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# *Spark and Sputter*

WAUKESHA OLD CAR CLUB

## *April - May 2024*

1957 F Code Thunderbird



# 2024

## Officers and Board Members

### President

Ron Herman (2023-2024)

### Vice President

Steve Heinemann (2024-2025)

### Secretary

E. Linda Uebele (2023-2024)

### Treasurer

Jim Young (2024-2025)

### Board Members

Nic Gengler (2023-2024)

Marcia Golla (2024-2025)

Bob Schumann(2023-2024)

Dennis Wagner (2023-2024)

Brett Smith (2024-2025)

### Newsletter Editor / Board Member at Large

Bob Merner

### Webpage Coordinator

Steve Heinemann

### Facebook Coordinator

Sarah Ksicinski

### Club Activity Committee

Jim Young (2)

Dennis Wagner

Al Schultz

Victor Perugini



There were 21,380 Thunderbirds built in 1957 each with one of three engine options.

There were 19,820 D-Code built (312 V-8 engine with a single four barrel carburetor).

There were 1363 E-Code built (312 V-8 engine with dual four barrel carburetor).

There were 197 F-Code built (312 V-8 engine with a single four barrel carburetor and a Paxton Phase 1 Supercharger).

There are only 40 F-Code Thunderbirds known to exist today

# FEATURE CAR

## 1957 Ford Thunderbird

### F-Code

The Ford Thunderbird was developed to compete with the Chevrolet Corvette. The Thunderbird went from idea to prototype in less than a year using mostly off the shelf parts. The main differences between the Corvette and Thunderbird was that the Corvette was marketed as a sports car whereas the Thunderbird was marketed as a 2 seat personal luxury car. Also, the Corvette was only available with the Blue Flame 6 and two speed Powerglide transmission, where as the Thunderbird came standard with the 292 cubic inch Y-block V-8, from the Mercury division, with either a manual or automatic transmission.

The 1955 Thunderbird sold extremely well, out selling the Corvette 23 to 1.

For 1956 a few changes were made. The spare tire was moved out of trunk and mounted on the rear bumper to gain more trunk space and vents were added to the front fenders to provide better air circulation to the cabin, and the 312 cu. in. V-8 became available as an option.

For 1957 again more options became available. The Thunderbird F-Code was available for only one year to homologate the car for NASCAR. The F-Code came with a high-performance 312 V-8 with a four barrel carburetor and a Paxton Phase 1 Super Charger and heavy duty 3 speed manual overdrive transmission. One of the F-Code Thunderbirds set a speed record of 138.755 mph at Daytona Speed Trials which surpassed the record set by a Corvette the prior year by 6 mph. Later that year, the same car set record of 160+ mph at Bonneville speed trials. Thus began the Ford Supercharger program.



# *Waukesha Old Car Club Meeting Highlights*

**February 12, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by President, Ron Herman with 27 members present. There were no new members or guests.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Officers and Board Members were introduced

## **Presidents Report:**

- Ron Herman reviewed what was discussed at the board meeting. Jeff Krumrich voiced a concern that there is not a quick and easy way for members to contact other members. Marcia Golla said she could set up a Facebook group where any member in the group could send a message to everyone who is in that group.
- The club has left over shirts from prior year shows. They are available to members at discount pricing. The shirts will be available at the club meetings

## **Vice Presidents Report:**

- Steve Heinemann was absent from the meeting.

## **Secretary's Report:**

- Linda Uebele read the minutes from the January meeting. The minutes were accepted as read.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

- In the absence of Jim Young the President gave a Treasurer's report for the month of January. Ron said that a portion of the club's savings have been moved to a money market account at Fidelity Investments. The checking account remains at Waukesha State Bank. This change allows the club to earn a higher interest rate and monies can be easily moved from one account to the other.
- **Sunshine Committee**
- Judy Sodemann had nothing to report.

## **Old Business**

- Bob Merner is looking for member cars to be featured in the *Spark and Sputter*.

## **New Business**

- Ron Wichinski talked about the upcoming Annual Appreciation Banquet. It will be held at the Delafield Brewhaus on Saturday, March 9.
- Tom Garibaldi said that the grills have been cleaned and ready for sale if the club decides to sell them.
- Check out the club on Facebook, Instagram and the club's website.

# *Waukesha Old Car Club Meeting Highlights*

**March 11, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 by President, Ron Herman.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Officers and Board Members were introduced. There were two new members.

## **Presidents Report:**

Ron Herman reviewed what was discussed at the Board meeting.

- Marsha Golla is working on a message group where as you can contact everyone in the group with one text message.
- The Appreciation Banquet went well. There was a good turnout,69 members attended and everyone thought the food and atmosphere was good.

## **Vice Presidents Report:**

- The club is looking at a tour to Bennet Coachworks in Milwaukee and/or Throttle stop in Elkhart Lake.
- This year's T-shirt feature car will be a 1969 Camaro restomod submitted by Boucher Automotive .

## **Secretary's Report:**

- Linda Uebele read the minutes from the February meeting. The minutes were accepted as presented.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

- In Jim Young's absence The President gave a report of income and expenses for the month of February. Now that a portion of the saving have been moved to Fidelity we received more interest. The reports was accepted as presented.

## **Sunshine Committee**

- Judy Sodemann had no report.

## **Old Business**

- The swap meet in West Bend had a very light turnout.
- The Frame Park Car Show will be August 11, Roberts meats will again be handling the food preparation. Club members will distribute the food same as last year. The road closed permit and beer permit have been approved. Ron Wichinski is working on the Porta pottys. If you need a work shirt for the car show contact Steve. The car show work assignment list has been sent out. If you are unable to fulfill your assignment let Steve know.

## **New Business**

- The June meeting will be at Bubba's, 1276 Capitol Drive, Pewaukee. Same place as last year. More details will be shared as they become available.

The meeting was adjourned



**2024**  
*Member Appreciation Banquet*  
March 9, 2024  
Delafield Brewhaus



*A special Thank You to  
Ron Wichinski and Sharon Derke  
for hosting the Banquet*



*A special Thank You to  
Ron Herman  
Master of Ceremonies*

*A special Thank You to  
Linda Uebele and Marsha Golla  
for making the table decorations*

# Members who received awards at the Banquet



*Bob and Nancy Kelley  
40 years*



*Dale and Becky Schneider  
40 years*



*Tom Garibaldi  
45 years*



*Wes and Judy Sodemann  
45 years  
Received their award at the meeting*

# Members who received awards at the Banquet



*Bob and Margaret Schumann  
15 years*



*Gregg and Joy Miller  
15 years*



*Mike and Annette Weber  
20 years*



*John Carini  
25 years*

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Monday May 27, 2024 9:00am—3:00pm  
Pewaukee Kiwanis/ Village Park, 325 Capitol Drive, Pewaukee

Door Prizes @12:00, Raffle @12:30, Awards @ 2:00  
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For more information contact Jerry Babe 262-691-2515



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## ***Club Activities & Other Fun Things To Do***

**Calendar updated as changes occur**

<b>April</b>	8	7:30pm Club Meeting at Foxx View Lanes, Board meets prior to meeting
	13	Club tour of Bennett Coachworks, 1500 Vel R Phillips Ave. Milwaukee
	20	BobZ Car Club Swap Meet at Sanfilippo's Farmers Market, New Berlin
	26-27	Spring Jefferson
<b>May</b>	6	Mondays thru August 26, Pistons and Pins Cruise nite at Sussex Bowl
	8	Wednesdays thru September, Foxx View Lanes Car Show
	13	7:30pm Club Meeting at Foxx View Lanes, Board meets prior to meeting
	27	Pewaukee VFW Memorial Day Car Show, Pewaukee Village Park
<b>June</b>	10	The June meeting will be at Bubba's Custard in Pewaukee More details to follow
	15	Gary's Hot Rod Reunion Racine County Fair Grounds
<b>July</b>	4	Waukesha Forth of July Parade More details to follow
	8	7:30pm Club Meeting at Foxx View Lanes, Board meets prior to meeting
	28	Cars on Main Car Show Lannon, WI
<b>August</b>	11	Frame Park Car Show
<b>September</b>	8	Club Picnic and Auction More details to follow