

# Thunder Words



July 2023 ~ Volume 46, #7  
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird  
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club  
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International



**Prez Says:** Once again our monthly event did not occur. The tour of a boiler manufacturer was cancelled due to the employee in charge of the event having hip surgery. Our next event, July 29 at Speedway Motors should be successful, barring any rain! Bob McGowan and I were scheduled to show our cars at the Creighton Prep alumni car show in June, but it was cancelled twice due to the weather. Unfortunately, Omaha did not get much rain on those dates. Members can always attend our Thursday dinner meetings the third Thursday of the month. See the calendar of events in the newsletter for time and location.

**Martin Bierman, President**

**Independence  
Day  
July 4, 2023**

**Next Club Event  
Cars and Coffee  
Speedway Motors  
599 Oak Creek Dr.  
Lincoln, NE  
8:00 am July 29, 2023**

**Next Meeting  
July 20, 2023, 6 PM  
Kopper Kettle Kafe  
9905 Sapp Brothers Dr.  
Omaha, NE**



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## Minutes of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club meeting June 15, 2023

**President Martin Bierman** called the meeting to order at 6:09 P.M. at the Trackside Bar and Grill in Waverly, NE. Members present were **Marty** and **Mary Lou Bierman**, **Jack Sanford**, **Rob Kinsey**, **Bob Routh**, and your humble servant **Quentin Moeller**.

**Last month's minutes** were approved with a motion by **Bob** and a second by **Rob**. There was no treasurer's report.

**Old Business:** Since attendance was sparse there was no old business.

**New Business:** There was some discussion on events coming up. It was decided to delay the Poker Run. We have Cars and Coffee at Speedway Motors coming up. Jane Smith is arranging T-Bird parking and we need to arrive by 8:00 AM. We are not planning a caravan for this event; however, we are seeking a count so Jane will have an idea of how many parking spaces we will need. Please RSVP to Jack Sanford by July 24 at [jesanford@cox.net](mailto:jesanford@cox.net) if you are planning on attending the Cars and Coffee event. See page 5 for map. An August picnic was suggested....also more to follow. Without many members present it was difficult to discuss any events as there was not much input.

After our June meeting **Marty** and **Bob Young** organized a joint meeting with the Hawkeye Club in Walnut, IA, on August 12<sup>th</sup> (see page 6 for details).

**Brag:** **Rob** had some bad luck with a new dip stick. It broke on its first trial. Probably due to over exertion on **Rob's** part. After some fine surgical work **Rob** was able to extract the broken part. A new one is on its way. **Jack** said that this was his first road trip with the rebuilt trans and new radiator. So far it has been successful. He also stated that having missed last month's event and meeting was the first meeting or event missed since May of 2016.

And that folks is about all there is.....

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, **Quentin Moeller**,



# T-Bird Tech Talk

By Martin Bierman

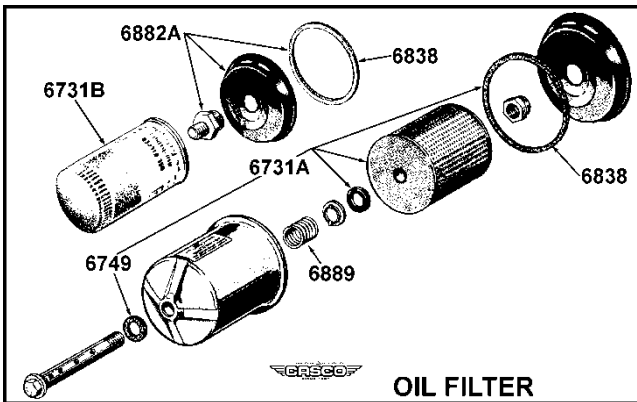


“I want a spin-on oil filter.”

**Question-** A 1955 T-Bird owner wishes to convert his cartridge can type oil filter to a spin-on oil filter. How can he do this?

**Answer-** All the various T-Bird vendors have an adapter kit to convert to a spin-on oil filter (see part 6882A in the diagram and the photo). First, drain the oil and loosen the bolt holding the cartridge can filter in place. Remove the cartridge can, filter, and bolt.

Be sure the oil cartridge can gasket is removed. Next using a 1/2 inch ratchet with a 1-1/4-inch socket remove the large nut in the center of the block filter area and remove the thin metal oil filter plate. Clean the oil filter area in the block and be sure there are no burrs or material in the outer gasket area. Fix the new adapter plate gasket in the block with some grease to hold it in place. Place the new adapter plate in position with drain hole at the top and be sure it is flush with the gasket and seated in the block.



While holding the adapter plate in position place the new adapter plate nut in position and tighten it in the block with a torque wrench to 25 ft-lbs. torque. Do not overtighten this nut since it will distort the adapter plate and pull the edges up producing an oil leak. Fill the spin-on filter with some oil and coat its gasket with a layer of oil. Tighten the spin-on filter 3/4 of turn past when the gasket contacts the adaptor plate. Fill the oil crankcase to a total of 5 1/2 quarts and start the engine to check for any leaks. The Motorcraft spin-on filter (Part FL-1A) is available at all auto parts stores and from the T-Bird vendors.



# CTCI UPDATES

## Bylaw Election: Early Results

Dear CTCI Member,

The Bylaw Election concluded on June 22, 2023.

The results met the CTCI Bylaws Article X Para d (Amendment of Bylaws) requirement, wherein two-thirds of the CTCI membership voting approved the proposed Bylaw amendment:

ARTICLE III – Purposes Para a

"To operate and maintain an organization to encourage and promote the admiration and ownership, care and maintenance, with safe and courteous operation, of the "Classic Thunderbird", defined herein as a two-passenger Ford Thunderbird automobile."

The "Unofficial" details are as follows:

<b>Total Voting For Bylaw:</b>	<b>1,077</b>
<b>Total Voting Against Bylaw:</b>	<b>289</b>
<b>Percentage Voting For Bylaw:</b>	<b>78.84% or 1,077 out of 1,366</b>
<b>Total Members eligible to vote:</b>	<b>3,736</b>
<b>Total Votes Cast</b>	<b>1,366</b>
<b>Percent voting:</b>	<b>36.56%</b>

The detailed results will be presented to the CTCI Board for certification on 7/14 (and to the entire CTCI membership via Board Meeting highlights on the same day).

On behalf of the Board,

**Brian Carron, President**





# 2023 Calendar of Events

- July 20** - Business meeting – Kopper Kettle Kafe – 6:00 PM – 9905 Sapp Brothers Drive – Omaha, NE
- July 29** – Cars and Coffee Speedway Motors – 8:00 AM - 599 Oak Creek Drive – Lincoln, NE 68528
- August 12** – Joint Meeting with Hawkeye Club – Backfield Sports bar and Grill, 2117 Antique City Drive, Walnut, Ia. 11:30 am
- August 17** - Business meeting – Track Side Grill – 6:00 PM – 13901 Guildford 7 – Waverly, NE
- September 21** - Business meeting – Kopper Kettle Kafe – 6:00 PM – 9905 Sapp Brothers Drive – Omaha, NE
- October 19** - Business meeting – Track Side Grill – 6:00 PM – 13901 Guildford 7 – Waverly, NE
- November 18** – Friendsgiving Club dinner – Misty’s at Havelock - Lincoln, NE (save the date)
- December 21** - Kopper Kettle Kafe – 6:00 PM – 9905 Sapp Brothers Drive – Omaha, NE

## July Club Event - Cars and Coffee Speedway Motors

599 Oak Creek Dr. Lincoln, NE

8:00 AM - July 29, 2023

Jane Smith arranging the Parking.

RSVP to [jesanford@cox.net](mailto:jesanford@cox.net) by July 24 if attending.

**Museum of American Speed**  
 Address: 599 Oakcreek Dr. Lincoln, NE 68528  
 Phone: (402) 323-3166  
 Website: <https://museumofamericanspeed.com/default.dfp>  
 Hours  
 Monday - Friday 12:00 PM - 4:30 PM  
 Saturday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

You can reach Speedway Motors from any direction from US Highway #6. Coming from the east US #6 is also called Sun Valley Blvd. Follow US # 6 to Victory Lane. Turn right on Victory Lane. Speedway Motors is straight ahead. The same instructions are true coming from the west, only turn left at Victory Lane.



## August Club Event

### What: Joint Meeting of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club and Hawkeye Club of Iowa

When: SATURDAY, August 12, 2023, 11:30 AM

Where: Backfield Sports bar and Grill, 2117 Antique City Drive, Walnut, Ia. (Exit # 46 on I-80)

Agenda: 11:30 AM-Lunch, Informal joint meeting with the Nebraskaland Club, adjourn to shop and tour Antique City Drive businesses.

Bob has tentative reservations for between 12-20 people, so please respond via e-mail ([bobyoung@inbox.com](mailto:bobyoung@inbox.com)) or phone (515-229-3870) by August 1, 2023 so he can give the restaurant a close headcount. They can accommodate more, so we are not limited.

**We plan on caravanning to this event from Omaha, therefore in addition to responding to Bob Young, please e-mail Jack at [jesanford@cox.net](mailto:jesanford@cox.net) if you would like to join the caravan. Caravan route will be posted in August newsletter.**



## Area Car shows, and Swap meets 2023.

- July 1 – Dewitt, NE – Car Show Dewitt American Legion – 9 AM – until done judging**
- July 4 – Seward, NE – Car Show – Downtown – 7 AM – until done judging**
- July 9 – Brainard, NE – Car show – Downtown – 9 AM – until done judging**
- July 9 – Wayne, NE - Car show – 2nd and Main Street – 9 AM – 3 PM**
- July 15 - Fremont, NE – Car show - Main Street 8 AM – 4 PM**
- July 16 - Ashland, NE – Car Show – Stir-Up-Days – Downtown – 9 AM – 3:30 PM**
- July 16 – Cook, NE – Car Show - Downtown – 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM**
- July 16 - David City, NE – Car Show & Shine Butler County Fair Grounds – 9 AM – 4 PM**
- July 23 – Dwight, NE - Car show - Main Street - 9 AM – 3:30 PM**
- July 23 – Cordova, NE - Car show - Main Street 8 AM – 4 PM**
- July 29 – Hickman, NE - car show - Downtown – 9 AM – 3:00 PM**
- July 30 – Lincoln, NE – Cruis'n Classic Car Show – 1050 Saltillo Road – 8 AM – until done judging**
- July 30 – Gretna, NE – Gretna Days, McKenna Ave. Downtown – 8 AM – 3 PM**
- August 6 – Walnut, IA – 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Car show - Main Street - 8 AM – 3PM**
- August 12 – Columbus, NE - 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual All Ford Car Show – Frankfort Square on 13<sup>th</sup> St. - 8 AM – 3:30 PM**
- August 13 – Council Bluff, IA – Cancer Sucks Car Show – 3820 Harry Langdon Blvd. – 8:30 AM – 3 PM**
- August 13 – Prague, NE – 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show - Downtown – 9 AM – 4 PM**
- August 13 – Valley, NE – Valley Days Car Show - Downtown – 9 AM – 3:00 PM**
- August 18-19 – Onawa, IA – Swap meet – Monona County Fairgrounds**
- August 19 – Omaha, NE – Hot cars under the stars – Dillion Bros. 3838 North HWS Cleveland Blvd. 5 – 9 PM**
- August 19 – Red Oak, IA – 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show – Fountain Square Park Downtown – 8:15 AM – 3:30 PM**
- August 20 – Lincoln, NE – 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Make a Wish Car Show – west ramp of Lincoln Airport - 8 AM – 3 PM**
- August 26 – Arlington, NE – Kick'n It in the Stix Car Show – Washington County Fair Grounds – opens at 11 AM**
- August 27 – Council Bluff, IA – 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Wags & Wheels Car Show – 2700 College Road (WCC) – 9 AM – 4 PM**
- September 3 – Bennington, NE – 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show – 156<sup>th</sup> and Warehouse Streets – 8 AM – 2:30 PM**
- September 4 – Omaha, NE – All American Car Show – CHI Lot D – 455 No. 10<sup>th</sup> Street – 10 AM – ??**
- September 8-10 – Greenfield, IA – Swap Meet – Adair County Fair Grounds – 900 East Elm Street.**
- September 9 – Papillion, NE – All Mopar and Swap Meet – So. 108<sup>th</sup> and Hwy 370- 9 AM - 3:30 PM**
- September 10 – Avoca, IA – 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show – East Highway 83 - 8 AM – 3 PM**
- September 17 – Nebraska City, NE – Apple Jack Car Show - Downtown – 8 AM – 3:00 PM**
- September 24 – Fremont, NE – Swap Meet – Christensen Field, 1730 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street – 6 AM – 3 PM**
- October 8 – Wahoo, NE – Swap Meet – Saunders County Fair Grounds – 7 AM**



# FOR SALE

Dash 'Safety Pad' for '56. Black. Small scuff but otherwise great. \$300.

John La Duke [sphaeralcea516@gmail.com](mailto:sphaeralcea516@gmail.com) 701-330-7908



1956

A padded cover which was slipped over the existing vinyl-covered dashboard became available along with padded sun visors which directly interchanged with the newly introduced standard sun visors.

The padded dashboard cover stretches only from the instrument cluster to the door and the windshield to the instrument panel trim.

In 1956, Ford heavily emphasized their "Lifeguard Design" in response to growing public interest in the subject of automobile safety. Studies conducted by Ford in conjunction with leading universities, police departments, medical groups, and others had determined that the major causes of injury in automobile accidents were doors that opened on impact, hard objects such as dashboards, visors, steering wheels, and the steering columns against which drivers were frequently thrown. Accordingly, in 1956, Ford introduced the Lifeguard Design features shown here.





# The sheer joy of driving a '56 T-Bird!

Photo by Bob McGowan



## Member Birthday July

- John Henderson - 11
- Rob Kinsey - 16
- Ruth Henderson - 19
- Clarence Johnson - 22

If you want to be recognized, please send your birthdate to [jesanford@cox.net](mailto:jesanford@cox.net).

### 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. 103<sup>rd</sup> Street, LaVista, NE 68128.



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