

Thunder Words



February 2023 ~ Volume 46, #2
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International



Prez Says: I hope all our members enjoyed the Christmas and New Year's holidays and took advantage of the warm weather to take down the Christmas lights. We are continuing our monthly meetings on the third Thursday of the month with no events planned until April. At the January 19 meeting I outlined a list of possible events for the year. These included car shows, a picnic, a rally tour, and a lunch at a 50's diner. Member input is needed for what events you would like to enjoy so please attend one of the Thursday meetings or e-mail me with your suggestions. The schedule is flexible enough to include any suggestion.

Martin Bierman

49th Annual Rocky Manginelli
Memorial swap Meet
Sunday, March 5, 2021
Lancaster Event Center
4100 North 84th Street
Lincoln, NE 68507

Next Meeting
February 16, 2023, 6 PM
Track Side Cafe
13901 Guildford
Waverly, NE



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**Minutes of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club meeting
January 19, 2023**

President Martin Bierman called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM. at the Apple Barrel in Omaha, NE. There were 9 members present. Marty & Mary Lou Bierman, Rob and Vicki Kinsey, Bob McGowan, John Moore, Quentin Moeller, Jack & Kayla Sanford.

Last month's minutes were approved with a motion by **Jack Sanford** and a second by **Mary Lou Bierman**.

Old Business:

A thank you note from the Children's Home for our donation at Christmas was read. The gift card method of donating works out well for givers and receivers. It was noted that the Club would support this activity in the future. Nice job everyone. A big **THANK YOU** to **Jeff Brown** for handling this important charity event.

Jack explained he was given a "Gold Medallion Certificate" at the CTCI Convention in October. A letter from Garrett Shropshire, CTCI Managing Executive, stating he was issued a certificate with the word "Medallion" inadvertently placed in the text. The letter had a corrected certificate with just the word "Gold." This explained the "Gold Award" for his newsletter as reported in the Early Bird and the "Gold Medallion Award" Jack shared with us at the November meeting. It was agreed that Jack's newsletter is surely worthy of the "Gold" be it a medallion or not.

New Business:

A very informal discussion involving next year's monthly events followed. There were no events firmed up at this time but was put to the members as something to ponder before the next meeting.

The February meeting February 16th is at 6:00 PM in Waverly at the Trackside Bar and Grill. Plan on attending as the year's activities will be discussed and your input is very valuable.

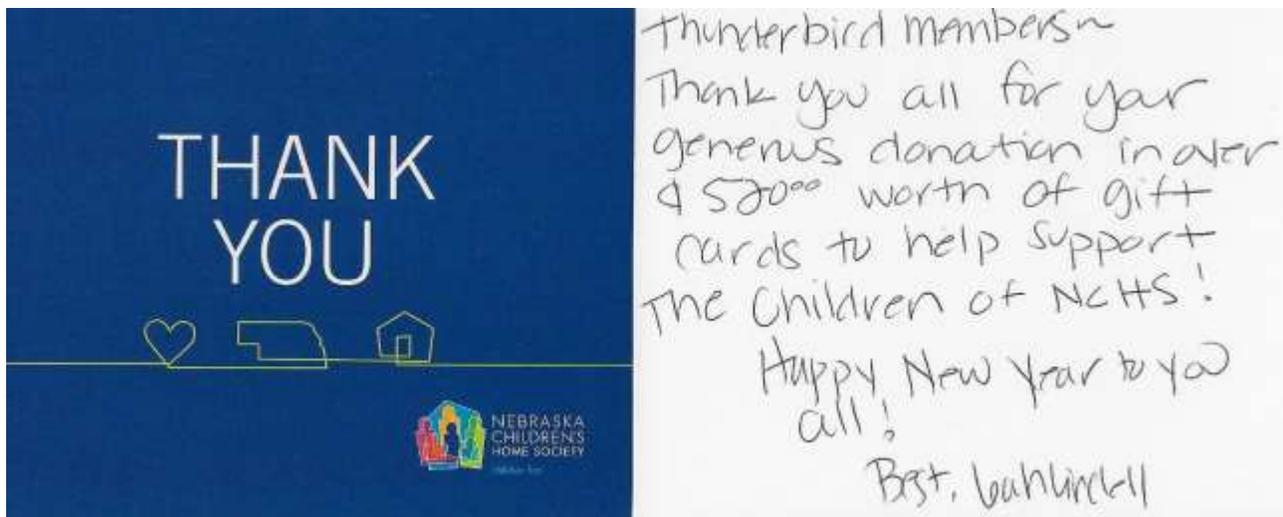
Free Brag night: None, but Bob McGowan shared with us his fifteen-day trip to the Holy Land. Even though they had some security issues travelling between countries, Bob said the trip was really worth it.

CHECK YOUR NEWSLETTER FOR ALL OF THE DETAILS ON UPCOMING EVENTS.

A motion to adjourn was made by **Jack** with a second by **Mary Lou**.

Respectfully submitted,

Quentin Moeller, Secretary



T-Bird Tech Talk

By Martin Bierman



“My headlights need to be brighter.”

Question- A classic T-Bird owner wants brighter headlights.

Answer- I’m quite sympathetic to the need for brighter headlights for our little Birds. A few years ago, my T-Bird’s headlights dimly lit a highway road far enough ahead for me to barely see a line of four large raccoons crossing the road from the right. Unfortunately, I hit the last one in the line damaging my front license plate holder.

There are several options for headlight bulbs that are brighter than the stock ones. The most recent product is made by Holley (Holley RetroBright LED Forward Facing Light-Modern White) and is a LED headlight bulb which can produce “modern white” with a 5700 Kelvin bulb and has two times brighter light output than halogen bulbs. LED bulbs use less power and create less heat than other bulbs. The headlight is easy to install and plugs into the stock wire harness. The bulb is also the same size and appearance as the stock 7-inch sealed beam bulbs (see photo below) and is only available for 12-volt systems. One drawback is the price - \$200 per bulb - which is a small price to pay to see and be seen better at night.

For more information visit the Holley link at: [Holley RetroBright LFRB155 Holley RetroBright LED Forward Facing Light - Modern White \(5700K\)](https://www.holley.com/products/lighting/led_ford/led_ford_led_forward_facing_light_modern_white.aspx)



The following article was copied from the Florida Newsletter and submitted by John La Duke.

When I was much younger, I assembled model car and airplane kits. Part of that process was the application of decals using water. I decided I would 'restore' the ID tag for my '56 using the available decal. My tag was in rough shape (Image 1). I first cleaned it with any solvent that removed the residual paint etc. and washed it with soap. I carefully smoothed creases and bumps with non-metal instruments. (Image 2) It is important that you measure the embossed numbers for length and confirm the decal slots are long enough. The top one was and was already cut out. Some suppliers have the top area cut out and some do not. I find it easier to have to only cut out the center window. The center one was too short by one digit. I used an X-ACTO knife to lengthen it (not fun). I washed and thoroughly rinsed the plate again. As you now have a decal with an open slot in the middle and a wing at the top at one end, the next part is a bit tricky because the decal can tear when wet. I soaked the decal in warm water (I always used warm water when I was a kid to apply decals to models - not sure if that matters). It takes 1 or so minutes for the decal to get loose from the paper. It needs to slide off the paper onto the plate. Test the left side to see if it is loose. If you wait until it totally floats loose, then any adhesive on the decal is diluted. Once it is sliding, position it over the plate and slide it off on to the plate. Position it and carefully press any bubbles under the decal to the edge using your wet finger. I used a paper towel to take up the excess water as I squeegeed the water with my finger. If it gets too dry before you get the bubbles out, it will not move. You may need to reintroduce water to lift the decal a bit to get them out. Once you are satisfied, let it dry for 2-3 days. Remembering a post from a t-bird Facebook page regarding washing the engine compartment, someone advised using gloss clearcoat to protect it. I gave mine 3-4 coats. The decal reacted a bit with minor wrinkling because it was not totally dry before I sprayed it (I think). See image 3. I applied enough clearcoat to smooth those out. My second one I did for a fiend did not wrinkle.

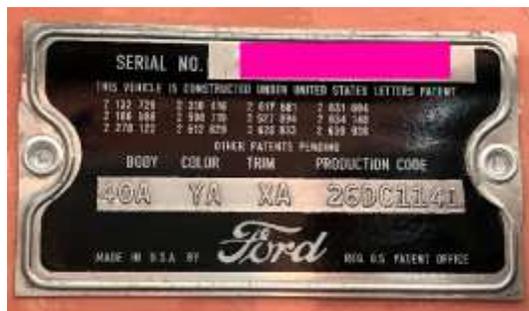
Image #1



Image #2



Image #3



CTCI UPDATES

Out of Cycle Board Meeting - Jan. 6, 2023

The CTCI Board held an “Out of Cycle” Board meeting that focused specifically on election of officers for the 2023 CTCI Board of Directors.

The 2023 CTCI Board of Directors is as follows:

- Region 1 Director Darcy Knapp
- Region 2 Director Marsha Hash
- Region 3 Director Mike McLucas
- Region 4 Director Charlie Hensley
- Region 5 Director Brian Carron
- Region 6 Director Trae Wood
- Director at Large John Smith
- Director at Large Chuck Thompson
- Director at Large Chris Ames

CTCI Officers Elected:

- President Director Brian Carron
- Vice President Chuck Thompson
- Treasurer John Kledis
- Secretary Bob Bly

The Board also Elected:

- Director Emeritus Kerry Kravik

Filling the Investment Committee Vacancy (Created by Exit of Jim Cook), The Board Appointed:

- Director at Large – Chuck Thompson

Regional Driving Tours/Concours Convention 24-29 October 2023 - The Villages, Florida

What are The Villages:

A 55+ community in Central Florida

Fastest growing master-planned community in the country

Covers approximately 32 square miles and approximately 750 miles of roads.

Population of 139,822 people

Residents enjoy more than three thousand clubs that cover just about any hobby or interest a person could have. The clubs are managed by residents.

48 golf courses (36 Executive and 12 Championship)

Where are The Villages:

55 miles from Orlando, Fl

96 miles from Cape Canaveral, Fl



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57 miles from Walt Disney World 181 miles from Miami, Fl
 75 miles from Tampa, Fl 240 Miles from Naples, Fl

Pre-Register Now For:

Concours Judging and Training

Driving Tours To:

- National Parts Depot Ocala's Automobile & Kodak Camera Collections
- Don Garlits Museum's
- Eisenhower Recreation Center for Guided Military Tour
- The Villages Town Squares for nightly free live bands

Other Fun Events

- Welcome to the Villages Dinner at Wolfgang Puck
- Back to the 50's Welcome reception with live band
- Guided Trolley tour of The Villages by motor trolley
- Motor coach trip to Orland for Dezerland car collections
- Motor coach trip to Mt Dora for Wubker "Street of Dreams" and Premier Boat Tour on Lake Dora & Wildlife Tour on Dora Canal

A Pre-Registration form is available on the CTCI Website home page

Hotel Reservations can be made now at the Brownwood Hotel

- Group Direct Booking Link - No login/Attendee Code needed:

Reservation URL: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/110411?groupID=3721196>

Or call the hotel at 352.626.1246, press 1 for reservations.

On Behalf of the Board,

Brian Carron, President



February 20, 2023

This February cannot come in your lifetime again. Because this year's February has:

4 Sundays

4 Mondays

4 Tuesdays

4 Wednesdays

4 Thursdays

4 Fridays

4 Saturdays

This happens once every 823 years.

It is call Miraculin.



2023 Calendar of Events

- February 16** - Nebraskaland T-Bird Club meeting – 6:00 PM – Trackside – Waverly, NE
- March 5** – 49th annual Rocky Manginelli Memorial Swap Meet – Lancaster Event Center – Lincoln, NE
- March 16** - Nebraskaland T-Bird Club meeting – 6:00 PM - Apple Barrell – Omaha, NE
- April** Late - Meet at a diner in Fremont – Details to follow
- May** Late - Gears car show in Bennington
- June 6-10** - Regional meet in Kansas City – more on this later – Local Rally Run -Details to follow
- November 18** – Friendsgiving Club dinner – Misty’s at Havelock - Lincoln, NE (save the date)

Time to get those dues in.

Please use the attach form to submit your dues. The dues are still a low \$15 per year. This is probably the best deal in town. Established in 1975, **Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club** is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of one of the greatest cars ever created the **Ford Thunderbird**.

Advantage of club membership include:

- Regular driving events and monthly meetings every third Thursday
- Social functions such as picnics, show, annual Christmas/Friendsgiving party
- Members with restoration and repair experience
- Assistance with parts acquisition and location
- CTCI master judge to assist with authenticity issues.
- Monthly newsletter with calendar of events and tech articles Club participation in car shows and parades.

2023 Membership dues - \$15.00

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Email(s) _____

Please send this form and check for membership dues payable to Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club care of **Jeff Brown**, Treasure, 7225 South 103 Street, LaVista, NE 68128



Notice how Ford kept moving the “Fairlane Stripe” back!

1955



1956



1957

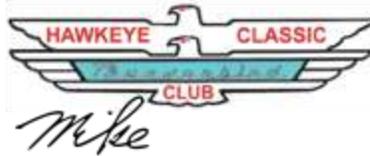


1958



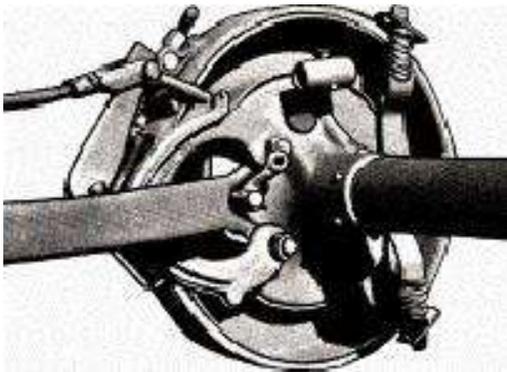
Wanted

I am Mike Sipple, member of CTCI Tech Group, and editor of the Hawkeye Classic Thunderbird Club newsletter. I received the following request from one of our club members, Paul Scharfenkamp. He is looking for help in locating a snap on '55 T-Bird wire basket wheel cover. I am putting his request in my newsletter, but we only have about 36 members, and I thought we might have a better chance of finding one in the Tech Group. Could you please post his request to the CTCI Tech Group membership. Maybe one of our members might have a lead for him. His email is pscharfe15@gmail.com.



Mike Sipple
HCTC Newsletter Editor
HCTCNews@netins.net

Wanted



Jim Jensen is looking for small drum rocky mountain brakes for one of his Model T's.

If you happen to have these or know someone that does, contact Jim directly at (402) 580-3763 or by email at usptausptr@aol.com

FOR SALE

Tom Woodman is getting out of the restoring business and is liquidating his inventory. **Tom** can be reached at 402-464-0569.

1. 1957 Ford Thunderbird project car.
Car has a Nebraska Title.
Car has a lot of new parts.
Car has an automatic transmission.
Buyer would be advised to know how to weld, as welding will be required.
Call **Tom** for details of car's condition.
2. 312 Pistons, crankshaft, rods
3. 292 pistons, crankshaft
4. One bare block
5. Cylinder heads
6. Thunderbird body rotator



Member Birthday

February

John Stekly – 4
 Joyce Abood – 10
 Bob McGowan – 20
 Joan Lacy - 23

If your birthday is missing, please notify the editor. Some of Your applications didn't have birthdays listed.

Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club

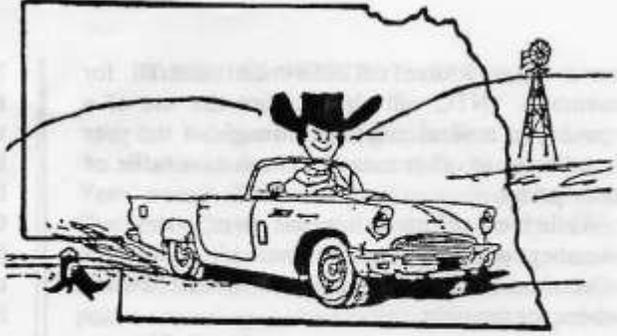
President	Martin Bierman - 402-289-4516
Vice President	Robert Routh - 402-423-5249
Treasurer	Jeff Brown - 402-572-1995
Secretary	Quentin Moeller – 303-204-1761
CTCI Rep	Martin Bierman - 402-289-4516
Newsletter	Jack Sanford - 402-392-1350
Historian	Bob McGowan - 402-334-2593
Social Media	John La Duke - 701-330-7908
Sponsor	Lee Sapp Ford - 402-944-3367

“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. 103rd Street, LaVista, NE 68128.

THUNDERWORDS



from the



NEBRASKALAND THUNDERBIRD CLUB

March, 1993 Dedicated to the 55-57 Thunderbird Volume 18, #3

How we rolled thirty years ago, back in 1993.



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