



# Thunderbirds

of Southwest Ohio

NEWSLETTER

September 2023



## MEETING MINUTES

**Call to Order:** Promptly at 7:00 PM EDT on Thursday, August 13, 2023, President Roger Hamm attempted to call our meeting to order with a single swat of the President's gavel, but surprisingly, the "unruly crowd" had to be quieted in order for him to proceed (apparently the after-dinner, pre-meeting social time was being enjoyed by all). After a couple attempts, President Roger managed to gain control of the meeting (which, of course, was being held in our customary meeting room at MCL Cafeteria). Following his Call to Order "struggle," he extended a warm welcome to the 18 members and 3 guests in attendance.

**Attendees:** Those 18 members attending were Roger & Lisa Hamm, Scott McGaha, Dave Harvey, Brett & Peg Andrews, Mark & Jackie Allen, Nancy & Julie Blake, Larry & Jo Doelker, Mike Hall, Bev Knauper & Jim Ross, Paul Loschi, and Dave & Susan Menke. The 3 guests included Todd McGaha (Scott's brother), and (potential) new members Ronald & Linda Prater (they just purchased a 2004 Merlot Retro Bird, and it's being picked up in Jacksonville tomorrow for shipping to them).

**Approval of Minutes:** Since the minutes from the July meeting had been published in the August newsletter (sent out by email last Sunday morning), President Roger asked for a motion to approve those minutes. Larry Doelker made the motion for approval, and that motion was seconded by Nancy Blake. There being no questions or concerns about the minutes as published in the newsletter, the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Membership Update/Discussion:** President Roger warmly invited the Praters to join our club if they're so inclined. No one else had anything more to report regarding new or prospective members.

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

Scott reported on a conversation he had just held with someone named Bill that Todd had run into here at MCL, and who has a 2002 Retro Bird. Scott, already late to enter the meeting room, hurriedly invited the gentlemen to join us at next month's meeting to check us out.

**Sunshine Committee Report:** President Roger reported that there is one anniversary in August, which he & Lisa celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> (their 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary). Since Roger's mother's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday was two days later, he and Lisa decided to travel to Virginia on their anniversary unannounced, to surprise his mother to help celebrate her birthday. Their birthday surprise gift to his mother was a renewal of their wedding vows on Sunday morning at his mother's church. President Roger also reported only one August birthday: Bea Walsh (on the 26<sup>th</sup>). Happy anniversary and birthday to all these fine people!

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Lisa Hamm reported that, since July 1<sup>st</sup>, our treasury has remained unchanged.

**Club Activities/Events Pool:** President Roger reminded everyone of the event pool which is listed on each meeting's agenda. Vice-President Scott McGaha mentioned the Hartman Rock Garden in Springfield, a restored folk-art garden originally built between 1932 and 1944, comprised entirely of concrete, metal, glass, stone, wood, and whatever other "ingredients" could be found by the creator, artist Ben Hartman. Scott also mentioned the possibility of a trip to Mershons's World of Cars, a classic car (mostly Corvette) dealership in Springfield. He also mentioned the Westcott House, a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Prairie Style home in Springfield that was built in 1908. His suggestion was that we consider a Springfield tour that could include all these places. He also mentioned Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park and Museum in Hamilton as a possible tour event. Larry Doelker mentioned Dogwood Pass, in Beaver, OH as a possible driving tour. It is a recreated Old West town, with various weekend events held throughout the year.

Scott's ideas for this month: Old Scratch Pizza, Centerville; Kettering Cruise-In at Kettering Assembly of God Church; Oldsmobile Club of America is hosting their annual convention at UD Marriott this weekend; Dayton Liederkrantz German Fest is this weekend; Boomerfest cruise-in is this Saturday at St. Leonard, Centerville; Art in the Park is Sunday at Lincoln Park; the Bellbrook Lions Club Festival and Car Show will be next Saturday, August 19 (help is being requested to assist at this show); Wheels and Wings will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> at Wright Brothers Airport; Antioch Shrine Car Show will be on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Scott also mentioned a doughnut run as a possible event, similar to one we did a few years ago.

Mike Hall mentioned that this coming Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, will be Hot Summer Nights in Bellefontaine. This will include a parade, music, trophies, and starts at the fairgrounds (registration is from 3:00-5:00, with the parade starting at 5:15).

Dave Menke mentioned the WACO Fly-in and car show, which will be held on September 15-17.

### **WEEKLY CRUISE-IN EVENTS:**

Thursdays, 4:00 PM: Get Air Cruise-In, Huber Heights

Fridays, 4:00 PM: Beaver Creek Cruise-In, Vineyard Church

Saturdays, 5:00 PM: Kettering Cruise-In, Kettering Assembly of God Church

Sundays, 4:00 PM: Cruisers and Cones, Airline Dairy Crème, Vandalia

## ONE-OFF EVENTS (SHOWS AND CRUISE-INS):

August 20 (Sun), 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Antioch Shrine Custom Car, bike & Truck Show (107 E. First St.) - \$15/car, dash plaques, door prizes, Top 25 awards (participant judging), music, food & beverages available. Our own Larry Doelker has been a long-time Shrine member and active booster for this show.

August 22 (Tue) through Aug 27 (Sun) - **THUNDERBIRD REUNION, FORD WORLD HEADQUARTERS, DEARBORN, MI** (a joint effort of International Thunderbird Club, Vintage Thunderbird Club International, and Classic Thunderbird Club International). Information on this event should be found in each of the respective club magazines, as well as on their web sites. If you can't find the info in the first source you check, keep looking!

August 26 (Sat), 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM: Family On Wheels Car Show (Miami Valley Center Mall, 987 E Ash St, Piqua) - \$10/car, dash plaques to first 200 vehicles, door prizes, 50/50, silent auction, numerous awards

September 10 (Sun), 8:00 AM - ??????: Gathering of the Geezers (Kil-kare Raceway, 1166 Dayton-Xenia Rd, Xenia) - cost is \$15 (spectator) or \$20 (car show & swap meet) or \$25 (drag racing). Don't miss it, too much to list here.

September 23 (Sat), 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM: Crestview Baptist Church Car Show (6600 Salem Ave, Clayton) - Free, dash plaques to all, door prizes, gift bags, food & beverages, numerous awards

## OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR CAR EVENTS:

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

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

**Old Business:** President Roger ONCE AGAIN reminded everyone that the club's biennial officer elections will be held in October, just 2 months away. He reminded everyone that nomination petitions will be due at the September meeting (the forms can be downloaded from our web site). He again asked 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 (currently, 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. Candidacy petitions will be due in by our September meeting, and can be found on our web site (<http://www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com/>, then click on "TSWO Bylaws" on the left, then item #6 Elected Officer Candidacy Letter). When you click on that link, the form will download to your computer. Simply print the form, fill it out, and turn it in no later than the September club meeting (which will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> that month). Please **seriously** consider

nominating *yourself* for any of the 3 positions up for election in October (Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer).

**New Business:** There was no new business to address.

**Calendar of Car Events:** Our next club meeting will be on September 14<sup>th</sup> at our usual location, MCL Cafeteria (with dinner at 6:00 PM, followed by our meeting beginning promptly at 7:00).

**Open Floor:** There were no comments offered for Open Floor discussion.

**Adjournment:** There being no other business to be addressed, President Roger called for a motion for adjournment. The motion was offered by Mark Allen and seconded by Paul Loschi. With a drop of the gavel, President Roger declared the meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM EDT.

***Roger Hamm***  
President



**Birthdays & Anniversaries in September:** We have several birthdays and anniversaries in the month of September. The club's best wishes go out to you all on this your special day.



**September Birthdays**

21<sup>st</sup>: Larry Doelker  
25<sup>th</sup>: Jan Gifford  
25<sup>th</sup>: Jim Ross

**September Anniversaries**

9<sup>th</sup>: Mark & Jackie Allen  
(34 yrs)  
12<sup>th</sup>: Mike & Jeanne Hall  
(52 yrs)



Hello, fellow TSWO members. I hope everyone in our wonderful club has had a very good summer and a good Labor Day weekend. It was a very warm weekend and beginning to the month of September and it appears it will last through most of the week after Labor Day.

I did a little research on how the holiday came to become a holiday here and in Canada. In the United States, Peter J. McGuire, a union leader who



had founded the United Brotherhood of Carpenters in 1881, is generally given credit for the idea of Labor Day. In 1882 he suggested to the Central Labor Union of New York that there be a celebration honoring American workers. On September 5 some 10,000 workers, under the sponsorship of the Knights of Labor, held a parade in New York City. There was no particular significance to the date, and McGuire said that it was chosen because it fell roughly halfway between the Fourth of July holiday and Thanksgiving. In 1884 the Knights of Labor adopted a resolution that the first Monday in September be considered Labor Day. The idea quickly spread, and by the following year, Labor Day celebrations were being held in a number of states. Oregon became the first state, in 1887, to grant legal status to the holiday (although the state initially celebrated it on the first Saturday in June). That same year Colorado, New York, Massachusetts, and New Jersey established the holiday on the first Monday in September, and other states soon followed. In 1894 the [Pullman](#) strike in Illinois, as well as a series of unemployed workers' riots on May Day in Cleveland, prompted U.S. Pres. Grover Cleveland to propose a bill that would make Labor Day a national public holiday. The bill, which was crafted in part to deflect attention from May Day (an unofficial observance rooted in socialist movements), was signed into law in June of that year.

Over the years, particularly as the influence of unions waned, the significance of Labor Day in the United States changed. For many people it became an end-of-summer celebration and a long weekend for family get-togethers. At the same time, it has continued to be celebrated with parades and speeches, as well as political rallies, and the day is sometimes the official kickoff date for national political campaigns.

In Canada the first parades of workers were held in 1872 in Ottawa and Toronto, and later in that year the law-making labor unions illegal was repealed. McGuire was invited to speak at the celebration in 1882. In 1894 Parliament officially recognized the holiday in Canada.

Most other countries honor workers on May Day (May 1). The day was a major holiday in communist countries, and it continues to be important where left-wing political parties and labor movements wield influence.

August 22-26, in Dearborn, Michigan, all of the national Thunderbird clubs came together to have the 2023 Thunderbird Reunion car show in front of the Ford World Headquarters building. They had several nice trips and venues set up, which many members attended. It was very well attended and I was able to count at least 190 Thunderbirds present at the show. After the show ended, they had a nice banquet set up at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel, where they also did a raffle where participants could win some nice prizes. It all ended on Sunday morning, with a nice breakfast buffet before everyone went back to their homes. You should be able to see some of the pictures taken at the show on our website later on.

*Roger*

# Boy, I was Impressed!

(by: Brett Andrews)

Let me start by saying the following has nothing to do with cars. While doing some casual internet scanning, I ran across an article entitled, *Astonishing Facts About The World That Capture The Strange Side Of History*", by Laura Lee, August 8, 2022. Several of the facts she wrote about were quite interesting, but two of them I found utterly amazing. I was so taken by them that I wanted to share them with you all. They show just how fast and how far our technology has advanced in such a short period of time. Reprinted below are those two facts just as they appeared in her article.

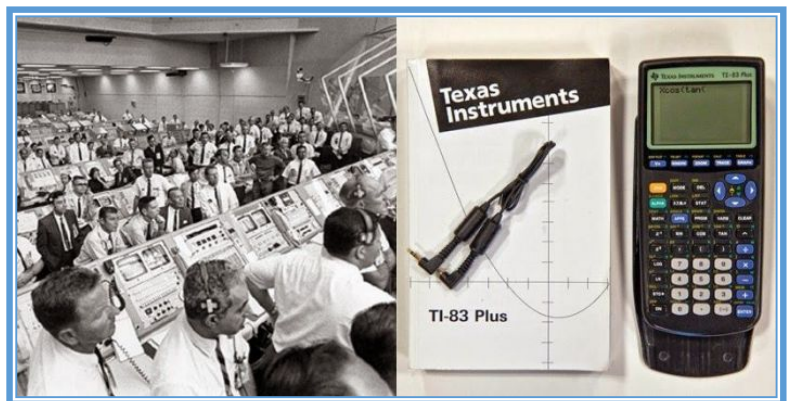
## *The First Man To Fly A Plane And The First Man On The Moon Were Alive At The Same Time*



It's unbelievable to think that there's only 66 years between the first plane flight and the first moon landing. Two of humankind's greatest achievements commenced in 1903 when Orville Wright and his brother flew the world's first successful airplane flight. Neil Armstrong became the first person to land on the moon in 1969. Armstrong was 18 years old when Wright passed away in 1948.

## *There Is More Processing Power In A TI-83 Calculator Than There Was In The Computer That Helped Land Apollo 11 On The Moon*

This historical fact is absolutely mind-blowing. Knowing that a calculator that is designed to help students with mathematics and pass their exams was more powerful than a computer that helped land a man on the moon. The TI-83 processing speed was actually 350 times faster!



**In the "Somewhat Hard To Believe" Category:** In July 2023, Oregon passed a law that now allows customers to pump their own gas, if they so desire or the service center will do it for you. If that isn't surprising enough, there is one state in the union where you still are not permitted to pump your own gas - - New Jersey. I have no clue as to why such a restriction would exist today.



**September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

*First Day Of Fall*

**"Fall is a reminder that  
amidst the hustle and  
bustle of life, there's still  
magic to be found and  
reasons to be grateful."**



CLUB OFFICERS

President: Roger Hamm (937) 728-0762  
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Vice President: Scott McGaha (937) 271-7414  
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