



Thunderbird NEWS

NOVEMBER 2015 VOLUME 17, #11

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Thunderbird
news

NOVEMBER 2015 VOLUME 17, #11



editor's CORNER

November 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 1955 Thunderbird.

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!

Keeping the Registry reprinted with the permission of Dave Tulowitzky Trail Birds of Southwest Florida CTCI #113

Ed Raabe

CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

CTC CHAPTER #114 NOVEMBER 2015 VOLUME 17, #11

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.

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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

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news

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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

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
TomGlozannis@aol.com

Russ G Events: Russ Gagliano III
russ@russgevents.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 NOVEMBER

BOB FERRETI 1ST

ED RAABE 19TH

JOE LA VISTA 24TH

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



KEEPING THE REGISTRY

Past articles from the late Ford Johnson written in the late 1970's and early 1980's on the data he collected for the 1955 Thunderbirds were referred to as surveys. I realized that the registry I keep is actually a survey (collecting information) as well as a registry (keeping the information I have accumulated).

Your response to the registry (survey) has been great, and it continues to grow with a total of 17,900 serial numbers for the three years of Thunderbirds at this time.

To keep the registry user friendly for myself, I keep the information in an Excel format with the data for each Thunderbird on one line. This limits the data, but it is the format I started fifteen years ago; and I have continued the same. Including the codes from the data plate, there are also columns for the date the information was collected, the state in which the car resides, and the source from which I obtained the information. Each line carries a column for additional specific information on the car, such as Parts Car, Needs Restored etc.

Most of the Thunderbirds I come across in the registry range from fair to excellent condition. Below are eight categories that I have for the cars that are different in one way or another. In parenthesis are the number I have for each year and the total for the three years.

Needs Restored – This category is for cars that are restorable including project cars, barn finds, or others that need work to make them presentable and road worthy. The access to Thunderbird parts and expert advice help attract buyers to cars in this category.

(1955 - 95, 1956 - 77, 1957 - 89, Total = 261)

Parted Out – These cars have been parted out in the past with nothing left. Sometimes the owner saved the data plate.

(1955 - 71, 1956 - 20, 1957 - 25, Total = 116)

Restore or Parts – These cars are ones where I personally do not know if it is restorable. Most are very rough and, in my opinion are questionable. I have seen people buy these hoping to restore them and later find them for sale again in the same condition.

(1955 - 25, 1956 - 18, 1957 - 19, Total = 62)

Modified – These `Birds have a modified engine, usually a larger big block and sometimes include different running gear such as suspension, wheels, etc.

(1955 -20, 1956- 16, 1957 – 18, Total 54)

Customized – This category includes mild to wild customs that have been changed from the original factory configurations. Many have different paint schemes by adding flames or pinstripes. It may have a different grill, wheels, or modifications to body and/or interior. Usually the owner is making a personal "styling" statement making the car look unlike any other `Bird.

(1955 - 14, 1956 - 4, 1957 – 8, Total 26)

Frame Only – This is self-explanatory – The car simply does not have a body

or running gear.

(1955- 14, 1956 - 10, 1957 - 12, Total = 36)

Salvage – These cars are usually sold with a salvage title. Many are from fires in which the car was burnt severely and have no usable parts. Others have had flood damage and may be restorable.

(1955 - 6, 1956 - 7, 1957 - 12, Total = 25)

Parts Car – (Not included in the "parted out" category). These cars were being parted out when I received the information for the registry. They may or may not be running, and the only value is as a parts donor for other restoration projects.

(1955 - 10, 1956 - 2, 1957 - 8, Total = 20)

Some other information listed is

Note # - This indicates I have a personal letter from the owner that I filed in a separate hard bound note book. The letters are numbered for easy access such as note #78, etc. I have dozens of these letters on file.

Invoice – This indicates I have a copy of the original factory invoice for this car.

(1955 – 11, 1956 – 104, 1957 – 206, Total = 321)

Looking for History – Past or present owners are looking for information on this car.

(1955 – 34, 1956 – 27, 1957 – 60, Total = 121)

Stolen - These cars were at one time reported stolen and not recovered.

(1955 - 12, 1956 - 9, 1957 - 22, Total = 43)

Original owner - One owner Thunderbirds does not include one family owned.

(1955 - 10, 1956 - 3, 1957 - 8, Total = 21)

Data Plate missing


(1955 – 4, 1956 – 1, 1957 -5, Total 10)

This is a partial list of categories. Information is also kept on previous ownership, if the car is in a museum, overseas (636), plus many other items that could be of importance to a particular car.

I hope this helps explain how I keep the source of information. It is very helpful when someone is looking for information on a particular Thunderbird. The data gathered will be used in general terms in future articles and to help answer inquires I receive from Thunderbird owners. Undoubtedly the most important entry that is needed is the six digit serial number that was assigned to the car; however, the complete data plate information and codes are helpful to make the information on a certain Thunderbird complete.

Send all information to:
David Tulowitzky
14191Tudball Ave.
Port Charlotte, FL 33953
941-764-0312
Email: tulobird@aol.com

Keeping the Registry reprinted with the permission of Dave Tulowitzky, President, Trail Birds of Southwest Florida CTCI #113



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.

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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.



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305-251-5133

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Letter from the President

Ed Raabe

NOVEMBER 2015

Hello Members,

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The election of Board Officers from and by the general membership takes place at the Monthly meeting in November. As you know my term is up and we will be looking for a New President. All the other Officer's positions are open as well, however those who wish to retain their position, if unopposed may do so. If you are interested in an Officers position (President, Vice President Secretary or Treasurer) as well as if you would like to retire from an Officer's position, please make it known now so we can notify the membership in time for the vote. Since we have changed the Meetings to the 3rd Wednesday the Meeting will be November 18th Please make plans to attend.

Now that the weather will be getting cooler we need to start looking at Car Shows we can attend. Usually we only get a few members who will bring their cars to a show, but we can do better! I urge all members to look at our website for information about upcoming shows and, if you have

Facebook, up to the minute Car Show information on our Facebook page, as well as what is published in this Thunderbird News.

The Holiday Party will be on December 19th at Leo and Valentyna's condo's Social Hall in Hallandale Bch. Please reserve the date. Entertainment has been arranged, but planning still needs to be done. We are looking for Catering, etc.

If you were not able to attend a Club Meeting, everything you want to know is in the Meeting Minutes. Please spend a little time to learn about our plans for Outings and Car Show participation. We are already planning the Holiday Party in December!

Until then, Happy Birding!

Ed Raabe

NEW MEMBERS

Peter Amato, Jay & Shelly Faust and Karl Hoffman

CTCI NEWS Announcing the 2016 International Convention in San Diego, CA

"FUN, FUN, FUN in THE CALIFORNIA SUN"

The CTCI Board of Directors has voted to approve the sanctioning of the 2016 International Convention in San Diego, California. It will be co-hosted by the Earlybirds of Southern California and the Classic Thunderbirds of San Diego, to be held September 13-18, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108 Phone 1-800-2- Crowne The room rate is \$124 per night, promo code '2016 Thunderbird Convention'. The Hotel with start taking reservations in October 2015. Registration forms will be in the January- February 2016 Early Bird.


Plans for the event include a Polynesian style welcome pool party, a tour of the USS Midway, including a luncheon at the Bow area, the Corvette Challenge at the Corvette Diner, a Scenic coastal cruise drive to the San Diego Botanical Garden, an Outing to the Viejas Casino and Outlet Center, finishing off with the Concours d' Elegance and Awards Banquet.



For further information look for updates at www.CTCI.org Or contact Martha Lazdins 949-6611426 hmlazdins@att.net or Alan Custing, 760-745-9345 1940mv8@cox.net



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Venice AACA Show

Ed Raabe

Arlene and I decided a weekend getaway up north would be a nice way to kick off the Fall. Our goal was to attend the 28th Annual Collector Car show in Venice FL sponsored by the Venice FL Region AACA on Sunday Oct 3rd

The first part would be a stopover in the Naples area for a dinner Saturday night with friends and an overnight in Bonita Springs.

As we set out for Venice Sunday morning we had a watchful eye on the weather, which was very threatening, but this was a "rain or shine" and I heard there might be some "Bird" spotting to be had there. We arrived in the middle of a "spritz" but the sunshine was still abundant, so we parked and headed over to Centennial Park where the show was being held.

"Lots of cars here" Arlene commented and "lots of shops to duck into too"! Perfect! We looked around and there were really a lot of rare cars you usually don't see.

I especially liked the Jeep Wagoneer all decked out like it was heading for a fishing trip, boat, motor and everything!



Also interesting was a 1964 Mercury Monterey Breezeway!

I remember as a kid we would take my friend, Toms Mothers car out for a joy ride while she and his dad were out to dinner.



One night after Tom dropped us off, he decided to go cruising. His Dad and Mom spotted him as they were returning from the restaurant and followed him from a distance until he returned home. A few minutes later they returned, but said nothing to him about it.....until the next day. As Tom recalled it they told him they saw a car "just like moms" last night on the way home, and thought it was strange that there was another White 64 Mercury with the Breezeway roof in town! "You don't know anything about that that, do you?" Needless to say these torture tactics worked and Tom was told he would have to wait 2 months AFTER his 16th Birthday before he could get his driver's license as punishment. So even though he was older than the rest of us, he was not the first one to get to drive with a Driver's license.

In New York State you could get a Senior DL at 16 in those days. The Car; a 1964 White Mercury Monterey with the Breezeway roof.



Another Eye Catcher was this fully optioned Kaiser Dragon for 1953. Dash padded in a bamboo style that matched the roof and a wild upholstery pattern, which says TIKKI all over it!



Finally we got to meet up with Dave and Betty Tulowitzky and their Trail Birds of Southwest Florida Club. A few of the members braved the rain showers to bring their Thunderbirds, so it was well worth the trip to see them!



Of Special interest was a Red 55 dressed with a "Fairlane" side spear, which while it was to be advertised, never made available and dropped from the advertising campaign.

This is one of the nicest examples of this styling.

We chatted a bit and I took a few pictures and then a shower was upon us so we “ducked” into those shops across the park to get out of the rain. It rained on and off punctuated by sunshine, but finally around 2:30 it really poured and the “party was over” as they say!

We had a great time and Arlene loved the shops!



TECH TALK PAGE “Shop Talk” articles courtesy of Classic Auto Supply Company

This article appeared in the CASCO newsletter Oct 2015



STARTING PROBLEMS

If you are having starting problems because your engine doesn't always crank over properly when you hit the starter, the problem may be due to a poor ground connection between the engine block and the firewall or battery ground cable. It's nice to have lots of shiny paint on the engine block and firewall but remember paint

won't conduct electricity and the bolt itself isn't enough surface contact to do the job. Be sure to scrape away the paint on the engine block where the engine ground strap attaches and also for 55 and 56's where the battery ground cable is bolted. Do the same at the firewall and you will be assured of a good electrical connection.

RADIATOR HOSE CLAMPS

CASCO now has reproduced the original radiator hose clamps!


When our local supplier closed up shop, we lost our source for radiator hose clamps. So we located some original clamps and were surprised that there were quite a few differences between what we have sold for 30 some years and the original clamps.

We made the decision to make these parts in house and got to work making the tooling and developing the manufacturing process. Now we have most correct radiator hose clamps that we have ever been able to offer to the hobby. Right down to the correct fillister head screw, these are concours show quality clamps!


Order the upper hose clamp by part number 8287A, \$4.20 each.

The lower hose clamp is 8287B for \$4.25 each.





Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida



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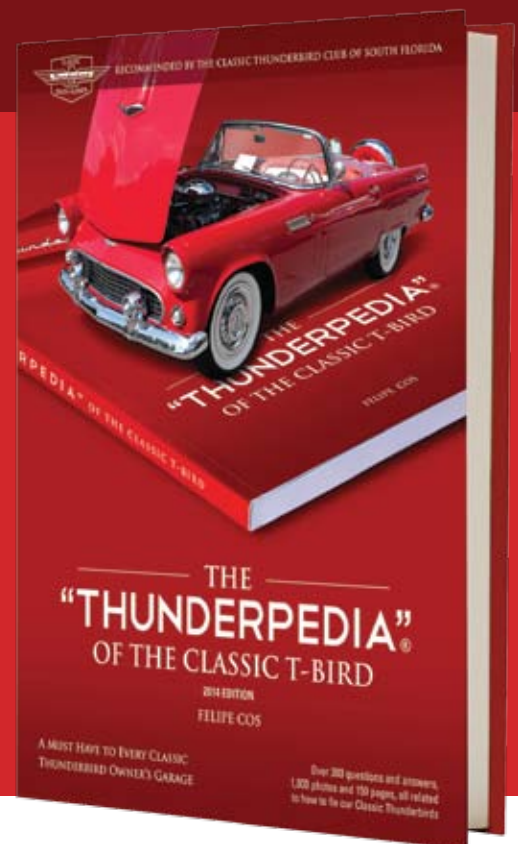
Felipe Cos introduced The Second Edition of the "Thunderpedia of the Classic Thunderbird" at the Branson/Springfield Convention.

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

There are no other books similar to this.

Price is \$35.00 Postage is \$6.00

For more information contact Ed Raabe by email at ed.raabe@gmail.com



UPCOMING CLASSIC CAR EVENTS

CAR SHOWS

NOVEMBER 7TH Wings & Wheels

Wings and Wheels
AT NORTH PERCY AIRPORT

NOVEMBER 7, 2015
10AM - 2PM

SAVE-THE-DATE
NORTH PERCY AIRPORT

NOVEMBER 12TH Vista Park High School

9th Annual Auto Show
PARK VISTA COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Saturday, December 12th
11AM - 2:30PM
Closed to traffic at 12:00

Categories:
Original Muscle (1965-1969)
Original Truck (1965-1969)
Original Classic (1930-1964)
Original Custom (1930-1964)
Muscle Truck (1965-1969)
Muscle Car (1965-1969)
Muscle Car (1970-1974)
Muscle Car (1975-1979)
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2015 Day of Show

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NOVEMBER 8TH 11th Annual Classic Car Truck & Motorcycle Show

11th Annual Classic Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show
To Benefit Our "Shop With A Cop" Kid's Event

Cars of Dreams

Museum • 133 US Highway One • North Palm Beach, FL 33408

November 8, 2015
Museum Open • 9am - 2pm
Day of Show Registration • 8am - 11am
Outside Car Show • 10am - 4pm
Awards • 3:30pm

Pre-Registration by November 1, 2015 • \$20.00
Day of Show Registration • \$25.00
(Includes 2 Passes for admission to Cars of Dreams Museum)
Free Event T-shirt to the first 200 Pre-Registered
Spectator Museum Admission • \$10.00

PLEASE PRINT:
Name _____ Phone # _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail _____

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14TH Teamsters Annual Picnic

Teamsters 769 8th Annual Picnic & Car Show
Saturday, November 14, 2015
12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Markham Park
16001 West State rd 84 Sunrise, Florida

Help Stamp Out Hunger
Please make every effort to bring your non-perishable items to be donated to Feeding South Florida

Entry Fee \$25.00 (2 person) includes Food & Drinks
Trophies to be awarded

Please Note: One meal Ticket will be provided for each person includes Chicken and Ribs (Replacement Ticket will be \$10.00 each)

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Beer and Soda Unlimited all Day at no additional cost

NOVEMBER 14TH Harvest Fest

Harvest Fest
People's Choice Award
Car Show

Registration Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail _____

Registration fee \$10.00 per vehicle, 13th vehicle free.
Check or money order payable to: Harvest Fest, 16001 West State Rd 84, Sunrise, FL 33321
Method of Payment (Please circle one)
Check Visa MC AMEX DISC

What is Harvest Fest?
It's a celebration of the classic car and truck hobby. It's a chance to see some of the finest cars and trucks in the world. It's a chance to meet and greet other enthusiasts. It's a chance to enjoy a day of fun and entertainment. It's a chance to support a good cause.

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Saturday, November 14, 2015
11 AM - 3 PM

Benefit SW Ranches Parks Foundation
Rolling Oaks Passover Park, 17630 SW 50th Street
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Registration \$20.00
Day of the Show
Cash Awards
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<http://www>

4 GREAT SOURCES FOR On-Line CAR SHOW INFORMATION

Benefitcarshows.com

Cruisinfothflorida.com

Flacarshows.com

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SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH
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(check *Antique Automobile* or www.aaca.org for more information)



September 14-18, 2015 Founders Tour (Post-1931 Vehicles)

Canton & Meanders Chapters of the Ohio Region,
330-760-2200



September 20-25 - AAA Glidden Tour Chickasha, Oklahoma
hosted by Okie Region

October 4, 2015 - Venice, FL - Venice Region's 28th Annual Collector Car Show
Centennial Park (Historic Downtown Venice); Website:
www.Venice.AACA.com; Modified AACA Class Judging; 6 Class Awards, 6 Special Awards, Awards for all National AACA Winners; Pre-Register by September 25, 2015; contact Gary Felker (chairman) at 941-493-3780.

October 7-10, 2015– Eastern Fall Meet– Hershey Region; Hershey, Pennsylvania, 717-566-7720

November 5-7, 2015 CENTRAL FALL MEET: – Houma, Louisiana;
<http://www.aaca-centralfallmeet15.org/>

November 19-22, 2015 THE BUZZARD'S BREATH TOURING REGION Annual Members (only) Tour, The Villages, Florida

November 21, 2015 - St. Augustine, FL - Ancient City Region's 31st Annual Auto Show Florida School for Deaf & the Blind campus, 207 N. San Marco Ave., St. Augustine, FL. Contact: Karen Erwin 904-794-1941; staugwed@aug.com This email address is being protected from spam bots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it.

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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	CARD SIZE	\$150.00 (NON MEMBERS)
1/2 PAGE	\$375.00	CARD SIZE	\$95.00 (MEMBERS ONLY)
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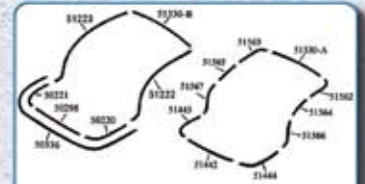
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