

PITT BIRDS

Established 1970

**THUNDERBIRD
CLUB**

Visit the Pitt Birds Thunderbird Club website:
pittbirds.org
Visit and Join the Pitt Birds
Thunderbird Club Facebook Page

RECENT EVENTS:



September 2020 Newsletter

OFFICERS:

President:	Marc Koszak	412-266-0562	alldetroitmuscle@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Wayne Bane	724-594-7482	dbane3413@comcast.net
Secretary:	Mary Beth Meyer	412-747-0769	mbmeyer321@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Jerry Longstreth	412-466-9091	gll1231@msn.com

Celebrating 50 Years as a Chapter Club

PITT BIRDS PICNIC AND MOON CRUISE - SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH

Since the Pitt Birds Thunderbird Club was not able to have its annual picnic in July, some members decided the Moon Cruise venue in August would be a good alternative. The problem was this cruise was also canceled. Donna Shubert asked the park officials about using a park pavilion on the same date as the cruise. They said we could, and although this would not be a volunteer fire department sponsored cruise, the park would be open to car enthusiasts. We rented a pavilion and followed the Covid-19 restrictions. Mary Beth Meyer took charge of managing the food and coordinating the picnic. Two days before the picnic the park officials called Donna stating that we could not use the selected pavilion. It was too close to the playground and the police did not want a lot of cars in that area. After some negotiation, they offered us a nicer pavilion at a different location in the park. We sent out email blasts alerting members of the change. At the picnic, the weather was perfect, and we had thirty-seven members in attendance with a beautiful display of their Thunderbirds. Even though this was not a sponsored cruise, there were about one hundred other cars in the park on display. Bob Reilly entertained us with his music and did a great job as DJ. Mary Beth ordered the main entrées of roast beef and stuffed chicken breast, and we asked members to bring their own side dishes. Everyone enjoyed the meal and we had plenty of time to talk to fellow members who we have not seen much of this summer. The Pitt Birds thank Mary Beth Meyer for organizing this great event and to all those who helped set up and serve the meals.

PITT BIRDS PICNIC AND MOON CRUISE



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Back to the 50's Car Show
Saturday, September 5th, 11:00 AM

CANCELED

Autumn Leaf Tour to the Laurel Mountains
Saturday, October 3rd, 10:00 AM

Plan to meet at the Bill Green Shopping Center at 10:00 AM.

This is at the cloverleaf intersection of Route 51 south, and Lebanon Church Road. **GPS:** 10 Old Clairton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236.

We will travel south on Route 51 to Uniontown, then on Route 40 to Chalk Hill, PA. We will have lunch at the Subway or Nate Doggs and Bottle Shop Restaurant in Chalk Hill. Seating is available inside or outside. After lunch we will drive a short distance to the Christian W Klay Winery and sample some wine. <http://www.cwklaywinery.com/>

We will continue our tour to Ohioyle State Park where we will view the park and falls. We will return to the Pittsburgh area and should arrive in Monroeville at about 4:15 PM.

Because of the Covid-19 issues, we are finding it difficult to conduct tours and attend local shows and cruises. The Pitt Bird officers are requesting suggestions for events from you, the membership. Some ideas are to attend a Drive-In movie; or go on a driving tour to a state park and have a 'bring your own' picnic lunch. Let us know your thoughts. If you have an idea or suggestion, please present it to one of the officers. Their contact information is on the first page of this newsletter.



CTCI Free Membership Test Drive

The Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI) is happy to announce a Free Test Drive offer for the balance of the 2020 calendar year. With more of us sticking close to home, this is a great way for you to become a part of CTCI and get the great tech tips and virtual assistance with your Thunderbird that you always wanted!

As a member you will also receive valuable CTCI organizational updates the CTCI Board sends out, via constant contact, keeping you informed about our efforts to enhance the future of your organization. You can also get information on the CTCI Concours Regional and International events and learn how CTCI can help promote your local Chapter events.

Check out the new [CTCI website](#), get great tech tips, promote your local Chapter in Around the Aviary, Submit your car for "On The T-bird Trail" and start connecting with other CTCI members near and far! Your membership for 2020 will include the Nov/Dec issue of the Early Bird Magazine, CTCI Tech Tips, updates on CTCI Regional and International events, and in-person interactions with CTCI members across the country!

From tech tips, to local events and parts for sale, your Thunderbird will benefit from your CTCI membership! CTCI hopes that you enjoy your Test Drive Membership and that you decide to stick around as a member for 2021 and beyond!

To sign-up, please visit: <https://ctcitestdrive.com/> and complete the form.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current Membership: **63 Members**

Welcome new members:

*Bob and Judy Willcock
2003 Red Thunderbird
Coraopolis, PA*



Nomination of Officers:

The Pitt Birds are soliciting nomination suggestions for the following offices in this club:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

The position for the Newsletter Editor is also available.

If you are interested or know of someone that is interested, please contact Marc Koszak at 412-266-0562 or alldetroitmuscle@yahoo.com



Interested in Joining an International Thunderbird Club?

The Pitt Birds Thunderbird Club is a chapter club with the Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI) and the International Thunderbird Club (ITC). Both CTCI and ITC have regional and international events, provide excellent technical advice, publish bi-monthly magazines, offer vendor sourcing, and articles about other local clubs. Membership information to CTCI or ITC can be found by visiting the following web sites.

Classic Thunderbird Club International: www.ctci.org
Then click on "Membership" on the Home page.

International Thunderbird Club: www.intl-thunderbirdclub.com
Then click on "Membership" on the Home page.



FOR SALE:



2002 Thunderbird
Contact: Jan Good
412-366-1991
jang125@verizon.net
\$21,500

Thunderbird Blue, with full blue and black interior. Matching blue hardtop, hardtop dolly and black boot. Excellent condition, no dings or scratches. Everything works on it as it should. 34,907 miles.



2002 Thunderbird
Contact: Warren Smith
724-776-4780
Jsandws@hotmail.com
\$21,500

Inspiration Yellow with full yellow and black interior, matching yellow hardtop, hardtop dolly and black boot, new Michelin Pilot tires, 13,500 miles. Western PA owned all its life, never seen snow, caught in rain a few times.



1957 Thunderbird
Contact: Ron George
724-784-0316
rondoavanti@gmail.com
\$35,900

Starmist Blue, rebuilt engine, new Goodyear radials, restored in 2002, Kelsey Hayes wire wheels, new top and interior. No hardtop.



1957 Thunderbird
Contact: Carol Vivaldi
724-939-7306
VivaldiCl@gmail.com
\$29,000 FIRM

312 V-8, Automatic, Coral Sand w/White Hardtop and Black Convertible Top, Power Steering, Power Windows, Radial Tires, Radio works well, Have original Town & Country Radio, 44,000 Miles, Original California Car in good condition.



Men's and Ladies' Golf Shirts:

Turquoise / Thunderbird blue golf shirts with the Pitt Birds logo.
Contact Mary Beth Meyer at 412-818-5898.
The price is \$25.00. Shipping and handling to your address is an additional \$5.00.



2002-2005 Soft Boot Tonneau Cover
Purchased from Thunderbird Concepts. Black in color, excellent condition.
\$100.00.
Contact Wayne Bane at 724-594-7482 or dbane3413@comcast.net

1955-1957 Thunderbird Parts

2 Hardtops, 1 Conv. Top, Front Bumpers, Windshield Stainless, Tach Distributor, 57 NOS grill, 57 Auto Transmission, Carburetors, brake drums, and many other chrome and stainless parts.
Contact: Al Jarek 412-889-5894 or pajarek@yahoo.com

Radio tricks to your Retro Bird

By Harry Sharp TBN

Trick #1.

While in AM or FM mode and pressing 3 & 6 at the same time will put the sound system into speaker test mode. If you interrupt this test by pressing buttons 1 through 6 there's more info available to trouble shoot radio problems – only # 3 & #5 have much value to non-technicians.

First press 3 & 6 to enter speaker test mode, then press # 1 thru 6:

1. Enters Self Test mode – the Thunderbird radio will normally FAIL this test with error codes not applicable to the radio. Press TUNE to see these codes anyway. It appears only error code B1342, B2404 and B2477 apply to this specific radio. This also is for the 2002 radio - I don't know if its the same for '03 to '05s.
2. Displays DTCs (Diagnostic Trouble Codes) Press TUNE to advance to next trouble code number. As mentioned most of these error codes are N/A.
3. Signal Strength for the radio station selected.
4. Pressing #4 while in diagnostic mode will retrieve the software configuration level of the audio components (CD changer, amps, etc).
5. Pressing 5 will illuminate all radio segments to test for “dead” segments.
6. Pressing 6 displays the software configuration level of the audio unit.

To exit test mode turn the radio off.

Trick #2.

Our radios have the ability to increase the volume automatically as you increase your speed. Handy for those top down trips. The SpeedSensitive Volume control can be adjusted by pressing in the round radio knob for five seconds. Then using SEL switch choose a number from 0 to 7 – the higher the number the louder the radio gets for a given speed. I have mine set on 2.

Radio Diagnostics:

Speaker Test:

While in AM/FM mode, simultaneously press 3 & 6. This begins a speaker test - each individual speaker will sound while the speaker name is displayed.

Signal Strength Test:

While in AM/FM mode begin the speaker test by simultaneously pressing 3 and 6 then interrupt the speaker test by pressing button 3 by itself. The signal strength for the station being played will display. Two identical cars in close proximity should yield very close to the same reading. If one radio experiences a much lower signal strength than the other, and has been experiencing poor radio reception, it should be brought to the attention of a dealer.

Speed Sensitive Volume Control:

While listening to AM/FM press the round radio knob for five seconds then select (SEL) a number from 0 to 7. The higher the number the more the volume will increase at any given speed.

Radio Self Test:

While listening to AM/FM press 3 & 6 to begin the speaker test, interrupt this test by pressing #1. The radio will go into SELF TEST mode but (all 2002s at least) will FAIL with error codes most of which are not applicable to the six CD changer. Sorry, I don't know if the 03s or 04s pass this SELF TEST or yield extraneous error codes.

Viewing Error Codes:

To view the error codes after the SELF TEST is finished press DISC/TUNE. It appears only error code B1342, B2404, and B2477 apply to this specific radio system. Refer to the shop manual for error code explanations.