



# *Thunderbirds*

## of Southwest Ohio



*Newsletter*  
**September 2019**

*Fall Begins Sept 23rd*

### MEETING MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by the club president, Scott McGaha, at the MCL Cafeteria at 7:01 p.m. on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**ATTENDEES:** Scott McGaha, Brett & Peg Andrews, Roger & Lisa Hamm, Guy & Jan Gifford, Nancy & Julie Blake, Jim Hayden & Beverly Lake, and Tom Tirey & Gina Hctor.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** After welcoming members to the meeting, Scott asked for a motion to approve the July 2019 club meeting minutes as published in the August 2019 newsletter. The motion was made by Jan and seconded by Jim Hayden. The floor was opened for comments. No concerns, issues or corrections were raised, so the president called for a vote to approve the July meeting minutes. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved as published.

On the question of possible new club members, there has been no further word concerning the Hatfields, who were previously mentioned as being interested in joining. When queried, members had no changes to their member contact information. A few issues were raised when discussing member Thunderbird issues. Roger was still experiencing intermittent overheating on his white retrobird; Tom had what appeared to a transmission leak on his bulletbird; and Brett announced he just had his rear stabilizer bar links replaced because of a bad rattle.

Scott extended Happy Birthday wishes to Beverly Lake and Bea Walsh who were celebrating birthdays in August. He also congratulated Roger and Lisa who were celebrating their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### REPORTS:

**Treasurer's Report:** Lisa, the club treasurer, presented the club's monthly financial report in which she stated there were no withdrawals or deposits since last months report, hence there was no change in our account status.

**Event Planning:** Scott began by briefly mentioning our club outing to Metamora. The drive through the countryside winding roads and hills was an enjoyable change from interstate highways. Stating that he thoroughly enjoyed the sites and meal at Brookville Lake, Scott suggested we consider, as a future event, a visit to the town of Brookville and to enjoy a meal at one of their quaint local restaurants or return to Ainsley's Café at the Brookville Lake Marina.

Our attention moved on to our August event -- a local area Thunderbird Cruise -- stopping at a few locations to show off our Thunderbirds. During the cruise we'd select a nice location for lunch and plan to end our excursion with a stop for ice cream. Since there was no agreement as to the locations to visit, it was decided we'd meet at My Favorite Muffin at the Cross Pointe Shopping Center in Centerville between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> (rain date: August 25<sup>th</sup>). Once gathered we'd then discuss where to go. Scott said he would send out an e-mail on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> announcing a go/no go decision based on anticipated Sunday weather conditions and asking for a head count of participants.

Next we addressed our upcoming club picnic. The picnic will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30 p.m. at the clubhouse at The Estates at Willow Creek community where both Scott McGaha and Nancy and Julie Blake live. Scott again mentioned that it will cost \$75 to rent the clubhouse and also requires a \$100 deposit that would be returned to the club if the facility was cleaned to the standards identified by the clubhouse operators. Each participating family unit is to bring a covered dish/desert to contribute to the meal. Brett and Peg said they would bring a main dish of pulled pork and buns. They will also provide various condiments/sauces, plastic plates/cups, and plastic eating utensils. Scott indicated he'd bring some fried chicken. Scott will send out an e-mail confirming the event, asking for a head count, and a reminder to bring a dish to share. To ensure we don't have an overabundance of one food item, his e-mail will ask attendees to respond using the e-mail feature "Reply To All" so participants can see what dishes others are planning to bring.

The subject then shifted to our October gathering for dinner and a show at La Comedia. The show selected is entitled "Disaster". Although the show is performed during the last few days of September through the first few days of November, it was decided we'd select a date in October. Brett agreed to put together and distribute to the membership a process to identify show performance dates and to capture their available dates to attend. Once availability dates are known, a final date will be selected. Members will be notified of that date and asked to confirm their attendance. Once confirmations are received, Scott will make the reservations and members will be responsible to reimburse Scott.

Remaining club events for 2019 include a tentatively planned return trip to Valley Vineyards in November and our annual Christmas Party in December.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Members were reminded of Club Officer Elections at the October club meeting and advised that persons wanting to run for an office (vice president, secretary, or treasurer) must have their candidacy letters to Brett by September 1<sup>st</sup> (correction September 15<sup>th</sup>)

**NEW BUSINESS:** There was no New Business to discuss

**CALENDAR EVENTS:** Scott briefly mentioned the following events:

- a. Friday Night Cruise-In, Rip Rap Roadhouse, 4 p.m. to dusk, now through Sept. 27th
- b. Friday Night Cruise-In at Lofino's, Seajay Drive, 5 p.m. to dark, now through Sept. 27th
- c. Friday Night Kettering Cruise-In, Kettering Towne Center, Dorothy Ln, 5 p.m. till dark, thru Sept 13th
- d. Dayton Cars and Coffee, Austin Landing, every other Saturday until October 14th (June 22, July 6, July 20, etc.)
- e. 2nd Friday Festival in Centerville, Normandy Plaza on Miamisburg-Centerville Road (S.R. 725), 5-10 p.m., August 9

- f. 2019 VTCI NW Regional Family Reunion, Spokane, WA. July 18-20
- g. Boomer Fest Classic Car Cruise-in, St. Leonard, Centerville, OH, August 10th
- h. Bellbrook Lions Club Festival, August 24th
- i. Next Club Meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>, Clubhouse at The Estates at Willow Creek
- j. JDRF Car Show, Sharonville, OH, September 28th
- k. 2019 Land of Lincoln Rendezvous, October 4-6
- l. VTCI South Central Regional, New Orleans, LA, June 2020

**OPEN FLOOR:** Brett announced that he has updated our club website with pictures from our Metamora trip and added a link to Gem City Classic Autos as requested by the president.

**ADJOURN:** Hearing no further comments, Scott requested a motion to adjourn. That motion was made by Jan and seconded by Peg. The meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

*Scott McGaha*  
President

**Next Meeting: September 12th, 5:30 pm, Clubhouse at the Estates at Willow Creek**

### *Presidents Message*

Greetings fellow Thunderbird enthusiasts,

First off, I'd like to point out a timely reminder, that you probably overlooked, that is in the upper right corner of the first page of this very newsletter that you're reading right now. Directly beneath the lovely Autumn graphic of a few pumpkins and some fallen leaves is some text reminding us that *Fall does not begin until September 23rd*. So what that means for right now is: **IT'S STILL SUMMER!!!** and will remain so for most of this month. And if it's still summer, then that means that the 2019 Thunderbird enjoyment season is still underway! Woot! Woot!

So while it's okay to begin *thinking* about putting your 'bird away for the winter season, this is no time to begin *acting* on those thoughts. No, not at all! This is still the time to be filling up the tank and taking your Thunderbird out on the road, and I hope you still have plans to do just that. Do you walk out of a theatre 20-30 minutes before a good movie has ended just because it's going to be over soon anyway? Do you not read the last few chapters of a good book, because the story's coming to an end anyway? No, of course not -- because the ending is often the best part of both of those experiences. And the same goes for the end of car season. From an average seasonal temperature perspective, we've still got some of the best Thunderbird driving days ahead of us. Those days will extend quite a few weeks into autumn as well, and we should not let any of them go to waste. So I hope as a fellow enthusiastic T-bird lover, you're ready to do your part to enjoy your Thunderbird all the way to the end of the season. As a wiser man than me once said, "It ain't over 'til it's over." (Yogi Berra)

And until it's over . . . Drive safely everyone.

Scott McGaha



September Birthdays

25th: Jan Gifford  
25th: Jim Ross

September Anniversaries

9th: Mark & Jackie Allen (30 yrs)



Upcoming Club Events

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. Club Picnic	12 September	Estates at Willow Creek Clubhouse 6980 Wembly Circle, Centerville
2. La Comedia	TBD (October)	Springboro, Ohio
3. Valley Vineyards (Tentative)	TBD (November)	Morrow, Ohio
4. Christmas Dinner	December 12 <sup>th</sup>	MCL Cafeteria

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Scott McGaha (937) 271-7414  
Treasurer: Lisa Hamm (937) 835-5992

Vice President: Brett Andrews (937) 237-1131  
Secretary: Brett Andrews (937) 237-1131

**Notices of Club Officer Elections**

Per club bylaws, on October 10, 2019 at our scheduled monthly club meeting we are to conduct our biennial club officer elections. The bylaws stipulate that members interested in one of the elected positions must submit a Candidacy Letter to the Vice President by September 15 of the election year. This September 15 date allows time for the names of the candidates to be identified in the October Club Newsletter prior to the election. The positions up for election during this cycle are vice president, secretary, and treasurer. The new officers will assume their positions and duties on January 1, 2020.

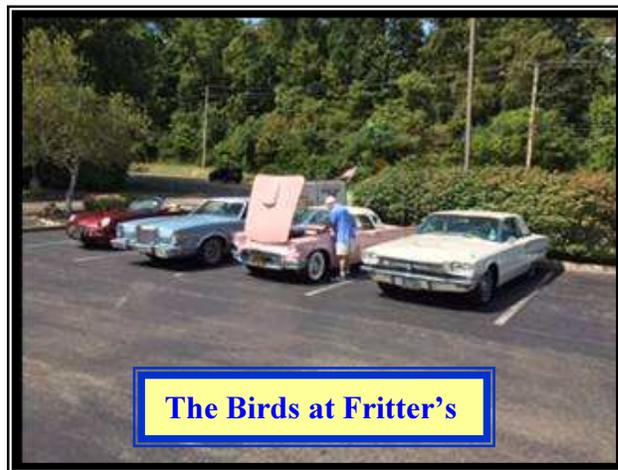


## Cruisin' the Back Roads

Sunday August 25<sup>th</sup> was a gorgeous day. Eight TSWO club members met at My Favorite Muffin in Centerville for what began as a day of cruising and eating. Joining in the fun was Scott, Brett & Peg, Roger, Nancy & Julie, and Dave & Deb. We had four Thunderbirds in our convoy which included Scott's '66 Flairbird, Brett & Peg's '04 Retrobird, Roger with his '78 Diamond Jubilee, and Dave & Deb's '57 Babybird. We began the day with members enjoying a fresh muffin, bagel or donut before we headed out on our cruise. Around 11:00 a.m. we all piled into our cars and proceeded on our trek on country roads through Bellbrook and Spring Valley, up to Xenia and on to Clifton where we stopped for lunch at the old Clifton Mill. Though the restaurant was a little crowded, we only had to endure a short wait before we were seated. Our lunch time together was spent talking a variety of topics one of which was certainly Thunderbirds. After the meal, we spent a short time meandering around the grounds and talking about what the Mill looks like during the Christmas season with its millions of lights. Before long we were back in our cars and off again. Upon leaving Clifton we headed to Yellow Springs and drove through the heart of town. The city center was bustling with people attending a festival which permitted our group the opportunity to have a rolling display of our classic Thunderbirds. Leaving Yellow Springs we were soon again on country roads headed to Fritter's Frozen Yogurt in Beavercreek for our after dinner dessert. Upon finishing our tasty treats and winding up our stories, we said our good-byes until we meet again at our combined club picnic and monthly meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Below are a few pictures from the cruise with more to soon be posted on our website.



**My Favorite Muffin**



**The Birds at Fritter's**



**Eyeing the Menu at Clifton Mill**



## I Stare in Total Disbelief

I stare in total disbelief,  
heart torn with instant grief.  
Plumes of black smoke fill the air,  
marking a building no longer there.  
I close my eyes, I want to pray,  
but my mind doesn't know what to say.  
Much like Pearl harbor, so many years ago,  
so many gone with one fatal blow.  
There are no words to explain,  
there are no words to ease the pain.  
To those who gave their lives,  
Mothers, Fathers, Husbands and Wives,  
to all whose lives today did cease,  
may your soul find instant peace.  
We will honor you and the life you gave,  
as a Patriot of "The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave."

by Vito Fossella