



THUNDER ROAD, VOL 38

The Central Florida Thunderbird Club

www.cfctc.net

*****SAT, JAN 24, 2026 - BROWNWOOD CRUISE-IN** was a success with all spaces filled with beautiful Thunderbird Classics and car enthusiasts. Ralph worked his magic organizing the logistics, promoting our club, making new members and supporting members needing to sell. See Ralph's recap below. As he said, "Again, the Fabulous Thunderbirds stole the show!" Plan now to attend the **BIG Lake Sumter Landing Car Show** on November 20th we need 54 Classic Thunderbirds so add this to your calendars now. **RSVP asap for the Harbor Hills Sunday Brunch on February 22 @ 11AM** (see event details below)

**All American Classic Cars and
Great Patriotic People! Brownwood Cruise-In Jan. 24, 2026**







CLUB MEMBER CLASSIC CAR SPOTLIGHT - we would like to start spotlighting our club members with a picture of their Thunderbird and special memories or connections with their classic car. This would be excellent to use both for our newsletters and to connect us on our new club Facebook page. Our first Member Spotlight for this edition is Carole and Don Ferguson. Carole is always taking the pictures for the Newsletter and is finally in one. Thanks for all you do for the club. Carole's Thunderbird is a 2003 retro, with two tops. She won 1st place for 2003 stock, at our Convention the first year retros were judged. Color: Desert Sky Blue Name: Peggy Sue, Don bought the car for her in 2017. They later found out she previously belonged to fellow club member, Greg Nelson.



NEW CLUB MEMBER

Introducing a new club member Ralph met at the Brownwood car show tonight and want to join the Tbird club. John Petruskas is an ex Ford Engineer. He owns a red 1957 Thunderbird with white interior that was

originally bronze exterior and interior. (312 single 4 barrel, both tops). John also has a black 1955 with a black interior with white inserts. PW, PB, PS, black soft top.

CLUB WEBSITE/DIRECTORY- Everyone is encouraged to visit our website, send in contact info for Club Directory, and join CTCI. Website is <https://cfctc.net/> , and the password is*

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Harbor Hills Sunday Brunch on Sunday February 22, 2026 @ 11AM

Address: 6538 Lake Griffin Road, Lady Lake, FL 32159

<https://www.harborhillsclub.com/>

Club members should be arriving 11 AM that day, and the manager Steve Henne is expecting around 30 or so club members. As usual the members who come with their Birds will be able to park under the front entrance canopy as they have done in the years past. Please RSVP to Ralph rotaryralph@hotmail.com

****3rd Saturday every month car show!**** Join Craig Cook at the monthly Classic Cars and BBQ cruise-in held from 4-7pm at the Spruce Creek Shops on Rt 441. This is at the light with McDonald's and CVS on the corners; go to the right to the front of Innovative Concrete Coatings. All years are welcomed, 50/50 People's Choice Award, Music and the owner John Feeds everyone. T - Birders let Craig Cook know and he will RSVP John so we can try to group together.

March Event in Progress- Ralph is setting up an event at David Meinz in Orlando for March.

Important Links for Classic Thunderbird Owners:



Early Bird Magazines & Articles

<https://store.ctci.org/early-bird-magazine/>

Technical Tips for Classic Thunderbirds by Categories

<https://www.ctci.org/earlybird-technical-article-index/>

Anyone member can get to it under the CTCI Website's **Car Tech** pull down menu / **EarlyBird Technical Article Index**

* Members: Email zagartw@yahoo.com for password.



CENTRAL-FLORIDA-CLASSIC-THUNDERBIRDS

Suggested referral list for approved vendors (In The Villages area).

Web Links:

[CTCI, Classic Thunderbird Club, International Ford Thunderbird Forum](#)

[Ford Thunderbird Models Flock To Florida For CTCI Convention \(fordauthority.com\)](#)

Central Fl. Thunderbird club preferred contacts

WHERE TO BUY T-BIRD STUFF

Hippe Hideaway Garage- Captan Randy Banger all classics Rt 102 oxford 1941 232 5760
caprandybanger@gmail. 02 Blk retro services only classic cars

- 1) Marc the bumper man- excellent touch up 352-753-2240
- 2_ Tom McKee Total Recon-Automotive Cosmetic Services

UPHOLSTRY Leesburg -352-535-0299 www.totalrecon.biz

- 3) Rob Mangiamele- Jenkins autobody: Leesburg/ Ocala- Cell- 1-847-209-4341 .

- **Orion & Matt- Meredith Auto Clinic Rt 25 Lady Lake 352-753- 1033**
- **Sumter Tire- tires & auto mechanic- 2 locations 707 S. Main St Wildwood Tanner Sizemore 352-748 -6549**

- 4) Burnyzz Motors – Belleview/Ocala- Consignment cars & auto mechanics

Brian will come & speak to us: 352-307-19686)

- 5) Daily Sun Call Jill Winters if you are a Villager & get coverage on your Bird in Friday car section- 352-753-1119