

THUNDER ROAD, VOL 42

The Central Florida Thunderbird Club

www.cfctc.net

Ralph and Craig attended the Leesburg Car Show. This might be a show in which more of us can participate.



On May 4th, we held a small meeting at Gio's to introduce our new members to the Board. Various items were discussed: events, purchasing name tags, shirts, the advantages of joining CTCI, etc. It was a nice way to get to know each other.

GYPSY GOLD HORSE FARM

17 club members and guests went to see the beautiful Gypsy Vanner Horses on May 21. We drove our Thunderbirds to the nearby farm. The owner told us the story of how the farm came to be – with the delightful story of how he and his wife were able to purchase a pair of “gypsy horses” from the Gypsies while on a trip to Europe. They were the first of their breed to come to the U.S. Gypsy Gold is a breeding farm, hence the big-eared donkey who helps with the babies. Gypsy vanner horses were bred to pull the gypsy caravans (carriages). We then went to lunch at Pasta Faire. Good visit to Gypsy Gold, good food – good day. Thanks to new member Bob Amsley for leading the caravan & for pictures, and to Larry Witte for arranging the restaurant.



Owner, Dennis Thompson, (black shirt) talking about his beloved horses.



A few- days- old foal & mom



Dennis Thompson showing picture of his 1st Gypsy Stallion bought in Europe & brought to the US.



Gypsy Gold Farm & TBirds

Mt Dora Community Car Show



John Miller, '57 Star Mist Blue; Craig Cook, '57 White E Bird; Larry Dambrose, '57 Red; Larry Witte, '05 Red and Ralph Cowell '02 Blue attended the Mt Dora Community Car Show.



UPCOMING CAR SHOWS

This is from Ralph – **Be sure to RSVP to Ralph (rotaryralph@hotmail.com)**

******TRINITY SPRINGS:** We are planning a fun 1950s/1960s-themed event featuring a food truck, live entertainment, and themed attire for both staff and residents. Prior to the event, we will be showing American Graffiti in our theater.

Guests and participants will enjoy complimentary food and drinks, including hot dogs, chips, sweets, and beverages. We will also host a “People’s Choice Award,” where residents can vote for their favorite car.

We are very excited to provide this experience for our residents. We currently have approximately 40 Memory Care residents who will be assisted by our care staff, along with around 130 Assisted Living and Independent Living residents attending.

For the car club members, we will have coolers stocked with water and drinks, as well as seating available throughout the event.

Event Details:

Date: June 20, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Location: Trinity Springs Retirement Community

12120 CR 103

Oxford, F:\L 34484

*****Following the Trinity Springs Show, on the same day but later in the day, 4-7pm, is the Spruce Creek Mall Car Show**

Cars and BBQ Cruise-in

Monthly on 3rd Saturday, 4-7pm

at the Spruce Creek Shops

on Rt 441 in front of

Innovative Concrete Coatings.

You MUST **RSVP John at 352-1913-1547**

so that he can have enough parking spaces and food.

******FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 5-8PM, SUMTER LANDING******

WE HAVE 52 SPACES FOR THE CAR SHOW.

CARS OF ALL YEARS ARE ELIGIBLE. THIS WILL BE THE BIGGEST SHOW OF THE YEAR IN THE VILLAGES. IT WOULD BE GREAT TO FILL ALL THOSE SPACES. RSVP: RALPH – ROTARYRALPH@HOTMAIL.COM

*****Larry Witte and Ralph attended the last Markets of Marion Show for the summer. There was a huge turnout. This show will resume in the fall.**

*****Tom, of Total Recon, has now opened at his new location in Leesburg behind the Key Scales Ford Dealership. Ask about his discount membership program. Tom will be inviting the car clubs for private tours of his new facility. He has added a paint and body shop and a new mechanic.

*****Lastly: Meredith Auto Clinic, one of our good resources, has closed its doors after 35 years of the father and son, Orion and Matt, business. From Ralph, "Thanks for 20 years of good service to me and my many referrals."

