

FOUNDED 1998

Thunderbird News

PROUD ORGANIZER THE ANNUAL THUNDERBIRD CLUB CLASSIC CAR SHOW

65TH ANNIVERSARY of THE FORD THUNDERBIRD

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

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022 VOLUME 24 #1

21st ANNUAL CAR SHOW!



INSIDE THIS EDITION

21st Annual Car Show
Everglades City Day Trip

Thunder Talk—NEW!

Dear Oscar, "Advise" Column
Member's Car

Restoring?... We can help!



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1997-2022



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 VTCI.

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

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

Recently three new chapters have joined ITC La Louisiana 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 T-Bird. 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

Gerard (Bart) Bartasavich President
International Thunderbird Club
 P O Box 24041
 Pepper Pike, OH 44124
 (216) 375-2808



INTERNATIONAL THUNDERBIRD CLUB

NEW/RENEWAL/UPDATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The International Thunderbird Club (ITC), 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 an award winning bi-monthly magazine. ITC local and national meets provide Concours judging.

New Member Dues

U.S. & Canada	International	Membership Starting
\$30.00	\$40.00	Jan-Apr (good through end of year)
\$20.00	\$26.80	May-Aug (good through end of year)
\$30.00	\$40.00	Sept-Dec (good through following year)
\$50.00	\$70.00	Two-year membership
\$300.00	\$400.00	Lifetime membership

Renewal Member Dues

U.S. & Canada	International	Membership (payable January 1 st)
\$30.00	\$40.00	One-year membership
\$50.00	\$70.00	Two-year membership
\$300.00	\$400.00	Lifetime membership

Name (First Name/Last Name): _____

Name of spouse or significant other: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State/Province/Country/Zip: _____

Email address: _____ ITC #: _____

Phone [home]: (____) _____ Phone [cell]: (____) _____

Referring ITC Member: _____

Thunderbird Information: * VIN refers to your vehicle Identification Number (optional)

Year: _____ Model: _____ VIN # _____

Year: _____ Model: _____ VIN # _____

Year: _____ Model: _____ VIN # _____

Thunderbird Club Affiliation(s): _____ Position(s): _____



ITC (International Thunderbird Club)

Mail to: **International Thunderbird Club**
P. O. Box 1211
Middletown, DE 19709

Questions? (216) 375-2808 or gebart@ameritech.net www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com (GEB April 2018)





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CTCI Chapter #114
ITC Southeast District Chapter
Felipe Cos Founder

PAST PRESIDENTS

Felipe Cos 1998+1999

Ken Lemming 2000

Felix Hernandez 2001

Norm Gabe 2002

Andre Fournier 2003+2004

Connie Danluck 2005

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

SCHEDULE - 2022

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1				1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28						27	28	29	30	31		
APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		
JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2			1	2	3	4	5			1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

CLICK THE CALENDAR ABOVE
FOR OUR SCHEDULE DETAILS

CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB of SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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TREASURER Oscar Castro

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Stuart Corenblum

Ed Raabe

Jeff Luxenberg

Elizabeth (Ely) Barry

María Peraza

Regular Monthly Meeting:

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

The Trattoria Pampered Chef

7347 Miami Lakes Dr. Miami Lakes FL 33014

Our Host is Gabriel Nash

Have you seen our Web Page?

www.TBirdFL.com

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/tbirdflorida/>

www.facebook.com/ThunderbirdClubSouthFlorida

We encourage participation on our Facebook page.

Post interesting Thunderbird related news items, jokes, interesting facts, technical items...and we enjoy other "car stuff" too. Even Chevy stuff too! 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"!



We are a social group of dedicated individuals with interest in ownership and enjoyment of Ford Thunderbird cars and of all Antique Automobiles. We meet each month for dinner, car shows and activities with our membership from West Palm Beach to the Florida Keys. Our club is family oriented in its activities and sponsors a scholarship fund for **McPherson College** (The only accredited university in the United States with a major in Automobile Restoration). Our aim is to bring together owners and non-owners of the Thunderbird in a social activity to encourage and promote the admiration, care and maintenance of the "Classic Thunderbirds" ;and Antique Cars in general. We hope to provide an outlet for people to discover the uniqueness of the features and styling of the Ford Thunderbirds and exchange knowledge with each other about them and other Antique Automobiles.

CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA MEMBERSHIP

Who are we?

OUR MEMBERS DO NOT PAY TO ATTEND OUR SHOWS

JOIN NOW AND COME TO THE JANUARY SHOW FREE!

YOU CAN ALSO COME FREE OR AT A DISCOUNTED PRICE TO THE HOLIDAY PARTY, ANNUAL BRUNCH, ANNUAL DINNER, BBQ PARTY, AND ANY OF OUR MANY EVENTS,

BUT WAIT... THERE IS STILL MORE!

OUR MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES

Free Bi-Monthly Newsletter
Free Gratuities at our Monthly Dinner Meetings
Several other activities Free or subsidized by the Club
Access to the vast car-related knowledge base amongst our members
And one more thing, all the Fun and Fellowship you can handle!

PARTIAL LIST OF MEMBER ACTIVITIES

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETINGS
BI-MONTHLY "THUNDERBIRD NEWS" NEWSLETTER
YEARLY BBQ
HOLIDAY PARTY
YEARLY SUNDAY BRUNCH
ONE OR TWO OUT OF TOWN DRIVES YEARLY
YEARLY EDITION OF THE FLORIDA 300 MILE RALLY
EACH YEAR WE HOST OUR YEARLY OPEN CAR SHOW WITH OVER 200 CARS

***All you need to join the Club is a Love of the Thunderbird or Antique Cars
No need to own a T-Bird or even an Antique Car to apply for membership!***

Go to www.TbirdFl.com to apply or renew

We accept major credit cards, PayPal and checks



BIRTHDAYS

Ismael	Landin	2
Marcia	Castro	3
Marcia	Padron	3
Iverlys	Rodriguez	4
Luis	Quevedo	9
Frank	Orifici	10
Bexy	Abreu	12
Roger	Peraza	12
Alex	Marrero	20
Natalie	Heslekrants	21
Celia	Layzell	23
Eugenio	Rodriguez	23
Gladys	Gonzalez	28
Grace	Vazquez	28
Ivan	Mederos	29
Robert	O'Brien	29

John	Layzell	3
Jeff	Luxenberg	3
David	Menendez	6
Paul	Cotner	11
Bob	Colvin	15
Julie	Landin	16
Armando	Anuez	16
Odalys	Arbelo	19
Paulo	Salva	19
Haydee	Siut	19
Theresa	Virginio	21

March

April

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
www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com

AACA South Florida Region. President, Ira Shapiro
www.aacasouthflorida.club

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 www.southdadecarshows.com

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

Muscle Stangs of Miami: Ayanidys Martinez
305 321-0437
www.musdestangsofmiami.com

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

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

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

AACA Ft Lauderdale Region. President Louis Tassi
954-782-0107
www.ftlauderdaleaaca.com



THE EDITOR'S — FORD BLUE CORNER

Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida

CTCI Chapter #114

ITC South East District Chapter

January February 2022 Volume 24, #01

The CAR SHOW is Back Year 2022...

And, with A BANG! There it was—Car Show No. 21!

It was AWESOME!



Did I say that it was AWESOME?

Did I mention the Weather? Cold in the early morning—but then-it was AWESOME! Everything about our 21st Open Car Show—was AWESOME!

It goes without saying that if it wasn't for our volunteer Members, this show would not be a success! Therefore! Members that volunteer their precious and valuable time—Thank You! You were—Awesome! See below in our Schedule Show page that we have added other shows to our agenda, as we are a continuing active Classic Thunderbird Club, where there may be many but we, are the Best!

Attend our meetings for more than good food and wine, where you will get more information on the activities and functions that our Great Club has to offer; including the RM Car Auction, for which we need drivers! Please volunteer.

In this issue, *Dear Oscar* will answer another question, and there is a new feature: *'Thunder Talk'*, from our technical Members: *Ed & Stu*, the *Ding & Bat Brothers* (from different mothers).

Enjoy the issue,

Ricardo Lara



NEWSLETTER CLOSING DATE

To all members:

Remember that this newsletter goes to press the 15th of every other 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.

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

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.



Time for the Auction!

Don't forget to mention you saw their Ad in our **Thunderbird Newsletter** when purchasing Parts & Services

Thanks, to ALL the Advertisers who support Thunderbird News!



Hello, fellow club members,

I hope you all had a great New Year. Friends, we have a very active 2022.

On January 15th, there was the Redland Riot and Road Rally, with a great Paella feast hosted by the owners of "El Rancho Grande" and Spa!! in Homestead, and food was courtesy of our wonderful club. The night was a crisp 60 degrees, the Paella was scrumptious as always, and the desserts were as exquisite as if they were made by a French baker.

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to Oscar and Marcia, for bringing us into their beautiful home.

On January 29th, there was the Homestead Rodeo and Ice cream event. I could not attend, due to work obligations, but I heard it was very entertaining and cold. Those who attended had a great time. It was brought to my attention that six club members were a "no show". Please, folks, remember that the club paid for these tickets. If you are unable to attend a particular Thunderbird Club paid event; please, contact Oscar and cancel well in advance.

On January 30th at The Homestead Speedway we had an amazing Annual Car Show - and it was the coldest recorded day in Miami in the last 10 years. At the time we arrived at the site, 7 am, the temperature was down to 35 degrees with the wind chill factor. The Club provided a few gallons of coffee and gallons of cafe-con-leche, along with an amazing array of breakfast finger food for the setup crew. With the precise and methodical process that our Event Coordinator (Mr. Oscar Castro) possesses; we set up the registration table, gave all the volunteers their posts, and direct and supervise every angle of this successful event, this wonderfully orchestrated Annual Car Show, seemed more like a brilliant Hollywood production worthy of an "Oscar" no pun intended than a car show. There were close to 180 cars. The music was awesome, thanks to our own, D.J. Elvis. There were some very beautiful cars there. We were fortunate enough to raise money for the McPherson Auto Restoration University, from the 50/50 raffle ticket sale to donate.

On February 19th, approximately 28 Club Members and 4 kids had a great time on the Everglades City Road Trip and Airboat Ride experience. The weather was great. We all met at Dade Corners on Krome and S.W. 8st, at 8 am. We later left and drove approx. 45 min. to The Everglades Visitor Center. After looking at some alligators, and taking a Pee Break, we all headed west to Everglades City. I have never been there before. It was a quiet little country, a waterside community mostly occupied by Snowbirds, in \$300,000 R V's. Nice !!!

We all had a great, fun, airboat ride, and the drivers of the boats were funny and very accomodating to our guests. We had lunch at The Island Cafe. There were gator-fried chunks, frog legs, and many other choices of appetizers paid by our club, (very generous) I may say, but I passed on those peculiar little bites of appetizers. Too weird for me. We then headed to the alligator farm, where we saw White Bengal Tigers and many other species of wildlife, including alligators, of course. It was very nice and entertaining. At around 4.30 pm, we all left and headed home.

Folks on the week of March 21-28, The R.M. Sotheby's Car Auction will take place in Ft. Lauderdale. This auction, and the Annual Car Show, are the biggest revenue producing events that we have for our club's income. Unfortunately, since becoming a member over 5 years ago, this will be the first year that I miss the opportunity to volunteer as my work schedule demands for that week. I greatly encourage those who can make it, to contact Gail or Oscar, for information on how to volunteer for this event.

On a personal note, my wife and I have become empty nesters. Our youngest, Melissa, found a place to live on her own. She is very happy, although she lives just 20 minutes away in west Kendall, t It saddens me greatly, everytime I pass by both my daughter's bedrooms and see them empty. They are both professionals, with great careers and financially stable, none-the-less, they will always be daddy's little girls, which I love more than life itself.



There are no words that any one of us can say that will come close to thanking or expressing our gratitude to a husband and a wife team, for all the work they do behind the scenes. These people are the ones that assist Oscar, in their free time, whether researching, talking to potential sponsors, museum curators, or managers. They do this all for us, for the enjoyment of our classic cars. We should all take our hats off to Gail and Stuart Corenblum. Friends, they attend and assist in every car event, car show, and revenue-producing auction, tirelessly and steadfastly, not for their benefit, but for the benefit of our club. I admire their beautiful relationship/marriage. They are as - one. Gail is always so polite, sweet, helpful, and eloquent. And Stuart, well what more can I say. Friends, I look up to Stuart, because he ALWAYS is willing to help anyone in the club, with answers, advice on their cars, and in the authoritative way he says "can we have a motion to adjourn" at our monthly club meetings. At our car show these two in the hot mid-day sun: Gail held up a cardboard sign for hours selling raffle tickets, and Stuart was directing traffic with a smile on his face. They arrived at 7 am in 35-degree weather. You both are amazing friends.

A great thank you too, to Anita and Paul as well for your great help at the Annual Car Show. Anita darned the raffle ticket sign in the sun and Paul weathered the sun along with Stuart directing traffic. Thank You also to Gina, for your help with the 50/50! Thank you all, for your enormous contribution to making this the best Thunderbird Club!

Be well my friends,

Richard Manso

Club President



DEAR OSCAR:

Mary Kay's '57.

DEAR OSCAR: I always loved the *Song Pink Cadillac* and I used to be a Mary K consultant with the honor of driving a company Pink Cadillac. That is how my husband (the Old Hound) and I met way back when he was driving a white 57 TBird that his daddy gave him. He said he hated pink cars and would never paint the 57 pink...but, I love pink cars so much and I was such a Fox in my Mary K pink caddy that I miss so much, that if my husband would paint it pink, maybe I would feel better about riding in with him. In fact, I want to surprise him for Valentines and paint it pink! *Should I Mary K the 57?*

Sincerely,
Former Mary K Fox

DEAR Mary K Fox: The fact that you drove a *Pink May Kay Cadillac* means that you were a "Grand Achiever" with the company, a level not reached by many, *Congratulations!* Pink Cadillacs have always had a place of distinction in history, Elvis owned several, Aretha Franklin used to sing about cruising in a pink Cadillac in her iconic hit "Freeway of Love", when she passed, 100 pink Cadillacs joined in the funeral procession! So you are not alone in your love of Pink Cadillacs!



OSCAR CASTRO

based on friendship and what makes a good friend. Be a good friend to him (and yourself) and go on long countryside rides in the White TBird, enjoy life, and if you still have the urge to paint his Tbird Pink, bring up the mental picture of the exploding head, that should cool off your urges!

Now, if you still have the urge and are determined to give him a *Valentine's Day surprise*, may I suggest Pink body paints. I hear that Hobby Lobby has a good selection of shades.

Oscar

Thunderbird Headquarters

Complete 1955-1972 Thunderbird Parts Warehouse for Over 40 Years



(925) 825-9550
parts@tbirdhq.com
Have you been to our website lately?

WWW.TBIRDHQ.COM



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 80-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 in an editable .pdf format.

Online Renew for 1 year 2018 for \$37.50 or signup for 3 years at \$105.00

(35.00 a year)

Classic Thunderbird Club International

1308 E. 29th Street, Signal Hill, CA 90755-1842 USA • 562.426.2709 • Fax: 562.426.7023 • Email: ctci@ctci.org • Web site: 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.

Please select one of the following prorated amounts:

Month Joining	One Time Initiation Fee	Dues	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> January thru March	\$15.00	+ \$75.00	= \$90.00
<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 \$10.00 to select Premium Packet with CTCL Grille Emblem

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

Premium Packet with Grille Emblem = Add \$10.00 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: Visa _____ Additional \$15.00/year. Other Foreign Countries: A/C 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 _____ Trims _____ Asst _____

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: _____

rev 1/2015-WEB



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.

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 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.

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



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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?

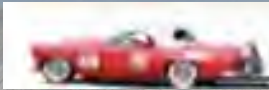
Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI) was formed to band together owners and admirers of the 1955-57 Ford Thunderbird — to serve as a medium of exchange of ideas, technical information, and sources for parts. Lasting friendships have been formed through local chapters, Regional Conventions and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



Thunderbird
NEWS

21st Annual Car Show













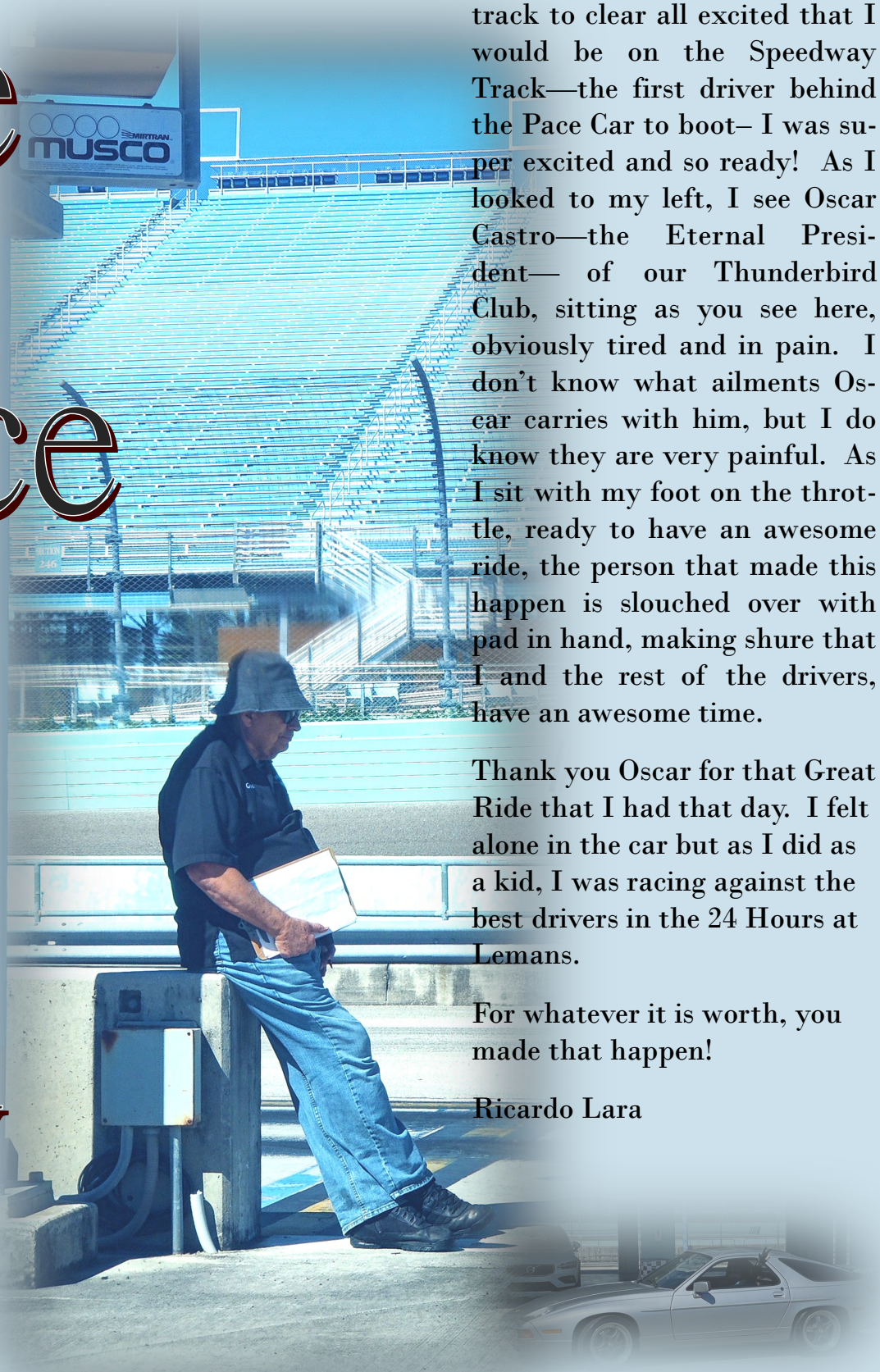








The Price to Pay



While I was sitting in the car waiting for the track to clear all excited that I would be on the Speedway Track—the first driver behind the Pace Car to boot— I was super excited and so ready! As I looked to my left, I see Oscar Castro—the Eternal President— of our Thunderbird Club, sitting as you see here, obviously tired and in pain. I don't know what ailments Oscar carries with him, but I do know they are very painful. As I sit with my foot on the throttle, ready to have an awesome ride, the person that made this happen is slouched over with pad in hand, making shure that I and the rest of the drivers, have an awesome time.

Thank you Oscar for that Great Ride that I had that day. I felt alone in the car but as I did as a kid, I was racing against the best drivers in the 24 Hours at Lemans.

For whatever it is worth, you made that happen!

Ricardo Lara





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THUNDER TALK



Ed



Stu

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"The Ding & Bat Brothers"

Ed: *Welcome all to our first edition of Thunder Talk, where Stu and Ed, the Ding & Bat brothers from other Mothers, offer fixes and suggestions to caller's car problems.*

On today's show we are coming to you from Sunny South Florida, where it has lately been in the forties in the early morning – then jumping to the high 80's by mid-day. (Welcome to Florida)

If you have a question about your car, you can write to us at editortcsf@gmail.com

Ed: Hello you're on Thunder Talk

Caller: Hello, this is **Lulu** (short for Eloise) and I am calling from *Miami Shores*. *I would like to congratulate you on your new show!* I am so happy to be your first *Ding & Bat* caller!

Stu: Well, depending on how this goes, this could be the last one as well.

Caller: OH Stu, I hope not, because I have a *lot of problems*.

Stu: And...what makes you think we solve any of them for you? -- we are car Guys.

Caller: Well, let's just give it a try – shall we?

Ed: Yes of course, please, let us know what is going on with your car.

Caller: Well, everything was fine with my '56 before Covid...

Stu: You SEE! **Everything is B.C.! these days: Before Covid.** Because everything B. C., *was just fine!*

Caller: Yes, you are so right Stu, especially with this car that use to run perfect -- I could take it out on weekend trips - Sunday drives - but after Covid started, it sat in the garage since I really don't have any places to go to these days...you know, I am in my 80's and I can't go-out-and-about to public places to mingle - kind of lonely you know?

About a week ago I decided to go for a ride in the '56, as I backed out of the garage, going down the driveway, there was this loud: BANG! from the rear of the car. It scared the HECK Out me!...but worse than that – it rattled the neighbor's Chihuahua! As I managed to slowly drive around the block, the Bang Bang got louder and more often...

Stu: (Laughing)

Caller: NO! it's not funny Stu; everybody now calls me: **Bang Bang Lulu**

Stu: Oh Boy! I can come up with a few rhymes for that one!

Ed: I am sure you can Stu, but let's stay on topic and fix *Lulu's Bang Bang* issue.

Stu: You see what I mean? – You can't help it ED! – Hey Lulu – *Do you have a Duck?*

Ed: STU! Cut it OUT!

Stu: Geez! I don't know Lulu...shoot the Chihuahua! That'll fix it – they are a nuisance anyway! *And while you are at it...drive around my neighborhood – there is this Shih Tzu down the street I want taken out!*

Ed: Well, Stu it sounds to me like a little backfire from the exhaust.

Stu: I don't know Ed; it sounds to me more like constipation...

Ed: Lulu, is it constant or random? Are the emissions dark and smelly? Do you have a gas problem (flatulence)? I would consult Dr Khrone for more information!

Stu: What the hell does Ed know about shooting chihuahuas, all he can do is shoot the shit out of Shih Tzus and anybody can do that. But the real problem with the 56, is a bad muffler bearing. Or it could be a defective one-way suck way valve, either way we've got to get it fixed immediately.

Ed: This question is starting to sound more like a question for **Dear Oscar**.

Caller: Guys! I need a fix right-a-way! Not only are they calling me **Bang Bang Lulu**, they also call the 56 **Lulu's Bang Bang**, reminiscent of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang – It's Horrible!

Stu: How long has the Chit been sitting in the garage anyway?

Caller: Over a year and half now.

Ed: That's a good question Stu, I have heard a lot of horror stories about "critters" finding a home in cars that sit around a lot. I had an Edsel once and a family of possums made the trunk their home. I wasn't until I noticed a foul odor coming from the garage, that I knew there was a problem! Maybe you got a mouse stuck up in your tail pipe. I don't think a possum would fit, but then again I don't know how big your tail pipe is!

Stu: I do not not have any pet raccoons so I can not be blamed for this one.

Ed: Lulu start the car and have some one put their hand over the exhaust pipe and check for exhaust flow.

Stu: Lulu make sure you check both pipes.

Ed: I think you will find that one of your pipes is blocked.

Stu: Ed isn't that a little personal ?

Ed: Lulu I'm sure this information will help you get your Bird back on the road.

Please let us know.





Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida



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www.thunderbirdclub.us

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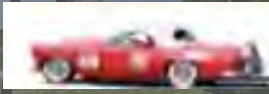
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SEPT 4, 2022

MEMBER'S CAR PAGE

This is my beloved 1966 Medium Silver Mink Blue 1966 Thunderbird.

I already had a red Retro 2002 Thunderbird that I enjoyed driving and we had taken it on many road rallies as well. My wife and I would go out with the top down to enjoy the wind blowing through our hair (more her's than mine). She was very quick and agile, and the T-Bird as well. But my real desire was to find an unrestored, unmolested 66 T-Bird, with the sequential rear turn signals and with a working a/c.

One rainy Sunday night in July 2016, my daughters had taken over the family room big T.V., so I was forced to find entertainment elsewhere. I got on my computer and started surfing Craigslist cars for sale to flip as this is a hobby of mine. After surfing a couple of pages of cars, I came across an unmolested, unrestored 1966 T-bird, that had me in disbelief. By now it was 10 pm, and I was reluctant to call and inquire about the Bird; nevertheless, I was off the next couple of days so like the song say's "Tonight's the night, we'll make History" from the song "The best of times" by Styx. I called the number, for fear the car would be history and not mine. An elderly man answered and the first thing out of my mouth was: I'm so sorry for the late call, but is the T-Bird still available? He chuckled and said: Son, do you know what time it is? He then said: yes it's available, but at 9 am, I have a couple of people coming to see it and a neighbor as well...where are you calling from son? Miami, but if you please give me the opportunity, I can be there at 8 am. I knew it was a few hours away in North FT. Myers. He told me if I can be there at 8, I would get the first chance to see it.

The next morning, at 7:30 am, I was parked outside his house. At 8 am, he opened the door and said he couldn't believe I made it there on time from Miami. He opened the garage door - and there she was with 2 covers on. I later found out from his wife that

the reason he was selling the Bird, is because he had suffered a stroke a few months earlier...he was 85. As soon as I took off the cover and saw the T-Bird's body was straight as an arrow, along with an interior as if no one had ever sat in it...I went to him and said...it's mine! "Don't you want to hear the engine start-up?" I asked: does it run as good as you said it does sir? He said it has 68,000 original documented miles, oil change every 3000 miles, done by himself, and he said: she starts on the first turn. It was already 8:30 am, I wanted just to give him the cash and do the paperwork before 9 am to beat the neighbor and the other prospective buyers.

The paint was perfect, the gauges worked, all the power windows worked, the rear sequential turn sig-



nals worked as well. The a/c was cold as ice - unbelievable! So we go inside his house and there I met his wife, a sweet little old lady with an apron on that read: Kiss The Cook. My friend Luis came with me to drive my truck back to Miami and I was politely introduced and she asked: you drove from Miami, to see this car? You must be famished and hungry. Fred, is he buying our car? Fred said: yes, but we will do the paperwork after breakfast, you boys have to eat first. So my friend Luis and I had a big country breakfast with the Murray's before any money or paperwork was handled. Wow, this was so great, and humbling, that there are still good-hearted people in this turmoiled, world we live in, God Bless these people.



After breakfast, Mr. Murray brought out a big box with binders of receipts and expenses he had with the T Bird since day one. He signed over the original title to the car from 1966, gave it to me along with the window sticker and the build sheet of the car; this was the holy grail of documentation for any classic car, worth more than the car itself. Mrs. Murray told me that when she went to the backroom to help her husband with the documentation that he was in tears crying...that is why he took so long to come out with the box. "You see, he gave me this car for our first wedding anniversary in Feb. of 1966. He was a Foreman at Ford at the time, and he helped build this car, which he specially ordered for me as a gift."

The neighbor and the others came by to inquire about the car, the Murray's said: thank you, but it is going to a good home. Which is what they wanted. Out of respect, I did not haggle at all, I paid the full asking price which was very fair. In appreciation, I gave them a separate envelope, with \$500.00 in cash, that I had to force them to take, for them to go out to dinner on me! That's the least I could do, and I had taken extra cash in case I had some competition to buy the car.

I went outside, started the car, checked all the fluids, I had to put a little air in the tires and backed it out of the garage. I went back inside to say my goodbyes to Mrs.

Murray and thank her again for the breakfast and their hospitality. Mr. Murray stayed out on the street, watching us drive the car out of his sight. It was very tough to see him in the rearview mirror, waving goodbye, as far as my eyes could see.

The best experience that I had that day back in 2016, in the process of buying my T-Bird, was not that I had found the Bird I was so much looking for, not that it has all the options I was looking for, nor that it was in pristine, unrestored, unmolested condition. The part of that day that I will treasure and never forget, is that I met two of the most kind, wonderful people I had ever met, who brought me into their home, two strangers, and fed us a home-cooked breakfast. They shared their life story with me. I am very fortunate to have acquired this piece of history, not because of how nice the car was, but because of the beautiful love story behind it.

Richard Manso



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