

# Thunder Words



April 2021 ~ Volume 44, #4  
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird  
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club  
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International



**Prez Says:** Another “Thankyou” to **Nancy** and **Joel Schlessinger** and **Natasha Mohr** for the March Zoom meeting. Thanks too to **Jack Sanford** for another outstanding Thunder Words and membership survey. After much good discussion an April 25<sup>th</sup> event was calendared. See page six for details. The Friendsgiving dinner meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> will be at Firethorn Golf Course courtesy of **Jim Lantz** and **Jeff Hoffman**. The Ferguson House was not scheduling events for 2021 and agreed to refund our deposit. Thanks **Jim** and **Jeff**! The ENWICC calendar books are here and will be available at the April meeting. Let me know if you want one before then. The May event in Norfolk is on. More information on page six. May 16<sup>th</sup> is Thunderbird Appreciation Day. We should display our Birds if nothing more than pulling them out of the garage so passerby’s can admire them. We need to firm up at least seven birds for the Shriner car show in July. We need three more to get a T-Bird class. Bob’s Radiator in Omaha fixed a leaky radiator for me. Into Bob’s on Monday and back by Wednesday as promised. Nice people and on time. Here’s hoping to see many of you in April!

**Rob Kinsey - President**



[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>

Sponsored by Lee Sapp Ford



**April Event**  
**April 25, 2021**  
**3:30 PM**  
**Dairy Chef**  
**Elkhorn, NE**  
**See page six**

**April 4, 2021**



**Easter Sunday**

### *Minutes of the March 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting*

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by President **Rob Kinsey** with 16 members and spouses in attendance online. A thank you was sent out to **Joel, Nancy, Natasha, Quentin,** and **Jack** for facilitating the Zoom meeting, the minutes and the newsletter.

The February meeting minutes were published in the March newsletter and a motion to approve was made by **Gaylan** with a second by **Martin**. Motion carried.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer, **Jeff Brown** was not present and there was no treasurer's report.

#### **Old Business:**

President **Rob** thanked **John La Duke** for picking up the Eastern Nebraska-Western Iowa Car Council books. We have 25. If you would like one mailed to you contact **Rob**. Otherwise, they will be available at the next get together.

**Don Indra** was asked if there was an update for the Norfolk driving event/meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Everything is good to go. Details and map in next month's newsletter.

**Bob** and **Jan Sibal** were asked for "Friends-giving" update. Jan stated that nobody was taking reservations yet. **Rob** said that Ferguson House was sending our deposit back as they would not be available. **Bob** and **Jan** were asked to continue the hunt for a venue. There were other possibilities mentioned and a new venue is expected in the near future.

#### **New Business**

**Jack** was asked if the Ashland Car Show on July 18<sup>th</sup> had a parade. It was known that there was one in the past but not sure if still an event.

**Jack** then discussed the results of the survey members were asked to fill out in the past month. A total of **48** surveys were dispatched and **16** were returned. One of those returns didn't fill it out. Figures are based on **15** replies. **33%** return of surveys. Figures are not rounded up.

1. Would you attend a driving event when weather permits- with social distancing and masks and the option to stay in your Thunderbird if you don't feel comfortable mingling?

10- 66%\_ Definitely 4- 26%\_ Maybe 1- 6%\_ Probably not \_\_\_ Definitely not



2. If we have an outdoor meeting in April at a park, or another outdoor venue would you attend?

7- 46%\_ Definitely 7- 46%\_ Maybe \_\_\_ Probably not 1- 6%\_ Definitely not

3. If we have an indoor meeting in April, with masks and as much distancing as possible, would you attend?

4- 28%\_ Definitely 6- 42%\_ Maybe 3- 21%\_ Probably not 1- 7%\_ Definitely not 1\_ N/A

4. If you are NOT comfortable attending an indoor meeting in April, when would you be?

5- 33%\_ May \_\_\_ June 1- 1% July 2- 2%\_ August \_\_\_ September 2- 2%\_ Don't know

5- didn't answer question

5. Did you participate in the February 25, 2021, Zoom meeting?

10- 66%\_ Yes 5- 33%\_ No

6. Do you plan on participating in the March 25, 2021, Zoom meeting?

12- 80%\_ Yes 3- 20%\_ No

7. Do you plan on participating in the May 29, 2021, Norfolk Driving Event?

6- 40%\_ Yes 9- 60%\_ No

8. Totally optional question: Have you been immunized against Covid-19 or plan to be immunized as soon as you are eligible?

\_\_\_13\_\_\_ Yes, I/we are immunized \_\_\_1\_\_\_ Not yet, but we will be when we can.

\_\_\_ No, don't plan to be immunized \_\_\_ Don't care to disclose plans for immunization.

The April meeting was discussed. It was noted that there may be better participation if the events were on Sunday as there are members that work on Saturday. There is a possibility of a meeting/drive on April 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be more and definite info in the April newsletter.

It was mentioned that May 16<sup>th</sup> is Thunderbird Appreciation Day. CTCI urges you all to "Get out and drive." **Bob Young** is hosting a get together at his garage in DeSoto, Iowa which is just west of Des Moines for the Hawkeye T-Bird Club. No activities were discussed for our club.

CTCI will hold a virtual convention this year. Details can be found in the magazine or on their web page <https://www.cybirdspace.com>.

The April event will be the next meeting. Be sure to check your newsletter for details.

A dollar in the "Brag Box" by **Mary Lou**, "the sun is shining." **Larry Smith**, stated that it is worth the dollar to finally be "dialed in."

President **Rob Kinsey** adjourned the meeting at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, **Quentin Moeller**, Secretary





## T-Bird Tech Talk

By *Martin Bierman*

**Question-** A 1956 T-Bird owner wants to know if the cigarette lighter has an in-line fuse in the wire to it.

**Answer-**The cigarette lighter gets its power supply from the battery terminal of the headlight switch which is attached to a circuit breaker. The blue-white wire to the lighter does not have an in-line fuse. However, a fuse is attached to the rear of the lighter socket



(see photos). This fuse is peculiar to the lighter, is part #14429 and is listed for all three years of T-Birds and other Ford models from 1952 upward. Some of these fuses have a small hole in the rear to reset the fuse with a pin or paper clip wire. Since reproduction lighter elements are reported to draw near 7 amps in 6-volt applications and 8 amps in 12-volt systems the use of an in-line fuse of at least 10 amps would be wise if one does

not have the fuse at the rear of the socket. The lighter socket fuse is available from two T-Bird vendors (Hill's and Thunderbird Headquarters.) Most lighter sockets now are more likely to be used for adapters to charge cell phones or other electrical devices than to light cigarettes or cigars.

## CTCI NEWS

### Highlights of the March 12, 2021, board meeting.

- President Brian Carron presented status updates on open items:
  - There is an interested party in acquiring the Signal Hill property. They have entered in the escrow process but do have contingencies. As with any property transfer, we remain cautiously optimistic that the sale will proceed forward without issue.
  - Signal Hill long-timed planned building modifications/upgrades, fully funded by the Condo Association, are scheduled be completed by the first week of April.
  - Brian Carron, Jim Rodgers, and Garrett Shropshire traveled to Signal Hill and completed the yearly CTCI physical inventory
  - The building move continues to progress. The physical inventory along with other valued items will be moved from Signal Hill to Kansas City in the middle of March
  - CTCI has established the two LLC's to help the management and protection of CTCI's investable assets and conventions.
- Director **Darcy Knapp** presented additional information about the 2021 Virtual Convention <https://www.cybirdspace.com>. She reported that T-shirts with the convention logo have been



purchased. They will be priced at \$19.95 for CTCI members and are on the CTCI webstore. Prospective members as well as the general public will be able to purchase the shirts for the regular price of \$24.95.

- Directors **Darcy Knapp and Ed Benson** presented Owner-Transfer (glove box) cards as well as new member recruiting cards that will be made available with the May-June issue of the Early Bird.
- **Garrett Shropshire** presented the office Activity Report. During his report he presented the liability insurance overview. This will be sent to all of the chapters so that they have a better understanding of CTCI's insurance. He also discussed "Thunderbird Appreciation Day", which will be held on May 16th. He also announced that almost 30% of Fall 2020 "Test Drive Membership Program" converted to become regular members. Garrett noted that not all members have renewed their 2021 membership. It was agreed to follow past practice and send a notice letter to the non-renewals.
- The following items were passed during "New Business."
  - Member Address List Policy, which allows significant vendors (who are annual Early Bird advertisers) to purchase CTCI membership address list. The list sold to vendors will exclude any member who "opted-out" of the roster listing.
  - Approved the funding of the move from Signal Hill to Kansas City
  - Action regarding the Early Birds of Southern California (Chapter 7) charter
  - Establishment of three additional committees: Early Bird Committee; Publication Committee; and Recruitment Committee.
- Next Board Meeting is set for April 9, 2021.
- **Brian Carron**  
CTCI President & Region 5 Director

Nebraskaland T-Bird Club President, **Rob Kinsey** wrote President **Brian Carron** the following:

**What was the action regarding charter of Southern California chapter about?**

The following is the President's reply:

The Southern California Club allowed their non-profit and incorporation status in California to lapse. When they eventually discovered the problem, they took action to re-submit their paperwork with the State but for several reasons the State was slow in approving it. The CTCI Board became aware of the problem when they applied for insurance to cover a planned upcoming event. The club membership includes CTCI and non-CTCI members and per the Bylaws chapter incorporation is a requirement. The action the Board took was to temporarily suspend their status as a CTCI chapter, for failure to maintain their incorporation status as required by the Bylaws when a club roster includes non-CTCI chapter members.

As noted in the Board Highlights, California has approved their non-profit status and declared their incorporation status active till 12/31/21. As a result, we removed their temporary chapter suspension and returned them to a chapter in good standing.



## Calendar of Events for 2021

### Sign Up Sheet

January _____ None _____	July <u>Cruis'n Classics Lincoln</u> _____
February _____ <u>Zoom</u> _____	August _____
March _____ <u>Zoom March 25 6:30 PM</u> _____	September _____
April _____ <u>25<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Sunday</u> _____	October _____ <u>23<sup>rd</sup> / 24<sup>th</sup> Brownville??</u> _____
May _____ <u>Norfolk May 29, 2021</u> _____	November _____ <u>20<sup>th</sup> Friendsgiving</u> _____
June _____ <u>Gering/Scottsbluff car show 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>??</u> _____	December _____

### April Driving Event

Joel and Nancy Schlessinger have organized a Meet & Greet combined with a Show and Shine at the Dairy Chef, 3223 North 205<sup>th</sup> Street, Elkhorn, NE, April 25, 2021, at 3:30 PM. This is a typical Nebraska good place with plenty of parking and outside seating so social distancing won't be a problem. Dairy Chef has vegan ice cream, regular ice cream, floats, etc. A really fun place to kick off our 2021 year. Dust off your Bird and join us for the drive



and socializing. We would like to see as many of you as possible.

### NORFOLK DRIVING EVENT AND MEETING

May 29, 2021

Don and Karen Indra have planned a fun day in Norfolk. Those of us travelling to Norfolk will get to experience a road trip with our T-Birds. Most of the highways out of Omaha and Lincoln are pretty much four lanes. The distance from Omaha is approximately 118 miles, 2 hours and 15 minutes at 50 mph. The first stop in Norfolk will be at the Northeast Community College located at 801 East Benjamin Avenue. At the college we will spend thirty to forty-five minutes with one of Don's instructors. From there we will have lunch and a short meeting at the Pizza Ranch café. After a forty-five-minute lunch we will tour Jim Marr's automobile collection. If the women prefer to go to the Norfolk Museum, transportation will be furnished. The museum charge is \$4.00 per person. We should be at Jim's for two hours, allowing us to be on the road home no later than 4:30 PM.

Directions and a map will be furnished in May's Newsletters.

Please RSVP to Jack at [jesanford@cox.net](mailto:jesanford@cox.net) or 402-392-1350 by Friday, May 21.



**THUNDERBIRD APPRECIATION DAY MAY 16, 2021**  
**GET THAT BIRD ON THE ROAD**

***Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club***

<b>President</b>	<b>Rob Kinsey</b>	
	402-434-9053	rkinsey@krbkilaw.com
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Martin Bierman</b>	
	402-289-4516	nefron1@cox.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jeff Brown</b>	
	402-572-1995	fnhog2@gmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Quentin Moeller</b>	
	303-204-1761	qmoeller@yahoo.com
<b>CTCI Rep</b>	<b>John LaDuke</b>	
	701-330-7908	sphaeralcea516@gmail.com
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Jack Sanford</b>	402-392-1350
	jesanford@cox.net	
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Robert McGowan</b>	
	402-334-2593	mcgowanlaw@attorneys.omhcoxmail.com
<b>Social Media</b>	<b>Jamie Karl</b>	
	402-474-4422	jamiekarl@gmail.com
<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Lee Sapp Ford</b>	
	402-342-6767	lee@lsford.com

“ThunderWords” is the official publication of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club, Chapter 65 of Classic Thunderbird Club International. Annual dues are \$15, payable to Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club care of Jeff Brown, Treasurer, 7225 S 103<sup>rd</sup> ST, LaVista, NE 68128.

The **Member Profile** feature needs your help. Send your story to Jack at jesanford@cox.net.



Nebraskaland Club Logos. 2X3 ½ inch patch can be sewn or glued on with fabric glue. Look great on shirts, caps, and jackets. Contact Jack at 402-392-1350 – jesanford@cox.net

**Ted Dimmitt's 2002 ready for a summer of fun.**

