



# Thunderbird news

MAY 2012 VOLUME 14, #5

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## NEW PAINT JOB on Leo's Saladino Bird



## MISSION Possible

Pg. 4



## Have you lost your cool? Pg. 8

# Restoring American History

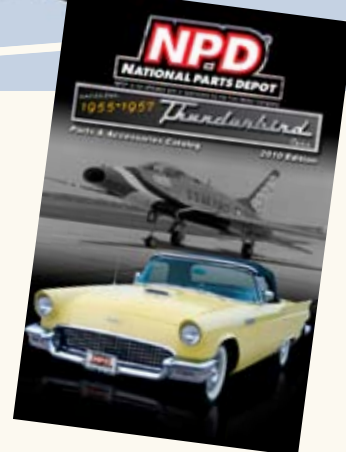
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*Thunderbird*  
news

MAY 2012 VOLUME 14, #5

# editor's REPORT



**IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID THE DUES, THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER**

## AUGUST MEMPHIS CONVENTION UPDATE

As of Dec. 18th there were 165 registrations for the CTCI International Convention in Memphis. This includes 89 Thunderbirds in each of the classes. 61 members have volunteered to judge. We are taking four cars for the convention. If you are interested, call me at 786-554-5200.

## MAY 20TH WILL BE OUR B.B.Q.

We will celebrate our annual B.B.Q. on May 20th at Greynolds Park on 17630 W. Dixie Hwy. Entrance to the park is \$6.00 per car, but our club will reimburse you for the \$6.00 if you bring your classic Thunderbird.

All food is courtesy of the Club. Non-members pay \$15.00. We need a count of those who will be attending the B.B.Q. because we have to order the food. Last date for the count is May 16th. Please call Daisy Hernandez at 305 613-6775

Felipe Cos



## CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA CTC CHAPTER #114 MAY 2012 VOLUME 14 NO.5

We will have our monthly meeting on **May 20th** at our B.B.Q. at Greynolds Park.

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George Bishopric Newsletter proofreading

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### PAST PRESIDENTS

**Felipe Cos** 1999

**Ken Lemming** 2000

**Felix Hernandez** 2001

**Norm Gabe** 2002

**Andre Fournier** 2003-4

**Connie Danluck** 2005

**Ed Brown** 2006-07

**Connie Danluck** 2008

**Ed Brown** 2009

**Daisy Hernandez** 2010-2011

This Newsletter may have some misspellings and mistakes, but it is written with my heart. I could write it without errors in Spanish, but only a handful of you would be able to read it. Please help me to make it even better.

Felipe Cos Founder & Editor

George Bishopric - Proofing

Photos by Felipe Cos

**Thunderbird**  
news

MAY 2012 VOLUME 14, #5

## THUNDERBIRD INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY:

Take note that we have changed our web page name, it is now **WWW.THUNDERBIRDCLUB.US** to get there don't look at it with a search engine, look at it only with [www.Thunderbirdclub.us](http://www.Thunderbirdclub.us)

**Our Club's web page:** \_\_\_\_\_ **www.thunderbirdclub.us**  
2005 Thunderbird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.fordautomobiles.com](http://www.fordautomobiles.com)  
Ford racing: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.fordacing.com](http://www.fordacing.com)  
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Metroplex EarlyBirds: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.geocities.com](http://www.geocities.com)  
Arizona Classic T-Bird Club: \_\_\_\_\_ [classic-thunderbird.org](http://classic-thunderbird.org)  
Santa Clara Valley T-Birds: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbird.org/scvt](http://www.tbird.org/scvt)  
Sierra Nevada Classic T-Bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbird.org/snctb](http://www.tbird.org/snctb)  
Connecticut Area Classic T-Bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.tbirdsofconn.com](http://www.tbirdsofconn.com)  
Chicagoland Thunderbirds: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.thunderbirds.org](http://www.thunderbirds.org)  
Potomac Classic T-bird: \_\_\_\_\_ [www.hydratech.com](http://www.hydratech.com)  
Old Cars \_\_\_\_\_ [www.greatoldcars.com](http://www.greatoldcars.com)  
Classic T-Bird Club of Chicagoland\_ [www.ctcc9.com](http://www.ctcc9.com)

## INTERNET PAGE

**Have you seen our internet page?** We need to update it. Does anyone know how to do it? If you can update it call me. Our page is as follow: **THUNDERBIRDCLUB.US**

You may have your own individual email, mine is as follow: [FCOS@THUNDERBIRDCLUB.US](mailto:FCOS@THUNDERBIRDCLUB.US) If you want your own just send a note to me. Please follow the previous format in doing so. It is free, no charge. This is another advantage of your club. Any ideas for the page? This page doesn't cost the club a penny for yearly subscriptions, I'm doing it through my business company web.

Please call **Felipe** at (305) 661-5170

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MAY

<b>EILEEN GORDON</b>	<b>3rd</b>
<b>ED BROWN</b>	<b>6th</b>
<b>LEO SALADINO</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>ERNIE SALADINO</b>	<b>9th</b>
<b>KATHRYN ZIEL</b>	<b>12th</b>

If your name is missing, it is because you did not give it to us. Please send it now so we can congratulate you.



## FUTURE EVENTS

**MAY 20th**

OUR B.B.Q. AT GREYNOLDS PARK

**AUGUST 21st-25th**

CITYCTCI MEMPHIS TN International Convention

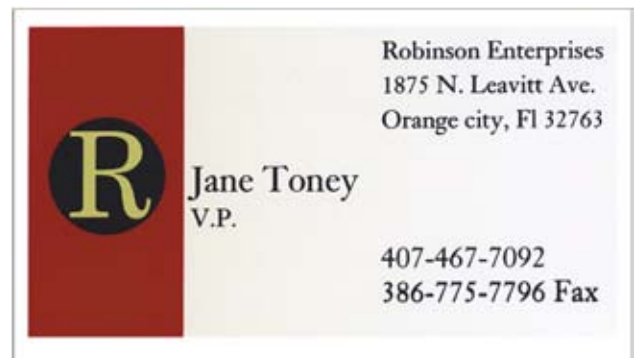
## CTCI NEWS

### DUES ARE DUE

\$35.00 MEMBERSHIP ARE DUE, PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK TO THE CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB AT 4000 MONSERRATE ST. CORAL GABLES, FL. 33146

### Annual rates for advertising in the newsletter

FULL PAGE _____	\$675.00
1/2 PAGE _____	\$375.00
1/4 PAGE _____	\$250.00 CARD
SIZE (NON MEMBERS) _____	\$150.00
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## NUMBERS TO KEEP

**The following are contact numbers and e-mail address you need to have on file:**

AACA Ft Lauderdale region-President Ted Plush 954-491-5765

VMCCA Sun Coast Chapter. President David Bobbitt  
305 661-1340 [bobbitt@comcast.net](mailto:bobbitt@comcast.net)

Model A Club: Tom Zannis 305 281-9192  
Car show promoter: Russ Gagliano 954-560-5412  
[merklvr@msn.com](mailto:merklvr@msn.com)

AACA Miami Region President Andy Levy 305-439-0910  
[www.aaca.org/southflorida](http://www.aaca.org/southflorida)

Car show promoter: Gerry Perez. 786 344-4228  
[gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com](mailto:gerrycarshow@bellsouth.com)

Magic Mustang. Frank Alonso 305 551-6077  
[fadatec@aol.com](mailto:fadatec@aol.com)

Muscle Stangs of Miami Ayanidys Marante 305 321-0437

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# MISSION Possible

BY FELIPE COS



The "Mission Possible" car is coming along just fine.. Four new tires. The seat is recovered with new upholstery. A new original soft-top frame is already installed. And a new cover was ordered. it will be install within two weeks

The drop carpet behind the seat was already installed with new cover for the top rail that covers it.

Door panels have been replaced with new ones. They will be installed after the car is painted. Trunk was in good condition. It has been treated with anti-rust.



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**Third Saturday**

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**Fourth Saturday**

Cipriano Deli Car Show 6 to 10 17579 Dixie Hwy Palmetto Bay

## APRIL

**Sun, Apr 1** Festival Spring Mega Classic & Import Car Show 10am-4pm - Festival Flea Market Mall - Pompano

**Sat, Apr 7** 6th Annual Wheels Across The Pond British Car Show 11am-5pm - Carlin Park - Jupiter (DJ Scott) 2011

**Sat, Apr 7** BSO Relay For Life Car Show - 5pm-10pm J.C.Wahoos - Lighthouse Point 201202

**Sun, Apr 8** EASTER SUNDAY

**Sat, Apr 14** Saturday

**Sat, Apr 14** Corvettes On Clematis - 10am-4pm - Hosted by Corvette Club of Palm Beaches West Palm Beach 201202

**Sun, Apr 15** My Candles of Hope Charity Car Show 11am-4pm -South Florida Hot Rides / Citi Centre - Pompano 201109

**Sat, Apr 21** Buffalos Southwest Cafe Cruise Night 6pm-9pm - Hosted by: South Florida Hot Rides Coral Springs 201201

**Sun, Apr 22** Coral Springs PD Special Olympics Annual Open Car Show Noon-4pm - Coral Springs 201201

**Sun, Apr 22** Mardi Gras Casino Classic Car & Truck Show 10am-4pm - FREE! - Hallandale Jumpin Jack 201203

**Sat, Apr 28** Saturday

**Apr 27-29** Leesburg 16th Annual 3 Day BikeFest Leesburg, FL

**Sun, Apr 29** Palm Springs North 2nd Annual Classic Car Show Jumpin Jack Productions 201109

## MAY

**May 4-6** Vanners Truck-In 60's Beach Party Beverly Beach, FL

**Sat, May 5** Saturday (Cinco de Mayo)

**\*Sun, May 6** Lefty's Semi-Annual Classic Car & Truck Show Davie Jumpin Jack Productions 201109

**Sat, May 12** PNC BANK Spring Open House Car Show 10am-2pm - Fort Lauderdale - Free Show / Free Food - Perk 201201

**Sat, May 12** Saturday

**Sun, May 13** Mothers Day (private event)

**Sat, May 19** Saturday

**Sun, May 20** Classic Car Show Pompano Jumpin Jack pending

**Sat, May 26** Saturday

**Sun, May 27** Seminole Casino Hwd Annual Memorial Weekend Car & Truck Show Jumpin Jack Productions 201108

**Mon, May 28** Memorial Day

## JUNE

**Sat, Jun 2** Saturday

**Sun, Jun 3** Miami Lakes Automall 2nd Annual Classic Car Show - Miami Lakes Jumpin Jack Productions 201109

**Sat, Jun 9** Saturday

**Sun, Jun 10** Sunday

**Sat, Jun 16** Saturday

**Sun, Jun 17** Father's Day Annual Hot Rods and Harleys Event - Jumpin Jack Productions (pending)

**Sat, Jun 23** Saturday

**Sun, Jun 24** Sunday

**Sat, Jun 30** Saturday

## JULY

**Sun, Jul 3** Miami Springs Annual Independence Eve Ca Show - Circle Miami Springs Jumpin Jack Productions





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# Have you lost your cool?

Perhaps you were en route to Palm Springs in 1972 or Las Vegas in '73. Maybe it was San Jose, 1976. Could be, though, that you were driving your Classic T-Bird in any condition of 90° or above temperature. Usually the first indication of trouble, in case you have not noticed your temperature gauge rising toward the peg, is cutting out of the engine as you accelerate, or as you climb a grade. You have now entered the realm of vapor lock. Accurately described, the base of the carburetor is so hot the raw gas percolates, or vaporizes on contact with the carburetor. Thus the fuel-to-air ratio required for proper combustion is highly disrupted. Result, the engine quits. If you are lucky you may get started after a waiting period of thirty minutes to an hour, during which time the metal has cooled. Don't get cocky, though, perhaps you are only started up a long grade, or have endless miles of 110° or higher desert to negotiate. If you are fortunate you finally make it in.

If less fortunate lots of nasties can occur. Like blown gaskets, blown radiator, blown hoses, and even cracked heads or blocks. In the event you have not experienced one or all of these horrors your imagination can readily supply details. You are in the midst of a desert nowhere. No telephone for 100 miles. Traffic sparse and whizzes by, including traffic officers. Then, when you do get towed in, the local garage specializes in tractors; not Early Birds, and the local motel is a flea bag, with no cooling.

In 1962 the writer, in a fit of wild spending, purchased a 1957 T-Bird for the outrageous sum of \$600.00, to the great delight of the seller. That was in early spring. By mid-June it was evident the vehicle was an overheater when the desert temperatures warmed up to about 110°. A check with other Bird owners indicated common difficulties. At the time I was still active in flying, and had done work on overheating liquid cooled aircraft engines with some success. I made arrangements with one of my aircraft buddies to get access to a good sized wind tunnel, into which the Bird was placed. Upon introduction of smoke to the increased velocity air flow it became immediately evident that at about 45 m.p.h. the front license plate of the 1957 Bird was deflecting air flow up and over the hood. On removal on the license plate the air flow in AND OUT of the engine compartment was uniform and balanced until a simulated speed of about 65 m.p.h. was reached. From 65m.p.h. and up it became evident the OUTFLOW did not equal the INFLOW of air. A static condition had been reached and a back pressure existed. Flow of cooling air through the engine compartment and out of the engine compartment was not in balance.

To cut short a description of the long period of yack-yacking and head scratching it was proven that removal of the lower splashguards, R and L from the lower rear of the engine compartment, bolted to the inner fender housing, and by installing the block-off plate to the air scoop—the one that has the decal "Remove for Summer Driving", a decidedly better air flow balance could be achieved. Not perfect; but improved.

Now I could get to work.

Again, to cut through the years, and reams of verbal foliage, I recap the many steps taken to result in a Bird that can be driven without overheating in Arizona desert summer temperatures, yes, even in parades, and with air conditioning, yet. Rotary type.

Get red of all deposits in engine and head water jackets. The best method is to remove the engine and thoroughly boil out at a time you are doing an engine overhaul. Install all new gaskets, with head gaskets installed CORRECTLY. Have your radiator man install at least a four row radiator core, and preferably a five row. Install a 5 or 6 bladed steel fan blade. Do not use a flex fan nor a plastic-fibreglass fan blade. Now, with new hoses and freeze plugs, and with everything snug and tight, you are getting there.

Fill radiator with a 50/50 Prestone mix, with a pint of high grade rust inhibitor and water pump lubricant. Change at least once a year.

Install a finned type, asbestos and aluminum carburetor-to-manifold spacer. Auto specialty parts houses usually stock them.

For summer driving tie the exhaust heat riser butterfly in the open position.

Install a pusher type electric fuel pump, Stewart-Warner, or Pasco, in the fuel supply line, close to the fuel tank, as instructed. Run through the regular fuel pump. I install an under the dash toggle switch to actuate the fuel pump when needed for starting and for extremely hot running conditions. The electric fuel pump is an added bonus for starting, particularly in the 1955 and 1956 Birds. Just flip the switch on before you hit the starter. When the audible clicking ceases it means you have gas to the carburetor and a well tuned engine will kick right off.

Remember, raw gas is a coolant. Set your carburetor to a rich mix for all summer driving.

You will be interested to know that some Birds, **EVEN WHEN ALL STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN, STILL ARE OVERHEATERS!!!**

Encouraging, ain't it?

—Jack Jordan#1185  
Arizona Classic Thunderbird Club

Sunday April first was the annual Festival Flea Market Mall Spring Car Show. When the organization picked their date the call went out to local clubs to attend and provide cars for the audiences to appreciate. The Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida answered the appeal. We had 5 members in attendance. Norm and Robin, Felipe and Christy, their son Rickey, as well as our new members Bob and his wife Debbie and of course, Frank and me.

There had been six slots reserved for our club so we could not only exhibit our heavy metal but socialize in the process. Murphy's Law states, "...if it can go wrong it will go wrong!" Now we might bear some responsibility for the organizer's confusion as we rolled up in our 1967 Plymouth Convertible, Brutus, but our entry clearly documented the affiliation with the Classic Thunderbird Club of South Florida and we succinctly identified ourselves upon entry yet were told that no one from our Thunderbird Club was there. Subsequently we were put out to pasture down at row 7 all by ourselves. It appears that MOPAR is still suffering from the illusion of being the red headed step child but that slight can be overlooked.



It was a beautiful spring day, the cars were numerous, and the camaraderie was exceptional!

I even found another MOPAR owner with whom to commiserate: Bridget discovered an Oldsmobile Club and joined so all was good. The music was excellent and dance-able for those of us who remember real songs and Bridget could have been seen strutting a few moves. Imagine our great surprise and elation when we discovered other members of our club.





After the sun had reached its zenith and the bright daylight began to fade the love/hate moment arrived; Trophy presentations! Love it if you win, always a bit of a bother as most shows drag on too long, and hate it if the blind judges overlooked your ride.

Brutus was blessed with a Top Fifty award. Now when there are over 400 cars in attendance this was a nice feather in our cap. Brutus is a 1967 Plymouth Belvedere II. 1967 was the first year for the 318 cubic inch (5.2L) LA engine. This was also the first year that Chrysler introduced the 5 year 50,000 mile warrantee, and the Belvedere II was a cut above its brethren with higher trim and more options. It was a 1967 Plymouth Convertible featured in the movie "Tommy Boy" with Chris Farley and David Spade.



There was a special award given out for the youngest participant and littlest car. A Pink Peddle car with a proud two year old as its owner. We need to get our children and grandchildren interested in this great hobby of antique car preservation so our kinetic art is not lost to future generations.

So the event closed down and it was a great meet with a lot of outstanding automobiles. With Trophy in hand and wearing our new T shirts , purchased at the show with Brutus on the front, (make sure to check order as they do not correct 50 feet from their booth), we headed to Costco to spend the prize money. There was prize money, Right?



## THUNDERBIRD GRILL

### REUBEN VEGGIE BURGER

- 2 cans (15.5 ounces each) pinto beans, drained, liquid reserved, 1 can left whole, 1 can fork-mashed
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1/2 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 tsp. black pepper
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- Thousand Island spread or salad dressing
- Hamburger buns (or thin sandwich buns)
- 1/4 cup olive or canola oil
- 6 thin slices Swiss cheese
- 2 cups sauerkraut, drained

Mix beans, bread crumbs, egg, onion, pepper and garlic in a bowl, adding enough bean liquid for mixture to hold together without being wet. Divide into 6 portions and flatten into 4-inch patties.

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add patties and cook, turning once, until a crisp crust forms on both sides, about 6-8 minutes. Top burgers with cheese slices, cover skillet, turn heat to low and let cook until cheese melts.

Spread bun with Thousand Island.

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## CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

April 4th, 2012 at Tratoria Pampered Chef, Miami Lakes

BY POPPY MADDEN - Secretary

### MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Treasurer Felipe Cos conducted the meeting in the absence of President Peter Klein. Felipe opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. and introduced a new member, Bob Ferretti. Everyone at the meeting introduced themselves to Bob.

Felipe announced that he is changing member Mike McNeal's name to "Mr. Money" because the club has received a check for \$2,912 for members having driven cars at the recent RM Auction in Fort Lauderdale. Mike arranged for our club members to drive cars onto the auction block. Felipe said that if we are able to provide more drivers at next year's auction we could maybe get close to \$4,900 for our treasury.

Felipe noted that the most we ever earned from any of our car shows was \$2,200. He said he participated in the auction event this year and "I drove three or four cars I had never driven before."

Mike said originally it was expected that 700 cars would be auctioned at the RM event "But only 670 showed up." He said he was going to drive cars at the Barrett-Jackson auction in West Palm Beach the following weekend and that Barrett-Jackson was "only going to auction off 400 cars."

Secretary Poppy Madden asked if there are cars "for short people to drive" at the auctions.

Leo Saladino, who drove at the RM event said, "We worked hard but it was fun. There was a lady there who is four feet eight -- she had a booster seat."

Felipe said he had sent some money to other car clubs that provided drivers for the RM event and noted that "That's money that could be ours" if we can provide more drivers next year." Felipe announced that there are about 20 persons from our past year's membership roster who have not sent their dues to renew for this year. He suggested that those persons be called and reminded about the dues that are due. Felipe said our annual barbecue is scheduled to be held in May.

Daisy Hernandez said she had checked into reserving space in a county park in Miami Lakes but nothing was available in May. She attempted to get a place to hold the barbecue on June 9 but was unable to secure a spot. (UPDATE: THE EVENT WILL BE HELD MAY 20 AT GREYNOLDS PARK, 17530 W. DIXIE HIGHWAY, NORTH MIAMI BEACH.)

Felipe reminded members that the Classic Thunderbird Club International will hold its convention in Memphis in August. He said that so far five or six members of our club have said they will attend. He said that he has been told that already more than 140 classic 'Birds are signed up to be at the convention.

Robin Gabe said there is a new car museum in North Miami – the Dezer Collection. She said there are two parts to the display and that admission is \$25 a person. Robin said perhaps we could get a better rate if the club were to go there as a group sometime.

Daisy mentioned there is also a car museum in West Palm Beach –

the Staluppi Cars of Dreams Collection – that we might be able to visit sometime.

Poppy suggested the club consider going to a game at the new Miami Marlins stadium this summer. Daisy said that was a good idea and mentioned the possibility of going to a hockey game or basketball game next season.

Christy Cos said that people can go and look at the new baseball stadium facilities for only \$9.

Daisy displayed a banner that was on a utility pole advertising the RM Auction and said it is for sale. It includes pictures of a Corvette, a Cord and a Mustang.

Felipe said he was at an auction and "drove a hot rod. I got in and they had to take me out. I could not get out (myself.)"

Mike said "This is the kind of fun all the guys can have – and the girls. However, there's some incidents that will happen. A seller or (potential) buyer can pick you to drive the car. A guy at an auction wanted me to drive his Ferrari – one of his 40 Ferraris. The owner picked me to drive it and then had a woman get in the car with me. I never noticed her. Afterward people asked me how I liked the woman in the car. I said I didn't notice her. She was in a net outfit you could see through! I said I didn't notice her because I was so busy driving the car."

Leo said he was driving cars at an auction and a man had a Yellow Cab "an old one, like a '52 Chevy, and he had this hat. I said I was driving the car but he had to give me the hat. The car had markings on the side '5 cents for the first mile.' The (bids) got up to \$38,000, \$40,000. One guy (bidding) said, 'Does the hat come with the car?' The (selling) owner said, 'Give him the hat!' The car sold for \$52,000."

Mike said that Bridget Hagood was driving at the RM Auction and "she drove most of the '40s and '30s cars --- with a hat that was gorgeous. She had a beige hat and was driving a beige car. The seller asked for the hat." Mike said driving cars at an auction is "Fun; you pick the car you want to drive, you drive the car about half a city block -- you love it and wish you could take it home with you."

Felipe said that when Mike "told us about driving cars, I thought about it and decided I would go. You don't have to ask me again -- I will go."

Mike said that if more of our members decide to drive cars in upcoming auctions, "I think we can corner the market, we can outdo other clubs. We have to build up our reputation as dependable and quality drivers."

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m., after dinner.

POPPY MADDEN  
Secretary

