

OVEB NEWS



The Ohio Valley Early Birds

January 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Ohio Valley Early Bird Members:

I trust that you all had a safe and enjoyable holiday season. Given the winter weather and the ongoing pandemic, we haven't scheduled any official outings for the immediate future. Hopefully, over the coming months, most of us will have an opportunity to receive COVID-19 vaccinations after which it should be safer to gather. At that point, we will announce a date for the 2021 planning session. Depending on the state of the pandemic in Ohio at that time, we'll decide whether to hold that meeting in person or virtually. In the meantime, please do everything possible to stay healthy.

Website and Newsletter Changes

Bill Curtis has been slaving away for the past couple of months to enhance the information available on our website and to streamline the process of updating and distributing our club newsletter. Through periodic newsletter updates, we will endeavor to keep all of our members up to date, especially during this time when in-person meetings are not possible.

This seems like a good time to remind everyone that the OVEB.org website features a password-protected, members-only section containing the following information:

OVEB Reports

- Current Member Roster – Contains addresses, phone numbers and email addresses
- Current Schedule – Easy to print list of upcoming activities
- Event History – Listing of past club activities
- Treasurer Reports – Watch our bank balance grow by pennies each month
- Meeting Minutes – Read what happened at the last meeting
- OVEB Past Members – Listing of former members

CTCI Reports

- OVEB Annual Chapter Reports Submitted to CTCI
- CTCI Monthly Financial Reports

All members have been provided with a username and password to access this protected area of the website. Please contact Bill Curtis at webmaster@oveb.org if you need new login credentials.

Welcome To New Member Donald W. Smith

We just received a new member application from Donald Smith, of Fairfield, Ohio. Don is 78 years old and owns a 1964 Light Blue Thunderbird. So far as I know, he is our first *official* member with a "Bullet Bird." I look forward to introducing him to our friendly flock of T-Bird enthusiasts at a future outing.

Proposed 2021 CTCI Branson, Missouri Convention Will NOT Take Place

CTCI recently sent a survey to all members to gauge interest in holding a full-scale 2021 Regional convention/gathering in Branson, MO from October 12 – 17, 2021. It was apparent from the survey results that even though COVID-19 vaccines are being distributed, the infectious numbers continue to rise and restrictions across the country remain in place making planning and scheduling of any large group activity, even 10 months away, difficult. 4,031 surveys were emailed to all CTCI members with email addresses on file. Of these, 1,121 members completed the survey. The number of members indicating that they would definitely attend a Branson convention was not significant enough to give CTCI any confidence that the convention would be a success. The survey results did indicate some interest in holding three CTCI /Chapter sponsored mini conventions/regional driving tours in the West, Midwest and East in 2021. To date, nothing has been scheduled. Finally, a large number of respondents voted to delay everything for this calendar year with the hope that 2022 will bring us back to some degree of normalcy.

In the meantime, CTCI is inviting all members to submit photos of their cars for “The Galactic Virtual Convention & Concours: Cybird-Space 2021.” A special website has been created to showcase your favorite T-Bird photos. You can view member submissions and upload photos of your own car at this link: [CTCI's Galactic Virtual Convention & Concours: Cybird-Space 2021](#).

55 T-Bird for Sale



I recently received an email from a CTCI member in South Carolina named Keith Fishlinger with a very clean 1955 Thunderbird for sale. He wanted to offer the car to other CTCI members before advertising it to the general public. I posted some details of the car's restoration and some photos on the classified section of our website. You can view Keith's car at this link:

[OVEB Classifieds](#)

If you know anyone looking for a classic '55 T-Bird, please spread the word.

That's all the news for today. Until next time, please be careful out there.

Brad

2021 PLANNING MEETING AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Due to the pandemic, we have decided not to schedule any OVEB activities for January, February or March of 2021. We are considering holding a virtual planning meeting in March of 2021. By then, hopefully, we'll have a better handle on how the pandemic will impact our future planning.

We have a backlog of fun activities that were canceled in 2020 that we hope to reschedule in 2021, but we will need to add a few additional events. In the meantime, please consider potential club activities in the Dayton and Cincinnati areas and send those suggestions to Brad by email.

We had tentatively planned to have our first outing of 2021 at the 43rd annual Sharonville Car Show on the last weekend in April. As of January 12th the Sharonville Chamber of Commerce has decided to postpone the show until sometime in the summer of 2021. For more information, [Click Here](#) to go to the Sharonville Chamber of Commerce website.

