



# *Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio*

*Newsletter*

January 2016

([www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com](http://www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com))

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
2016!**



No formal club meeting is held in the month of December. Instead it's our chance to celebrate Christmas and the upcoming new year. Once again this year our gathering was held at MCL. Club members in attendance included Peg and Brett Andrews, Nancy and Julie Blake, Jan and Guy Gifford, Lisa and Roger Hamm, Beverly Knauper and Jim Ross, Scott McGaha, and Wayne and Ruthie Dennis.

As can be seen in the accompanying pictures, the tables were festively decorated. The tables were literally full of goodies prepared by club members and shared with all in the wonderful spirit of Christmas. Wayne and Ruthie made poinsettia lights to adorn the tables with one being given to each family at the end of the evening. Beverly and Jim gave everyone a Thunderbird 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary tile coaster and hat pin as well as delicious Thunderbird blue cupcakes. Brett and Peg provided each member a bar of beautiful all natural soap homemade by their daughter. Brett also provided the Christmas music to set the mood. Nancy again gave each family a homemade Christmas ornament and a box containing baked goodies. Nancy and Julie also brought a beautifully decorated holiday cake for dessert, provided serving pieces, and more decorations. Everyone's generosity and caring efforts greatly contributed to the Christmas spirit.

Once everyone had arrived, we made our way through the buffet line. With the holiday music in the background we had rousing conversations ending with a big slice of the Christmas cake. Before starting the white elephant exchange Beverly welcomed everyone to our Christmas festivities and thanked all those who helped with the decorations. She so rightly pointed out that though our group is small we are a very close and fun loving group who freely give to each other as seen by the outpouring of gifts this evening.

Prior to the beginning of the white elephant exchange and on behalf of the club, Roger presented Beverly with a token of our sincere esteem for all she has done for us as president. The remembrance was a lighted plaque containing a replica of a RetroBird and inscribed "TSWO President 2014-15, Well Done Beverly".

It was now time to get on with the white elephant exchange. Numbers were drawn for the order of present selection. As each person's number was called, they could take a present from the table or claim one from someone who had previously opened theirs. As the game progressed some items were in a little higher demand such as model thunderbirds and a couple of T-bird books. As to be expected, these items changed hands several times.

After the white elephant it was time for the final act of the evening. Being the end of Beverly's tenure as the club president she officially presented the club gavel to Roger Hamm our new incoming president effective January 1, 2016. At that time Beverly will become our immediate past president and will continue to serve the club on the Board of Directors for the next two years. Thank you Beverly for all your hard work, unselfish efforts, and contributions to the club as its president. You'll be a tough act to follow.

We all wished each other a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year until we see each other again next year.

**Next Meeting: January 14th, 7:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering**

# Christmas Party Photos



**Decorations**



**Dinner**



**Dessert**



**Desirables**



**Bev's Memento**



**Club Officers**

**Additional Christmas Party pictures have been placed on our web site**



### January Birthdays

16th: Roger Hamm

### January Anniversaries

24<sup>th</sup>: 51 years  
Ruthie and Wayne

28<sup>th</sup>: 59 years  
Jan and Guy



We'd also like to make a correction to our December list of Birthdays. Julie's birthday was on December 17<sup>th</sup>, not the 19<sup>th</sup>, as shown. So sorry Julie. Hope you had a nice birthday.

**Message from the President:** Happy New Year to all our Thunderbird friends. I am thankful to becoming your next president of Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio. I am looking forward to a good year ahead and hopefully, 2016 will be a drier year than 2015 was, and we can enjoy a good spring, summer & fall with no rain at any car shows we decide on doing this year.

If anyone has any car shows or cruise-ins that they would be interested in doing as a club event, please feel free to email me or any of our officers and we will try to see if we can make that happen. I would like for 2016 to be a year filled with plenty of activities for our club. By taking our Thunderbirds to as many events as possible, that will only give more exposure to our club and also bring some possible new members to the club.

I would also like to thank Beverly for her hard work and dedication to our club as our past president the last two years. She did a fantastic job and it will be a tough job just trying to do half of what she accomplished. I hope I can do a good job as your president the next two years. I would also like to thank our other club officers for their hard work in making 2015 a good year despite all the bad weather we had. Keep your fingers crossed and may 2016 be a very good year for all our members and for Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio.

### **THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2015 Club Activities**

**May....** On May 16<sup>th</sup> seven members of our club met at and toured the Packard Museum in Dayton. Following the tour and prior to going to the restaurant we stopped at a small shop for a cool drink and friendly discussion while waiting for our restaurant to open. We had dinner at Olive, An Urban Dive in Dayton. The food was unique and fantastic with the winner of the evening being the fried leeks. (Sad Note: Olives closed forever in late 2015)

**June....** On Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> Peg and Brett, Roger and Lisa, and Scott spent the evening grilling and dining at the Valley Vineyards Winery in Morrow, OH. We grilled and ate our steak and salmon along with a bountiful buffet of side dishes and desserts from which to choose. Once meals were finished and several glasses of wine had been imbibed, we took a self guided tour of the cellar where we got a first hand look at the winemaking process.

.... On June 25 -27<sup>th</sup> seven of us attended the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Thunderbird in Dearborn, Mi. There were about 200 beautiful Thunderbirds. Activities over the three day period included tours of the Meurer Automobilia Collection, the Piquette Ford plant (the first facility to build Fords), and the Edsel and Eleanor Ford Mansion. There was also a T-bird parade through Hines Park to Nankin Mills Pavillion for a pig roast. The major activity was to be a cruise-in at the Ford World Headquarters building which was unfortunately cancelled due to inclement weather.

**July....** On July 11<sup>th</sup> eight of our members meet at Young's Dairy in Yellow Springs, Ohio for a delicious lunch followed by a rousing 18-hole game of Putt-Putt golf. It was a very hot day made hotter by the high humidity. Undaunted we played on and rewarded ourselves with a cold, homemade ice cream from the dairy.

.... On July 31<sup>st</sup> at the request of the Sonic Drive-in in Franklin Ohio, five club T-birds were placed on display at the restaurant during the evening for patrons to see. It was a nice evening as we sat out front and talked over a free meal and ice cream provided by Sonic.

**August....** On August 1<sup>st</sup> eight members of our club attended the annual Lebanon Ford Pig Roast and Cruise-in. It was a bright sunny day and the food was pretty good. It is estimated that there were approximately 125-150 cars, mostly mustangs, at the show.

.... On Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, six TSWO members participated in a club excursion to Carillon Park in Dayton. Some of the more memorable highlights included the fantastic collection of ornate cash registers on display and old toys, the operating carousel, the Wright Brother 1905 Wright Flyer III, the building dedicated to Dayton flood of 1915, and the transportation facility with its trolleys and ornate train car. After our tour we had lunch together in the brewery.

.... On Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> four TSWO club thunderbirds were displayed at an "invitation only" event sponsored by the Oakwood Historical Society and held on the grounds of the Long-Romspert Homestead House Museum on Far Hills Ave. As well as the display of some 25-30 cars, the historic house was open for tours. What a beautiful day, what beautiful cars, and what a joy to talk cars to so many classic car enthusiasts, both owners and spectators.

**September....** On Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> we once again enjoyed our annual club picnic, this year hosted by Brett and Peg. Although a cold front had moved in and it was overcast; it didn't rain. We filled our plates with wonderful food while we listened to oldies music, participated in spirited discussions while a few members challenged themselves to games of bean bag toss.

**December....** On December 10<sup>th</sup>, as in the previous two years, we celebrated Christmas together at MCL cafeteria with good food, a white elephant gift exchange, and the ceremonial change of club presidents with the gavel hand-off.

**We're always looking for suggestions on club activities. So, please bring your ideas up at the meeting**

**NOTICE: 2016 club dues are due this month**

#### Upcoming Club Events

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. Gilmore Auto Museum	TBD	Kalamazoo, Mi

#### CLUB OFFICERS

President: Roger Hamm (937) 835-5992  
Treasurer: Lisa Hamm (937) 835-5992

Vice President: Scott McGaha (937) 439-1138  
Secretary: Brett Andrews (937) 237-1131

**H A P P Y N E W Y E A R !**