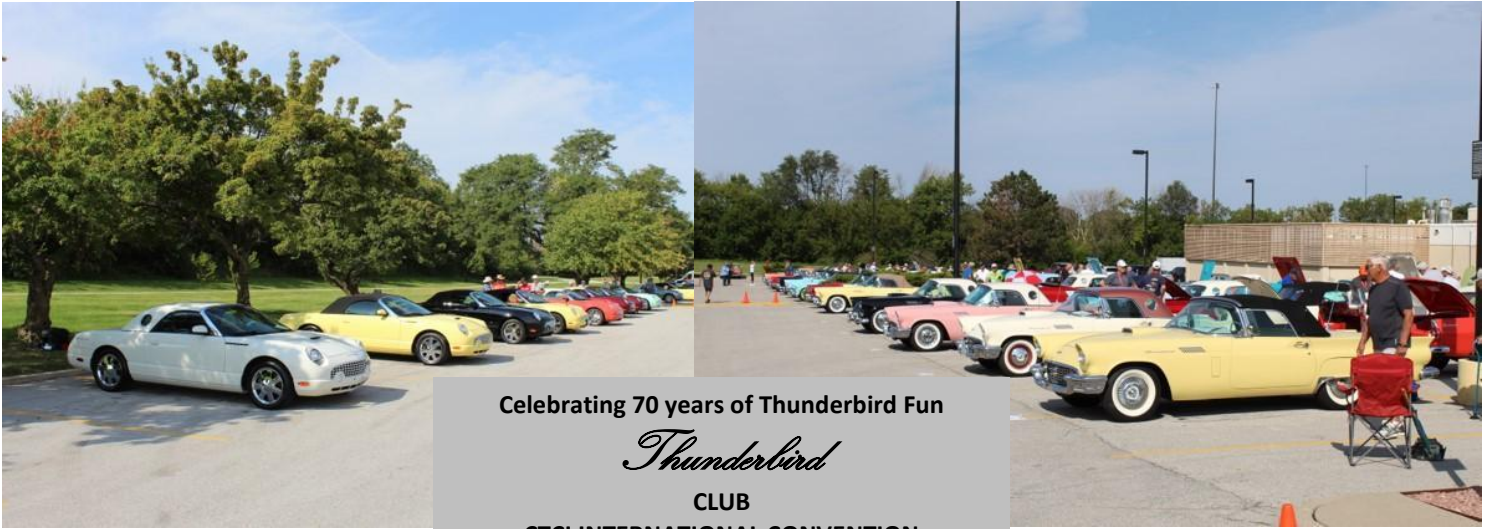


Thunder Words



Celebrating 70 years of Thunderbird Fun

Thunderbird

CLUB

CTCI INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
DES MOINES, IOWA

September 2024 ~ Volume 47, #9
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International



Prez Says: The CTCI International Convention in Des Moines is in the rear-view mirror now. Nebraskaland was represented by 13 registered members and 5 cars. Members attending included **Martin and Mary Lou Bierman** (torch red 1955), **Jim Lantz and Jeff Hoffman** (thunderbird blue 1955), **Jeff Brown and Diane Bessette** (peacock blue 1956), **Jack Sanford and his son Jack** (code T gray 1956), **John Moore** (white 2002 Retro), **Joel Hutchins**, his sister **Kathy Hoffman** & brother **Mark, Steve & Kathy Fullerton** (thunderbird blue) and **John Stekly**. **Tom Woodman** also stopped by on his way to Pennsylvania with his 57 T-Bird. **Jack**

won a Gold Award in the newsletter contest and **John Moore** took first place in 2002 Retro Touring Class. The tours and concours were great and the Hawkeye Club did a wonderful job of organizing the convention. Be sure to come on the tour to Indian Cave State Park September 28.

Martin Bierman, President

**Indian Caves
Tour
September 28,
2024
See details
pages 12-13.**

September Dates:
2 – Labor Day
11 – Patriot Day
11 – Grandparent Day
17 – Harvest Moon
26 – Johnny Appleseed
Day

**Next Meeting
September 19, 2024
6:00 PM
Track Side Bar & Grill
13901 Guildford 7
Waverly, NE**



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Minutes of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club August 2024

President Martin Bierman called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. at the Coffee Kettle Cafe in Omaha, NE. In attendance were **Martin and Mary Lou Bierman, Rob and Vicki Kinsey, Jack Sanford, Jeff Brown, John Moore, Dick Heinke,** and yours truly, your humble secretary **Quentin Moeller.**

The July minutes were approved by a motion made by **Jack** with a second by **John.**

Jeff Brown gave the treasurers report which was approved with a motion by **Rob** and a second by **Jack.**

Old Business: The September meeting will be on the 19th at the Trackside Bar and Grill in Waverly. The September activity was changed from the car show on the 8th to the planned outing at Indian cave. **Dick Heinke** gave details on the event. Check the newsletter for in-depth information.

The October event is being planned by **Jim Lantz and Jeff Hoffman.** This will be an over-nighter in Iowa. Check the newsletter for details on this as lodging will have to be obtained for those attending.

The November Friendsgiving event will be on the 17th this year and will be a mid-afternoon affair. **John Moore** gave us three possible locations and it was decided to go with the Saltgrass Restaurant. More details to follow.

December will be a meeting only with no events planned.

Discussion followed concerning logistics of the CTCI convention the weekend after next.

New Business: No new business was discussed.

Braggs:

Martin and Mary Lou attended their grandson's graduation from The Army's Ranger training. He is an officer in the U.S. Army attached to an armored unit.

Dick has been working on his manual heater control.

The September meeting, September 19th, is at 6:00 PM in Waverly at the Trackside Bar and Grill. Plan on attending as the year's and next year's activities will be discussed and your input is very valuable.

CHECK YOUR NEWSLETTER FOR ALL OF THE DETAILS ON UPCOMING EVENTS. A motion to adjourn was made by **Dick** with a second by **Jeff.** The meeting adjourned at 7:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, **Quentin Moeller,** Secretary.



This photo is to prove Jeff does have Fender Skirt(s).

Cars at the August Meeting



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Bird Tech Talk

By Martin Bierman



Question – Distributor Cap Contact Materials

The distributor caps for the Classic Thunderbird consist of two types: the 1955-56 types, and the 1957 type. Both are black plastic 8-cylinder caps and have the number one embossed for the number one plug wire tower. The 1957 is a larger cap to accommodate the larger '57 distributor. However, suppliers offer either a cap with aluminum contacts in the plug towers and underneath for the rotor contacts or a cap with brass contacts. The aluminum contacts are reported to wear faster especially if used with a non-stock high voltage coil. Brass contacts are preferred for high voltage ignition systems. Below are pictures of both types.

Aluminum Contacts



Brass Contacts



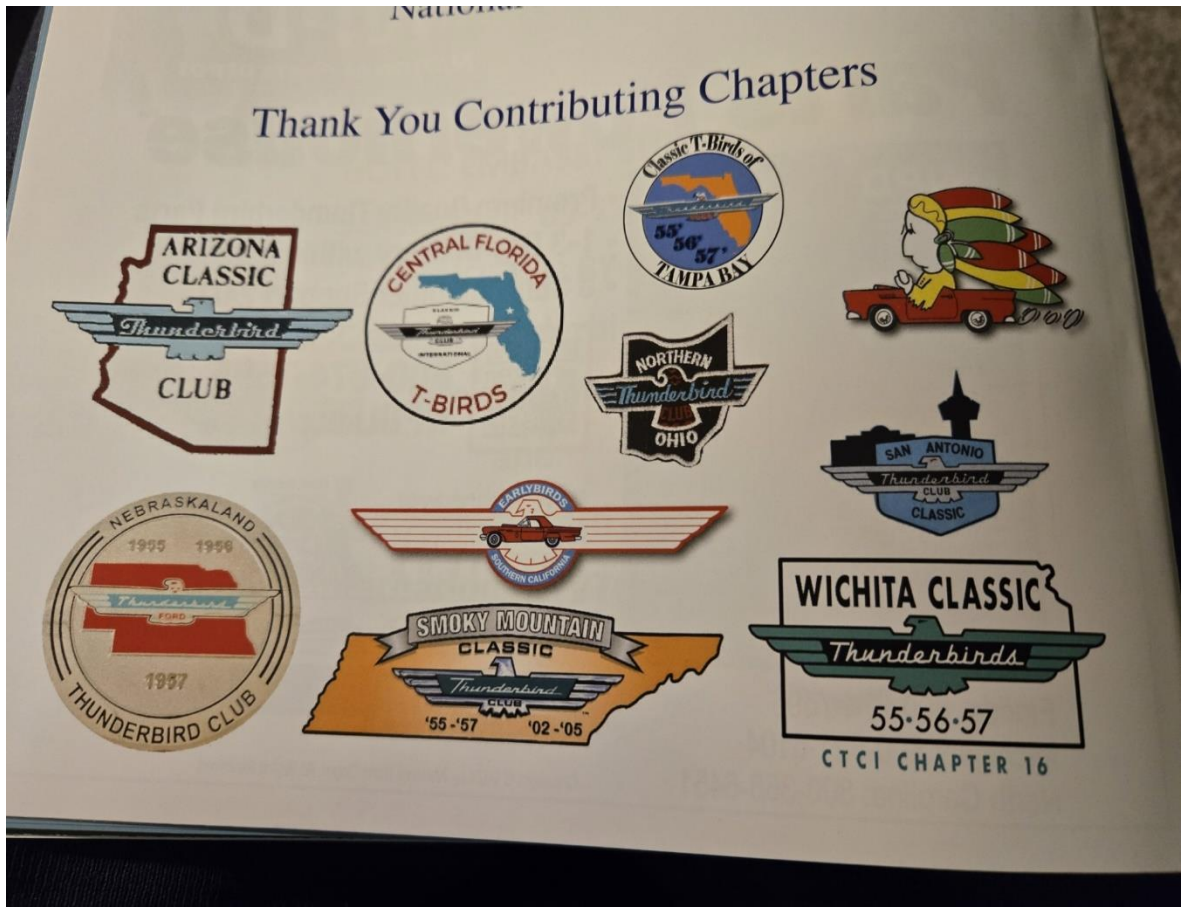
CTCI UPDATES

Convention Highlights

NEBRASKALAND CLUB ATTENDEES

- Marty and Mary Lou Bierman**
- Jeff Brown and Diane Bessette
- Steve and Kathy Fullerton
- Jeff Hoffman and Jim Lantz**
- Joel & Mark Hutchins – Kathy Hoffman
- Rob Kinsey*
- John Moore
- Jack and Jack, Jr. Sanford**
- John Stekley
- Bob and Diane Young**

* Illness prevented attendance
 ** Affiliated with two clubs



The Sheraton was a great place to hold a convention. The parking lots were the best I had ever seen at a car show. The host club, Hawkeye Classic Thunderbird Club, did a fantastic job making everyone feel welcome. Our member Bob Young, Convention Chairman, was instrumental in planning and setting up the convention. Our President, Marty Bierman, led one of judge's classes. My son and I volunteered as judges. A first for me. It was a great experience. Our club cars that were judged all received high marks. Our cars on display drew a lot of attention. The first tour to Winterset and the John Wayne Museum was on Wednesday. If you haven't seen a covered bridge, they are on display around Winterset. The museum does a nice job exhibiting John Wayne's life before and during his acting career. That evening, Marvin Hill of Hill's Automotive sponsored an open house featuring pizza and pasta. A fifties band was on hand to provide Rock & Roll music for listening and dancing. On Thursday we toured two car facilities. The first was to a hot rod builder named Karl Kustoms (all makes and models.) All I can say is if you have an occasion to have an automobile detailed/modified, bring lots of cash. They do everything, and their work is top-notch. Our second car collection was to a private facility owned by Dennis Albaugh. This collection was Chevrolet only. I never got a total count, but we examined in the neighborhood of 200 Chevrolets. The collection included 1957 Chevrolet convertibles in every color produced by Chevrolet. There were a lot of related automotive memorabilia insured for \$15,000,000. There was a collection of gas pump globes that was unbelievable. I had no idea there were so many different gas pumps. All the globes were authentic, no-knock offs. I must add that this collection was on a 19-hole private golf course, used only for business and philanthropy events. Both of these facilities granted us a viewing because of Bob Young's personal relationship with them. Saturday's driving tour took us to Downtown Des Moines and a former Packard Dealership converted into a place called "American Dream Machine." If you are looking for a special car or want to place yours on consignment, this is the place for you. They have a little bit of everything automotive, with some hip signage and posters. It was quite a display with a string of colorful T-Birds parading down I-235 going and coming. We had a lot of lookers. The awards banquet was one of the best I have ever attended. The speeches were short, to the point, and applauded. Below are the member cars that all placed first in their class.



John Moore



Steve and Kathy Fullerton





Diane Young



Bob Young

The member cars on display



Marty Bierman



Jeff Hoffman and Jim Lantz



Jeff Brown



Jack Sanford





Jeff and Jack enjoying the show!



Sanford and Son hard at work judging



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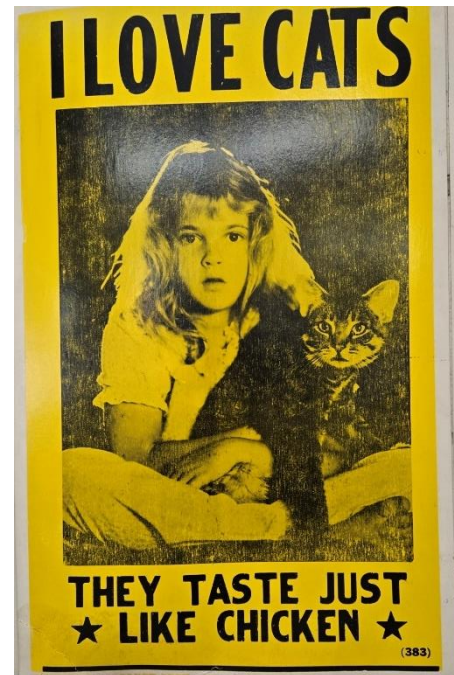
Two Tank Gas Pump

Bob at Albaugh



Just some of the Globes and Chevys





Albaugh's Collection



Random Photos from Convention Site



Voted Best of Show

Rare Color



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Sanford & Son



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2024 Calendar of Events

September 8 – “43rd Annual all makes car and truck show” – Southeast CC 90th & “Q” – 8 - 4 pm.

September 28 – Tour and Picnic – Indian Caves – Club event – Host – Dick Heinke – See page 12-13

October 12 - Empress cruise on the Iowa River – Joint Event with Hawkeye Club – See page 13

November 17 – Friendsgiving Dinner – Mark your calendar, details in October Newsletter.

Indian Caves State Park Tour and Picnic

A picnic and tour have been scheduled for 1 PM on September 28th at The Indian Cave State Park, South and west of Brownville, Nebraska. NOTE: The entrance fee for Nebraska vehicles is \$7.00 per auto, while the entrance fee for out-of-state vehicles, such as Iowa, is \$14/ auto.

Tour coordinator, Dick, would like to meet the Omaha and Lincoln groups at a location south of Nebraska City on Highways #2 & #75 at 12:15 PM. Dick will lead both groups to the Caves.



This photo shows the turn-off into Budweiser’s parallel lane to the highway, where the Lincoln group will be waiting for the Omaha group. Then, with us in a line, Dick will lead us south towards Auburn on highway #75.

Dick suggested that the **Lincoln** folks meet him at the Menards South Parking Lot, 8900 Andermatt Dr. in Cheney, at 11:30 A.M.

The **Omaha group** should rally at 11:30 a.m. at Plattsmouth’s Casey’s, Oak Hill Road, and Highway #75.

If you plan on joining the tour group at either Lincoln or Omaha, please RSVP Jack at 402-578-3743 or jesanford@cox.net by September 26th.

In case you miss the meeting places in Lincoln or Omaha, the following are the directions. Remember you don’t have to drive your Bird to participate in the tour. Your modern iron will be just fine.

From Lincoln: East on Hwy 2 to Nebraska City, South on Hwy 75 to Auburn, East on Hwy 136 (9 miles), South on Hwy 67 (9 miles), East on 64E (5 miles).

From Omaha: South on Hwy 75, East on Hwy 136 (9 miles), South on Hwy 67 (9 miles), East on Hwy 64E (5 miles). You can also get there from Omaha by taking Interstate I-29 South and exit #110 to Brownville, NE.

We should each bring a picnic lunch and beverages for our lunches to use the local picnic tables near the entrance to the park. I will meet everyone at the entrance to follow me a short distance to the picnic area and tables just down the hill from the museum, where we can stop first for orientation and view exciting information.



After lunch, we can take a 5-mile drive around the park to the cave area adjacent to the Missouri River for an interesting observation of the cave. Afterward, we can parade on a drive through the park back to the entrance and to Brownsville for a stop at "Whisky Run Creek Winery" to observe their interesting business and maybe have a glass of their beautiful wines and possibly buy a bottle to take home (if inclined). The winery was built over the original caves where whisky was stored beginning in the 1850s when interesting whisky was brewed to and through the Prohibition era of the 1920s. Perhaps we can go down into one of the caves used currently for wine and cheese tasting parties to experience the cool environment of temperatures in the 50's (like our T-Birds....). I have been told that an investigation of the connected caves revealed many copper utensils for brewing that were true distilling devices when they were in vogue.

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



Friendsgiving Party

Hosts John and Michelle Moore

November 17, 2024

Saltgrass Steak House

301 North 175th Street

Omaha, NE 68118



This will be the first time holding the event mid-afternoon on a Sunday. There will be an open bar and a power-point presentation of the past two year's Club events.

Final details, and an RSVP form will be forthcoming in the October and November Newsletters. Please save the date.



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TIP OF THE MONTH

Tires need to be properly inflated, rotated, and balanced. Maintaining the tires can save money and fuel and can reduce the risk of tire failure. Signs that the tires need to be replaced include three or more visible tread wear indicators; cord or fabric showing through the rubber; cracks or cuts in the tread or sidewall, or a bulge or split in the tire.

September 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.



CTCI Photo Credits

John Moore, Jack Sanford, Jr., Jeff Hoffman, Kathy Fullerton

Member Birthday SEPTEMBER

- Dick Kirshenbaum - 4
- Kathy Fullerton - 13
- Joel Schlessinger - 14
- Jerry Swensen - 12
- Jeff Hoffman - 28
- Robert Routh - 30

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

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