



Thunderbirds

of Southwest Ohio

Newsletter

AUGUST 2020



Next Meeting: All meetings cancelled until further notice

Calendar of Car Events: Current status of various Thunderbird events.

VTCI Events: The VTCI International Convention, Portland Oregon, August 11-16, 2020 has been cancelled.

Other Thunderbird Club: The following is the known status of other Thunderbird club events.

1. The International Thunderbird Club (ITC) convention: Cannot confirm if convention scheduled for September 17-20, 2020 in Detroit, Michigan is still on.
2. The Classic Thunderbird Club International (CTCI) International Convention, rescheduled to April 20-24, 2021 in Sarasota, Florida.

VTCI Newsletter Contest Update: As reported in an earlier newsletter, our chapter submitted an entry for the annual newsletter awards contest. Winners were to be announced at the International Convention in August which has subsequently been cancelled. We've received no word to date as to when and how the winners will be announced.

Birthdays & Anniversaries in August: Two club members will be celebrating birthdays in August and one couple, our own VP and club treasurer, will be celebrating their 36 years of wedded bliss. Here's hoping your special day brings you joy.



August Birthdays

25th: Beverly Lake
26th: Bea Walsh

August Anniversaries

4th: Roger & Lisa Hamm
(36 yrs)



Thoughts from the President:

From time-to-time I find myself thinking about how unfair it is that I (and we as a club collectively) are missing out on the enjoyment of our comradery together during club meetings and activities. When I start thinking such thoughts, I mentally slap my face and tell myself to consider just how fortunate I am. I and my family are all safe, we're comfortable, and we want for very little except maybe more time with our family members and friends and way more mobility. It's likely that most of us has had to deal with a family member, friend, or family member of a friend having the virus. When I think of the millions of cases reported worldwide and the countless thousands who have perished while I sit here having relatively little change in my life, I can't help but feel somewhat ashamed that I even had a "woe is me" moment. So, what if I missed my Dayton Dragons games, an oldies concert at the Rose, and had to cancel our vacation plans; there are scores of families grieving who would gladly change places with me. I consider me and mine fortunate. I will do all I can to remain positive and do my best to make others feel the same.

On a car related note, I noticed that the Mecum auction was held in Indy in mid-July delaying it from their typical May event. I've been attending Mecum Indy for several years and it was a bit of a letdown to not go this year, then I thought, gee I can watch it on TV sitting in my recliner, see most of the cars, and the fridge is only 15 feet away and the bathroom only 20. Plus, at the end of the weeklong broadcasts I wasn't nearly as tired as I would have been from walking several miles around the Indy fairgrounds. I know it's not quite the same, but it was still very enjoyable.



Brett

A Happy Note from Nancy

I am pleased to announce that my beautiful 1966 T-Bird has **SOLD!!!** On July 10, 2020 it was being shipped to Las Vegas. The fella who bought the car has a 1962 and 1964 Thunderbird. He was excited to get a 1966 with a 428 engine. I am thankful for Paul Roy from Gem City Classic Autos who handled the sale. Now I don't have to pay \$160 a month for storage which I have been doing on and off for the last three years. I still miss the 1966 Silver Mink that I bought in 1990 that got totaled. So many memories - so many car shows and cruise-ins. It's all over now.



There Was Light at the End of the Tunnel

(This article was written by Roger Hamm highlighting his 66Tbird restoration)

Last year I decided that I would finally get my 1966 Thunderbird repainted. I had thought about getting that job done for the past 4-5 years, as the paint was showing its age. It had several bad chips and there were also some dents in the car. Since I was not able to find any touchup paint that matched the color of the car, I felt that would be the deciding factor in getting a new paint job for the car. The biggest problem I found was being able to find a reliable body shop that could paint it for a reasonable cost.

I finally decided to go to Maaco, and I must say, they did a fantastic job. I took the car there and discussed what color white I wanted to paint it. While going over the colors that were available, I almost decided to go with a 2010 Ford pearl white, but after checking the amount of money I had accumulated for the paint job, the extra \$1500 for the pearl took it above my budgeted amount. I finally decided to get it repainted the original Ford Wimbledon white and am happy that I did. The car looks fantastic, and I must commend Maaco on Needmore Road for the good job they did on the car.

Once I finally made the commitment to paint the car, I started the big job of taking as much of the chrome off the car that I could. I spent about one month unbolting the bumpers, removing the emblems, door handles and even the inner splash shields and bumper braces from the car. I then hauled the car on my trailer to Maaco.



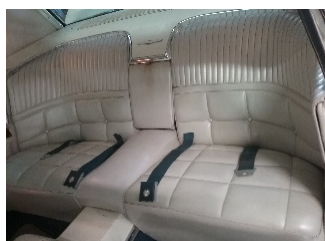
It took Maaco about two weeks to paint the car, and then it was ready to come back home to be put back together. I loaded the newly painted car onto my trailer and brought it back home.



It took me about one month to put everything back onto the car. I was able to purchase new bird emblems for the roof, new chrome trim that attaches to the bottom of the roof and the top of the rear quarter panel, new Thunderbird emblems for the rear quarter, new door handles, and new fender-top turn signals for front fenders. After getting the body all finished, I then started to try to clean up the engine compartment. I ground down all the paint and oil and grime from the inner fenders and radiator support and then repainted it with spray paint purchased at O'Reiley Auto parts. I also repainted all the bumper braces, shock absorber mounts and the fender splash shields.



After finishing with the engine compartment, it was then time to tackle the interior of the car. I took the rear seats and the rear package tray out, ground all the paint off the metal and then repainted it also. After all that, I put it all back together again. I then cleaned the rear seat backs and cushions and then reinstalled them. I also took the door panels out, pulled the window motors out of the doors, cleaned the dried out grease from the gears and put in new grease and then cleaned the door panels and reinstalled them back onto the doors.



And now for the final product, all put back together and ready to fly again!



Did You Know??? Fun Facts About the Ford Motor Company!



The first is that Ford Motor Company is the largest family owned business in the world! All of the company's CEOs have been directly related to the company founder Henry Ford since he retired from the position.

Ford's famous race car the GT40 won Le Mans 24-hour race 4 times in a row! It is now one of the world's most recognized long-distance cars and was named by the fact that it is only 40 inches high. (Remember the movie "Ford vs Ferrari").

Ford invented the assembly line for making cars. Henry Ford's assembly line has revolutionized the way car construction is, and it is still the most popular way cars are built even today!

The first car released by Ford was actually a Model A; however, it was the Model T that became Ford's success story. In 1916 around 55% of all cars on the road were Model Ts. Part of the reason the Model T was so popular was because of its price, it was less than half the price of its rivals.

Ford also owns Lincoln Motor Company which it purchased in 1925. Lincoln is seen as the luxury side of Ford's car production and is known for its Town Car.

The well-known Ford Blue Oval badge was first introduced in 1907 and the current emblem was introduced in 2003 to celebrate 100 years of Ford.

The very first Ford sold was to a Dr. Pfennig in 1903. The cost was \$850! He bought the "Model A" which had a two-cylinder engine and could reach a max speed of 30 mph!



In 1964, after the Mustang was first debuted. 94,000 pedal powered toy mustangs were bought for children the following Christmas season!

Henry Ford and Thomas Edison were lifelong friends! Henry Ford first worked for Thomas Edison and then they ended up becoming lifelong friends.

The Ford Thunderbird was first manufactured in 1955 and finished production in 2005. During this 50-year period 11 different models of the Thunderbird were released. Ford has produced over 4.4 million Thunderbirds throughout its lifespan.

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