



# Thunderbird news

NOVEMBER 2011 VOLUME 13, #11

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## Thunder Flite

a 1950s vision of a wondrous Car of the Future

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Courtesy of the Trail Bird News

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# EDITOR'S REPORT



## ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER

We held our regular monthly meeting in October, where we elected our new board.

CONGRATULATIONS!

DUES HAVE TO BE PAID THIS MONTH. ANY MEMBER THAT DOESN'T PAY ON TIME WON'T RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER IN JANUARY.

## CAR SHOW OF JANUARY 29th 2012

Our yearly car show will be at the Magic City Casino on January 29th. We are in the process of creating the committees for the car show. Can you help us? CALL ME AT 786-554-5200 FELIPE.

## CTCI MEMBERSHIP

If you are not a CTCI member, this is the time to join. Our club pays part of the initial membership [\$15.00] you only have to pay \$8.25 for the last quarter of 2011. Fill it out and send us a check for \$8.25 made out to CTCI. We will pay the balance!

Felipe Cos

### DUES ARE DUE

\$35.00 MEMBERSHIP ARE DUE, PLEASE  
SEND YOUR CHECK TO THE CLASSIC  
THUNDERBIRD CLUB AT  
4000 MONSERRATE ST  
CORAL GABLES, FL. 33146



## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

We will have our monthly meeting on November 1st (Tuesday) at the Trattoria Pampered Chef, at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$20.00, including tax wine and dessert.

## CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA CTCI CHAPTER #114 NOVEMBER 2011 VOLUME 13 No.11

### BOARD:

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George Bishopric Newsletter proofreading

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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 2010-2011

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](http://www.thunderbirdclub.us)

2005Thunderbird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.fordautomobiles.com](http://www.fordautomobiles.com)

Ford racing: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.fordacing.com](http://www.fordacing.com)

Speedvision: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.speedvision.com](http://www.speedvision.com)

CTCI's Home Page: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.ctci.org](http://www.ctci.org)

Daytona's Turkey run: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.carshows.org](http://www.carshows.org)

Metroplex EarlyBirds: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.geocities.com](http://www.geocities.com)

Arizona ClassicT-Bird Club: \_\_\_\_\_ [classic-thunderbird.org](http://classic-thunderbird.org)

Santa Clara ValleyT-Birds: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbird.org/scvt](http://www.tbird.org/scvt)

Sierra Nevada ClassicT-Bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbird.org/snctb](http://www.tbird.org/snctb)

Connecticut Area ClassicT-Bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbirdsofconn.com](http://www.tbirdsofconn.com)

ChicagolandThunderbirds: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.thunderbirds.org](http://www.thunderbirds.org)

Potomac ClassicT-bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.hydratech.com](http://www.hydratech.com)

Old Cars \_\_\_\_\_ [www.greatoldcars.com](http://www.greatoldcars.com)

ClassicT-Bird Club of Chicagoland \_\_\_\_\_ [www.ctcc9.com](http://www.ctcc9.com)

## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER

LACRAMIDARE ORLANIS	19TH
GABRIEL BALDOMERO	20TH
GABRIEL BECERRA	25TH

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



## FUTURE EVENTS

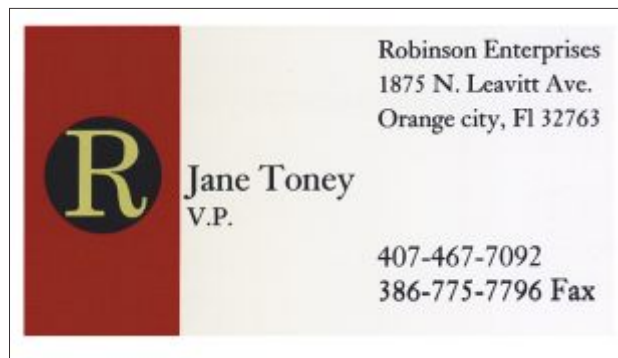
JAN. 14-15 2012

AACA ANNUAL SHOW Miami Beach Art Deco.

JANUARY 29TH OUR CLASSIC CAR SHOW IN  
MAGIC CITY

AUGUST 21-25<sup>TH</sup> 2012

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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](mailto:bobbitt@comcast.net)

Model A Club: Tom Zannis 305 281-9192

Car show promoter: Russ Gagliano 954-560-5412

[merklvr@msn.com](mailto:merklvr@msn.com)

AACA Miami Region President Andy Levy 305-439-0910

[www.aaca.org/southflorida](http://www.aaca.org/southflorida)

Car show promoter: Gerry Perez. 786 344-4228 email

[gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com](mailto:gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com)

Magic Mustang. Frank Alonso 305 551-6077

[Fadatec@aol.com](mailto:Fadatec@aol.com)

Muscle Stangs of Miami Luis Rodriguez 305 323-1649



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BY DAISY HERNANDEZ

## NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 1st – Monthly meeting at Trattoria Pampered Chef 7347 Miami Lakes Dr, Miami Lakes

Saturday, November 5th – Sir Pizza - 6 to 10 pm 12562 SW 120 St

Saturday, November 5th - Classics by the Bay 9698 SW 328 St Homestead 10 am to 3 pm

Sunday, November 6th - Car of Dreams Museum Car Show-Benefit Palm Beach Sheriffs Department

Saturday, November 12th - Shorty's BBQ 2255 NW 87 Ave 6 pm to 10 pm

Saturday, November 12th – Miami Lakes Cruise Night 5pm to 9 pm Jumpin Jack

Saturday, November 12th – AACA 4th Annual Wings Over Miami Car Show- Tamiami Airport

Saturday, November 19th - Denny's 5825 NW 36 St Miami Springs (1978 and older) 6-11

Saturday, November 26th - Don Cameron 9491 NW 77 Ct. Hialeah Gardens 5-10

## DECEMBER

Saturday, December 3rd – Toys for Tots Annual Benefit Classic Car Show – Pompano Beach, AACA Ft Lauderdale

Saturday, December 3rd - Sir Pizza - 6 to 10 pm 12562 SW 120 St

Sunday, December 4th - Festival Flea Market Holiday Car Show 10 am to 4 pm

Saturday, December 3rd – Sir Pizza - 6 to 10 pm 12562 SW 120 St

Saturday, December 10th – T-Bird Club's Holiday Party

Saturday, December 10th - Shorty's BBQ 2255 NW 87 Ave 6 pm to 10 pm

Sunday, December 11th – Toys in the Sun 24th Annual Bike Run & Classic Car Show – Cruiser of South Florida

Saturday, December 17th - Denny's 5825 NW 36 St Miami Springs (1978 and older) 6-11

## JANUARY 2012

NO MONTHLY MEETING THIS MONTH.

Saturday-Sunday January 14-15th - AACA annual Miami Beach car show

Sunday January 29th – Our gigantic Magic City Casino car show



## RECIPES FROM OUR MEMBERS

*Courtesy of the Trail Bird News*

### 3 PUMPKIN WHOOPIE PIES

3 Cups all-purpose flour

1 ½ cups sugar

2 tsp. baking powder

2 tsp. baking soda

1 ½ tsp. ground cinnamon

1 tsp. ground nutmeg

1 tsp. ground cloves

½ tsp. salt

5 eggs

1 can (15 oz.) solid-pack pumpkin

½ cup water

½ cup vegetable oil

1 tsp. vanilla extract

### CREAM CHEESE FILLING

4 ounces cream cheese, softened

¼ cup butter, softened

2 cups confectioner's sugar

1 tsp. vanilla extract

In a large bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, and salt. In another bowl, whisk the eggs, pumpkin, water, oil, and vanilla. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened.

Drop by 2 tablespoonful 2 inches apart onto greased baking sheets. Bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes. Remove to wire racks to cool.

In a small mixing bowl, beat the filling ingredients until smooth. Spread over half of the cookies. Top with remaining cookies.

## 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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# Thunderflite

Posted June 26, 2010 Costa Mesa, CA

With its clear, double-bubble roof and sharply honed tailfins, Thunderflite seems like a 1950s vision of a wondrous Car of the Future, possibly one that flies. But while it looks like a fanciful concept car from a half century ago, the chrome-silver-and-red Thunderflite is actually a recently minted custom car by a famed builder who designed it from a 1961 Thunderbird that he bought off Craig's List. Dino Arnold stood back, beaming with pride, as spectators at Barrett-Jackson's Orange County collector-car auction crowded around the startlingly retro familiarity of Arnold's vision.

Arnold, 58, said that he and his late wife, Suzie, dreamed up the car on their 31st wedding anniversary in 2006, the idea being to present a unique look at the past's ideas about the future of automobiles. Sort of a combination of GM's Autorama and ? Jetsons? cartoons. ? I tried to build a concept of what they thought cars would look like,? he said. ? In the '50s, we thought we'd have flying cars by now.? Arnold, a well-known customizer and builder of the popular Avelate Corvettes, said that after the sudden death of his wife, he locked himself away in his shop and built Thunderflite, starting out with the '61 T'bird.

With the help of a friend, accomplished body finisher Don Johnson, he was able to build the car in about seven months. Thunderflite's first



outing was a starring role at the 2008 SEMA show, when it won Best of Show by Popular Mechanics. The silver beauty has gone on to win numerous awards and accolades, always a crowd pleaser and attention getter.

At Barrett-Jackson, Thunderflite is the car featured on the auction poster and on the cover of Barrett-Jackson's catalog. Arnold pointed out some of the unique details of Thunderflite, such as the aeronautical-looking support on the rear of the bubble roof. He demonstrated how the roof lifts up electrically on a support rod to allow ingress. Because the auction

officials had custody of the keys and remote control, Arnold knelt next to the car and reached under the left front fender to actuate the ? emergency switch? to lift the top. Arnold is hoping that whoever buys it will put it on public display. ? I built it as a one-off deal, and hope-fully it will go to a museum or something where everyone can enjoy it, not just have it locked away in someone's collection,? he said.

Ed note: Thunderflite sold for \$85,800 at the Orange County auction mentioned above.

## Article by George Bishopric

Sometimes, you have to spend hours on eBay to find the truly unusual, cars that hardly anyone noticed 40 years ago, and that everyone, except the truly gifted and possessed has forgotten. This one is about a half mile from my house, awaiting someone insane enough to bring it back to life.

Once upon a time, before Chrysler was rescued by Fiat, the brand of the Pentagram went on its own European shopping spree, scoring Sunbeam, Talbot, Humber, Hilman, and Simca. This car, carefully protected behind a metal fence, is the product of that coalition of the lost, the Simca 1101.

The car was a front-drive 5 door hatchback, four cylinder motor, fuel-efficient hatchback. Like many French cars of the day, it's "styling" can only be described as functional and practical, a long cry from the days of Delahayes, Bugattis, and Talbot-Lagos, which in theory, are the direct ancestors of this utilitarian box.

Simca, (Société Industrielle de Mécanique et Carrosserie Automobile) itself, has a complicated heritage. It was founded in 1934, as a French division of Fiat (Fabbrica Italiana Automobili Torino). In 1954, Simca bought part of Ford's French division, leading to some weird V-8 cars and a small convertible that has strong echoes of the T-bird. Soon after, Chrysler bought much of the rest, but designs still were strongly influenced by Fiat. The Dodge Omni/Plymouth Horizon of the 70s were very much a design from Chrysler's European products, although as a result of the collapse of Chrysler Europe, Simca became part of Peugeot, and the brand disappeared.



So, in our mutinational world, we have a genealogy as complicated as the Alfa Romeo/ Lancia/ Chrysler/ Ferrari/ Maserati/ Dodge/ Ram/Fiat mess now churning out product featuring Jennifer Lopez. When you figure that one out, let me know. Italian Lancia buyers, confronted with the Chrysler 300, are scratching their heads.

But for now, in celebration of the victory in Libya, we can celebrate a French car, and stop the chatter about "freedom fries."



## LETTER FROM OUR MEMBERS:

So, There I was ... By Frank Jones

Every good tale begins with a hook and then the set up for the story. Remember as adolescents when we complained about getting ready for school? Our folks reeled us in with how easy we have it; which set up their fable. We were told that our parents had to walk ten miles uphill in the snow, both ways, so they could go to school. Therefore we should feel lucky that we didn't have to endure such hardship for our education.

Most truly good set ups begin with "There I was..." Now that works in aviation exploits, shopping finds, unusual automotive experiences, unexpected encounters all great and exciting true first hand yarns have that beginning " There I was..."

Well this anecdote starts with the fact that I had just flown 3977 nautical miles (yes, uphill as we were coming north from South America) on September 11th 2011, the tenth anniversary of the World Trade Center attack, so Bridget and I could enjoy the company of our Thunderbird Club for brunch. I arrived at our abode at 0600 and started preparations to fetch Thor (Bridget's and my 1957 Peacock Blue Thunderbird) so we could drive in style to the Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida's Brunch. After collecting Thor from "The Crib", our garage / storage / aerial gym, I parked him at the house and begin the ritual of routine checks of fluid levels, tire pressures, and a general walk around. So, there I was checking the automatic transmission fluid when I noticed a pool of radiator fluid on the intake manifold under the heater control valve. At first glance it appeared to be a loose clamp on the heater hose to the valve, so back into the garage for a screw driver and a quick fix. Putting the blade of the tool to the screw of the clamp and, whoa it should not move that way. Sure enough the heater hose pipe was broken off at the valve, how it did not blow prior to arrival at the house is a miracle. That it was discovered prior to the upcoming drive where it would have stranded us on I-95 very fortuitous. But I felt very bad as it appeared Thor was hard down and unable to move until a replacement valve could be procured. We would have to drive a car other than our Thunderbird to the Thunderbird Brunch.

Just as I admitted defeat I noticed that the base of the valve that screws into the intake manifold looked like a 1/2 inch pipe thread. Well I just happen to have some old wall stub outs in my plumbers junk box that has a 1/2 inch copper pipe nipple and a piece of 1/2 inch copper pipe soldered into the fitting. Eureka problem solved.

As I told my tale, "There I was..." to our friends at the brunch Felipe Cos and Mike McNeal both told me that this is a common problem for the baby birds. Being more of a MoPar guy than a FoMoCo person I wasn't aware of this anomaly. It was also revealed that a stainless steel one could be made that would solve the problem though this route is a little pricy.

Another way is to prevent the problem. Water is a great heat sink for our cooling systems and actually will dissipate heat better than pure ant-freeze. Pure water, even distilled water will eventually fall victim to electrolysis in the cooling system and start corrosion. Pure anti freeze doesn't cool as well so as the manual recommends a 50/ 50 mix will cool very well and prevent corrosion. Of course it will keep the system from freezing but that isn't a big concern in south Florida. There are also cooling system additives that will help the efficiency of the liquid to transfer heat to the radiator and the cooling air flow.

So an effective way to keep corrosion from eating your heating valve

is to maintain the 50/50 mix of antifreeze and water and keep it clean. The cooling system should be flushed periodically and that will keep the fluid pristine and the interior of your cooling system from being made ineffective with rust and deposits.



## RECIPES FROM OUR MEMBERS

*Courtesy of the Trail Bird News*

### 3 NUTTY CARAMEL ICE CREAM CAKE

4 cups crushed pecan shortbread cookies  
1/4 cup butter, melted  
6 cups butter pecan ice cream, softened  
1 carton (8 oz) frozen whipped topping, thawed  
3/4 cup slivered almonds, toasted  
3/4 cup milk chocolate English toffee bits  
1/4 cup caramel sundae syrup  
In a large bowl, combine cookie crumbs and butter. Press 2 cups onto the bottom of a greased 9-inch springform pan. Spoon half of the ice cream into the prepared pan. Freeze for 20 minutes. Repeat layers with remaining cookie crumbs and ice cream. Spread with whipped topping. Sprinkle with almonds and toffee bits. Cover and freeze over-night or until firm. May be frozen for up to 2 months.  
To use frozen cake: Remove from freezer 10 minutes before serving. Drizzle with syrup.  
Makes about 16 servings.

### CRUNCHY CHOCOLATE MINT BALLS

1 Pkg. (10 oz.) mint chocolate chips  
1/4 cup butter, softened  
1 can (14 Oz) sweetened condensed milk  
1 1/2 cups chocolate wafer crumbs  
White jimmies  
In a double boiler or metal bowl over hot water, melt chips and butter; stir until smooth. Stir in milk. Add wafer crumbs; mix to coat. Refrigerate for 1 hour or until easy to handle.  
Roll into 1-in. balls; roll in jimmies. Place on a waxed baking pan; freeze until firm. Transfer to a freezer bag. May be frozen for up to 3 months. Thaw at room temperature when ready to use.  
If you can't find mint chocolate chips, mix 1/4 tsp. peppermint with 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips.



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**Kit Includes:**

- ✓ 2 - Rear shackle kit
- ✓ 2 - Front bushing bolt & nut
- ✓ 2 - Front bushing
- ✓ 4 - Spring mounting retainer
- ✓ 4 - Spring mounting insulator
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It has the "Ring" As Original!

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We have a high quality reproduction antenna for your 1955-57 T-Bird! This cowl mount antenna has the "ring", As Original. Our kit includes antenna with plastic base & rubber pad.

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