



The Wing



Official Journal of the
Northern California Vintage Thunderbird Club

Volume 40, Issue 6

NOV/DEC 2016



TBIRDS ON THE WHARF



Current Events

November 27th
California Auto Museum
Tree Trimming- Sacramento
December 11th
Holiday Luncheon – Pasta
Pelican - Alameda

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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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Craig Cuslidge
209-463-2793

Vice President

Craig Cuslidge
209-463-2793

Secretary

Julie Kinsey

Treasurer

Miki Smith
510-521-7213
mikismith@outlook.com

The Wing Editor

Russ Carr
408-568-3782
oldcarr.rc@gmail.com

Immediate

Past President

Mike Press
1-510-558-4037
mjprgp@infionline.net

Board at Large

open

Vic Quarello
510-527-1402

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/norcalvtca?ref=stream

President's Message By Craig Cuslidge

Dear Members

WOW! Time is flying by faster than our T-Birds can fly. Miki and I just finished the October "Delta Tour II" with a fantastic group of fellow T-Birders. What fun on such a beautiful day. Read about the day in our Flight Log section.

Congratulations to Russ Carr for his fine work on our newsletter. Russ's excellent work was recognized by our national club and he was awarded the "Silver Award" given to outstanding newsletters across the country. We couldn't agree more. Thanks and congrats Russ!

Changes: We've re-associated our club with the California Automobile Museum (CAM) after many years. Our membership as a club will introduce our members to more activities, more fun, more new friends and especially more old cars. To set off our new membership, we will be participating in the annual November event at the museum, the tree trimming and pot luck that starts their holiday season. Read more about this in the writeup of the November meet.

Finishing off this year's activities will be our annual Christmas Lunch at the Pasta Pelican Restaurant in Alameda. Wonderful food in a great location. Read more about this in the December writeup.

To wrap it up, we've done a lot and there's a lot more coming for our club. In 2017 we're doing a hot rod collection in South San Francisco, a sweethearts lunch with a tour of a specialized parts manufacturing company, some of our annual meets and more. We're also hoping for ideas from our members so we can have more new experiences. If you know of something we might like to see or some event we might like to attend, please share your idea with us. We appreciate our member's suggestions. And please come out and join in the fun. We look forward to seeing all of you at the events to come.

Happy T-Birding Craig Cuslidge



Note from the Editor

Thanks to all that supplied pictures and write-ups for this issue. Since we were traveling again we were sorry to miss these fun events.

I am still looking for member car pictures to run in the Car of the Month feature. Take a few pictures and write a short article about your car and I will run it in an upcoming issue. Or just take a few pictures and call me to talk about your car and I will write the article.

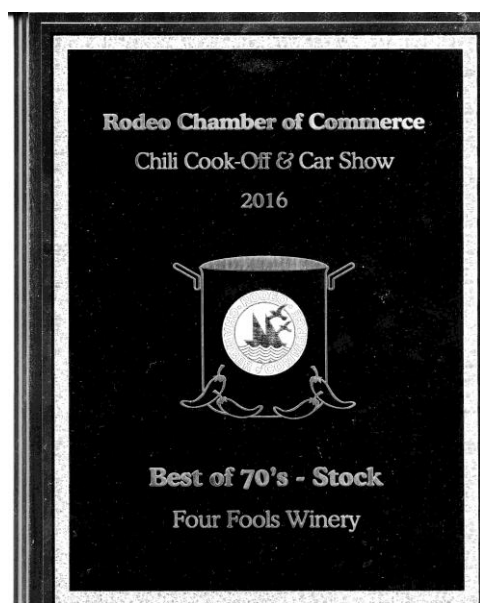
Since I didn't have a car for this feature for this month I have included an article on the "ultimate yard art" that we ran into on our recent trip. No Thunderbirds but some other Fords, Cadillacs, Willys and other cars are features.

Hope you enjoy.

Russ = oldcarr.rc@gmail.com

Picture of the Month

Vic won this award at the Rodeo Car Show last month. Note that this is for the Best Stock 70's. They didn't have any 70's stock cars and thought that Vic still deserved an award....so!.



2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 12 and 13 * GoodGuys swap meet at Pleasanton Fairgrounds.

November 27th – Saturday 2:00 PM

**Tree Trimming & Potluck at California Auto Museum - Sacramento

December 11th – Sunday 12 noon

**Holiday Luncheon – Pasta Pelican - Alameda

All members are requested to consider hosting a tour in 2017.

The 2017 Calendar is wide open so if you have an idea 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

Got rusty nuts? Don't know if this really works. Has anyone tried it. It seems too good to be true, but that's the internet.

http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=ba2_1475277076

Front Page Picture

Some of the club members that attended TBirds on the Wharf in Santa Cruz. Pic by Tim Van Raam.



NOVEMBER TREE TRIMMING AT CALIFORNIA AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2016 AT 2:00 P.M.

We're postponing Villa Montalvo until next year and are going back to a Thanksgiving-month tradition for our club. Since we have renewed our club membership with the California Auto Museum (formerly the Towe Auto Museum for us long time members) we're once again attending their annual tree trimming event to get the museum ready for the Holiday season. This is a fun event we attended every year during our membership, along with a couple dozen other car clubs, always on the Sunday following Thanksgiving.



The event starts at 2:00 p.m. for the tree trimming. Our club brings our tree and ornaments and sets it up on the museum floor. We decorate it with our own ornaments. So far we've got some generic ornaments and some very special holiday-framed pictures of member's cars that have been made into ornaments. It makes the tree very personal and represents our club. If you have any ornaments that you want to donate for the project, it will be very appreciated.



After the decorating, socializing and wandering around the wonderful museum, we go into a potluck dinner at 4:00 p.m. Bring any dish you wish that will serve 6-8 (or more if you like) people, either a main entre or side dish. Desserts and coffee will be served by the museum.

Our club will also be bringing a raffle prize for the raffle held after dinner. The raffle benefits the museum and the prizes are always great. This is something the Club does, and there is no need for individual members to bring raffle prizes unless, of course, you have something you really want to donate.

This is a nice event and a nice way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Please come join us and let's set up another special tradition for our club.

Call Miki and Craig if you have any questions, 209-463-2793.

The museum is located South of Old Sacramento, at the corner of Front Street and V Street, north of Broadway.

2200 Front Street
Sacramento, CA 95818-1107





HOLIDAY PARTY
PASTA PELICAN
WATERFRONT
RESTAURANT, ALAMEDA



December 11, 2016 12 NOON

Our Holiday Party will be at Pasta Pelican this year, overlooking the water in the Oakland Estuary and the wonderful surrounding views. Lunch will be a buffet which includes salad, New York Steak, Pollo Pelicano (baked chicken), Salmone Picatto, Penne Pasta with vegetables, roasted vegetables and potatoes, coffee or tea and dessert. Alcoholic beverages are of course available but not included in the price of the meal. Cost per person is \$40.00, and includes tax and tip.

We'll also be handing out our Member of the Year award and doing a gift exchange. The gift exchange is completely optional. If you want to participate in this, bring a wrapped gift (not exceeding \$20.00 in cost). Boys bring boy gifts wrapped in blue or green and girls bring girl gifts wrapped in red or white.

For those who wish to continue the day following lunch, there are several options close by. The Alameda Naval Base Museum is close by as is the USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier and Museum. For Wine tasting there is the Rockwall Winery with a beautiful view of San Francisco and, for those with bolder palates Hanger One for Vodka tasting and St. George Spirits for Whisky tasting. If you feel like just taking it easy, take a stroll down quaint Park Street and visit the shops there.

Pasta Pelican is at 2455 Mariner Square Drive. From the North Bay take 880 South and take Alameda/Broadway offramp, turn right onto 5th Street, veer right and follow signs into Webster Street Tube, then turn right onto Wilver Willie Stargell Ave, right onto Mariner Square Loop, right to stay on Mariner Square Loop and left onto Mariner Square Drive. From the South Bay take 880 North, take the Broadway exit, turn left onto Broadway, stay in left lane and turn into Webster Street Tube, then turn right onto Wilver Willie Stargell Ave, right onto Mariner Square Loop, right to stay on Mariner Square Loop and left onto Mariner Square Drive.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK **BY DECEMBER 5** TO MIKI SMITH AT 2053 TELEGRAPH AVENUE, STOCKTON, CA 95204. IF YOU THINK IT WILL NOT GET TO US BY THAT DATE, CALL US AND LET US KNOW IT'S ON ITS WAY.

Call Miki and Craig if you have any questions or if you think your check won't reach us in time at

209-463-2793.

MEMBERS ATTENDING _____

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING: _____ X \$40.00 = _____

Flight Log #1 TBirds on the Wharf

Pics by Tim Van Raam and Vic

We didn't have a reporter at this outing so mostly just pictures. Jay and Michael did take home a trophy for the best 61-63 Thunderbird.



voted best 61-63 T-BIRD



Flight Log #2 Delta Tour #2 Pics by Bill

We had a great day on the Delta!

We started the day at Specialty Sales Classic Cars at 103 Commerce Court at Cordelia Junction, which opened at 9:30 just for us. The cars inside were beautiful, the manager and staff were very friendly and full of local lore and information, the coffee was hot and the donuts were yummy. We had a slightly rough start to the tour because we had an old address to Specialty Sales on our write up. Members who found the old address saw a sign giving the new address and made the 4 mile drive to the new place and others gave up the search and just met us at the railroad museum. So a stressful first hour and then the perfect day.

The day was a lovely 72 degrees when we got to the Western Railway Museum. Instead of their





regular train ride, there was a special train ride of only 20 minutes to a pumpkin patch set up to celebrate the season in the middle of serene grasslands populated by cows and sheep. There was a scarecrow contest, a pumpkin toss with giant slingshots, live music, and the biggest haybale mountain I've ever seen. It was great. We wandered around, voted for our favorite scarecrow (for me it was scarecrow rabbit), enjoyed the sunshine and music and took the short train ride back.



Twenty minutes later we arrived for lunch at The Point Restaurant, which overlooks the Sacramento River. The food and staff were excellent and the views were lovely. After lunch we took the top down (perfect 76 degrees!) and embarked on a Delta drive on winding country roads along Delta islands and crossed waterways on the only remaining ferries in the California state highway system.

Bill's friend on the first ferry made sure to get us all on the same ferry, let us take our time to take photos, see the engine room, and gave us lots of ferry information. He also called ahead to the second ferry where we got the same special treatment. Nice guy! Throughout the drive there was wonderful scenery to look at and lots of photo opportunities for our cars.



We ended our drive at the junction of Hwy 160 and Hwy 12 at the Delta Farmers Market. On weekend afternoons there's live music and fresh made pies in addition to all the local vegetables and fruits, baked goods, valley grown specialty nuts, and a wine tasting room featuring selections from local wineries. We sat at some of the picnic tables under the grape arbor and chatted until we were ready to go home. Gary Granger won the prize for the trip quiz, wonderful fresh baked cookies for snacking on during the trip home. It was a good day.



CARHENG by Russ and Marilyn

Our latest trip included a quick visit to the northwest corner of Nebraska so I could say that I have been in all 50 states. While planning the trip I was looking for something to do in Nebraska besides watching the corn grow. Checking the map, I saw something called Carhenge! Since it was only a few miles off of our route we decided to take a look. The pictures and the following excerpt from their website explain what we saw. I guess you could call this the ultimate in “yard art”.



“The artist of this unique car sculpture, Jim Reinders, experimented with unusual and interesting artistic creations throughout his life. While living in England, he had the opportunity to study the design and purpose of Stonehenge. His desire to copy Stonehenge in physical size and placement came to fruition in the summer of 1987 with the help of many family members.



While living in England, he had the opportunity to study the design and purpose of Stonehenge. His desire to copy Stonehenge in physical size and placement came to fruition in the summer of 1987 with the help of many family members.

Thirty-nine automobiles were placed to assume the same proportions as Stonehenge with the circle measuring approximately 96 feet (29m) in diameter. Some autos are held upright in pits five feet deep, trunk end down, while other cars are placed to form the arches and welded in place. All are covered with gray spray paint. The honor of depicting the heel stone goes to a 1962 Caddy.

Carhenge was built as a memorial to Reinders’ father who once lived on the farm where Carhenge now stands. While relatives were gathered following the death of Reinders’ father in 1982, the discussion

turned to a memorial and the idea of a Stonehenge replica was developed. The family agreed to gather in five years and build it. The clan, about 35 strong, gathered in June 1987 and went to work. According to Mr. Reinders, "It took a lot of work, sweat, and beers".

Carhenge was dedicated on the Summer Solstice in 1987, with champagne, poetry, songs and a play written by the family.



Additional sculptures have been erected at the site, known as the Car Art Reserve. One of the first sculptures to be added to the Car Art Reserve is a sculpture of a spawning salmon created by 29 year-old Canadian Geoff Sandhurst. Sandhurst won a \$2500 prize and placement of his car art creation at the Reserve.

Reinders' "Ford Seasons", comprised only of Fords and inspired by Vivaldi's Four Seasons, suggests the Nebraska landscape's seasonal changes as wheat is planted, grows, is harvested, and then the field lies barren during a windy winter."



The "LowRider"



The "Covered Wagon"

DUES ARE DUE BY END OF YEAR - MAIL TODAY

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please fill out the following renewal form and send it along with your check.

(The completed form is required so we have the correct info for our 2017 roster)

Send to: Miki Smith, 2053 Telegraph Ave., Stockton, CA 95204

Dues: \$25.00 if Wing by email (pdf in **COLOR**) _____

\$30.00 if by USPS (printed in B&W) _____

Make Check out to NORCAL-VTCA

Name: _____ Date: _____

Spouse: _____ Member #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

(Please include your email so we can contact you with club or tour updates)

Birds in your Roost: Year _____ Model _____

Year _____ Model _____

Signature: _____

Member number for VTCL : _____

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 1st of January, March, May, July, September and November. Submissions must be received before the 20th 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.

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Craig Cuslidge #15



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

Northern California
 Vintage Thunderbird Club



1977 Thunderbird

INSIDE
FLIGHT LOG – DELTA TOUR #2
TBIRDS ON THE WHARF
UPCOMING
TREE TRIMMING CAL AUTO MUSEUM
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON