



THUNDERBIRDS of Southwest Ohio

Newsletter

March 2017



MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order: The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. February 9th, 2017 at the MCL Cafeteria, club president, Roger Hamm, presiding.

Attendees: Roger & Lisa Hamm, Scott McGaha, Brett & Peg Andrews, Nancy & Julie Blake, Beverly Knauper & Jim Ross, and Guy & Jan Gifford.

Announcements: Roger welcomed all to our monthly meeting with a hearty Happy Valentines Day. As in the previous month there had been no new members added to our club roster, there were no changes to club member contact information, nor had any member bought a new T-bird or accomplished any significant maintenance or restoration activities to their birds.

However, Jim did enlighten the group on a personal experience that may help others from having the same problem - The Swollen Lug Nut. As Jim tells it, he took his Ford Focus in for routine maintenance and service. The mechanic soon reported that Jim had a swollen lug nut. His first reaction - A WHAT??? This condition can appear on chrome plated lug nuts. It is caused when the chrome develops a crack and allows water to intrude under the chrome thus leading to rust and the swelling of the chrome coating. When the chrome swells it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to get the lug nut wrench over the nut for removal, thus requiring different tools for its removal. Jim had the mechanic replace the lug nut only to find when paying the bill that his new single lug nut cost \$28. Jim's advice - if you have chrome plated lug nuts check them for this problem and replace them before you're caught on the road with a flat and your lug nut wrench won't fit.



REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Lisa gave our financial status as of January 2017.

Event Planning: Scott remarked, as did other members, how pleasantly surprised they were about our visit to the American Sign Museum in Cincinnati. The museum was extremely interesting and informative. Members were also well pleased with the atmosphere and food at the Greyhound Tavern where we had lunch after touring the museum. Scott noted that there is no club event planned for February. He also advised the group that he will not be able to attend the March meeting but suggested we discuss the possibility of a bowling outing on March 18th. He mentioned that May 21st is Thunderbird Appreciation Day and that as a club we should think of a place where we could go as a group with our T-birds on that

day to show them off to the public. One place suggested was the Sonics Restaurant on Brandt Pike in Riverside. He asked members to think of other possible locations and to further discuss the outing at our March meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business to discuss

New Business: Roger informed the group that he had been contacted by Mr. Ron Eifert from the Dayton Convention Center suggestion our club sponsor a Regional Thunderbird Meet at the convention center. After a short discussion with the members present, it was decided that our club had an insufficient number of members to handle the significant workload involved in planning and conducting such an event. Roger was to notify Mr. Eifert of the club's decision.

Open Floor: Brett announced that he had updated the "Recent Events" section on our website to include a description and photos from our 2016 Christmas Party and our January 2017 trip to the American Sign Museum. He indicated he also included information in the "Upcoming Events" section about our tentative trip to the Gilmore Auto Museum in Michigan sometime later this year.

Roger showed the group a wood carving of a Thunderbird and T-bird key chain that he obtained on eBay.

Adjourn: With all discussion complete, Roger petitioned for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Jan and seconded by Jim. The meeting adjourned at 7:48.

Roger Hamm
President

Next Meeting: March 9th, 7:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering

Message from the President

March is the time of year when most classic car owners in the cold weather climates start thinking about getting their cars ready for cruise season. The month of February was a very unusual one, where we saw temperatures as high as 76 degrees, then the next day it would be down to 35 degrees for a high temperature. Let's hope that March is not like that and we start seeing the transition to more moderate temperatures.

I would also like to thank Scott for our trip to the sign museum in Cincinnati and the wonderful time we had having lunch at the Greyhound Tavern in northern Kentucky. I am sure all our members who had the chance to come had a really great time together. I believe Scott has a bowling outing planned for this month. We will discuss this at our next meeting.

I also contacted Ron Eifert from the Dayton Convention Center about his inquiry about our club hosting a regional car show. I informed him that, unfortunately, we are just not able to do that due to the small size of our membership and how much manpower is required to get one set up. He thanked me for responding and stated that he understood that it would be a lot of work. He also wanted to note that for the future, they do have Dayton Ambassadors (volunteers) that could help in some of these positions—

just a small number of the total people needed to fill all the slots. I am not sure if maybe we might consider just a cruise-in of some sort that would not require as much work and maybe would be something our club could do.

Our next club meeting is Thursday, March 9th at 7:00 P.M. See you all there.



March Birthdays

1st: Nancy Blake
2nd: Scott McGaha

March Anniversaries

none



---REMINDERS---



**Daylight Savings Time begins 2:00 am on Sunday, March 12th.
Set your clocks ahead 1 hour.**



Spring is here on March 21st

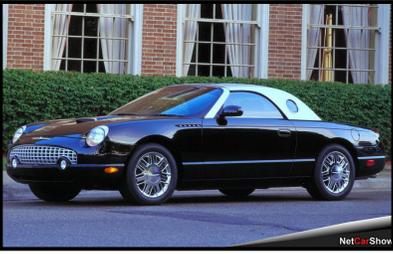
Upcoming Club Events

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

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Roger Hamm (937) 835-5992	Vice President: Scott McGaha (937) 439-1138
Treasurer: Lisa Hamm (937) 835-5992	Secretary: Brett Andrews (937) 237-1131

Special Retrobirds



2002 Thunderbird "Neiman-Marcus" Special Edition: The 2002 Ford Thunderbird was offered as a Neiman-Marcus Christmas Book fantasy gift in 2000. Two hundred models were sold for \$41,995 each. All 200 sold out in two hours and 15 minutes. The Neiman-Marcus Edition Thunderbird stands out with a number of one-of-a-kind design elements setting it apart from other 2002 Thunderbirds. The car features a black body finish with a removable silver top. The removable top is highlighted with the Thunderbird 'Wings' emblem etched into the porthole glass. Special 21-spoke, 17-inch chrome-plated wheels match the A-pillar chrome trim. The hood scoop is adorned with trim accents and a chrome bezel. The black and silver theme is carried through to the interior. The steering wheel and shift knob are painted silver to match the exterior roof and accent colors. The lower door panel is silver to match the aluminum molding and inserts on the padded instrument panel. The seats contain a perforated, silver leather insert surrounded by black leather. Understated Neiman-Marcus badges are featured on the instrument panel and floor mats. The Thunderbird logo is embossed on the seat backs. Because the content for the special Thunderbird is packaged together, the portion of the vehicle identification number that identifies the series is unique for the Neiman-Marcus Edition Thunderbird.



2003 Thunderbird "James Bond 007" Limited Edition: A 2002 Thunderbird was driven in the Bond film "Die Another Day" by Bond girl Halle Berry (Jinx). In the spring of 2003, Ford sold 700 limited edition 007 Ford Thunderbirds to commemorate the first appearance of a Thunderbird in the 40-year history of the James Bond film franchise, although a Thunderbird was also seen in "Goldfinger". The Coral paint, similar to the Sunset Coral hue offered on the 1956 Thunderbird, matches the bikini Berry wears in

her role as Jinx. The car in the movie had a coral hard-top instead of the white top offered with the special edition and was a 2002 model, not the 2003 that was used in the 007 edition. The Limited Edition 007 Thunderbird features unique coral paint, 21-spoke chrome wheels, performance white seats and interior accents, with an understated "007" badge placed on the instrument panel. Each vehicle also has a numbered, commemorative plaque mounted on the inside of the glove box. Approximately 694 were sold and 6 only were used for show. Price in 2003: \$43,995



2004 Thunderbird "Pacific Coast Roadster": In 2004 Ford introduced the limited edition Thunderbird "Pacific Coast Roadster" with a production run of 1,000 vehicles. The roadster featured 'Monterey Mist Green' exterior paint, a contrasting 'Ash Metallic' hardtop, and a Light Ash convertible soft top. The interior was a combination of 'Light Ash' and 'Dark Ash' seats, with seating surfaces in a unique cloth material called 'Preferred Suede.' This was the first and only time a cloth type material was used in seats for the 2002-2005 Thunderbird. Contrary to its official name, the seats were not suede, but a specially-designed cloth. The dash and door panel trim was a unique 'dot' pattern, exclusive to the Pacific Coast Roadster. The roadster included 16-spoke micro-machined alloy wheels, color coordinated accents on the shifter knob and steering wheel insert, and a commemorative numbered plaque inside the glove box.



2005 Thunderbird "50th Anniversary" Limited Edition: This Special Edition 2005 Ford Thunderbird debuted at the Miami Auto Show on November 5, 2004. The first one was scheduled for build on Jan 3, 2005 with 1500 expected for total production. This commemorative 50th Anniversary Thunderbird features a cashmere tri-coat metallic paint with matching removable top and medium light stone cloth convertible top and soft boot. The wheels are 16-spoke, 17-inch wheels with cashmere accented hub ring that match the cashmere paint. The gold interior packages include full leather cashmere seats, and cashmere trimmed lower instrument panel, floor console and door armrests. The 50th

Anniversary insignias are embossed on the seatbacks. No badging was put on the exterior, but "50th Anniversary" was printed below the Thunderbird script. The scuff plates are tinted soft gold and each vehicle has a numbered commemorative plaque mounted inside the glove box. The steering wheel and shift knob are trimmed with high gloss cashmere accents. Stone colored carpets with matching floor mats complete the interior. The hardtop is lined with beige fabric as is the hardtop shelf. The only left over color (black ink) from other T-birds are on the knobs, buttons and ashtray cup. The floor mats are beige, matching the carpeting. The cost: \$44,140.