

Thunder Words



May 2021 ~ Volume 44, #5
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International

THUNDERBIRD APPRECIATION DAY MAY 16, 2021



Prez Says: Now that was fun in the sun in Elkhorn! Thanks **Nancy** and **Joel** for hosting AND providing ice cream! I got most of the ice cream out of my club shirt! We opened our meeting with a presentation of a framed certificate of appreciation to **Gaylan Abood** for serving as secretary. I still have a few ENWICC books to hand out. Please support this month's tour to Norfolk May 29 hosted by Don and Karen Indra. See page 7 for a map and details. We will let people know where and when to meet up if coming from/near Omaha and Lincoln. RSVP to Jack if your intentions are to join us. A few members are planning a trip to Des Moines to meet with the IA chapter on T bird Appreciation Day May 16th. June is still considered open, and members are encouraged to suggest an event closer to home. Reservations are coming in for the Cruisin' Classics Car Show in Lincoln July 25th. They added a Thunderbird class, and we need at least 7 to register. Tom Woodman has at least 5 committed, three reservations are in and several others are promised. They have a nice, air-conditioned facility to enjoy and lots of cars will be on display. Historian **Bob McGowan** led an interesting discussion about the early years of the club. Several members added stories about the club's early existence and activities. We were especially glad to see early member **Larry Smith** in attendance. Here's to many more years of club fun and fellowship. Thanks to **Jack** for the newsletter, **Marty** for Tech Tips, **Quent** for the minutes and all men and ladies who attended last month's event. We hope to see everyone in Norfolk!

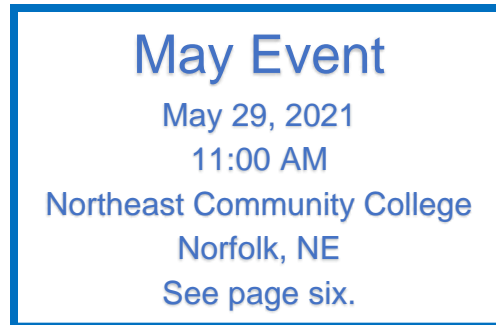
Rob Kinsey, President



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Minutes of the April 25th Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM at the Dairy Chef in Elkhorn, NE by President **Rob Kinsey** with 19 members and spouses in attendance.

The March meeting minutes were published in the April newsletter and a motion was made and a second to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

A **BIG thank you** to **Joel** and **Nancy Schlessinger** for arranging the meeting place at the Dairy Chef and for providing refreshments of our choice. They actually provided curb service.

Treasurer **Jeff Brown** was not present, therefore there was no treasurers report.

A very nice certificate was presented to **Gaylan Abood** for his service in performing the duties of Secretary. Thank you for a job well done, **Gaylan**.

New members Carlson and Jane Smith were welcomed.

Old Business:

President **Rob Kinsey** handed out some of the last copies of the Car Council Book 2021. Contact **Rob** if you want one. I am not sure if any are left.

The May 29th drive to Norfolk is still a go. Be sure to check the newsletter for details on where to meet up and side activities for the wives if they do not wish to tag along with the fellers.

May 16th is Thunderbird Appreciation day. Get your little Birdie out and show it off.

The July 25, 2021 Cruis'n Classics Auto Show is going ahead as planned. If you haven't already, make sure to send your registration form to **Rob** so that he can turn them in to get the separate class for Thunderbirds as promised. This should be a nice show and something to look forward to.

An informal discussion of other future events followed.

New Business:

Bob McGowan, our historian was given the opportunity to refresh and enlighten old and new members on the history of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club from its formation in 1975 making the club 45 years old. Thank you, **Bob**.

Random discussion followed.

There was no other new business.



CHECK YOUR *NEWSLETTER* FOR ALL OF THE DETAILS ON UPCOMING EVENTS.
(Yes, I am yelling)

President **Rob Kinsey** adjourned the meeting at 4:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Quentin Moeller, Secretary



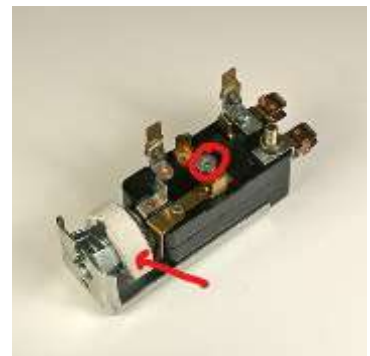
T-Bird Tech Talk

By Martin Bierman

“My instrument dimmer switch doesn’t work.”

Question- A 1956 T-Bird owner cannot get his instrument lights to come on properly. What’s wrong and how can it be fixed?

Answer- The instrument dimmer function is controlled by the headlight switch knob. Rotating the knob increases the instrument lights from dim to bright. The problem is that this is controlled by a ceramic rheostat (red arrow in picture) with a spring that contacts the electrical pole for the instrument lights. The spring is prone to oxidation or rust. Turning the head light knob back and forth multiple times will usually clean the spring enough to make better contact and improve the dimmer function. If this does not work, one has two other options: replace the switch or convert the dimmer function to bright instruments lights all the time eliminating the dimming effect.



In order to convert the instruments lights to full bright all the time one must remove the headlight switch. Remove the headlight knob and shaft by pressing the button down on top of the switch (red circle in picture) then pull the knob and shaft free of the switch. Remove the bezel with a wide blade screwdriver or a bezel removal tool sold by most T-Bird vendors. The headlight switch will drop down from the dash. Remove the instrument light wire (blue-red stripe) from terminal “I” and place on one arm of a two blade to one female adapter (see picture; sold by NAPA). Remove the taillight wire (black) from terminal “R” and attach to the other arm of the adapter. Place the female part of the adapter on terminal “R”. Now the instrument lights will be full bright whenever the taillights are on with headlights or parking lights.



CTCI NEWS

Highlights of the April 9, 2021, board meeting.

- President Brian Carron presented status updates on open items:
 - Signal Hill long-time planned building modifications/upgrades, fully funded by the Condo Association, are continuing. Doors and frames are being installed today (4/9). Windows, siding, and concrete work scheduled for next week.
 - Brian Carron, and Garrett Shropshire traveled to Signal Hill to facilitate the move to Kansas City.
 - The physical inventory, other valued items, and the Factory Invoices have been moved to Kansas City.
 - Insurance for CTCI's inventory has been changed to account for the Kansas City location. Building remains insured until sold.
- Director Darcy Knapp presented additional information about the 2021 Virtual Convention <https://www.cybirdspace.com>. We want to remind all members to go to the web site and upload pictures of their favorite T-Bird. She reminded everyone that Convention T-shirts are available for \$19.95 for CTCI members and are on the CTCI webstore. Prospective members as well as the general public will be able to purchase the shirts for the regular price of \$24.95.
- Garrett Shropshire presented the office Activity Report. The office continues to work on renewals. He discussed the big push to get all of the renews completed before the start of May. He also discussed having the Regional Directors communicating with Chapters to encourage membership renewals. He also outlined the mailer sent out for renewals at the start of April. Finally, he highlighted that CTCI gained 31 new members in March.
- Director John Smith updated the Board on the Factory Invoice move. The Invoices are at their new location in Kansas City. The backup "thumb drives" will be stored in Kansas City bank safety deposit box.
- The following items were passed during "New Business."
 - Resolution to update financial account signers.
 - Action regarding CTCI inventory of a book – "Caring for a Legend."
 - Director Kerry Kravik – announced that he had received a promotion and was moving out of Region 2. The Board passed two items related: 1) Kerry Kravik was appointed temporary Director for Region 2 while a replacement could be found and 2) Kerry Kravik's reason for leaving the Board was accepted and per OP&P / By-Laws is allowed to run for a board position in the future.
 - Establishment of an OP&P review committee who will be tasked to review the By-laws and OP&P and make recommendations to the Board. This review is scheduled to be completed by June 1, 2021.
- A special note of gratitude and thanks was made to Barbara and Larry Kooiman for all of their help over the years in shipping and managing the CTCI inventory and for providing "over-the-top" assistance in the move and clean-up of the Signal Hill property.
- Next Board Meeting is set for May 14, 2021.

Brian Carron, CTCI President

Jim Rodgers, CTCI Secretary



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Quotes about mothers from some notable folks:

- All I am I owe to my mother.
George Washington
- All that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.
Abraham Lincoln
- I have tried to live my life as my mother would have wished. She taught me as a boy that service is the highest duty in the world...I have tried to follow her teaching.
Henry Ford



Calendar of Events for 2021

Sign Up Sheet

May _____ **11:00 AM – Norfolk_ May 29, 2021** – see page seven for details.

June__Open_____ (Gering/Scottsbluff car show - June18 & 19, 2021?) *

July____**Cruis'n Classics Lincoln July 25, 2021-** Get your entry in now.

August____Open_____

September__Open**_____

October__17th **Brownville?** _

November__**20th Friendsgiving** – Jan & Bob Sibal -Jeff Hoffman & Jim Lantz-hosts

December _____Open_____

The open months need sponsors. With the lessening of Covid restrictions there comes more opportunities for events/meetings. Please let **Rob** know if you can host an open month.

*This event has not been sanctioned as a club event by the Nebraskaland T-Bird Club.

****Marty** might hold a tech session this month – Covid restrictions could dictate.



Dairy Chef – Greet and Meet – Show and Shine – April 25, 2021.



NORFOLK DRIVING EVENT AND MEETING

May 29, 2021

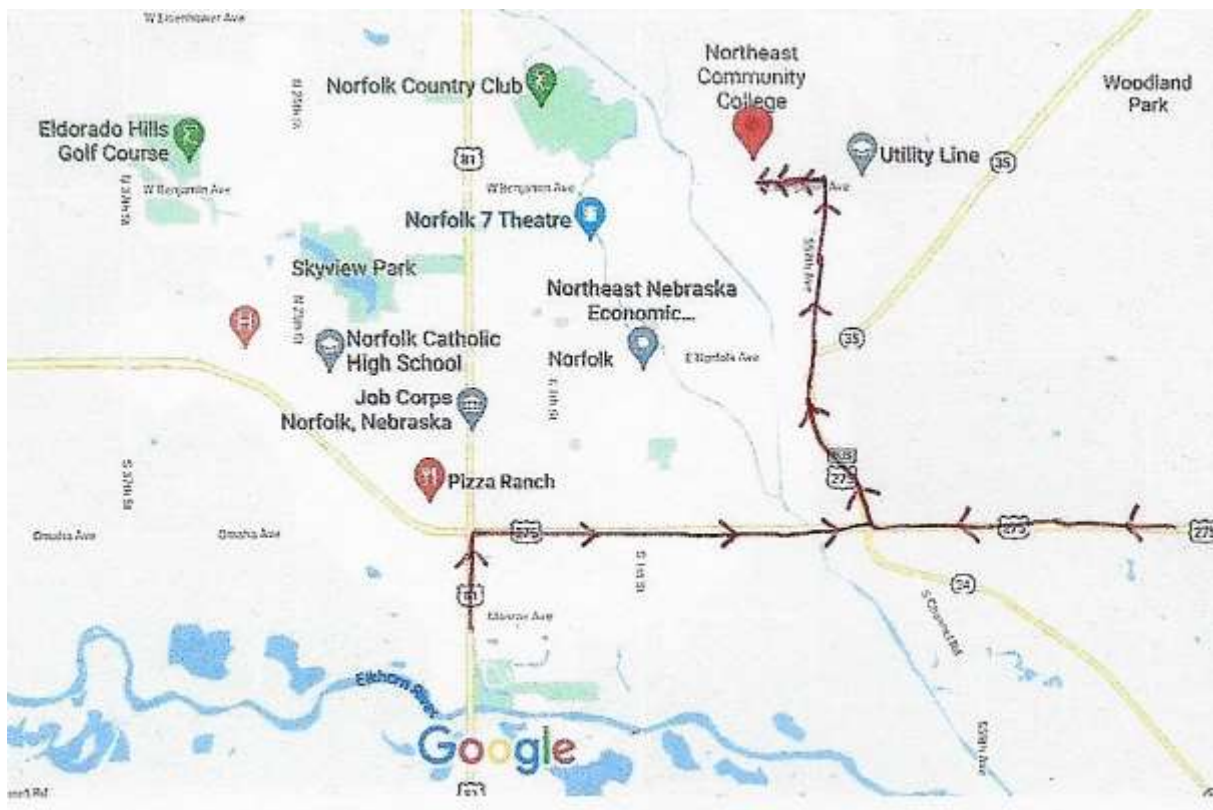
Don and Karen Indra have planned a fun day in Norfolk. Those of us travelling to Norfolk will get to experience a road trip with our T-Birds. Most of the highways out of Omaha and Lincoln are pretty much four lanes. The distance from Omaha is approximately 118 miles, 2 hours, and 15 minutes at 50 mph.

The first stop in Norfolk will be at the Northeast Community College located at 801 East Benjamin Avenue. At the college we will spend thirty to forty-five minutes with one of Don's instructors. From there we will have lunch and a short meeting at the Pizza Ranch café. After a forty-five-minute lunch we will tour Jim Marr's automobile collection. If the women prefer to go to the Norfolk Museum, transportation will be furnished. The museum charge is \$4.00 per person. We should be at Jim's for two hours, allowing us to be on the road home no later than 4:30 PM.

Directions and a map will be furnished in May's Newsletters.

Please RSVP to Jack at jesanford@cox.net or 402-392-1350 by Friday, May 21.

Map and directions



Regardless from which direction you approach Norfolk you need to find Highway 275. At the intersection with South Victory Road go north to East Benjamin Ave. At the intersection with East Norfolk Avenue, you will encounter a traffic circle, be sure to continue in a northerly direction. Turn left or west at East Benjamin Avenue. Northeast Community College will be on your right. We will park in the first parking lot. From there Don will lead us to the Pizza Ranch and after lunch to Jim Marr's. Follow the red arrows on the attached map.



Free Continuous Weekly and Monthly Summer Events.

Tuesday's – Lincoln, NE - Culver's, 14th Street and Old Cheney Road. May through October.

Fourth Wednesday of the month – Lincoln, NE – Cruis'n Classics Night at Don & Millie's, 5200S. 56th Street, 4-8 PM; January through November. Mention you're here for the Cruis'n Classics when ordering.

Wednesdays – Omaha, NE – Keystone Center, 7803 Military Ave., 5 PM to 9 PM April through September.

Wednesdays – Fremont, NE – Raising Canes Cruise Night, 1058 E 23rd., May 5 through September 29. 5:30 PM - 8 PM; Hosted by the Fremont Antique Car Club.

Wednesdays – Omaha, NE – Cruisers Bar and Grill Classic Car Show and Shine. 8634 F St., 5 PM; April 21 through October 27.

Thursdays – Council Bluffs, IA - Classic Car Cruise In, Quaker Steak & Lube, 3320 Mid-America Drive. All Summer May-September.

Second Thursday of the Month – Norfolk, NE – Sonic Drive-In, 1910 Market Lane, 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM; May through September.

First Friday of the Month – Percival, IA, Cruise Night at Sapp Brothers Truck Stop, 6 PM.

Fridays – Lincoln, NE, Culver's, North 27th Street, May through October.

Third Friday of the Month – Auburn, NE, Sonic, May through September. Hosted by Nemaha Valley Street Rods.

Third Friday of the Month – Maryville, MO, Burger King, North 71 near Walmart, 6 PM; April Through September.

Fourth Fridays – Brownville, NE, Main Street, 5: PM; April through October.

Fourth Fridays – Gretna, NE, Cruz Nite. We'll Smoke U BBQ, 11773 Highway 6: May through September.

Local May Car Shows

VFW Post 2503 Show and Shine, 8904 Military Rd. May 2, 2021 - Registration 9am-12pm- \$5.00 donation–Awards 3pm.

Skills and Grilles Car, Truck, & Tractor Show – Saturday May 15, 2021. Gretna High School 11335 S. 204th Street, Gretna, NE. Registration \$15 - 9am – 12pm, Awards 2pm

Gears Charity Car Show – Metro Community College – Elkhorn, NE, Sunday May 30, 2021 – information: Ron Brown, 402-660-8935.



Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club

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The Member Profile

feature needs your help.
Send your story to Jack at
jesanford@cox.net.



Nebraskaland Club Logos. 2X3 ½ inch patch can be sewn or glued on with fabric glue. Look great on shirts, caps, and jackets. Contact Jack at 402-392-1350 – jesanford@cox.net



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