

OVEB NEWS



The Newsletter of the Ohio Valley Early Birds

November 2012



Signs of all kinds will be on display during the Ohio Valley Early Birds visit to the American Sign Museum on November 17

President's Message

I hope you were able to get out in your T-Birds and savor some of the lovely autumn temperatures. Although we enjoyed some truly beautiful fall days, October also brought some weather challenges. OVEB members who planned to participate in Cincinnati's Spring Grove Cemetery Annual Cruise-In Car Show on October 14 were thwarted when the sponsoring organization cancelled the event due to thunderstorms and dangerously high winds. Eight of our members elected to brave the rains and were rewarded with great conversation and a tasty Italian meal during an informal rendezvous at Bravo Cucina Italiana in West Chester. Given the current weather situation, most of us are now engaged in the rituals of putting our classic birds to bed for the winter, but with an eye toward the promise of more wonderful driving adventures in the spring.

Because family commitments and other obligations prevented many interested members from attending our scheduled October meeting at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, we ultimately decided to move the outing to our potential list of activities for 2013. Event organizers Bill and Pam Strader noted that the museum is planning to open a new shuttle simulator exhibit in approximately six months, so a future trip to this impressive facility should yield even more unique and exciting opportunities. We extend our sincere appreciation to Pam and Bill for planning this event.

Craft beer and a nostalgic look at Americana through the world of signs comprise our agenda for November. Please join your fellow T-Birders on Saturday, November 17th for lunch at Cincinnati's new Moerlein Lager House, followed by a private tour of the recently relocated and expanded American Sign Museum. The menu at the Moerlein Lager House features a wide selection of appetizers, soups, sausage plates, salads, sandwiches, burgers, pasta, flatbreads and various combos as well as a large selection of draft and bottled beers. The American Sign Museum offers a fascinating look at the history and culture of signs. Our guide will be Ted Swormstedt, the museum's founder. Ted's enthusiasm and passion for the collection is contagious. Detailed meeting information can be found in the flyer included with this newsletter. Please RSVP as soon as possible to rsvp@oveb.org or telephone Lisa Nogar at (513) 474-5197.

It's hard to believe that 2012 is drawing to a close, but our final meeting of the year will be our annual Christmas party, graciously hosted once again by Gail and Bill Curtis. The festive gathering will be held at their home on Sunday, December 2 at 2 pm, so be sure to mark your calendars now.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our final two meetings of 2012 and I wish you and your families a very happy Thanksgiving.

Brad

2013 Meeting Ideas

We are actively seeking ideas for potential OVEB meetings and outings in 2013. Some of you have already called or emailed us with suggestions. Please keep them coming. Our plan is to have a variety of suggestions ready to discuss at our winter planning meeting in early 2013.



Destinations can include Dayton and Cincinnati as well as northern Kentucky and other areas within a reasonable driving distance. Suggestions for both single day activities and multi-day excursions are welcome. Car-themed and historical attractions are always popular, especially when they involve driving there in our T-Birds.

Please email your ideas to secretary@oveb.org or call Lisa Nogar at (513) 474-5197.

2013 Regional Conventions

International CTCI conventions, like the recent one in Memphis, are held every other year. During alternate years, members have an opportunity to show their cars at one or more CTCI-sanctioned regional events. Grab your calendars and make plans now to attend one or both of the two CTCI regional conventions being offered in 2013.

July 31 – August 4, 2013: San Jose, California



"Birds by the Bay," the 2013 CTCI Region 3 Convention, is scheduled for July 31 to August 4. Hosted by the Santa Clara Valley Thunderbirds at the San Jose Airport Garden Hotel, it promises to be a fun-filled and exciting event in one of the most picturesque areas of the country. Within an hour's drive are such interesting tourist options as the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Santa Cruz Beach, the Winchester Mystery House, Napa Valley Wine Country and all that the city of San Francisco has to offer.

The Santa Clara club plans to keep us entertained with a NASA Ames tour, a luau dinner and dance, a driving tour to the Littlefield Military Museum and Filoli Gardens and, of course, an excellent Concours. We will also have the opportunity to meet colorful club members Doc Dockter and Lucy Clark who drove their T-Birds to all 50 state capitals from 2008 to 2010.

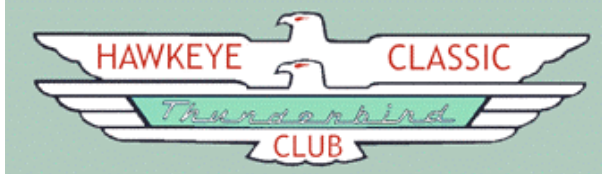


August 21 – August 25, 2013: Des Moines, Iowa



The second 2013 CTCI event, now officially approved, will be "Thunder in the Heartland," the Region 2 Convention hosted by The Hawkeye Classic Thunderbird Club in Des Moines, Iowa from August 21 to 25, 2013. The event will be held at the Sheraton West Des Moines Hotel in West Des Moines, IA.

The facility is offering a room rate of \$89 per night with complimentary shuttle service from the Des Moines International Airport. Hotel shuttle service is also available at no cost within a three-mile radius of the hotel. This area includes venues for dining and shopping malls with upscale stores. Particularly interesting is Valley Junction, the site of the original downtown area of West Des Moines. It is a renovated railroad district with a collection of over 120 retail businesses, including unique boutiques, antique shops, restaurants and other specialty stores. Living History Farms is also located within shuttle range, a 500-acre open-air museum depicting midwestern agriculture and rural life from the 1700s to the 1900s.



Additional information and details about registration will appear in the next issue of CTCI's *Early Bird* magazine. Any CTCI member may attend any regional convention, regardless of the region in which the member resides.

Walt's Tech Tips

Car Care Advice from Walter Bernhardt
OVEB Authenticity Chairman



Here are a few solutions to problems you may encounter when working on old cars:

If your oil filter will not come off, it probably means the rubber seal is stuck to the block. Use a thin putty knife and work it between the block and seal, being careful not to scar the block. This works well for the spin on type oil filters but not the old canister type.

Pipe plugs can become set in their ways and are sometimes difficult to remove. If you have a welder, here's a tip to help remove plugs that become stuck in an engine block or elsewhere. Weld an Allen wrench to the plug and then use a socket wrench to take it out.

When replacing a distributor or attempting to adjust it forward or backward by a tooth, sometimes it won't properly seat all the way down. This is often caused because the distributor is not properly aligned with the nipple that drives the oil pump. Try to reset the distributor assembly while someone bumps the ignition switch. If you are alone, try using a socket wrench to turn the crank bolt inside the front damper pulley while reseating the distributor.

If you have any other T-Bird technical questions, please send them along.

October 14 Dinner at Bravo



Eight hearty OVEB members didn't let the wind and rains that cancelled the Spring Grove Cemetery Cruise-In spoil their fun. Alternate plans were quickly hatched to meet at Bravo in West Chester for a leisurely meal.

Local Sources for T-Bird Batteries

The standard 12V battery used in the 1956 and 1957 Thunderbird is a group 29 battery. Although this form factor was once common for cars, today these batteries are more often used for tractors and industrial uninterruptible power sources. As some of us on the Memphis trip discovered, it isn't always easy to find one in a pinch.



For concours-correct appearance, you can't beat the look of the original Ford Power Punch battery. The Antique Auto Battery Company, of Youngstown, Ohio, has been licensed by Ford to reproduce this battery, but with an AGM twist. Unlike the original flooded cell batteries, today's Power Punch batteries use absorbed glass mat technology, which makes them maintenance and spill free. This comes at a price, however. The local distributor, Restoration Battery, sells the Ford 29N Power Punch battery for

\$250 plus shipping. The larger yellow vent capped group 32 heavy-duty Power Punch battery costs \$270. Unfortunately, there is often a 30 day or longer wait to get these batteries. Restoration Battery's phone number is (513) 574-4481.

If you are looking for a cheaper alternative, both NAPA Auto Parts and Interstate Batteries offer a Group 29 flooded cell battery. The NAPA part number is BAT-7280. You will need to call your local NAPA store to see if they have any in stock.

Another alternative is the Interstate 29NF-VHD. None of the local Interstate dealers stocked this battery, but the Cincinnati Interstate Battery distributor had them on the shelf. The MSRP is \$126.95, but I was able to purchase one for \$94.95. Interstate Batteries is located on 4775 Interstate Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45246. Their phone number is (513) 874-2414.

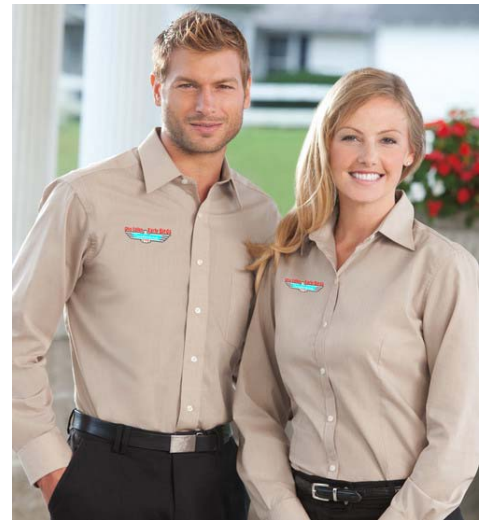


OVEB Logowear

Make a fashion statement while displaying pride in your club by wearing clothing embroidered with the Ohio Valley Early Birds' logo. OVEB apparel and other logo items can be ordered any time you wish.

We've made special arrangements with T&T Sales and Promotions to offer our members a wide variety of apparel and accessories from their 543-page catalog. Clothing choices include polo and knit shirts, T-shirts, sweatshirts, camp shirts, work-wear and outerwear. You can also order caps, bags, totes, blankets, aprons and coolers featuring the OVEB logo. Many of our members who attended last summer's CTCI International Convention in Memphis ordered OVEB logowear to wear at that event and were very pleased with the quality.

Prices vary by clothing style and manufacturer. Brands include Hanes, Jerzees, Outerbanks, Nike, Sport-Tek, Gilban, Port Authority and more.



Feel free to choose any style or color of garment that you desire. You can even coordinate your clothing with your car or your spouse: the choice is yours.

We'll have T&T catalogs and order blanks available for browsing at our monthly meetings. After you make your selection, simply contact Laurie Dyer at T&T Productions to confirm pricing and availability. Her phone number is (317) 774-7106.

Many styles can also be viewed online:
<http://www.companycasuals.com/lauriedyer/>

OVEB 2012 Event Schedule

November 17 – American Sign Museum in Cincinnati, OH

This unique attraction celebrates everything neon. The ASM recently relocated to a much larger facility, where many more examples of restored roadside Americana are on display.

We'll meet for a leisurely lunch at 1:15 pm in Cincinnati's new Christian Moerlein Lager House, located on the Ohio River between Great American Ballpark and Paul Brown Stadium.

After our meal, we'll drive to the American Sign Museum, where a private tour will be conducted at 4 pm. Organizers: Brad and Lisa Nogar.

December 2 at 2 pm – Christmas Party at the home of Bill and Gail Curtis

Please RSVP to Gail Curtis at (513) 598-6768 or to rsvp@oveb.org.

Note: All events are subject to change. Please visit oveb.org for updated information and additional details.

2013 OVEB Officer Candidates Welcome

If you are interested in running for an OVEB position for the 2013 calendar year, please inform Brad Nogar by the November 17th meeting. Club positions include president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary. If there is more than one candidate for an office, written ballots will be distributed at the December Christmas party. You can contact Brad by phone at (513) 474-5197 or by email at president@oveb.org.

OVEB Member Birthdays



November

5.....John Fleeger
11.....Pat Bernhardt
29.....Linda Fleeger

December

4.....Jan Rieder
6.....Jim Marts
9.....Annette Marts
10.....Todd Jackson
14.....Norma Angel
21.....Don Overman
29.....Nancy Busch
31.....Walt Bernhardt



Ohio Valley Early Birds

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FIRST CLASS MAIL