



FOUNDED 1998

# Thunderbird NEWS

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2020 VOLUME 22, #9

PROUD ORGANIZER OF THE ANNUAL TROPICAL PARK CLASSIC CAR SHOW

SPONSOR OF THE FELIPE COS MEMORIAL FLORIDA 500 MILE RALLY

WINNER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS GOLDEN QUILL 2019 & ITC CHAPTER NEWSLETTER AWARD



## 65th Anniversary of the Ford Thunderbird



### THE THUNDERBIRD GALLERY

#### INSIDE THIS EDITION

Thunderbird Photo Art by JJ Garcia

Father's Day by Bridget Hagood & Frank Jones

Quarantine by Paul Werner

CTCI 2021 Convention Info

Carshows and Cruise-in Cancellations





# ITC International Thunderbird Club Membership

## ITC The International Thunderbird Club

The International Thunderbird Club (ITC) is open to all 1955 to 2005 Thunderbird owners and enthusiasts along with other T-Bird club organizations. Numerous ITC members, including me, belong to CTCI and VTCL.

ITC encourages all clubs to join the other clubs to help support the Thunderbird, share ideas, T-Birds, and technical advice. ITC has one of the largest Thunderbird Facebook pages in the world with over 4,400 T-Bird Facebook members posting daily from around the world.

Numerous CTCL and VTCL chapters have joined ITC. Last year the ITC/VTCL chapter, Hoosier Vintage Thunderbird Club, hosted the ITC chapter. This year the convention will be hosted by ITC/CTCL chapter Buffalo Thunderbird Club. ITC/CTCL chapter Pitt Birds Thunderbird Club has stated that they are happy with the support ITC's provides them. ITC/VTCL Water Wonderland Thunderbird Club from Michigan has stated they are also pleased with ITC's support and never have received support from VTCL.

ITC is very proud of the number of clubs that have joined ITC.

Recently three new chapters have joined ITC La Louisiane Thunderbird Club, Louisiana; Classic Thunderbird Club of Central Ohio; and Central Alabama Thunderbird Club with a few more chapters being they have organized.

The benefit of becoming an ITC chapter is the additional exposure to the T-Bird world. Chapters have stated, grown as a result of their ITC relationship. ITC promotes its chapters by listing their major events in the ITC Script magazine and on the ITC website. ITC also promotes chapters events and members on ITC Facebook. ITC has Technical Advisors for all T-Birds, Marvin Hill, Hill Automotive, is one of the technical advisors for the 1955-57 TBird. Steven Legal is Technical Advisor for the 20-05 Retro Birds.

ITC is sponsored by most of the Thunderbird vendors including Thunderbird Specialists for 2002-05 Retro-birds.

There is no charge to become an ITC chapter. Three ITC members are required for approval with a total of six by the end of the year. If you are not satisfied with being an ITC chapter, you can simply request to end the chapter relationship.

As president of the International Thunderbird Club, I encourage some of your members to join ITC and become an ITC chapter.

Feel free to email or call me anytime if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Gerard (Bart) Bartasavich**  
ITC President



*Created by serious people just for fun ...*



*Created by serious people ... just for fun*

# INTERNATIONAL THUNDERBIRD CLUB

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The International Thunderbird Club, the ONLY International Thunderbird Club in the world whose common goal is to preserve and enjoy all Thunderbirds with family fellowship, shows, tours, seminars, technical help, parts availability, meetings, and a magazine. Our local and national meets provide concours judging. The ITC Thunderbird Script magazine is published bi-monthly for our members.

### Annual dues are as follows:

**USA & Canada**  
January-April.....\$30.00  
May-August.....\$20.00  
\*September-December.....\$30.00  
\*Valid to end of following year

**International**  
January-April.....\$40.00  
May-August.....\$26.80  
\*September-December .....\$40.00  
\*Valid to end of following year

### Please fill out application:

New Member

Renewing Member  
ITC # if known \_\_\_\_\_  
\$30.00 or \$50.00 2 years US & Canada  
\$40.00 or \$70.00 2 years International

Updating Current Info  
ITC # if Known \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

**INTERNATIONAL THUNDERBIRD CLUB**  
Karen MacCord, Treasurer  
PO BOX 1211  
Middletown, DE 19709

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone [home]: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone [cell]: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Thunderbird Information:**

Year: _____	Model: _____	*VIN # _____
Year: _____	Model: _____	*VIN # _____
Year: _____	Model: _____	*VIN # _____
Year: _____	Model: _____	*VIN # _____

\*VIN refers to your Vehicle Identification Number

Thunderbird Club Affiliations \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Thunderbird Club Affiliations \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Visit ITC website: [www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com](http://www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com)

(GEB) July 2016

**Gerard (Bart) Bartasavich**  
President  
**International Thunderbird Club**  
P O Box 24041  
Pepper Pike, OH 44124  
(216) 375-2808  
gebart@ameritech.net





# editor's CORNER

ITC South East District Chapter Aug-Sept 2020 Volume 22, #9

Greetings Thunderbird Club Members,

Greetings Club Members

While I try to keep up with everything Thunderbird, I look at Facebook daily. Bart Bartasavich is a never ending well of information. I think he never sleeps because when I wake up Ding! There is a post and the last thing at night Ding! He is till going. I urge you to check out the ITC International Facebook page. You will be constantly amused and informed. So, I am looking at pictures and I see a post from photographer JJ Garcia that includes Thunderbirds! They were from an AACA gathering at the Deering Estate (that is missed) I loved those pictures and asked JJ if he would be interested in sharing his Thunderbird images in the next issue of Thunderbird News and include a short Bio too. He graciously agreed and you can enjoy his work in this issue!

Contact JJ Garcia at [cpbyjgarcia@gmail.com](mailto:cpbyjgarcia@gmail.com)

Since we haven't been able to get together for a Club dinner to catch-up in person, I asked if anyone wanted to share a story about what they have been doing over the last few months and if it was Thunderbird related, all the better. I received 2 stories, the first from Frank & Bridget about an experience with Thor, their tastefully modified 56. The second from Paul & Anita about their family get-together in the Georgia mountains. Both are in the issue to enjoy!

It seems all the major shows are being cancelled until next year

Mid Florida Auto Show (Lake Mirror Concours) and Hershey AACA Fall Event have just announced. We will keep you posted about the local shows which for the most part have all been cancelled through the Summer.



CTCI National Convention is RESCHEDULED for April 20th thru the 24th, 2021 The Trailbirds of SW Florida will host as was planned for this year This is a great opportunity to show your Early Bird and enjoy Sarasota.

Please be sure to support our advertisers, now more than ever they need our support. Buy On-Line and deliver right to your door! What could be easier!

Don't forget to mention you saw their Ad in our magazine when purchasing Parts & Services for you Classic. Thanks to ALL the Advertisers who support Thunderbird News!

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Thunderbird News Winner of ITC 2019 Newsletter Award  
OLD CARS Weelky GOLDEN QUILL AWARD for a Car Club Newsletter. 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019

CTCI 2017 Newsletter Competition GOLD AWARD for our October Rally 2016 Edition.



Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida CTCI  
CHAPTER #114 AUG-SEPT 2020 VOLUME 22, #9

## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

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

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718-812-0991  
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305-467-8196  
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561-613-5715  
[drpaul4kids@gmail.com](mailto:drpaul4kids@gmail.com)

##### EDITOR THUNDERBIRD NEWS

**Ed Raabe**  
954-383-8111  
[ed.raabe@gmail.com](mailto:ed.raabe@gmail.com)

##### HOSPITALITY & SUNSHINE NEWS

**Natalie Heslekrants**  
954-852-7417  
[heselekrants@yahoo.com](mailto:heselekrants@yahoo.com)

##### SECRETARY

**Gail Corenblum**  
305-799-1956  
[gailstu@bellsouth.net](mailto:gailstu@bellsouth.net)

##### TREASURER

**Oscar Castro**  
305-467-8196  
[oscar@benefitcarshows.com](mailto:oscar@benefitcarshows.com)

##### DIRECTORS AT LARGE

**Stuart Corenblum**  
305-588-5646  
[stuartcorenblum@bellsouth.net](mailto:stuartcorenblum@bellsouth.net)

##### Daniel Romagnoli

305-799-8328  
[daniel@daroma.us](mailto:daniel@daroma.us)

##### Elizabeth Barry

305-989-4660  
[elyb@me.com](mailto:elyb@me.com)

##### Maria Peraza

304-439-3818  
[perazatoledol@gmail.com](mailto:perazatoledol@gmail.com)



20925 SW 238th Street, Homestead FL 33031-1053  
Ph: 305-467-8196

E-mail: [Oscar@benefitcarshows.com](mailto:Oscar@benefitcarshows.com)  
Editor Ed Raabe: [Ed.raabe@gmail.com](mailto:Ed.raabe@gmail.com)  
[www.TBirdFL.com](http://www.TBirdFL.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ThunderbirdClubSouthFlorida](http://www.facebook.com/ThunderbirdClubSouthFlorida)  
CTCI Chapter #114  
ITC South East District Chapter  
Felipe Cos Founder

#### PAST PRESIDENTS

**Felipe Cos** 1999  
**Ken Lemming** 2000  
**Felix Hernandez** 2001  
**Norm Gabe** 2002  
**Andre Fournier** 2003-2004  
**Ed Brown** 2006-2007

#### Connie Danluck 2008

**Ed Brown** 2009  
**Daisy Hernandez** 2010-2011  
**Peter Klein** 2012-2013  
**Ed Raabe** 2014-2015  
**Oscar Castro** 2016-2017  
**Paul Werner** 2018-2019



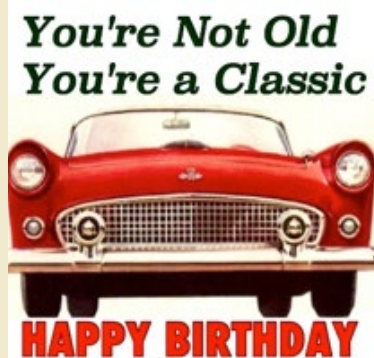
# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## AUGUST 2020

Alexeis Gonzalez	2		
Manolo Sanchez	4		
Suellen Zimet	5	Walter Schade	18
Jose Canal	6	Deborah Mitchell	20
George Bishopric	12	Daniel Alvarez	27
Bridget Hagood	16	Jackie Leemon	31

## SEPTEMBER

Elizabeth (Ely) Barry	2	Edward "Ed" Harkrader	21
Meida Canal	4		
Peter Klein	11	Larry Townsend	21
Arlene Cohen	14	Arlene Raabe	22
Norm Gabe	15	Martin Cohen	23
Daniel Romagnoli	16	Stuart Corenblum	26
Eddy Sotelo	16	Steve Wishnick	26
Marisa Alvarez	17	Francisco Landrian	30
Diana Chegin	19	Brent Lorraine	30
Kokys Garcia	20	Bill Thain	30
Andres Santana	20		



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

**\$35.00 MEMBERSHIP ARE DUE by DEC. 1ST**  
**To become a member or renew your membership**  
**Please go on line to [www.TBirdFL.com](http://www.TBirdFL.com)**

## THUNDERBIRD INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY:

Our Club's web page: [www.TBirdFL.com](http://www.TBirdFL.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)

## NUMBERS TO KEEP

The following are contact numbers and e-mail address you need to have on file:

**Intl Thunderbird Club**, Bart Bartasavich, ITC President  
 216-375-2808 [gbart@ameritech.net](mailto:gbart@ameritech.net)  
[www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com](http://www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com)

**AACA South Florida Region**. President, Manny Garcia  
[www.aacasouthflorida.club](http://www.aacasouthflorida.club)

**Auto Appraisal Network**: John & Bret Layzell  
 305-899-9963 [www.autoappraisalnetwork.com/miami](http://www.autoappraisalnetwork.com/miami)

**Benefit Car Shows**: Oscar Castro  
 305-467-8196 [www.benefitcarshows.com](http://www.benefitcarshows.com)  
[oscar@benefitcarshows.com](mailto:oscar@benefitcarshows.com)

**Gerry Car Show**: Gerry Perez  
 786 344-4228 email [gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com](mailto:gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com)

**Magic Mustangs**: Frank Alonso  
 305 551-6077 [Fadatec@aol.com](mailto:Fadatec@aol.com)

**Muscle Stangs of Miami**: Ayanidys Martinez  
 305 321-0437

**Jumpin' Jack Productions**: Jack Corssino  
 305-214-2277 [www.jumpinjackproductions.com](http://www.jumpinjackproductions.com)

**DB Entertainment Inc.**: Dick Barten  
 954-563-4000 [Bandsouth@bellsouth.net](mailto:Bandsouth@bellsouth.net)

**Cruisin South Florida**: Scott the MusicMan  
[scott@cuisinsouthflorida.com](mailto:scott@cuisinsouthflorida.com)

**Ft Lauderdale Mustang Club**: Mark Patterson  
[www.flmustangclub.com](http://www.flmustangclub.com)

**Cobra Joe Productions**: Joe Bevelacqua  
[jbevsr@msn.com](mailto:jbevsr@msn.com)

**VMCCA Sun Coast Chapter**. President David Bobbitt  
 305 661-1340 [bobbitt@comcast.net](mailto:bobbitt@comcast.net)

**Russ G Events**: Russ Gagliano III  
[russ@russgevents.com](mailto:russ@russgevents.com)







Hello Fellow Club Members,

It's been way too long since we've all had dinner together at "our place" for our club meetings on Wednesday nights. The world has changed before our eyes. Whether it's politics, or disruptions in society due to upset members of certain groups of people, or the Corona virus that has impacted the whole world, there is something we can never forget or take for granted, our family, our friends and our country. The great U. S. A! We live in the best country in the world folks, and we will bounce back as always!!

Mary and I have been busy at home, she's been doing a lot of gardening, and taking care of her prized possessions, her orchids in the back yard, not me! Our daughters are working and finishing college from home. I've started doing something to my T-Bird, that was long overdue. I'm painting, and detailing my engine,



and my engine compartment. I found the correct hood insulation, and all the decals, and even a new, O.E. windshield washer bag. I've been really busy at work as well, Goodyear is considered "essential", so we are very lucky.

Friends, although maybe to some, our meetings and car shows are not that important, I will speak from the heart. Getting together at "La Trattoria", on the third Wed. of every month, having dinner, and wine, and the traditional cannoli, with all of you AMAZING, FUN, AND VERY INTERESTING, group of wonderful people, is what most of us look forward to all month long.

Although I am just a little bit younger than some of our members, I do want to say, That I consider myself extremely fortunate and blessed and honored to have the opportunity to represent our wonderful club as your President, but most important, as your friend. Mary and I are ALWAYS available and willing to help our extended family aka club members, in anything we can do for you.

We will get together as soon as we can. We miss you all very much.

Thank you all and be well my friends.

Richard Manso

Classic Thunderbird Club President.

## INTERNET PAGE

Have you seen our internet page? We have changed our address [www.TBirdFL.com](http://www.TBirdFL.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"!



# CTCI Classic Thunderbird Club International Membership



It's called the **Classic Thunderbird Club International**, and you will find members throughout the United States and all over the world.

### Why a Thunderbird Club?

Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI) was formed to band together owners and admirers of the 1955-57 Ford Thunderbird — to serve as a medium of exchange of ideas, technical information, and sources for parts. Lasting friendships have been formed through local chapters, Regional Conventions and International Conventions. Moreover, CTCI is recognized and sanctioned by the Ford Motor Company, which extends cooperation and support.



## CTCI Classic Thunderbird Club International Membership

I encourage all New Club Members to join CTCI as soon as possible and Current Members to keep your CTCI membership up to date.

Felipe Cos founded our CTCI Chapter, #114 for South Florida in November 1998. Since then our club has hosted a CTCI International Convention in 2004 and grown to include 50 member families.

Look at the benefits of membership. For myself, I have saved a lot of time and money by visiting Gil's Garage, hosted by Gil Baumgartner CTCI Authenticity Chairman and 'Thunderbird Guru' and the Early Bird Club magazine is full of great articles and Club stories!

I have included the current CTCI membership application, which is available [www.ctci.org](http://www.ctci.org) in an editable .pdf format.

Online Renew for 1 year 2018 for \$37.50 or sign up for 3 years at \$105.00 (35.00 a year)

**CTCI 2020 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**  
Hosted by the Trail Birds of Southwest Florida

Held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Sarasota, Florida May 4 - 9 2020  
PRE-REGISTRATIONS: First 75 registrations are eligible for a drawing for \$200.00. (host members are not eligible).

To pre-register send \$50.00 to Betty Tulowitzky, 14191 Tudhall Ave., Port Charlotte, FL 33953  
Please include address, email address, phone number, and CTCI number.

Hotel reservations can be made after May, 5 2019. Call 1-877-803-7534. Code is CTCI.






### What Membership Means

Whether your Classic Thunderbird serves as everyday transportation, a relaxing hobby or both, you will find valuable help in your restoration and maintenance problems in the TECH TIPS printed in the club publication, the **EarlyBird**. This informative, illustrated periodical is distributed every two months and contains a variety of interesting features. Articles about historical data, members and their cars, news of chapter events and activities, are all profusely illustrated with photos. In addition, the **EarlyBird** offers an advertising service to those wishing to buy, sell, or swap parts or cars. You can review the contents of the current issue on our web site: [www.ctci.org](http://www.ctci.org).

Tours, meets, road rallies, picnics and other outings designed to encourage group participation are regularly conducted by the various chapter groups. Check our web site [www.ctci.org](http://www.ctci.org) for a chapter near you. You are cordially invited to attend any of these friendly chapter meetings or events. CTCI members may also participate in Concours d'Elegance competition at CTCI conventions.



### Standard or Premium Packet

Every new member receives a Standard New Member Packet upon payment of the initiation fee and dues. This includes a striking windshield decal, the latest edition of the **EarlyBird**, a membership roster with our club By-Laws, 3"x5" CTCI logo dash plaque and other general information. The optional Premium Packet includes the above plus a beautiful metal CTCI grille emblem. Many items such as service and transmission manuals, decals, handbooks and numerous self help items are available and sold to CTCI members only. See our Member Store at [www.ctci.org](http://www.ctci.org).



SCAN ME!

**OUR OBJECTIVE:**  
EVERY CLASSIC-BIRD OWNER IS A CTCI MEMBER

## CTCI Classic Thunderbird Club

### Classic Thunderbird Club International

1308 E. 29th Street, Signal Hill, CA 90755-1842 USA • 562.426.2709 • Fax: 562.426.7023 • Email: [ctcioffice@ctci.org](mailto:ctcioffice@ctci.org) • Web site: [www.ctci.org](http://www.ctci.org)  
Phone Toll Free 1.800.488.2709

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Mail Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

CTCI Chapter Affiliation (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

- New members please fill out application and send payment (in U.S. funds ONLY\*) to the address above.
- Make checks payable to CTCI, or pay by credit card by email, fax or phone.
- Current members may renew dues online at [www.ctci.org](http://www.ctci.org).

Please select one of the following prorated amounts:

Month Joining	One Time Initiation Fee +	Dues =	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> January thru March	\$15.00 +	\$35.00 =	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> April thru June	\$15.00 +	\$26.50 =	\$41.50
<input type="checkbox"/> July thru September	\$15.00 +	\$18.00 =	\$33.00
<input type="checkbox"/> October thru December	\$15.00 +	\$9.50 =	\$24.50

**NOTE: Add \$16.00 to select Premium Packet with CTCI Grille Emblem.**

Annual dues renewal will be \$35.00, payable January 1 of each year.

Premium Packet with Grill Emblem = Add \$16.00 to total

TOTAL ENCLOSED: (\$US) \_\_\_\_\_

\*NOTE: Members outside the U.S. may pay dues by credit card. You may send credit card information by email, fax or phone. U.S., Mexico and Canada: First Class..... Additional \$15.00/year Other Foreign Countries: A/O Rate..... Additional \$35.00/year (not including Mexico and Canada)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Check here  if you wish to be listed in the CTCI roster, as of April 1st.

I give permission for my  phone number and/or  email address to be listed in the CTCI roster.

(NOTE: Phone numbers & email are for office use only, or for the roster if you choose to have it published. Roster addresses may be sold only to T-Bird vendors to be used only for catalog purposes.)

Are you a former member of CTCI?  Yes  No If Yes, what is your former CTCI membership number? \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored or Referred by \_\_\_\_\_ CTCI # (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

### CAR DATA

This section is optional, but will help us to complete our historical data base registry. Your ownership information will be kept confidential and will be used only for statistical purposes. This data will be found on the fire wall, inside the engine compartment; left hand side by the heater box. Please fill in the number and letters as stamped on the data plate. If you have more than one T-Bird, please copy this form and submit each car's data. How many Thunderbirds do you own? \_\_\_\_\_ 55's \_\_\_\_\_ 56's \_\_\_\_\_ 57's

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

For 1955, 1956, and early 1957's: (see example)

Body \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ Trim \_\_\_\_\_ Production Code \_\_\_\_\_

For late 1957's:

Body \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ Trim \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Trans \_\_\_\_\_ Axle \_\_\_\_\_

Registered Owner (if other than member) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

License Number \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Is your T-Bird primarily  Original or  Modified?

Color (if not per data plate) \_\_\_\_\_ Mileage \_\_\_\_\_ Condition (rate from 1-5, 1 is best) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Features or Remarks \_\_\_\_\_



For Office use Only

CTCI # \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chk # \_\_\_\_\_ Amt Rec'd: \_\_\_\_\_

rev 1/2015-WEB

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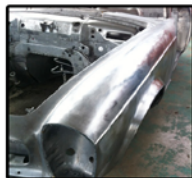
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# How I Am Spending My Quarantine

BY PAUL WERNER

So, Anita and I are minding our own business, when this pandemic comes along. We have gone from being social people to a couple of hermits, rarely leaving the house.

At least once a week, we take our Thunderbird out for a ride to loosen her up, often to drop off supplies to my mom at her assisted living facility. We have not been able to visit her for about four months but speak with her daily.

Meanwhile, at home I have become quite a sous chef, cutting and chopping vegetables. Occasionally I am allowed to prepare a meal.

Within one month or so, I have completed 2 years of continuing education that I need to maintain my dental license. I have read a lot, listened to a lot of music, and played a lot of 2-person canasta with Anita. We also talk a lot.

We go for a brisk walk almost every morning, and I exercise at home. I have been able to re-create most of what I had done in the gym, with an elastic band.

Things have pretty easy and stress free for us until today, but I will get to that shortly.

We had last seen our girls and grandkids during their winter vacation. We were supposed to meet them in Chicago about the time the pandemic intensified, so that trip was cancelled. We were greatly disappointed, and really started to miss them.

I thought it would be a good idea to travel by car, and meet someplace in the middle between us and Maryland where my younger daughter, Karolina, lives with her husband Tom and 3 kids, Andrew (10), Clara (8) and Rose (2 1/2). My other daughter, Lisa, would



fly to Maryland from Colorado, and quarantine in her sister's basement for a week. Karolina would not let the kids play with others for 2 weeks before the trip.

We found a house we could rent, in Mountain Rest, SC, near where SC, NC and GA meet. It was isolated on 14 acres. We would bring in our own food, and eat all meals in.

Right before we left, we took our Thunderbird for a spin. Anita and I drove up, stopping in Cordele, GA. Since they were closer, they drove it all in one day.

It was great to see them. During the day we hiked and saw a whole lot of waterfalls. They were everywhere. One day, most of us spent a couple of hours floating down the river that divides Ga and SC. Other than brief moments on trails, we never interacted with anybody.

We played games and read to Rose a lot. We ate dinner together on the huge deck every night and had a couple of campfires.

It was hard to leave, but we drove back straight through. The next night we took out the Thunderbird. It only took me

three days to lose the weight I gained on the trip.

We arrived home 5 days ago. This morning my 93 year- old mother's assisted living facility sent my mother to the hospital, due to a positive COVID-19 test. Thus, the stress. There they determined that she would be fine, and was going to be discharged, but to where, as the assisted living facility will not let her back in until she has 2 negative tests. The scramble started, and we were advised that she was going to a rehab facility, for hopefully, a short while. The stress is mostly relieved.

Anita and miss you all and look forward to when we can get together again.

Stay safe.





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OFFICIAL EVENT GUIDE

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**STATEMENT WHEELS ACROSS THE POND**

Following the recommendations of the CDC and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, we have made the decision to postpone our 14th Annual "Wheels Across The Pond" show which was scheduled for Saturday April 11th, 2020 at Carlin Park, Jupiter. This decision was made due to the uncertainty of the current health crisis and to safeguard our attendees, sponsors, vendors, volunteers and spectators from the potential spread of COVID-19. We are working closely with Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Special Events to secure a suitable alternative date and once we have this confirmed we will update you again. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

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# Happy Father's Day

BY BRIDGET HAGOOD & FRANK JONES

He served our country, kept the skies friendly and raised 5 kids... Here's to the man, the myth and the legend, my dad Capt. Frank Jones  
#gonavy #americanairlines #joneskids



Father's Day for most consists of Barbecues, opening cards, presents, and with phone calls from children spread across the globe. But for my Father's Day, and as a special treat, Bridget was going to accompany me to a car show, yes in 90- degree weather, I am blessed!

We don't drink beer, so the Corona virus was moot, and we had all the precautions for the pesky COVID-19, mask, sanitizers, and armed with social distancing rules. This being our first outing since the pandemic caused great excitement and trepidation.



We staged on our driveway to start the trek to Palm Bay for the event. Bird one in the lead and Charger 2 in trail. The day was beautiful, and the cars were both purring down I-95 South bound. A glorious beginning headed for an ignominious end.

Just past the Patrick AFB exit Bird one shot out two black tinged backfires and Bridget had to do an emergency dead stick exit to the side of the road. It had been a while since we went to a car gathering and the toolbox was still in the garage. A quick diagnosis, with make-shift implements, showed the breakdown to be either ignition or mechanical, turns out it would prove to be both. A call to Triple A and a two hour wait next to the freeway eventually got the Thunderbird on the wrecker and headed for home.

Getting the operator to unload close to the garage was a challenge and as Bridget and I strained to push the bird uphill into the garage our driver disappeared, along with any chance of a gratuity.



Bridget and I quickly and initially diagnosed the problem to ignition, the rotor had chewed up the indexing pin and was slipping on the distributor shaft.

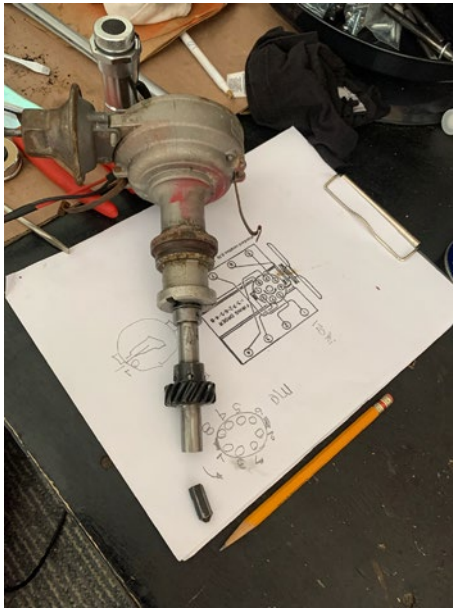
Off to the parts store and a true challenge, because, the Thunderbird has a later model 351 cubic inch Windsor under the hood. The first two parts houses could only look up parts by year make and model. I then made the long trek to Napa where an old school parts man works and scored the rotor. After quickly installing the new part, the beast would not fire! Now for the mechanical portion, we loosened the distributor and with much force and coaxing rotated the distributor 90 degrees. The engine fired and ran. Now that leaves us with either a timing chain or distributor gear failure; results to be posted in a later installment.





So high hopes ended in shattered dreams, but again the silver lining; sitting by the freeway in our show car canopy covered chairs, with Bridget keeping my spirits high is not a bad day. When we got home and Bridget was able to extricate herself from garage duties, she prepared my absolute favorite tuna-fish opened face sandwich, life doesn't get much better. No gold to bring home but the company of a beautiful lady and the challenge to mechanical diagnostic skills ended our day on a high note.

Breaking Story:  
When we removed the distributor to check the drive gear our inspection revealed a broken oil pump drive shaft. Next step remove the oil pan, replace oil pump and drive shaft, then decide if we need to pull the timing chain cover.....



### Father's Day, The Rest of the Story

We left this sad tale of woe with our Thunderbird off the wrecker and into our home garage. Initial inspections revealed a broken oil pump shaft and locked up oil pump; while further investigation revealed the distributor drive gear had spun on its shaft.



We needed to drop the oil pan to start the rebuild process. To remove the pan and not pull the engine, the rack and pinion power steering unit had to be lowered. With the room afforded by the steering linkage out of the way made for a relatively easy oil pan removal. The only hiccup the pan had to come out at a 20-degree list to clear the motor mounts.



With pan removed Bridget and I decided to pull the timing case cover and investigate the timing gears and chain. As a precaution the timing gears and chain were replaced. So before reassembly we have a new oil pump, pump drive shaft, distributor, timing chain and gears, harmonic balancer, one piece oil pump gasket, and timing set seals. While this far down the rabbit hole we also replaced the water pump.





Now the initial fun part begins cleaning and painting everything, so things shine like a new copper penny. The joy of reassembly with new gleaming parts is always a thrill and even therapeutic, until something goes wrong.



Getting ready for the initial fire up of the engine we noticed a big green puddle from underneath the car, it appeared that the new water pump was leaking. We pulled the new pump, installed a new gasket, sealed the bolts that penetrate into the water jacket and then torqued everything up. Once again, a big green puddle. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing and expecting different results. I made a command decision, waved the white flag, and called Billy at Harbor Auto to get the ailing bird to his expert care.



The best we can tell by deciphering the block numbers is the 351 cubic inch Windsor that is in the engine bay came from a 1994 Ford F-150. The choice for water pumps is staggering,

there is even a reverse flow option. The myriad number of water pumps, and corresponding innumerable gasket combinations is mind boggling.

The chance of wrong parts becomes exponential. Billy and Moose were able to follow the trail and arrive at the correct combination. I told Billy that I knew the shop rate should be double as I started the repair, but he is cutting us a break.

It is reassuring having experts to back you up. I really appreciate that I got the chance to effect the repair but when I got out of my comfort level had good lads in my foxhole to assist in our mending process. The professionals at Harbor Auto are not only consummate mechanical experts but also good teachers. After all was done and the engine fired at first bump of the starter Moose took the time to show me the error of my ways so I could get it right next time. Bridget and I are grateful for the help afforded and can't wait to get Thor headed down the highway! A big Bravo Zulu to Harbor Auto Restorations.







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**Newsletter Closing Date**

TO ALL MEMBERS: Remember that this newsletter goes to press the 15th of each month. Our monthly News magazine has lots of useful information, including upcoming Car Shows and Cruise-ins, Club contact information and technical articles. From time to time information becomes outdated. If you see an error, please let us know.

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.





# Jose Javier Garcia

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## Car Photography

JJ Garcia entered the photography world 15 years ago following a college course in the art. His fascination with cars started in his youth as he accompanied his father to drag races. It was there that Jose developed a passion with muscle cars - due, in large part, to the 1970 Mustang his father raced. His interest in automobiles eventually expanded to include exotic and vintage models. Within the last five years Jose fused his art and passion together by deciding to focus exclusively on car photography.

The hallmark of Jose's work can be found in the close-up lines and unusual angles he selects in order to bring out the personality or hidden feature of a vehicle. Through his expert use of filters Jose literally breathes life back into vintage cars. He shares these images through Instagram and Facebook social media platforms (cpbyjgarcia). The result has been a beautiful collaboration between Jose and his followers: they enjoy unique looks at their favorite cars and he, in turn, learns more about the cars and the fans from the interactive dialogue that ensues.

In the past five years Jose increased his photography portfolio by attending a series of prestigious car shows in California, Chicago, Mississippi and Connecticut. He can frequently be found spending his weekends driving to shows throughout Florida in search of that rare make and model or to visually document the newest aftermarket upgrades.

Based in Miami, Jose's goal is to provide professional shots of Customized cars as well as photography services for:

Automobile manufacturers and dealerships

International car shows

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Wheel and Rim companies

**Jose's approach to cars is simple:**

**"If you're into cars, let's talk".**

**Contact him at [cpbyjgarcia@gmail.com](mailto:cpbyjgarcia@gmail.com).**

Please enjoy the gallery of Thunderbirds JJ has provided for our club members. You may recognize your Thunderbird!













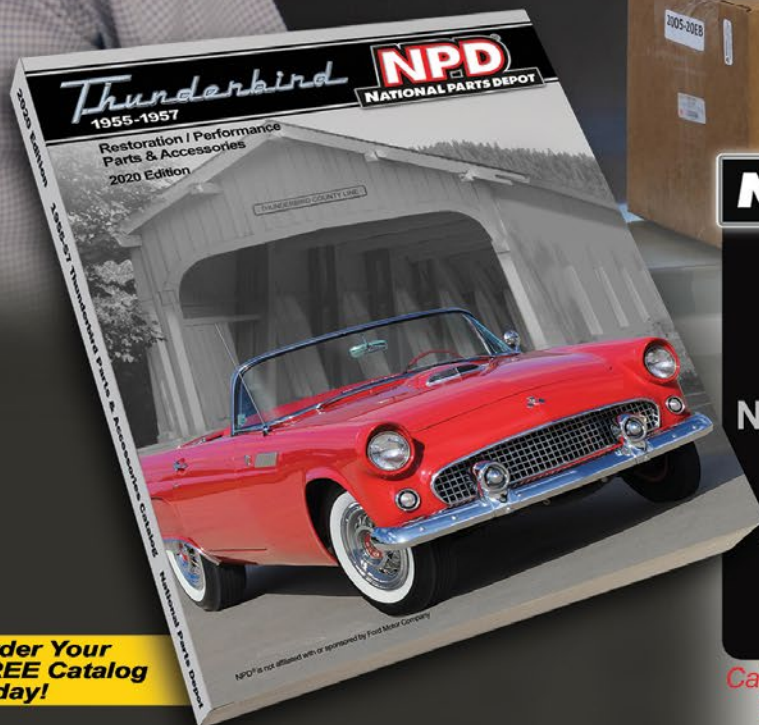
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