



## *Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio*

### *Newsletter*

(www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com)

May 2012



**Memorial Day**

#### MEETING MINUTES

**Attendees:** Brett & Peg Andrews, Nancy & Julie Blake, Ed & Leona Brown, Carl Geiger, Roger & Lisa Hamm, Gary & Sue Hufford, Doug James & Hala Saltsman, Beverly Knauper & Jim Ross, Scott McGaha, Bob Mlinar, Jack Schooley & Barb Dyleski, and Ken & Penny Shanley.

**Call To Order:** The meeting convened at 7:00 PM at MCL Cafeteria on April 12<sup>th</sup> with Brett Andrews presiding. Before starting the official meeting, Jack & Barb were welcomed back after a long absence.

#### DISCUSSION:

**Treasurer's Report:** Lisa presented the Treasurer's Report.

#### Old Business:

**a. TSWO Dues:** Members were reminded that today was the last day to pay TSWO club dues. Final notices were sent in the April newsletter. Members who have not paid by this meeting date will be dropped from the club. An updated membership roster will be distributed with the June newsletter.

**b. VTCI Dues:** As a result of our attention and follow up with VTCI on the payment of VTCI dues, we have identified accounting errors on VTCI's part and are working with VTCI to get their records corrected. An updated VTCI 2012 membership roster was requested, but VTCI advised that they will not be issuing an update to the February 2012 version.

**c. Status of Club Events:** Based on our decisions made at the March meeting, the following actions were taken regarding each of the events discussed:

(1) **The "Warbirds Cruise-in" in Peru Indiana, August 4<sup>th</sup>:** Brett sent an e-mail to Roger Knoll of the Hoosier Thunderbird Club advising him that we would have 5 or 6 cars attending the Warbirds Cruise-in. Brett has registrations forms for the event if you need one.

(2) **Joint Event with the Maumee Valley CTCI T-bird club:** Brett e-mailed Mr Jack Orcutt of the Maumee T-bird club and told him that we were interested in getting together with them at the Neil Armstrong Museum in Wapakoneta and that we'd likely have 6 or 7 T-birds participating. Mr Orcutt responded that his club liked the idea of meeting at the museum and proposed a date of June 9<sup>th</sup>. They expect 6 to 8 of their T-Birds to attend. Brett proposed to the Maumee T-bird club that we meet at the museum of 10:00 am. We'd spend a few hours touring the museum followed by an optional joint lunch in the Wapakoneta area (There is a Bob Evans beside the museum). There is a museum fee is \$8.00 for adults, with a discount for seniors, though the amount of the discount was not given on the museum web page. For those who would like to caravan to Wapakoneta, we'll meet on the morning of June 9<sup>th</sup> in the Living Word Church parking lot at the corner of East National Rd and Brown School Rd in Vandalia. **SEE THE "IMPORTANT UPDATE" ON PAGE 3 CONCERNING THIS EVENT.**

**(3) Springfield Swap Meet and Car Show:** Brett had not as yet received a response to a series of questions sent them. Once contact is established, they will be advised that we have elected not to participate.

**(4) Guest host a cruise-in at a Waynesville Street-Fair:** Brett sent an e-mail to the event coordinator in Waynesville expressing our thanks for the invitation but advising them that we did not wish to participate.

**(5) Lafinos Cruise-In:** We will meet as a club on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Lafinos Cruise-in in Beavercreek. Plan to arrive between 5:00 and 5:30, if possible. Ken reported that the construction going on at that location would not hinder the cruise-in. Starting in May and continuing monthly we will meet as a club at this cruise-in on the Friday immediately following our Thursday club meeting.

**d. Regional VTCI Event:** Brett reported that he has been contact with Mr Ron Eifert of the Dayton Convention Center. They discussed our potential plans for a VTCI regional event in 2013 and the generalities of how the event would run, what activities needed to be performed, what resources we would need (i.e., block of hotel rooms, meeting rooms, hospitality rooms, etc), what service would be provided to the attendees, expected number of participants, etc. Mr. Eifert put together, at no cost to us, a preliminary package identifying hotels, local attractions, and services they would provide free. Mr Eifert also mentioned that the International Thunderbird Club (ITC) is planning their annual convention in Dayton in July 2013 to coincide with the Dayton Air Show. Because of the vagueness of the VTCI bylaws, Brett mentioned that he sent an e-mail to Leo Gravelle, our Regional Director, asking him what financial support could we expect from VTCI, what would VTCI want from us, and what are the VTCI guidelines for conducting a regional meet? Mr. Gravelle has not yet responded. Brett also sent an e-mail to the president of the Columbus VTCI chapter, Mr. Joe Fleck, asking if they would like to co-sponsor a regional meet with us in 2013. Mr Fleck responded that his club would be unable to co-sponsor with us. Once we have received a response from Mr Gravelle, we'll evaluate all the information and make a decision on hosting a regional VTCI meet in 2013.

#### **New Business:**

**a.** We need more "Our T-bird Story" write-ups for the newsletter. We've run the few we have. You write it up and we'll edit and print it in a future newsletter.

**b.** Beverly mentioned that the Hemming's Great Race will stop in Findley, Oh, on June 30<sup>th</sup> and suggested some of us may want to go there to see the old cars. For more information go to [www.greatrace.com](http://www.greatrace.com)

**c.** Copies of the 2012 Stubbs Park Concert Series schedule were distributed. It was again suggested we select one as a club picnic gathering before going to the concert. See Brett for a copy of the schedule.

**d.** Brett had been asked about the possibility of our Bellbrook show being sanctioned by VTCI. Brett contacted the VTCI President and was told "no". VTCI only sanctions all T-bird shows.

**OPEN FLOOR:** Brett opened the floor for questions and comments.

**a.** Scott MaGaha mentioned a 2003 white Retrobird was for sale at Lexus on Lyons Rd in Dayton, \$19,000

**b.** Gary Hufford announced that the parts inventory of the late Bob Dunn was being liquidated. Contact Gary for more information.

**c.** Ken stated that he has ordered the dash plaques and trophies for our Bellbrook Car Show in August.

**ADJOURN:** At the conclusion of all discussion, Brett called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Jim Ross and seconded by Ed Brown. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Brett Andrews  
President**

**IMPORTANT UPDATE:** Because the Maumee T-bird chapter must drive nearly twice as far as we do to the Neil Armstrong Museum, they have asked if we could meet at the museum at 11:30 a.m. on June 9<sup>th</sup> rather than 10:00 a.m. Therefore, to those TSWO members who will be caravanning to the museum, we will now meet at the Living Word Church at the corner of East National Rd and Brown School Rd in Vandalia around 10:15 a.m. and depart for Wapakoneta at approximately 10:30 a.m.

It is really important we have a good club showing at this event now that the Maumee T-birds have committed to driving all that way to meet us. If you plan to attend but can't be at our May club meeting, please call or e-mail Brett let him know you'll be going, so he can call you on the morning of June 9<sup>th</sup> if there is a change in plans due to weather or other situation.

**Next Meeting: May 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering, Oh**

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

**Belated April birthday**

**May**

Jan Miller

None



If you haven't been asked for the date of your special day, please provide the day and month to our club secretary, Peg Andrews, at 237-1131 or e-mail her at [pegasus@woh.rr.com](mailto:pegasus@woh.rr.com)

*To all the wonderful mothers in our club*



**Upcoming Club Events**

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. Club Gathering Lafinos Cruise-in	Fridays after Club Meeting	Beavercreek Lafinos
2. Neil Armstrong Museum Tour	June 9 <sup>th</sup>	Wapakoneta, Oh
3. Great Race Gathering	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Finley, Ohio
3. Warbirds Cruise-in	August 4 <sup>th</sup>	Peru, Indiana
4. Bellbrook Car Show	August 18 <sup>th</sup>	Bellbrook, Ohio
5. VTCI International Convention	September 27-30 <sup>th</sup>	Charleston, South Carolina

**CLUB OFFICERS**

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

Vice President: Beverly Knauper (513) 752-8821  
 Secretary: Peg Andrews (937) 237-1131

**The following are reprints of two articles that appeared in the February and March 2012 Mid Kansas VTCI chapter Newsletter. These tips can help you identify the year of a RetroBird. Only minor cosmetic changes were made to these articles to aid in reading.**



### February 2012 Article

#### **Retro Spotter: How Can You Tell the Year of a RetroBird at a Glance??**

**2002 Thunderbird:** There will be no V8 sign on front fenders. 17" 21 spoke aluminum painted wheels, or 7 spoke chrome steel wheels with Thunderbird logo stamped in the center hub. The Instrument cluster has a black background.

**2003 Thunderbird:** V8 sign on front fenders, 17" 7 spoke chrome steel wheels with Thunderbird logo in center hub. Sneak a peek inside and you will see a new instrument pack with argent silver background. Special editions were available, such as the James Bond 007 limited edition.

**2004 Thunderbird:** V8 sign on front fenders, 17" 7 spoke polished wheels but with a recessed groove divider in each spoke and the center hub cap has FORD printed in a ring around the edge with the Thunderbird logo in the center. Special wheels available & special editions available.

**2005 Thunderbird:** Has a commemorative fender badge reading "50th Anniversary" where the vent is normally, and no V8 sign on front fenders. Special editions were available and three different wheel styles were available. Rely on the "50th Anniversary" vent badge for a positive ID.

If you are still in doubt, and if you are close enough check the serial number in the windshield, and if the alarms have not yet gone off or the owner has not caught you and pounded you senseless, then **the 10th character will tell the year.**

Example: a 2003 serial number will read, "1FAHP60A2**3**Y112555"

## March 2012 Article

### **Retro Spotter: RetroBird at a Glance” Tips**

The (February) Newsletter received some received some positive comments from the readers after last month’s feature telling how to spot the year of a 2002-2005 Retro ‘Bird at a glance. At least one other VTCI chapter around the country picked it up and ran it in their chapter Newsletter. Well, after being puffed up by that information the Editor wishes to offer some more details about spotting those cute little Thunderbirds, this time by color. Three basic colors; Red, Black, and white were offered on all four years, but several colors were offered for one year only. There are not that many colors to memorize. If you see a Retro speeding by and cannot spot the identifying markings consider the color. We all know that all cars can be repainted, but at this time most of the Retros still bear their original paint. That makes it not positive, but helpful about 99% of the time in identifying the year on some Retros simply by their color. For example if it is yellow, it must be a 2002. If it is Cashmere Metallic, it is a 2005.

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Torch Red	X	X	X	X
Evening Black	X	X	X	X
Whisper White	X	X	X	X
Inspiration Yellow	X			
Thunderbird Blue	X			
Mountain Shadow Gray		X		
Desert Sky Blue		X		
Coral		X		
Light Ice Blue Metallic			X	
Vintage Mint Green			X	
Monterey Mist Green			X	
Merlot			X	
Platinum Silver			X	X
Bronze				X
Medium Steel Blue				X
Inca Gold				X
Cashmere				X

That said, consider the plight of any Retro Spotter at the SC Regional in Fredricksburg, TX last spring when a 2002 retro showed up with a special 1957 Dusk Rose paint job applied by the Ford dealer for his showroom! Not a correct color for the year, but it sure was beautiful and looked like it belonged there! Then, consider SE Regional Director James Cassidy’s 2002 which he changed from black to 2005’s Cashmere! Looks great, and would fool almost anybody. Remember, we said 99%, certain.

