



# The Wing



Official Journal of the  
Northern California Vintage Thunderbird Club

Volume 41, Issue 3

JUL/AUG 2017



*Nicole and Joe Dito May 20, 2017*

See flight log #2 for story about this picture.

### *Current Events*

July 22<sup>th</sup> 10 AM California  
Historical Radio Society,  
Alameda  
August 13<sup>th</sup> – Horse and  
Feathers - Micki Grove Lodi  
September 30<sup>th</sup> 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

Bill Kinsey  
925-683-0278

### Vice President

Craig Cuslidge  
209-463-2793

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Julie Kinsey

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### Immediate Past President

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1-510-558-4037  
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### 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

**Summertime-Game on!** Greetings club mates, we're in the full flower of the summer car season right now and I hope you're out there enjoying it.

Between the shows, the races, and the good weather, there's ample fodder to keep us gearheads busy for months. Julie and I enjoy a sunset cruise on these long summer evenings, frequently through Marsh Creek canyon north of Mt. Diablo. Thunderbirds need exercise just like any thoroughbred, and thirty minutes through the canyon a couple of times a week is good for all three of us. We've been enjoying Marsh Creek Road since we were teenagers, and if we'd started in a Thunderbird all those years ago we wouldn't have had to suffer along with those lesser beasts we've flogged through there. But now we know true automotive bliss in our Thunderbird, and our MOPAR past is fading in the rear-view mirror.

As if that bliss wasn't enough, I volunteered to help out the Cobra Day car show at a local Cobra museum where I occasionally serve as a docent. The show was focused on Cobras and Mustangs, though it was open to all pre-1970 Fords. I'm not particularly a Cobra or Mustang guy, but I am a Ford guy with appreciation of what Shelby's organization accomplished in the 1960s. I also enjoy being an outlier, and at a Cobra & Mustang party I'm happy to show up in my Thunderbird ("unique in all the world"). At that particular Cobra party there were five of us outliers: three baby birds and two 1966's. Interestingly, there was another outlier back in the day who worked at the Shelby factory in Los Angeles. In the museum is a photo of one of the office employees; out the window in the parking lot is a Thunderbird.



**Migration 2017** was held on May 20<sup>th</sup> in Concord, mega-thanks to all who helped out and attended. We were blessed with the shadiest spot in the park and a nice selection of Thunderbirds from the baby to the big. Among the many cool things about our club events are the camaraderie first and foremost, and the opportunity to see examples of various Thunderbird details among the model years. Our members are knowledgeable about their cars, and are eager to engage in conversation about them specifically and the marque generally. I come away from each of our events knowing more and appreciating each model year for what it is. I had a terrific time this year, hoping to see you all next year. Shoot, why wait until then? We've got events planned throughout 2017, so let's get together. Bill

## Note from the Editor

Our June Tour was cancelled due to lack of attendance so I have added another Flight Log that chronicles the activities of HER63TBIRD for the weekend of June 20<sup>th</sup>. This just proves that these "old" T'Birds are capable of a weekend of fun with no worries.

Why is your T'Bird not active? These cars need routine exercise just to keep the gas fresh in the tank. The more they sit unused the more problems you will have when you do fire them up for a drive.

Craig and Miki go to a lot of work to organize these tours so please come out and make your T'Bird happy and have fun with the rest of us.

**See the note below from Miki  
about our tours.**

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



# 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**\*\* June 10<sup>th</sup> – ~~Brizio Street Rods – South San Francisco~~ CANCELLED**

**\*\* July 22<sup>th</sup> – California Historical Radio Society - joint tour with Bay Area Thunderbird Club (little bird club). Alameda**

**\*\* August 13<sup>th</sup> Horse and Feathers Micki Grove Park - Lodi**

**\*\* September 30<sup>th</sup>  
T'Birds on the Wharf – Santa Cruz (see application in this issue.)**

**\*\* October –  
Overnight tour of the gold country.**

**\*\* November 26<sup>th</sup> – Tree trimming and Potluck at California Auto Museum in Sacramento.**

**\*\* December 10<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Party**

**All members are requested to consider  
hosting a tour in 2018.**

The 2018 Calendar is wide open so if you have an idea for a tour for 2018 please let Craig know.

\*\*Club functions

\*Other items of interest

## \*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM MIKI\*\*\*\*\*

We're sorry to say we had to cancel our June tour of the fabulous Brizio Street Rods due to lack of club response. This would have been a great tour, and we are hopeful to be able to go at a later date. It may be that the weekend was problematic, situated in the middle of graduation, or it may be that there was no interest in that type of venue. So we are asking for your help. We try very hard to offer a variety of activities for our monthly outings, but we are limited to our own brains for those ideas and it's sometimes difficult to come up with something. So please tell us what you would like to do. If you know of something that would make a good tour, someplace the club should see or experience, call us and tell us. We would love some new ideas and we would love to be doing activities that bring you out with your cars. Craig Cuslidge is the Vice President of the club and in charge of activities. Please call him at 209-463-2793 with your thoughts. Or call any of the officers of the club. We're waiting to hear from you.

# JOINT TOUR WITH BAY AREA THUNDERBIRD CLUB IN ALAMEDA

## California Historic Radio Society

### “Radio Day by the Bay”

JULY 22 2017



On July 22 we're going to Alameda to enjoy the cool weather and see the sights. We'll start the day at the California Historic Radio Society and participate in their Radio Day By The Bay event, which includes a tour of the museum, a silent auction of vintage radios and electronic "stuff", live music and a live radio play. Please plan to show up at 2152 Central Avenue in Alameda (closest cross street is Walnut) about 10 a.m.

At 12:30 we'll caravan to the old naval base on the island for lunch at Scolari's Restaurant at 2301 Monarch Street. Scolari's shares a parking lot with Rockwall Winery. We can do a little wine tasting before lunch and get a glass of our favorite wine to have with lunch. Scolari's and Rockwall Winery are at the tip of Alameda.

After lunch we'll vote on where to go next. Close by is a brewery with beer tasting and a distillery offering vodka tasting. Museums we could choose are the Naval Museum on the base which offers a look at the Navy Base and the individuals who worked there and flew out of there during WWII, the US Enterprise museum where we could tour the aircraft carrier and learn it's history, or the PinBall Museum at 1510 Webster Street, with over 90

interactive pinball machines spanning decades. Or we could just sit in the sun and drink more wine.

We'll vote.

Call Miki on her cell 510-846-0383 to let her know you're coming or if you have a question. See you in July!





# HORSE & FEATHERS

Sunday, August 13, 2017



**Micke Grove Park / San Joaquin Picnic Area in Lodi,  
CA**

**10:00 AM until ????**

**FIVE CAR CLUBS REPRESENTING Ford products – Falcon, Mustang, early Thunderbirds (1958 – 1966, classic and Retro Thunderbirds will gather at Micke Grove Park in Lodi to bring these car enthusiasts together. This is a car social as well as a family get-together/outing that has been highlighted for many years.**

There will be plenty of shade, some for the cars and a lot for the owners. The idea is to have fun, eat good food, chat with old and new friends, go to the Zoo, stroll through the Japanese Gardens and generally have fun with like car enthusiasts.

The host club will provide as many hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks to satisfy everyone. The individual (car) requirements, as participants are as follows:

Park entrance fee = \$6.00

Plus bring a side dish/desert to share

Plus bring a raffle prize.

This will ensure that everyone departs with tummies full along with the chance to gain a “valuable” car prize.

**Contact Craig Cuslidge – 209-463-2793 to let him know you are coming**

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**Monterey Bay Classic Thunderbird Club  
Invites All**

**Classic ('55-'57) Vintage ('58-'66) & Retro ('02-'05) Thunderbirds  
To The 20th Annual  
Thunderbirds on the Santa Cruz Wharf**

**Saturday, September 30, 2017 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Rain or Shine**

**Goody Bags, Dash Plaques, Raffle, Scavenger Hunt & Awards,  
Spectacular Ocean & Mountain Views  
Restaurants, Shopping on the Wharf & Santa Cruz Boardwalk**

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**Please complete and return to:**  
**MBCTC, PO Box 2721, Aptos, CA 95001-2721**

**by September 22, 2017**

**Entry fee: \$40.00 Rain or Shine  
Proceeds benefit Partnership for Children.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Club Affiliation** \_\_\_\_\_ **Car Info: Year** \_\_\_\_\_ **Color** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Participants accept and assume full responsibility for any injury or loss to themselves or family or property and agree to release from any and all liability the Monterey Bay Classic Thunderbird Club and/or the City of Santa Cruz, California.

**Your cancelled check serves as registration confirmation.**

# Flight Log #1 Migration 2017

By Russ with Pics by Tim and Vic

The day started cool and foggy in San Martin but by the time we got to Concord the weather got warmer .....then it proceeded to go to HOT! We had a very small turnout this year but still had lots of fun. The food provided by our in house chef (Craig) was great as usual. There were lots of raffle prizes so everyone went home happy. Awards were given out (sorry we left early so I don't have an award listing) with the "Best of Show" going to Russ Genna with his beautiful 1960 Thunderbird with sunroof.



I have heard tell that there is another 1960 sunroof in our club but it still hasn't come out of the Cuslidge garage. Thanks to Vic and Tim Van Raam for the pictures as the Carr's left early. That's another story for Flight Log #2.



## Flight Log #2 The Weekend of May 20<sup>th</sup> By Russ with Pics by Russ and Vic

Your cars need to be driven and enjoyed by all. They can handle a strenuous weekend with high temperatures and a lot of miles. You start by going to Migration 2017 at least for a couple of hours.



But you have to leave early to go down the street to pick up the bride to be..... granddaughter Nicole. She is already scheduled to be the next owner of HER63TB. So off to the church we go. After a beautiful wedding in Walnut Creek we take the T'Bird around to take some pictures.



We finally find a nice quiet place to take the pictures on the front cover. No wind so the top can come down for some great pictures. The picture on the front cover is a composite of two pictures from the photo shoot. Just remember to make sure you clean the mirror if you plan this view. I didn't so it could have been better.

Nicole made a beautiful bride and will some day join the club when HER63TB changes hands.



The party continued until late and then we arrived home about 1AM. Then up early on Sunday for another tour and naturally we had to take the T'Bird since it was National T'Bird Appreciation Day.

So off to Carmel Valley to tour a motorcycle museum, lunch and then back over Hecker Pass to miss some of the traffic.



So the total for the weekend was about 300 miles and the T'Bird made it easier than I did.

So get your Thunderbird out of the garage and take her for a ride. She will enjoy it, you will get "thumbs up" along the way and you just might find the next person to be the caretaker for your ride.



# Car of the Month

Would you like to show off your car in The Wing? Send me a picture and a brief story about your car so we can let everyone see your pride and joy.

## CLAS\$IFIED

Cars and parts for sale, wanted, free, or other Thunderbird related items. Ads can be sent to Russ Carr at [oldcarr.rc@gmail.com](mailto:oldcarr.rc@gmail.com) (.doc, .docx or .jpg for pictures)

### For Sale – parting out 1985 Thunderbird Turbo Coupe

Parts include front clip, doors, both seats (blue), back window, trunk carpet kit, spare and other parts.

Contact Mark Smith at [530-368-3722](tel:530-368-3722) or [barf1962@yahoo.com](mailto:barf1962@yahoo.com) for prices and more info



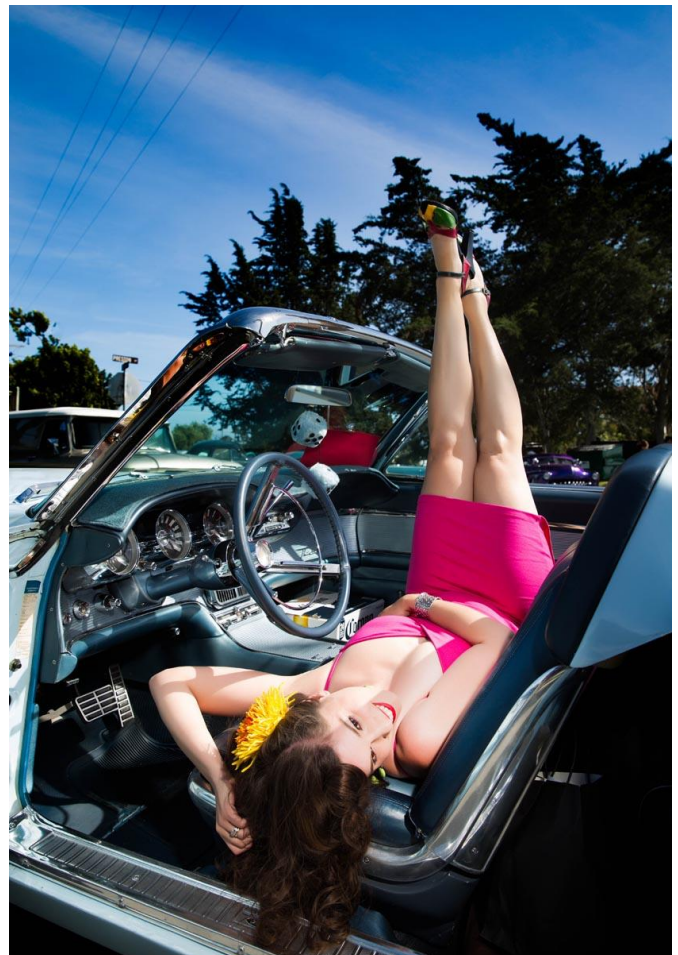
Find a parade and get your  
Thunderbird out for the  
4<sup>th</sup> of July

## Haggerty Price Guide for Thunderbirds

John Lewis has sent along a recent copy of the price guide for our Thunderbirds. This article is too long to include in The Wing so I am sending copy along to the digital subscribers of The Wing. If you receive The Wing by snail mail and would like a copy of this price guide, please contact me and I will send a digital copy to you. It does make for interesting reading and I was surprised that the prices were somewhat higher than I expected. Guess we should all revisit our insurance policies to reflect the new prices.

## How to get in trouble with your Thunderbird!

It was just a local car show put on by the Castroville Midnighters Car Club. I figured it would be mostly hot rods and lowriders so Marilyn's Thunderbird might get some extra attention. It was cold and foggy and Marilyn had other things going so off I went. I was right.....the Thunderbird was the only original car out of about 170 cars. During the show the Midnighters had a pinup contest going. The winner decided that she wanted to use HER63TB as the car for her photo shoot.....not a hot rod or lowrider. What could I say! I did get a lot of comments from friends that said they were going to make sure that Marilyn knew what I was doing with her car when she wasn't around.



# 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

Bob Steinhauer †	Chuck Schultz†
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Bobbi Killion †	Doreen Gibbs
Dr. Gordon Richmond †	Barney Burke
Bob Combs	George Waters
Mike Press	LeRoy Siebert(2)†
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## Lifetime Members

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



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San Martin, CA 95046  
Phone: 408-568-3782



Who is that blonde?

Northern California  
Vintage Thunderbird Club



**INSIDE**  
**FLIGHT LOG – MIGRATION 2017**  
**JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup> WEEKEND FOR HER63TB**  
**UPCOMING**  
**ALAMEDA RADIO TOUR**  
**HORSE AND FEATHERS**