

Thunder Words



October 2024 ~ Volume 47, #10
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International



Prez Says: Saturday September 28 was a wonderful day for a driving tour. **Dick and Diane Heinke** led three other T-Birds on a drive to Indian Cave state park. Members attending included **Rob Kinsey, Jack Sanford,** and **Martin and Mary Lou Bierman.** Members enjoyed a picnic in the park, a tour of the park's museum and a drive along the Missouri river to the park's cave. On the way home **Dick, Diane and Rob** stopped at the Whisky Creek Winery in Brownsville. We all had a great time and thank you **Dick** for arranging the tour. At our October meeting we will accept nominations for the 2025 officers. Please volunteer to help lead and

develop our club.

Martin Bierman, President

Iowa River Tour
and Cruise
October 12/13,
2024
See details
page 7

October Dates:
2 - Name your Car Day
4 - Golf Lover's Day
12 - Farmer's Day
14 - Columbus Day
31 - Halloween

Next Meeting
October 17, 2024
6:00 PM
Coffee Kettle Cafe
9905 Sapp Bros. Dr.
Omaha, NE



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Minutes of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club September 2024

President Martin Bierman called the meeting to order at 6:12 P.M. at the Trackside Bar and Grill in Waverly, NE.

Members present were **Martin and Mary Lou Bierman, Rob and Vicki Kinsey, John Moore** and your humble servant **Quentin Moeller**.

August's minutes were approved by a motion from **John** and a second by **Mary Lou**.

There was no **Treasurers** report.

Old Business: A glowing report on the activities and events from the recent CTCI Convention was given by **Marty**. The club had five Birds present and **John** won an award. The convention was small as only 65 Thunderbirds were registered for the concours judging. Also noted that the swap meet was great. Club members visited the John Wayne Museum in Winterset, Iowa. It was mentioned that they observed the painted mural that yours truly had talked about at a previous meeting. It was noted that the members were not asked to leave based on any comments made because of it. It was noted that all members attending had a great time.

Next year's convention will be a joint affair with the VTCI in Dallas, Grapevine, Texas.

The judging results from the **Hickman Heydays** show were as follows. **Tom Woodman**, 1st place and **Jack Sanford**, 2nd place. Awards will be given at the October Meeting.

This month's activity is September 28th at Indian Caves. **Dick Heinke** will be your host.

October 12th is the date of October's activity, "**Auto Adventure of Hardin County**" hosted by **Jim and Jeff**. The agenda was discussed. See your newsletter for exact details.

New Business: Nominations were discussed. They will be formally made at the October meeting.

Brag: **John Moore** placed first in his division at the Convention.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 P.M. A motion to adjourn was made by **Quentin** with a second by **John**.

Respectfully submitted, **Quentin Moeller**, Secretary



Bird Tech Talk

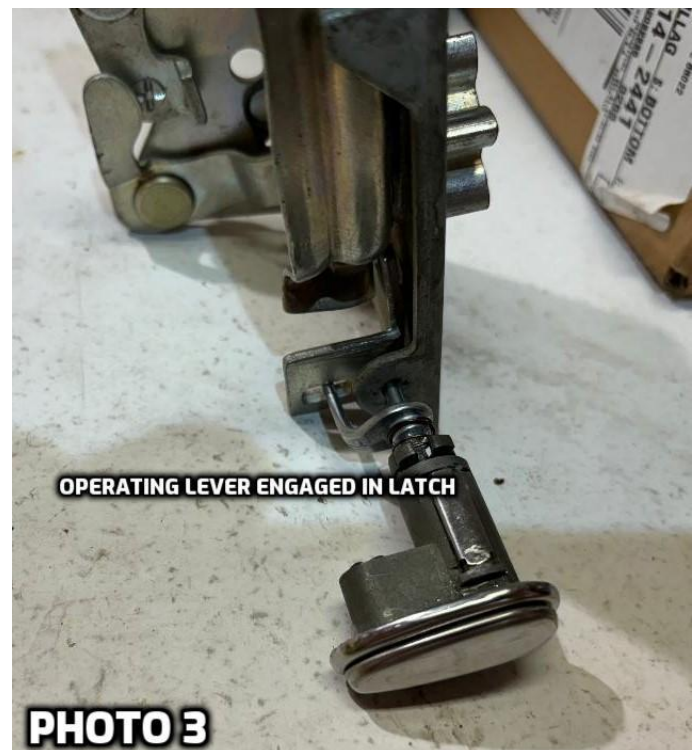
By Martin Bierman

“My Door Lock Doesn’t Work”



Question- A 1955 T-Bird owner complains that his left door lock will not lock the door. What is wrong and how can it be fixed?

Answer- The door lock (#21985) was removed by removing the clip (#22023B) under the weather strip in the outer door jamb area. The door lock operating lever (#21968) had its pivot post broken off (see photos 1 & 2) resulting in a misaligned and unstable assembly. The operating lever was replaced with a steel part rather than the weaker cast part. The lever was attached to the end of the door lock via a slot and a spring that keeps tension on the assembly. The whole assembly was then replaced in the door and the lever and pivot fed into slots in the door latch (#21813) (see photo 3) inside the door. The retainer clip was replaced in the slot in the jamb area to hold the door lock in place.



CTCI Board Meeting Highlights Sept 27, 2024

Investment Fund Update: Garrett Shropshire reported that the investment account is greater than the original investment and greater than end-of-year 2023. The investment returns for the first 8 months are over 5.0% annual yield rate. The investment plan is following the previously approved "U S Treasury Bond ladder". The yield rates will level off or slightly decrease and will be subject to the Fed Treasury Rate.

Member Renewals: Garrett presented membership renewals through August 2024. Last year (12/31/2023) we ended up with 4,015 active members. Between January and August 2024, we gained 162 new members and are currently at 3,544. We converted 15 new members from the Test Drive Program. We are deep in the 2024 Membership drive. To date we have only received 61 notices of dropouts. At this point we still have 590 members who are pending renewal this year. However, we are still above the 507 members who did not renew from 2022.

Office Activity: Garrett reported on Invoice and Merchandise sales. To date CTCI has had over \$10,000.00 in Merchandise Sales. In addition, there have been 47 requests for Factory Invoices.

Cost Saving Ideas: Based upon the last financial report presented, it shows that we are currently projecting a "function" loss for 2024. The Board stressed that CTCI needed to change the current trajectory of CTCI. In basic terms the Club either needs to quickly increase membership or must find ways to reduce costs. Previously John Kledis had calculated that CTCI needs about 3,800 members to reach breakeven. At this point it appears that we will end the year at less than the desired membership. The Board discussed several ideas to reduce costs including costs to distribute merchandise, changing number of issues of The Early Bird, reducing costs to produce The Early Bird, and changing the cost for administration of CTCI.

2025 Joint Thunderbird Convention Update: Brian Carron and Bob Bly presented the Convention Update. The current planned dates for the Convention are September 9 through 13, 2025. The convention will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel located in North Grapevine, Texas (Dallas – Fort Worth area). To date, the hotel has been confirmed and room rates have been finalized along with all of the meeting rooms needed for the Convention. In addition, some tours and associated transportation have been arranged. There are still a few details yet to be confirmed but the Convention is shaping up to be a great event. The next goal will be to finalize all of the pricing and registration details. As a note to all members wishing to attend the 2025 Convention: While the Convention will be a "Joint Production", CTCI and VTCI will each hold separate judging for their organization's cars. Bob Bly and Brian Carron will continue to work with VTCI to finalize the convention plan.

CTCI Marketing Plan: Garrett Shropshire updated the board on the previously approved membership marketing plan. To date, Garrett has completed the purchase of the mailing list. The website landing page on the CTCI Website has been completed and we are starting to receive inquires to the 2024 Test Drive Program. The next step will be to send out follow-up E-mails as well as other items in an effort to gain new members.



2024 Convention Recap: Marsha Hash presented the recap of the 2024 International Convention held in Des Moines, IA - August 20-25, 2024. Overall, the Convention was a huge success. She noted that there were over 196 participants and about 71 cars from 25 states plus an international member.

Newsletter Contest: Marsha Hash, Newsletter Committee Chair presented some concepts to improve the Newsletter Contest. The Board agreed to continue the contest under the current rules. Newsletter Editors watch for the Early Bird for more details for the start of the next Newsletter Contest. In addition, Marsha wanted to remind all clubs that electronic newsletters can be entered in the Newsletter Contest.

2025 Regional Convention: Chuck Thompson presented the need for chapter sponsorship of the 2025 Regional Convention. While we are participating in the joint Convention in Dallas, any and all chapters who wish to sponsor a Regional Convention in 2025 in their region should reach out to Chuck. Please note, to allow proper planning time, interested Chapters should try to let Chuck know as soon as possible.

Director Election: General reminder to all members of the upcoming Director Election. The election will be held on-line via "Opa-Vote" and will be open from October 16th through 4:00 PM Central on October 28th. All members will help elect a Director-At-Large and there will be election for members who are in region 6. More information can be found in the September – October 2024 issue which is already in the mail heading to our members. In addition, as per practice, we will blast out all of the Candidate bios.

The next Board meeting is set for November 15, 2024, at 11:00 AM Central

On Behalf of the Board,
Chuck Thompson, President



SAVE THE DATE

JOINT THUNDERBIRD CLUB EVENT

“Stronger Together ‘55-‘05 in ‘25, Driving The Past Into The Future”



Don't Miss the
Mega-Event of
the year

HOTEL: EMBASSY SUITES – N.GRAPEVINE, TEXAS

Tours, speakers,
separate VTCI and
CTCI Concours
Judging

SEPTEMBER 09-13, 2025

HOSTED BY



**CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL (CTCI) and
VINTAGE THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL (VTCI)**



2024 Calendar of Events

- October 12** - Empress cruise on the Iowa River – Joint Event with Hawkeye Club – See page 5
- October 17** – Business Meeting – 6:00 PM -Coffee Kettle Café – 9905 Sapp Bros. Dr. Omaha, NE.
- November 17** – Friendsgiving Dinner – Mark your calendar, details in October Newsletter.
- December 19** – Business Meeting – 6:00 PM – Trackside Bar & Grill 1309 Guildford #7 – Waverly, NE



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A Weekend Auto Adventure in Hardin County

Hardin County Cruisers, Hawkeye Classic Thunderbird Club and Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club

Schedule of Activities

Saturday, October 12

- 10:30 am [Soda Fountain](#), New Providence
Welcome, Meet & Greet, Orientation to the day's cruises
Brunch provided
- 11:45 am Cruise to [Honey Creek Friends Meetinghouse](#)
Presentation of the history of the Quaker settlement of New Providence and founding of Honey Creek Friends Meetinghouse
- 12:45 pm Cruise the Main Streets in New Providence
- 1:00 pm [Josiah White Lavender Farm](#)
Presentation history & tour of the site, current and future development
Brief auto-themed videos
Dessert provided
- 2:30 pm Cruise through [Eldora](#), [Pine Lake State Park](#), Sac and Fox Overlook to Iowa Falls
- 3:30 pm Arrive at [Boat Club](#), Iowa Falls
- 4:00 pm [Scenic City Empress Riverboat](#) cruise on the Iowa River
Tickets \$10 per person, snacks and beverages provided
Limit – 50 passengers
- 7:00 pm Dinner at the [Princess Café](#), downtown Iowa Falls

Sunday, October 13

- 9:30 Brunch at [Niland's Café](#), at the intersection of Lincoln and Jefferson Highways, Colo

Accommodations

AmericInn, 810 South Oak, Iowa Falls 641-648-4600
*A block of rooms has been secured for Friday (10/11) and Saturday (10/12) nights.
 \$110/night + tax Reservations must be made by September 20. Name of the room block is
 "Cruisers" There is no elevator at this location so ask for a first floor room, if needed.*

Bed & Breakfasts

- Cabin Cove by the River*, 820 Indiana Ave, Iowa Falls 641-373-4546
- Swinging Bridge Cottage*, 1020 Rocksylvania Ave, Iowa Falls 515-681-1458
- The White House*, 900 10th ST, Eldora 641-849-7113

Some covered parking is available in Iowa Falls in case of inclement weather.

Please notify Jeff & Jim as soon as possible so we know how many members plan to attend:

Name(s) _____

Phone number _____

Email _____

Year/Make/Model of car you're bringing _____

jimljeffh@gmail.com Text 402-499-6063
 Jeff Hoffman, 24574 265th ST, New Providence IA 50206



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Friendsgiving Party

Hosts John and Michelle Moore

November 17, 2024

Saltgrass Steak House

301 North 175th Street

Omaha, NE 68118



We will order from the attached Guadalupe Menu. The cost is \$32 +tax +gratuity. Everyone will pay their own checks. Please note that an 18% gratuity will be applied to everyone's checks. By agreeing to this we are able to have their room free of charge for our gathering. At the top of the menu, there is an explanation for what is included called Plated Group Menu Selections. Should you have any questions, please call or email John. Otherwise just provide John with your food order at contact listed below.

RSVP to John Moore by November 6th

jmj4280@gmail.com or 402-289-7847

Our gathering will take place in their Fireplace room. There will be a cash bar available along with club provided appetizers while we visit from 2:30p until approximately 3:30p (there also is tea, sodas, and water available built into our menu cost). We will then have some brief words from Marty and announce new officers for 2025. After this, Jack will give a slide presentation reviewing our club's great 2022 - 2024 years. At 4pm our food will be served.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions. The Saltgrass has been great to work with and desire for us to have an incredible meal and wonderful relaxing afternoon.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on November 17th!!!

Thanks, and Best Regards

John Moore

402-289-7847

jmj4280@gmail.com



DINNER SELECTIONS

PLATED GROUP MENU SELECTIONS

Group menu selections include your choice of entrees, one side dish, either a Dinner Salad, Caesar Salad or cup of Soup, and your choice of non-alcoholic beverage. Signature sides, signature salads, appetizers and desserts can be added for a nominal charge.

GUADALUPE MENU \$32 PER GUEST

GULF COAST STEAK & SHRIMP* (770-990 cal)
8 oz. Center-Cut Top Sirloin, choice of grilled or fried shrimp.

CHICKEN LAREDO (930 cal)
Jack cheese, avocado, grilled onions, tomatoes, poblano peppers, green onions, cilantro, feta cheese.

NEW YORK STRIP* (820 cal)
12 oz.

BBQ PORK RIBS (1110 cal)
Slow-cooked & "fall-of-the-bone".

ATLANTIC SALMON* (480 cal)
Simply grilled to perfection.

ENTRÉE ENHANCEMENTS

Can be added for a nominal charge.

SMOTHER YOUR STEAK (190 cal)
Garlic butter, sautéed mushrooms, grilled onions.

GRILLED OR FRIED SHRIMP (230 cal)

SAUTÉED MUSHROOMS & GRILLED ONIONS FOR SHARING (220 cal)
(Serves 2)



SIDE CHOICES

GARLIC MASHED POTATOES (320 cal)

HERB RICE (480 cal)

FLASHED FRIED GREEN BEANS (90 cal)

FRENCH FRIES (370 cal)

SWEET POTATO FRIES (380 cal)

BROCCOLI (120 cal)

SIGNATURE SIDES

\$2.99 per person

BAKED POTATO (310-660 cal)

SMOKED MACARONI & CHEESE (440 cal)

SIGNATURE SALADS

\$4.49 per person

WEDGE SALAD (450 cal)

*Non-Alcoholic beverages include Iced Tea, Flavored Iced Tea, Soda & Water. Menu items & prices may vary by location.

2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice, but calorie needs vary.
A Suggested Gratitude of 15% - 20% is customary. The amount of gratitude is always discretionary.
Specific items & prices may vary regionally. Items & Prices are subject to change.

50_GRP_CORE_0613



TIP OF THE MONTH

Wiper blades need to be cleaned and kept in good condition to provide a clear view. Signs of wear include streaking, skipping across the windshield and worn or split rubber. Inspect and replace when needed.

October fun fact

September's full moon, the Harvest Moon, reaches peak illumination.

September 17th at 10:34 PM.

This year, it is also a SUPERMOON.

Member Birthday

OCTOBER

Vicki Kinsey - 16

Phil Brown – 22

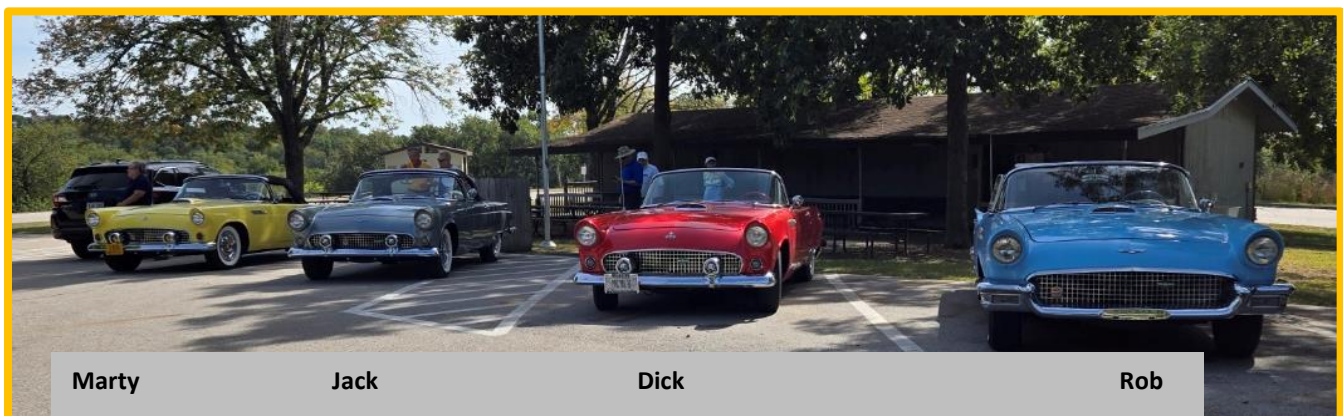
Joe Hansen - 31

If you want to be recognized, please send your birthdate to

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



Marty

Jack

Dick

Rob

Indian Cave Museum



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