Norm & Robin Gabe’s 1956 Peacock Blue Thunderbird
Peter Klein’s 1956 Tuxedo Grey Thunderbird
Felipe & Christie Cos “Great Race #99” Fiesta Red 1956 Thunderbird
Raul & Georgina’s Torch Red 1956 Thunderbird

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January 2016

Hello Club Members,

We are very grateful to all our advertisers who have helped to make it possible to continue to publish our monthly newsletter, The Thunderbird News.

Welcome HILL’S AUTOMOTIVE!

Please support them when you need a service or part.

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

This year I am looking for stories about YOUR 1956 Thunderbird.

So if you own a 56, try writing a story about it. Share the “love”! Thanks to you all for contributing to this month’s edition,

Ed Raabe
INTERNET PAGE

Have you seen our internet page? We have changed our address www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com and we have a Facebook page too! Search Classic Thunderbird Club South Florida or www.facebook.com/ThunderbirdClubSouthFlorida

We encourage participation on our Facebook page. Send Posts about everything Thunderbird related and we will enjoy other “car stuff too.

Like Museum Visits, Car shows and Cruise Ins you attend. And other stuff you think we T-Bird lovers would like. Just keep it as clean as your T-Bird on “Detail Day”!

NUMBERS TO KEEP

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

**AACA Ft Lauderdale Region.** President Bob Dunn 954-563-7696 www.ftlauderdaleaaca.com

**AACA South Florida Region.** President, Ron Mitro 305-467-8196 www.aaca.org/southflorida

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Cobra Joe Productions:** Joe Bevelacqua jbevsr@msn.com

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

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY

Joe Bullock Jan 1st

Doti Budd Jan 5th

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

CTCI NEWS

DUES ARE DUE in NOVEMBER each year $35.00 MEMBERSHIP ARE DUE By DEC. 1st, To become a member or renew your membership Please go online to www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com Checks may be sent to: THE CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB of SOUTH FLORIDA Attention: Peter Klein, Treasurer 4133 Park Ave. Miami FL 33133

THUNDERBIRD INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY:

Our Club’s web page: www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com

2005 Thunderbird: _____________ www.fordautomobiles.com

Ford racing: _________________ www.fordacing.com

Speedvision: _________________ www.speedvision.com

CTCI’s Home Page: ____________ www.ctci.org

Daytona’s Turkey run: __________ www.carshows.org

Metroplex EarlyBirds: __________ www.geocities.com

Arizona Classic T-Bird Club: __ classic-thunderbird.org

Santa Clara Valley T-Birds: ___ www.tbird.org/scvt

Sierra Nevada Classic T-Bird: ___ www.tbird.org/sntcb

Connecticut Area Classic T-Bird: ___ www.tbirdsofconn.com

Chicagoland Thunderbirds: ______ www.thunderbirds.org

Potomac Classic T-bird: ________ www.hydratech.com

Old Cars _____________________ www.greatoldcars.com

Classic T-Bird Club of Chicagoland_ www.ctcc9.com
Time flies..., it seems like it was only yesterday that Felipe invited me and my wife Marcia to the monthly Thunderbird Club meeting at La Trattoria Pampered Chef.

I was very impressed at the number of people that were in attendance, with the exception of one or two tables, we took over the whole inside section of the restaurant! Although I already knew a few of the people there, we still felt a little awkwardly-shy to be “strangers” amongst so many people. Well, that feeling soon ended when we were introduced to the members present. Everyone (that we did not already know) introduced themselves and even chatted with us a bit. We loved the friendly atmosphere and the way that everyone interacted with each other. We especially liked the way that the business part of the meeting was kept to a minimum and the emphasis was placed on a bunch of friends having a good time.

I talked to Felipe that very night to thank him for the invitation and to let them know what a good time we had and how nice everyone was. I also told him that I would love to be a part of as club as nice as the Thunderbird Club, but that I did not own a Thunderbird. He told me that even though the name of the club is The Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida, that it was really a social club made up of people who shared a love of the classic Thunderbird and antique cars and that we did not have to own a Thunderbird to join. That was exactly what we were looking for and the rest is history! I was present for the next monthly meeting, not as a guest, but as a member, and in what seems to be a very short time after that, here I am, about to start my term as your new president. I am looking forward to being your club president for 2016 and I am ready to take on all the responsibilities and challenges the position will bring.

In this paragraph is where I was going to list all the things I will be doing to make this club better, but all I can think of is that old saying, “if it’s not broken, don’t fix it”. Those words ring so true for this, the Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida because we have a club that is beyond awesome and it keeps getting better all the time. All I can say is that I will work hard to try and continue doing the same great job that our previous president Ed Raabe and all the presidents that came before him have done. Like them, I will work to continue to build up our membership, increase even more, then attendance at our shows and social events, and increase youth participation in our activities.

I hope that 2015 was a good year for everyone, filled with fun and exciting experiences and that you are now ready to take on 2016 and enjoy all the activities that our club will make available to you. We will start the year with our annual show at Tropical Park on Sunday January 24th, I am sure that with everyone’s help, our 2016 show will be better than our 2015 show, but not as good as our 2017 show, which will be even better because we just keep on improving every time! Did I mention what an awesome club we have and how happy I am to be a part of it... Next on the list will be our February 5-7 weekend trip to Fort Myers for the Ford Show and the Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre Train Ride, Thank You Daisy for taking on the planning for this event! Following right behind in March, will be our participation in the RM Auction, which will in turn be followed by a whole bunch of fun events during the year! Keep an eye out for emails and check our website, www.thunderbirdclubsouthflorida.com, for the latest news on what the club is planning.

As our past president would say...

Happy Birding!

Oscar Castro
President - 2016
Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida
CTCI NEWS  Announcing the 2016 International Convention in San Diego, CA

“FUN, FUN, FUN in THE CALIFORNIA SUN”

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

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

For further information look for updates at www.CTCI.org Or contact Martha Lazdins 949-6611426 hmlazdins@att.net or Alan Custinger, 760-745-9345 1940mv8@cox.net
What type of motor oil should I use in my classic T-Bird?

The Ford Motor Company recommends SAE 20, or SAE 30 Grade motor oil for temperatures always above freezing. I read many articles that contradict what the Ford Motor Company recommends, including the article in the Nov-Dec 2015 Early Bird publication.

The most important thing to do is to use the correct viscosity motor oil to provide adequate lubrication and limit engine wear. If the oil is either too thin or too thick, adequate lubrication does not occur.

20 weight motor oil
has a centistoke kinematic viscosity between 5.6 & 9.6

30 weight motor oil
has a centistoke kinematic viscosity between 9.3 & 12.5

40 weight motor oil
has a centistoke kinematic viscosity between 12.5 & 16.3

50 weight motor oil
has a centistoke kinematic viscosity between 16.3 & 21.9

At a kinematic viscosity below 5.6 or exceeding 12.5, adequate lubrication cannot be maintained and therefore 40 weight or 50 weight motor oil should never be used in our classic T-Birds.

All SAE motor oils thicken and their viscosity increases accordingly per the centistoke kinematic viscosity ratings above as the temperature of the oil increases. (Multi viscosity oils such as 10W-30 start out as 10 weight motor oil and increase to 30 weight motor oil as the temperature of the oil increases.)

In addition, the motor oil does not provide optimum lubrication until the engine reaches its normal operating temperature. The oil provides hardly any protection when the engine is first started, and therefore getting the engine up to normal operating temperature as quickly as possible is highly desirable. (Hence the reason for the thermostat in the cooling system.)

No Motor Oil Manufacturer that I am aware of recommends adding anything to their complex formulation as you purchase it. As zinc & phosphorus are also needed in our T-Birds

Your choices to find the best motor oil to use directly from the Oil Manufacturer are limited.

Three (3) brands that I am aware of that already have the correct amount of ZDDP are:

a. Brad Penn-partial synthetic.

b. Royal Purple HPS 10W-30 full synthetic.

c. Amsoil SAE-10W-30 Z-Rod full synthetic.

Yours truly

Norm Gabe

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Yours truly

Norm Gabe
Arlene and I planned to get to the Party a little early, but the traffic Gods prevailed and by the time we got there, half those who said they were coming, had arrived. This year’s Party was being held in the Social Hall at Leo and Valentyna’s condo in Halandale Bch. We quickly set up our Nespresso machine, amid some brief “hellos” so we could mingle before the appetizers were to be served. The Nespresso was a hit with everyone after dinner.

Club members looked great in party attire and Mrs. Raabe ‘commented’ I should have worn one of my many Holiday ties. She looked great by the way, but I am biased!

Around 7:30pm, after some cocktails we started the appetizers and then dinner. Mama Mia of Hollywood supplied the food for our Buffet and it was delicious!

Just as we were beginning the “Mean Santa’ gift swap, Oscar called me up and I was “showered” with Memorabilia in honor of my term as President! I received a Placard, Shirt, Mug and “Santa Shorts” that NOBODY wanted to take from me! I really appreciated the gesture, we have the best Club members!

Daisy reviewed the rules and we were ready to have some fun. Our New President, Oscar Castro was one of the first to grab a present. A few of us decided to enjoy some innocent fun and every time we got a turn would go to Oscar and “steal” his gift. Needless to say Oscar was going back to the presents over and over again until someone said “just stay up there!” Finally he received a Hurricane lamp and he had no “takers” even though he was promoting it as “available”, all night long.

“Bigger is Better?” On his turn, Felix grabbed the biggest box, about 4’x2.5’x2.5’, soon to find out it was like a Russian Nesting Doll! A box in a box in a box...until the tiniest box was left. Inside was a beautiful Thunderbird Watch!

Leo, our host, famous for his collection of unique headwear was having a great time donned in his Derby with a lightbulb on top “stealing” the Adult Beverage gifts from anyone who had chosen one!

Bob Toney picked a nice “ladies bag” and we had a good time with that. Jane liked it and I told him it matched the color of his Thunderbird, Pink!

And then there was the ANT FARM! This gift has a history that I won’t elaborate on here, but it was presented with a brief explanation from Robin Gabe that there was an additional item attached to it that only the final person to possess it would get. Arlene “stole” it and had it for a while, but it was ultimately stolen from her and that was for the last time.

There was quite a diverse selection of gifts from a Plush Unicorn and Teddy bear, a fairly large amount of “Adult Beverages”, a Thundieird book, Rt. 66 Memorabilia, boutique hair products, Car Care products, Bags, Thunderbird watches and that Hurricane Lamp.

Way down to the last few members, when it was Stuart Corenblum’s turn, he went right over to Oscar and shouted “you’re not going home with that, that’s MY lamp, hand it over!

The place went nuts with cheering and laughter!

Oscar then “stole” the ANT FARM! A beautiful Rt. 66 commemorative floor mat turned out to be the additional prize!

There truly is something for everyone!
Every year, for at least the past 10 years, Dick Barten BD Entertainment along with Russ Gagliano. Sadly, Russ can’t do shows any longer, but Veteran Classic Car Show promoter ‘Jumpin’ Jack Corssino has now partnered up with Dick and as they say “the show must go on”!

This year’s Holiday show on Dec 13th brought out over 600 vehicles of all kinds. Classic Cars and Trucks, Sports cars, Muscle cars, Exotic cars, Hot Rods and Specialty vehicles you will not see at any other show in the area. Owners come from as far as Jupiter and Stuart to up from the Keys to attend. Clubs are big. The Corvette Club, AACA Ft Lauderdale Region, the British Sports Car Club, Hot Rides and Cruisers just to name a few.

I was joined by Club members Paul and Anita Werner, Walter and Marion Schade and Jay Faust. We parked next to a few Square and Bullet Birds and felt right at home. I continue to hope one day we will get enough of our club members to attend so we can have a nice showing. The year Paul joined the Club we had 5 to 6 Thunderbirds together and it looked great. Also Attending with their Corvair convertible was Norm and Robin Gabe. Among the spectators who showed was Felix Hernandez.

Paul, Jay and I went around distributing Flyers for our upcoming Club Show at Topical Park Jan 24th and had a great time looking at all the cars. We were testing each other’s automotive knowledge which made it even more enjoyable!

While the day started out sunny we did get a few showers, but nothing steady until after 3pm. Parked next to Paul and Anita’s Red 55, my 86 Aero Bird was a big contrast in style and engineering.

It surprised me when a young man about 14 years old said to his Dad “look it’s an old Thunderbird” and he was pointing at the 86! Yikes! I feel old now. I’ll bet he didn’t even know Paul’s car was a Thunderbird!

A good friend Dusan, Won a trophy for best 50’s with his 53 Ford F100

We had a great time talking to people and enjoying each other’s company and we got our exercise putting on and taking off Paul’s car cover for each passing shower!

There is another show in the Spring. Maybe we can get enough members to make our own Club Row!
CAR SHOWS

JANUARY 2ND-10TH
SUPER CAR WEEK, Palm Beach, FL

JANUARY 10TH
10TH ANNUAL OPEN CAR SHOW
10am-4pm. Ed Morse Chevrolet
14401 West Sunrise Blvd, Sunrise

JANUARY 17TH
COOL WHEELS CAR SHOW
Quiet Waters Park Deerfield Bch

JANUARY 16TH-17TH
ART DECO WEEKEND, Miami Beach

SATURDAY JANUARY 23RD
AACA FT LAUDERDALE
Pompano Bch

JANUARY 24TH
CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF
SOUTH FL OPEN CAR SHOW 10-4pm
Tropical Park Miami

SUNDAY JANUARY 3RD
DREAM CAR CLASSIC  10-3pm
Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood

FEBRUARY 19TH-21ST
Boca Raton Concours d Elegance
Boca Raton

FEB 21ST
CLASSICS BY THE BAY
Homestead Bayfront Park

APRIL 10TH
CARS FOR A CURE, Miami Lakes, FL

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CAR SHOW INFORMATION

Benefitcarshows.com
Cruisinsothflorida.com
Flacarshows.com
Southdadecarshow.com
To all members

Remember that this newsletter goes to press the 15th of each month. Please remember the date!
If you want your article to appear, I need it by the 15th!
We welcome any contributions that members can make to our newsletter!
This year We want to feature stories about YOUR 1955 Thunderbird
Do you have any interesting photos of your car? Send it to me!
Do you have any interesting story about your car? Send them to me!
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