

Thunder Words



May, 2019 ~ Volume 42, #5
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International

May Club Meeting,
“Speedometer
Challenge” and Star-
Studded T-Bird Review
Sunday, May 19
3:30 pm

Meet at Chester’s in Chubby’s
Truck Plaza, I-80 Exit 420.
Check speedometer accuracy
during countryside tour to
Pizza Ranch, 8420 Lexington
AVE, Lincoln, for meeting,
dinner, and a Star-Studded T-
Bird Review.

Hosts: Jack and Kayla Sanford

Prez Says

Would you believe
the main subject of
conversation at the
beginning of the
April meeting was,
“Does your T- Bird



heater work?” It seems we can’t catch a
break with the weather. Needless to
say, it was downright cool.

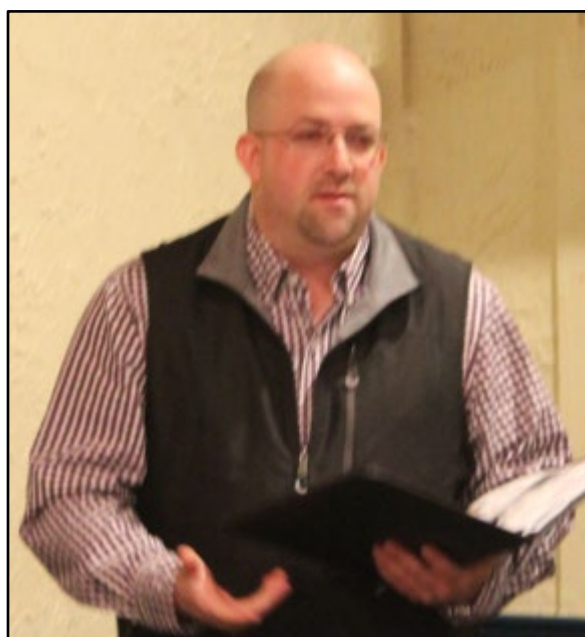
However, the weather didn’t dampen the
enthusiasm of our hosts, **Ron and**
Marge Schultz. They not only brought a
guest speaker but they also presented
us with an Automotive Trivia Quiz.
There were several facts that were
surprising but the biggest surprise was
that Henry Ford produced over 4 million
Model “A” Fords between 1927 and



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1932. The guest speaker, *Tim Peters*, overwhelmed us with the complexity of the Costco chicken business. As we



toured by the plant site, still under construction, you could see that this is really a big deal. Fremont and all of Nebraska will benefit greatly from this industry.



Marty covered the upcoming electronic amendment of the CTCL by-laws. On or about May 1, 2019, the ballot will be sent to you electronically and it must be executed in 10 days. Paper ballots will be sent to those without electronic means. Be sure to vote.

Thanks to **Rob and Vicki Kinsey** for stepping up to host the September meeting.

May has several important dates but none more important than Memorial Day

where we salute all those who served for our freedom. Mother's Day is celebrated May 12th and we all hold that day dear to our hearts. Without mothers, where would we be?



For this group, May 19th is Thunderbird Appreciation Day. To honor the day (May 19, 2019), we will meet at Chester's, I-80 Exit 420 at 3:30 PM. From there we will caravan to the Pizza Ranch in Lincoln. During the country tour we will offer a Speedometer Challenge. This task will determine the accuracy of your speedometer. As reported at the January meeting, I had just installed my rebuilt speedometer. Are you up for the challenge? After the meal and meeting a Star-Studded T-Bird review will be shown. You don't want to miss this home-grown presentation.

Dust off those Birds and join in the fun.

Jack Sanford, President

Minutes of April 27 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by the President, **Jack Sanford**, with 17 members and spouses present at the Wooden Windmill in Fremont. Thank you, **Ron and Marge Schultz**, for hosting the meeting. Also present was *Tim Peters*, General Manager, and guest of Costco



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who gave us an interesting briefing later on the new Costco operations in Fremont and surrounding chicken barns on area farms for growing the chickens to be processed.



Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by **Marty Biermann**, seconded by **Rob Kinsey**. Carried.



Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was given by **Jeff Brown**, the treasurer. **Ted Dimmitt** made a motion, seconded by **Ron Schultz**, to approve the Treasurer's report. Carried.



Old Business

Jack and Kayla Sanford will host the meeting for May 19th, T-bird Appreciation Day, with a speedometer challenge. We will meet at 3:30 PM at Cubby's at the 420 exit on I-80 and proceed to the Pizza Ranch, 8420 Lexington Avenue in Lincoln after touring some small towns. A Star-Studded presentation will be made on the big screen.

Rob and Vicki Kinsey will host the September meeting at Lauritzen Gardens in Omaha. The preliminary schedule is for a Sunday at 2:30 PM with details to follow.

WNEICC books were passed out to members. Because no outside spaces were used at the Lincoln Convention Center, the club used saved funds to increase shares from \$95 to \$120.

The Okoboji weekend of the Hawkeye Club is May 4-5th. Information is available in previous issues of ThunderWords for those who desire to attend.



New Business and Announcements

Marty Bierman gave a briefing on electronic voting on CTCL issues. A vote



will be coming up on possible changes to by-laws concerning Retro T-birds.

The 2019 CTCI Regional meeting is in Flagstaff on May 15-19th.

The First Annual SAC Museum Car Show will be on June 15-16th. Participants can register on their website <http://www.sacmuseum.org/>. There is a \$20 registration fee.

The Wahoo swap meet will be held on April 7th.

There are lots of car activities in May.

The [Fremont Car Show](#) is July 13th. The Cruisers on Main Street Car Club sponsors the show with cash prizes and trophies.



Brag Box

There were a number of brags.

Vicki Kinsey has a new granddaughter, Quinn Everly, who is now 2 months old.

Martin Bierman has a grandson graduating from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a major in music technology and another grandson graduating from Papillion High School who has a full-ride scholarship to The Citadel.

Ron Schultz has sold his 1957 Skyliner to a gentleman from Omaha.

Marge Schultz's oldest grandson is

graduating from high school.

Marge Schultz is the proud owner of a 1955 pink and white Crown Victoria to replace her pink 1957 T-Bird which will be for sale.



Don Indra is beginning a rotisserie restoration on his T-Bird.

Congratulations to all!

Adjournment

Motioned made by **Rob Kinsey** and seconded by **Ted Dimmitt** to adjourn meeting. Carried.

Respectably Submitted,
Gaylan Abood, Secretary

T-Bird Tech Talk

“How do I start a T-Bird that has been sitting for years?”



By Martin Bierman

Question - A new T-Bird owner wants to start a T-Bird that has been sitting for more than 10 years. What is the procedure?

Answer - This car has been sitting for many years, so before one grabs a battery and gas can and attempts to start it, there are multiple systems that need to be evaluated.

First and foremost, determine if the engine is stuck or not. Put the car in



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neutral and attempt to turn the crankshaft with a wrench on the pulley bolt or try turning the fan blade. If the crankshaft moves the engine is unlikely to be stuck and one can proceed with further evaluation. If the engine is stuck, there is no point in trying to start it.

Next, remove the spark plugs and squirt or spray oil into the cylinders to help lube the rings and prevent any scoring of the cylinders. Change the oil and look for evidence of any water or antifreeze that might suggest a cracked block. Remove the valve covers and pour oil over the valve train. Remove the distributor and run the oil pump with a drill, if possible. Remove the air cleaner and check for any rodent nests or deposits. Check the antifreeze in the radiator. If it is green or yellow in color continue with your evaluation. If it is rust colored or absent, flush the radiator and block.



Now for the important part. Remove the gas cap and smell the fuel. If it smells like shellac or varnish the tank will need to be cleaned prior to start up. Examine the interior of the tank through the fuel sender opening for rust or varnish. Remove the fuel line at the tank and fuel pump and blow it out with air. Examine all the steel and rubber fuel lines for evidence of past leaks or rust. Change

the fuel filter. Examine the interior of the carburetor bowl by removing the carburetor top. If rust or severe deposits are present, the carburetor and fuel pump will need to be serviced or replaced. If the fuel system looks clean, add gas to the fuel tank and pour a small amount into the carburetor from the top. If the fuel tank is contaminated, one can attach the fuel pump to a small gas can. Be sure a fire extinguisher is handy. Place a well charged battery in the tray and attach the battery cables. Check the cables for corrosion or damage.

If everything to this point seems okay, spin the engine over briefly without the spark plugs in place to build up fuel and oil pressure. With the valve covers still removed, check that all valves are opening and closing properly. If it spins freely, replace the spark plugs with new ones if the old plugs look oil or carbon fouled. Replace the valve covers and now start the engine. Check for fuel and water leaks. The engine will smoke for a brief time until the oil added to the cylinders is burned off. Listen for any abnormal sounds from deep in the engine or from the valve train.

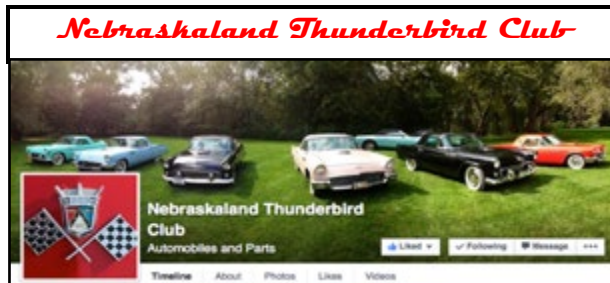
Hopefully, you will have properly resurrected the engine from its long sleep.

Quick Jack

The Quick Jack, featured on page 4 of the February issue of [ThunderWords](#),



is great for wheel, brake, and any under car work. Pictured is **Martin Bierman's** red '55 T-Bird on the Quick Jack.



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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 103rd ST, LaVista NE 68128.

Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club Meetings and Events

May ~ Sunday, May 19. 3:30 pm. Meet at Chester's in Chubby's Truck Plaza, I-80 Exit 420. Check speedometer accuracy during countryside tour to [Pizza Ranch](#), 8420 Lexington AVE, Lincoln, for meeting, dinner, and a Star-Studded T-Bird Review. **Hosts: Jack and Kayla Sanford.**

June ~ Details to be announced. **Hosts: Joyce and Gaylan Abood.**

July ~ Saturday, July 20. 11:00 am. [Durham Museum](#) (former Union Station), 801 S 10th ST, Omaha. Docent led tour

(\$9 each), soda fountain lunch (\$8-10), meeting, gift shop. Cars will be displayed at east end of parking lot for all to see. **Hosts: Rob and Vicki Kinsey.**

August ~ Details to be announced. **Hosts: Jim Lantz and Jeff Hoffman.**

September ~ Lauritzin Gardens, Omaha. Details to be announced. **Hosts: Rob and Vicki Kinsey**

October ~ Details to be announced. **Hosts: Ted Dimmitt and Fran Graser.**

November ~ Host: Open.

December ~ Saturday, December 14. 5:30 pm. Holiday dinner and meeting. [Mahoney State Park](#), Ashland. **Hosts: Cathy and Bob McGowan.**



CTCI Events

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

“Birds on the Bay” International Convention. May 4–9, 2020. Sarasota, FL.

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 – 9 pm] ~ **Keystone Center**, 7803 Military AVE, Omaha.

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

Wednesdays [5 – 8 pm] ~ **Raising Cane's Cruise Night**, 1058 E 23rd ST, Fremont.

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



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

4th Friday ~ Cruz Nite, **We'll Smoke U BBQ**, 1773 Hwy 6, Gretna.

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

Shows

May

May 11 [noon – 4 pm (Register 9:30 am)] ~ **Greater Omaha Rotary Car Show**, 5404 Cedar ST, Omaha.

May 19 [10 am – 2 pm] ~ **Midtown Car Show**, 31st AVE & Farnam ST, Omaha.

May 19 [Registration 8 am – 11 am] ~ **4th Annual Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show**, The Sowers Club of Lincoln, Gateway Mall, 61st and O ST, Lincoln. Benefits Family Autism Network of Lincoln, Child Advocacy Center of Lincoln.

May 24 [3 – 9 pm] ~ **7th Annual La Vista Salute to Summer Festival Show & Shine**, La Vista Keno, 7101 S 84th ST, LaVista.

May 25 ~ **45th Annual Memorial Day Weekend Show 'n Shine Car Show**, Pawnee Park, Columbus.

June

June 1 [noon – 4 pm] ~ **Cars 'n' Heroes Car Show**, Gene Steffy Ford, 2215 23rd ST, Columbus. Benefits Childhood Cancer Research.

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

June 2 [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 6 [Registration 9 am – noon] ~ **DeWitt Car Show**, downtown DeWitt.

June 8 [8 am – 3 pm] ~ **All Ford Show Lincoln**, Anderson Ford, 2500 Wildcat DR, Lincoln.

June 8 [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 8 [9 am – 1 pm] ~ **Springfield Days Car Show**, Main ST, Springfield.

June 8 [noon – 3 pm] ~ **Sid Dillon Summer Showcase Car Show N' Shine**, Sid Dillon Wahoo, 1750 County RD J, Wahoo.

June 15-16 [9 am – 5 pm] ~ **Strategic Air Command Car Show**, SAC Museum, 28210 West Park Highway, Ashland.

<https://sacmuseum.org/event/car-show/>.



June 16 [9 am – 1 pm (Register 8 am)] ~ **16th Annual St Mark's Show & Shine**, 8550 Pioneers BLVD, Lincoln.

June 22 [11 am – 4 pm] ~ **Wheels of Courage Car Show**, Quaker Steak And Lube, 3320 Mid-America DR, Council Bluffs. Benefits Charitable Patient Care Fund.

June 22 [Registration 9 am – 11:30 am] ~ **10th Annual Old Settlers Days Car Show**, 6th & Maple ST, North Bend.

June 29 [9 am – 2 pm] ~ **Hallam Fest All Vehicle Car Show**, Hallam.

Watch for July – September shows in the next issue of ThunderWords.



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AVAILABLE

Andy Grimm's Collection – For Sale

- 1951 Mercury Sports Sedan; dark green \$19,250.00
- 1955 Ford Country Sedan, two-tone blue \$13,250.00
- 1956 Thunderbird, hardtop only, colonial white and red \$29,600.00
- 1960 Ford Fairlane 500, aquamarine, 4-door sedan \$ 9,700.00
- 1966 Mustang, 2-door hardtop, V-8 automatic, red \$ 6,975.00
- 1972 Mustang Sports Roof CJ, dark green \$11,625.00
- 1989 Mustang Red Convertible, Kenny Brown Modifications \$12,175.00
- 2010 Shelby GT 500, dark blue \$36,000.00

Quality number 2 and 3 per January/February Hearst black book collectible value guide.

Andy Grimm
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Estate Auction - Dick Hansen's 1957 T-Bird



June 1, 2019 & June 2, 2019, at 620 E 22nd Street, Cozad, NE.

<https://www.brokenbowlivestock.com/all-auctions/2018/1/10/template-draft-for-brott-auction-not-livestock-44fhp-ypex2>

For Sale – Howard Larson's 57 T-Bird

Photos and story in the January-February 2019 issue of The Early Bird. Best reasonable offer. Interested parties may contact Howard Larson at 712-281-8812.



VOTE

Inclusion of Retro Birds in CTCl ~ Yes? No?

Electronic ballots are due on
May 10.



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