



Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio Newsletter



May 2023

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order: Promptly at 7:00 PM EDT on Thursday, April 13, 2023, President Roger Hamm gaveled our meeting to order in our customary meeting room at MCL Cafeteria. Following his Call to Order, he extended a warm welcome to the 16 people present in the room (15 members and 1 guest/prospective member).

Attendees: Present were members Roger & Lisa Hamm, Dave Harvey, Brett & Peg Andrews, Mark & Jackie Allen, Nancy & Julie Blake, Larry & Jo Doelker, Paul & Sherry Loschi, Dave & Susan Menke, and guest/prospective member Michael Hall (who owns a white '60 T-bird).

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the March meeting having been published in the April newsletter (sent out the Friday before this meeting), President Roger asked for a motion to approve those minutes. Brett Andrews was recognized first by President Roger as having made the motion for approval, and that motion was seconded by Larry Doelker. There being no questions or concerns about the minutes as published in the newsletter, the minutes were deemed approved.

Membership Update/Discussion: President Roger mentioned that our guest this evening, Michael Hall, is a potential new member for the club. After some light-hearted discussion, it was 'decided' that, pending completion of a membership application and payment of the \$10 dues, we would be glad to welcome Mike into our club as a member this evening.

President Roger then asked if anyone had any changes to report in contact information or roster updates. There were none to report.

As to T-bird status updates, Larry Doelker reported that he'll be acquiring new brakes for his Retro 'Bird.

Sunshine Committee Report: President Roger reported that there are no anniversaries in April. He reported the following April birthdays: Jay Walsh (on the 4th) and Ruby York (on the 6th).

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Lisa Hamm reported that, since March 1st, there has been no activity in our account. Jo Doelker raised a question as to how we use our club funds, since we weren't allowed to use them to pay for the meal at last month's club outing. President Roger replied that we use the money mostly for club expenses (such as web site/domain name registration fees), and Treasurer Lisa Hamm reported that we had in the past made charitable donations. Past President Brett Andrews also commented that we use some of our funds for bereavement flowers when there is a death of a member or spouse. Someone also mentioned the expenses of decals, business cards and application printing. Lisa mentioned that perhaps it's time for us to consider charitable giving again.

Club Activities/Events: President Roger reminded everyone that Thunderbird Appreciation Day would be on May 20th, to be celebrated by a trip to the Richardson car collection in Washington Court House, OH. Past President Brett mentioned that we will meet there at 10:30 AM, where we will hear a brief introduction to the facility, followed by at-will viewing of all the many vehicles (cars, trucks, campers, barn finds, etc.) on display there. If you have indicated an interest in this event (or will shortly be doing so), Brett will be sending out copies of a map to the site. This tour will be followed by lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Dave Menke mentioned that the Troy Strawberry Festival will be on the first weekend in June, with a cruise-in to be held on Sunday (from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM, according to the festival web site).

Piatt Castle Mac-A-Cheek tour - Saturday, April 22nd, 11:00 AM

Our next club meeting will be on May 11th at our usual location, MCL Cafeteria (dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting promptly at 7:00).

Kettering Cruise-Ins start next weekend

"MiamiValleyCruiser" is a Facebook group that maintains up-to-date listings of all types of cruise-ins, cars shows, and other car-related information

Another source of car shows, cruise-ins, etc. is "miamivalleynovas.com/carshows.html"

Old Business: President Roger reminded everyone that club elections will be held in October. He made a plea for some 'new faces' to step up and volunteer, as we have been rotating through the same group of officers for a while now. Since the Vice President (Scott McGaha) automatically accedes to the Presidency (per our Bylaws), any election races would be for the positions of Vice President (with automatic accession to the President's position in two years), Secretary, and Treasurer. Please consider 'throwing your hat into the ring' for one of these positions. Nomination petitions will be due in by our September meeting.

New Business: Larry Doelker asked if our club would be interested in purchasing an ad in the brochure for the Antioch Shrine car show, to be held on either August 20th or 27th. There was some discussion around this topic, but no decision was made at this time.

President Roger relayed quite a bit of information that had been provided by Past President Brett Andrews concerning the Piatt Castles (Mac-A-Chee and Mac-A-Cheek) which were built by the Piatt Brothers in the 1860s and 1870s. Although Mac-A-Chee was sold in 2019, Mac-A-Cheek remains open for tours. Brett had thought that perhaps the club might be interested in an outing for a group tour of Mac-A-Cheek Castle. After some discussion, it was decided that we would do this tour as a group event on Saturday, April 22nd, meeting there at 11:00 AM. An email will be sent out later this week so that all members, including those not in attendance tonight, will have all the details about the outing and will have an opportunity to participate.

Open Floor: Dave Menke mentioned a TV series on muscle cars that is available through the FreeVee app. He said that each episode is dedicated to a specific car company, and he recommends it as an interesting car-related show to watch.

Past President Brett Andrews mentioned that he will be making a trip to Twin Design (our official club apparel supplier) next week, so if anyone is in need of any club apparel, please let him know.

Adjournment: There being no other business to be addressed, President Roger called for a motion for adjournment. The motion was offered by Dave Menke and seconded by Mark Allen. The meeting was then gaveled to a close at 7:33 PM.

Roger Hamm
President



Birthdays & Anniversaries in May: We're celebrating with two birthdays and one anniversary this month. Happy Birthday wishes to our celebrants on this your special day.



May Birthdays

James Russell (2nd)
Sherry Loschi (10th)

May Anniversaries

Dave & Deb Harvey (30th)
(36 yrs)





Hello, fellow Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio members! We have finally (I hope) got past the cold months of winter and are now almost into summer. Old man winter did his best to push spring away and stay until summer, but spring managed to kick winter to the side of the road and take over the weather. It is now May and that means that this month brings to us the celebrations of Cinco de Mayo and the Kentucky Derby; it also ushers in the holiday where we celebrate all mothers on the second

Sunday of May. But, does anyone know how it came to be and when?

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis came up with Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That day saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis, who remained unmarried and childless her entire life, resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.

By 1912 many states, towns and churches adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

So, be sure to spend the day with your mother (if you can) and if she is still alive or at least give her a call. Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers in our club and to all our mothers.

Car show and cruise-in season is also now going strong, and remember Thunderbird Appreciation Day is Sunday, the 21st so be sure to get your Thunderbird out to show it off and let people know that these are great cars and maybe we can get more people to appreciate how these cars are unique in all the world.....

Roger



Club Tour of the Piatt Castle (Mac-A-Cheek)

(by: Roger Hamm)



On Saturday, April 22, ten members of Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio took a nice drive from the Dayton area to West Liberty, Ohio to tour the Piatt Castle (Mac-A-Cheek). Members Brett Andrews, Dave Harvey, Roger & Lisa Hamm, Larry & Jo Doelker, Mark & Jackie Allen and our newest members Michael & Jeanne Hall all enjoyed looking over all the nice history in the castle and reading about the Piatt family. We

originally planned on being able to drive our T-birds to the castle, but the weather forecast was for rain all day. However, by morning, the weather turned out to be nice and sunny, so two of our T-birds decided to venture out. Mike and Jeanne Hall brought their nice 1960 white Square Bird and Roger and Lisa Hamm brought their 2002 black Retro T-bird.

After finishing our tours, we all got into our cars and headed back into West Liberty and stopped at the Liberty Gathering Place Restaurant for some really nice food. Some of the food that was enjoyed was pork tenderloin, Italian submarine sandwich, hamburgers, fish sandwich, and some of us really enjoyed fried green tomatoes. Brett took some fried green dill pickles home to Peg, as she was not able to attend due to issues with her knees. Some members decided to indulge in the restaurant's raspberry pie, which was delicious.

After lots of talking and filling our bellies with good food, it was time for all of us to depart and make our way home.

Next month, we are planning on driving to Washington Courthouse to tour the museum at the Sugarcreek Packing Company. It will also be our club's celebration of National Thunderbird Appreciation Day. Let's hope the weather will not keep us from getting our cars out so people can see them driving around.

Editor's Note: Below is just a sampling of the numerous photos taken of the castle. All can be viewed on our club website under the "Recent Club Events" tab. Included in those photos are a few taken by Dave at a nearby cemetery which is the final resting place of many of the Piatt family.



"A Bird in the Hand is Worth Two in the Paternoster". What???

By: Brett Andrews



Once again while browsing through the internet, I came across a picture, with a brief description of how a car had fallen sideways partially off a vertical parking tower, known then as a paternoster, in Denver Colorado in 1970. I found it interesting because I didn't realize such parking structures existed then, and I never heard the term paternoster.

As I closely scanned the cars to discern what each car may be, one immediately caught my eye. On the right side of the tower, just below the empty spot, sits a Glamour Bird. With what appears to be the Thunderbird emblem in the center of the grill, I make it out to be a 1967. With only eight cars on the rig and having one be a T-bird was impressive, but likely just a chance happening.



Then, to my surprise, as I looked two spaces below the '67 T-bird, I spotted a 1966 Flair Bird. There's no mistaking that logo in the center of the grill and the "V" shaped simulated hood scoop of the '66. Now having two of eight cars on this tower being Thunderbirds, that's an impressive representation of T-bird popularity during that time period.



Memorial Day, also known as Decoration Day, is celebrated on the last Monday in May. It was officially made a holiday by Congress in 1971. Though it is always proper to celebrate and appreciate all those who have served in our military, Memorial Day is specifically dedicated to commemorates those who lost their lives while in service to the United States in the Armed Forces. Veteran's Day celebrates all who have or are currently serving. In 2000, Congress passed the National Moment of Remembrance Act. That act encourages all Americans on Memorial Day to stop what they are doing at 3:00 p.m. local time for a minute of silence to honor and remember those who have died in service to our nation. The proper flag protocol on Memorial Day is to raise the flag briskly to the top of the staff and then solemnly lowered to the half-staff position, where it remains until noon. It is then raised to full staff for the remainder of the day.



Being a mother means that your heart

*Is no longer yours; it wanders
Wherever your children do.*

- George Bernard Shaw -

**To all the TSWO mothers,
This is your special day, enjoy it**

CLUB OFFICERS

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

Vice President: Scott McGaha (937) 271-7414
Secretary: Dave Harvey (937) 470-2885