

Thunder Words



June, 2018 ~ Volume 41, #6
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International

June Club Meeting

Sunday, Jun 10

1:00 – 2:30 pm

[Fire Barn Sports Bar & Grill](#)

2523 River Road, Waterloo

Directions and Map – p. 9

Host: Rob Rohrbough

Prez Says

The elements again tried to foil an otherwise delightful T-Bird tour but were no match for **Rob Kinsey's** and **John La Duke's** efforts. Off and on again rain didn't wash out all the Birds as four little Birds and one retro Bird gave a good



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account for the National Thunderbird Appreciation Day. The SchillingBridge



Winery provided a great setting for our lunch and meeting as we were the only guests. **Ron Schultz** presented the new Nebraskaland banner to the approval of all present. It will have its first presentation at the Spring Fling in Des Moines next month.

Marge Schultz reported that **Ted Dimmitt** had broken his hip two weeks ago. He is presently in a rehab facility. All present wished him a speedy recovery.

The Pedal Car Factory rolled out the red carpet for our tour group. There was



every shape and type of pedal car on display with an emphasis on John Deere tractors. There was even a full size John Deere bicycle. They also had a couple of Model "A" full size cars. They were parked with other vehicles not associated with the Ford family.

Next month's meeting will be in Waterloo on June 10th. Bring your Bird, weather permitting, and we will take another tour around the area.

Thanks again to **Rob** and **John** for a great day.

Jack Sanford, President

Minutes of May's Meeting

Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club met at SchillingBridge Winery, Pawnee City, NE on May 20 at 12:30 pm. Nineteen members with four Classic T-Birds and one Retro-Bird were present. **President Jack Sanford** called the meeting to order and welcomed long time members **Dan and Neala Weddle** of Pawnee City. He thanked **Rob and Vicki Kinsey** and **John and Barb La Duke** for arranging the meeting place and the



Pedal Car Clinic tour. He thanked those members that braved the rainy weather and brought their T-Birds for Thunderbird Appreciation Day.

Minutes

The minutes of April's meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

None. The bill for the club banner and support cords was approved as submitted by **Ron Schultz**. Members thanked **Ron and Marge Schultz** and **Jack Sanford** for their development and manufacture of our club banner.



Old Business

Calendar of Events

June 10 - **Rob Rohrbough** has arranged for our meeting at Fire Barn, Waterloo, NE.

July 28 - **Ron and Marge Schultz** will host the club at their lake home. Meet at Veteran's Park in North Bend, NE at 2:15 p.m. and caravan to Pioneer Lake. Dinner later at the Bottom Road Bar & Grill in Morse Bluff, NE.

August 26 - **Jack Sanford** has arranged a rally and tour to Thresher's Park, Waverly, NE. Miniature train rides will be available.

September 29 - **Jim Lantz and Jeff Hoffman** will host the Show and Shine at Speedway Motors, Lincoln, NE with lunch to follow.

December Christmas Party - **Jim Lantz** reported that Quarry Oaks Country Club does not reciprocate the room cost with his Firethorn Club and suggested Champions Run Country Club as an alternate site for the Christmas Party. He will communicate this to **Bob and Cathy McGowan**.



New Business

Rob Kinsey thanked **Jeff Hoffman** for his reminder e-mail about the May meeting. He also presented **Martin Bierman** with a souvenir T-shirt for hosting the tech session last month.



Rob also reported on the [Thunderbird Country Club](#) in Palm Springs and its claimed involvement in naming the Thunderbird prior to production. The first motorized golf cart was also developed there.

Marge Schultz reported that **Ted Dimmitt** fell and fractured his hip two weeks ago and required surgery.

President Jack announced Concours Parts Memorial Day 10% discount sale and passed out the promotion code for the sale.

Brag Box

Marge Schultz reported her oldest son danced in the Columbia, MO Dancing With The Stars competition and received a standing ovation. **She and Ron's** 50th wedding anniversary is June 9.



Dan and Neala Weddle celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last December.



Mary Lou and Martin Bierman's 50th wedding anniversary is June 8 and they will celebrate in Ireland.

Dan Weddle bought a red twin turbo Mitsubishi 3000.

Jeff Hoffman has new radial tires on his '57 T-Bird and blew a tire on his trailer.



Joel Schlessinger put a deposit on a '56 Peacock Blue T-Bird 30 years ago but did not buy it. He now has a red '57 T-Bird.

Galan Abood won the drawing for the free lunch. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. and members caravanned to the Pedal Car Clinic.



*Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Lou Bierman, Secretary*

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"ThunderWords" is the official publication of the NebraskalandThunderbird Club, Chapter 65 of Classic Thunderbird Club International. Annual dues are \$15, send to Jeff Brown, 7225 S 103rd ST, LaVista NE 68128.

T-Bird Tech Talk



"My battery keeps running down"

By Martin Bierman

Question - A 1956 T-Bird owner has a problem with his battery always draining down. He has disconnected the clock but the battery still drains down. What is wrong and how can he fix it?

Answer - The owner may have an electrical leak resulting in a drained battery.

"Electrical leaks, an unwanted current flow, can occur due to worn or damaged insulation, corroded connections or excessive dampness. There is nothing more annoying than jumping into your T-Bird in full anticipation of an enjoyable drive and finding the battery too low to start the car. If you think you have an electrical leak that is running down your battery here's how to find it:

1. Turn off everything that uses electricity.



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2. Remove the battery cable that goes to the starter solenoid from the battery.

3. Connect a multimeter set to measure DC volts between the battery terminal and the cable. If it reads battery voltage there is leakage.

4. Switch your meter to read DC amps (start on the highest range to prevent damage to the meter) and measure the current flow. If the reading is 1 amp or more then quite



likely there is something still turned on. Any current flow between 1 amp and .01 amps is a major electrical leak. Less than .01 amps is a minor leak.

5. If a leak is detected first clean the battery terminals, battery top, and battery cables, then one at a time remove fuses and disconnect wires until the current drops to zero. When it does you've found the source of your leak."

Source – *ThunderEnlightening*, October 1997, a CASCO newsletter publication

Available

Black convertible with hardtop, 63k, black with white leather interior, continental kit, good condition. Price is negotiable. Call Rick at 402-968-4670.



Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club Meetings and Events

June ~ Sunday, Jun 10. 1:00 – 2:30 pm. [Fire Barn Sports Bar & Grill](#), 2523 River Road, Waterloo. **Host: Rob Rohrbough.**

July ~ Saturday, July 28. 2:15 pm. Meeting at Ron and Marge Schultz's lake home. Meet at Veteran's Park in Fremont, caravan to Lot # 36, Pioneer Lake and dinner at Bottom Road Bar & Grill, 3041 Co Rd 26, Morse Bluff. **Hosts: Ron and Marge Schultz.**

August ~ Sunday, August 26 (Time TBD). Rally and tour of Thresher's Park, Waverly. Miniature train rides available. Meeting details to be announced. **Hosts: Jack and Kayla Sanford.**

September ~ Saturday, September 29. [Speedway Motors Museum of American Speed Cars and Coffee.](#) Meeting and lunch details to be announced. **Hosts: Jim Lantz and Jeff Hoffman.**

October ~ [Leroy's Steakhouse](#), North Bend. Details to be announced. **Hosts: Ted Dimmitt and Fran Graser.**

December ~ Holiday Dinner. Details to be announced. **Hosts: Cathy and Bob McGowan.**



CTCI Events

Spring Fling Show n' Shine. June 1 – 3. Hawkeye Classic Thunderbird Club, West Des Moines Marriott, West Des Moines. For information, contact Deb Stipple at 515-231-2232 or Kathy Parker at 515-306-2574.

Thunder 'n Lightning in the Smokies. August 15 – 19. Knoxville Convention Center, Knoxville, TN.



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Sponsored by the [Smoky Mountain Classic Thunderbird Club](#). Convention chair is Bill Long at 865-458-0426.

Area Shows and Events **Weekly/Monthly**

Tuesdays ~ **Culvers**, 14th ST & Old Cheney, Lincoln.

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

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

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

Fridays, ~ **Culvers**, N 27th ST, Lincoln.

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

4th Saturday [8 - noon] ~ Cars and Coffee, **Speedway Motors Museum of American Speed**, Lincoln.

Shows

June

June 2 [5 - 8 pm] ~ **5th Annual Cars & Cure Car, Truck, Bike Show**, 156th & Maple Hy-Vee (3410 N 156th ST), Omaha.

June 3 [11 am - 3 pm (Register 9 am)] ~ **Tangier Shrine Hospital Benefits Day Car Show**, 2823 S 84th ST, Omaha. Benefits Shriners Hospitals for Children.

June 9 [7:30 am - 3:30 pm] ~ **Back to the Past '50s Blast Classic Car Show**, Cascio's Steak House, 1620 S 10th ST, Omaha.

June 9 [9 am - 1 pm] ~ **Springfield Days Car Show**, Main ST, Springfield.

June 10 [noon - 4 pm (Register 9 am)] ~ **17th Annual Spring Festival Car, Truck, Cycle and Tractor Show**, Downtown, Schuyler.

June 16 ~ **7th Annual American Legion Car Show**, Denton.

June 17 [9 am - 1 pm (Register 8 am)] ~ **15th Annual St Mark's Show & Shine**, 8550 Pioneers BLVD, Lincoln.

June 23 ~ **9th Annual Old Settlers Days Car Show**, 6th & Maple ST, North Bend.

July

July 4 ~ **Annual 4th of July Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show**, Downtown, Seward.

July 18 ~ **Vinnie's 8th Annual Classic Car Show**, Wilderness Ridge Golf Course, 1800 Wilderness Woods Place, Lincoln.

July 22 [noon - 3 pm (Register 9 am)] ~ **Annual Stir-Up Days Car Show**, Ashland.

July 29 ~ **Gretna Days Car Show**, McKenna AVE, Downtown, Gretna.

July 29, [11 am - 3 pm (Register 8 am)] ~ **14th Annual Last Hot Sunday in July Auto/Truck Show-n-Shine**, Louisville.

August

August 5 [11 am - 3 pm (Register 9 am)] ~ **Lancaster County Super Fair Show & Shine**. Lancaster County Event Center, 84th & Havelock, Lincoln.

August 5 [12 - 3 pm (Register 9 am)] ~ **Fun in the Sun 27th Annual Car Show**. 17303 Evans ST, Omaha.

August 12 [12 - 3:30 pm (Register 9 am)] ~ **6th Annual Valley Car Show**. Valley.

August 18 [12 - 4 pm (Register 8 am)] ~ **All Ford Show**. Frankfurt Square at 13th ST, Downtown, Columbus.

August 18 ~ **6th Annual Hallamfest All Vehicle Car Show**. Hallam.

August 19 ~ **34th Annual Car Show**. Stolley Park, Grand Island.

August 19 [10 am - 3 pm] ~ **Vintage Wheels at the Fort**. Fort Omaha, 5730 N 30th ST, Omaha.



THE PEDAL CLINIC





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Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Published by Jamie Karl · May 28 at 6:12pm · 🌐



POWERED BY THIS HIGH-TORQUE THUNDERBIRD SPECIAL V-8

The brilliant new Thunderbird Special is an advanced form of Ford's famous V-8 engine. It has an 8.1 to 1 compression ratio, 267 cubic inch displacement and 3.75 in bore by 3.30 in stroke. And there is a 4-barrel carburetor, dual exhausts plus a special pressure-type cooling system. Conventional 3-speed transmission is standard. Also available are Overdrive . . . or Fordomatic Drive with its new lightning-fast automatic low gear that means no shifting when you want power at the wheels.

HOLDS THE ROAD LIKE A COAT OF PAINT

Ford Engineers designed the Thunderbird's chassis for top strength and minimum weight . . . with an extra-low center of gravity for greater stability. New Ball-Joint Front Suspension gives the Thunderbird excellent cornering ability. This advanced type of suspension uses ball joints that have specially shaped seats so that they can't bind or get out of line. They're completely sealed so that water and dirt can't get in.

For further information about
the **FORD THUNDERBIRD**
see your Ford Dealer

... CONVERTIBLE TOP CAN BE FOLDED AWAY IN SECONDS!



Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Published by Jamie Karl · May 17 at 6:09pm · 🌐



Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Published by Jamie Karl · 21 hrs · 🌐



The new

Ford THUNDERBIRD

-masterpiece of engineering

A new kind of personal car that combines sports-car styling and performance with passenger-car conveniences

If you've seen this sleek-looking number on the road, chances are you haven't forgotten it. A mere 34.2 inches from door top to tread, with a 102-inch wheelbase, this all-American-built personal car is already influencing future automobile design. And appearance is only half the story. Beneath the Thunderbird's beautiful all-steel body you'll find fresh new features. For example, the Thunderbird's

steering wheel telescopes in or out a full three inches. The Astro-Dial Control Panel includes a tachometer, signal lights for oil and generator, and a clock with sweep second hand. The Thunderbird answers to the controls with nimble responsiveness that is wonderful to experience. Power steering, power brakes, power windows and a 4-way power seat are available.

OPTIONAL HARD TOP CAN BE QUICKLY REMOVED . . .



**YOU CAN'T BUY HAPPINESS
BUT YOU CAN BUY A THUNDERBIRD
AND THAT'S ABOUT THE SAME THING**



Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Published by Jamie Karl · May 6 at 5:54pm · 🌐

Ford's most exciting news for 1955 was the introduction of the 2-passenger Thunderbird! The new V-8 powered bird was introduced as a sporty competitor to the Vet, but included a full line of luxury options and based on a full-sized Ford. The first year Ford exceeded its projected sales for the T-bird with 16,155 produced. Introductory retail price was \$2,695, just \$5 less than the 1955 Corvette.



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DIRECTIONS AND MAP

Fire Barn Sports Bar & Grill

2523 River Road, Waterloo

1. Travelling from Omaha on West Dodge Road (Expressway), turn right/north onto 228th ST/River RD. Follow River RD for approximately 1.5 miles into Waterloo. Fire Barn is on the right.
2. Travelling from Omaha on Maple ST (Hwy 64), turn left at 3rd ST after crossing the Elk Horn River. 3rd ST runs into River RD. Turn left on River RD for approximately 0.5 mile. Fire Barn is on the left.
3. Travelling from Fremont on Hwy 275, turn on Maple ST (Hwy 64). Turn right on 3rd ST. 3rd ST runs into River RD. Turn left on River RD for approximately 0.5 mile. Fire Barn is on the left.

