



Thunderbird news

JULY 2011 VOLUME 13, #7

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news

EDITOR'S REPORT



THE GREAT RACE

I just returned from the Great Race. We took 22nd place, after two days with car problems, and a bad turn that cost us seven minutes.

That bad turn actually cost over 18 minutes, but we were able to recuperate 11 minutes, running back like hell, but they took our time, and the race was history.

On a later page, there is a complete description of the race, with a lot of photos.

As for the car problem, I thought that it was a point problem at first, because it was misfiring and there was just no power. The car has dual Mallory points and it was impossible to get at those points on the road. In fact, the problem was not the points. The screw that holds the distributor in place was completely loose, and the distributor was turning a bit every time I accelerated. I discovered this after 2 ½ days of no power in the car!

The race was from Chattanooga TN to Bennington, VT, 1,650 miles in seven days. We stopped at the AACA museum in Hershey, PA. The museum is very interesting, with samples of lots of cars, motorcycles and busses. We also stopped at the Baseball Hall of Fame.

My navigator was Mark Saladino [Leo's son] I adopted him as his Godfather.

The car that won was a 1911 VEILE. It was the first time I saw a car of that make, and yes, it is one hundred years old.

Look on the inside pages for the article and the photos.

OUR NEWSLETTER

Once again, we won the golden prize in the CTCI contest with our newsletter. I wonder if any other club has won that contest as many times as we have!

MCPHERSON COLLEGE

Included in this issue is a copy of McPherson College's letter, regarding our gift of \$2,000.00

Felipe Cos



REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

We will have our monthly meeting on July 6th at the Trattoria Pampered Chef, at 7.00 p.m. Cost is \$20.00 including tax, wine and dessert.

7347 Miami Lakes Drive, 305-825-8919

It is not necessary to eat dinner.

CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

CTCI CHAPTER #114 JULY 2011 VOLUME 13 No.7

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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 ClassicT-Bird Club: _____ classic-thunderbird.org

Santa Clara ValleyT-Birds: _____ www.tbird.org/scvt

Sierra Nevada ClassicT-Bird: _____ www.tbird.org/snctb

Connecticut Area ClassicT-Bird: _____ www.tbirdsofconn.com

ChicagolandThunderbirds: _____ www.thunderbirds.org

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JULY

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STAN JACOBS	12TH
STEVE GORDON	15TH
PEDRO ALFARO	21ST
EDWARD SHEPPARD	17TH
RICHARD KRINZMAN	18TH

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



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. Magig 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

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

Region No.5 Convention: Hosted by Nebraskaland Thunder-bird 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

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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MORE INVENTORY



Thunderbird
NEWS

I hope everyone that was able to attend our Bar B Que on May 29 had enough to eat and drink. If not they have only them self to blame. The weather was very hot next year if we do it again we must schedule the party before April. The black jack game was the center of attraction as usual. Robbie your friendly bar tender was in his usual position with a new supply of jokes of the day to put a smile on everyone's face. Thanks to Reba and Ann Marie Miller for all the help with the decorations, helping me with the food selection service and clean up and all the

other people that chipped in to help clean up. We did not have the numbers that I hoped for but considering it was a holiday week end we did ok. Getting back to the scholarship report I attended the one week finishing touches course at McPherson College. The forty hour course covered how to pin stripe, wood grain and repair stainless steel.

My first day at the college I meet with the President and was able to give him checks for 8,000.00 dollars. They were very of all the people that were involved in

raising the money, and of course the people that gave to our scholarship. Our first scholarship was issued in April for 1,000 thousand dollars, and the student is currently working at the Peterson Museum in California on SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM. I Flew home for two days packed my bag said good buy to my puppy that was the hard part and drove to Richmond Virginia for the Thunderbird convention.

Hard to understand our government but during the second week of June I was averaging 3.49 dollars a gallon there and back, when returned home gas was still 3.76 I guess we live to close to the Port. I worked our vendor table from 9am to 9pm Thursday and Friday and we closed down at noon on Saturday.

I gave out about 50 downer letters and spoke to a lot more people that had a positive attitude toward the scholarship than last so it looks like we are making progress, I was happy with the presentations I was able to make and I believe some of the people will send in a check.

I will be going to Memphis next year for the International this convention will be great, everyone is talking about it. There will be several tours and I believe Elvis will be in the house. We need to start planing now The dates are in your Early Bird.

Thanks for taking the time for reading my short story. REMEMBER ONLY YOU CAN MAKE THIS CLUB STRONGER BY TAKING A INTEREST IN OUR GROWTH, AND SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES (THERE IS AN OLD SAYING ;JUST LET JOE DO IT) there is another saying (WHAT DO WE DO WHEN JOE NEEDS A BREAK). Think about it we have elections coming up in November, and a show in January that may be moved and if so will create a lot of work and coordination. It; ITSTIME NEW BLOOD STEPPED UP TO THE PLATE TO HELP RUN OUR CLUB. how about it gang.



June 7, 2011

Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida
c/o Ed Brown
4000 Monserrate St
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Dear Members of the Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida,

As evidenced at Awards Convocation in May, it has been a year of accomplishment and growth for our students. From the classroom and service projects to internships and co-curricular activities, our students have lived out the college mission of scholarship, participation and service.

The students have moved on for the summer - to internships or summer jobs - and the campus is quiet. Yet the experiences and successes that await them when they return are made possible because of your recent donation of \$2,000.00 to the Elizabeth and Ed Brown/Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida Scholarship. Thank you for making this important investment in their learning and development.

Sincerely,

Brian Martin
Director of Automotive Restoration Development


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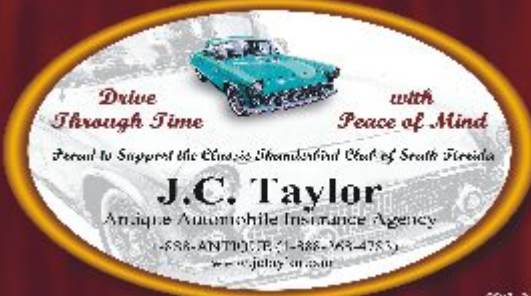
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THE GREAT RACE

BY MARK SALADINO-NAVIGATOR

"Where do I start?" And that was the question I had every morning awaiting our booklet instructions for each day of the Great Race. But it all started in Chattanooga, Tennessee at Coker Tire Headquarters.

First of all, Felipe Cos (owner and driver of the 1930 Model A Ford Speedster appropriately named the Widowmaker) trailed his car from Miami dropping the widowmaker off at Coker Tire Headquarters and continued to drive to Hemmings Motor News in Bennington, Vermont. He then caught a flight to Atlanta where I come into the picture. We met at the gate to fly to the starting line in Tennessee. As soon as we spotted each other at the gate we smiled, laughed, and had a friendly hug, then it was down to business. As we looked over past Precision Rally papers to become familiar on such short notice I realized what I was getting myself into. We arrived in Chattanooga, took a cab to Coker, and promptly jumped into the Widowmaker, started her up and headed over to registration and inspections, all went smoothly. Feeling good we headed downtown that evening to have a nice dinner and a cold beer (not necessarily in that order). The cops saw our car and said, "park wherever you want!", My kind of town.

The next morning Friday June 10th, we woke up 7am, had breakfast, and headed over to orientation, followed by a trophy run for the day to get familiar with the process of the race and have some fun. We all had a nice dinner that evening hosted by Coker Tire that included ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs, pulled pork sandwiches, chicken, salad, beer, and all types of deserts with a very nice presentation headed by Corky Coker.

Saturday June 11th, the day we take the green flag. It was a beautiful, sunny morning and everyone in the city turned out to see the start and what a start it was. I couldn't believe how many people were involved, from racers, to staff, to press, and all the corporate sponsors. It was amazing! The National Anthem plays, we have a prayer for safety of all the racers, and then a call from the distance on the loud speakers you hear..... "Gentleman, Start your engines!", and one by one we were off....

We started our race pretty smoothly, all mechanics working well and our brains were sharp, "45mph for 1m12sec. then drop to 35. at that sign coming up...Stop 15sec. right turn" then Felipe calls to me, "get out of the car! get out of the car!", and I'm like, "what?! What!", the speedometer isn't working. So I jump out as fast as I could and Felipe makes a quick fix until we have time to really look at it, back on the road and we're making up time, Felipe is speeding and I'm checking our marks, "check, check, check", until we reach the car in front of us and then drop back 1 minute into position. We had lunch in Athens, Tenn, and it was great. pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, and Tapioca Pudding, yummy. We fixed the problem and got back on the road until dinner in North Carolina at the "Wheels Though Time" museum in Maggie Valley before we hit the sack. Hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, and tapioca pudding, I'll take it.

The race continues... Sunday morning June 12th 7am we head out, I receive my instructions and we're ready to roll. Everything seems smooth today and it's hard not to look around at all the beautiful scenery as we're driving, the mountains, the landscapes, unbelievable, but don't look for long cause at the next sign coming up...., "40 mph for 36 sec. then increase to 45 until we hit the next mark to make a left". This race is very intense and you must use extreme concentration (not easy when you see a hawk fly over your car and scoop up a mouse on the side of the road), wow!



ARRIVALS TO DIFFERENT CITIES



Thunderbird

We pulled in town, a place called Galax, Virginia. It was a small but very charming place, a farmers town. And seeing all these vintage cars roll in, it oddly reminded me of the movie, "Oh Brother where art thou". They hosted a lunch for us at their car museum and I couldn't wait, I was starved. What's on the menu? Pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, mash potatoes, and tapioca pudding... Why not. That evening we rolled into Salem, Virginia and as we pulled in I noticed people were holding programs of the Great Race. A kid came up to me and said, "Sir?, Would you sign this for me?" , "sure kid, what's your name?" . What an ego trip, and as Felipe was upside down making fixes on the car, I would bother him, "Hey Felipe! Can you sign this?" , what fun. They sold the programs for 5 bucks each, "Do I get a piece of this?" . Ok, so hotdogs for dinner and off to bed.

Monday morning June 13th. Another day and we're ready to go. Feeling pretty good we head out to the car, take the top off and start 'er up. Thank God we had these racing headphones to communicate with. With out them we would have to yell like maniacs to hear each other. Felipe said, " Testing, testing, do you hear me?" , "What?" I said. They were dead, great. Could this be sabotage? No it couldn't be. Well it could but we didn't think so. So here we are yelling at each other on the road " THAT SIGN AHEAD, 15sec. MAKE RIGHT!" , " MAKE LEFT?" , " NO RIGHT!" , " HOW MANY SECONDS?" , but we got through it. Rolled in to town for lunch at Harrisonburg, VA. , had a pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, and back on the road, I figured at this point if we run out of gas I have some extra stored up inside of me to help push us along. It's true, everywhere we went I couldn't get a salad, I was beginning to look at water as a vegetable.

We continue on and all is smooth except for my voice. But for some reason the engine is misfiring. We're not getting the power we need. Felipe is an amazing driver and knew exactly how to compensate for this. It wasn't perfect but we tried. We rolled into Cumberland, Maryland that evening and scrambled to find an auto parts store. We found one but no such luck on the parts.....and we asked around to see if we could get any help at all in finding double headed points for our distributor. One spectator said he had something at his house that may work and drove an hour each way to get it. It didn't work but he was compensated for his time, thank you sir. We had to run the next day this way and did the best we could. So grab a bite and off to bed. I like food what can I say?

The next day Tuesday June 14th was a bit grueling, Not being able to hold the speed we needed and I put us out of position a bit on one leg by missing a turn, my fault. You see what happens when you don't eat vegetables? We had lunch in Chambersburg, PA. This time it was a little different, hot dogs in cold water and ofcourse baked beans, my favorite. We were a little tired but we got back into it and finished the day with courage. That evening we were in Hershey, PA. Felipe told me, " We cannot continue the race with the car like this, if we don't fix it by morning we're out" . So basically our dinner was in the hotel parking lot that night and the engine was our meal. We've got to get this fixed, what can it be?? Felipe is chest deep in the engine and I'm in the car waiting for his call, "OK Mark, give it a start!" . And so I did, hmmm nothing but putt putts and backfires. Felipe took it for a spin down the block and came back. " I think I know what the problem is" he exclaimed. We open her up again and with one twist of the distributor it all smoothed out (aside from some intense tweeking on Felipe's behalf). " That was it?" We're back in the race, thank God.

Ok, it's Wednesday June 15th and we must go on. It's a little chilly and some rain. I'm starting to feel the effects of this race, from waking up in the middle of the night thinking I'm racing to telling myself I have 15 seconds to make a right turn, go to the bathroom, and get back to sleep. What a night. So now we're driving along doing the same thing as the day before but in a different place.

DIFFERENT CARS DURING THE RACE



ENTRANCE TO THE BASEBALL HALL FAME



We have to keep in time, very important. We ride into Hazelton, PA for lunch and was hosted by a casino with an Italian buffet, very interesting. I think the Olive oil helped my digestion and there was also salad, SALAD! I noticed every place we stopped to eat Felipe had a big smile on his face about the food. And now I had a big smile on mine, "Hey Felipe! Look! They've got salad! You want some?" , "No thanks" he replied, "I don't eat salad." "WHAT?" no wonder he was smiling everyday. We continued on into Binghamton, NY that evening signed more autographs, had a burger and went to bed.

Thursday morning June 16th. Routine as usual and feeling good, feeling tough. Up at 6am and a quick breakfast which in the beginning was sausage, eggs, bacon, and waffles. But now we are wising up. Fruit is the order for breakfast but the coffee never stopped. The car is running smooth and we make a quick stop for gas before rolling into Cooperstown, NY! The Baseball hall of fame! What a beautiful town, great museum and a monstrous lake. What a great sunny day. We had an all american lunch, Hotdog, potato chip, coleslaw, Macaroni salad, and an apple. Relax for a few minutes, feel the cool breeze and then.....Let's move it! Back on the road to Saratoga Springs, NY that evening and more autographs. I'm beginning to understand what it's like to be on tour.

Friday June 17th, the last day of racing to take the checkered flag. The weather is changing. We get up at 4:30am, coffee for breakfast. It's starting to rain again but this time it's coming down strong. We put on our rain suits and I grab my instructions. Our start is 6am so we need to get moving. the terrain is tricky but we held steady. The ink was starting to run on my papers and there was mud splatter from the tires. I have to say though, I loved every minute of it. We came into Stratton Mountain, Vermont for lunch, had a ham sandwich and took a Gondola up to the top of the mountain. Because of the weather you couldn't see out too much being that we were in the clouds basically. The smell of fresh pine filled the air and it was invigorating to say the least. We came back down and hopped backed into the car to continue to the finish line.

As we got closer to the finish there were people in the streets with flags waving and cameras snapping and all sorts of spectators cheering us on. It felt great, but keep your eyes on the road cause it's not over yet. We finally get into town and let off our siren to let everyone know we've arrived. I can see the Archways getting closer, the finish line is in sight! "Hold speed, hold speed!" and a roar from the crowd as we cross the line at Hemmings Motor News in Bennington, VT. We blow our horn and shake hands with fans as we slowly ride through. We received our scores from the officials and waited to see what place we were in that evening. We came in 22nd place in the end. That's not bad considering the problems we had along the way. That evening there was a beautiful banquet dinner at the Mount Anthony Country Club. Trophies were given, speeches were made and I got up sang "New York, New York" with heart.

This is not only the Great race, but a Great experience. One of the greatest of my life. I would like to thank my father Leo Saladino for giving me this opportunity to be on this race and to have this experience. I will remember this forever. I would also like to thank Felipe Cos being a great driver, a great mechanic, but most of all, a great friend. You are my godfather!

Here's to the Great Race where "to finish is to win!" Ain't that the truth....!

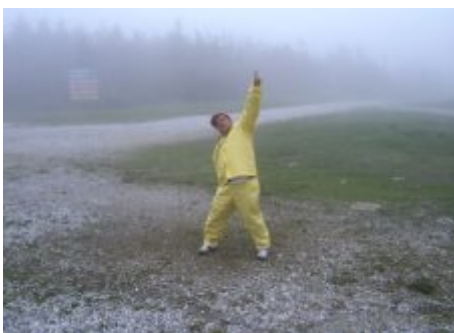
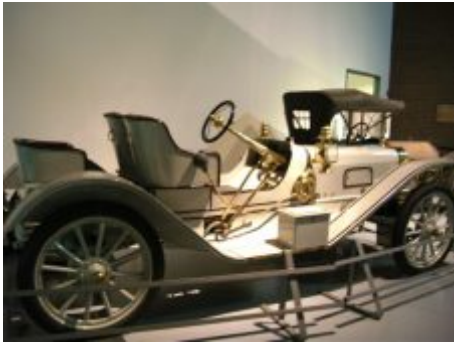
MARK SALADINO-NAVIGATOR

P.D. I would like to ad that the Great Race experience is once in a lifetime, once you race it, you are hooked. (Felipe Cos)



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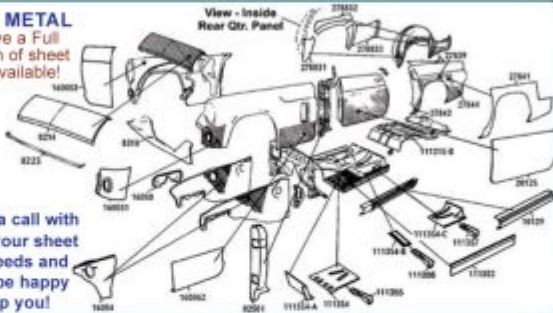
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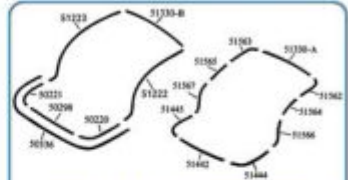
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