

# Thunderbird News

Volume 24 – Number 3

FOUNDED 1998

May-June 2022

**IN THIS ISSUE!**

**BRUNCH**

**The Knife**  
BRUNCH AT THE KNIFE  
SUNDAY MAY 15, 2022  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
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DATE: 05/30/2022  
PAY TO THE ORDER OF: McPherson College  
AMOUNT: \$ 51,000.00  
— One Thousand Dollars and 00 Cents —  
CHASE  
McPherson, Clara Ruth, M.A.  
Auto Restoration  
**McPherson Donation**

**WELCOME ABOARD**  
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**IT'S GOING TO BE MEMORABLE**

[THIS IS AN INTERACTIVE NEWSLETTER — ALL LINKS ARE LIVE — RIGHT-CLICK & OPEN NEW TAB]

67<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORD THUNDERBIRD

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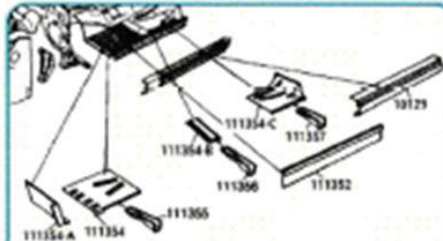
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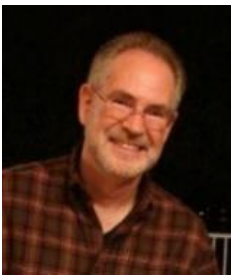
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# Editor's Corner

Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida  
CTCI Chapter #114  
ITC South East District Chapter

Remember that this Bi-Monthly Newsletter goes to press the 15th of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Our 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 From time to time information becomes outdated.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

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.

## Editor's Message

Greetings Fellow CTCSF Members

I can't believe 2 months have gone by so quickly and that so much has happened that it will take 40 pages to tell you all about it! Oscar has done a fabulous job of putting together stories from our recent Club Events, Owner's cars, The Great Race 2022, Upcoming Events and Supporters advertising to make this the best Newsletter ever! So read about the fun we all had.

Start with the Annual Club Luncheon that coincided with Thunderbird Appreciation Day in May at the Knife in Hallandale Bch. There are some great pictures of us all stuffing our faces with delicious cuts of meats and assorted charcuterie. We had Thunderbirds to show in the parking lot too, but our Baby Bird is nesting in Tampa these days and sadly couldn't participate.

We missed the Jungle Queen this time, but it looks like you all had a great fun. The weather was sunny and warm, which made for a perfect outing. Last time, not to warm and no Sun (it was in the evening)! I think we froze to the benches where we were eating, LOL! Enjoy the pictures.

How about Alan and Helen at the Great Race this year? It will be run from Warwick, Rhone Island to Fargo North Dakota over 9 Days, stopping in some famous places like Erie PA, South Bend IN, Chippawa Falls WI, and Duluth MN among 16 others. Alan is a great writer and is sharing their experience for our Thunderbird New Readers. You can catch the daily entries on their Blog at [www.techworkshop.com](http://www.techworkshop.com) although the Race will be over on June 26<sup>th</sup> before this issue is published, you will be able to read about the Race Events in the July-August Thunderbird News! Alan and Helen, thanks for allowing us all in the Club to join in your fun and hopefully, triumph!

Gina has written a story about all the Thunderbirds Richard has owned over the years, as ONLY she can! Be prepared to be amused by the collaboration of these two and stories of the "Seven Thunderbirds" on The Member's Car Page. Don't forget you can always submit a story about your Thunderbird or Collectible car for an upcoming issue. I KNOW FOR SURE there are a lot of great stories out there. Thanks to those in the past who have shared like Gail & Stuart, Paul & Anita, Brice, Richard, George and more.

Please read the wonderful President's Message from Rick Manso, he always seems to bring out the best of every situation and everyone involved. It is informative and cheerful. He is an inspiration!

So, coming up is the Club Picnic on Independence Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> at Heritage Park in Plantation FL. and the long-anticipated viewing of the fabulous private collections of Guy Lewis and Frank Rubino at their home in Pinecrest July 10<sup>th</sup>. Arlene and I are happy to be able to attend both events!

Check out our Supporting Advertisers and if you need something be sure to tell them you saw their company promoted in The Thunderbird News! We appreciate their continued support.

Happy Birding,  
*Ed Raabe*



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CTCI Chapter #114  
 ITC South East District Chapter

**FOUNDED 1998 BY**



**FELIPE COS**  
 October 15, 1936 – January 11, 2015

**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



We encourage participation on our Facebook page and Instagram pages. 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"!

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Ed Raabe

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Felipe Cos  
Ed Raabe  
Ricardo Lara Aguilar

**EVENTS & PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR**  
Oscar Castro  
[Help Wanted - Apply Within]

**ABOUT THE CLUB**

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.

**CLUB**

**SCHEDULE - 2022**

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

CLICK FOR DETAILS





# CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA MEMBERSHIP

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!

## MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES

- Free Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- Free Gratuities at our Monthly Dinner Meetings
- Free or Subsidized Activities
- Access to the vast car-related knowledge base amongst our members
- A whole bunch of other stuff
- And one more thing, all the Fun and Fellowship you can handle!

## PARTIAL LIST OF CLUB ACTIVITIES

ALL OF OUR ACTIVITIES ARE EITHER **FREE** OR **SUBSIDIZED** BY THE CLUB FOR THE MEMBERS

- Annual Paella Dinner
- Annual Club OPEN Car Show at the Homestead-Miami Speedway
- Monthly Membership Dinner Meetings
- Bi-Monthly "Thunderbird News" Newsletter
- Yearly BBQ Picnic
- Yearly Sunday Brunch
- Several Road Trips a Year
- Annual Holiday Party

Annual Dues \$50

[www.tbirdfl.com/Membership.htm](http://www.tbirdfl.com/Membership.htm)

TO BECOME A MEMBER

## MONTHLY CLUB MEETINGS



**CLASSIC Thunderbird CLUB SOUTH FLORIDA**

**MONTHLY CLUB MEETING**  
2nd Wednesday of Every Month  
(Except May & December)  
6:30 PM Happy Hour - 7:00 Meeting and Dinner

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**\$25.00 PP Dinner – Includes Appetizers, Salad, Entree, Dessert, & Coffee**  
**Club pays tip and taxes - The Restaurant serves complimentary wine**  
**We would love to see you at the next meeting!**  
Go to [www.tbirdfl.com/Club-Meetings.htm](http://www.tbirdfl.com/Club-Meetings.htm) for details / directions



# *Classic Thunderbird Club International*

## CTCI



We encourage New Club Members to join CTCI ([www.ctci.org](http://www.ctci.org)) 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 over 50-member families.

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

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in CTCI is composed of people from all walks of life who are interested in the design and artistic merits of the Classic 1955, 1956 and 1957 Ford Thunderbird. Unlike ordinary pieces of art, automobiles are also functional and ownership can bring personal satisfaction over a broad spectrum of experiences.

Whether you purchased the car to restore, show or just to drive, the camaraderie of association with other people with the same interests is a great experience. CTCI can assist our members derive greater satisfaction from the cars within their particular area of interest.

Ford called the T-Bird "The personal" car and it really is, because there are many ways to enjoy it aside from just looking at it. Very careful and critical "looking at it" is called a "Concours" (car show) and some of our members enjoy that part of it. Others enjoy the "restoration" process, making a beautiful car out of a derelict. Still others enjoy operating and maintaining the car so that they can safely use the car on tours and other social outings. Some of our members are interested in "Resto-rods". This is a car that looks completely "Stock" on the outside but has a completely modern drive train installed.

To others, they enjoy the look and feel of a truly unique car of the 50's. CTCI is an organization that has grown because of the interest in the cars—and the friendships that develop keep bringing our members together. Whatever your personal interest in Thunderbirds is, CTCI is here to help you realize that goal. Click [MEMBERSHIP](#) to Become a Member Today!



**2022 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**OCTOBER 25-30**  
**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**





## 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 CTCI 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/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/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 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.

Gerard (Bart) Bartasavich President  
International Thunderbird Club  
P O Box 24041  
Pepper Pike, OH 44124  
(216) 375-2808  
[gebart@ameritech.net](mailto:gebart@ameritech.net)  
[www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com](http://www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com)



The Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida is a Chapter Member of the Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI) and of the International Thunderbird Club (ITC).

We are proud to be associated with these two fine organizations! Between them, they provide a vast selection of resources to help you with your early birds and all the ones after!

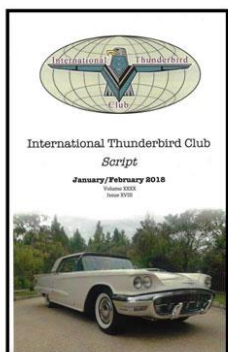
Plan to attend one of their Annual Conventions!

New Members, please join these Great Clubs!

## Join this great club



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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 the: **ITC Thunderbird Script**.

For 1955-05 Ford Thunderbird enthusiasts

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# Member's Photo Collage

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# Sunday Brunch

On Sunday May 15, Sixty Seven members of the Classic Thunderbird Club met for our annual Sunday Brunch. This year we went to The Knife Steak House, an Argentinian themed Rodizio restaurant. We were set to meet at eleven thirty AM to gather before going in, but I guess that everyone was very hungry, because by eleven AM, more than half of the people were already there.



We went in shortly before 12, just in time because as the last member walked into the restaurant; it started raining, so we were all treated to a **free car wash!** Once inside, there was an extensive salad bar, plus the waitresses brought plenty of bread, French fries, and sweet potato fries to the table, along

with water, lemonade and soft drinks. The wine was plentiful, but there was a limit, no more than one bottle per person, which turned out to be



plenty enough, since we went thru only about two bottles per each table of eight!



Now, the main course, the beef, poultry, sausage, and several custom assembled pieces of vegetable and specialized cuts of meat, was “self-

service”, meaning we had to walk up to the grill and ask for whatever we wanted and how we wanted it cooked, directly from the grill master at work! Can’t get any fresher than that! After consuming as many nutrients as humanly possible, the group continued to mill around visiting each other’s table and socializing with each other until people started leaving at around one thirty. All-In-All, it was a very nice event and a great time was had by all!





# Sunday Brunch





# *Sunday Brunch*



*Ya'll Come Back Next Year!*







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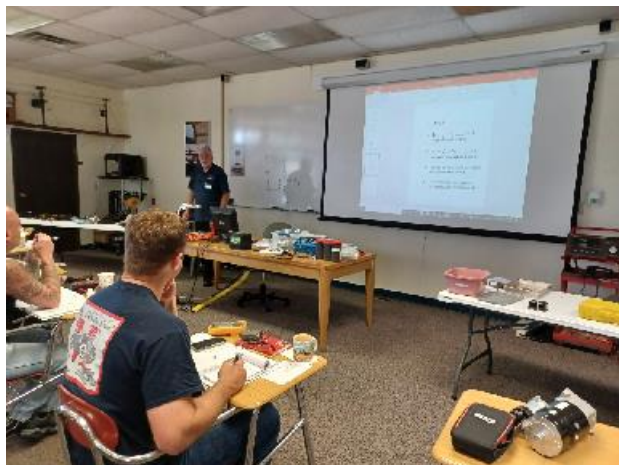
# McPherson College Summer Program & Donation

06/11/2022 – 06/19/22



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Our club, The Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida sponsors a scholarship fund for [McPherson College](#) (The only accredited university in the United States with a major in Automobile Restoration). Pictured here is John Layzel presenting this year's donation check to the college, which he took up with him when he attended "summer school" at the college this year. Read all about John's exciting trip in the story that follows.

Although I'd read in various car magazines about McPherson College in Kansas, the only 4-year degree program in auto restoration in the USA, my first-hand report from somebody who had actually attended the Auto Restoration Summer Institute (aka, 'Car Camp') was about 10 -12 years ago from Thunderbird Club and AACA member Ed Brown. His description of the college and summer course sufficiently enthused me



to add it to my Bucket List. It wasn't until the end of 2017 that I finally signed up for June 2018. The Summer Institute commences right after the regular college Spring Term ends at the end of May. Summer Institute runs for three consecutive weeks, offering numerous courses. Each week offers 6-7 different courses, such as engine rebuilding, tune-up and diagnostic, trim and upholstery. Classes are limited to about 10 attendees and run 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. This year was my fourth consecutive year at McPherson, having missed 2020 when the Institute was closed because of COVID. Courses taken so far are brakes, sheet metal, woodworking and auto electrical. Except for the first and last evenings, Sunday and Friday, there is an event every evening which includes visits to private car collections, working antique machinery, auto museums, etc. Never a dull moment!





# McPherson College Summer Program & Donation

06/11/2022 – 06/19/22



This year's costs were: Airfare Miami to Wichita \$470, Class \$850, Dorm \$250, Meals \$175, Shuttle to & from Wichita airport \$40 – rounded off about \$1,800.



I have made a commitment to attend a class every year for as long as I am able. Gus, in my auto electrical class this year has been 10 previous times, is 84 and already planning for next year!

The following year's classes and registration opens right after Thanksgiving, and the classes fill quickly! If YOU are a true gearhead, you own it to yourself to spend a least one week at the 'Car Camp.' For more information on the Summer Institute: <https://www.mcpherson.edu/auto restoration/institute/>

Enjoy,

*John*









# McPherson College Summer Program & Donation

06/11/2022 – 06/19/22







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# Great Race 2022

## Alan and Helen's Great Adventure – Part 1



EDITOR'S NOTE: This is such an important and **HUGE** event, that we will cover this story in TWO editions, for this May-Jun edition, PART-1, will deal with the background and pre-race preparations. Next edition, Jul-Aug, will cover the race itself and the outcome! The Great Race runs coast-to-coast yearly. For 2022, 167 cars will be crossing the START line on June 18 and the first one to qualify and cross the FINISH line on June 26 will win the \$50,000 or more Grand Prize! **Our own Hellen and Allan Runk will be in Car #14.** They were very lucky to make this year's roster, since there is already a waiting list for the 2023 Race! Use this link to keep track of their progress [www.techworkshop.com/roadrace](http://www.techworkshop.com/roadrace).

Hello All!

**Posted 06-16-2022** \_ Well, we finally we got here to Warwick, Rhode Island

Although it was a bit exciting. Way back in April, I received a friendly e-mail from the airline telling us that the date and time of our departure was "updated." Well, lemme tell you..."read those e-mails CAREFULLY!" It turns out that, yes, the departure time had changed, but (and I didn't perceive this when I read the e-mail) the date had also changed to a day later! So, when it came time to check in, all they said was "dude.....you are way-y-y to early!"

So we frantically scrambled until we found a couple of last-minute flights that somehow got us up here.

Our vehicle, meanwhile, had a much more comfortable ride. Peter (the truck driver) arrived right on time Monday morning with his truck, loaded up the Healey, and waved good-bye:



And, things got even better when we finally got up to Rhode Island!! The Healey was there waving its tailpipe (happy to see us) and better yet, (Ken and Lauren) were there with a can of Schell's beer (don't ask me it....they live in New York!!) for Helen and me!!



Technical inspection (inspection of the vehicle, not inspection of Helen) is in a few minutes, so we'll see you in a bit!

And....thanks a heap for riding along with us. We really enjoy your company!

**Posted 06-16-2022** \_ The Easiest Part....Procrastinating!

The sneakiest issue we always have with the Great Race (this is the sixth time we've done it) is....the lead time! We all happily agreed to do this at least six months ago, so the need to prepare certainly hasn't been a surprise. However, at least one of us (hint: it's not Helen...) likes to put everything off until the last possible moment.

First of all..... I pondered for months whether to take the truck (a 1946 Dodge one-ton) or the Austin-Healey (a 1967 BJ8). The truck is roomy (it is a truck, after all), cool and breezy, but very slow to accelerate and hard to steer and stop. The Healey is agile, powerful, fast and wonderfully noisy, but very tiny, hot and uncomfortable.

Eventually, since the route this year starts in Rhode Island and proceeds through hilly country all the way to North Dakota, we decided that the truck deserves a vacation!! It hates hills as it has to crawl up them (usually in second or third gear), so we lose a whole lot of time (which Helen keeps track of....along with our new slower speed.... on her stopwatch) and then we floor it going back downhill at a much higher speed until Helen says we've recovered the lost time.





# Great Race 2022

## Alan and Helen's Great Adventure – Part 1



Now that we got that out of the way, everything else is easy-peasy, right?? All we have to do is load 'er up and go, right??? Well, yes....but that's never the case. To begin with, there is a decent probability (based on our experiences during the past events) that we will experience a few breakdowns:



So....will we need help, or should we be our own repair shop? Many (I'm guessing at least two thirds) of the competitors cajole several of their mechanically-inclined friends to join the event as a "support crew" (which is allowed) who load up a truck and/or trailer with tools, spare parts and necessary fluids (including beer) and tag along, following a route specified by the organizers. Then, at night while the driver and navigator are snoozing, the support crew works on the vehicle and gets it ready for the next day. The only problem we have with this is that the support crews usually get in early at the end of each day and eat most of the food before we get there....

BUT....we say "NO!!" to enlisting a support crew, since this sounds like no fun at all! Certainly don't want to punish our friends, and why would we ever go to sleep if our friends are here to party with us? Therefore, we elect to carry our own tools, spare parts and fluids and work on the vehicle in the evening when needed.

As expected, the question then is: "What will we need to take with us?" When we took the truck for the last three events, the answer was simple... "Anything that we can think of!!" So we loaded the truck with everything (!) we could think of, ranging from numerous engine parts (crank, oil pump, water pump, distributor, etc.) to inner tubes, brake and master cylinders, wheel bearings, U-joints and spare battery, tons of tools and a cooler with ice.



BUT....The Austin-Healey has zero room!! So...the first thing we have to do is drastically slim down our list of spare parts and tools. Fortunately, spare parts for the Healey are a lot smaller and lighter, but we still have a lotta crap (water pump, hoses, fuel pump, master cylinder and wheel cylinders, U-joints, wheel bearings and seals, plugs, spark coil, voltage regulator, distributor cap, rotor and points, etc.) as well as a whole bunch of tools we gotta somehow cram into the trunk...

(By the way....free beer to anyone that can identify at least 50 of the items in the following picture....so much more fun than Wordle!)



WHEW!!! It all fits!!

Finally, after breathing a sigh of relief that everything fits, Helen and I did a bunch of test runs with the fully loaded vehicle, and Helen analyzed and updated our navigation charts to reflect time loss during turns, speed changes, following slower vehicles, and stops with the Healey fully loaded:

So...we actually think we are ready (hooray!!!). Of course, we haven't quite figured out if we still have enough room in the back seat for our carry-on bags. We'll see when we get there...

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Make sure you read our Next edition, Jul-Aug, for the exciting conclusion of Alan and Helen's Great Adventure! In the meantime, use this link to keep track of their progress [www.techworkshop.com/roadrace](http://www.techworkshop.com/roadrace).





# *President's Message*

## *May - June 2022*

Hello and salutations fellow club members;

I hope you and all of your family are all doing great. I am very glad to say that the Sunday Brunch was a great success. It took place on Sunday, May 15th at The Knife Steakhouse in Broward. My wife and I unfortunately could not attend due to a family event. Thanks to our amazing event coordinator extraordinaire Mr. Oscar Castro, this was another perfect get together.

Folks, on June 11th, approximately 53 of us club members had an amazing time at the "Jungle Queen" Dinner Cruise and show event. The boat travelled up and down the New River in beautiful Ft. Lauderdale. It was very relaxing and informative as the narrator spoke about the history of all the homes on the riverfront. When we arrived at the private tropical island where the dinner and shows were to take place, we were greeted with cheering employees welcoming the boatload of guests. As soon as we arrived, dinner was served, great coordinating. I always thought Flannigan's was the absolute best place for ribs. Boy was I wrong!!

There was a 40 foot table waiting and set up just for our club. You know, we should really give Oscar a raise for planning this event so extremely well. We all sat down, and the fiesta began. There was live music on stage as we all had dinner. The food such as incredibly delicious ribs, fries, hot fresh baked bread, and BBQ beans, just kept coming. There was no stopping it. It was great; my wife let me eat all I wanted. Now that was amazing in itself.

After that great meal we all went outside to the outdoor arena for the shows. Friends, up until this day, I never knew that I had talent good enough to perform on stage. I still don't believe I do. Richard the ventriloquist, needed a volunteer or [SUCKER], and I raised my hand. I became a singing, serenading, juggling dancing Hillbilly for about 15 minutes. Literally, that was my 15 minutes of fame. I really had a great time, making all of my friends laugh. My wife even told me "Honey I never thought I would wake up with a Goodyear Manager and go to sleep with a Hillbilly", all in the same day.

I'm excited for the 4th of July picnic in Broward. There will be a great BBQ, and refreshing soft drinks. The cuisine will be cooked by two world renowned Chefs. Chef Stuart all the way from North Miami, and Chef Bob from Broward. Thank you gentlemen for your help!! Men, it will be a very nice day to bring your classics. You can bring your classic cars as well.

I know I speak for most of us, I am very excited that we have the opportunity on Sunday, July 10th to finally visit both Classic and collector car museums. (Thank you so much Gail). After the visits to the car collections, we are all heading to Royd's Restaurant on Krome and 208 street, in The Redlands for an outdoor tropical lunch. Please remember that the visits to the car collections are free, but lunch we individually pay on our own.

On a personal note, HOORAY!!! My wife and I are empty nesters, no more. Our date nights in the back yard, and our wine sipping sessions in private are over now. Well, not over but have to be scheduled very carefully. We are very happy, our youngest, Melissa has moved back in. She said she was too lonely. By the way, while on her own, she would come over every day to eat at home, use our laundry room, and somehow she would end up going out to dinner with us on weekends. One very, very wise man once told me in a very piercing voice "I told you guys you should've changed the locks". His initials are, for his privacy S\_\_\_\_T C\_\_\_\_M , he also drives a very beautiful blue and gray Packard.

Well folks, all good things come to an end, as does this Presidential Message. I know I may sound redundant, by always thanking all the very special folks who make "OUR CLUB", the great club that it is, time and time again. I, as your humble President and friend, greatly and sincerely wish I had more time to dedicate to our club. My job obligations make it very difficult to do so sometimes. Therefore, here are just to name a few humble, dedicated, selfless individuals, who are the back bone of our club and do so, so much as well; Oscar and Marcia Castro, Gail and Stuart Corenblum, Anita and Paul Werner, Elvis and Marcia Padron, Bob and Natalie Heslekrants, and Ed Raabe although moved away, still contributes greatly and is our Newsletter Editor. Thank you all for your continued support, help, and effort which make The Classic Thunderbird Club of S.F. the best classic car club ever!!!!

Thank you very much,  
Be well my friends.

*Richard*





# The Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida



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wish you a  
very, very

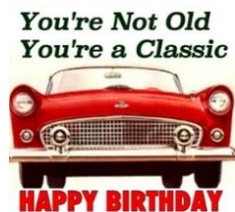
*Happy  
Birthday*

## JULY 2022

Piñeiro	Armando	13
Sheppard	Ed	17
Torres	Albert	18
Mayer	Patrick	19
Fernandez	Patricia	24
Sanchez	Astrid	27
Brice	Lilliam	28

## AUGUST 2022

Sanchez	Manolo	4
Zimet	Suellen	5
Canal	Jose	6
Hagood	Bridget	16
Mederos	Lidia	18
Mitchell	Deborah	20
Ulloa	Sandra	20
Puerto	Amparo	22








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# May and June Club Meeting

No May Meeting – June 8



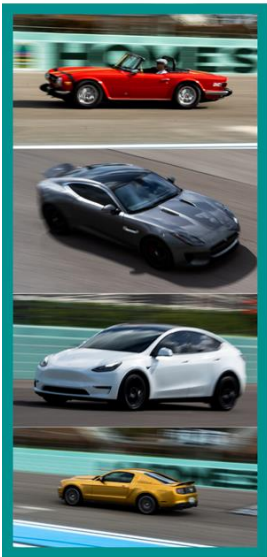


# Scheduled Events



## CAR SHOW

NASCAR RACE WEEKEND  
OCTOBER 23, 2022



### Early Registration

The first 25 cars to register get a free Give Back at the Track admission!

#### Car Show Package: \$55

- 1 Cup Ticket\*
- 1 Car Show Admission

#### Car Show Bundle: \$70

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- 1 Car Show Admission
- 1 Fast Lane Friday OR Give Back at the Track Admission

\*Additional race tickets are \$40

To register, contact Felicia Vega  
Phone: (386) 681-4071



Registration for the Road Trip to Lakeland for the Lake Mirror Car Show is now closed because we filled out to capacity. If you still want to go to Lakeland for the Car Show, you can do so on your own — but hotel rooms will be expensive and hard to find so do not wait.

**4th of July**  
**CELEBRATION**

**HERITAGE PARK**  
1100 S Fig Tree Lane  
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# Scheduled Events

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\* PUBLIC MUST PRINT AN ON-LINE TICKET FOR ENTRY - EVENT PARKING FEE WILL APPLY \*  
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# Resources for "What's Happening"!

## ONLINE CAR SHOW INFORMATION

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## MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS

**WE ARE FREQUENTLY ASKED FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHERE TO GO TO GET YOUR CAR SERVICED.** WE HAVE COMPILED A LIST BASED ON INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OUR MEMBERS. THEY HAVE SUBMITTED THESE NAMES BASED ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCES AND LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WHEN THEY HAVE DEALT WITH THESE SHOPS. THE THUNDERBIRD CLUB DOES NOT ENDORSE OR RECOMMEND THESE SHOPS AND IT CAN'T GUARANTEE YOUR SATISFACTION WHEN DEALING WITH THEM. WE ARE SIMPLY PROVIDING THIS LIST FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE AND TO CUT DOWN ON THE NUMBER OF EMAILS WE RECEIVE. USE YOUR GOOD JUDGMENT WHEN DEALING WITH ANY OF THE SHOPS AND MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION.

**MEMBERS – PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO [emails@thunderclubsouthflorida.com](mailto:emails@thunderclubsouthflorida.com)**

Shop Type	Shop Name	Address	Phone No.	Contact	Notes	Recommended by
Air Conditioning	Aaron Air	7200 Nw 29 Ave	305-891-4391	Scotty	I wouldn't go anywhere else. Honest, reasonable.	Stuart Corenblum
Alignment	5 Star Alignment	2664 NE 189th St, 33180	305- 937-4523		They are good! Our 39 Packard isn't easy to keep aligned, and they go above and beyond!	Stuart Corenblum
Alternators and Starters	Universal Parts	1013 Hialeah Dr.	305-884-3844	Andy	Island guy. No Espanol. Wonderful work!	Stuart Corenblum
Auto Glass	A Plus Auto Glass	15538 Sw 112th Dr, 33196	305-825-7733	Omar	Installed windshield on Stuart's '57	Stuart Corenblum
Chassis & Rear Ends			305-775-9780	Steve	Differentials	Stuart Corenblum
Chrome Plating	Action Plating Corp	1220 Al Baba Ave, Opa Locka 33054	305-685-6313	Larry	Reasonable for top quality work!	Stuart Corenblum
Parts	K.A.M. Auto	13771 Nw 19th Ave, Opa-locka, FL 33054	305-687-2400	Miguel	Really helpful! Some of the parts I need often present quite a challenge, but Miguel never lets me down!	Stuart Corenblum
Power Steering Systems	P. S. Systems	1180 Nw 163rd Ave, Miami 33163	354-922-7166	Jorge		Stuart Corenblum
Radiator Shop	Lazaro Radiators	4336 E 10th Ln, Hialeah, FL 33013	305-688-0740	Lazaro		Stuart Corenblum
Radio Conversions	Tajman Electrical	4411 Bee Ridge Rd, Sarasota, FL 34232	941-371-8924	Gary Tajman	Did the conversion on our 57 Bird. Knowledgeable and honest	Stuart Corenblum
Radio Repairs on Originals	Bill Abate	Pennsylvania	215-886-5386	Bill Abate		Stuart Corenblum
Restoration	Harbor Auto Restoration	2121 US-1, Rockledge, FL 32955	321-633-3227	Billy Tetto	Their work is incredible. And they do everything from total restorations down.	Stuart Corenblum
Restoration	Graveyard Classics	921N 21st Ave, Hollywood, FL 33020	954-613-8810	Joseph Shulman	Repaired the back half of Leo's 56 Bird after a collision. Good work!	Stuart Corenblum
Sway Bars	formerly Addco		772-708-8977	John Carlson	VERY knowledgeable!	Stuart Corenblum
Upholstery & rag top	Fusco Upholstery	2235 Dixie Hwy, Pompano Beach	954-491-3881		Did the BEST soft top installation I've seen on an old Bird	Stuart Corenblum
RESTO/PAINT/ BODY	MICHUGH AUTOMOTIVE	25TH ST. WEST PARK, FL	954-989-4285	Jim McHugh		John Virginio
MECHANICAL	ANDY'S PLACE	25TH ST. WEST PARK, FL	954-983-2638	Andy Aceturo		John Virginio
UPHOLSTERY	AUTO UPHOLSTERY BY HOWARD	845 Nw 7TH AE FT LAUDER	954-7618375	Howard		John Virginio
Classic car General Mechanical	Prime Tune	2620 NE 5th Ave Pompano Bch FL 33064	954-785-7779	Paul & Kathy Oliva		Ed Raabe
Tires -Suspension	OK Tire	3381N Dixie Hwy Pompano Bch FL 33064	954-781-8220	Jeff, Lou		Ed Raabe
General Mechanics & Body Work	Miracle Mile Motors	1010S. Dixie Highway, Delray Beach, FL	561-272-3228	Vinnie	Has been my general mechanic for 40 years	Paul Werner

**CLICK ON THE GRAPHIC TO VIEW LIST ONLINE**





# Members' Car Page

A LIFE OF THUNDERBIRDS, by Gina Crochet as told by Richard Crochet

"How many Thunderbirds have you owned?" I asked him. "Seven, including the current one," he replied. My curiosity was peaked so I continued. "What year was your first?" "It was a 1959," he said; "I bought it when I was 19 year old." "What drew you to it?" I inquired. The laws of attraction are always of interest to me. He confirmed it was the look. The car was so different from anything else in the showrooms of the day. He remembered the first time he saw one was at church one Sunday. The new 1958 belonged to a family of four – mommy, daddy and two kids all dressed in their church clothes looking so perfect in the car. I understood because he was the only child raised by a single father. The Ford commercials described the car as having a spirit of luxury but sized to fit four comfortably. "Everyone wants to own one," the ads touted. He admitted it was true. He did want to own one but it took until 1963 for it to become a reality.

The car was a white 1959 Thunderbird with the iconic turquoise and white interior – so 1950's. I know he babied it in the same way he has all his cars. He also believes they need to be driven and this one would be on the move. It was truly the daily driver but great for touring. Travel was terrific, and one of the road trips from New Orleans to Key West gave him a taste of Florida in the winter that would eventually draw him back.



Soon a job opportunity presented itself at a Ford dealership in San Diego. By that time, the 1959 was joined by a fabulous blue 1966 Q Code Landau, which towed the '59 on

the trip to California. Tragedy struck in the middle of the Texas desert with a failed water pump and a fried engine. The trusty '59 became the tow car and pulled the '66 into San Diego. "What happened to it?" I asked. His answer was – "I rebuilt the engine in my spare time." I marvel at his ability to do something that significant. I was impressed with this off-handed response as if it was the most natural thing to do.

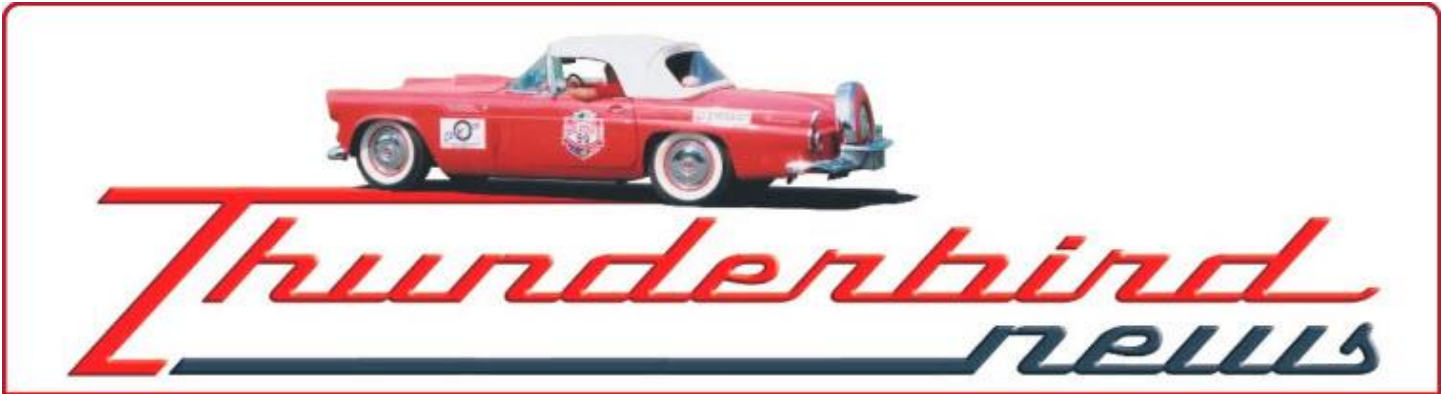


He said he loved San Diego. "Why did you leave?" I asked. "Life happened," he said, "and 'she' wanted to move back to her family." I wasn't sure who 'she' was – wife or girlfriend; but it seemed of no consequence since we had already been together for thirty-three years. I did not pursue it. I know some New Orleanans have strong attachments to family, gumbo and jazz. They returned to New Orleans with the '59 again pulling the '66 across Texas to Louisiana. This time the trip was uneventful.

I wanted to hear more and asked about the next Thunderbird – a dark green 1969 with a black interior. He gave me the look that said he had had enough of the drive down memory lane and I knew the discussion was better left for another day. There were five more Birds, four more states and many more years in the saga of his life of Thunderbirds. I can't wait for the next installment!







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**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Remember - our monthly club meetings are held the SECOND Wednesday of each month (except May and December) at The Trattoria Pampered Chef, 7347 Miami Lakes Dr. Miami Lakes FL 33014, and our Host is Gabriel Nash. Always check [www.tbirdfl.com/Calendar.htm](http://www.tbirdfl.com/Calendar.htm) for any last minute schedule changes!

Please visit our webpage [www.TBirdFL.com](http://www.TBirdFL.com) for announcements on coming events, details about the club, everything else you ever wanted to know about the Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida but were afraid to ask!

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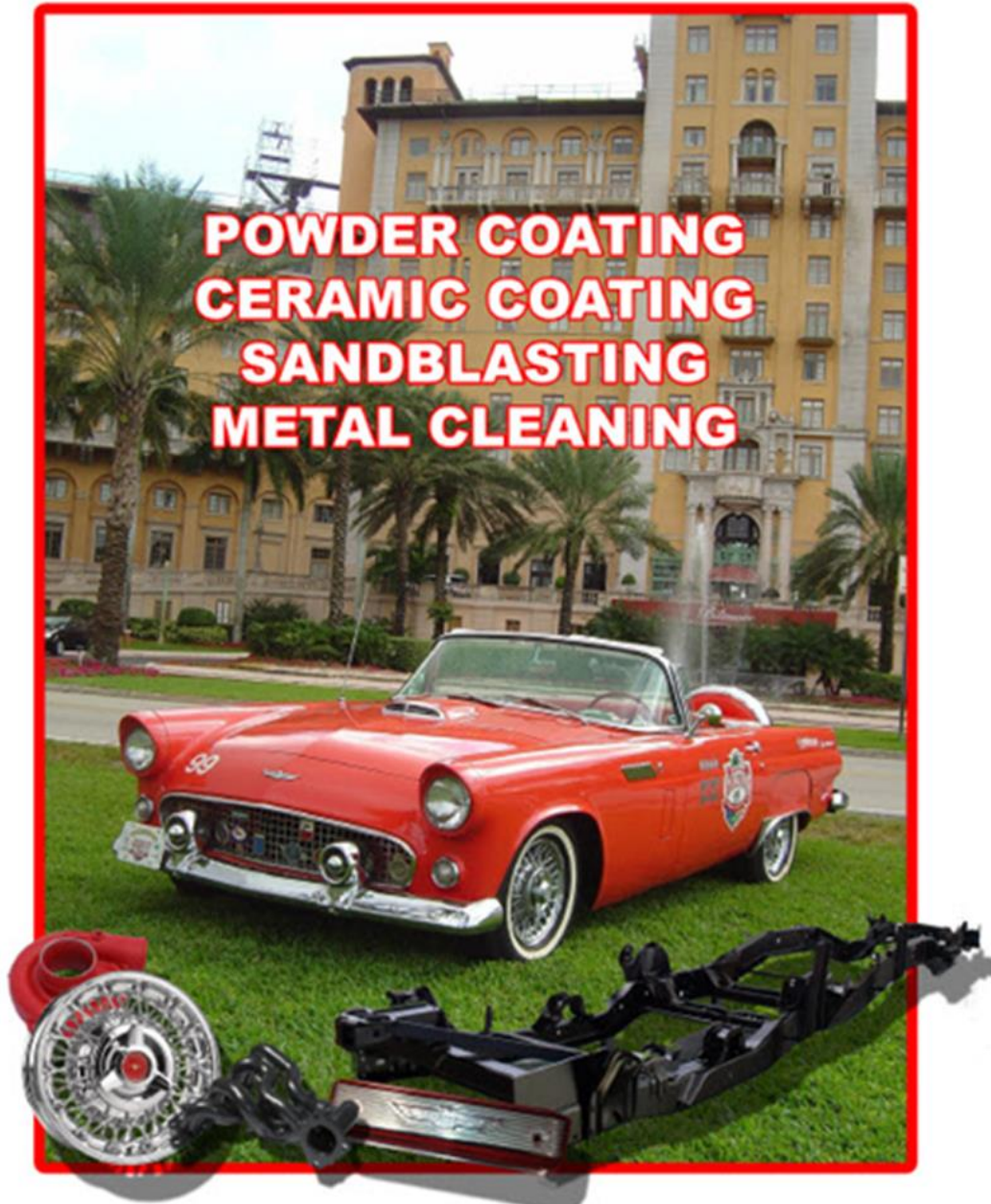
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We encourage participation on our Facebook page and Instagram pages. Send Posts about everything Thunderbird related, and we will enjoy other "car stuff too, like Museum Visits, Car shows and Cruise ins you attend. And other stuff you think we T-Bird lovers would like. Just keep it as clean as your T-Bird on "Detail Day"!





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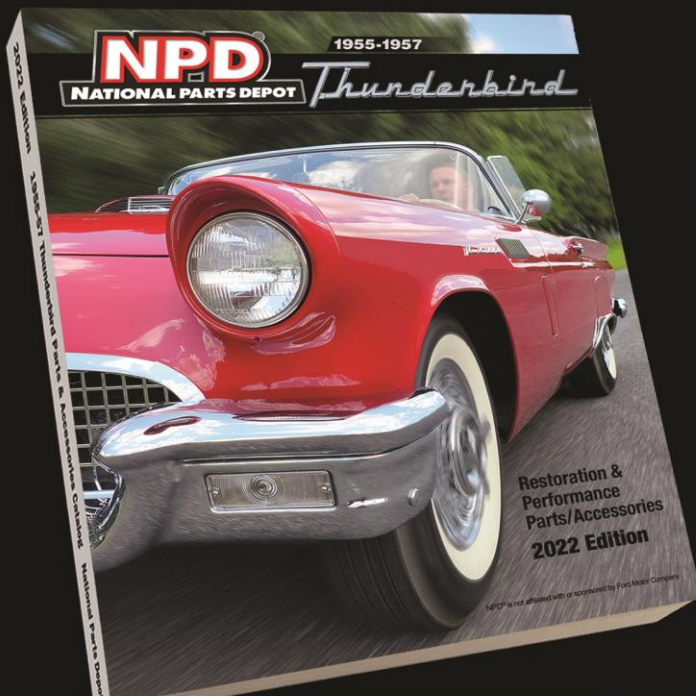
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