Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio

Newsletter

(www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com)

April 2013

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Brett & Peg Andrews, Nancy & Julie Blake, E.D. Brown, Wayne & Ruthie Dennis, Carl Geiger, Guy Gifford, Roger & Lisa Hamm, Gary & Sue Hufford, Beverly Knauper & Jim Ross, and Scott McGaha.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM, March 14, 2013 at the MCL Cafeteria with Brett Andrews presiding.

Prior to the start of the meeting members were notified that Leona was in the Hospital. Brownie indicated she has been in the hospital for several days and is expected to be released on Wednesday, March 20th. The club wishes her well and hopes for a speedy recovery. We hope to see her smiling face at our next meeting.

DISCUSSION:

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

Old Business:

The meeting was turned over to Beverly to discuss the status of planning for several of the club activities tentatively scheduled for the year to include:

Grandpa's Garage: Members were reminded that the trip to Grandpa's Garage in Springfield would take place this coming Saturday, March 16. Those members planning to participate were asked to meet at Guy & Jan's home by not later than 11:30 a.m. From there, the group would go to lunch together and then caravan to Grandpa's for the afternoon. A show of hands was taken on those members planning to go to Grandpa's and how many of them would meet at the Gifford's and go to lunch with the group. Maps to the Gifford home and to Grandpa's Garage were made available to those needing one. This was not a "bring your T-bird" event, so it was suggested those attending just bring their daily driver instead. (See the "Follow-up Notes" section of this newsletter for a description and photos of our trip to Grandpa's.)

Bowling: A bowling outing at Marion Lanes on Brandt Pike had been tentatively scheduled for April 20 or the 27th. Brownie will check with Marion Lanes management ensure there is no conflict with any major bowling event and report back to the club at the April meeting. A final decision on the exact date and time will be determined at that time. (Note: If you would like to participate in our bowling adventure but will not be able to attend the April club meeting, please contact Brett or Beverly after April 11th for the exact date and time.

Covered Bridge Tour: The Planning committee tentatively selected May 11th, with an alternate date of May 18th, to go on this driving tour. Brett mentioned that he and Peg visited the five possible covered bridges located in Preble County and that they are all in good shape. He also noted that assuming we visit all five bridges and had a common starting point in Englewood and terminating point at I-75 on Rt 725 in Centerville, it would be approximately an 80 mile drive and would take about 3 hours, not including a stop for lunch. It was also decided that the group would stop for lunch at Rob's Restaurant in Brookville before the tour starts. Since this is intended to be a "Bring your T-bird" type event, Brett plans to video tape our birds going through

one of the covered bridges and put that video on our website. A final decision on the exact date, and meeting time and location will be determined at a future club meeting.

Club Picnic: Our club picnic is tentatively planned for June. Optional dates include June 9th, 23rd, or 30. Scott has agreed to host this pot luck event. The exact date and time will be determined at a future meeting.

Middletown Hot Air Balloon Festival Car Show: This was also an activity that the Planning Committee had proposed for the group. The car show at this weekend family event will take place on Saturday, July 13th. Registration will be from 2-4 pm with the car show from 4-8pm. Registration fee information was not yet available, but is expected to be $10. As we get closer to the event, maps to Smith Park in Middletown will be map available to those wishing to participate. See their website at http://www.ohiochallenge.com for more information.

NEW BUSINESS:

International Thunderbird Club (ITC) annual convention: ITC is having its annual convention this year in Fairborn, Ohio from June 23rd through the 30th at the Fairborn Holiday Inn. The judging will take place on Saturday the 29th. This is a closed event for ITC members, but it's likely that spectators will be permitted to view the cars, so if you have some free time on the 29th, you may want to go check out the T-birds.

Halloween in the Park: Another event that had been tentative on our planning calendar was our participation at Halloween in the Park in Bellbrook in October. Brett contacted Trish Grady-Hannah, the coordinator for the event and asked if she wanted us to display our T-birds there again this year. She confirmed that she did and stated she would send us a formal invitation letter this summer. The event will be held on October 19th from 2:30 to 6:30 pm at Saggett-Wright Park in Bellbrook.

Lafinos Cruise-In: Members were questioned on their interest to continue meeting as a club once a month at the Lafinos cruise-in like we did last year. The consensus of the membership present was that we continue the practice. Since we have not yet confirmed that the weekly cruise-in will even occur this year at the same location, members were asked to let the club know if they hear any information about the cruise-in for this year. Members were also asked to look for an alternate location if the Lafinos cruise-in has been discontinued.

Columbus Spring Swap Meet: The Mid-Ohio Ford Club will hold its Spring Swap Meet at the Expo Center in Columbus on Friday April 5 from 4 to 8 pm and on Saturday, April 6 from 9 am to 6 pm.

Other Upcoming Classic Car Events:

Collector Car Appreciation Day: July 12th. This is a congressionally recognized celebration of the history of the car. Members were asked if they hear of event events being conducted in the local area related to Collector Car Appreciation day, to notify the club so we can see if it is an event we would like to participate in as a club.

Woodward Dream Cruise in Detroit, August 17th. This event started in 1995 as a fund raiser for a soccer field in Michigan. Today, the Woodward Dream Cruise is the world's largest one-day automotive event drawing 1.5 million people and 40,000 classic cars each year from around the globe.
See http://www.woodwarddreamcruise.com for additional information.

Possible Car Show at Marion Bowling Lanes: Brownie had talked with the owner of Marion Bowling Lanes on Brandt Pike who indicated they may be interested in the possibility of our club holding a car show (or maybe a cruise–in) at their Brandt Pike location. Club members were generally interested in doing such an event to generate revenue for the club, but some questioned whether we should do it this year or next. Brett indicated that he and Brownie would meet with the owners to discuss among other topics, such matters as (1) Do we hold a car show or a cruise-in (a cruise-in provides no financial benefit to our club), (2) Do we host it

this year or start next year, (3) Who would be financially responsible to purchase the trophies, dash plaques, and advertising, (4) How would the registration fee be distributed, and (5) Will their business insurance cover us in the event of any personal injuries, damaged to vehicles, etc, incurred at the show. Brett had preliminarily looked into and reported on the cost of the club purchasing our own insurance. Several individuals felt it was a necessity that that we be covered and that it may become a significant factor in our decision to take on planning and conducting such an event.

Out of the Area: Brett mentioned that he and Peg would be leaving the area for a while and that Beverly would be in charge of the club in his absence. However, if anyone needs to contact Brett or Peg directly, they can be reached at the e-mail addressed listed on the club roster.

The floor was then opened for questions or comments: The members present raised no additional question or provided any further input.

ADJOURN: At the conclusion of all discussion, Brett called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Jim Ross and seconded by Jim Ellinger. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Brett Andrews
President

Next Meeting: April 11th, 7:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering

FOLLOW-UP NOTES:

Grandpa's Garage Visit: On March 16th, twelve of our club members participated in a trip to Grandpa's Garage in Springfield. Several of our members meet at Guy and Jan's home, then prior to embarking on our little adventure, ten members enjoyed lively discussions over a delicious meal at the Sweet Home Family Restaurant in Huber Heights. From the restaurant, the group drove to Grandpa's for the afternoon. As we had heard earlier, Grandpa's was hosting what was being called a "Model Car Cruise-in". We were really curious what that was. It turned out to be a collection of model car builders and vendors selling their wares consisting almost exclusively of plastic and die cast model cars and accessories. Needless to say, a few club members succumbed to the draw of purchasing another t-bird model. For more details about Grandpa's Garage, see their website at http://www.i70grandpasgarage.com.

When the owner of Grandpa's offered to take this group photo, we noticed after the fact that our buddy Guy was not with us. Sorry Guy!!!

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

April
4th: Jay Walsh

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

Upcoming Club Events

Event	Date(s)	Location
1. Bowling Outing	20 or 27 April	Marion Lanes, Huber Heights
2. Covered Bridge Tour	11 or 18 May	Preble County
3. Club Picnic	June (date TBD)	Scott's House
4. Hot Air Balloon Car Show	13 July	Smith Park, Middletown
5. Halloween-in-the-Park	19 October	Saggett-Wright Park, Bellbrook

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Brett Andrews (937) 237-1131
Vice President: Beverly Knauper (513) 752-8821
Treasurer: Lisa Hamm (937) 835-5992
Secretary: Peg Andrews (937) 237-1131

April Fool's Day!

Unlike most of the other nonfoolish holidays, the history of April Fool's Day, sometimes called All Fool's Day, is not totally clear. It is not like Halloween, where despite an interesting history, most people just put on Halloween costumes, get candy, and leave it at that. There really wasn't a "first April Fool's Day" that can be pinpointed on the calendar. Some believe it sort of evolved simultaneously in several cultures at the same time, from celebrations involving the first day of spring.

The closest point in time that can be identified as the beginning of this tradition was in 1582, in France. Prior to that year, the new year was celebrated for eight days, beginning on March 25. The celebration culminated on April 1. With the reform of the calendar under Charles IX, the Gregorian Calendar was introduced, and New Year's Day was moved to January 1.

However, communications being what they were in the days when news traveled by foot, many people did not receive the news for several years. Others, the more obstinate crowd, refused to accept the new calendar and continued to celebrate the new year on April 1. These backward folk were labeled as "fools" by the general populace. They were subject to some ridicule, and were often sent on "fools errands" or were made the butt of other practical jokes.

This harassment evolved, over time, into a tradition of prank-playing on the first day of April. The tradition eventually spread to England and Scotland in the eighteenth century. It was later introduced to the American colonies of both the English and French. April Fool's Day thus developed into an international fun fest, so to speak, with different nationalities specializing in their own brand of humor at the expense of their friends and families.