

# Thunder Words



## *Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club*

January, 2019 ~ Volume 42, #1

Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird  
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International

## January Meeting

Thursday, January 10

6:00 pm

### Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que

12020 Anne St (120<sup>th</sup> & L ST),  
Omaha, NE

**Hosts: Jack and Kayla Sanford**

Map on p. 6



## Prez Says

Happy New Year. 2018 will always be remembered by me as the year of cancellations. Let's hope that 2019 will not be a repeat of that phenomenon. On the plus side, looking back, we had our share of exceptional activities. I'm sure each of you had your favorite. We need to keep that momentum going during 2019. Thank



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you for allowing the same staff, except for the secretary, to serve you for the upcoming year. We will strive to return your confidence.

At our January meeting, besides what I listed in the December newsletter\*, I'm going to ask you to participate in a survey regarding our club. Hopefully, from this survey we can gain new insight and a common direction for the club.

Our dues, as well as the national dues, are due. Don't let your membership lapse, we need your support. I attended an Eastern Nebraska Western Iowa Car Council (ENWICC) meeting and learned that a couple car clubs are folding due to a lack of interest and leadership. Preservation of antique and classic automobiles must not be lost. Without car clubs, hobby cars become dusty garage queens. It's up to us to keep those classic Thunderbirds rolling.

Let's hope for an early spring with rain only during the week, not on the weekends.

**Jack Sanford**  
President

**\*Items from the cancelled December club meeting**

- Installation of club secretary
- Club logo
- Hosts for monthly meetings

**DUES are DUE!**  
**Membership dues are \$15 yearly.**  
**Payable to Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club**  
**Mail check and updates to:**  
**Jeff Brown**  
**7225 South 103<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
**LaVista, NE 68128**  
 See p. 6 for club membership form



***Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club***

<b>President</b>	<b>Jack Sanford</b>
	402-392-1350    jesanford@cox.net
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	402-434-9053    rkinsey@krbklaw.com
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"ThunderWords" is the official publication of the NebraskalandThunderbird 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***

*"Is a true reproduction radio available for my T-Bird?"*



By **Martin Bierman**

**Question** - A 1955 T-Bird owner wants to know if he can buy a reproduction 12 volt radio to use in his 12 conversion instead of having his 6 volt radio converted to 12 volts.

**Answer** - Antique Automobile Radio, Inc., offers reproduction 12 volt radios for the 1955 and 1956-7 T-Bird. The latter are also Town and Country radios.



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Below are the 1955 specifications.

- Depth behind dash is 2.5" at shafts
- Dimensions: 8.75" W x 2.5" H x 2.75" D
- 11.5 - 16.0 volts DC negative ground input - can be operated on 6 volts with power inverter
- Maximum power = 180 watts RMS (45 watts x 4 speakers 4Ω, 14.4V, 1kHz)
- Do not use original speakers
- Uses original antenna
- Sensitivity (FM S/N 30dB) typ 5 dBμ, (AM S/N 20dB) typ 29 dBμ
- Digitally tuned receiver with analog display
- Standard (Motorola) antenna jack ½" D-shafts on controls for mounting (same size and thread as original shafts)
- All controls easily accessible. Volume, Bass, Treble, Balance, Fader and Tuning from original looking controls
- Memory retention (presets, fader and band settings) more than 40 years with power disconnected
- 3 RCA jacks for left channel, right channel and sub-woofer line outs
- 3.5 mm phone jack for input from iPod, satellite radio or MP3 player
- Switch selectable for 1, 2, 3 or 4 speakers
- Switch selectable for North America or Europe mode
- Includes a 6 foot 3.5mm male-to-male auxiliary cable with every radio
- Bluetooth 3.0 EDR compliant

- Built in microphone for HFP (hands-free profile)
- HSP, A2DP, AVRCP profiles supported
- Programmable audio equalizer

Place/answer calls or stream your favorite programs while maintaining original appearance!

**Part # 303401BT: 1955 Ford Thunderbird AM/FM Bluetooth® Radio**  
**\$625.00**

For more information, see the website [www.radiosforoldcars.com](http://www.radiosforoldcars.com). Also, CASCO, Hill's Parts, and National Parts Depot (NPD) advertise that they carry these radios. To get the Bluetooth capable radio be sure it is a recent manufactured one since the original version did not have Bluetooth.

### IN THE NEWS...

*Reprint of an article about long-time club member **Phil Brown**.*

### **CASA volunteer says 'it's good to be a hero' in the life of child**

*By Dan McCann / Special for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska*

Phil Brown retired from the railroad repair industry three years ago and needed something to do. A friend told him about CASA for Douglas County. Today, his volunteer work for the outreach program is something he says he'd be lost without.

Here's a quick glimpse into the psyche of Elkhorn's Phil Brown: After he completed his 30 hours of training to become a court-appointed special advocate (CASA) for abused and neglected children, he volunteered to take on five cases.



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“They still joke about that. Nobody has five cases,” Brown says.

One is typical. Brown and his supervisor at CASA for Douglas County settled on two cases – one involving an 8-year-old girl and her 4-year-old brother, the other a 7-year-old boy with profound special needs, the result of myotonic dystrophy. Wheelchair-bound, he has been in foster care for three years.



“I really think we’re helping this child,” Brown says. “We were in court (recently) and he really liked the court clerk. ... He gave her a high-five. That’s the first time I’ve ever seen him do that.”

A 40-year veteran of the railroad repair industry, Brown started seeking volunteer opportunities after retiring three years ago. “It’s like going from 100 to zero overnight. I needed more to do.”

A railroad buddy told him about CASA for Douglas County, a 20-year-old outreach supported, in part, by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska. Brown went home, browsed the website and filled out the application. He was sworn in as a CASA in February.

Like all CASA volunteers, he visits the children he serves at least once a month in their foster homes and checks in with their teachers.

“I started going to one child’s school and discovered that her foster parents weren’t getting her to school regularly. She was late or missing 75 percent of the time. We turned that around,” Brown says. “That was a good feeling.”

CASAs also participate in placement review hearings and attend monthly team meetings that include case workers, guardian ad litem, biological parents and their attorneys.

“The pinnacle of the CASA’s advocacy is writing up a court report that is submitted to the judge at a review hearing. (It addresses) how the child’s foster care placement, education and mental and physical health are going,” says Alexander Cayetano, CASA for Douglas County’s director of volunteer and community engagement.

CASAs also make recommendations about the child’s placement and any additional service needs like tutoring or mentoring. They agree to stay with a case until it is closed (when the child is reunited with his or her birth parents or adopted).

Brown is known around the local CASA office for going above and beyond. When the girl he advocates for turned 8 recently, he arrived at her home with a gift — a book.

“I push the books,” he says. “We have a saying around our house: First you learn to read, then you read to learn.”

He brings the kids baskets on Easter and takes pictures of them in costume on Halloween.

How’s this for another glimpse into his psyche: When the foster mother of the child with special needs mentioned he could benefit from a safe play area in the home, Brown engaged the Make-A-



Wish Foundation to convert a section of the basement.

"It's an enclosed area that has a padded floor, padded walls, soft play shapes and an interactive Promethean Board," he says of the project.

Brown he didn't know about CASA before that lunch with his railroad friend. Now, the grandfather of two says he would be lost without it: "I'm glad to be doing it. ... CASA gives you a chance to be a hero for a child. You're going to get more than you give."

*"Faces of Fearless" is a storytelling series in Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska's "Live Fearless" campaign celebrating people living their very best lives and inspiring others to do the same. Read the series on [omaha.com/blue-cross](http://omaha.com/blue-cross)*

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

**January ~ Thursday, January 10, 2019.** 6:00 pm. **Club Meeting & Dinner. Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que**  
12020 Anne St, Omaha, NE **Hosts: Jack and Kayla Sanford.** See p. 6 for map.



### **CTCI Events**

**Western Classic Roundup, 2019** Region 6 Convention. May 15 – 19, 2019. Flagstaff AZ.

Set your sights on the West for the 2019 Region 6 Classic Thunderbird Convention which will be held at the newly renovated Little America in Flagstaff, Arizona on May 15-19, 2019. The Arizona Classic Thunderbird Club is proud to present the "Western Classic Roundup." Our location promises cool

weather amid the Ponderosa Pines at an elevation of 6,909 feet. Our tours and scenic drives will provide a taste of Western beauty. Be prepared to be amazed at the diversity of our state.

Pre-registration is available for \$50 which will help meet the financial obligations of this regional convention. Your early support would be greatly appreciated. This pre-registration amount will be applied to your total registration and should be mailed to: Judy Thompson, convention registration chair, 4055-28 N. Recker Road, Mesa, AZ 85215-7793. Checks should be payable to Arizona Classic Thunderbird Club. If additional information is needed, Judy can be reached at 602-625-2052. Additional convention information will be e-mailed to all CTCI chapters.

The Little America Hotel & Resort in Flagstaff is offering a special rate of \$139 per night plus tax. Parking for about 200 Thunderbirds as well as nearby trailer parking is provided. The hotel phone is 800-865-1401 (or 928-779-7900 for locals) and the promo "phrase" is "Thunderbird Regional Convention." Early registration is encouraged. The hotel features Southwestern decor and granite bathrooms and is close to major attractions such as the Grand Canyon, the Red Pillars of Sedona, the Lowell Observatory and Wupatki National Monument, among others. Registration forms will be available soon on [www.arizonaclassicthunderbirds.org](http://www.arizonaclassicthunderbirds.org). Pre-registration is encouraged on the form provided on [this page](#).

For additional questions, phone Chuck Thompson, Convention Chair at 480-773-0222. Watch the EarlyBird and CTCI website for upcoming details!



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Map to [Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que](#)  
12020 Anne St (120<sup>th</sup> & L ST), Omaha



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**Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club**

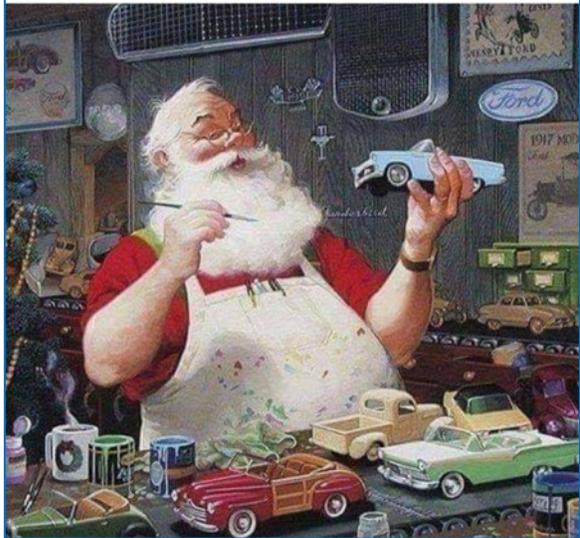
Published by Jamie Karl [?] · December 31, 2018 at 7:36 PM · 🌐

Happy New Year from the Nebraskaland T-Bird Club! May your 2019 get off to a smooth start.



**Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club**

Published by Jamie Karl [?] · December 24, 2018 at 9:00 PM · 🌐



**Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club**

Published by Jamie Karl [?] · December 23, 2018 at 10:18 AM · 🌐

Santa always was a Ford man.



**2018 CLUB MEMBERSHIP DUES - \$15**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and check for membership dues payable to the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club to: Jeff Brown, Treasurer, 7225 S. 103 St., LaVista, NE 68128.



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