

Thunder Words



August Event Lincoln Garage Tour 8/22/2020

September 2020 ~ Volume 43, #9
Dedicated to the 55, 56, & 57 Thunderbird
Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club
Chapter 65, Classic Thunderbird Club International

September Club Event

Tour Victory Lane and Mike's

Classic Auto

September 26, 2020, 1:00 PM

Hosts Joel and Nancy

See page 7 for directions



Prez Says, First, our sympathies to **Bob Routh** and family over the passing of Bob's wife Bev. Great turnout for the Lincoln garage tour and lunch August 22. Garages visited were **LaDuke, Kinsey, Sibal** and **Woodman**. Spare parts were purchased, batteries were charged, tips and details were



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shared on various projects, toy collections were shown and **Lauren Drees** showed off his new metallic silver paint job. Outstanding! A neighbor of Sibal's has a '55 and is interested in joining. Thanks to all who hosted! **Quentin Moeller** found a skirt since the last outing and hopes to have it painted soon. **Joel and Nancy Schlessinger** announced hosting an event September 26th. Details are still being worked out but see the minutes for some of their plans. Continued thanks to **Jack Sanford** for the professional job on our newsletter and to Marty Bierman for his tech tips every issue. **Mary Lou Bierman** took in the entire event and **Barb LaDuke, Vicki Kinsey** and **Jan Sibal** made appearances as well. Here's hoping for a good September turnout. An October dinner meeting will be held Thursday, October 22, 6:00 PM, in North Bend with **Ted Dimmitt** and **Fran Graser** hosting. We are keeping an eye on a Quasar drive-in theater event in Valley, NE when it opens. Happy birding!
Rod Kinsey, President

Minutes

The August Meeting of the Nebraskaland Thunderbird Club took place in the garage of **Rob and Vickie Kinsey**, 11:30 AM, August 22, 2020. This was the second stop of the Lincoln Garage Tour event. There were twelve members, two guests and seven Little Birds present. The meeting was called to order by **Rob Kinsey**. He thanked everyone for coming out under the Covid-19 restrictions. The two guests were **John Larsen**, friend of **Lauren Drees** and **Todd Sanford**, son of **Jack Sanford**.

The June minutes as printed in the July newsletter were unanimously approved. The treasurer was not present. The President reported that the club was financially sound.

Old Business:

Joel and Nancy Schlessinger will host a September event. Tentative plans include a visit to Mike's Classic Auto, a look at Victory Lane and a meeting Saturday September 26th. **Nancy** will work out the details and give them to **Jack**.

Jack Sanford will check with **Ted Dimmitt** about the date for the October North Bend meeting.

November is open. Weather permitting an impromptu event could be arranged.

December 6 is the Christmas Party.

New Business:

Tom Woodman made a motion to donate \$100.00 to the Nebraska Wesleyan University in the name of **Beverly Routh**.

John La Duke seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

There was discussion of the Valley Drive In as a club event. There is a minimum of 25 cars. This would require us teaming up with another club to reach the minimum.

The President thanked **Sibal, LaDuke** and **Woodman** for showing their garages. He thanked **Vicki** for providing cookies, soft drinks, and water. He went on to thank

Marty Bierman, John La Duke and **Tom Woodman** for help in putting together and installing his soft top. **Vicki Kinsey**

explained the woos of the workers in solving the inner workings of the soft top fasteners. It seemed many of the solutions developed during the early morning hours. In any event

Rob was most appreciative.

Gaylan Abood was recognized for his appointment on the CTCI Investment Committee. In his absence, **Marty** explained that the committee was organized to figure out how to best utilize the money received from the sale of the California property. This committee is chaired by **Bob Young**,

Region 2 Director, and member of our club.

Tom Woodman's daughter, **Crystal** had her T-Bird posted on the national '55-'57 Facebook newsletter.



No Brag Box entries

The President asked for a motion to close the meeting and thanked the members for opening their garages. A motion to close was made by **Marty** and Seconded by **John** which passed unanimously at 12:01 PM.



T-Bird Tech Talk

By Martin Bierman

"I need sun visors!"

Question- A 1955 T-Bird owner complains that he needs sun visors for his car. What can he do?

Answer- Sun visors were not available on the 1955 T-Bird but were standard on the '56 and '57 models however are less than adequate. The '55 owner can install the inside stainless doglegs and top stainless that have the visor mounts from the '56/'57 models and purchase visors and visor brackets from the T-Bird vendors. This can be quite costly, and the stainless parts frequently require restoration adding to the costs. Aftermarket visors are not available as far as I know.

But wait! There is one solution and that is the TacVisor as advertised on TV.



These are sold on-line and in some big box stores for \$19.95. They are designed to clip on to a sun visor and flip down for use. They also have a night vision visor attached. I cut the night vision visor and clip away from the base of the visor leaving a nice flat foot to which I applied a Velcro strip. I then attached Velcro to the top stainless. The visor can be attached or detached to the top stainless as needed and can be transferred to another car. When attached, it folds down to use as a sun visor and up for storage. One could also place a TacVisor on the passenger side in the same fashion.



Member Activity

Richard Kirshenbaum



Souped-up Six: 2020's top Nebraska, Western Iowa prep football players have license to thrive. [Sam McKewon](#), [Evan Bland](#)

Jake Anderson, an online editor with the Omaha World-Herald, requested a Thunderbird; specifically, a dark blue or yellow one for the newspaper's high school football preview section. For this year's display photo, they wanted to use classic cars from some of the local car groups. **Dick Kirshenbaum** accepted the challenge and agreed to participate in the photo shoot. The Bellevue West Thunderbird receiver Keagan Johnson was naturally teamed up with Dick's 1955 Golden Rod Yellow Thunderbird.



Horsepower. Acceleration. Control to handle any turns. And, of course, speed. This year's Super Six was tough to pick — the caliber of high school football talent in Nebraska is improving, especially in Omaha and its suburbs — but as the players stood next to classic cars a stone's throw from the Missouri River, one thing stood out: Those six could fit in any state, anytime.



Bellevue West receiver Keagan Johnson — committed to Iowa — packs precision, quickness and a little nasty into a receiver package that will also be used as a running back for the state's top program. "His goal is to win a state title, but he wants to be known as the best player in the state of Nebraska," Thunderbird coach Michael Huffman said.



August Garage Tour



La Duke



La Duke



Kinsey



Kinsey



Along the route



Along the route



Sibal



Sibal





Sonic



Sonic



Along the route



Woodman



Woodman



Woodman



AREA EVENTS

September 26, 2020, 1:00 PM.

Joel and Nancy Schlessinger will host a visit to Mike's Classic Auto, a look at Victory Lane and a meeting.

Tour Details and Directions

We will meet at the **Schlessinger's**
3310 S. 228th Terrace
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Rob will hold a short meeting.

Joel will lead the tour to Victory Lane and then to Mike's Classic Auto.

Victory Lane is a luxury car storage facility.

Mike's Classic is a repair shop, specializing in muscle cars. Mike has agreed to showing his personal car collection.

Directions to **Joel and Nancy's**:

From highway 92/275/Center Street find 229th Street and turn South. Coming from the east, 229 is about 2 miles from highway 31. If you cross the Elkhorn river you have gone too far. If coming from the west, 229th Street is the first turn off after crossing the Elkhorn River. After entering 229th Street take the left fork, which is Atwood Ave. Follow Atwood Ave. to stop sign at Hascall Street. Turn right on Hascall. Hascall becomes 228th Terrace. Find 3310 on right side of street. Please park on the street.

October Meeting & Dinner

Hosts **Ted Dimmitt & Fran Graser**

October 22, 2020, 6:00 PM

LeRoy's Steak House
North Bend, NE

November

Nothing scheduled.

December

Christmas Party

Hosts **Bob & Jan Sibel**

December 5, 2020, 6:00 PM

Ferguson House
Lincoln, NE.

Editor's note: Given the uncertainties of COVID – 19, we will abide by all safe practices as outlined by the authorities. Currently face masks are mandatory along with six foot spacing.

Member Profile

Please submit your T-Bird story to Jack at jesanford@cox.net. We would love to hear about your Thunderbird.



These embroidered 2 x 3 ½ inch logos can be sewn on or glued with fabric glue onto shirts, jackets, caps, dashboards, etc.

Get yours from Jack at jesanford@cox.net

Logo Prices

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 logo - \$5 | 6 logos - \$26 |
| 2 logos - \$8 | 7 logos - \$31 |
| 3 logos - \$13 | 8 logos - \$35 |
| 4 logos - \$18 | 9 logos - \$39 |
| 5 logos - \$22 | 10 logos - \$43 |



FOR SALE

Member, **Richard Kirshenbaum** has the following automobile **for sale**. He can be reached at 402-333-1686 or 402-990-3266 or dwkirshenbaum@gmail.com



This 1989 Jaguar XJS is a stock convertible with just over 71,000 miles on its 5.3-liter V-12 and 3-speed automatic transmission. The red finish is described as vibrant thanks to a lifetime of garage storage and minimal exposure to inclement weather. No paintwork or body repairs have taken place according to Dick. Stock US-market chrome and rubber bumpers are retained along with pre-facelift quad headlamps, separate taillights, and under-bumper front fog lamps. The 5.3-liter V-12 was factory rated at 263 horsepower and 278 lb.-ft of torque for the US market and is paired with a 3-speed automatic transmission. The car has reportedly received care as part of Dick's small private collection.

Thanks, Todd Sanford, for the garage tour pictures.

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