



# THUNDERBIRDS OF SOUTHWEST OHIO

## Newsletter

### AUGUST 2021



## MEETING MINUTES

**Call to Order:** President Brett, being punctual as usual (and moderately assisted by the NIST clock displayed at [www.time.gov](http://www.time.gov)), gavelled the meeting to order promptly at 23:00 "UTC-4" (or 7:00 PM EDT, if you prefer). In his opening comments, President Brett confirmed that Jim Russell is our newest member, and welcomed him into the club.

**Attendees:** A total of 17 members attended the meeting, including Brett & Peg Andrews, Roger & Lisa Hamm, Dave & Deb Harvey, Scott McGaha, Nancy & Julie Blake, Guy & Jan Gifford, Paul & Sherry Loschi, Jim Ross & Bev Knauper, Dave Menke, and Jim Russell.

**Approval of Minutes:** President Brett requested a motion to approve the minutes of June 2021 meeting, as published in the July 2021 newsletter that everyone should have received (and hopefully, read) prior to the meeting. Sherry made the motion for approval, and Jan seconded her motion. The floor was then opened for comments. Hearing no comments, a vote was taken to approve the minutes. The motion for approval passed unanimously.

**Membership Update:** President Brett sent out a new roster (adding Jim Russell as our newest member), which everyone should have received late last week. Also, Dave Menke is still working on a new member that he's "had on the string" for a while.

No one has bought or sold a T-bird since the last meeting (but Roger is always looking).

President Brett asked if anyone needed help or advice with any repairs (and he also acknowledged to Guy that he hadn't forgotten about Guy's request for assistance with his front calipers). As to the problem that Jim Lenz has with one of the rear windows in his car, Guy suggested that M & R Electric Motor Service on E. 5<sup>th</sup> St. might be a source for a rebuild of that motor, if necessary. Brett also suggested the possibility that the problem could turn out to be a stripped plastic drive gear, as he had once experienced with his '66 T-bird.

**Sunshine Committee Report:** July is a busy month for the Sunshine Committee. Birthdays (6) include Susan Menke (on the 2<sup>nd</sup>), Jim Lenz (on the 3<sup>rd</sup>), Karl Eby (on the 4<sup>th</sup>), Jackie Allen (on the 13<sup>th</sup>), Tom Tirey (on the 20<sup>th</sup>), and Meritta Eby (on the 29<sup>th</sup>). Anniversaries (3) include

Darrel & Ruby York (on the 1<sup>st</sup> - 26 years), Jay & Bea Walsh (on the 15<sup>th</sup> - 54 years), and Jim Ross & Beverly Knauper (on the 29<sup>th</sup> - 14 years). Congratulations to all on their special days in July!

Fortunately, there were no condolences or get-well cards required during the past month.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lisa gave a report of the past month's financial activities, including the reconciliation of beginning balances to ending balances. Expenditures paid during the past month included reimbursements for flowers for Jim Lenz's wife and for Brownie, as well as reimbursements for renewal of the TSWO domain name and the license fee for our web site software.

She also passed out the 2020 full-year financial activity report, as required by our by-laws. This report would normally have been presented at our January meeting, but as everyone so sadly recalls, the January meeting was one of 16 meetings that weren't held because of that dang COVID-19.

**Club Activities/Events:** Scott reported on the June outing at Ritter's Yogurt Stand, and that everyone had a good time. Several non-club members were seen admiring our cars, which were parked as a group on the north side of the Ritter's lot. In a moment of candor, Scott admitted to having made a second trip to the window at Ritter's.

Scott suggested that our July activity could be a group gathering at the regularly scheduled Rip Rap Roadhouse cruise-in, perhaps taking advantage of the restaurant's policy of offering 20% off dinner if you drove a classic car (25 years or older) to the event. It was eventually decided that we'd do this on Fri, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, meeting at 6:00 PM at Rip Rap Roadhouse.

Jim & Bev belong to Tri-State Mustang Club, which is having an event at the Halderman Museum Barn in September (for those who might not have known, Gale Halderman's design for the then-new Mustang was the winning selection from several design contenders, and he was credited with being the Mustang designer.). Jim mentioned that John Clore, with Ford Connection, will be attending this event. He is very knowledgeable, as well as entertaining. While some details remain to be decided about this event, TSWO was invited to join in, and there seemed to be a lot of interest in this. As this event is being planned to include a "potluck" meal, it was mentioned that this could be an alternative event for our annual TSWO picnic.

Other potential club events mentioned were a visit to the Packard Museum, as well as a visit to the Sign Museum in Cincinnati. There was also some discussion around possibly doing another doughnut run, perhaps the "official" Butler County Visitors Bureau-sponsored Butler County Donut Trail.

**Old Business:** As Brett reminded us in his July 2<sup>nd</sup> email (that had the June minutes attached), we were supposed to vote at our March 2020 meeting to place a 3<sup>rd</sup> (term-limited) member on

our Board of Directors. Of course, COVID-19 scotched that meeting (and 15 more that should have followed), and this topic was planned to be addressed at our June meeting. Some procedural questions arose then which required that the Board and Club Officers discuss and resolve before proceeding with the election, so the election was postponed from June to July. The nomination process for this open position will be by "self-nomination" (in other words, an individual interested in serving on the Board must state their interest at this meeting - no one can nominate another person). Scott asked about the duties and responsibilities of the Board, and President Brett provided that information (along with examples of those duties and responsibilities).

President Brett opened up the floor for self-nominations and noted that (per our by-laws) Vice-President Roger is in charge of this election process (including the vote-counting and certification). Guy stepped up and self-nominated. There being no other self-nominations, President Brett declared the nominations closed, and Guy was elected to the Board by acclamation.

**New Business:** President Brett mentioned that some inconsistencies/duplicities were discovered during the Board election process between different sections of our by-laws. He presented two proposed amendments to our by-laws intended to address these inconsistencies/duplicities, as well as to align better the VTCI membership requirements in our by-laws with those of VTCI.

The first proposed change (Bylaws Amendment Worksheet Log #32) recommended changing the *Membership Eligibility* paragraph (Article II, Part 1). This same paragraph had been previously amended in June 2016 resulting in Errata Sheet #1 to our bylaws which required all club officers also be VTCI members. Amendment Log# 32 proposes the deletion of Errata Sheet 1 and the additions of Errata Sheet 3. Errata Sheet 3 would eliminate the statement that all TSWO club officers must be VTCI members (more on this topic in the second proposed amendment) but would continue to strongly encourage all TSWO members become VTCI members to help assure our club satisfies the VTCI requirements that at least 50% of a chapter's members are also members of VTCI.

The second proposed change (designated as Bylaws Amendment Worksheet Log #33) recommends the elimination of the requirement in Article V, Part 2, *Election Position Eligibility* that all TSWO officers must be VTCI members, but instead imposes that requirement only on the President and Vice-President of TSWO. VTCI bylaws do require all chapter presidents be VTCI members. While requiring our Vice-President to be a VTCI member is not a VTCI requirement, it makes sense for our club, due to the automatic succession from Vice-President to President, as called for in our chapter by-laws.

Brett asked for a motion to approve Log #32. Sherry offered that motion, and Dave Menke offered the second. President Brett called for discussion of Log #32. After quite a bit of member discussion and further explanation by President Brett, a vote was taken, and this amendment was approved unanimously.

Brett then asked for a motion to approve Log #33. Scott offered that motion, and Jan offered the second. President Brett called for discussion of Log #33. After much member discussion, a vote was taken and this amendment was also approved unanimously.

President Brett mentioned that our next scheduled election is in October, and that the self-nomination forms (available on the club web site, <http://www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com/tswobylaws.html> - then click on #6 "Elected Position Candidacy Letter") must be submitted to Roger by the September meeting. Scott broached the topic as to whether or not (due to the 16 missed meetings due to COVID-19) the terms of the current officers should/could be extended by 1 year, to compensate. After a short discussion, it was decided that this decision should be made by consensus of the current slate of officers, and the results of their discussion will be shared with the entire membership.

### **Calendar of Car Events:**

- 1) Vineyard Church Cruise-In on Fri evenings, located on Indian Ripple about a mile east of I-675 on the right side (this is the former SVG cruise in)
- 2) Kettering Cruise-In on Sat evenings, at shopping area near Woodman and Dorothy
- 3) Rip-Rap Roadhouse on Fri evenings, participants in cruise in receive a 20% discount on food
- 4) Voss Cruise-Ins will be held on Jul 9 and Aug 13
- 5) Xenia Grace Chapel will have a car show on Sep 25
- 6) See <http://miamivalleynovas.com> for many more event listings

Our next club meeting will be August 12<sup>th</sup> at MCL. Please join us for dinner around 6:00 PM and be ready for the gavel to fall promptly at 7:00 PM to start the meeting.

VTCI International Convention will be in Portland, OR, running from August 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>.

Jim R. mentioned that Horsepower Farm (just north of Middletown) holds a Cars & Coffee event the first Saturday morning of every month. While Opie Willis, the owner of Horsepower Farm, does not charge any fees for the event, there is always a donation can available, with all proceeds going to Wounded Warrior Project.

Jim also mentioned that the Tri-State Mustang Club hosts a Cars & Coffee at Liberty Center on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday morning of every month.

Scott mentioned that Dayton Cars & Coffee is held at Austin Landing on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday morning of every month. There was some conversation among attendees that when DC&C began, the cars were comprised more of classics than moderns; however, while classic cars can still be found at this event, they are definitely in the minority, as DC&C focus seems to have shifted over the past few years (since moving from The Greene to Austin Landing) much more to modern cars and exotics.

**Open Floor:** Guy expressed his thanks to the current officers for the work they've done and lamented the difficulties he's experienced in the past with other car clubs and the struggle to get people involved. The officer team appreciated Guy's comments.

**Adjournment:** President Brett then asked for a motion for adjournment. Always true to tradition (an important thing in car circles), Jan made the motion for adjournment, which was seconded by Sherry. Motion carried unanimously, and President Brett gaveled the meeting to a close at 8:15 PM.

*Brett Andrews*  
President

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**Birthdays & Anniversaries in August:** We have a few club members celebrating a birthday or anniversary this month. Here's wishing you a happy time on this your special day.



**August Birthdays**

25<sup>th</sup>: Beverly Lake  
26<sup>th</sup>: Bea Walsh

**August Anniversaries**

4<sup>th</sup>: Roger & Lisa Hamm



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**Thoughts from the President:**

I've shared the following experience with a few club members; now you all get to hear it. Two of our club members, Dave and Deb, got to live it with Peg and me. As I had been planning, I got my '66 out of storage and brought it home to prepare it for a glorious Sunday evening out - - Dinner at TJ Chumps, then a Beach Boys concert at the Rose. I spent a good share of Saturday and Sunday morning cleaning and polishing my burgundy beauty and making sure everything worked (lights, power windows, CD player with Beach Boys CDs). Finally, the time had come to leave for our evening out. I opened the garage door, we got in, started the engine, and prepared to bring our now shiny classic out into the warm (hot) sunlight. As Gomer Pyle would say, "Surprise! Surprise! Surprise!", my driver's window would not go down. Not to let a little window problem spoil the evening, we pressed on. When we arrived at Chumps it looked like there were more people standing outside waiting to get in than there were inside. Peg quickly called Dave and Deb, with whom we were having dinner, and advised them of the Chumps situation. We agreed on an alternate location - - Appleby's. We met there only to find out they had a 25-30 minute wait. Our concert was at 7:30 and it was now after 6:00. So, our third option became Frisch's. By the way, on our way to Appleby's my shiny flairbird decided it wanted to start spitting and sputtering. Oh boy, thoughts of leaving our metal baby in Appleby's parking lot and riding to the

concert with Dave and Deb, then returning later with AAA flashed through my mind. Needless to say; I chanced it and we sputtered our way to Frisch's. There were not many cars in the lot, so we thought we'd get in and out quickly. Wrong!!! We still end up waiting 10-15 minutes to be seated. Apparently, there is a serious lack of restaurant help. After a quick meal and some cordial conversation, we headed for the Rose. We made it in time; thanks to a short delay in starting. Peg and I departed the concert shortly before the end. We wanted to beat the crowd, especially if we were going to spit and sputter out of the parking lot, or worse if we would totally stall in the middle of a mad rush maybe we'd have time to get it off the road. Well, what do you know, when I started the car the sputter was gone and the drive home was pleasant, even if the window didn't work.

I'm building to an unsuspected ending here, so bear with me. The next day while scanning the internet for window troubleshooting ideas, I ran across a far-fetched chat room suggestion for my window dilemma.

Here's the solution that was recommended by one of the contributors: Start the car engine, open the door that has the non-functioning window, place you finger on the power switch for that window. Rev the engine up a little and hold it there, then slam the car door and active the window switch (in the direction you want the window to travel) at the same time.

I tried it and it worked the first time. So, after I picked my jaw up off the floor, I told myself I gotta share this story and the crazy window solution with the club.

*Brett*

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### *Our New Club Shirt Vendor*



At our last club meeting it was mentioned that some new members were interested in getting a club shirt and hat. As our older members may remember, Judy Frizzell, our previous shirt vendor, retired from the business. It wasn't too long after that Covid hit. So, we've been without a vendor for nearly 2 years. With folks inquiring about club apparel, I contacted Judy to check on our Logo patterns and seek her recommendation on a new shirt supplier for us. She still had our logos and would provide them to whatever vendor we choose (that saves us the setup costs). She recommended **Twin Design**, for our consideration, as our new vendor. They are located on Far Hills Avenue, just down the road from the MCL Cafeteria and is operated by; you guessed it, twin sisters. I visited them and talked with Dixie, one of the twins. I was pleased to discover that they could and would provide the same services as did Judy.

Let me highlight what has been our club's approach to shirts and other apparel. As our official summer club shirt, we settled on a medium blue, short-sleeve shirt (currently ultramarine blue) with the club logo embroidered on it. A standard thread color combination was also set for the summer shirt Ohio shaped logo. We wear this shirt to club designated activities during the warmer months such as our club meetings, cruise-in/car shows, monthly summer activities, etc. When cooler weather arrives and folks want to forego summer clothing in favor warmer apparel, many club members have purchased sweatshirts or hoodies (any color is okay), typically from our vendor, and had our logo embroidered on it. On the cool weather garments the thread color can vary depending on the color of the garment. As you'll see on the pricing information below, our vendor is also willing to embroider our club logo on clothing articles that you provide. I have asked for, they have ordered, and they will be providing me, our own copy of their catalog so we can browse for other clothing items.

Below are photos and prices for the men's and women's shirts (price does not include embroidering) and a separate price list for the various embroidering. The men's shirt can be purchased with or without a pocket. In addition to the club logo, you can also have your name embroidered on the shirt. If you get a shirt without a pocket, you can specify on which side you'd like the logo placed. Typically, if you get your name embroidered, it would be placed opposite the logo. We also have a club name logo (shown below) that members have typically placed on a hat but could be placed on anything that can be embroidered.

**Mens [K500]/Womens [L500], Shirt, no pocket, ultramire blue)**

- XS-XL: \$13.00/ea plus logos
- 2XL: \$15.00/ea plus logos
- 3XL: \$18.00/ea plus logos
- 4XL: \$20.00/ea plus logos
- 5XL: \$23.00/ea plus logos
- 6XL: \$25.00/ea plus logos



**Men's Shirt (K500P, Pocketed, Ultramarine Blue)**

- XS-XL: \$16.00/ea plus logos
- 2XL: \$18.00/ea plus logos
- 3XL: \$21.00/ea plus logos
- 4XL: \$23.00/ea plus logos
- 5XL: \$26.00/ea plus logos
- 6XL: \$28.00/ea plus logos



**Thunderbird Logo WITH Ohio Outline:**

\$6.00/ea on purchased items through Twin Design

\$8.00/ea on personal items brought in



**Thunderbird Club Name logo:**

\$4.00/ea on purchased items through Twin Design

\$6.00/ea on personal items brought in



Because the stitch count could vary due to name length, no set price has been established for embroidering names. However, it was estimated to be around \$3.00 to \$5.00.

If you are interested in getting a club shirt or other clothing, I will begin taking orders at our August club meeting and then take them to Twin Design. I will be bringing the old catalog I used with Judy to the August meeting if you want to get a general idea of what's available. Twin Sisters mentioned they used a very similar book, so many of the cloth items would be the same, but the prices would be a bit higher since our current book is several years old. You don't need to have the money when you order. I will provide Twin Design specific instructions of who wants what items. They will individually price each member's order. Once I know the cost of your order, I'll let you know. When ready, I'll pick up and pay for all the orders and let you know when I have your items. We can coordinate when and how I'll get your articles to you. Typically, I bring the items to the next scheduled club meeting or event at which time you can reimburse me.

**The Twins**



**Nancy Honshell**

**Dixie Scott**

## *Cruising at the Rip Rap Roadhouse*

On Friday evening, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, eleven members of our club meet at the Rip Rap Roadhouse in Huber Heights to join in on their Friday evening cruise-in and enjoy a nice meal. Members attending included Brett & Peg Andrews, Roger & Lisa Hamm, Dave & Deb Harvey, Scott McGaha, Frank & Sherry Loschi, and Mark & Jackie Allen. Although the evening was quite enjoyable, especially seeing our dear friends Mark & Jackie who we haven't seen for such a long time, the evening didn't go quite as planned. First, we got, what I considered a nice parking spot, along the tree line. However, unfortunately the sun angle rendered the groove of tree valueless when it came to providing shade for sitting. We were able to get the 5 Thunderbirds lined up together, however due to their early arrival, the owners of our club's pseudo t-bird (known as a Miata) were parked elsewhere in the field of classics, muscle cars, motorcycles, and one WWII Army Troop Truck. As members arrived and we began to assemble, a stark realization set in. There was a large turn out to the cruise in and so we anticipated a packed, and maybe difficult to get into, indoor dinner area. Our suspicions were confirmed. We learned that the large indoor back room was shut down (reason unknown but suspected due to lack of help). So, we were relegated to ordering from the outdoor shack. When it took 15+ minutes to just order something to drink, there was some trepidation as to how long it would take to get a meal. However, most members stepped up to the plate (the bar) and placed their orders. We ate sitting at two picnics table we had pulled together in a shady area on the grass. Other than the occasional gear head wanting to show off how loud his muscle car was, the environment was peaceful. We all enjoyed the outdoors, the cars, and most importantly, each other's company until we said our goodbyes around 8:00 pm and went our separate ways. Here are two photos from the event. There are a few more photos on our website. I must apologize to our treasurer, Lisa. When I hurriedly captured the group photo, she was not present. Sorry Lisa.



### CLUB OFFICERS

President: Brett Andrews (937) 237-1131  
Treasurer: Lisa Hamm (937) 835-5992

Vice President: Roger Hamm (937) 835-5992  
Secretary: Dave Harvey (937) 470-2885