



Thunderbird NEWS

JULY 2015 VOLUME 17, #7

PROUD ORGANIZER OF THE TROPICAL PARK CAR SHOW & THE FLORIDA'S 300 MILE RALLY



HAPPY 60th ANNIVERSARY

**Ed and Arlene's
1955 Thunderbird**



**HAPPY
4th
of
July**

**Tips when buying Gasoline
...a must read**

Restoring American History

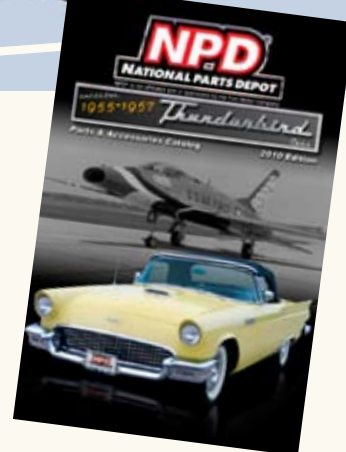
NPD[®]
NATIONAL PARTS DEPOT



- **Huge Inventory**
- **1-3 Day Delivery**
- **24-Hour Order Lines**
- **Show Winning Quality**

FREE Color Catalog
Call 24 Hours
352-387-0021
SHOP ON-LINE

www.nationalpartsdepot.com



Three Convenient Locations

FLORIDA

800-874-7595

Local 352-861-8700

Ocala, 900 SW 38th Ave.

MICHIGAN

800-521-6104

Local 734-397-4569

Canton, 2435 S. Haggerty Rd.

N.CAROLINA

800-368-6451

Local 704-331-0900

Charlotte, 7000 MacFarlane Blvd.



Thunderbird
news

JULY 2015 VOLUME 17, #7



editor's CORNER

June 2015

HELLO CLUB MEMBERS,

I surely appreciate the articles that are being contributed to our Thunderbird News by our members. Please keep them coming! Top priority will go to articles about a Classic Thunderbird of South Florida Events and we welcome any story about a Classic Car Event where Thunderbirds appear. Technical articles are much appreciated, as some of us do get our fingernails dirty and our knuckles bloodied!

This year I am looking for stories about YOUR 1955Thunderbird.

So if you own a 55, try writing a story about it.

Share the "love"!

Thanks to you all for contributing to this month's edition!

If you were not able to attend the June Club Meeting, please review the Meeting Minutes in this newsletter.

Ed Raabe

NEW MEMBERS

Bill and Doti Budd, Miami
Joe and Debbie La Vista, Weston
Frank Bonuso, Oakland Park



CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA CTC CHAPTER #114 JULY 2015 VOLUME 17, #7

Our meetings are held the Third 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

Ed Raabe President
954 383 8111
eraabe@bellsouth.net

Poppy Madden Secretary
954 566 0000
wuzfuz7@aol.com

Gary Stump 1st Vice President
786 525 5170
grytbird@aol.com

Peter Klein Treasurer
305 376 8578
pcklein@bellsouth.net

Leo Saladino 2nd Vice President
954 456 4887
leolasharue@aol.com

Peter Klein Past President
305 376 8578
pcklein@bellsouth.net

DIRECTORS

George Bishopric 954 761 1438
georgemia@mac.com

Georgina Dominguez
305-000-0000
gmdominguez4017@aol.com

Connie Danluck 305 206 9053
conico@bellsouth.net

Ernie Saladino 954 559 0068
salamoney1317@gmail.com

Norm Gabe 305 895 3453
norm@environmentalcontrol.com

Grace Vazquez 305 979 1065
41buickspecial@gmail.com

Ed Brown 954 931 4542
doubleliz@aol.com

INTERNET DIRECTOR

Felix Hernandez 305 613 6775
hrrn3120@bellsouth.com

Oscar Castro 305 467 8196
oscar@midsenet.com

Mike McNeal 954 786 8571
tamcneal137@aol.com

EVENTS & PROMOTIONS

Bob Toney 305 592 9782
jtoney49@aol.com

Daisy Hernandez 305 613 6775
hrrn3120@bellsouth.com



4133 Park Ave. Miami FL 33133

Phone: 305-794-2774 E-mail: PClein@bellsouth.net

Editor Ed Raabe: Ed.raabe@gmail.com

George Bishopric -Newsletter proofreading

www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com

Facebook Page: 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



JULY 2015 VOLUME 17, #7

THUNDERBIRD INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY:

Our Club's web page:

www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com

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
Sierra Nevada Classic T-Bird: _____ www.tbird.org/snctb
Connecticut Area Classic T-Bird: _____ www.tbirdsofconn.com
Chicagoland Thunderbirds: _____ www.thunderbirds.org
Potomac Classic T-bird: _____ www.hydratech.com
Old Cars _____ www.greatoldcars.com
Classic T-Bird Club of Chicagoland _____ 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 IN JULY

Mark Avila	7/13
Steve Gordon	7/14
Ed Sheppard	7/17
Gary Stump	7/17

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 and we have a Facebook page too! Search Classic Thunderbird Club South Florida or

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 Bob Dunn
954-563-7696 www.ftlauderdaleaaca.com

AACA Miami Region. President Oscar Castro
305-467-8196 www.aaca.org/southflorida

Auto Appraisal Network: John & Bret Layzell
305-899-9963 www.autoappraisalnetwork.com/miami

Benefit Car Shows: Oscar Castro
305-467-8196 www.benefitcarshows.com
oscar@benefitcarshows.com

Gerry Car Show: Gerry Perez
786 344-4228 email gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com

Magic Mustangs: Frank Alonso
305 551-6077 Fadatec@aol.com

Muscle Stangs of Miami: Ayanidys Martinez
305 321-0437

Jumpin' Jack Productions: Jack Corssino
305-214-2277 www.jumpinjackproductions.com

DB Entertainment Inc.: Dick Barten
954-563-4000 Bandsouth@bellsouth.net

Cruisin South Florida: Scott the MusicMan
scott@cuisinsouthflorida.com

Ft Lauderdale Mustang Club: Mark Patterson
www.flmustangclub.com

Cobra Joe Productions: Joe Bevelacqua
jbevrs@msn.com

VMCCA Sun Coast Chapter. President David Bobbitt
305 661-1340 bobbitt@comcast.net

Model A Club: Tom Zannis 305 281-9192





CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

June 10th, 2015 at Trattoria Pampered Chef, Miami Lakes

BY ARLENE RAABE

MINUTES OF MEETING

President Ed Raabe called the meeting to order at 7pm.

Ed introduced new members, Bill & Doti Budd of Miami and asked Bill to say a few words. Bill told the club he was a retired Police Officer and Doti was a retired career Flight Attendant with Pan Am Airlines and were both cat lovers! He went on the say as a "Muscle Car Guy" he owned a Shelby Cobra which was wrecked in an accident, although he was unhurt, he was really upset about losing it. After an extensive search, it was replaced with a 2005 Bronze Anniversary Edition "New Bird", spotless, with 41K miles.

Ed then introduced new members Joe and Debbie La Vista of Weston and asked Joe to say a few words. He said he has always been a "Muscle Car Guy" too! He owns a 1969 AMX, Ed said an AMX is not a Thunderbird, but it does have just 2 seats and we are happy to have him in the club. Oscar, owner of the "Green Thunder" (a very rare AMC Thunder Gremlin) was excited since he has an AMC stable at his home! Joe continued to say he was introduced to the Club by his friends, Club members Bob & Deb Ferretti and he had a great time helping at the RM auction in March. Debbie, his wife is a retired American Airline flight attendant.

THE FIRST TOPIC: CLUB HATS

Ed asked Peter Klein to review. He mentioned there are two choices ventilated and non-ventilated and that we should choose the common non-ventilated style. The Color would be black with the Club Logo as on our Club Shirts, in Turquoise, embroidered in the front, again for uniformity and club recognition at Car shows etc. Look at www.SANMAR.com for examples.

A count was taken and it was agreed to get an initial order of 3 dozen caps at approximately \$17-\$18 each. Alternate colors will be considered at a later time. Peter asked that everyone who will commit to purchase, should contact him by email with the number of hats they want.

THE SECOND TOPIC: NEWSLETTER

Ed said the Newsletter is currently running at a deficit and he has been looking for more advertisers among the Insurance Industry and Parts Suppliers. He said that we could reduce the expense by going to a different paper quality, but still maintain the glossy full color format. He said the current hard paper will archive very well and that should be a consideration. Theresa

McNeal commented that we all receive a digital version and have the opportunity to print it on any type of paper we like ourselves. She asked about entering the Newsletter in completion and Ed said to compete for the Golden Quill award, a year's worth of newsletters in the printed form was required. CTCI had accepted a Digital version of the August 2014 Magazine. Ed said currently we a spending \$4.98 per issue and that we can have them printed as cheaply as \$2.60 if we go to a more paper based stock. He added that he was getting quotes and passed around our Club newsletter and 2 other Club publications for comparison.

New member Frank Bonuso arrived and introduced himself as owning a 2005 Anniversary Edition and said he found out about the Club from attending a car show where a few of our club members attended.

THE THIRD TOPIC: EVENT PLANNING

Daisy Hernandez was introduced and started by talking about the visit to the Cars of Dreams Museum in North Palm Beach on June 20th the day before Father's Day. This is a Private Museum owned by John Staluppi and we were to be there by 10:45am for entrance. The doors will be closed at 11am to ensure only our invited Club and guests would attend. This is his second collection, reestablished with all new cars and a "Coney Island" theme, which a lot of members from Metro NY City can appreciate! Daisy said we had 37 people already signed up to go. Peter added that he saw show on CNN about the lifestyles of Millionaires featuring Jon Staluppi. He has a fleet of Yachts, each named after a James Bond Movie! Currently he is having a new one valued at 60 million dollars built in Italy. He asked the Saladino brothers if they would be attending the Christening to extend their "blessings" which resulted in a round of laughter!

Next Daisy spoke about the itinerary for the Stuart Club Outing on July 11, 12,13th

Friday and Saturday night accommodations at the Hutchinson Island Marriot resort with at the special group rate of \$139.00 a night. She said we now have 9 couples committed and that she needed to personally guaranty the rooms to get the rate. Each member must contact the Resort and book the rooms by June 19th or she will lose her deposit. Dinner Friday night is available at the Baja Grill at the Resort.

Saturday 10:30am; The Elliot Museum \$18.00 per person, A





CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

unique Automobile Museum followed by, for those who are interested, The Refuge House at Gilberts Bay Museum \$18.00 per person. The Refuge House is the last remaining of 10 shelters that we established along the Florida "Gold Coast" to aid shipwreck survivors during the late 1800's to early 1900s.

Saturday Night 6pm; Dinner and dancing at the Pirate's Cove restaurant.

Sunday 10am; Miller's Mustang Barn. Closed to the public, The Mustang Barn is one of the largest collections of Mustangs assembled and owned by Jack Miller of the Miller's Ale House restaurant chain. Admission will be free and the Club, in return, will dine for lunch in the famous Miller's Ale House on site.

Daisy said that when she sends emails about events commitments and deadlines it is very important that she receives replies. Coordinating a large group is sometimes difficult.

Ed mentioned the very hard work and dedication by Daisy who always makes these events successful and acknowledged the many club members who assist in the venues such as Bob Ferretti who recommended the Marriott Hotel, Leo Saladino who recommended the Pirate's Cove restaurant and the connection that he, Ed, was able to make to get us in to the Miller's Mustang Barn. (Applause)

Peter mentioned that it was a good time to remind everyone that the efforts of the Club members who make our Annual Car show and the RM Auction a success allows us the luxury of the Club subsidizing some of the costs of our Events and Outings. He urged everyone, who can, to participate in these two fundraisers. Tropical Park nets the Club \$1500-\$2000 and RM auction this year over \$5000.00, our best yet!

Daisy talked about the Sunday Brunch at Hillcrest Country Club in September, the dates either, the 13th or the 20th to be determined. Anita mention a conflict with the Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, but it was discovered there was no issue with the 10th or 20th after all.

A raffle will be held to include memorabilia of Felipe Cos, which will be a very touching tribute to our Club's founder.

The Holiday Party was briefly discussed. Ed said at this point any Venue suggestions are appreciated.

Leo and Valentyna Saladino are looking in to the Community Room at their Condo on the Beach. The location is central to all members which makes it appealing. If we choose it we will

need a catering service. Robin mentioned the food at the last Holiday party "was terrible". Ed asked if she would help us find a Venue or a catering service for this year's party, which she agreed. The date was tentatively set for Dec 19th.

NEW BUSINESS

Oscar made us aware of the Venetian Isles 4th of July Car show. T Bird Club Members FREE plus 2 Free lunches are provided with a car entry. Ed reminded everyone to check the Facebook page and Upcoming events column in the Thunderbird News for show and Cruise information.

Ricardo made an impassioned statement about enjoying our cars. He said when he joined the Club he was hoping we could get together once a month at a Diner or breakfast place WITH OUR CARS and talk "Shop" This was met with an enthusiastic response! Daisy said she would start to look for a place who would be able to accommodate us.

Ed told the Club about the annual Car show Event at The Edison and Ford Estate in Ft Myers, usually The **FIRST SATURDAY IN FEBRUARY, in 2016 it will be the 6th**. We have been invited to join the Trailbirds of South West Florida Thunderbird Club. It could possibly be the largest collection of privately owned Thunderbirds on display at any car show in Florida. It will mean we should plan on driving our cars over Friday evening to get on the show field early Saturday morning and that we will need to plan it as a one night "overnight" event.

Gary was given the floor and spoke of the meeting change that was made from the 1st to the 2nd Wednesday of the month (we had 37 attendees at tonight s meeting, one of our largest groups ever). He spoke of his long time membership as one of the first to join, and his many years as a Vice President on the board. He has a conflict with The Corvette Club meeting which falls on the 2nd Wednesday and asked if we could move the meeting to the 3rd Wednesday. Peter Klein reminded us that in November and December the Holidays were a conflict. By a show of hands it was agreeable and a motion was made by Oscar Castro to make the change. Gary Stump seconded. It was voted on and passed. Meetings will now be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month with the exception of November and December where accommodations for the Holidays will be made.

8:55pm Motion to adjourn, Oscar Castro. Motion seconded, Georgina Dominguez, meeting adjourned.



Truly great things
tend to improve with age.

World Ford has been part of the
South Florida community for over 40 years...
and we're only getting better.



GUS MACHADO 
OF KENDALL

15551 South Dixie Hwy • KENDALL
US 1 & Southwest 155th Street
305.238.9211

GUS MACHADO 
OF HIALEAH

1200 West 49th Street
Hialeah, Florida 33012
305.822.3211

It's all about the price and the huge selection... and it always has been.

**We Fix it Right
the First Time
and Guarantee
it for LIFE!**

Brany Binker

**ALL WORK RESTORED
TO SHOWROOM
CONDITION!**

From
Minor Dents
To Complete
Collision
Repair

Body & Paint Work
from People
You Know and Trust



FREE ESTIMATES

Two locations to serve you better:

Original Location
3051 SW 38th Court
Miami, FL 33146
305-448-4100

New West Kendall Location
12539 SW 128th Street
Miami, FL 33186
(Near Tamiami Airport)
305-251-5133

A AUTO
tech

COMPLETE PAINT & BODY SHOP





Robinson Enterprises
1875 N. Leavitt Ave.
Orange city, Fl 32763

Jane Toney
V.P.

407-467-7092
386-775-7796 Fax

Hialeah plating shop

CHROME Jose Hernandez
305-953-4143
4335 e. 10 ave. Hialeah, FL 33013

**Hagerty Insurance is
proud to support the**

**Classic Thunderbird
Club of S. Florida**

TOTAL PROTECTION

HAGERTY

COLLECTOR CAR INSURANCE
1-800-922-4050 | WWW.HAGERTY.COM

SECOND EDITION RELEASED

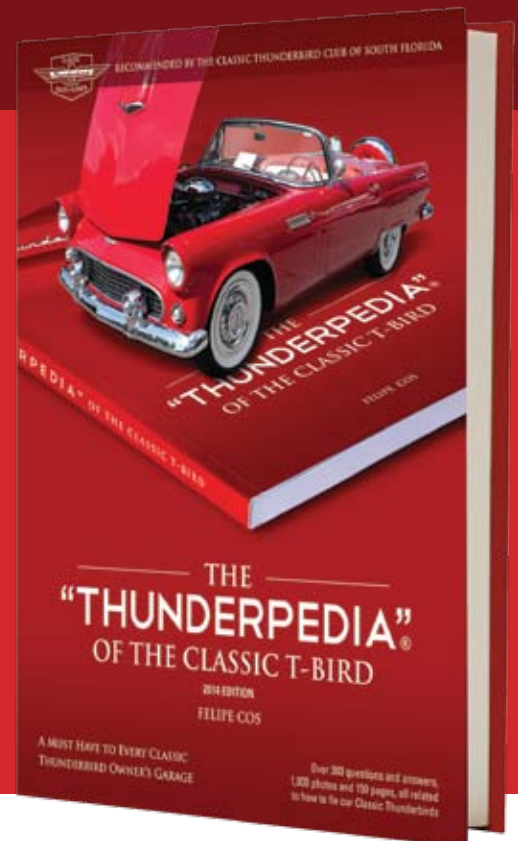
Felipe Cos introduced The Second Edition of the "Thunderpedia of the Classic Thunderbird" at the Branson/Springfield Convention.

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

There are no other books similar to this.

Price is \$35.00 Postage is \$6.00

Contact Ricky Cos at
rcos@bellsouth.net





Letter from the President

Ed Raabe

JULY 2015

Hello Members,

Summer is here already! Wow what happened to the Spring? There are just a few Car shows scheduled in the area at the beginning of the month because it's just too darn hot here! There are still Cruise-Ins at night to enjoy. Check out what's available in "Upcoming Events".

I added a reference to the AACA Fall Meet in Louisville KY which may interest our Club Members. This is an Indoor Event in a beautiful part of the country.

I have begun working on a Club Roster which will be published in an "On Line" Version, to save costs, available to all members' e-mails as soon as it is completed. Please, if you have not already done so, send me an e-mail to update your information. Also include a photo of your Thunderbird in a nice setting for publication in the Thunderbird News.

We voted to change our monthly meeting to the 3rd Wednesday of the month, beginning in July. Please make the change in your Planners.

If you were not able to attend this month's meeting, everything you want to know is in the Meeting Minutes. Please spend a few minutes to learn about our plans to order Club hats as well as our plans for Outings and Car Show participation. We are already talking about the Christmas Holiday Party venue!

including many 'one of a kind' example. 54 vehicles are enclosed in a climate controlled environment and are "served up" to a rotating viewing stage by a state of the art automated racking system.



The House of refuge at Gilberts Bar, Stuart FL

The House of Refuge, The last of 10 Houses of Refuge is a maritime museum featuring what sailors and passengers would have experienced after being saved from shipwrecks off the Florida coast in the 19th and early 20th Centuries



Miller's Mustang Barn, Jupiter FL

We will be stopping at the Mustang Barn in Jupiter on the return drive Sunday morning. This is a private Museum collection of Mustangs owned by Jack Miller of Miller's Ale House fame. We are sure to have a wonderful time and an article about our experiences will be in following issues.

Until then, Happy Birding!

Ed Raabe



Elliott Museum, Stuart FL

We discussed a Club outing on July 10-13th to Stuart and Jupiter. We will visit the Elliott Museum. The Elliot has a wonderful collection of Early Fords



Toney Drilling Supplies, Inc.

•Environmental Well Supplies •Drill Rigs •Lab Equipment
•Drilling Tools •Drill Mud •Engineering, Soil and Concrete Equipment



ROBERT TONEY
President

14060 N.W. 19TH AVE. •MIAMI, FL 33054
(305) 685-2453 •(800) 432-6193 •FAX (305) 687-5231
e-mail: www.toneydrilling.com

10% DISCOUNT DURING MAY FOR THUNDERBIRD MEMBERS

EAGLE OVERHAULING, INC

Serving since 1976
500 WEST 27th Street
Hialeah, Florida 33010

MVP94100566
Auto
Air Conditioning
Parts

Rebuilding
Compressors
Evaporators
And Driers

Faaca Distributors

Carlos A. Acosta
Productions Manager
(305) 887-7349
Fax: (305) 884-7762



PROUD PRINTER OF THIS NEWSLETTER

Minuteman Press. of Doral
The First & Last Step in Printing

2818 N.W. 79th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33122
Tel: 305.477.2817 Fax: 305.594.9177
www.doralprinting.com

Environmental Control, Inc.

Sunrise Sheet Metal, Inc.
916 NW 6th Ave
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
www.environmentalcontrol.com



954-764-0232 Broward
305-895-6696 Dade
954-764-0966 Fax

Mechanical Contractors Lic # CMC 014588
General Contractors Lic # CGC 06094
Professional Engineers Lic # EB 07542

Norm Gabe
President
norm@environmentalcontrol.com

Providing air quality control work for our customers for over 30 years

Drive Through Time with Peace of Mind

Proud to Support the Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida

J.C. Taylor
Antique Automobile Insurance Agency
1-888-ANTIQUE (1-888-268-4783)
www.jctaylor.com



**REPRODUCING & MANUFACTURING PARTS FOR
1955-1957 THUNDERBIRDS SINCE 1969**

Most orders shipped same day! Call for a free catalog

CLASSIC AUTO SUPPLY

795 HIGH STREET, COSHOCTON, OH 43812

orders 800-374-0914 . tech help 740-622-9700

www.classictbird.com

HAGERTY

IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
**THE CLASSIC
THUNDERBIRD CLUB
OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

GIVE US A CALL AT 800-922-4050 OR
LOG ON TO WWW.HAGERTY.COM

INSURANCE • ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE • HOBBY RESOURCES



TRATTORIA PAMPERED CHEF

Classic Italian Cuisine

"Very Good" MIAMI HERALD
"A SOLID HIT" TRAVEL HOLIDAY,
GOOD VALUE DINING GUIDE
Catering • Parties • All Occasions

GABRIEL NASH

7347 MIAMI LAKES DRIVE
MIAMI LAKES, FL 33014

TEL.: (305) 825-8919

CELL.: (786) 210-3539

FAX: (305) 825-8918



Ed and Arlene's 1955 Thunderbird

By Ed Raabe



Our Thunderbird story begins with a search for Edsel "Dog Dish" hubcaps in Hershey PA, 2011. I was looking for original hubcaps for our 1959 Edsel and thought that a trip to the AACA Hershey October meet would be just the place to find what I needed. I have waited a long time to go there and since our daughter, Ashley and son-in-law, Thomas, were living in Baltimore we thought a nice family weekend up to the show would be fun. I dragged Thomas around the Swap Meet lots for 8 hours in the blazing sun (it didn't rain that year) looking for those stupid hubcaps. Finally we met a great Edsel guy named Henry Klinger, but some Scandinavians had just wiped him out of all his hubcaps, among other rare Edsel parts! He was a great connection and since then we have had many satisfactory parts transactions.

The Car Corral at Hershey is famous for its' vast selection of divergent Classic cars for sale. The next day with my wife Arlene and Ashley along we strolled up and down the Corral, which as you know can take hours. Suddenly we came upon 3 Thunderbirds. Now Arlene, my wife, and I have discussed owning a Thunderbird for a while. It is for us, "the ultimate classic car". Of course it had to be "that turquoise-teal color" which we all know is really blue,

THUNDERBIRD BLUE! Well, one of the three cars is a 55 (my favorite Early Bird) and it IS Thunderbird Blue. We look it over, think it's really nice and say to ourselves "one day, that's the kind of T-Bird we'll get", then keep on walking

That night we talk some more about THAT Thunderbird. It has what we want and it's represented by Marvin Hill, of Hills Automotive one of the most respected Thunderbird restorers in the USA, so no worries about the build quality. And then there is that C.D. we have that's not doing anything for us in the bank!

Thomas and I get up early the next day and go back right to the Corral and it's NOT THERE. The other 2 cars are, but not "our Bird"! So I call the girls and tell them "too bad I guess it got sold" and to relax and come over in a little while, Thomas and I are going to look around at the Vendors for some Die Cast cars.

Two hours later they show up and we walk the Corral to see if anything new has showed up. As we approach the Hills cars, there it is, "Our T-Bird"! So we go over and start asking questions. When was it restored? How many miles on the engine rebuild? etc. etc. I go for a test ride with Marvin Hill's son and I am impressed. Starts right up, shifts strong, moves out like a 'Bat out of Hell' It's "all good".



When we get back I tell Arlene if we are going to do it, this really is “the one”, so we meet Marvin and work out a deal, BUT we are in PA and we live in FLA! (Transportation is costly and if I can get it thrown in, I’ll close). Marvin brings over his partner Jim and tells us he has a home in Daytona would we be interested in picking it up there. YES we have a deal!

Now we are all family and Jim says “Hell, I’ll bring it right to your home in Ft Lauderdale!” About a week later Jim arrives in his “football field long” enclosed car carrier with our new Thunderbird inside.

We are the 3rd owners, the first being Betty and Gary Sheppard of Parkersburg, West Virginia and the second Mr. James Bishoff of Belpre Ohio, for whom Hills Automotive restored the car. Being a low mileage car the restoration was performed without the need to remove the body from the frame. Born on July 26th 1955, at the Dearborn MI. factory as a P-Code 292cu.in V8 with automatic “air cooled” transmission, power steering and power brakes, we are still in the process of researching an original bill of sale, but have had no luck so far, since most of those records for the 55 T-Birds are lost.

We joined the CTCl and Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida right away. We were welcomed enthusiastically to our local club by the founder, Felipe Cos, whose Thunderbird experience went back to pre-Castro Cuba where he had the reputation for the “Fastest Thunderbird on the Island”. He was always ready to help a club member with any Thunderbird issue that came up and was still restoring cars at his home at 78 years old! He even published a book answering the most common Thunderbird repair issues called Thunderpedia. Sadly Felipe passed recently, but his Legend will live on.

We are also became members of The AACA South Florida region and have had the honor of our car to be chosen for the Havana Nights Memory Lane Exhibit in 2012. We attend many AACA sponsored Events and have made some great friends in the Club. One of our favorite Events is Art Deco Weekend in the South Beach district of Miami. Classic cars are lined up along the beach among the Deco Hotels, Restaurants and Artists booths making for a spectacular showing of Classic Cars.

I have a lot of fun maintaining our Thunderbird in top running condition. We forget how much routine maintenance the older cars required, which includes a minimum of a weekly drive for at least 30 minutes to keep the “juices” flowing. It’s a tough job, but somebody needs to do it! Since owning it



I have made over 50 small improvements to make it ready for an AACA regional judging, including replacing the tires with original bias-ply wide white walls, like the kind it left the factory wearing, new carpeting and dozens of adjustments and tweaks. We are looking forward to our first Junior Award.

Among other awards, our Thunderbird has won a Blue Ribbon for Best in Class at the Boca Raton Concours de Elegance, 2012, The AACA South Florida Region Miracle Mile Best of Class, 2013 and The Dave Siegel Memorial Award for Best of Show, 2014. Dave was a well-respected former Thunderbird owner, Thunderbird Club President and AACA member, who is memorialized each year with a show in his name.

Congratulations to the Thunderbird on its’ 60th birthday.
Ed and Arlene Raabe



UPCOMING CLASSIC CAR EVENTS

CAR SHOWS

JULY 3rd

16th Annual Miami Springs Car Show
1 Curtiss Parkway, Miami Springs,
Florida 33168

**16th ANNUAL
MIAMI SPRINGS OPEN
CAR & TRUCK SHOW**

\$5 REGISTRATION **DJ Scott the Music Man**

THURSDAY JULY 3rd / 6 PM - 10 PM

MIAMI SPRINGS CIRCLE
1 CURTISS PARKWAY, MIAMI SPRINGS, FL 33168

ALL CLUBS WELCOME

- Top 30 Awards: Best Decorated Vehicles
- Dash Plaques: First 100 Vehicles
- Vendors On Site
- Flatscreen TV Raffle
- 2 \$50 Gas Card Raffle

A Jumpin Jack Production
www.CruisinSouthFlorida.com | 305-214-2277 (CAR5)

JULY 15-18

AACA Fall Meet
Louisville KY
www.aaca.org/images/meet_brochures/2015_SE_Fall_80th_KY.pdf

**AACA 80th ANNIVERSARY
SOUTHEASTERN FALL MEET**

80

**JULY 15 - 18
2015**

**LOUISVILLE,
KENTUCKY**

Host Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 830 Phillips Lane,
Louisville, KY 40209; 502-367-2251

Show Field: KY Exposition Center (KEC).
This is an indoor air conditioned facility.

Meet Chairman	Registration	Chief Judge
Fred Trusty 2012 Bearcamp Rd Louisville, KY 40272 502-292-7008 bearcamp1988@gmail.com	Dollie Flechler 1401 Old Jericho Rd. Louisville, KY 40031 502-744-2933 flechler@yahoo.com	Steve Koonter 11421 Seatonville Rd. Louisville, KY 40291 502-619-2917 koonstev@hotmail.com

Sponsored by the Kyana Region AACA

JULY 4

Venetian Isles Celebration Car Show 10-4
[T-Bird Club Invited Free – Two lunches per car]. Details & Registration
www.benefitcarshows.com

VENETIAN ISLES

**4th of JULY
2014
CAR SHOW**

FLORIDA THUNDERBIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP
LOVE FLORIDA ELEGANCE

**4 GREAT SOURCES FOR On-Line
CAR SHOW INFORMATION**



Benefitcarshows.com



Cruisinsothflorida.com



Flacarshows.com



Southdadecarshow.com

**Thunderbird
NEWS**

Thunderbird News is the official newsletter of the Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida. Our purpose is to inform our membership about, club meetings, club activities, Classic Car events and articles of interest to Ford Thunderbird owners.

Articles may be reproduced with the permission of the author.

The views and opinions expressed in Thunderbird News are those of the named author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor, The Board of Directors of the Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida or those of the membership.



UPCOMING CLASSIC CAR EVENTS

CRUISE-INS

CARS & COFFEE
MONTHLY GATHERING OF SOUTH FLORIDA'S FINEST AUTOMOBILES
9AM-NOON

**OFFICIAL 2015
CARS & COFFEE PALM BEACH
EVENT DATES**

SUNDAY JANUARY 18TH
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15TH
SUNDAY MARCH 15TH
SUNDAY APRIL 12TH
SUNDAY MAY 10TH
SUNDAY JUNE 14TH
SUNDAY JULY 5TH
SUNDAY AUGUST 9TH
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH
SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH
SUNDAY DECEMBER 20TH

LOCATION:
1020 GATEWAY BLVD.
BOYNTON BEACH, FL. 33426

9AM - NOON

www.facebook.com/CNCPB

CAR CRUISING
FOOD, DRINKS & HOT CARS

**EVERY 2ND
SATURDAY**
OF THE MONTH FROM 6-10

2618 WESTON RD, WESTON, FL 33331

The Big Apple Shopping Bazaar Car Show

Every 2nd Saturday of every month!
10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.
FREE ADMISSION For Spectators. Fee for the whole family!

- Trophies Awarded!
- DJ and Music
- Food Trucks
- \$20.00 Entry Fee

60 specialty stores open for shopping!

5283 W. Atlantic Avenue • Delray Beach, FL 33484

Presented by Colera Joe Productions • www.ColeraJoeProductions.com

CAR CRUISING
FOOD, DRINKS & HOT CARS

EVERY 1ST SATURDAY

\$3.25 SINGLES • \$5.50 DOUBLES

SMIRNOFF VODKA • CAPTAIN MORGAN'S • JOSE CUERVO • MEYER'S

\$2.50 DRAFTS

BUDWEISER • BUD LIGHT

8669 NW 36TH ST, DORAL, FL 33166
786-344-4228

CAR CRUISING
FOOD, DRINKS & HOT CARS

EVERY 3RD SATURDAY
6PM - 10PM

\$3.25 SINGLES • \$5.50 DOUBLES

SMIRNOFF VODKA • CAPTAIN MORGAN'S • JOSE CUERVO • MEYER'S

\$2.50 DRAFTS

BUDWEISER • BUD LIGHT

8669 NW 36TH ST, DORAL, FL 33166
786-344-4228

Wheels 'n Rides
CRUISE-IN at **PDQ**
fresh TENDERS SALADS SANDWICHES

Join us for a night of
**CARS • FRIENDS
FOOD • FAMILY FUN**

Last Saturday of Every Month
6:00pm - 10:00pm

ALL CARS • ALL YEARS
ALL CLUBS ARE WELCOME

PDQ MIAMI
10121 W. Flagler St • 305.257.3032
eatPDQ.com

EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT 6 PM

Classic Car Cruising
FLORIDA

DUFFY'S
SPORTS GRILL

3069 NE 163rd St, North Miami Beach 33160 305-780-2124

ALL VEHICLES THAT ENTER CONTEST
WILL RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT OFF THEIR MEALS

CALL RUDY FOR RESERVED PARKING
954-489-7435

Auto Appraisal Network

Appraisals for Classics, Stock, Custom, Rods, Bikes, Boats, Planes, RVs, Legal Disputes, Total Loss, Diminished Value

John & Brett Layzell • 305-899-9963
www.autoappraisalnetwork.com/miami
www.facebook.com/AutoAppraisalNetworkSouthFlorida



POWDER COATING & GUN COATING
 Stronger and more resistant than wet paint, we specialized in furniture, sculptures, automobile, bike, marine & aviation parts, and now also offering ARMOURING COAT, custom firearm protection against corrosion and abrasion

CERAMIC COATING
 For extreme thermal conditions reduce heat loss and prevent corrosion

CAR STRIPPING
 A unique chemical Immersion Paint and Rust Removal process

DADE
 305-278-2111
 info@bullseyepowdercoating.com
BROWARD
 954-399-8796
 broward@bullseyepowdercoating.com

BULLSEYE
 www.BullseyePowderCoating.com
 www.ArmouringCoat.com
 www.CarStripping.com



Larry's THUNDERBIRD & MUSTANG PARTS
Dedicated to Excellence

SUPPLYING CONCOURS-QUALITY UPHOLSTERY, PARTS AND ACCESSORIES OVER 40 YEARS!

1955-57 Thunderbird RESTORATION PARTS

- ★ GREAT PRICES!
- ★ EXPERIENCED PARTS SPECIALISTS!
- ★ HUGE INVENTORY!

FREE Parts & Accessories Catalog!

Teamco
 GO FOR THE QUALITY

Like Us on Facebook

CALL TODAY!
(800) 854-0393

Larry's Thunderbird & Mustang Parts
 1180 California Ave #B • Corona, CA 92881
 Orders: (800) 854-0393 • Info: (951) 270-3223 • 24-Hour FAX: (951) 270-3224
FIND US ON THE WEB! www.larrystbird.com

Thunderbird Headquarters

COMPLETE 1955-1969 THUNDERBIRD PARTS WAREHOUSE



(800) 227-2174
(925) 825-9550
parts@tbirdhq.com
www.tbirdhq.com

WWW.TBIRDHQ.COM



Tips when buying Gasoline ...a must read

TIPS ON PUMPING GAS (Good information) I don't know what you guys are paying for gasoline.... but here in California we are also paying higher, up to \$3.70 per gallon. But my line of work is in petroleum for about 31 years now, so here are some tricks to get more of your money's worth for every gallon.

Here at the Kinder Morgan Pipeline where I work in San Jose, CA we deliver about 4 million gallons in a 24-hour period thru the pipeline. One day is diesel the next day is jet fuel, and gasoline, regular and premium grades. We have 34-storage tanks here with a total capacity of 16,800,000 gallons.

Only buy or fill up your car or truck in the early morning when the ground temperature is still cold. Remember that all service stations have their storage tanks buried below ground. The colder the ground the more dense the gasoline, when it gets warmer gasoline expands, so buying in the afternoon or in the evening your gallon is not exactly a gallon. In the petroleum business, the specific gravity and the temperature of the gasoline, diesel and jet fuel, ethanol and other petroleum products plays a important role. A 1-degree rise in temperature is a big deal for this business. But the service stations do not have temperature compensation at the pumps.

When you're filling up do not squeeze the trigger of the nozzle to a fast mode. If you look you will see that the trigger has three (3) stages: low, middle, and high. In slow mode you should be pumping on low speed, thereby minimizing the vapors that are created while you are pumping. All hoses at the pump have a vapor return. If you are pumping on the fast rate, some of the liquid that goes to your tank becomes vapor. Those vapors are being sucked up and back into the underground storage tank so you're getting less worth for your money.

One of the most important tips is to fill up when your gas tank is HALF



FULL or HALF EMPTY. The reason for this is, the more gas you have in your tank the less air occupying its empty space. Gasoline evaporates faster than you can imagine. Gasoline storage tanks have an internal floating roof. This roof serves as zero clearance between the gas and the atmosphere, so it minimizes the evaporation. Unlike service stations, here where I work, every truck that we load is temperature compensated so that every gallon is actually the exact amount.

Another reminder, if there is a gasoline truck pumping into the storage tanks when you stop to buy gas, DO NOT fill up--most likely the gasoline is being stirred up as the gas is being delivered, and you might pick up some of the dirt that normally settles on the bottom.

Hope this will help you get the most value for your money.

DO SHARE THESE TIPS WITH OTHERS!

Author, Unknown



To all members

Remember that this newsletter goes to press the 15th of each month. Please remember the date!

If you want your article to appear, I need it by the 15th!

We welcome any contributions that members can make to our newsletter!

This year We want to feature stories about YOUR 1955 Thunderbird

Do you have any interesting photos of your car? Send it to me!

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



ANNUAL RATES for advertising in the newsletter

FULL PAGE _____ \$675.00

1/2 PAGE _____ \$375.00

1/4 PAGE _____ \$250.00

CARD SIZE _____ \$150.00

(NON MEMBERS)

CARD SIZE _____ \$95.00

(MEMBERS ONLY)



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:

David Tulowitzky

14191 Tudball Ave.

Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Ph. 941-764-0312

or email: tulobird@aol.com

BIRDS OF ENCHANTMENT

2015 Region 6 Convention

August 26-30

Sheraton Uptown Hotel,
Albuquerque, NM



[Click here for
More Info](#)

Hosted by the
Pajarito Thunderbird Club

Celebrating
60
years
of the Ford
Thunderbird

The CTCI Regional Convention

is August 23-30, Albuquerque NM

This will be a Celebration of the
60th Birthday of the 1955 Ford
Thunderbird!

Get more details at www.ctci.org
Exclusively for CTCI Members!



YOUR CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD PARTS LEADER!



EXHAUST MANIFOLD

This Manifold can be used on all 272, 292 & 312 Y-Block Engines with dual exhaust. This is an excellent reproduction with **original engineering number** in the casting!

9430-EDB RH 255.00

NEW REPRODUCTION!

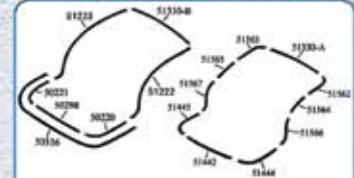


COWL MOUNT ANTENNA

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

Our kit includes antenna with plastic base & rubber pad.

18813-AR 55/57 kit 59.95



TOP WEATHERSTRIP KITS

We have been told that all of our hardtop & soft top weatherstrips are "The Best Available".

We carry both types of hardtop weatherstrips!

HARDTOP KITS

51500-AK 55/Early 56, 7 Pc. Kit . 394.95
51501-BK Late 56/57, 7 Pc. Kit . 394.95

SOFT TOP KIT

51502-CK 10 Pc. Kit. 394.95



FRONT DISC BRAKE KIT

Give your T-Bird the stopping power it deserves! Everything you see is included in the kit, from rotors & calipers to bearings & seals, its' all there. With easy to follow instructions, you'll be back on the road with a superior braking system in no time.

2000-DBK 55/57 1034.50



UPHOLSTERY KIT

Upholstery Kit Includes: Seat Covers, Backrest Board, Door Panels, Quarter Panel Cardboards, Windlace, Garnish Rail Covers, Arm Rest Covers, Welt Cord Beading, Vinyl Floor Cover, Dash Cover, Drop Curtain & Carpet **CALL FOR PRICING!**



UPPER & LOWER BALL JOINT KIT

Upper & lower ball joint with original style washers & seals!

3051-K 55/57, New 194.95



REAR SPRING MAJOR OVERHAUL KIT

KIT INCLUDES:

- ✓ 2 - Rear shackle kit
- ✓ 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



RADIATORS

We have 3 & 4 row core radiators available for your Thunderbird!

- HEAVY-DUTY - 4 ROW, STD. CORE WITH 1/2" TUBES ON 9/16" CENTER
- HIGH EFFICIENCY - 4 ROW, HIGH EFFICIENCY CORE WITH 1/2" TUBES ON 3/8" CENTER
- OPTIMA - 4 ROW, MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY CORE WITH 1/2" TUBES ON 5/16" CENTER

8005-STD 55/57, 3 row core . . . 359.95
8005-HD 55/57, Heavy Duty. . . 399.95
8005-HE 55/57, High Efficiency 489.95
8005-OPT 55/57, 'Optima' . . . 549.95
8005-ALUM 55/57, Light weight & superior cooling. . . . 259.95



FRONT & REAR BRAKE DRUMS

MADE IN THE USA!

1125 55/57, Front 124.95
1126 55/57, Rear 129.95



WATER PUMP

New reproduction for your 55/57 Thunderbird, with correct engineering numbers in the casting!

8501-R 55/57 124.95



15515-AR CHROME 15515-BR BACKUP LAMP HOUSING

15515-AR 55, Stamped steel 27.35
15515-BR 56/57, Die cast, with reflector. . . . 38.95

CALL FOR YOUR FREE CATALOG!

SERVICING ALL YOUR PARTS NEEDS FOR:

- ✓ 1955-1957 THUNDERBIRD
- ✓ 1948-1972 FORD TRUCK
- ✓ 1958-1966 THUNDERBIRD
- ✓ 1960-1972 GALAXIE
- ✓ 1949-1959 'BIG FORD' CAR
- ✓ 1962-1972 FAIRLANE
- ✓ 1949-1956 MERCURY CAR
- ✓ 1968-1971 TORINO

(800) 722-0009

Order On-Line @
www.concoursparts.com



REAR LEAF SPRINGS

New reproduction leaf springs are the "Original Style" leaf spring. Banded - as original, with cupped & rounded leaf ends & steel front bushing. You cannot buy a better set of leaf springs anywhere!

5560-B 56/57 pr. 389.90

Concours Parts & ACCESSORIES
3655 ARROWHEAD DRIVE, CARSON CITY NEVADA 89706



Thunderbird news