



Thunderbirds Of Southwest Ohio

www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com

April, 2014 Newsletter



MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order: President Beverly Knauper called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 13, 2014. Beverly welcomed everyone in hopes of better weather by the next meeting.

Attendees: Peg and Brett Andrews, Nancy and Julie Blake, Ruthie and Wayne Dennis, Jan and Guy Gifford, Beverly Knauper and Jim Ross, Scott McGaha

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

No questions or concerns were voiced over the February meeting minutes as shown in the March newsletter, therefore the minutes stand as published.

Discussion:

Discussions centered around Bev and Jim's purchase of a new T-Bird and the status of Wayne and Ruthie's car which is in the upholstery shop.

REPORTS:

Because Lisa and Roger were absent from the meeting, on their way to Bristol, TN for NASCAR races, Beverly gave the Treasurer's Report. She also informed members that the TSWO bank account has been moved from Huntington Bank to Wright-Patt Credit Union. Huntington charges monthly for the paper copy of the statement and they require an address on check blanks. With our changes in Treasurer every two years, we would incur the expense of printing new checks at the time of each change of Treasurer even though we had many unused checks left. Changing to WPCU solves these problems.

COMMITTEES:

Event Planning Committee: It was reported by Scott that ideas have been brought up, but nothing has been finalized.

Show Committee: Brett, Wayne and Guy met with Kevin Sorice and confirmed that the Bocce Classic Car Show will be held Saturday, July 19. Registration will be held from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Trophies will be awarded at 3 p.m. to be followed by a spaghetti dinner at 4. Registration fee will be \$15 per car. Dash plaques and a car show T-shirt will be given to each of the first 75 registrants. Trophies will be given to the top 25 cars, plus a "Best of Show" trophy will be awarded. Our club will receive a payment of \$250 as a base fee plus \$3 for each car that registers. Brett has sent the announcement to Show and Shine for publication in their calendar. We will help the Sons of Italy pass out flyers at local car shows and will also procure door prizes as we have done in the past.

OLD BUSINESS:

One last reminder was given by Beverly to make sure that everyone has paid their VTCI dues.

Beverly reported back from the Cincinnati Auto Expo which was held February 19-23. She and Jim were working at the Tri-State Mustang/Ford Club booth. While there, they were scouting for folks that might be interested in our T-Bird Club. Brett was also there one day. Beverly stated that business was slow, but there were a couple of potential new members. One T-Bird owner stopped to talk and then later sent his T-Bird story to Peg. (You will read it later in this newsletter.) Beverly will continue to invite him and offer him a ride from Cincinnati.

Once again, Beverly asked that members take the time to write up their T-Bird Story to be published in the newsletter. It was hinted that since a non-member was eager to bring his story to us, we, as members, should be willing to do the same.

NEW BUSINESS:

Beverly received a call from a gentleman who wants to buy a 1955 or 1956 T-Bird in drivable condition. He is not looking for a show car, but something he can drive. Beverly has contact information if anyone knows of such a car.

OPEN FLOOR:

Jim brought to our attention that the Dayton Concours d'Elegance will be held at Carillon Park Saturday, September 13 through Sunday, September 14. To nominate a car call 937 866-2222 by August 16th or e-mail autoedge@sbcglobal.net More information is available at www.daytonconcours.com or by calling (937) 293-2841.

It was also mentioned that next year will be the 60th anniversary of the Ford Thunderbird.

Scott said that he has heard rumors that Ford might be coming out with a new T-Bird soon.

A search of the Internet revealed that a fellow T-birder, Glen Lewis, contacted Ford in 2012 and asked them about the possibility of the Thunderbird making it back into production any time in the near future. This is what Ford Marketing Headquarters had to say at that time:

“The Thunderbird is a timeless classic, an important part of Ford Motor Company's heritage, and this country's automotive history. At this time, we do not have an estimated date for when the new Thunderbird will be available at dealerships.

The Ford Thunderbird will make its return as a concept car. The new concept car is an indication of where we're headed with the Thunderbird when it goes back into production for the new millennium. It's also just one example of the exciting and dynamic new cars we plan to introduce in the future. For more information on the Thunderbird please visit Media.ford.com.”

Scott will research this and bring more information to the April meeting.

ADJOURN: At 7:42 the motion was made by Guy and seconded by Wayne to adjourn.

Beverly Knauper, President



From the President's Nest

I know you join me in mourning the loss of our club member Jim Ellinger. I didn't know Jim as well as many of you did, but I found him to be a friendly, kind, helpful man. He seemed to relish his Thunderbird projects. I will miss him.

Jim's passing led me to reaffirm my conviction that while an appreciation of Thunderbirds brings us together, it is the human connections we make that are truly important. I marvel at how the car hobby enriches my life by introducing me to people I otherwise would never meet: club members, cruise-in and show participants, restoration magicians, parts providers, and more. These are all amazingly talented and interesting people, each with a story to tell. A few years ago at a car show I discovered a co-worker was there with his car as well. Because he and I had very different jobs, our interactions at work had consisted mostly of greetings as we passed on campus. At the car show, however, we had our first meaningful conversation as he described how his car was the first car he had bought, while he was in high school. The car culture breaks through so many barriers that otherwise separate us.

April heralds the beginning of the car season. In Cincinnati, the Sharonville Classic Car Show (April 27) is the first show at which the *Show & Shine* calendar is available. I always like to buy a copy and plan my summer. For those of you near the Wilmington area, Chatfield College (located in St. Martin - north of Fayetteville) is holding a car show, in conjunction with a quilt and craft show, on April 26 from 10-4. Plan to attend a car show or cruise-in this year and meet new/old cars and their owners. We can learn from each of them.

Upcoming Club Events

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. Hot Wheels Drag Racing	April 5 th at 1 p.m.	Grandpa's Garage, Springfield
2. HO Slot Car Racing	May 2-4	Grandpa's Garage, Springfield
3. Outdoor Swap Meet	May 3	Grandpa's Garage, Springfield
4. Cruise-In	May 4, noon to 4	Grandpa's Garage, Springfield
5. Sons of Italy Car Show	July 19 th	Sons of Italy Lodge, Kettering



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4th: Jay Walsh

If you haven't been asked for the date of your birthday or need a correction, please e-mail our Club Secretary, Peg Andrews, at pegasus@woh.rr.com

Next Meeting: April 10th, 7:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering

T-Bird Story

The following T-bird story was provided by Mr. Steve Ader. Mr. Ader met our club president at the Cincinnati Auto Show in March where he was given a club brochure and subsequently began reading the newsletters on our website. Seeing our newsletter requests for T-bird stories; he penned the following unique love story.



Miss Eileen...1964 Thunderbird Landau By Steve Ader

Born: April 22, 1964, Wixom Michigan, to the proud parents of Eugene & Eileen O'Neill of Cincinnati, Ohio. She was one of 22,715 Landau babies that year. At the age of 20, she met her first husband.

Marriage #1: Miss Eileen was married to John Nolan (of the John Nolan Ford fame) on October 1, 1984 after a mere 25, 108 miles. John presented her with a new Silver Mink coat during this marriage. They parted ways after 11 years and 17 miles.

Marriage #2: Still looking like Princess Grace, she met and married again to Mr. Springer of Cincinnati on July 15, 1995. Eileen, being a bit hot headed, needed her water pump and hoses replaced during this marriage. The passion was gone and she & Mr. Springer split ways after 14 years and 519 miles.

Marriage #3: The allure of her still stunning looks caught the eye of Mr. Gangloff of Northern Kentucky on June 30, 2009. Eileen was kept in a garage with a number of friends, yet she was longed for more. They soon split after 3 years and 1114 miles.

Marriage #4: I fell in love with Eileen at first sight! We were married on July 17, 2012. She was looking for another sugar daddy to take care of her. At the age of only 48 at the time, her tires & arteries were a bit dry rotted plus her brake booster was shot. Her heart is extremely strong after a bit of carburetor work by Ray Bezold. (I'm a bit worried of him stealing her heart away!)

She & I now enjoy a ride each week...all year long as long as she doesn't get her feet wet. We've racked up to 600+ miles together... She now has 26, 800 miles.

1964 Thunderbird			
Body	63B	Landau	
Color	E	1446 Light Gray	Silver Mink
Trim	56	Black	
Date	22D	22-Apr-64	
DSO	31	Cin-district sales office	
AX	1	3:00:01	
Tra	4	Cruise-O-Matic	
serial #	4Y872L73395		
4	1964		
Y	Wixom MI	plant	
87	2 dr	Landau	
Z	engine	390 V8 300 HP	48/Duel Exh 10:1 Comp
173395	seq number	73,395 made in 1964 model	63B=Landau 22715 made

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Beverly Knauper (513) 752-8821

Treasurer: Lisa Hamm (937) 835-5992

Vice President: Roger Hamm (937) 835-5992

Secretary: Peg Andrews (937) 237-1131