



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

### **May, 2018**

Spring is here and with it warmer weather is just around the corner!! I find it uplifting and positive when the sun is shining a little before 7:00 AM. It seems to make the day move along at a faster pace. Soon we will be getting our Birds out of the winter nest and making all the preps (washing, polishing, checking fluids etc.). About 3 or 4 years ago there was a suggestion in TN by Martin or Mort that we should be checking the tire pressure on the spare in the trunk. I did check that and there was none!! How could air escape from a tire that was not used? One of old car's life's mystery! From then on I always check the tire pressure before cruisin' and another time during the season.

From time to time I've had people who are thinking of buying a TBird, ask me about maintenance after the purchase. I've found that you're always tinkering with various things—oiling hinges, distributor shaft, changing oil & filter, applying paint touchup somewhere under the car, under the hood, etc, etc. This year I plan on changing the differential oil and fixing the leak on the power steering pump. In 2013, I noticed that there was a small rattling noise near the PS pump. I noticed that there was a play of about 1/8 inch in and out on the shaft. I removed the pump and took it to a place in London to have it rebuilt. The person on the desk told me that it is supposed to be like that. It now leaks fluid out along the shaft. So now I have to remove it again to get it fixed. If you own old cars, expect to be tinkering with them. I think the all-round tinkerer award goes to John Horn!

Your executive has prepared a full slate of activities for the upcoming 2018 season. Make it a point to attend as many as you can---you can't attend them all (unless you want to). If you find an event of interest and you don't have your Tbird ready (it might be sick on that day !) then bring your daily driver and meet some new and older members. It shows you appreciate the work and organization it takes to offer that event.

The first event to be held is our annual Tech Day on Sunday May 6. One of the presenters will be talking about newer paint technology, body work etc. Mort White will discuss restoration of aluminum parts in the interior and probably other things. Our tech advisor, Martin Brugmans, will also be available to answer questions. Anyone else who has tech tips is welcome to provide input. Bring a chair and a prize for the prize table. A barbecue will be held at the end of the presentations. This is a good venue to start the cruisin' season. Let's hope for good weather. Instructions on how to get to Dave & Helen Sawchuk's place are contained in this newsletter.

The second event on Sat. May 26 is a guided tour of the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Mount Hope organized by Wally Kent. A flyer announcing this event was placed in your February Thunder News. Please try to attend this event.

The third event is on June 2 in London at Steve Plunkett's Fleetwood Farm for his annual car show. There are always many interesting vehicles and activities going on. As usual, he has reserved a spot on "Thunderbird Hill" for all the beautiful Birds.

The fourth event is at the Canadian Transportation Museum in Essex on Sunday June 10 starting at 9:00 AM. See the attached info in this newsletter. This event is organized by Ted Copperthwaite our Southwest Regional Coordinator. A group of us were there last year and it was a very interesting venue.