



# The Wing



Official Journal of the  
Northern California Vintage Thunderbird Club

Volume 39, Issue 3

May/June 2015

## The King and his Court



### Current Events

June 6<sup>th</sup> Migration

June 28<sup>th</sup> Pinole Car Show

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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.

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*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

The month of May traditionally signals the start of the car show season. Hopefully some of you were able to attend the Grass Valley Car Show the end of April. Personally, I'm looking forward to finally getting my '65 out of the garage this weekend and heading to Diablo Valley Mustang Club's "Show 'n Shine" at the Streets of Brentwood for all Ford marquees. I hope to see a few of our members there, too. Last year's show was a lot of fun with almost 300 cars.

This year we will be moving our annual Migration Meet to the first week of June rather than May as in the past. We will be holding it at Concord's Dave Brubeck Park (yes, named for Concord's famous jazz composer and performer). Many car shows have been held here in the past, including custom hot rods and Corvette Clubs. The park has plenty of shade with grassy berms and numerous large trees. Craig Cuslidge will be barbequing burgers and hot dogs, we'll have great raffle items, and lots of 'Birds—big, small, and retro. We will also provide judging of '58-'66 Birds for those of you that would like to know how your restoration hard work is paying off or just want to know what else might need attention or better yet, if your ride is operating safely. It's a great way to start the season.

In addition, I hope to have my son, Josh, available to give pointers on how to best photograph our cars— something we'd all love to have or become better at doing ourselves! I'd love to see a good turn-out as there is great foot and vehicle traffic on Concord Boulevard (it's located next to the high school and across the street from a swim club)— and what better way to get our cars noticed and to engage the public? This should also be a great event for those of you who have been asking for an inexpensive outing to hang with club members. So, please check out the details elsewhere in this issue and I'll see you there!

As mentioned in previous reports, I'm thoroughly enjoying the Facebook page devoted to '64-'66 Flair Birds (although truthfully, I've never cared for that name designation). The postings are numerous with about 1,500 members and growing fast. Lots of valuable information is shared daily regarding repairs, resources, Thunderbirds for sale, fantastic pictures of Thunderbirds-- you name it. As an example, I posted a request asking anyone to share a movie or TV show that featured a "64-'66 Bird and the responses were fun and numerous! There are also Facebook pages devoted to '61-'63 and other years. Check it out... as I've said before, it's not hard and you'll get hooked.

Until next month....

*Peter Harmon* President

## Note from the Editor

Sorry we don't have pictures or write up for the Day at the Races. We need more "reporters" for when we are out of town and unable to attend the function.

I do have promises for write ups and pictures for car of the month but we still can use some info on your car for future issues.

I am also looking for any tech notes to add to coming issues.

Also Bill Kinsey is still looking for photos of your car to add to our website. Send them to [William\\_Kinsey@comcast.com](mailto:William_Kinsey@comcast.com)

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

## Front Page Picture

Vic Quarello won "Best of Show" at the Grass Valley Car Show. Picture was taken with all of the local Princesses and one Prince that handed out the awards. See Flight Log in this issue for more info and pictures.

## Video of the Month

When is your birthday? It's not car related but fun anyway. What song was number one when you were born?

<http://playback.fm/birthday-song>

For car related. Some dealerships and billboards from earlier times.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIMavLi6Zs0>

# 2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**\*\*Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> Migration at Dave Brubeck Park in Concord (See application in this issue)**

**\*\*Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup> Pinole Car Show Cruisin in the Sun (application in this issue)**

**July – OPEN**

\*July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and Car show in Morgan Hill (Contact Russ Carr for details)

**August**

\*\*Horse and Feathers in Lodi

**September**

\*\* TBirds on the Wharf in Santa Cruz

**October – OPEN**

**November – OPEN**

**December**

\*\*Holiday Luncheon

**The 2015 Calendar has numerous open months waiting for you to sign up to host a tour. 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**



# Flight Log #1 Coloma and Grass Valley

By Russ Carr

It was threatening to rain when 2 TBirds, a Lincoln and a yellow SUV grouped together at the Coloma State Park. David Kuhn and Vic Quarello drove their '64 TBirds. The Carrs arrived in a big 1975 Lincoln Continental Mark IV and Craig Cuslidge brought "Packo" a yellow SUV. Why the SUV? Well Miki was under the weather and Craig had two big coolers full of lunch. We had enough food for all of you that didn't make the tour. Thanks to Miki and Craig for supplying a free lunch for us.



After lunch we toured the visitor's center and some of the outside exhibits. This was a great spot for a picnic and we could have spent all day touring the different exhibits.....but on to Grass Valley. We drove up highway 49 and exercised our steering mechanisms around all of the turns and ups and downs.



Got settled in our rooms for the night and then met at

the Holbrook Hotel for a great dinner. By the time dinner was over the rain had started and it rained most of the night.



Everyone got up early (met at 7 AM), and drove over to the show. We got our "spot" in front of the Holbrook and then decided to have breakfast before we cleaned up the cars. They had a lot of no shows, I guess since some cars can't deal with water.



The day progressed and we dried off the cars when the sun came out and then ducked back under the Holbrook when it started with a light rain. After about 3 or 4 cycles of this we let the cars dry themselves.

The attendance of the public was very good in spite of the weather and we all had a lot of time to talk to the public.

At about 3 o'clock we all went down for the award ceremony. No first I should give you a little track record of the past few years awards:

2012 Marilyn's 1963 TBird – Best Ford

2013 Bill Edwards 1957 Lincoln Premiere – Best of Show

2014 Marilyn's TBird again – Best Stock



And now 2015 Vic's 1964 TBird – Best of Show



It should be noted that the Best of Show award is by a vote of the car owners in the show. This is quite an honor since the majority of the cars entered are modified in some manner. Very few are stock.

### **Congratulations Vic!**

So who is going to bring up a winner next year to keep the NorCal Vintage Thunderbird streak going? You really shouldn't miss this tour and show. Craig and Miki always find an interesting spot to stop on Friday. Then there is all the cars for the guys and all of the shops for the ladies. Just ask Marilyn and she can tell you which shops to go to find that special something.

Now by the time we got back to the hotel around 5 PM there wasn't a cloud in the sky!! Finally home on Sunday with a round trip of about 420 miles.

## **Flight Log #2 Diablo Valley Mustang Show**

By Russ Carr

Another long drive for the Carr's car (a little over 200 miles for the day) but it was a fun day. We only had 2 Thunderbirds from the club and 2 other non club members also were present. Attendance was down from last year but still about 250 cars. Most of the cars were Mustangs but Falcons, Cougars, Model A's, and Fairlanes were also present. Vic Quarello and Bill Kinsey also came by to take pictures and talk cars.

Peter Harmon also brought his 1965 Convertible to the show.



I had permission from Marilyn so I drove her 63 convertible.



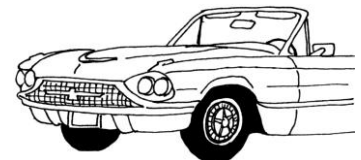
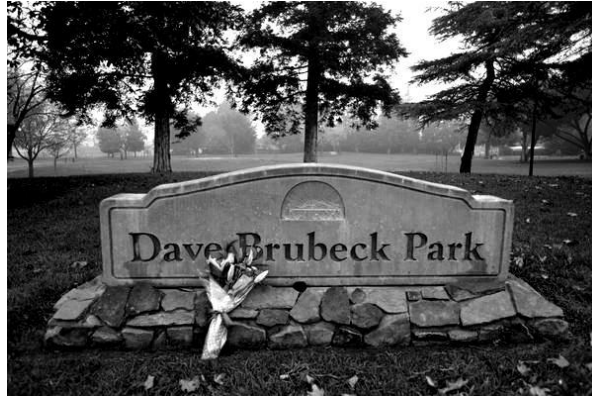
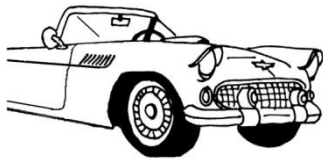
We arrived at different times so we were parked at different ends of the shopping mall. That gave us the opportunity to make sure we talked to everyone interested in Thunderbirds. Both Peter and I were able to give out information about the club to a number of people. Hopefully we see some new members from the effort. This is something we should all do when attending car events.....tell people about our club and the website to get more info.



There was only one award for Thunderbirds at this show and it went to a highly modified square bird.

# **MIGRATION / CONCOURS 2015**

## **ALL T-BIRDS 1955 - 2005 WELCOME**



***Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Thunderbird  
Trophies for '55 thru '57, '58 thru '66, Post '66  
And  
Retro 'Birds***

***Saturday, June 6, 2015  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm***

***Dave Brubeck Park in Concord, CA***

Hosted by the **Northern California Vintage Thunderbird Club**

**\$25.00 ENTRY INCLUDES** – Grass parking, commemorative dash plaques for the first 50 participants, photo ops, entrants choice car show with awards, optional concours judging for Vintage ('58 – '66) cars. Raffle tickets will be available throughout the day for donated items from our sponsors (we also encourage entrants to donate raffle items). Late entry on day of the show is **\$30.00**

**Lunch Available** – Burger/Hot Dog and Beans Barbecue available \$6.00/person

Mark your calendar or to do list and plan on spending a day enjoying our cars and a great part of our national history.

**PLEASE COMPLETE ENTRY FORM ON OPPOSITE SIDE AND MAIL TO  
THE ADDRESS INDICATED BEFORE MAY 29th**

*Attendees will be notified of receipt of their entry and receive driving  
directions via mail or e-mail*

# MIGRATION / CONCOURS 2015

## ALL '55 THRU '05 T'BIRDS

Please complete the following registration form and send with a check made payable to Norcal VTCA to Mike Press, 516 Bonnie Dr., El Cerrito CA 94530. Entries must be postmarked by May 29. (**\$25.00 Pre-registered - \$30.00 day of show**) Entry fee is non-refundable.

**Information? Call (510) 558-4037 or e-mail [mjprgp@infionline.net](mailto:mjprgp@infionline.net)**  
Your entry will be confirmed via USPS or e-mail

----- Clip & Mail -----

### MIGRATION / CONCOURS 2015 Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Club Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Check for Concours Evaluation (Vintage Only) \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Entry \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby waive, release, and discharge any and all claims for damages which may result in my participation in the Migration 2015. By my signature below, I release the Dave Brubeck Park, the City of Concord and the Northern California Vintage Thunderbird Club of any and all liability of property or loss to myself or said vehicle.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**24th Annual "Cruisin' in the Sun"  
Car Show in Downtown Pinole  
Sunday, June 28, 2015  
from 8am-5pm**



Pre-registration is required and will be limited to the FIRST 325 American made, pre-1975 car registrants, . Providing space is available other vehicles will be admitted **AFTER 8:00**  
(Rain or Shine the car show will happen)

Pre-Registration fee is \$35.00, (\$40.00 day of show) please make checks payable to:

**NCC 2015 Registration  
c/o 410 Arroyo Drive  
Martinez, CA 94553**

**Vendors, Raffle  
Awards**

**For more information contact:**  
Cathie at (510) 233-0721 or visit our website at  
[www.northerncaliforniacruisers.com](http://www.northerncaliforniacruisers.com)

**Breakfast available**  
at the Pinole Senior  
Center and local  
restaurants

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Car make: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ .com

T-Shirts sell fast, Pre-order for a guarantee, your shirt will be held for you at the event, at the T-Shirt Booth

Sm. \$18 \_\_\_\_\_ Med. \$18 \_\_\_\_\_ Lrg. \$18 \_\_\_\_\_ XL \$18 \_\_\_\_\_ 2X (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ 3X (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Registration</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>T-Shirts</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

In consideration of the acceptance of participants to the 24th Annual Cruisin in the Sun Car Event by execution of this entry form, I/We hereby release the City of Pinole, the Northern California Cruisers Inc., their members, Officers and anyone else connected with this event from any and all known or unknown damages, injuries, liabilities, losses, judgments and/or claims arising from any causes whatsoever that may be caused by the participation in this event. I/We accept responsibility for Bank fees or returned checks.



# Car of the Month

By Vic Quarello

The first part of 1964 I started looking for a 1964 Thunderbird. The dealer did not have exactly what I wanted so I special ordered one. On March 10, 1964 the dealer called and said my new car was in and ready to pick up. For 24 years it was my everyday driver and was also great for pulling a boat when I went camping with my kids. 1988 was the last year camping with my kids. That year it was parked in a very damp garage and was never used again. In 2009 I decided to take a look at my beautiful 1964 Thunderbird. It was in very bad shape, with 4 flat tires and no battery. What happened to my battery? It was not the beautiful car as I remembered. There was lots of surface rust everywhere, the body, the chrome and even under the hood. It was covered in dust and dirt. This car had too many great memories to let it die in some junk yard. It deserved better. The first thing was to get it off the ground with some new tires. The car always had white wall tires. Costco special ordered me some new tires, they had to be white walls. Six more months went by. The next thing was a new battery. The car had not been moved and the engine not started in 22 years. The car was towed to a garage. My first thought was in a few weeks or a month the 64 would be "ON THE ROAD AGAIN". Wrong! No quick tune up or cheap paint job. The car deserved better. Only a full and complete restoration would do. The next thing the engine came out so the engine compartment could be redone. Everything had to be replaced or cleaned and repaired. All chrome came off and all paint came off down to bare metal. The body was solid except for surface rust. The car is now 99.99% rust free. The car was painted the original color. The interior is still all original except for new foam in the front bucket seats and new carpet on the floor. The interior is once again beautiful. The car now looks as good if not better than it did new. I forgot.....one of the first things I did was to get rid of the trailer hitch. This car will never tow a boat again. It has been over 4 years since this project was started and it is still not finished. It is getting close. Sometimes I wonder if it will ever be done. There always seems to be one more thing to do. It still only has 60,000 original miles. It is a 1964 and I want it to look like a 1964, that is why it is still 99% stock. The new cars today might run and drive better, but in my opinion none, not one, look better. This car is over 50 year old. How many new 2015 cars will still be one the road in 50 years. I would bet zero.



The finished Quarello 1964 Thunderbird. Vic and his late wife Corita.



## 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**  
**1966 THUNDERBIRD DOOR PANEL**  
**PASSENGER SIDE (1) ONLY.**  
**MUST USE YOUR OWN**  
**DOOR TRIM.**  
**STILL IN SHIPPING BOX.**  
**\$225.00 (1 only) or Best Offer**  
**dealer price \$570.00 pair**

**CALL: Russ @ 415-999-4333**

# 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.*

### John Byers

1958 – 1960 Concours/Restoration  
408-265-6833

### Jack Callison

1958-1966 Mechanical  
408-262-7472 after 6:00 p.m.

### Craig Cuslidge

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

### Bill Edwards

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

### Kurt Larcher

1958-1966 General/Mechanical/Convertibles  
650-571-5065

### Bob Mabe

1958-1966 Convertibles/Sunroofs  
650-941-6534

### Mike Press

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

## 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
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

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





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**Northern California  
Vintage Thunderbird Club**



Original interior of Vic's 1964 Thunderbird

**INSIDE**  
**FLIGHT LOG – GRASS VALLEY AND**  
**BRENTWOOD**  
**CAR OF THE MONTH**  
**UPCOMING**  
**MIGRATION**  
**CRUISIN IN THE SUN - PINOLE**