



ARIZONA BIRD CHATTER

VOLUME 52 NUMBER 04 April 2024



- **Apr. 1 (first Monday in April):** Sweet Potato Day
-
- **Apr. 6 (first Saturday in April):** International Pillow Fight Day
-
- **Apr. 7:** National No Housework Day
-
- **Apr. 10:** [Gopher Tortoise Day](#) (Florida)
-
- **Apr. 17:** Blah, Blah, Blah Day
-
- **Apr. 21 (third Sunday in April):** Go Fly a Kite Day
-
- **Apr. 26:** National Richter Scale Day
-
- **Apr. 28 (last Saturday in April):** National Sense of Smell Day

How Many Days Are in April? April has 30 Days!





OTHER SIDE OF THE PORTHOLE

First of all, I want to thank all you folks that have been thinking of me during my time in the hospital and recovery. Looks like things are bouncing back and we will take one day at a time but thanks again for your thoughts and prayers. What a great meeting at the Berg this month and while we thought we might be rushed a little we had plenty of time to meet, greet, socialize, and take care of business. Another great job Bob and Kathy Michelle so thanks again and I still think the split the pot was rigged with Bob winning it but I'm just jealous. We have a great slate of events coming up with car shows and Tech day which all the car buffs will enjoy the shop we have scheduled. We, as a car club need to get back to our roots and return to enjoying our loveable automobiles and especially our lil Birds. The weather is great so get out and drive them. If you don't feel comfortable driving and think they need some tender loving maintenance, there are plenty of shops in town that can assist and are trusted but if you have questions feel free to give me a call and I will try to assist.

Continue on page five

“WOW” IT’S HAPPENING. ACTC TECH DAY

When: Sunday APRIL 21, 2024 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Where: The Rec Center Of Sun City (RCSC) shop located at 10411 Grand Ave, Sun City (it 's on the southwest corner of 103rd Ave & Grand Ave behind AM/PM gas station).

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Tech subjects:

Don Henderson will demonstrate how to adjust valves on Chuck Thompson's 57 Bird. After lunch Chuck Thompson, Jim Timmons, and Chris Ames will explain how CTCl judging works. So bring your Thunderbird to tech day.

Lunch menu Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich roast beef w/sauteed. Choice of onions, bell peppers, mushrooms, Swiss cheese, on French roll.

Pastrami Sandwich sliced pastrami Topped with Swiss cheese served on grilled rye bread.

**Turkey sandwich sliced roasted turkey, lettuce, tomatoes, swiss cheese served on white bread
All sandwiches come with coleslaw, fountain drink, and choice of cheese-cake or apple pie.**

Respond to me (phone, text, email with your food choices. Once food order is PLACED there can be no cancellations.

2024 CALENDAR OF ACTC EVENTS

**March 30th
Day At The Pavilions
Back row west of McDonald's
Indian Bend & 101
11:30 am—2:00 pm**

**Officers Picnic
CANCELLED**

April Meeting to be determined

**April 21st Tech Day 9:00 AM-2:00 PM at
The Rec Center of Sun City (RCSC) shop
located at 10411 Grand Ave, Sun City, AZ**

**Rim Country Auto Club
2024 Bee
Line Cruise-in Car Show
October 11-12. 2024 more info to
follow**



April 2024

- Sherry Randall 4/9**
- John Dalmolin 4/11**
- Bill Dodd 4/11**
- Dede Ross 4/12**
- Jack Musselmann 4/13**
- Judy Goldstein 4/5**
- Mo Mason 4/21**
- Kathy Michele 4/21**
- Jamie Thompson 4/27**
- Chris Ames 4/29**



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



- Chuck & Judy Thompson 4/2**
- John & Gail Dalmolin 4/3**
- Austin & Justine Eaton 4/3**
- Richard & Lynn Stoneberger 4/27**
- Jim Cook & Danny Kim 4/28**

HOT STUFF FOR SALE



The car has spent its life indoors and has no rust. The engine, transmission, driveline have all been gone through. Five new chrome wire wheels and all chrome has been done. The car was painted "Buckskin" color at the factory, one of only 19 painted this color at the factory, although there many more painted this color today. Hagerty Auto Insurance says: #2 \$45,000—\$50,000

Charles Brennan, 23251 N. 75th Dr, Peoria 509-481-0147

Ken & Virginia have 2 Wing Riders/Console/Drink holders, will fit all baby birds.

A. Is a brand new with plastic and tags. Currently listed on line at \$310 plus tax.
Will sell for \$200.00

B. is gently used and will sell for \$125.00
Happy to send photos or videos if needed.
Jamie Thompson 765-661-1566

Have you had your T-Bird Judged??

Over the years, several of our club members have asked what happens at a CTCI car judging. Well, here is your perfect chance to find out.

On Sunday, April 21st ACTC has scheduled a Tech Day to be held in Sun City. Sun City is fortunate to have an outstanding car repair facility for their car club. ACTC is lucky to be able to use this facility for our Tech Day thanks to Jon Braemer who is a member of ACTC and also the Sun City club.

During our Tech Day, we are also going to offer interested members a chance to have their Thunderbird judged following CTCI guidelines. Mr. Jim Timmons, a member of ACTC, is also a Senior Master Judge for CTCI with over twenty years of CTCI judging experience. The judging during Tech Day will follow the CTCI judging guidelines for your level of car. Normal judging classes include Concourse Original; Concours non-original; Touring and more. The different classes and criteria will be explained during this event.

So, dust off your Thunderbird and plan on joining us and see how your car would be rated. This is strictly for fun. There is no additional charge. All you need to do is show up with your Thunderbird.

Continued from page one

OTHER SIDE OF THE PORTHOLE

Below is an article I clipped from the Wisconsin "Birds of a Feather" newsletter that may be of interest. Understand most of us are not restoring our cars but also know that vinyl in these cars has a tendency to fade and discolor over the years as I am experiencing it with my blue 57 and need to do some work on the interior before it gets too hot.

ACTC

February 11, 2024 – MEETING MINUTES – The Burg
Jim Rodgers called the meeting to order at 9:00am. We said the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes were approved and seconded. Jim thanked everyone for the calls and the cards about his illness. He told a story about Frank Saccente.
Hospitality: Yvonne Wagner announced new members: Howard & Shirley Goldman. Kate Marchisotto was here babysitting her grand dogs. We sang Happy Birthday to the people born in March.
Secretary: Yvonne Wagner - No Report.
Treasurer: Chuck Thompson reported the balance in the checking and saving account. All our books balance. Tom Wagner audited the account, and everything looked good.
Ex-Officio: Chris Ames - Not present
CTCI: Chuck Thompson - CTCI will have a category for the Retro Birds. The next regional event will be August 20-24 this year in Iowa. More information to follow. Tech Day will feature the judging on the Retro Birds
Web Master: Russ Hanson - added events to the blog page to the web. Look at the Website.
Public Relations: Don Henderson - Ahwatukee Easter Parade, March 30th Please sign up.
Membership: Chuck Thompson, filling in for Judy, reported we currently have 70 Households, 124 members. 5- '55s, 14 - '56 & 36-'57s. If you need another roster, they are \$5.
Historian: Duane Foster no report.
Newsletter Editor: Mike Wood said the Newsletter will still be published every month.
Vice President: Bob Michele: Bob told a joke. March 19th getting together at a Route 66 diner in Gilbert at 4pm, Dennis Frank is a member of Arcadia Car show at Hope Elementary School on March 24th. The picnic has been cancelled because the bathrooms in the park are being fixed. Looking for a location for the April meeting. We will have the picnic in October. April 21st is Tech Day at a facility in Sun City. May 19th meeting is at George's café in Sun City. Saturday March 30, night at the Pavilions 12pm and a planning meeting after.
Inspector General: Steve Kovacic presented the award Rich Bialy --17 Birds driven.
Old Business: None.
New Business: None
Split the pot: \$80 - Winner: Bob Michele v
Meeting adjourned at 9:37am
Respectfully submitted by Yvonne Wagner

Classic Thunderbird Facts

	1955	1956	1957
Price new	\$2,944	\$3,163	\$3,408
Production	16,155	15,631	21,380
Wheel base	102"	102"	102"
Overall length	175.2"	185.2"	185.2"
Overall height	52.2"	52.2"	51.6"
Overall width	70.2"	70.2"	72.8"
Ground Clearance	5.5"	5.9"	5.9"
Tread	56"	56"	56"
Turning Diameter	36'	36'	36'
Curb Weight	3232 lbs.	3315 lbs.	3324 lbs.
Crankcase capacity	6 quart	6 quart	6 quart
Cooling system capacity	21 quart	21 quart	21 quart
Fuel tank capacity	17 gal.	17 gal.	20 gal.
Engines available	Disp/Carb/HP 292/4v/198	Disp/Carb/HP 292/4v/202 312/4v/225	Disp/Carb/HP 292/2v/212 312/4v/245 312/8v/270 312/SC/300

Order line: (800) 374-0914

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Email: sales@ClassicTBird.com

Website: ClassicTBird.com



**Submitted by Austin Eaton
Written by CASCO T-B Parts**

NOW THAT THE RETRO BIRDS ARE PART OF THE T-BIRD CLUB, SON TERRY INSTALLED AN ORIGINAL ACTC PLAQUE IN THE GRILL OF MY 2005 BRONZE RETRO BIRD. THE LABOR OF LOVE IS THE FACT HE DID IT IN MEMORY OF HIS DAD TERRY AND FOR ME, BUT IT TOOK HIM FOUR HOURS TO DO IT. HE WILL BE SENDING A PICTURE OF THE CAR TO GO WITH THIS ARTICLE.

EFFIE DUQUETTE



Buying a 1955-57 Ford Thunderbird? Here's what you need to know

Sometimes the best ideas don't come from inside a company but rather spring forth as a reaction to external forces. When Chevrolet brought its two-seat Corvette to the New York Auto Show in 1953, it couldn't have known that it was about to inspire Ford to punch back with one of the most storied nameplates in the Blue Oval's history: the Thunderbird.

Although developed in response to the 'Vette, the T-Bird would travel down a winding path, as the vehicle would over the course of its lifetime be made available as a coupe, a roadster, and a sedan. The Thunderbird would also avoid the Corvette's sports car image in favor of "[personal luxury](#)," a term that would hold meaning in the industry until the segment was unceremoniously eviscerated by SUVs in the mid-'90s.

The first decade of Thunderbird production would see dramatic shifts in styling, power, and market position. The very first generation of Ford Thunderbird was built exclusively as a two-seat convertible, and only offered between for a short spell from 1955 to 1957. As with many '50s domestics, future valuation prospects for the first-gen Thunderbird don't look exceptional at the moment, and certain variants remain very approachable for collectors.

A gold-standard, #1-condition (Concours-quality) ['55 trades for \\$65,900](#), while a driver-quality car is less than half that. For 1957, a [rare supercharged edition V-8 soars to nearly a quarter million dollars](#), with base #3-condition (Good) cars checking in at just under \$40,000 (similar in pricing to 1956 models).

Submitted from article from Hagerty Media
By Benjamin Hunting 4/24/2019



1955



1956



1957

Keeping a Car Club Going and Growing

By Haggarty John Gunnell 5/1/2005

Once your collector car club has been, organized, you want to make it go and grow. Good communications, timely publicity and signing up new members are key elements that keep a club active and strong. The Newsletter Committee will be relied on to keep the membership well informed. Publicity may be the job of appointees like the Club Editor, Club Photographer or Car Show Chairperson or a separate Publicity Secretary can be picked. Membership-building efforts are often the responsibility of the Club Secretary, although larger clubs may want to have a Membership Secretary to work solely in this area.

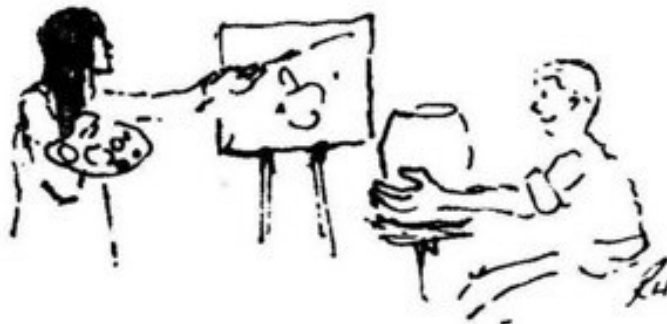
Club Communication Internal:

To make your collector car club going, members must be informed about what the club is doing and when club events are scheduled. The best way to do this is in a published club newsletter. This can be quarterly, monthly, wherever your club's budget allows. It must also be professional and correct. A portion of the annual dues collected should be set aside for printing and distribution of the newsletter.

Club newsletters don't have to be fancy to be effective. It's the content that's most important. Essential items found in many club newsletters are a calendar of events, club-related or general collector car news, the club's last meeting highlights, announcements/notices, a column written by the club president, opinions, tech tips, a future meeting schedule, special offers to club members, a Member of the Month feature, classified adds listing collector cars and parts for sale by members.

Home computers have made it easier for careful novice to create a professional-looking newsletter. Widespread use of home computer has also changed the type of publishing media that can be used. In the past, a newsletter had to be printed and mailed each month, which meant writing checks to a printer or copy shop and the post office. Some car clubs now send their newsletters by e-mail or making it available on a website.

Creating a website is another form of communications you'll want to consider today. Internet users are constantly surfing the web for things that fit their interest. It would certainly help your membership efforts if your club's website pops up when the words "Collector Car Club" .



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**March 30th Day At The
Pavilions
101 & Indian Bend
Back row West of Mc Donald
11:30 to 2:00 pm**

Tech Day April 21st

Bee Line Cruise Oct 11-12

**April meeting to be
determined**



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!**

