



ARIZONA BIRD CHATTER

VOLUME 53 NUMBER 3 March 2023

MARCH

March is known for two major holidays – one to find candy and the other to drink lots of beer!

Certainly, you can guess which events those are, but there are a lot of other happenings going on in March. That, along with a rich history, of course!

In old Roman calendars, one year used to be ten months long, starting in March and ending in [December](#).

The “Ides of March” was a day in the Roman calendar equivalent to [March 15th](#). It was considered a deadline for settling debts. It was also the day Julius Caesar was assassinated.

If you were born in March, your birth flower is a daffodil!

March babies are spoiled with two birthstones: aquamarine and bloodstone, which symbolize courage.

There are two zodiac signs in March. Pisces, which is until [March 20](#), and Aries, which is from the 21st.

The first month of spring is March, which starts between the 19th and the 21st.

March is the equivalent of [September](#) in the Southern Hemisphere.

Every year, March and [June](#) finish on the same day of the week.

March is the time of year when animals start waking up from hibernation.

The name for March comes from Mars, the Roman god of war. named as such in both the Julian and Gregorian calendars.



No Presidents Article this month

Memories from days gone by
Must be party time



Brain Power at Work



MEMORIES OF DAYS GONE BY



New Years 2018



Dinner with Albuquerque Club on way to Knoxville



2023 CALENDAR OF ACTC EVENTS

Be sure to answer Evite or call Bob that you are coming to the meeting!!!

Sunday March 12th **The Burg Restaurant**
751 E. Union Hills Dr
Phx members arrive
arrive 8:30-9:00 am
Cost \$16.00 per
person

Saturday April 8th **Annual Officers**
Picnic Pera Park
1 E. Continental Ave
Members arrive
11:30 am—12:00
Cost \$10.00 per
person

Saturday April 29th **McCormick**
Stillman Rail Road
Park 7301 E. Indian
Bend Rd S/E corner
Indian Bend Rd/
Scottsdale road
Members arrive
10:00 am ish

There is a Rail Road Museum and 4 very large model railroads along with other activities. No charge except for the train ride through the park. We will leave around 11:45 am and head to Scottsdale pavilions (2 miles east) for our Day at the Pavilions outing. We have a complete row reserved to display our T-Birds and other classic cars.

PLEASE NOTE !

All dates and events listed above are tentative and subject to change. Please check the calendar each month for updates.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jennifer Kiley	3/1
Richard Bialy	3/4
Robyn Dodd	3/8
Ron Rietman	3/9
Julia McCoy	3/10
Debbie Rietman	3/12
Patty Bartholomew	3/15
Chuck Thompson	3/18
Frank Garrett	3/19
Pat Fenlon	3/24
Larry Braasch	3/25
Don Henderson	3/26
Joe Arredondo	3/30
Margie Hanson	3/32



David & Moe Mason	3/6
Denis & Mary Lee Frank	3/12
Ken & Iva Lane	3/17
Ed & Kennedy Smith Torel	3/21
Richard & Shirly Bursley	3/27
Tom & Yvonne Wagner	3/29

ACTC MEETING

February 12, 2023 – American Legion, Cave Creek Road

President *Chris Ames* called the February meeting to order at 9:00 AM. We all said the Pledge of Allegiance led by *Tom Wagner*. *Chris* asked for any announcements.

Hospitality: *Yvonne Wagner* mentioned *Jean Fruscello's* passing. Sang "Happy Birthday" to the people born in February. No new members and no guests. What is something good that happened to someone... *Jim Rodger's* father's 1934 Lincoln that *Jim* entered in the Scottsdale Concours D'Elegance car show this weekend took 2nd place. *Bev Lynch* had a story to tell about her son winning a contest "Love is in the Air" and were able to have their wedding at the Empire State Building. Happy 10th anniversary, *Bev's* son and daughter in law, *Mike* and *Danielle*.

Ways and Means: *Ken Falkenberry* and *Bob Michele* presented the Buck Hoag award to *Jim Rodgers*. *Jim* thanked everyone.

Secretary: No Report.

Treasurer: *Chuck Thompson* reported the balance in the checking and saving account. All our books balance.

Member at Large: *Bob Michele* told 2 jokes. The next meeting, March 12th at the Burg on Union Hills. April will be Saturday, April 15th at Pera Park... \$10.00 per person. April 29th day at the Pavilions but before that we will go to Stillman Railroad Park meet there at 10am. May meeting is on a Saturday, May 14th at Detroit Coney Grill.

Ex-Officio: *Danny Kim* Not present.

CTCI: *Chuck Thompson* asked those who have not signed up to join CTCI that it is still available. CTCI Convention is in October 24-29th at the Villages in Florida. The convention planned for Kansas is not going to happen. Contact *Chuck* if you wish to sign up for CTCI.

Web Master: *Russ Hanson* said that we have a new website, and it is password protected for members. AZclassicthungerbirds.org. Please contact *Russ Hanson* for the password for the access to roster. He suggested that we have a contest for a password to this section. *Russ* wants to update some of the photos. If you have a favorite photo of you or your car, please send it to *Russ*.

Public Relations: *Don Henderson* said they had 2 cars out at the Sun City Car Show and 3 cars at a car show in Oro Valley. *Dennis Frank* said there was a show in March in Arcadia. We can put these events in the newsletter. *Myrna* mentioned that her and *Yvonne* were in the Parada del Sol parade.

Membership: *Judy Thompson* said rosters are in the mail. We currently have 78 Households, 140 members. 9-55's, 20-56's, and 42-57's. Retro birds, 1-2002, 1-2003, 2-2004, and 3-2005. Rosters will be on the website and if you have a correction, *Judy* will correct it on the website

Continued

Russ Hansen will be able to print business cards if anyone would want them.

Newsletter Editor: *Mike Wood*, no report!

Vice President: *Gregg Thurston* listed the events/car shows that are local. He will send an email out to the members with a list of these events. March 11th *Sanderson Ford* is having a car show. *Yvonne & Tom* reported on the event at Saguaro Lake Guest Ranch. More details to follow in an email to the members later. Route 66 Fun Run, contact *Gregg* if you want to go. Rooms are filling up fast. Car show in Williams, AZ. No one sounded interested. March 28th, Kiwanis Park. Check your newsletter for the dates.

Inspector General: *Tom Harris* was not present. *Steve Kovacic* reported the winner was *Tom Strabala*, because he drove with his top down. Count of the Birds for this meeting: 13 total T-Birds - 11-57's, 1-56 and 1-55. *Mike Wood* was the winner. "Angry Bird"

Old Business: None.

New Business: Thunderbird Appreciation Day this year is I May 21st. *Chris* wants to send a letter to the Governor to accept Thunderbird Appreciation Day and to bring some Thunderbirds to the Capitol! CTCI's convention: don't be afraid to be a judge at the convention. Go to the convention, it can be a lot of fun.

Split the pot: \$99 - *John Dalmolin* won.

Meeting adjourned 10:43am

Respectfully submitted by *Yvonne Wagner*

Jean Fruscellos Celebration of Life

Saturday Feb 25, 2023

Paul Fruscello was there to greet everyone.

It was a wonderful celebration. It was attended by *Jean's* family, relatives and many friends including 13 Thunderbirds and members.



CLASSIC CLASSIFIEDS



55-56-57 Thunderbird parts, call Ken Falkenberry for your needs, New or used parts SAVE \$ 480-861-3742 or email your needs kenfalk39@cox.net

1951 Chopped top Ford 2 door, 5.0 Mustang motor with AODE overdrive trans. It's in process so big savings can be had. \$20,000 Mike Wood 602-568-8140

**fuel injection system complete ready to install less fuel pump. Upgrade your T-Bird and rid yourself of unwanted vapor locks, hard starts, etc. \$750.00. Satisfaction Guaranteed or money back!
Jim Rodgers
602 300 57**

**56 (late model) soft top with swing arm and new pin kit \$2700.00, Fairlane headlight doors, lots of misc stuff, die cast model cars, boxes of magazines many other odds and ends.
Rich Bialy 480-231-0879**

Two Thunderbird late model soft tops, 1 complete top white canvas. 1 frame with chrome header and new tack strips (not on top). 57 white T-Bird, full power, porthole hard top, black & white interior \$39,500.00

**1957 White on white Thunderbird, full power, black and white interior new wide white walls
\$37,900.00**

Mike 602-568-8140

CANCELLED DUE TO COST

Saguaro Lake Guest Ranch

Dates March 22nd thru March 24th 2023.

Rooms are \$250 per night plus 7.27% tax.

They have king, queen & twin and bunk bed combo available wed afternoon.

We plan a trip on the Desert Belle Boat cruise 4pm to 5:30 pm on Sahuaro Lake. Cost \$26.00 per person, live music, wine available for sale.

Cowboy cook out Thursday night \$72.60 per person including tax and gratuity. Steak, baked potato, beans, salad, and Non alcohol drinks included. Alcoholic beverages extra. Two years ago, when we went, the cookout was outstanding.

Conference room will be available for your us (left/right/center) bring ones!

Other fun things are available, horse back riding, kayaking booked separately.

If interested contact Tom & Yvonne Wagner at tywgner56@msn.com asap so we can see the interest!

Keep your Fuel Cool, Summers Right Around the corner

We drove our '56 T-Bird to the 2016 CTCI Convention in San Diego with the final aluminum proto-type of the A-432 spacer installed. We were running the AC and I was pleased when we topped the 4,000 Foot Carpenter Summit at 11:30 AM with the temperature gauge on the right end of the white bar.

After a great Convention we were one of four T-Birds headed towards Phoenix. When we stopped for fuel in Yuma it was noon, and the temperature was 107°. Someone spotted a sandwich and ice cream shop, so after the tanks were full, we parked the T-Birds in front of the sandwich shop and enjoyed lunch while the T-birds soaked up the heat from Mr. Sun.

After lunch we were the last car to take the ramp to eastbound I-8, and I was surprised when the car wouldn't accelerate, and then the engine stalled completely. I flashed my lights and Ken Falkenberry took the next off ramp and I was able to coast off I-8 to the bottom of the ramp. Opening the hood provided two clues. First, the air coming out was hotter that I had ever experienced and second the fuel in filter glass was boiling like I was brewing coffee!

We wrapped some polishing rags around the fuel pump and fuel filter, secured them with zip ties, soaked them with water and I was able to limp home in approximately 40 mile stretches between stops to re-soak the rags.

Reflecting on the new vapor lock issue, I realized the following aggravating factors. Before installing the A-432 spacer, we could not have driven the car in the temperatures experienced on this trip.

The improved coolant flow was getting more heat out of the engine, unfortunately it was dumped into the engine bay.

Because Aluminum is a better conductor than cast iron, the prototype spacer was conducting significantly more heat into the area of the fuel pump, Z-line, and fuel filter.

Researching the fuel system in the 1956 FORD Car Shop Manual, on page 111 there is a reference to "protective loom". This led me to check the fuel lines for proper installation of "loom" (insulation). And finding no loom on the fuel line routed from the union on the outside of the left rear frame, up over the axel and then down to the fuel tank connection, I started a search for a car with fuel line insulation or a reference document on the subject. I have looked for loom on most of the T-birds I have seen in the last six years and not found any. More on that latter.

To determine where the fuel line was gaining heat, I procured thermocouples and a four-channel monitor to instrument the car for temperature readings at (1) the tank connection, (2) the union on left rear frame, (3) bolted clip at left front frame, and the (4) fuel line adjacent to the carburetor.

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The first test drive was in 114° ambient temperature. After 45 minutes of surface street and freeway driving, temperature readings were:

Fuel Tank at connection - 139°

Union on left rear frame - 151°

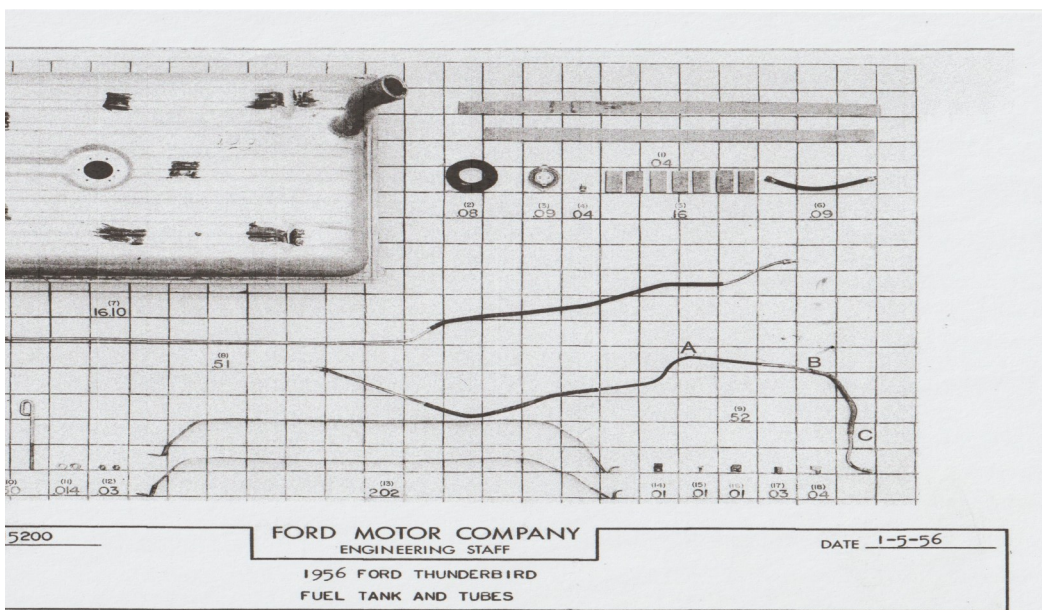
Left front frame bolted clip - 168°

Fuel line at the carburetor - 178°

These temperatures made it clear that a reference for proper installation of loom was critical. Fellow CTCI board member John Smith had told me about a Ford Benchmarking program. As I understand it, this program that took an early example of a new model car as it came off the assembly line to their fuel system. It took some time, but John answered my request with the document in Fig. 1. This black and white photograph is a wealth of information and at least one question.

The section of fuel line that connects with the tank is called out as **A**. The loom in question runs between **B** and **C**. It is lighter in color, appears to be thicker and fuzzier than the other two sections of loom. I believe it is a chemical-resistant, fibrous form of magnesium silicate, commonly referred to as asbestos. If that is the case, it would explain why I haven't seen it on any cars to date. Asbestos would have been blown away over the 64 years since the last model of the classic Thunderbirds was built.

Next month I'll cover what to do to combat vapor lock.



MEMORIES OF DAYS GONE BY



Lunch stop on our way to Oro Valley



**Ken and Virginia at the Concours Show
Knoxville, Tenn**



Jim Timmons and friend at the Pavilion's



**West side Progressive Dinner at Steve
and Dedi Ulsund**

**February Club meeting at American Legion Post 107
See everyone does drive their car!**



MEMORIES



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JUST A REMINDER**Sunday March 12th****The Burg Restaurant
751 Union Hills Dr****Members arrive 8:30—9:00 am
Cost \$16.00 per person****DRIVE YOUR BIRDS
TO ALL T-Bird events!**

Arizona Bird Chatter

Published by:

**Arizona Classic Thunderbird Club
CTCI Chapter 35
8355 W La Caille
Peoria, AZ 85383****Meetings are smoke and
cell phone free!**