

# Thunder Words



**August, 2019 ~ Volume 42, #8**  
**Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird**  
**Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club**  
**Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International**

## **August Club Events & Meeting** **Saturday, August 17**

**2:00 pm** ~ Tour of the [Nebraska State Capitol](#), 1445 K St, Lincoln.

*Plan to arrive about 15 minutes early to join the tour. Park in the southeast parking area. Enter on the north (K ST) side of the Capitol.*

**4:00 pm** ~ Walking tour of [Hamann Rose Garden](#) (27<sup>th</sup> & C ST) and [Sunken Gardens](#) (27<sup>th</sup> & Capitol Parkway), Lincoln. *Park in the lot off 27<sup>th</sup> and A ST, near the Hamann Rose Garden.*

**5:00 pm** ~ Taco/nacho picnic and meeting. Roberts Park shelter house, 58<sup>th</sup> & Sumner, Lincoln

**Hosts: Jim Lantz and Jeff Hoffman.**

***Directions and maps on p. 10***

## **Prez Says**

The Durham Museum guided tour was an outstanding treat. Thanks to **Rob and Vicki Kinsey** for making the arrangements. If you haven't been to the Durham for a while, let me suggest that it is worth the price of admission. It sure brought back a lot of railroad memories as a lifelong railroad employee. We also witnessed Omaha though the ages which was very interesting.

The next meeting will be in Lincoln hosted by **Jim Lantz and Jeff Hoffman** on August 17<sup>th</sup>. See details in this newsletter.



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And just like that, we are into the Fall season. But don't be dismayed

Because there are still a lot of car activities. In fact, there is going to be a special section for Thunderbirds at the Meadowlark Model "A" Club's Vintage Wheel at the Fort Car Show 10 am – 3 pm, August 18<sup>th</sup>. This show is located at the Historic Fort Omaha, 30<sup>th</sup> & Fort Streets. **Marty Bierman** will be showing his Red '55 along with my gray '56, **Gaylan Abood's** blue and white '57, and **Bob Davidson's** '58. We are working on Bob to join our club. There isn't a charge and the show is open for all cars older than 1970, so bring your Bird and join the fun.

The Armacost Museum Tour is August 24 and details also in this newsletter. On September 29<sup>th</sup> our meeting will be at the Lauritzen Gardens starting at 2:30 PM, with a 5:00 PM dinner at El Bees following the garden tour.

Looking though my back issues of the Early Bird, I found the following important information: "Parts cleaning recommendation – Use kerosene rather than lacquer thinner for cleaning parts. Lacquer thinner is a health/fire hazard, carcinogen (goes through pores in skin) and has a flash point of +20 degrees Fahrenheit and is Hazard #4 on a 0-4 scale. Kerosene is #2 on the scale, has flash point of +175 degrees Fahrenheit, and can be mixed with oil for return to oil supplier. Lacquer in oil is hazardous waste and cannot be accepted for return. It must go to a hazardous waste site." Howard Ryan, #24188.

With that I'll sign off with these words, "Be safe out there."

*Jack Sanford, President*

## **Minutes of July 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by **President Jack Sanford** with ten members and spouses at the Durham Museum in Omaha. Thank you, **Rob and Vicki Kinsey**, for hosting the meeting. The meeting was held after an hour and half guided tour of the historic Union Pacific train station. As a retired Union Pacific employee, **Jack Stanford**, was able to add his personal experiences to the stories told by the guides.



### **Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by **Marty Bierman** and seconded by **Rob Kinsey**. Motion carried.



### **Treasurer's Report**

There was no Treasurer's report as **Jeff Brown** was absent.



## Old Business

**Jeff Hoffman** and **Jim Lantz** will be hosting the August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. It will be taco/nacho bar in Roberts Park, 58<sup>th</sup> and Sumner in Lincoln. The shelter house is reserved. Other details will follow with a tour of the Capitol Building and Sunken Gardens/Rose Gardens earlier in the afternoon around 2:00 pm.

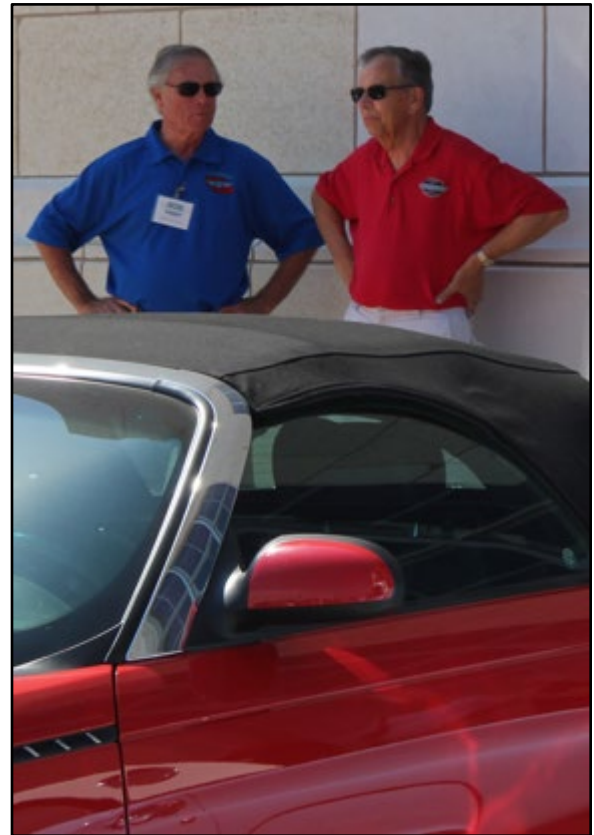


**Rob and Vicki Kinsey** will host the September 29<sup>th</sup> meeting at Lauritzen Gardens in Omaha. Preliminary schedule is for meeting at 2:30 pm followed with dining at El Bees.

October meeting hosts will be **Ted Dimmit** and **Fran Graser** with details to follow.

The logo patches are in limbo because original supplier is no longer available.

CTCI electronic voting began on By-Law changes but results are not available yet.



## New Business

There is an overnight multi-club event scheduled at the Armacost Museum in Grandview, MO, on August 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> organized by **Bob Young**. Lodging accommodations will be at the Holiday Inn Express. Call 816-268-5858 to make reservations, using the code THC. The rate is \$114. Reservations for these rates must be made by August 1, 2019. Please indicate to **Jack Sanford** your interest in attending. There will be no entrance fee for members touring the museum, however a head count is needed, so please RSVP to **Bob Young** at [bobyoun@inbox.com](mailto:bobyoun@inbox.com) or call 515-229-3870 with any questions.



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T-birds are needed for the Vintage Wheels at the Fort show on August 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. **Marty Bierman** is bringing his '55, **Jack Sanford** is bringing his '56 and **Gaylan Abood** is bringing his '57. They are seeking a 1958. All Thunderbirds are welcome. The meet features only cars 1969 or prior. The show is at Fort Omaha, 5730 N 30<sup>th</sup>. There is no entry fee.

Stir-Up Days in Ashland is July 20<sup>th</sup>. See the newsletter for a list of area shows that was prepared by **Jeff Hoffman**.



### Announcements

There are lots of car activities in July and August.

**Tom Woods** and **Marge** and **Ron Schutz** are selling their cars at the auction in Lincoln July 20-21<sup>st</sup>.

**Rob Kinsey** presented the CTCI Gold Award to **Jeff Hoffman** for the newsletter.



### Adjournment

Motioned to adjourn meeting made by **Mary Lou Bierman** and seconded by **Marty Bierman**. Motion carried.

Respectably Submitted,  
**Gaylan Abood, Secretary**



### Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>President</b>      | <b>Jack Sanford</b>                    |
|                       | 402-392-1350 jesanford@cox.net         |
| <b>Vice President</b> | <b>Rob Kinsey</b>                      |
|                       | 402-434-9053 rkinsey@krbklaw.com       |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | <b>Jeff Brown</b>                      |
|                       | 402-572-1995 fnhog2@gmail.com          |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | <b>Gaylan Abood</b>                    |
|                       | 402-289-3450 gabood@cox.net            |
| <b>CTCI Rep</b>       | <b>John LaDuke</b>                     |
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"ThunderWords" is the official publication of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club, Chapter 65 of Classic Thunderbird Club International. Annual dues are \$15, payable to Jeff Brown, 7225 S 103<sup>rd</sup> ST, LaVista NE 68128.

### T-Bird Tech Talk

"How do I know if my radiator cap is bad?"

By **Martin Bierman**



**Question** ~ A '55 T-Bird owner is servicing his cooling system and wants to determine if his radiator cap is bad and should be replaced.



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**Answer** ~ The radiator cap acts as a release valve set to open at its maximum pressure point. When the fluid pressure inside the radiator exceeds that point, it forces the valve open, allowing heat to escape and excess coolant fluid to overflow into a tank next to the radiator or in the case of the T-Birds out the overflow tube onto the ground. It is important that the cap seal properly and open at its specified pressure.

First inspect the radiator cap gaskets. There are two rubber gaskets to examine, an upper one and a lower one. If they are brittle, cracked or damaged the cap should be replaced. Also check the cap spring function by depressing the bottom.

The cap's sealing function then can be tested with a radiator cap pressure



tester such as one made by Stant. The tester will test the pressure of the radiator cap and also is a radiator pressure tester. Attach the cap to the pressor adapter and pump it up to the pressure level of the cap. Pumping above this level should open the cap

and relieve pressure. The pressure then should remain stable in the range for the cap pressure for at least a minute. If the pressure falls rapidly the cap is not sealing and should be replaced. One can also submerge the cap and adapter under water and observe for bubbles leaking from the cap if it is not sealing properly.

See last month's newsletter for information on what type of cap to use and where to buy them.

### ***Parade Ready!***



**Dick Heinke's 55 T-Bird  
Otoe County Veterans Parade**

### ***Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club Meetings and Events***

**August ~ Saturday, August 17.**

**2:00 pm** ~ Tour of the [Nebraska State Capitol](#), 1445 K St, Lincoln. *Plan to arrive about 15 minutes early to join the tour. Park in the southeast parking area. Enter on the north (K ST) side of the Capitol.*

**4:00 pm** ~ Walking tour of [Hamann Rose Garden](#) (27<sup>th</sup> & C ST) and [Sunken Gardens](#) (27<sup>th</sup> & Capitol Parkway), Lincoln. *Park in the lot off 27<sup>th</sup> and A ST, near the Hamann*

Rose Garden.

**5:00 pm** ~ Taco/nacho picnic and meeting.  
Roberts Park shelter house, 58<sup>th</sup> & Sumner,  
Lincoln

**Hosts: Jim Lantz and Jeff Hoffman.**

**September ~ Sunday, September 29 at  
2:30 PM** [Lauritzen Gardens](#), 100 Bancroft  
ST, Omaha. Dinner and meeting at El  
Bees, 10402 S 144th St, Omaha.  
**Hosts: Rob and Vicki Kinsey**

**October** ~ Details to be announced.  
**Hosts: Ted Dimmitt and Fran Graser.**

**November** ~ Host: Open.

**December ~ Saturday, December 14.  
5:30 pm.** Holiday dinner and meeting.  
[Mahoney State Park](#), Ashland. **Hosts:  
Cathy and Bob McGowan.**



### **CTCI Events**

**"Birds on the Bay"**  
**International Conven-**  
**tion.** May 4–9, 2020. Sarasota, FL.

### **Area Shows and Events** **Weekly/Monthly**

**Tuesdays** ~ **Culvers**, 14<sup>th</sup> ST & Old  
Cheney, Lincoln.

**Tuesdays** [5 pm] ~ **Don and Millie's  
Cruise Night**, S 23<sup>rd</sup> ST & Cornhusker  
RD, Bellevue.

**Wednesdays** [5 – 9 pm] ~ **Keystone  
Center**, 7803 Military AVE, Omaha.

**Wednesdays** [5 pm] ~ **Cruisers Bar  
and Grill Classic Car Show and  
Shine**, 8634 F ST, Omaha.

**Wednesdays** [5 – 8 pm] ~ **Raising  
Cane's Cruise Night**, 1058 E 23<sup>rd</sup> ST,  
Fremont.

**Fridays** ~ **Culvers**, N 27<sup>th</sup> ST, Lincoln.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday** [6 – 9 pm] ~ **Sonic Drive-  
In**, 1910 Market LN, Norfolk.

**4<sup>th</sup> Friday** ~ **Cruz Nite, We'll Smoke U  
BBQ**, 1773 Hwy 6, Gretna.

**4<sup>th</sup> Saturday** [8 – noon] ~ **Cars and  
Coffee, Speedway Motors Museum of  
American Speed**, Lincoln.

### **Shows**

#### **August**

**August 3** [10 am – 2 pm (Register 8:30  
am)] ~ **inMOTION Auto Car Show &  
Shine**, 131 Russwood Parkway,  
Lincoln.

**August 3** [5 pm – 9 pm (Register 5 – 7  
pm)] ~ **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Hot Cars Under the  
Stars Car Show**, Dillon Brothers Harley  
Davidson, 3838 North HWS Cleveland  
BLVD, Omaha.

**August 4** [11 am – 3 pm (Register 9 –  
11 am)] ~ **Lancaster County Super  
Fair Show & Shine Car Show**,  
Lancaster Events Center, 84<sup>th</sup> ST and  
Havelock AVE, Lincoln.

**August 11** [Noon – 3 pm (Register 9 am  
– noon)] ~ **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Valley Car Show**,  
Valley.

**August 17** [10 am – 2 pm (Register 8 –  
10 am)] ~ **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Greenwood Days  
Car Show**, Greenwood.

**August 18** [10 am – 3 pm] ~ **Vintage  
Wheels at the Fort**, Fort Omaha, 5730  
N 30<sup>th</sup> ST, Omaha.

**August 18** [11 am – 3 pm] ~ **Third  
Annual Stanley Kucera Memorial Car  
and Tractor Show**, 40 N Walnut ST,  
Wahoo.

**August 25** ~ **Millard Days Car Show**,  
13780 Millard AVE, Omaha.

#### **September**

**September 1** [10 am – 2 pm] ~ **Midtown  
Car Show**, Turner Park, 31<sup>st</sup> ST &  
Farnam, Omaha.

**September 1** [Noon – 4 pm (Register 9  
am - noon)] ~ **Packer Car Show**, Collin  
Stadium, 20<sup>th</sup> & M ST, Omaha.

**September 2** [Register 9 am – noon] ~  
**All American Car and Truck Show**,  
CHI Health Center Omaha, Lot D, 455 N



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10<sup>th</sup> ST, Omaha.

September 8 [Register 8 – 10 am] ~ **38<sup>th</sup> Annual Havelock Avenue All-Makes Car and Truck Show**, 6232 Havelock AVE, Lincoln.

**AVAILABLE**

***For Sale – Marvin Wiens's 56 T-Bird***

- Power steering
- Power brakes
- 3-speed overdrive transmission
- Peacock blue
- Convertible hardtop, also

Marvin Wiens 402-488-5783



***For Sale – Dick Kirshenbaum's 55 T-Bird***

- 3-speed overdrive
- Both tops (hard and soft tops)
- Older restoration
- Golden rod color
- 63,000 miles
- Two owners



Please contact [dwkirshenbaum@gmail.com](mailto:dwkirshenbaum@gmail.com) with the pricing information

***For Sale – Howard Larson's 57 T-Bird***

Photos and story in the January-February 2019 issue of The Early Bird. Best reasonable offer. Interested parties may contact Howard Larson at 712-281-8812



***For Sale - Dick Heinke's 55 T-Bird***

I have come to the painful decision that I want to sell my 55 T-Bird that I totally restored. I have not shown it since 2005 when It won two awards - one in Omaha (the first showing) and a gold in Cleveland. The effort received the 2004 "Best Restoration Award" from the Nebrskaland T-Bird Club.

The odometer has 945 miles on the car since total frame off restoration. The engine is stock except for solid state ignition module in the distributor (no points). There



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are many pluses such as 3 speed with overdrive transmission, Halogen headlights, 12 volt alternator and electrical system, dual master cylinder with front disc brakes, extra noise barrier in the under body paint scheme (foamed enamel) Solid state T-Bird radio AM/FM with cassette player, Stock spoke wheels with 5 white wall radial tires.... and more.



I will entertain viewing and will decide on the basis of the successful best offer. A couple years ago, I declined a bid at auction of \$50,000. My phone number is (402) 432-2199. Dick Heinke

**Andy Grimm's Collection – For Sale**

- 1951 Mercury Sports Sedan; dark green \$19,250.00
- 1955 Ford Country Sedan, two-tone blue \$13,250.00
- 1956 Thunderbird, hardtop only, colonial white and red \$29,600.00
- 1960 Ford Fairlane 500, aquamarine, 4-door sedan \$ 9,700.00
- 1966 Mustang, 2-door hardtop, V-8 automatic, red \$ 6,975.00
- 1972 Mustang Sports Roof CJ, dark green \$11,625.00
- 1989 Mustang Red Convertible, Kenny Brown Modifications \$12,175.00
- 2010 Shelby GT 500, dark blue \$36,000.00

Andy Grimm  
402-991-7975 office, 402-681-1242 cell  
402-330-5355 home, [agrimm@cox.net](mailto:agrimm@cox.net)

**Armacost Museum Tour, August 24, 2019, in Grandview, Mo.**

Here is the information for the Armacost Museum Tour, August 24, 2019, in Grandview, Mo.

We have a block of 10 rooms reserved at the Grandview Missouri Holiday Inn Express, 12801 South 71 Highway. The phone number to make reservations is 816-268-5858, code "THC" or mention "Thunderbird Club" for Friday night August 23, 2019. The rate is \$114 plus tax, approximately \$125. total. You have until August 1, 2019 to make your hotel reservations.

We have reservations for dinner the 23rd at 7 pm at Jim and Jesse's Steak House, 517 East 135th St., KC, Mo. We will leave from the Hotel at 6:40PM, I will lead and have directions to pass out if you do not have GPS. We will not have a private room, but will sit together in the same room.

We will leave the Hotel Saturday morning at 9:40 for the short drive to the Armacost Museum. We will be there from 10 am to noon and there will be another car club there, also.

There will be no charge to our group, I have arranged that with Don Armacost. However I do need a "head count", so please RSVP to me at [bobyoun@inbox.com](mailto:bobyoun@inbox.com) or you my call me at 515-229-3870 with any questions. Look forward to seeing everyone. Bob Young

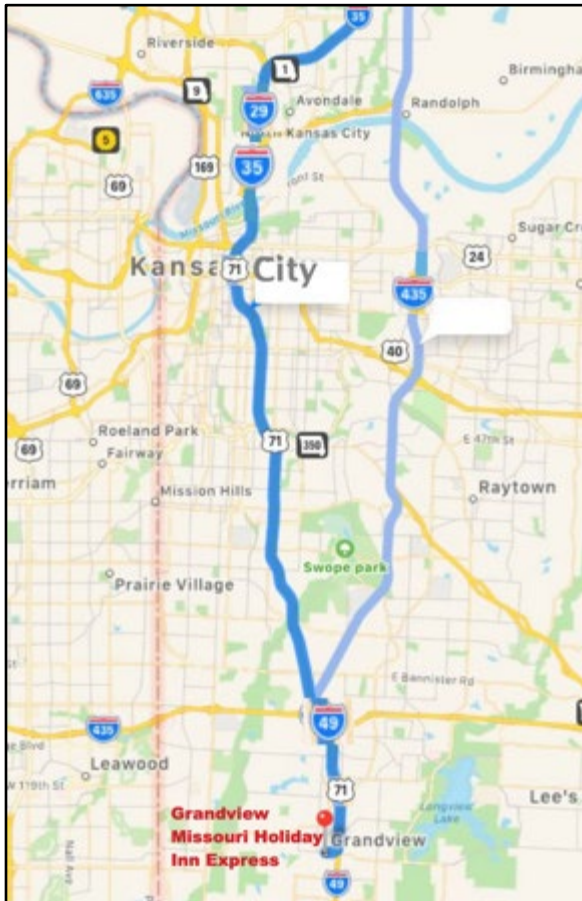
**Directions:** Take I-35 South to where the map starts just North of Claycomo. If you stay on I-35 (the dark blue route) you will go through downtown K.C.MO. to US 71 to I-49 / US 71 to the motel. If you will exit right at the I-35/I-435





interchange, and go up and over I-35 onto I-435 (the light blue route) it bypasses the heaviest traffic and take you all the way to I-49 / US 71 and on to the hotel.

When you get to I-49 / US 71, It would be wise to use your GPS or Google to the hotel, as I was not able to put streets etc. in this map. We think the best bet is to take the light blue route (I-435) as it misses more traffic and interchanges. Either route is approximately 35 to 40 miles from the I-35 / I-435 interchange to the hotel. Bob also advises plan to get there between 3:00pm. And 4:00pm ahead of rush hour traffic. Around 4:30pm even the interstates come to a crawl.



Spotted by Martin Bierman on Chicago Interstate 94 July 12. Some T-Bird owner's top down day ended badly!



Found by Mary Lou Bierman at Hy-Vee - A California Thunderbird Chardonnay



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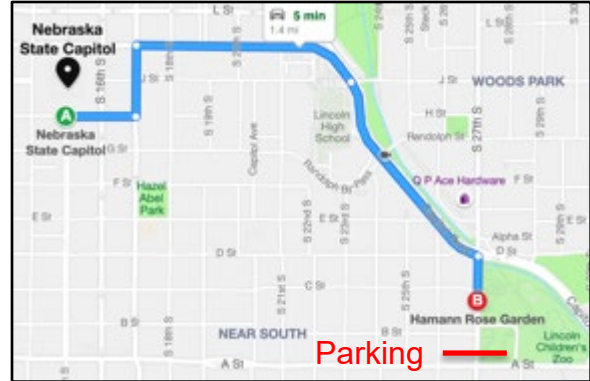
## Directions & Map August Tours and Meeting

### To Nebraska State Capitol

I-80 Exit 401 for I-180 / 9<sup>th</sup> ST to downtown Lincoln.

Turn left/east on K ST to N 16<sup>th</sup> ST

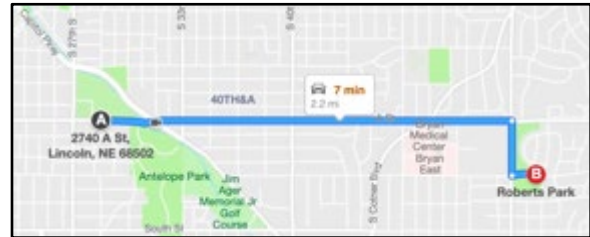
Turn right/south on 16<sup>th</sup> ST to H ST



### To Roberts Park

From parking lot, turn left/east on A ST. Continue on A ST to 58<sup>th</sup> ST.

Turn right/south on 58<sup>th</sup> ST to Sumner Parking lot and shelter house is on the right just past Sumner.



### To Hamann Rose Garden/Sunken Gardens

Return to K ST, turn right/east.

Follow K ST / Capitol Parkway to 27<sup>th</sup> ST.

Turn right/south on 27<sup>th</sup> ST to A ST.

Turn left/east on A ST to Zoo parking.



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