



# Thunderbird NEWS

APRIL 2015 VOLUME 17, #4

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*Thunderbird*  
*news*

APRIL 2015 VOLUME 17, #4



# editor's CORNER

April 2015

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR GREETINGS

Welcome back to the Thunderbird News. Our Club Magazine will resume the monthly format beginning with this edition.

Thank you to our members who have written articles for this month. We welcome any original article about a Club related event you have participated in, Car show or Thunderbird related story. As car lovers we would like you to share stories related to the Classic Car hobby as well.

I would like to offer our appreciation to the great companies who advertise in our magazine. Your support is essential if we are to continue to publish this CTCI award winning Monthly Magazine, which is seen, not only by our members, but internationally on our Web and Facebook pages.

Thank you for your support and if you have not already done so, please renew your pledge for 2015.

Cheers,

Ed Raabe

## CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA CTC CHAPTER #114 APRIL 2015 VOLUME 17, #4

Our meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at:

### The Trattoria Pampered Chef

7347 Miami Lakes Dr. Miami Lakes FL 33014

Our Host is Gabriel Nash.

### CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

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eraabe@bellsouth.net

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George Bishopric -Newsletter proofreading

[www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com](http://www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/ThunderbirdClubSouthFlorida](http://www.facebook.com/ThunderbirdClubSouthFlorida)

Felipe Cos Founder

### PAST PRESIDENTS

**Felipe Cos** 1999

**Ed Brown** 2006-07

**Ken Lemming** 2000

**Connie Danluck** 2008

**Felix Hernandez** 2001

**Ed Brown** 2009

**Norm Gabe** 2002

**Daisy Hernandez** 2010-11

**Andre Fournier** 2003-4

**Peter Klein** 2012-13

**Connie Danluck** 2005



APRIL 2015 VOLUME 17, #4



## THUNDERBIRD INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY:

Our Club's web page:

[www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com](http://www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com)

2005 Thunderbird: \_\_\_\_\_ [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 Classic T-Bird Club: \_\_\_\_\_ [classic-thunderbird.org](http://classic-thunderbird.org)  
Santa Clara Valley T-Birds: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbird.org/scvt](http://www.tbird.org/scvt)  
Sierra Nevada Classic T-Bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbird.org/snctb](http://www.tbird.org/snctb)  
Connecticut Area Classic T-Bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbirdsofconn.com](http://www.tbirdsofconn.com)  
Chicagoland Thunderbirds: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.thunderbirds.org](http://www.thunderbirds.org)  
Potomac Classic T-bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.hydratech.com](http://www.hydratech.com)  
Old Cars \_\_\_\_\_ [www.greatoldcars.com](http://www.greatoldcars.com)  
Classic T-Bird Club of Chicagoland \_\_\_\_\_ [www.ctcc9.com](http://www.ctcc9.com)

### CTCI NEWS

#### DUES ARE DUE in NOVEMBER

\$35.00 membership are due,  
please send your check to

#### THE CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Attention: Peter Klein, Treasurer  
4133 Park Ave. Miami FL 33133

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR APRIL

<b>Alberto Jorge</b>	<b>4/8</b>
<b>James Quinlan</b>	<b>4/17</b>
<b>Richard Boyhan</b>	<b>4/21</b>
<b>Gary Stump</b>	<b>4/22</b>
<b>Ana Boyhan</b>	<b>4/23</b>
<b>Daisy Hernandez</b>	<b>4/26</b>
<b>Ron Baraz</b>	<b>4/29</b>

My apologies, If I have missed your birthday it is because I do not have your information. Please contact me to update your records.

## INTERNET PAGE

**Have you seen our internet page?** We have changed our address [www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com](http://www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com) and we have a Facebook page too! Search Classic Thunderbird Club South Florida or

[www.facebook.com/ThunderbirdClubSouthFLorida](http://www.facebook.com/ThunderbirdClubSouthFLorida)

We encourage participation on our Facebook page. Send Posts about everything Thunderbird related and we will enjoy other "car stuff too.

Like Museum Visits, Car shows and Cruise Ins you attend. And other stuff you think we T-Bird lovers would like. Just keep it as clean as your T-Bird on "Detail Day"!

## 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 Jean Hawa  
305-661-9758 [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 Ayanidys Martinez  
305 321-0437

### Annual rates for advertising in the newsletter

FULL PAGE _____	\$675.00
1/2 PAGE _____	\$375.00
1/4 PAGE _____	\$250.00
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CARD SIZE _____	\$125.00 (MEMBERS)





## CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

March 4th, 2015 at Trattoria Pampered Chef, Miami Lakes

BY POPPY MADDEN - Secretary

### MINUTES OF MEETING

President, Ed Raabe opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

He announced that enough people had volunteered to serve as drivers in the RM Auction that was to be held at the end of the month in the Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale.

He also announced that members of our club were to place chocks at the wheels of cars going up to the auction block to make sure they don't slide backwards. The idea for the chocks was developed last year at the suggestion of Mike McNeal.

After a brief discussion of items related to our club's participation in the auction we had a break for dinner.

After dinner Ed said we will discuss the idea of special caps for club members at a future meeting.

He said he had sent members the latest club newsletter magazine as a Quarterly via computer and that he plans to resume it on a monthly basis. He mentioned that he was working with Yohanis Diaz, who had worked with Felipe on the past and was confident that we would be continuing our relationship with her on it. He noted that some of the advertising in the newsletter has not been paid for and hopefully that situation will be remedied soon. He also said club members can place business-card sized ads in the newsletter for only \$150 for a full year.

He added that the newsletter advertising should generate about \$5,000 in revenue a year but currently is bringing in only about half of that.

Ed said he has submitted the past year's August newsletter to Barry Miller, CTCI Chairperson for the Newsletter Contest of the Classic Thunderbird Club International, for judging in the organization's annual contest for best newsletter, adding "It was done by Felipe and it would be a nice tribute to him, if it gets an award".

Our club has won awards for having an outstanding newsletter several times in recent years. The publication was put together almost entirely by Felipe Cos, our treasurer and one of the founders of the club. Felipe, as we all know, has passed and Ed has assumed the role of Editor. He said he had some big shoes to fill, but was hopeful he would be up to the task.

Ed said he was completing a CTCI Chapter Report as required annually and was surprised to learn so many Club members who owned Early Birds had either not joined or let their membership lapse.

Daisy Hernandez reported that our club currently has 51 members and 24 are not members of the Classic Thunderbird Club International.

He urged those members to enroll or renew their membership now. He said "You owners of later model Thunderbirds will benefit from the wealth of knowledge CTCI provides and may even get you to consider purchasing an "Early Bird"!"

The CTCI organization, headquartered in California, only accepts people who own 1955 through 1957 Thunderbirds. Our club welcomes people with Thunderbirds of any year.

Ed announced that Paul Kotner has resigned as a director of the club and that there is now an open director's position.

Daisy nominated Georgina Dominguez for the post. The nomination was unanimously passed by the members present.

A motion was made by Leo Saladino to adjourn and was seconded by Peter Klein.



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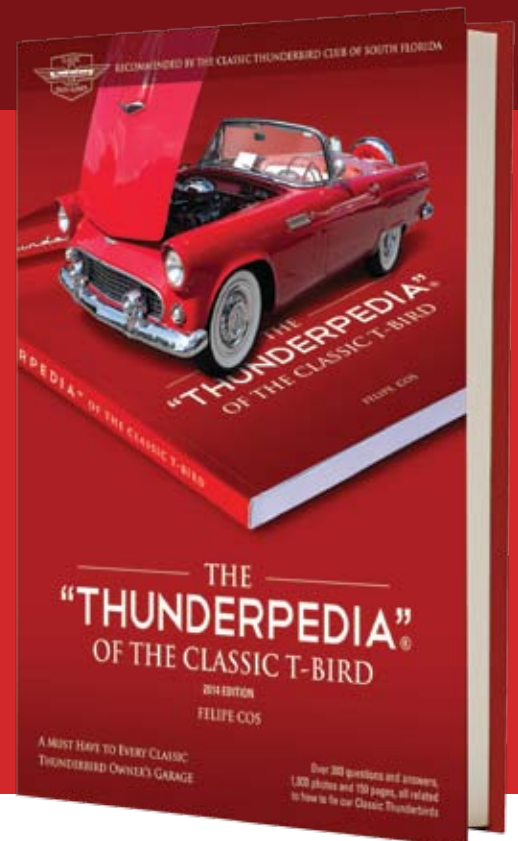
Felipe Cos introduced The Second Edition of the "Thunderpedia of the Classic Thunderbird" at the Branson/Springfield Convention.

It has over 300 questions and answers, 1,000 photos, and over 150 pages, all related in how to fix our Classic Thunderbirds.

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# Letter from the President

**Ed Raabe**

Greetings Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida members, By the time you read this the Auctions America RM Auction will have taken place. We received overwhelming support from Club members who volunteered to drive. Thank you all for your wonderful effort! Next month we will have an article for the Thunderbird News telling the entire story.

As Thunderbird owners we get to enjoy a very special breed of cars that represent a time in America that is much different than today. Bring your car to a local car show in the coming months and share some of the nostalgia. You will be delighted with how many people will tell you Thunderbird stories of their own!

I will continue to inform Club Members of upcoming Events in the hope that we can get as many Club members to show their cars as a group. Please see the announcements under Upcoming Events There is a show of special mention, Cars for a Cure in Miami Lakes

April 19th on Main Street. This show honors the memory of a fellow classic car lover, Vice Mayor, Roberto Alonso. Proceeds will go to support the UM Sylvester Cancer Center. Finding a Cure for Cancer is something we can all benefit from and I hope to see it happen in my lifetime. Tremendous strides have taken since the first Thunderbird rolled off the assembly line in late 1954, but Cancer still claims the lives of millions each year, including our beloved founder Felipe Cos, just a few months ago.

Please reserve the date, April 19th and let's see how many Thunderbirds we can get to go in support of this very worthy cause. Until next month,

Happy Birding!



## To all members

Remember that this newsletter goes to press the 15th of each month. Every month I have make phone calls to remind you of the closing date, Please remember the date.

We welcome any contributions that members can make to our newsletter! Do you have any interesting photos of your car? Send it to me!

Do you have any interesting notes about your car? Send them to me!





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In February, Anita and I took our Thunderbird to the Concours d'Elegance car show at the Boca Raton Hotel. We have a red 1955 "driver", as opposed to a 'Show car". I submitted the application, along with some very flattering pictures, with crossed fingers, just before the deadline. I was pleasantly surprised to receive word that my Thunderbird was accepted and would be displayed with other American sports cars from 1950 to 1975.

Though the weather forecast was not that great, we woke up to a beautiful sunny day, and we headed out for the show, about a 10 minute drive. When we got there we were positioned between a 1957 Thunderbird, and a 1954 Kaiser Darrin, one of the most beautiful and unusual sports cars ever produced. It is most well-known for its pocket doors that slide into the front fender.

After correcting the sign placed in front of my car that claimed that my car had a 7 cylinder engine, Anita and I sat by the car and chatted with lots of people. I answered a lot of questions and swapped a lot of stories. My car brought back a lot of memories to a lot of people. It seemed that just about everyone there once owned a Thunderbird.

The judging team was very friendly. They knew I was not expecting any awards, and I knew that they knew, so we were able to have a very honest and friendly discussion about the car.

Walking around we saw a lot of beautiful cars of all types, but since I prefer "American steel", I spent most of my time looking at the American cars. This year's show was dedicated to the Cadillac and there were many of them from a great span of years as far back as 1908. If you are familiar with Jimmy Buffet's song, "Earl's Dead, Cadillac for Sale", you could find a few cars there that could have belonged to Earl. The show was also dedicated to "50 years of the Mustang", by interestingly enough, there were only a few there.

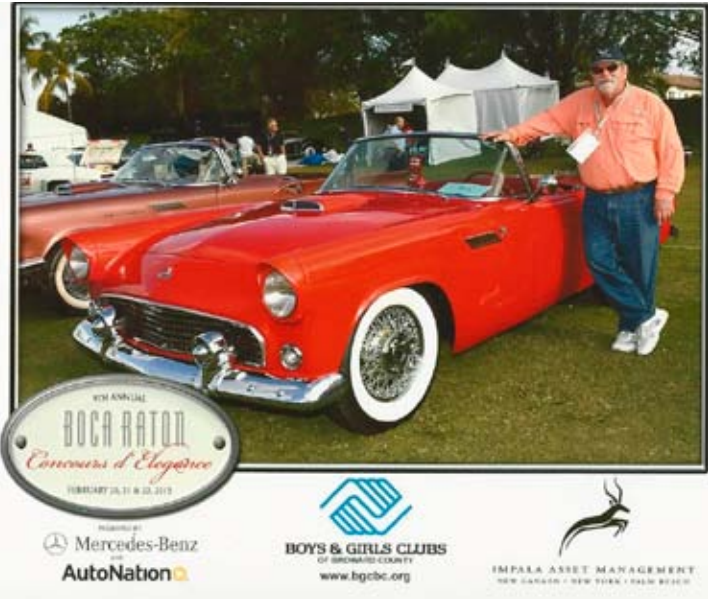
As we walked around, we were amazed not only by the variety of the cars, but of the quality. I felt like I was in a garden of sculptures on wheels.



Shortly after I returned to our car, president and first lady Ed and Arlene appeared. Ed and I walked a bit and chatted with a "big bird" owner. Hopefully he will join our group.

The show was a wonderful experience for us and our car. On the way home we treated it to a full tank of ethanol free gas at the Marathon station up the road.

Paul Werner



# HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD?



## REGISTRY 1955-56-57 THUNDERBIRD

The purpose of this Thunderbird registry is to find and document as many of these fine cars as possible. All information is welcome, even if the car has been totaled, parted out, or sold to a new owner.

To this date I have registered over 17,000 Classic Thunderbirds worldwide.

To register your Thunderbird, please send the VIN and all other codes from the data plate on your Thunderbird to:

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# South Florida Corvette Club Event

In Coconut Creek on Mar 1st

I'm Happy to share my thoughts with you on a car show that Ed and I attended. In one word the show was PERFECT. There corvette club did an amazing job.

Because I went to last years show and enjoyed it I new I would attend this years. I told Ed about it, and he joined me. We happened to get there the same time and followed each other in behind the line of cars. It was raining at the time, but soon after we parked, it stopped and we had sun the rest of the day.

Although there was only two of us from the club they gave us good spots up in the middle and our cars showed very well amongst the other beautiful cars in attendance .. There were approximately 300 cars and some had to be turned away due to lack of space. The field consisted of over a third in Corvettes and the rest mixed cars and different clubs.

The trophy table had over 100 trophy's and looked like a trophy store. Half would be for the Corvettes and the rest for the rest of the entrants plus specialty awards. As a Corvette lover one would definitely find their favorite one. The show was sponsoring the Joe Di Magio children's hospital and was one of their biggest car show fund raisers to date. They gave free food for any small donation for both spectators and entrants, raffles for valuable gift baskets (over 30), 100 door prizes, a flat screen TV and a large 50/50. The 50/50 winner got half of nearly \$3000 dollars.

Our entertainment other than the DJ was the Blues Brothers who put on a great show getting lots of participation from the audience. They performed about forty five minutes to an hour and being I found out one of there last names was the



same as mine, we may be related.

We are both from New York in similar areas.

The show was right off 441 and the Sawgrass Expressway at the Lou Bachrodt Chevrolet Dealership in Broward. Unfortunately leaving the show exiting back onto 441 a few of the classic cars got into an accident causing major damage to their vehicles. We don't know of any injuries but share how they must feel about there hard work into their classics.

Ed and I wished there were other club members joining us so maybe next year some of you would be interested. Seeing the 1953 Corvette roped off inside the dealership with the new cars was a nice site to see alone.

Submitted by your fellow club member.

Bob Ferretti.



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# IT'S THE FIFTIES AGAIN

By Bridget Hagood and Frank Jones



Friday February the 27th caught me piloting our 1957 Thunderbird "Thor" west on interstate 528 to Orlando.

Frank was riding shotgun and handling the navigation duties. Unbeknownst to me he was also conducting a check ride of our new water pump. Thor purred the entire fifty six mile trip, the new water pump worked great; our Thunderbird never got hot and so Frank didn't have to break out the tool box.

This was a great shakedown cruise and then, at the end of the first leg was another cool adventure. We were heading to conduct a static display for the Southeastern Regional Produce Convention on International Parkway.

We arrived early, then parked our baby bird in the appropriate spot and waited for the festivities to begin. We wandered into the convention atrium and to our surprise we were greeted by a fifties style carnival midway complete with ring toss, pig races, ball throw, and sharp shooting of cork loaded rifles.

There was a kissing booth which I promptly stepped behind and offered Frank a kiss for a mere five dollars, he gave me a fifty and said he owed me more! As we strolled down memory lane I came face to face with Lucy Ricardo. What a great treat, Lucille Ball was always a favorite of mine. Shortly Frank spotted one of his fifties idols, no not the Marilyn Monroe look alike (my favorite), but Buddy Holly, the rock and roll star who died in a plane crash with Ritchie Valens, and Jiles Perry Richardson, the Big Bopper. This part of Rock and Roll History was immortalized in the song "American Pie" by Don McLean, and is know "as the day the music died", February 3, 1959.

On a lighter note, there were roller skaters with poodle skirts or jeans and t shirts with cigarettes rolled up in their sleeves busy entertaining the spectators with their fifties dance moves.

I won many stuffed animals for my sharp shooting and ball tosses from the midway so on the way home our Thunderbird was a crowded menagerie.



## UPCOMING CLASSIC CAR EVENTS



### APRIL 5

Russ G Benefit Show Boardroom Bar, Ft Lauderdale, FL

### APRIL 11

AutoNation Ford 9th Annual Benefit Open Car Show.  
1333 Federal Highway,  
Ft Lauderdale, FL

### APRIL 12

Festival Annual Spring Mega Classic Festival Flea Market,  
Sample Road, Margate, FL  
Tropical Park Mustang Car Show  
7900 SW 40 St, Miami, FL

### APRIL 19

Classics on the Key  
4020 Virginia Bch Drive, Miami, FL

### APRIL 25

Cooper City Founders Day AACA/FtL Brian Piccolo Park 9501 Sheridan Street, Cooper City, FL

### APRIL 26

Cauley Square Car Show  
22400 S. Dixie Hwy,  
Goulds, FL

**There are 3 good sources for On-Line information**

[Cruisinsothflorida.com](http://Cruisinsothflorida.com) | [Flacarshows.com](http://Flacarshows.com) | [Benefitcarshow.com](http://Benefitcarshow.com)



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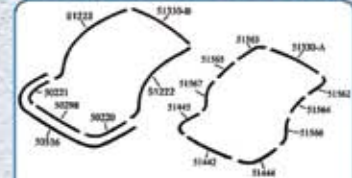


## COWL MOUNT ANTENNA

We have a high quality reproduction antenna for your 1955-57 T-Bird! This cowl mount antenna has the "ring", As Original.

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18813-AR 55/57 ..... kit 59.95



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### SOFT TOP KIT

51502-CK 10 Pc. Kit. .... 394.95



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- ✓ 2 - Front bushing bolt & nut
- ✓ 2 - Front bushing
- ✓ 4 - Spring mounting retainer
- ✓ 4 - Spring mounting insulator
- ✓ 12 or 16 - Anti-squeaks
- ✓ 2 - Center bolt & nut

5550-AKR 55 ..... kit 139.95  
5550-BKR 56/57 ..... kit 124.95



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