



# The Wing



Official Journal of the  
Northern California Vintage Thunderbird Club

Volume 40, Issue 4

Jul/Aug 2016

## MIGRATION 2016



### *Current Events*

July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Rosicrusian Museum  
San Jose

August 14<sup>th</sup>

Horse and Feathers  
Micke Park Lodi

September 24th

T-Birds on the Wharf  
Santa Cruz

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## Board of Directors

Founded on September 26, 1976, the Northern California Vintage Thunderbird Club of America, Inc. (NORCAL VTCA) unites owners and enthusiasts of ALL Ford Thunderbirds built in 1956 through 2005 in a common effort to enjoy and preserve these fine cars.

### President

Craig Cuslidge  
209-463-2793

### Vice President

Craig Cuslidge  
209-463-2793

### Secretary

Julie Kinsey

### Treasurer

Miki Smith  
510-521-7213

[mikismith@outlook.com](mailto:mikismith@outlook.com)

### The Wing Editor

Russ Carr  
408-568-3782

[oldcarr.rc@gmail.com](mailto:oldcarr.rc@gmail.com)

### Immediate Past President

Mike Press  
1-510-558-4037

[mjprgp@infionline.net](mailto:mjprgp@infionline.net)

### Board at Large

open

Vic Quarello  
510-527-1402

[nspite@netzero.net](mailto:nspite@netzero.net)

*The above officers are here to  
serve the members of this club*

Our website is at

<http://norcal-vtca.org/> and  
the facebook location is  
[www.facebook.com/norcalvt  
ca?ref=stream](http://www.facebook.com/norcalvtca?ref=stream)

## **President's Message** **By Craig Cuslidge**

Dear Members

Summer came with June and so did the heat. We had a bit of a heat wave for the June 4 Migration meet. However, on the actual day of the meet some clouds came by and cooled the day off quite nicely. We had a fairly light attendance this year compared to the 40 Birds we had last year, but the cars on the field lit up the park with all those vibrant '60s colors that we all love. Josh and Zac Harmon were there in the morning to watch and help get things set up for the picnic that was in honor of their late father.

We talked and looked at cars, had a great Barbeque, some happy award winners, a huge raffle with more happy winners, and paused for a moment of silence for Peter. All of this made for a very good day.

It's with sadness that I report that Bob Mabe, member #4, passed away in early June. Bob and Leola have been with the club since it's founding in 1976. They were active in several car clubs and coordinated a variety of South Bay car shows, specifically the annual 2-day car show in his home town of Los Altos. Bob will surely be missed by family, friends and all of us involved in the classic car hobby.

Upcoming events are: July 23-Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum in San Jose; August 14-Horse & Feathers picnic in Lodi with our club as the host; September 24 at Santa Cruz Birds on the Wharf; October for Delta Tour Version 2; November at Villa Montalvo in Saratoga and December for the Holiday Party.

A lot of work by your members goes into planning these events, so PLEASE dust off those fine automobiles and come show them off! Also, we need your help. We sometimes repeat events because we don't have any new ideas. We don't know about some of the interesting things that may be in your area and that many of the club might like to see, so please tell us. We're always open to new experiences and we get tired of doing the same things year after year too, so please share your ideas with us. As far as the events that are planned for the rest of the year, we hope to see many of you soon.

Happy Birding,

*Craig Cuslidge*

## Note from the Editor

Thanks to Vic Quarello and Bill Kinsey for the pictures in this issue. Your editor took off for a month to the Pacific Northwest and Vancouver Island.

We did get to stop at the LeMay Auto Museum in Tacoma and for anyone heading up that way, this is a must see. Plan on spending at least a half a day at the museum. Another side trip in Tacoma is the Griott's Car Care Center only a couple of miles from the museum. They have a small showroom with rotation of cars and numerous local car clubs meeting in the parking lot.

Russ = [oldcarr.rc@gmail.com](mailto:oldcarr.rc@gmail.com)

## Picture of the Month

"Yard art" at Griott's Car Care Center



## Front Page Picture

A line of Thunderbirds at Migration 2016 (in honor of Peter Harmon). Pic thanks to Vic

## 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum  
Brunch and chocolate. See page 4 for details.

**August 14<sup>th</sup>** \*\*Horse and Feathers  
Micke Park in Lodi. See page 5 for details.

### September 24

\*\* TBirds on the Wharf in Santa Cruz

\*Taste of Morgan Hill on Sunday after Wharf

**October** – \*\*Delta Tour – Version 2

**November** – \*\*Villa Montalvo – Saratoga

### December

\*\*Holiday Luncheon

The 2016 Calendar has filled up so if you have ideas for a tour for 2017 please let Craig and Miki know so we can include them in our planning.

Call Craig at 209-463-2793 and he will help you arrange a tour. The Wing editor will design and publish a flyer for the tour.

\*\*Club functions

\*Other items of interest

## Website of the Month

Check out the latest pictures from Migration on our website at <http://norcalvtca.org/migration-2016/> or on our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/norcalvtca/> Bill and Julie have posted these pictures and more on these two sites. Check them out!

## HANDOUT BUSINESS CARDS

Vic Quarello has designed and printed a very nice handout business card to give to potential members that you may run into at shows or other locations. Contact Vic at [nspite@netzero.net](mailto:nspite@netzero.net) or Russ at [oldcarr.rc@gmail.com](mailto:oldcarr.rc@gmail.com) for cards to be delivered to you at future tours.



# Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum in San Jose

July 23, 2016 – 11:00 a.m

We're meeting for a late breakfast or early lunch at 10:30 a.m. at Bill's Cafe at 2089 The Alameda in San Jose. Bill's has an extensive menu of breakfast and lunch items for under \$15. They don't take reservations but will "hold a table" if we let them know how many are attending. After lunch we tour to the Museum at 1660 Park Avenue in San Jose and should arrive by 12:30 p.m.



At the museum, which has the largest collection of Egyptian artifacts on exhibit in Western North America, we can do a self-guided tour or take one of the tomb tours at 1:30 or 4:30. See more at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=V7ZUejNAonw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=V7ZUejNAonw)



The museum is beautiful, the artifacts are stunning and the sense of history is everywhere. There is also a planetarium on sight, with presentations of Journey to the Stars at 2:00 and 3D of the Sun at 3:30. Lots to see and do here and endless things to fascinate. Come and join us. Admission to the Museum is \$9 adults, \$7 seniors.



For those that desire a sweet finish to the tour before heading home, we can take a short trip down The Alameda to a favorite stop of Marilyn's. Schurra's Chocolates have been in business for more than 100 years. They don't give tours any more but you can get your chocolate fix by just breathing deeply when you enter.



Directions for Bills Café:

From the North: Travel down 880S to The Alameda exit in San Jose. Turn right on The Alameda and Bill's will be immediately on the left.

From the South: Travel on 880N to the Alameda exit in San Jose. Turn left and go under the freeway. Bill's will be immediately on the left after you go under the freeway.

Please call Russ Carr at **408-568-3782** and let him know you're coming for the lunch so he can reserve space.

# **HORSE & FEATHERS 2016**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14TH  
10:00 A.M. MICKE GROVE PARK, LODI  
SAN JOAQUIN PICNIC AREA

A JOINT MEET WITH  
THE RIVER CITY FALCON CLUB  
THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA VINTAGE THUNDERBIRD CLUB  
AND GUESTS SACRAMENTO AREA MUSTANG CLUB

EACH CLUB INVITES A CAR CLUB OF THEIR CHOICE  
(Please let us know how many are coming from your club and your guest club)

**HOSTED In 2016 By Nor-Cal Vintage Thunderbirds**

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AS ALWAYS, BRING A DISH TO SHARE AND A RAFFLE PRIZE PER CAR

PARK ENTRY FEE AT THE GATE: \$6.00

THE HOST CLUB WILL PROVIDE AS MANY HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS,  
AND SOFT DRINKS AS OUR TUMMIES CRAVE

AGENDA FOR THE DAY:

HAVE FUN

EAT GREAT FOOD

CHAT WITH OLD AND NEW FRIENDS

PLAY WITH THE KIDS

GO TO THE ZOO

STROLL THROUGH THE JAPANESE GARDENS

VISIT THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

RELAX IN THE SHADE

WIN GREAT STUFF

AND THE EVER POPULAR KICK TIRES

CALL CRAIG, VTCA, AT (209) 463-2793, WITH ANY QUESTIONS

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Hosts in 2017– Falcons or Mustangs?

## Flight Log #1 Pinole Cruisin in the Sun

Your editor was off in his motorhome and did not make this tour but Vic kindly took some pictures of the club attendees. Vic also came away with the award sponsored by Mike and Rita Press for the best Thunderbird. Enjoy the pictures.



L to R: Mike's Ranchero, Rita's 63 TBird, Vics 64 TBird and Bill Edwards 62 TBird.



Vic's TBird waiting for it's Best Thunderbird award.

I know this one is not a Thunderbird but it is a very close sibling. The Lincoln Continental production line was right along side of the Thunderbird line.



When you start looking at the different parts you will notice that they shared many items. For example the Continental used the same harmonic dampers on all four corners as the Thunderbird used on the '62-'63 roadsters. The inside rear view mirror was the same with just a different mounting.



The outside driver's side rear view mirrors were also the same. Neither Continental nor Thunderbird offered an outside passenger side rear view mirror, but they now are available as an after market item



# Flight Log #2 Migration 2016

Pics by Vic and Bill Kinsey

Still off in the motorhome but Vic and Bill came through with some great pictures. Attendance was down from last year but everyone enjoyed the BBQ (thanks Craig) the weather and the raffle prizes. Enjoy the pictures.









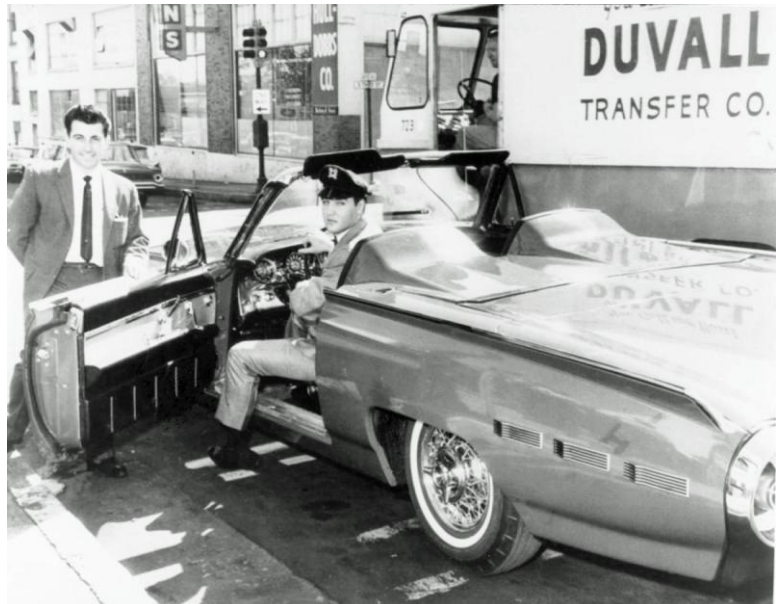
# Car of the Month

## NEW MEMBER 1962 Convertible

This bright red 1962 Convertible belongs to our newest members, Tim and Pam Van Raam.



They drove over from Novato and I am sure were greeted immediately upon arriving at Migration. The car isn't one of the "true" roadsters for 1962 but it does come with the tonneau cover for the back seats. Tim just recently purchased the car from back east and believes he is the third owner. The last owner was a former cameraman for NBC Sports. We are happy to add Tim and Pam to our growing list of new members. After looking at the second picture I am not sure "who" drove to the Migration. Tim also turned me on to the following picture. Complete story next issue.



# TECH NOTE

## Reviving a dead battery

I recently found I had left something on in my 1963 TBird and the battery was completely DEAD. Nothing on the voltmeter and it would not take a charge. **Rats!** This was one of the reproduction batteries from Antique Auto Battery in Ohio and they aren't cheap! Well maybe I can get some money back on the warranty. A quick phone call to the company and I was told that I could resurrect the battery. OK?

Step 1: Connect a good battery to the dead one. Positive to positive and negative to negative.

Step 2: Connect a battery charger to the good battery at a low level (2 Amps).

Step 3: Wait 20 to 30 minutes. Then disconnect. (Dead battery now read 6 volts)

Step 4: Connect charger to dead battery and charge as normal.

Hey it worked! Battery measures fine and it holds a charge.

These batteries are not lead/acid type but a maintenance free dry cell. No corrosion on the posts with a dry cell.



They could have sold me a new battery but instead took care of their customer. They get a great recommendation from me.

## CLA\$\$IFIED

Chris Bang is looking for original tail light buckets for a 1962-3 Thunderbird. He would like good original since the reproduction items are lacking. If you have or know of a good pair give him a call. 408-226-3836.



# Need Help and Information?

## Our Technical Advisors

*This list is under review. If you would like to be added or removed please contact Russ Carr.*

### Craig Cuslidge

1958-1966 Concours Detail  
1960 sunroofs  
1965 General/Restorations  
209-463-2793

### Bill Edwards

1958-1966 General/Mechanical/Convertibles  
510-223-2365

### Mike Press

1958-1966 Concours Details/Parts/Services  
1961-1963 General/Restoration  
510-558-4037

### Russ Carr

1961-1963 General Coupe and Convertible repair  
408-568-3782

### Concours Manuals

Available from Mike Press for \$15.00 plus \$2.00 shipping. Rules plus single series sections available for \$7.00 plus \$2.00 shipping. Contact Mike at 510-558-4037 to order.

### Good Guys List

A list of service providers that have done particularly good work on members cars – Available free to members from Mike Press (510) 558-4037, mjprgp@infionline.net. Also, contact Mike if you would like to add to the list.

## General Information

### Membership

To become a member, please send annual dues to the Treasurer. (\$25.00 if Wing to be delivered electronically and \$30.00 if to be delivered by USPS).

### Change of Address

Please send address change notices to the Secretary

### Correspondence

General correspondence should be sent to the club President. Submissions to The Wing should be sent to the Editor (see Publication Deadline below).

### Nametags

Order through Craig Cuslidge at 209-463-2793.

### Advertising

Send all advertising with payment to The Wing Editor. See advertising pages for rates.

### Publication Deadline

The Wing is published bi-monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, March, May, July, September and November. Submissions must be received before the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the issue(s) for which they are intended. E-mail submissions must be in .doc or .docx format and pictures in .jpg format. Hard copy submissions gladly accepted.

### Advisory Board of Past Presidents

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Craig Cuslidge (2)	Paul Simonds
Jim Parry	Mike McSherry
Bobbi Killion †	Doreen Gibbs
Dr. Gordon Richmond †	Barney Burke
Bob Combs	George Waters
Mike Press	LeRoy Siebert(2)
John Espinola	John Byers

### Lifetime Members

Bob † and Arlene Steinhauer #1  
Joel † and Elsie † Schlotz #26  
Dr. Gordon † & Nell Richmond #25  
Craig Cuslidge #15



The Wing Editor  
13400 Center Ave.  
San Martin, CA 95046  
Phone: 408-568-3782

Northern California  
Vintage Thunderbird Club



Taken while filming "The Tender Trap" in 1955. This was his 1955 black Thunderbird.

**INSIDE**  
**FLIGHT LOG – PINOLE CAR SHOW**  
**MIGRATION 2016**

**UPCOMING**  
**ROSICRUCIAN MUSEUM – SAN JOSE**  
**HORSE AND FEATHER - LODI**