in the CTCI. Remember that we are a CTCI branch. Please fill out the application and mail it directly.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Our next monthly meeting will be on January 24th at Felipe's home at 10.00 am, we will prepare all the car show papers.

CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

CTCI CHAPTER #114 JANUARY 2011 VOLUME 13 No.1

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Past Presidents:

Felipe Cos 1999

Ken Lemming 2000

Felix Hernandez 2001

Norm Gabe 2002

Andre Fournier 2003-4

Connie Danluck 2005

Ed Brown 2006-07

Connie Danluck 2008

Ed Brown 2009

This Newsletter may have some misspellings and mistakes, but it is written with my heart. I could write it without errors in Spanish, but only a handful of you would be able to read it.

Please help me to make it even better.

Felipe Cos Founder & Editor
George Bishopric - Proofing

Photos by Felipe Cos

INTERNET PAGE

Have you seen our internet page? We need to update it. Does anyone know how to do it?

If you can update it call me.

Our page is as follow: THUNDERBIRDCLUB.US

You may have your own individual email, mine is as follow: FCOS@THUNDERBIRDCLUB.US If you want your own just send a note to me. Please follow the previous format in doing so. It is free, no charge. This is another advantage of your club. Any ideas for the page?

This page doesn't cost the club a penny for yearly subscriptions, I'm doing it through my business company web.

Please call Felipe at (305) 661-5170

THUNDERBIRD INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY:

Take note that we have changed our web page name, it is now WWW.THUNDERBIRDCLUB.US to get there don't look at it with a search engine, look at it only with www.Thunderbirdclub.us

Our Club's web page: _____ www.thunderbirdclub.us
 2005 Thunderbird: _____ www.fordautomobiles.com
 Ford racing: _____ www.fordacing.com
 Speedvision: _____ www.speedvision.com
 CTCI's Home Page: _____ www.ctci.org
 Daytona's Turkey run: _____ www.carshows.org
 Metroplex EarlyBirds: _____ www.geocities.com
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 Potomac Classic T-bird: _____ www.hydratech.com
 Old Cars _____ www.greatoldcars.com
 Classic T-Bird Club of Chicagoland _____ www.ctcc9.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS FOR JANUARY

JOSEPH BULLOCK 1ST
 MARVIN FOX 12TH
 ELLIOT COHEN 27TH

If your name is missing, it is because you did not give it to us. Please send it now so we can congratulate you.



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NUMBERS TO KEEP

The following are contact numbers and e-mail address you need to have on file:

AACA Ft Lauderdale region-President Ted Plush 954-491-5765
 VMCCA Sun Coast Chapter. President David Bobbitt 305- 661-1340 bobbitt@comcast.net
 Model A Club: Tom Zannis 305-281-9192
 Car show promoter: Russ Gagliano 954-560-5412 merkivr@msn.com
 AACA Miami Region President Greg Paiewonsky 305-724-7639
 Car show promoter: Gerry Perez. 786 344-4228 email gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com
 Magig Mustang Club, Frank Alonso 305 775-3307, fadatec@aol.com
 Muscle Stangs of Miami Luis Rodriguez 305 323-1649



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CAR SHOWS/CRUISE IN

Every Friday 7.00 to 10.00 PM Cruise at Home Depot corner of SW 8th St & SW 28th Ave.

Second Friday, Hollywood Beach Boardwalk Cruise Night 7 to 10 PM 954 779-1420

Every Friday from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at 8th St. & 30th Ave in front of Home Depot in Miami.

Every Sunday Crabby Jack's

Every Friday night a Cruise night reunion at Towers Shop in Davie (595 & University) This is one of the biggest cruise nights in South Florida. (from 5:00 pm to 10:00)

First Saturday of every month, BETSY (old Fuddruckers) from 6:00 pm to 10:00

First Saturday steak & Shake in Sawgrass Mills mall 6:00 to 9:30

Saturday of every month Steak-N-Shake, Sample Rd. and U.S. 1 behind Wal Mart. Coconut Creek. 8:00 to 12:00.

Second Saturday of every month the Dania Beach Cruise Night. Free admission 6:00 to 10:00 for information 954 924-3626

Second Saturday Car meet at Shorty's 2401 N.W. 87th Ave Jack 305 409-2614

Second Saturday from 5:00 to 9:00 in Homestead at Krome Ave

Third Saturday Denny's Restaurant Bird Rd, between 86th & 87th Ave

Third Saturday Roadhouse Restaurant Sunset Dr. & S.W. 117th Ave

Every Saturday a car show from 6.00 to 11.00 pm at K-Mart in 49th and 14th Ave Hialeah. Only cars 20 yrs or older, No charge

First Sunday of every month: Downtown Hollywood car show, 10:00 to 3:00. Dave 954 926-3377

Every Sunday at Crabby Jacks, 7001 Federal Hwy, 2 miles North of Yamato, Boca Raton. 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Also night cruise at Coral Way & 97th Ave, 5:30 to 8:00 305 553-2228

Third and fifth Saturday of the month from 3:00 to 7:30 at Wall's Ice Cream in 8075 S.W. 67th Ave

Third Saturday of the month, cruise-in at Miami Springs Circle 7:00 to 10:00 P.M.

Third Saturday; at Gotrocks Restaurant, Hillsborough and Wine Rd. in Coconut Creek from 6 to 9


Third Saturday at Dairy Queen Tamarac Square North of McNab Rd. 6:00 to 9:00

Third Saturday OC's Raw at 18415 S. Dixie Hwy 6:00 to 10:00

Also Miami Wings. 19145 S. Dixie Hwy. 5 to 10 Info. Gerry 305 786-344-4228

Second Tuesday at World Ford 15551 South Dixie Hwy 7:00 to 10:00 pm Ford cars only Francisco Mederos 786 229-7361

Third Saturday at the Cove in 10730 NW 25th St Miami. Gerry 786-344-4228



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FUTURE EVENTS

JAN. 24TH MEET AT FELIPE'S HOME FOR PREPARATION OF CAR SHOW

JAN 30TH OUR TROPICAL PARK CAR SHOW

FEB. 2008 5 DAYS THUNDERBIRD CRUISE EASTERN CARIBBEAN [DATE????]

MARCH 26TH FLORIDA VINTAGE CAR RALLY [FELIPE 786-554-5200]

MAY 12TH-14TH MILLE MIGLIA TRIP TO ITALY

JUNE 15TH-19TH CTCI REGIONAL CONVENTION RICHMOND VIRGINIA

AUGUST 24TH-28TH CTCI REGIONAL CONVENTION OMAHA NEBRASKA

Annual rates for advertising in the newsletter:

Full page _____	\$675.00
1/2 page _____	\$375.00
1/4 page _____	\$250.00
Card Size (Non members) _	\$150.00
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CAR & PARTS FOR SALE

1956-57 thunderbird Petronix electronic ignition \$60.00. Call Norm Gabe 954-850-5024

OUR CLUB BENEFITS

Have you ever wonder how much do you get from the club with the \$35.00 you pay with the membership?

Below are the details:

BBQ in mid year at no charge.....	\$20.00
Holiday Party at no charge	\$20.00
No fee paid at our Tropical car show	\$25.00
12 newsletter [cost \$3.00 X 12 =	\$36.00
Total	\$101.00

How can we do that?

Working a lot for you, getting ads in the newsletter, and getting some profits from our car show. All the above is done by only a handful of members. **COULD YOU HELP US? WE NEED YOUR HELP** We need your help in the car show, come to my home on January 24th and help us. Felipe



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FIRST DRIVE: 2011 FORD EXPLORER

2011 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Ford Explorer. Some six million have been built since its introduction and four million still navigate our roads today. The peak year came in 2000—Ford sold some 445,000 back when fuel mileage was just another number, and bigger was always better. Recently, the Explorer has struggled in a market it used to dominate. In 2009, Ford sold just 52,000 units. For 2011, the Explorer has changed to better fit the current economic climate in hopes that buyers will come back.

Ford focused more on utility than sport with this redesign. The new Explorer is lower and wider than the outgoing model. The age-old, body-on-frame construction has given way to a unibody chassis derived from the Volvo S60; the same chassis is also found under the Flex and the Taurus. A standard third row seat comfortably accommodates passengers of all sizes, not just kids, and there is massive headroom in all three rows. And a new terrain management system allows drivers to rotate a knob with a flick of the wrist to adjust from mud, snow, sand, and normal driving modes—technology lifted from the Land Rover models. Each setting adjusts transmission shift points and works in tandem with the stability program to ensure better traction in whatever scenario you're driving in, but there is no low range. There is, however, hill descent control, brought over from the SVT Raptor program.

The biggest surprise is under the hood. Say goodbye to the brawny, gas-guzzling V-8 engine, as the Explorer now offers two very capable, fuel-efficient engines: a 3.5-liter V-6 and a 2.0-liter EcoBoost turbocharged four-cylinder. The V-6 is quite suitable; its peak horsepower of 290 is only 2 hp shy of the outgoing V-8, yet it achieves 25 percent better fuel economy (it's rated at 25 mpg on the highway). The V-6 has a 5000-pound towing capacity, and Ford engineers also integrated a trailer sway control system and a rearview camera with a zoom feature, a fabulous idea. The V-6 is mated to a six-speed automatic transmission, and the sixth gear is purely an overdrive feature; even the slightest pressure on the gas pedal immediately results in the transmission dropping a gear or two to accelerate. We were only able to sample the V-6; the 2.0-liter EcoBoost is a later arrival, it's due to go on sale mid-2011 as a 2012 model and will only be offered with front-wheel drive. EcoBoost pricing has not been released. |

From the driver's seat, there is a huge expanse of dashboard and windshield leading to a lot of hood, but the corners of the vehicle drop off. Sightlines are pretty good out front but there is a large blind spot at the C-pillar. The interior is a big upgrade over the old Explorer. The optional Sony sound system does pretty much everything you could imagine and features 390 watts, twelve speakers, an eight-inch subwoofer, and two USB ports. To top it off, it's finished in piano black which looks very classy. But the touch buttons take some getting used to. Of course, streaming your music is easy with the Sync voice-activated system.



On the road this new Explorer handles like none before it, with a supple ride, very good body control, and predictable dynamics. The ride is well mannered for a 4700-pound vehicle, and the new chassis prevents the dreaded bobble-head syndrome for occupants. But the electronically assisted power steering feels a bit too artificial. Ford's new Curve Control feature measures steering input, vehicle speed, and yaw angle to apply brakes to numerous corners of the car to slow it down, whereas the electronic stability program applies the brake to one wheel at a time. We briefly encountered the Curve Control feature on our drive loop—not on purpose—and it did its job just fine.

Customers can choose from three trim levels: base model, XLT, and Limited. Pricing starts at \$28,995 for base model, \$31,995, and \$37,995 for XLT and Limited respectively. Front-wheel drive is standard on all trim levels, four-wheel drive is a \$2000 option.

The 2011 Ford Explorer is a well-executed version of the family crossover. Its main competitors are the Chevy Traverse, Toyota Highlander, and Honda Pilot, and the Ford is at or near the top in terms of on-road behavior and interior refinement. As far as off-roading goes, Ford seems to be conceding that territory to the Jeep Grand Cherokee and the Toyota 4Runner.





CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA IS PROUD TO INVITE YOU TO OUR



Sunday, January 30th 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

DO YOU COOK? SEND US YOUR RECIPES

SWEET POTATO MUFFINS

- 2 Cups self-rising flour*
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 egg
- 2 cups cold mashed sweet potatoes (without added butter or milk)
- 1 cup canola oil
- Glaze:
- 1 cup confectioners? sugar
- 2 Tbsp. plus 1-1/2 tsp. 2% milk
- 1-1/2 tsp. butter, melted
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon

In a small bowl, combine the flour, sugar, and cinnamon. In another bowl, whisk the egg, sweet potatoes and oil. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened.

Fill greased muffin cups two-thirds full. Bake at 375 degrees for 15-18 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool for 5 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks.

In a small bowl, combine glaze ingredients; drizzle over warm muffins.

Makes 24 muffins.

*As a substitute for each cup of self-rising flour, place 1-1/2 tsp. baking powder and 1/2 tsp. salt in a measuring cup. Add all-purpose flour to measure one cup.

RECIPES FROM OUR MEMBERS

GRILLED CHICKEN

by Felipe Cos

Buy a fresh 3 pound chicken.

Stuff the chicken with pepper, salt, and onions rice and garlic.

Line a glass cooking dish with aluminum foil, and pre-heat the oven to 325 degrees.

Baste the chicken with one cup of Bacardi Rum,

One cup of Brandy

One cup of 25 yrs old Scotch whisky

One cup of Vodka

One cup of dark beer

Cover the chicken with aluminum foil.

Cook it for one hour.

Let it cool for 15 minutes.

Throw the chicken in the garbage and drink the sauce.

This will be one of the best sauces you have ever drunk!
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MINUTES OF MEETING & CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 11, 2010

AT HOME OF DAISY AND FELIX HERNANDEZ, MIAMI LAKES

President Daisy Fernandez opened the meeting at 8:30 p.m. after we had our Christmas Party meal she prepared. The buffet featured a ham, turkey, scalloped potatoes, a rice dish, red cabbage and other accompaniments plus dessert.

Felipe Cos, editor of our club newsletter, introduced Johanis Diaz, who puts the newsletter together and was a special guest at our party and meeting.

Daisy said the club decided to do something special this year to honor someone who has done an extraordinary job on behalf of the club. She asked Felipe, the club founder, to present the award to its first recipient, Past President Ed Brown.

Ed thanked everyone for the honor which he called "a real surprise" and added, "I don't think I deserve it. Ed told the 30 or so members at the party to think of ideas for things the club should do in coming years. " It's not hard to do it – and then these two old guys (he and Felipe) can sit back and do some traveling."

Daisy, who will continue to serve as president in 2011, said that in the coming year the club will institute a point system for members and these points will determine who wins the next Service Award. Points will be earned by attending meetings and by participating in club events and other things for the benefit of the organization.

Felipe announced he has found a sponsor for his participation in the famous Mille Miglia race in Italy next May and he will participate in the three-day event as long as his car is accepted by organizers of the rally.

He also said that anyone who is interested in making the trip to Italy for the start and finish of the race should let him know so he can make transportation and hotel arrangements for us to go as a group.

Secretary Poppy Madden made a motion to take \$1,000 from the club treasury and donate it to Felipe "for gas money" and other expenses he will incur at the Mille Miglia. The motion passed unanimously. (gas in Europe costs the equivalent of about eight dollars per gallon!)

Anita Baraz said she had been asked to look into the possibility of the club taking a cruise this coming February, as had been done about a year ago. She said she sent some information to Felipe; he said he sent it to Daisy. Daisy said she was unable to open it in her computer.

The communications problem has been solved and information has been sent by e-mail to club members.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. and was followed by the annually-popular "Mean Santa" gift exchange. Nobody went

home empty-handed but there were a few guests who weren't exactly delighted with their gifts. (Don't worry – that happens every year.)

POPPY MADDEN

