



The Wing



Official Journal of the
Northern California Vintage Thunderbird Club

Volume 42, Issue 4

Jul/Aug 2018

Nor Cal VTCA cars in Grass Valley



Current Events

July 21st Brunch at Classic Cars West

Aug 18th Horse and Feathers Micke Grove – Lodi

See calendar for full year of events

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Cars⁴

Greetings clubmates, I'm going to tell you something that you already know: cars are more than just a ride from Point A to Point B. I attended a charity car show a few weeks ago where cars were a hobby, a diversion from criminal behavior, a means to a better future, and a source of funding to make the world a better place. Wait, what?

The big town in my county has experienced a simultaneous decrease in the number of local auto shop programs in the high schools, and an increase in the number of kids on the street getting into mischief. The city police department's youth program and one of the local high schools has recently created a program to utilize the now-shuttered auto shop facilities on the campus in an after-school car restoration club. Two police officers volunteer their time to run the club and help kids work on car projects in a supervised and organized manner. In May the program held a charity car show fundraiser downtown in the city square.

Also simultaneous to the closing of vocational ed and auto shop programs, around here if you run an auto repair business you're hard-pressed to find those young people for entry-level positions who become the career repair professionals that local businesses need to sustain their long-term development. High school auto shop programs have played a role in a community beyond the students who participate in them. This situation caught the attention of a friend of mine who runs an auto repair business, and also runs the vehicle donation program of a local charitable organization (I joined the organization about a year ago to assist with public affairs).

Word of the car show and the underlying program made it to my friend, who jumped on the chance to support a vocational ed program. Our organization brought an information booth and a donated vehicle for sale, and several of our members took a shift over the course of the day. In addition, a couple of us entered our cars into the show (1968 Firebird convertible and my oft-mentioned and beloved '66 town landau, El Jefe).

Doing the math on a day spent focused solely on the greater benefits of cars, I came up with cars to the 4th power:

- Local car shows are always fun on their own. A great day in the city square with cool rides and people. One local guy who was there is world famous for his custom paint jobs.
- Cars² is cars as the means for teenagers to get a focus on something productive and creative. The kids in the program want to learn how to work on cars, and have to maintain certain standards to get to do so.
- Cars³ is cars as a means of making a living and being in business. Ya never know, we might get some new mechanics, upholsterers, painters, or fabricators out of this. The program enjoys support from the local repair community.
- Cars⁴ is cars as source of charitable funding to improve lives, for those kids in this specific car/youth program and beyond since this particular vehicle donation program has global reach. The value of a car can persist beyond age or condition, especially in donation programs where the initial purchase isn't part of the equation. Great way to find a home for unwanted vehicles, too. I've donated two of my own, and purchased a sweet little sedan for my daughter.

Of course, you get an extra dimension of awesome if you add a Thunderbird to any of this.

See you down the road,

Bill



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.

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

Our website is at

<http://norcal-vtca.org/>

Note from the Editor

Please note the calendar of events is full for the year
so you can plan ahead to attend our functions.
Thanks Craig and Miki.

Have fun with 50 years of TBird commercials on page
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I could sure use some help with other articles, tech
notes or interesting stories about your car or
adventures with you cars. Just send them to me at the
address below and I can format them.

Russ

Russ = oldcarr.rc@gmail.com

2018

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*July 11 to 15 - Vintage Thunderbird Club International tour
in Tulsa, OK

** July 21st - Brunch at Classic Cars West - Oakland

** August 18th - Horse and Feathers Picnic – Micke Park,
Lodi

**September 29th - Birds on the Wharf – Santa Cruz

** October 27th - Migration in Alameda

** November 25th -Tree Trimming at California Auto Museum
– Sacramento

** December 16th - Holiday Dinner – Pasta Pelican - Alameda

All members are requested to consider hosting a tour
in 2019.

**Club functions

*Other items of interest

Flight Log #1
Grass valley and Kennedy Mine
By Miki Smith with Pics by Vic and Russ

**GRASS VALLEY WEEKEND AND CAR
SHOW 2018**

Well, we had a marvelous weekend, some more than others, but everyone went home happy! Our tour of the Kennedy Mine in Jackson was one of the best ever. Some said the best they'd been on. The site was picturesque; wonderful old buildings of brick and iron, interesting equipment everywhere you looked, and lush rolling hills that went on forever, and the day was warm and clear.



The tour started with old movies of the mine operation, followed by a walking tour to sites around the property. Our guide was Harold, who had so much information on what we saw that it was hard for him get it into the 2 hour tour. Thank you Harold.



Karen Crabtree, who also volunteers at the mine, set this part of the weekend up for us, and Ted Faia came out to help. Thank you Karen and Ted! After the tour we had lunch under an awning at picnic tables next to the visitor center. The lunch was great, and everyone was hungry and appreciative, but the real stars at lunch were the amazing chocolate covered strawberries Karen brought as a surprise. Wow. Thank you again Karen.



The club members then attempted to duplicate the loading of the cage used to go down into the mine.



This cage was loaded with 9 miners and lowered a bit and nine more were loaded on the top. Craig looks confident but we only loaded 8 and they were all too tall.



They would never have been hired to go down in the mine. They were all happy at this failure.

Then we took off in different directions. Some went home, some went directly to Grass Valley and some stopped at Sutter Mill for a break and to enjoy the sites there. Those that stopped were greeted a little further down the road by Marilyn Carr waving vigorously from a lookout point over the American River. We stopped, because she didn't look like she was just waving "Hi!" and found Russ with the hood up on his beautiful car. Maybe a fuel filter?? He couldn't tell. Just "in case" we went into Auburn and got a can of gas to rule out lack of fuel as the problem. The gage showed a quarter of a tank and he had told Marilyn the gas was fine when she had asked him at each of the three gas stations they passed if he needed gas. They poured the gas in, and the very beautiful but

apparently hungry car roared to life. Problem solved! Note to car guys: The cars look new and shiny but they're still old, and old things are quirky, and listen to your wives when they're having "woman's intuition". Better safe than sitting on the side of the road!

We arrived in Grass Valley a little late but in time for drinks and dinner at the Holbrook. It had been, all in all, a very good day.



The car show on Saturday was as great as ever. The day was warm but not hot, the cars were all beautiful, and the people were happily wandering around.



Our group was directly across the street from the Holbrook, so the hospitality suite was handy to all, and was busy all afternoon. Everybody had a little lunch and we all got a chance to visit. Another wonderful Grass Valley meet!



What a group!

What a view!

What good food!

Why did you miss this one!!!!

ed: Yeah I knew that big 430 got poor gas mileage but less than 10 on the highway.....something had to be wrong. Usually get 14 to 16 on the road. Still lousy mileage on the way home so started checking. Found the choke was stuck halfway closed. That big old engine just drank more gas but still ran smooth. Choke now fixed and mileage back up. Thanks again to Miki and Craig for saving the day.

Flight Log #2

Pinole Car Show

By Russ with Pics by Our President

We were in Monterey for the weekend enjoying a sock hop, Elvis siting, concert by Big Brother and the Holding Company and a car show in the Custom House Plaza. Sorry we couldn't make it to Pinole but it looks like some of our members did. The pictures show Vic and Mike Press' nice TBirds flanking Bill Edwards beautiful 1957 Lincoln Premiere.



If you are interested in a 2 day event in Monterey next year at this time with sock hop, Elvis and lots of cars, let Craig or Russ know and maybe we can plan for a complete weekend.



Harold explaining things to Craig and all of us.



View from the mine office



Sample of leavitrinite.....as in leave it right there!



Beautiful cars and a great setting.



Classic Cars West

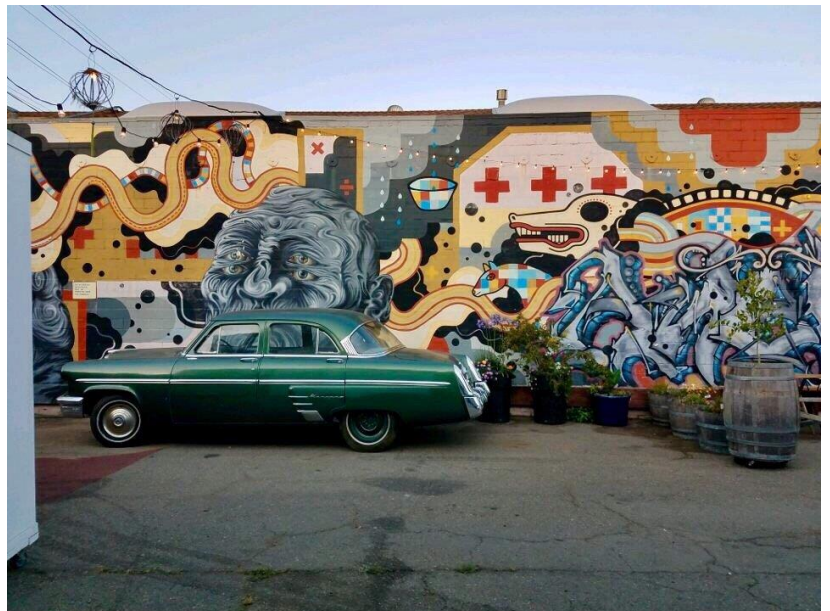
Brunch and Cars

Saturday, July 21, 2018

11:00 A.M.

Classic Cars West is a unique boutique car dealership at 411 26th Street in downtown Oakland which also houses a beer hall, a restaurant and an art gallery. Their focus is on American muscle and prewar vehicles but they also offer other unique vehicles and modern exotic luxury cars. They also do restoration, take cars on consignment, and find cars for movies, a little bit of everything! It's a special/quirky/odd place that we hope will be a very fun outing. Please note that there is only street parking for this venue.

We'll meet in the beer garden for a cool one and wander around the showroom and art gallery (no tire kicking allowed here!) at our whim. At around 12:30 or so we'll go in for lunch at the restaurant, which serves only a vegan selection including chicken and waffles, BLTs, burgers, muffins, breakfast items. I'm assured by the owner that "we won't be able to tell the difference" between the vegan items and the real thing and that



"everything is delicious on the menu". Some of our members who are vegetarian and vegan have assured me that this is the case. I have faith and am willing to go for it. Please join. It may be life changing, and if not that then certainly yummy.

After Lunch, about 2, we will head up to the Oakland hills to the home of Jim Stewart, one of our long time members, and get a tour of the private "museum" of his artwork over the years. Jim is an amazing and diverse artist who works in many mediums. This is a rare treat and not to be missed. Currently Jim is playing with tree stumps and has them all over his property. Can't wait to see what that's all about.

Call Miki at 209-463-2793 to reserve your spot for lunch. See you there!

HORSE & FEATHERS 2018

Saturday, AUGUST 18TH
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 THE 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 2018 By RIVER CITY FALCONS

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

Hosts in 2019– Norcal VTCA



**Monterey Bay Classic Thunderbird Club
Invites All**

**Classic ('55-'57) Vintage ('58-'66) & Retro ('02-'05) Thunderbirds
To The 21st Annual**

Thunderbirds on the Santa Cruz Wharf

Saturday, September 29, 2018 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**

Please complete and return to:
MBCTC, PO Box 2721, Aptos, CA 95001-
2721 by September 22, 2018

**Entry fee: \$40.00 in advance - \$50 on-site
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.

Thunderbird Commercials

Just click on the link for subscribers of the digital version of The Wing. Others will have to enter the link manually in their browser window.

Some of these are informative, some funny and some are criminal in what they did to the car. They must be still cleaning the dust out of the 1962 Monument Valley Commercial!
Most are 30 seconds to 2 minutes long. Have fun.

1955

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYDajtKUKvM>

1956 Bing Crosby

<https://www.carsandstripes.com/videos/ford/1956-thunderbird.aspx>

1960 sunroof

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UqWTvpzp1Y>

1961

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGoSf1rJT5I>

1962 Monument Valley

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOPYGDxKuro>

1963

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PXHia29IdTO>

1963 Landau

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwTRtlb1ph4>

1964

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHGa2D5e5Ac>

1968 Four door

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57YAaQSIPLE>

1974

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgApLR8oync>

1977 Cheryl Ladd

<https://archive.org/details/FordThunderbirdCommercialCherylLadd1976>

1982

<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/xb151z>

2002 funny

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvXr3dTBLtU>

2003 007 die another day

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Ve_lfYSOjo

ining film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqbkWgJ95PI>

Other videos

Thunderbird history

<http://www.freewebs.com/classictbirds/>

Wixom assembly line in 1963 – Tbird and Lincoln

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzidBCvngNI19>

1990 Thunderbird Dealer Training Film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqbkWgJ95PI>

2002 – 2005 Retro Bird color codes

Year	Name	Code	Limited Edition
2002	Evening Black	UA	
	Inspiration Yellow	C5	
	Thunderbird Blue	LY	
	Torch Red	D3	
	Whisper White	W5	
	Evening Black/Satin Silver	UA/TL	Nieman-Marcus
2003	Torch Red	D3	
	Evening Black	UA	
	Whisper White	W5	
	Mountain Shadow Grey	CX	
	Desert Sky Blue	CZ	
	Coral	CQ	007
2004	Torch Red	D3	
	Evening Black	UA	
	Platinum Silver	JP	
	Merlot	FX	
	Light Ice Blue	LS	
	Vintage Mint Green	EI	
Monterey Mist	DV	Pacific Coast Roadster	
2005	Torch Red	D3	
	Evening Black	UA	
	Platinum Silver	JP	
	Bronze	T2	
	Inca Gold	BI	
	Medium Steel Blue	SP or SB	
Cashmere	G4	50th Anniversary	



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Northern California
Vintage Thunderbird Club



2005 50th Anniversary interior with Cashmere exterior. 1500 production

INSIDE

FLIGHT LOG 1 – GRASS VALLEY

FLIGHT LOG 2 – PINOLE CAR SHOW

UPCOMING

JULY 21ST CLASSIC CAR WEST

AUG 18TH HORSE AND FEATHERS