

# THUNDER WORDS

# 2021

# Happy New Year

January 2021 ~ Volume 44, #1  
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird  
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club  
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International



**Prez Says**, 2020 is history. Snow is falling, Bird is under wraps and will stay that way until the first warm day with no weather issues. No formal meeting in January or February and probably March but **Jack Sanford** will keep us informed about a Zoom meeting. Per Treasurer **Jeff Brown**, bills are paid, and we have money in the checking account. Contact Jeff for more financial information if you want it as we don't publish the account balance

in the newsletter.

Included in this newsletter is a proposed Calendar of Events for 2021 suggested club activities. Please provide **Jack** your proposed activities for one or more months and we will finalize the calendar after proposals are submitted. January, February and probably March will be dark or via Zoom. We have secured the Ferguson House in Lincoln again for the Christmas party on December 4<sup>th</sup>. I also hope we can schedule a trip to Norfolk courtesy of **Don** and **Karen Indra** similar to what was planned for 2020. The quicker we get ideas in, the quicker we can build the 2021 calendar. Thank you in advance for your input. In spite of COVID 19 issues and the resulting loss of social time with one another we managed to have several really enjoyable and interesting T-bird outings in 2020. Thanks to all who participated and welcome, again, to our new members. **Happy New Year.**

**Robert D. Kinsey, Jr.**



[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
Sponsored by Lee Sapp Ford



## Member News

- Hi All,

You may desire to hear some good news for a change, I do. Nye Legacy called and told us that **Joyce** will be coming home tomorrow, Wednesday. We were not expecting that she would be coming home so soon. Maybe they were getting tired of all the calls from her blue call button for help from the staff, some were just to find a TV channel, so she could watch football. Her Physical Therapist said she was making great progress and was even able to dress herself yesterday, including putting on shoes. We had to hurriedly get the house ready for her with a shower step riser, shower bench, toilet assist grab bars, bed rail, lift chair, walker, wheelchair, etc. A couple times per week, there will be a home healthcare nurse to assist her with some things, like bathing. Also, there will continue to be physical therapy for a few weeks that will be provided and covered by Medicare (even though she does not like physical therapy). We may have some other caregivers to assist us too.

As it turns out, our fifty-ninth wedding anniversary is tomorrow (December 30). It will be a very nice present to celebrate with her coming home. Maybe I will have to provide something very special to celebrate it.

She is excited about being at home again and a new normal routine. Almost every time we talked to her, she asked about when she could come home. She will be much happier being home, rather than confined to a rather small room. Now she will be able to have visitors again. Thank you for all your prayers and cards to get us through this challenging time.

In God we trust,

**Gaylan C. Abood**

4904 N 192nd Avenue Circle

Elkhorn, NE 68022

402-289-3450 home

402-677-0514 mobile

[gabood@cox.net](mailto:gabood@cox.net)

Have the following from **Ted Dimmitt**

- **Fran Graser** spent a couple of days in the hospital. Nothing serious, as she walked out on her own.

Have the following from **Marty Bierman**

- Guys,

I received Hill's calendars for 2021. I will bring them to our next event and hope we don't lose too many months. Anyone in my neighborhood is welcome to pick one up. Hill's has been furnishing calendars for years and deserves a **HEARTY THANK YOU** from the Club.

**Marty**



Have the following from **Jeff Brown**

- **Treasurer's report** This month the club donated a total of \$250 to food banks in Omaha (\$100), Lincoln (\$100), and Fremont (\$50).

The cancellation of the Christmas party this year prevented our annual donation of children's Christmas presents. Club members, **Ron**, and **Marge Schultz** suggested gift cards instead. Thanks goes to the generous club members who contributed over \$200 in gift cards to the Nebraska Children's Home Society. Their web site is NCHS.org.

Twenty club members have paid 2021 dues this December and \$382 was deposited in the club checking account. Members who have not yet sent 2021 dues are encouraged to do so by sending a check for \$15 to the club treasurer, **Jeff Brown** 7225 S 103rd St Omaha NE 68128. (find form on page 10)

- **Club Historian** – This position has been vacant for many years. Recent inquiries regarding our past prompted appointing **Bob McGowan** as Club Historian. **Bob** has been with the club almost from its sanctioning in 1976. **Clarence Johnson** and **Larry Smith** were charter members and are still members.

## **Calendar of Events for 2021**

### Sign Up Sheet

January \_\_\_\_\_ TBD \_\_\_\_\_

July \_\_\_\_\_

February \_\_\_\_\_ TBD \_\_\_\_\_

August \_\_\_\_\_

March \_\_\_\_\_ TBD \_\_\_\_\_

September \_\_\_\_\_

April \_\_\_\_\_

October \_\_\_\_\_

May \_\_\_\_\_ Sanford \_\_\_\_\_

November \_\_\_\_\_

June \_\_\_\_\_

December \_\_\_ Bob & Jan Sibal \_\_\_\_\_



***CTCI NEWS***  
 From  
*Regional Director Brian Carron*

Branson 2021 Regional Concours Convention

**Cancelled**

As described in the release of our convention planning survey last week, CTCI needed to finalize our decision about the full-scale 2021 Regional convention/gathering in Branson, MO., and we wanted/needed your input before moving ahead. It was apparent from the survey results that while COVID 19 vaccines are being distributed the infectious numbers continue to rise and restrictions across the Country remain in place making planning and scheduling of any larger group activity, even 10 months away, to say the least difficult. So, the uncertain risk to our membership and CTCI resources is not one that we should shoulder at this time.

4,031 surveys were emailed to all CTCI members with email addresses on file. Of this, 2,455 members opened the survey. 1,161 clicked into the survey and 1,121 completed the survey. The number of definitely will or most likely will attend were not significant enough to give us any confidence that the convention would be a success.

Secondly, there was interest in attempting to hold three CTCI /Chapter sponsored mini-conventions in the West, Midwest and East in the future so stay tuned for more information on these events as they are developed.

Finally, a large number of respondents voted to delay everything and hope that 2022 will bring us back to some degree of normalcy. In addition 411 members offered individual comments.

For all of you who participated in the survey, a HUGE THANK YOU! For those of you who did not participate, we hope that you will consider participating the next time.

The above represents an executive summary of the collected data. Detailed survey results have been posted on the website.

On Behalf of the CTCI Board  
 Bob Witt  
 President



[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
 Sponsored by [Lee Sapp Ford](#)



# THUNDER WORDS

## TIRE SAFETY

How Old are your tires?

By  
Ken Burns

*V-8 Times July/August 2016*

Numerous studies written by or for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration support a finding that tires expire in six years. Today's tires are apt to fail because of age before they run out of tread.

That's because almost all radial passenger car tires sold today have tread life guarantees ranging anywhere from 40,000 to up to an astounding 100,000 miles.

Some of us probably put between 1,000 and 2,000 miles on our V-8s each year. That means we're very likely to bump up against the age limit than run out of tread.

Tires manufactured after 2000 actually have a "best when used by date." Think about the question posed in the title of this article for a minute. Have you even thought about how long the tires have been on your beloved V-8?

We all check the tread wear and tire pressure but when is the last time you thought about how long the tires have been on your V-8?

Here's an excerpt from the Tire Safety Group webpage: "The evidence is clear: tires should have an expiration date. Older tires are substantially more likely to fail than newer ones.

This is because tires are made mostly of rubber, and rubber degrades with age. Sunlight, heat, ice, and general wear and tear can accelerate the breakdown of a tire. Once a tire begins to break down, it becomes more likely to fail in the form of a tread separation-often at highway speeds, when the failure is most likely to cause catastrophic injuries or death.

For most tires, this expiration date should be six years from the date of manufacture. Tires age dangerously because of a chemical process commonly referred to as oxidation, which simply means that as the tire components are exposed to oxygen, the oxygen particles cause the flexible components of a tire to harden and become brittle.

Over time, the tire will simply fall apart under normal stress, just like an old rubber band.

Because this process occurs naturally, it does not matter if a tire is being used, stored as a spare, or simply waiting on a store shelf for an unsuspecting consumer."

How do I know when my tires were manufactured?

The 2000 tire safety law mandated that all tires have certain information imprinted on the tire sidewall that looks like this, [CYWF7D91313]. What you should be interested in are the last four digits in the week code/year code section. In this case the tire was manufactured in the 13<sup>th</sup> week of 2013.

On tires that were manufactured in 2000 and after, the last four digits indicate the week and year the tire was produced. The first two digits identify the week and the second two identify the year. In the example below, 35 stands for "week 35 and the 07 indicates the tire was built in 2007. \*

(3507) \*

\* information furnished by Editor



[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
Sponsored by Lee Sapp Ford



***A detailed review of Nebraskaland T-Bird Club's 2020 Pandemic Year***



**January 8, 2020, regular meeting.** New member **Quintin Moeller** brought his 1957 T-Bird. Little did he know he would be the Club's secretary for 2021. **Quintin** has belonged to many tractor and car clubs. However, he had never been a secretary. We are trying to round out his resume. This was President **Kinsey's** first meeting. Long time Newsletter Editor, **Jeff Hoffman** resigned, and **Jack Sanford** assumed the role. Thirteen members present. Meeting was hosted by **Rob and Vicki Kinsey**.



**February 20, 2020, regular meeting.** **Tom Woodman** discussed two T-Bird topics. **Jack Sanford** showed a T-Bird history video. There were sixteen members present. Meeting was hosted by **Rob and Vicki Kinsey**.



**March 28, 2020, first cancelled meeting.** **Marty and Mary Lou** were to host a tech session and a shopping spree in Elkhorn. Covid-19 safety requirements prohibited large meetings.



**April 25, 2020, second cancelled meeting.** **Don and Karen Indra** were to host a Norfolk tour that included Johnny Carson's home and a look at Don's friend, Jim, car collection. Don has hopes of hosting in 2021. Covid-19 safety requirements just said stay home.





**May 24, 2020**, third cancelled meeting. **Jack and Kayla Sanford** were to host a Rally Run for Fun event. Covid-19 safety required social distancing.

**May 17, Lincoln**, we were able to honor

**Thunderbird Appreciation Day**

with a tour of two retirement communities. Eleven Classic Birds and one Crown Vic participated in the tour. **Tom Woodman** accounted for four of the cars.

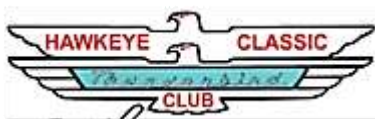
**John and Barb La Duke** handled the photography. A

short meeting with fifteen members was held in **Rob's** garage. Everyone was wearing a mask and staying far apart. **Vicki** served refreshments.



**June 28, 2020**, a country tour, and picnic was hosted by **Gaylan and Joyce Abood**. The 35-mile tour went from Elk Horn to Fort Atkinson (located at Fort Calhoun). During the picnic lunch a short business meeting was held with the eleven members present.

The tour was accented with many famous Nebraska landmarks. It was announced that **Gaylan** had been selected as a member of the CTCI Investment Committee.



**July 2020**, a joint event with the Iowa Hawkeye T-Bird Club was on the drawing board, but the Covid did it in. **Marty and Mary Lou** saved July with an

Impromptu Sonic Inn Driving tour. Four members participated in

driving through five Sonics from Omaha to Gretna. It was a lot of fun, but extremely hot.





**August 22, 2020**, a Lincoln garage tour was held. We toured **La Duke, Kinsey, Sibal, and Woodman** garages with a lunch stop at a Sonic. A short meeting was held at **Kinsey's**. Several Lincoln members planned the tour. **Richard Kirshenbaum's** golden rod yellow '55 was featured in an Omaha World-Herald high school football preview article.



**September 26, 2020**, **Joel, and Nancy Schlessinger** hosted three garage tours with a retirement home drive by thrown in. A short meeting was held at the Schlessinger's garage before a visit to Victory Lane. From there we performed a drive by at Whispering Ridge Retirement home. The tour ended at Mike's Classic Cars. Seven Classic T-Birds and a



1955 Crown Victoria Ford made up the tour. It was a jam-packed afternoon. All Covid restrictions were



observed. **Nancy** served refreshments of ice cream and a variety of drinks. **Todd Sanford** provided the camera work.



**October 22, 2020**, **Ted Dimmitt, and Fran Graser** were to host a dinner meeting at North Bend. The Governor lowered the meeting group size and we had to cancel. However, two driving events were savaged. The Vintage Thunderbird of Kansas City Club (VTKC) invited us to a show and shine at the SAC museum October 17, 2020. They were on their Omaha fall cruise and asked us to join them. **Bierman, Kinsey, Moeller, Sanford, and Young** represented the Nebraskaland Club.





The following day an impromptu Platte River foliage tour was experienced. **Bierman, Heinke, Kinsey, Sanford, and Woodman** enjoyed the fall colors through their windshields. The hour-long cruise from Greenwood covered Ashland, the Outlet Mall, the Schramm Education Center, Louisville, and South Bend.



**November 2020.** No meetings were scheduled. No impromptu tours. However, work was being done to update the Club roster by **Jeff Brown**. The Club Historian position has been restored with volunteer **Bob McGowan** as chairman. We have two individuals that were charter members when the club was founded in 1976. **Clarence Johnson** and **Larry Smith**. **Quintin Moeller** has agreed to filling the secretary's position vacated by **Gaylan Abood**. The rest of the staff was unchanged.



**December 5, 2020.** Annual Christmas Party cancelled. Hosts **Jan** and **Bob Sibal**. The Lincoln Ferguson House will again be the site for the December 4,

2021, Christmas Party. **Ron** and **Marge Schultz** got the ball rolling for the club to support the Nebraska Children's Home with a gift card drive. **Jeff Brown** did the leg work.



In summary it was a frustration year. Many plans had to be broken, however whenever possible the Club forged ahead with limited activities and meetings. Hopefully, 2021 will see us getting back to normal. The hardest part is not seeing the club members.



Logo patches are going fast. This money-making endeavor has brought in \$172.00 for the club to date. There are only 12 logo patches remaining.

See **Jack Sanford** to get yours.



These embroidered 2 x 3 1/2 inch logos can be sewn on or glued with fabric glue onto shirts, jackets, caps, dashboards, etc.

**Logo Prices**

1 logo - \$ 5	6 logos - \$26
2 logos - \$ 9	7 logos - \$31
3 logos - \$13	8 logos - \$35
4 logos - \$18	9 logos - \$39
5 logos - \$22	10 logos - \$43

***Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club***

- President**            **Rob Kinsey**  
402-434-9053        rkinsey@krbklaw.com
- Vice President**   **Martin Bierman**  
402-289-4516        nefron1@cox.net
- Treasurer**         **Jeff Brown**  
402-572-1995        fnhog2@gmail.com
- Secretary**         **Quintin Moeller**  
303-204-1761        qmoeller@yahoo.com
- CTCI Rep**           **John LaDuke**  
701-330-7908        sphaeralcea516@gmail.com
- Newsletter**        **Jack Sanford**  
402-392-1350        [jesanford@cox.net](mailto:jesanford@cox.net)
- Historian**          Robert McGowan  
402-334-2593        mcgowan@attorneys.omhcoxmail.com
- Social Media**     **Jamie Karl**  
402-474-4422        jamiekarl@gmail.com
- Sponsor**           **Lee Sapp Ford**  
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 has received five stories so far. There is still plenty of time to send yours in. We would love to hear about your thunderbird. Any length of story is welcome. Send stories to Jack at [jesanford@cox.net](mailto:jesanford@cox.net).

**2021 Membership Dues - \$15.00**

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

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

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







[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
Sponsored by [Lee Sapp Ford](#)





[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
Sponsored by [Lee Sapp Ford](#)





[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
Sponsored by [Lee Sapp Ford](#)





[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
Sponsored by [Lee Sapp Ford](#)





[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
Sponsored by [Lee Sapp Ford](#)







[www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org](http://www.Nebraskalandtbirds.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nebraskatbirds/>  
Sponsored by [Lee Sapp Ford](#)

