Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio Newsletter

(www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com)

September 2012

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Brett & Peg Andrews, Rich Bagley, Nancy & Julie Blake, E. D. & Leona Brown, Roger Cowden, Bud Cowden, Jim Ellinger, Wayne & Ruthie Dennis, Guy & Jan Gifford, Roger & Lisa Hamm, Gary Hufford, Doug James & Hala Saltsman, Beverly Knauper & Jim Ross, Jim Lenz, Scott McGaha, Ron & Jan Miller, Bob Mlimar, Jack Schooley & Barb Zyleski, and Ken & Penny Shanley.

Call To Order: The meeting convened at 7:00 PM at MCL Cafeteria on August 9th with Brett Andrews presiding.

DISCUSSION:

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

Old Business:

Middletown Hot Air Balloon Festival and Car Show, July 14th. It was reported that Roger & Lisa, Nancy & Julie, and Brett attended this event. Due to the threat of severe weather throughout most of the day, the balloon glow and launch were delayed. The balloon glow eventually was held but there was no launch. Nancy won one of the top 20 award at the car show.

Warbirds Cruise-in, Peru, In, August 4th: We had 6 members (3 cars) from our club attend this event. Our clubs' participants included Ken & Penny Shanley, Lisa and Roger Hamm, and Brett and Peg Andrews. Though it never rained during the car show, it was hot and muggy. After the show was another story. The skies opened up and we had hard rain. It was absolutely spectacular to have nearly 200 beautiful classic cars, 23 of them T-birds, parked all around old military fighters, bombers and Cargo aircraft on the Grissom museum grounds. We rekindled old acquaintances with several of our friends from the Indiana VTCI chapters. We all had a great time looking at the old planes, touring the museum, and talking cars with our old friends and some new ones.

TSWO Website: Brett mentioned, as was approved at the July club meeting, that he had purchased a 6 month lease on the "Pro" version of the Weebly website development software and had completed the initial development work on our new site. Our old website will be shut down and the new one opened up by the beginning of September. Weebly will host our new website for free and 1&1 (our former host) will be paid a small fee annually for us to retain the rights to our domain name of Thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com.. At the end of the 6 month lease, if we are satisfied with the look and usability of our new website, we'll need to renew our lease so we can continue to maintain and update the website. Paper copies and an on-line look at the development version of our website was made available for members to view. In addition to the usual text and photos, our new website will also have the capability to do audios, videos and slideshows.

TSWO Newsletter E-mail Distribution: Members were queried to see if anyone with an e-mail account had not received the August Newsletter via e-mail or had any trouble opening any of the attachments. No one indicated any problems. By sending the August newsletter by e-mail to those with accounts, the cost of our newsletter distribution went from $13.56 to $4.10 – a 70% cost reduction. Once the newsletter was written, the time it took to distribute was reduced to less than an hour.

Bellbrook Car Show Planning: There was some extensive discussion about the door prize process that resulted in changes to the quantity and types of items in the door prize pool. Because of this change in the door prizes available, an alternate plan was implemented and the meeting continued. It was next mentioned that Jim Ross would replace Brett as a judge and he would team with Bev and Guy as this years car show judges. The membership was advised that Lisa, our show gatekeeper, may have to work on show day. If so, her husband, Roger, would assume responsibility for the gate seed money and run the entry gate area. We would then have to ask someone on short notice to help Roger at the gate. Those club members who were planning to help work at the show were asked to be at the show area by 1:00 p.m. to allow sufficient time for set-up. One last significant issue brought up for discussion was the matter of raffles. After a suggestion had been previously made to possibly raffle one or more of the more valuable of the door prizes, another club member pointed out to the club president that it may not be legal for us to do so. Prior to the meeting, Brett researched the law and reported his findings that supported the club member's original concern. However, because of the change in status of available door prizes, the matter of raffling some of the door prizes was rendered a non-issue. After discussion it was agreed to continue with the 50/50.

NEW BUSINESS:

Storage Location for Club Equipment: Our club equipment has been stored by Roger Cowden since the formation of our club. At Roger's request, the membership was asked if anyone had the space and was willing to store the club equipment. This equipment is basically used once a year for our Bellbrook car show. Scott McGaha indicated he had space in his basement. Scott and Roger were asked to get together to discuss the when and how to make the transfer happen.

Possible Tour of a Private Car Collection: Gary described his experience in touring a fantastic and massive car collection in Washington Courthouse. There were not only fully restored vehicles, but also cars in various stages of refurbishment and a storage lot full of vehicles awaiting their turn. If we were interested, Gary offered to approach the owners to see about getting our club a tour of the facilities. Needless to say there was great interest among the membership, so Gary is off to see what he can do to get us a tour.

Club Picnic: We have been so wrapped up with other club activities that we have not addressed the matter of an end-of-season club picnic. A show of hands indicated some interest. One option suggested was to have a picnic at a centrally located park. The club could provide the chicken and members could still bring covered dishes. Locations such as Cloud Park in Huber Heights or the Hills and Dales MetroPark in Kettering were mentioned. Brett said he would check out the sites mentioned and asked the membership to find and investigate other options and to report their findings at our next club meeting. If we are going to have a picnic this year, we need to decide and finalize our plans by the September meeting.

Halloween at the Park: In a letter from the Bellbrook Park District Program Manager, we have been asked for the fifth year in a row to participate in their Halloween in the Park activities by displaying our T-Birds at this event on October 20th. The activities will run from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. and there is no rain makeup date. Bring out you old car, preferably a bird, but any classic will be fine. If you plan to attend, please bring candy to share with the trick or treating children. There is generally a good crowd. It's great fun to watch the little kids on a cool fall day while smelling the smoke from the bonfire and sipping on some coffee or hot chocolate. We'd really like to see a good showing from our club. The Bellbrook Park District has advertised on their website that we will be there, so it is in our own interest to put our best foot forward.

Christmas Party: It's time to address whether we will have a Christmas Party/Dinner this year and where. There appeared to be strong interest, but the two locations we have used over the last four years are no longer in business. So members were asked for ideas. One suggestion was to locate a nice, free facility and bring our own food. Scott mentioned he may be able to get the clubhouse in the housing community where he lives.

Guy suggested the possibility of the Milton Club in Riverside. Both Scott and Guy will find out more about each of these options and give us an update at the September meeting. We're open to other options.

OPEN FLOOR: The floor was opened for questions and comments.

Jack announced he was selling his 1972 Lincoln, if anyone is interested

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

Brett Andrews
President

Next Meeting: September 13th, 7:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering

---

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September

5th: Wayne Dennis
25th: Jim Ross
25th: Guy Gifford

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. Club Gathering Lafinos Cruise-in	Fridays after Club Meeting	Beavercreek Lafinos
2. VTCI International Convention	September 27-30th	Charleston, South Carolina
3. Halloween in the Park	October 20th	Bellbrook, Ohio

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