



Thunderbird news

APRIL 2011 VOLUME 13, #4

4000 MONSERRATE ST. CORAL GABLES, FL 33146 Proud Organizers of the Unique Tropical Park Car Show & the Florida's 300 Mile Rally



FUTURE EVENTS

Page 6

Carrie Nation's Own Gas

Page 8



NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Recap of Our Great Escape



Restoring American History

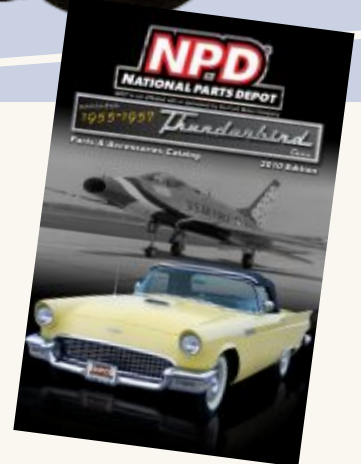
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Thunderbird
news

EDITOR'S REPORT



CLUB B.B.Q.

Our BBQ (free for members) will be at Ed's home on May 29 th (Sunday).

Please call Ed for reservations. Ed 954-431-6782

DOES THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVE WE ARE DUMB PEOPLE?

And I mention the government because they allow or approve it.

Why did they change the miles per gallon in the cars, before they said the miles per gallon in the city where probably 95% of the drivers drive.

Now they show miles per gallon in highway where only 5% of the driver drive

Could it be because they think we are dumb people and believe the cars are doing better mileage?

When they said in advertising that the cars makes 35 or 40 miles per gallon, how many driver gets that every day, not even with a hybrid.

Please don't insult us, we are not dumb

Felipe Cos



REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Our next monthly meeting will be on April 6th at the Trattoria Pampered Chef. 7:00 p.m. \$20.00 p/p, including a glass of wine. 7347 Miami Lakes Drive, Miami Lakes. 305 825-8919

CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA CTCI CHAPTER #114 APRIL 2011 VOLUME 13 No.4

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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

Daisy Hernandez 2010

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
 Arizona Classic T-Bird Club: _____ classic-thunderbird.org
 Santa Clara Valley T-Birds: _____ www.tbird.org/scvt
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 Old Cars _____ www.greatoldcars.com
 Classic T-Bird Club of Chicagoland _____ www.ctcc9.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS FOR

APRIL

BILLIE JACKSON	2ND
SUSAN GOBLE	3RD
JANE TONEY	9TH
RICHARD BOYHAN	21TH
GARY STUMP	22TH
ANA BOYHAN	23TH
DAISY HERNANDEZ	26TH
RONALS BARAZ	29TH
SHARLA SHEPPARD	30TH

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
 merklvr@msn.com
 AACA Miami Region President Andy Levy 305-439-0910
 www.aaca.org/southflorida
 Car show promoter: Gerry Perez. 786 344-4228 email
 gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com
 Magic Mustang. Frank Alonso 305 551-6077 Fadatec@aol.com
 Muscle Stangs of Miami Luis Rodriguez 305 323-1649



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CAR SHOWS/CRUISE IN

Second Tuesday from 7:00 to 9:00 at Gus Machado Ford of Kendall 13501 S.W. 136th st. Miami. Magic Mustang

Every Tuesday from 8:14 to 9:30pm at Floridita Seafood Restaurant in 13501 S.W. 136th St Miami. Magic Mustang

Every Friday 7:00 to 10:00pm Cruise at Home Depot corner of SW 8th St & SW 28th Ave.

Second Friday, Hollywood Beach Boardwalk Cruise Night 7:00 to 10:00pm 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 to 10:00pm)

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

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 10:00pm

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

FUTURE EVENTS

MAY 29TH OUR SEMI-ANNUAL B.B.Q. (Free for members)

JUNE 15TH-19TH CTCI REGIONAL CONVENTION, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

AUGUST 24-28TH CTCI REGIONAL CONVENTION, OMAHA, NEBRASKA

WHAT ABOUT DRIVING OUR CARS TO THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION IN JUNE, 2011?
ANYONE INTERESTED?

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MEMBERSHIP

It is time again, please send your check for \$35.00 for the 2011 year, don't forget to fill all the registration

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.

Annual rates for advertising in the newsletter:

Full page _____	\$675.00
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Carrie Nation's Own Gas

Is ethanol from corn a good biofuel? Is it a farm subsidy? I don't know, but I do know that nobody likes it in antique cars. Ethanol burns hot, adds oxygen, and tears up rubber parts in our old cars. If you've ever mixed scotch and water, you know that the two mix perfectly. Water dissolves in EtOH, and EtOH dissolves in water, and that's one more problem. The water that alcohol inevitably brings to any party causes havoc in fuel systems. More than that, Carrie Nations and her prohibition friends would not approve.

I've had various additives recommended to me, but I have no idea what they are and what they actually do. As we've all seen useless additives recommended over the years, by the same people who told us modern technology prevented oil spills and nuclear reactors from melting down, I'm naturally skeptical. It does seem that old cars really have problems with ethanol laced fuels. This may get much worse, as the EPA is going to increase the allowed percentage of EtOH. I have as suspicion that these products are solvents that help to remove water, but I can't say I know.

The New York Times recently had a long article about these fuels in old cars, and highlighted the issues and complications. Additives and fuel stabilizers are really needed.

So, what if you could go back in time, and find good old gasoline, still unleaded, but with no ethanol? You can. There's an ap for that:

<http://pure-gas.org/index.jsp?stateprov=FL>

Searching Fort Lauderdale, I found two stations near me. I live pretty close to the water, so marinas are nearby. Two cycle motors have particular problems with ethanol, the fuel burns hotter, and destroys leaf blowers. (I hope my neighbor's yard crew does not know this).

Down at 17th Street Fisheries, conveniently located on 15th Street, the marina sells no-EtOH fuel. I pulled up to valet parking, was allowed to park myself (the joys of speaking Portuguese) and ambled over to the dock.

At such a fancy place, you can also buy various sundries, including Veuve Cliquot champagne and caviar. The bubbly is still more than the fuel, but in the same league, as marina gas is for boats, so it costs \$5.00 a gallon. Boaters have a more expensive hobby than even car people. Just think of it as a premonition of what we'll be paying this Summer. You have to load up in Jerry Cans, and fueling a '56 around the spare is not graceful, but you can do it. Today, my car runs on real, pure gasoline.

Is there a difference? I think there is. Subtle, but real. The car just seemed to have a bit more oomph, a bit more smoothness, but I'm pretty sure the feeling was real, even if not measured.

I'm going to try this for a while, but there's another station that's closer, over in the port, and I hope it's more of a real station where I can use a pump, and maybe, just maybe, I'll have some money left for my own champers.

CTCI NEWS

Region No. 4 Convention: Hosted by The Virginia Classic Thunderbird Club at the Wyndham Virginia Crossings Hotel in Richmond, Virginia on June 15-19. Info: 434-589-8298 or email: mikemartin419@centurylink.net

Region No. 5 Convention: Hosted by Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club will be held at the Embassy Suites Omaha - LaVista Hotel and Conference Center on August 24-28. Information: 402-289-4516. Email: nefron1@cox.net

DUES ARE DUE

\$35.00 MEMBERSHIP ARE DUE,
PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK TO THE CLASSIC
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Editor's note:

Starting in 2008, EPA fuel estimates for highway speeds reflect that people use their A/C most of the time, and that nobody drives 55. The previous assumptions were that all were respecting the double nickel with the climate control off. Not likely, especially in Florida! A couple other assumptions mean that highway mileage has decreased for most cars. City mileage figures should be pretty much the same. The new system should be more reflective of real world conditions.


<http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/ratings2008.shtml>

Check your car, here! Both highway and city figures are given.

George Bishopric



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NEWS

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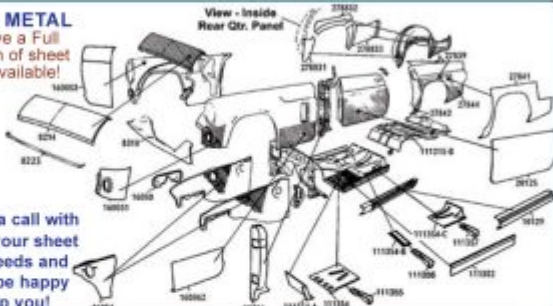
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5550-AKR 55 kit 139.95

5550-BKR 56/57 kit 124.95



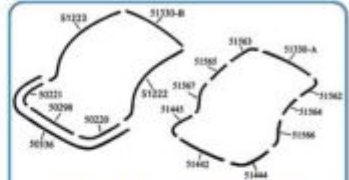
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Recap of Our Great Escape

On Thursday March 17th, Felipe with Christy, Gary with Amy and Felix with Daisy together with their respective Thunderbirds started the journey towards Clewiston the sweetest town in Florida. Upon our arrival at the historic Clewiston Inn we were joined with Leo and Valentina, Ernie and Judy and Richard and Ana. That's when the fun started. The first thing we did was as soon as we arrived was to hit the Everglades lounge to have drinks and enjoy the magnificent 360 degrees panoramic painting by West Palm Beach's J. Clinton Shepherd in 1945.

That evening to celebrate St Patrick's Day all 12 of us dressed in our favorite greens went to the Roland Martin's famous Scotty' Tiki Bar on Lake Okeechobee. It was karaoke night and our two famous artists Ernie and Judy gave their famous musical renditions. The crowd went wild clapping and whistling at their great performance.

The next morning Ed and Bobby joined the group for a great southern style breakfast. If you want to have the best grits in the whole State of Florida you need to have them at the Clewiston Inn. By 10 am we were all ready to join the Sugarland Tour:

Southern Gardens Citrus:

The bus left town and took us to Southern Gardens Citrus, a huge citrus processing plant. Hundreds of citrus-laden trailers awaited their turn to be emptied into a massive hopper to be conveyed into the highly automated juicing operations. Here the recovered juice is pasteurized, chilled and in some instances turned into concentrate. The vastness of the Southern Gardens Citrus operation was difficult to take in.

- 15 million orange trees around Lake Okeechobee.
- Machinery processing up to 20,000 oranges a minute.
- 600,000 gallons of juice are produced a day.

Nothing is wasted, we were told. All water is recycled. Orange peel, pulp and membrane are compressed into pellets and sold as cattle feed. The tour operator gave all of us a glass of OJ.

Sugar Plantation:

After the citrus tour we went into a cane field and were treated to a stalk of cane, sweet and fragrant. Thank god that Ed took _____ without him we wouldn't have been able to taste the cane. He took out his pocket knife and like the expert that he is started taking the peel off of the sugar cane and handed out piece to all of us. Thanks Ed. For me the only number that explained the vastness of sugar production is U.S. Sugar's 130 miles of private railroad track throughout its plantations.

Lunch:

We were taken back to a great buffet lunch at the Clewiston Inn. Ask Ernie he really enjoyed the fried fish and Southern fried chicken. By 1:30 we were on our way again!

Clewiston and its surroundings:

We drove by the historic homes of Sand Point and a ridge area or natural flood barrier built up by prevailing northwesterly winds. We drove around the marina areas and up on the dike. After a succession of hurricanes in 1926 and 1928 drowned thousands of residents, Herbert Hoover himself came to Clewiston and authorized the massive dike that eventually contained the entire 30-mile diameter of Lake Okeechobee except for a stretch of north shore.



US Sugar Corp refinery:

At the refinery, as with the citrus plant, are acres of machinery that take in muck land harvest and spit it out ready for the table: 50,000 tons a day become a million tons of sugar in a season.

Cane stalks go into cutters that chop it into 1-foot lengths to begin a process of squeezing, cooking, crystallizing and refining. Curiously, raw sugar has a molasses content that makes it unpalatable to ants and vermin, so it can be warehoused in huge open piles. Ask Felix, as he could not believe that these piles of sugar, that we eat, can be just piled in an open door warehouse and use back hoe trucks to move the piles.

The tour ended back at the Chamber of Commerce.

WOW! What a great day! I can't begin to tell you how much fun we had during our trip. I hope that our next trip on the Mystery Train will be just as much fun and can be joined by more members.



