Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio Newsletter

(www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com)

January 2014

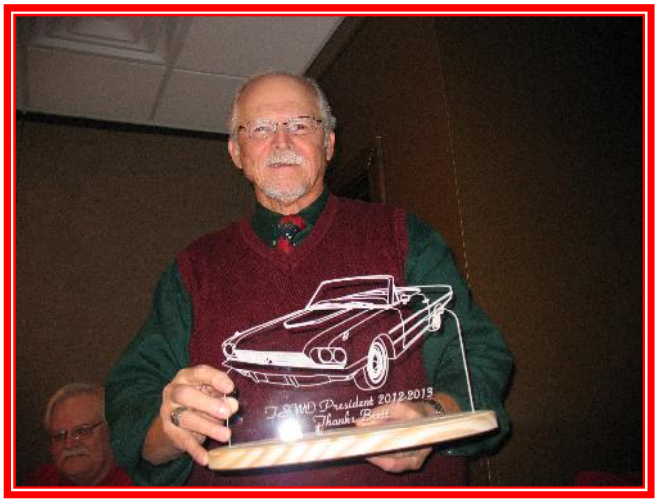
MEETING MINUTES: The Christmas party replaced our formal meeting for December

This year, as usual, no formal meeting was held for the month of December, rather it was time to socialize and to celebrate Christmas together. In past years the club has searched for various venues, many of which were very nice, but lacked the privacy and convenience we have at our monthly meetings at MCL. So this year, it was proposed that we stay at MCL during the month of December, make the room a little more festive and enjoy our party in familiar surroundings. Thanks to the efforts of Ruthie and Wayne Dennis and Nancy and Julie Blake who provided dessert and decorations, the meeting room was transformed into a holiday delight!

Nancy presented to all the ladies a homemade Christmas ornament. Nancy has done this for many years and each family now has a very nice assortment of them to hang on our tree. This year several other members gave gifts to each person present. Their generosity and caring efforts all contributed to the Christmas spirit and the feeling that this was the best Christmas party we've ever had!

One order of business was observed. It is tradition for the outgoing president to present the gavel to the incoming one. Prior to the passing of the gavel Beverly Knauper, the incoming president, presented to Brett Andrews, the outgoing president, a token of appreciation from the club---a beautiful lighted etched Thunderbird plaque which simply said "TSWO President 2012-2013, Thanks Brett." At this time the gavel was passed and Beverly pounded it on the table to adjourn.

Members attending the festivities were Peg and Brett Andrews, Nancy and Julie Blake, Ruthie and Wayne Dennis, Jan and Guy Gifford, Lisa Hamm, Sue and Gary Hufford, Beverly Knauper, Jim Ross and Scott McGaha.



Message from the President:

I am honored to be serving as president of the Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio for the next two years. I want us to continue having good times with one another and our Thunderbirds.

I echo the sentiments of another member who proclaimed our Christmas party "the best Christmas party ever." A huge thank-you to those who cheerfully took on the major responsibility for planning and set-up. You set the perfect mood that encouraged all those present to join in the festivities with great spirit.

To build on our camaraderie, I am continuing the Activities Committee (to be chaired by Roger Hamm) and forming a Show Committee. Consider volunteering for one (or both) of these at our January meeting. If you're unable to attend the January meeting but want to serve, let me know.

My wish list for 2014 includes reading more "My Thunderbird Story" articles in our newsletter. If you haven't told us about the "how, when, why" of your interest in Thunderbirds and/or your beautiful Thunderbird(s), now is the time to get your article to Peg. These stories really help us connect with each other.

A gentle reminder – TSWO dues are due by our January meeting. If you haven't already done so, give your membership money ($10) to Lisa. Similarly, make sure you are current with your VTCI dues. Our TSWO bylaws state that we must be members of VTCI. I'm feeling very positive about VTCI. Rod Wake, the new president, is a very good man. The first time I judged Operations at a VTCI convention, Rod was the Operations captain and also the team leader of the team with which I judged. He was serious about our mission, organized and careful so that each car was judged appropriately, and superb at teaching by example. Rod fostered my confidence so that I had a very enjoyable day as a judge. As you can tell from his articles in *The Scoop*, Rod is also very approachable and has a great sense of humor. He and his wife Beverly are wonderful choices to guide VTCI. I encourage you to attend a VTCI convention and meet them.

I hope your New Year is filled with many blessings and few resolutions!

Beverly

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

January

16th: Roger Hamm

THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2013 Club Activities

In **January** Beverly formed the 2013 Event Planning Committee. The club members provided input by filling out a survey designed and distributed by Beverly.

During the **February** meeting, Ed LaPrath and Dave Givens, both from Showroom Polishing in Huber Heights, discussed with the members the proper way and the proper materials to use to polish a car.

In **March** the club toured Grandpa's Garage in Springfield and attended our first "model car cruise-in."

April brought a few of use together for bowling at Marion Lanes on Brandt Pike in Huber Heights. Only four members bowled, but there were several "encouragers" present.

May was the covered bridge tour. The club drove to and through 5 bridges in Preble County starting in Englewood and concluding near Centerville. We met for lunch prior to the event at Rob's Diner in Brookville.

In **June** we all enjoyed a club picnic at Scott's house. Scott was an excellent host. Everyone brought pot luck dishes to share. The T-Birds were on display for the neighborhood residents to see.

July 13 was the Hot Air Balloon Festival Car Show in Middletown. The next weekend we ran the car show portion of the Son's of Italy's Bocce Ball Tournament Festival which was our fund raiser for the year.

On **August** 11th several members enjoyed an outdoor concert at Stubb's Park in Centerville. We each brought our own picnic dinner and then sat back to enjoy the music of Phil Dirt and the Dozers.

In **September** we met for lunch at Young's Dairy Golden Jersey Inn for lunch and then drove to the nearby Brandeberry Winery for a wine tasting. Afterwards we were given a tour of the behind the scenes operations.

October's Halloween in the Park was cancelled due to inclement weather.

November's activity brought us to the Sugar Creek Packing Company in Washington Courthouse where we were amazed by a collection of over 300 cars, buses, boats, etc. all in various stages of restoration.

In **December** we concluded the year with a Christmas party at MCL Cafeteria.

Upcoming Club Events

Event	Date(s)	Location
In Development		

CLUB OFFICERS

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

Next Meeting: January 9th, 7:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering

HAPPY NEW YEAR!