



## "What's New in BIRD-LAND?"

FROM THE BIRD NEST . . .

August 8, 1958

Greetings to the proud possessors of Dearborn's Delight. Well, July has passed from view, and it has left most of our members with many pleasant memories. The Tour to Santa Cruz on July 13th, while it left none of us with a sunburn, was felt to be enjoyed by all members who participated. A rousing game of Kick Ball was enjoyed by quite a few — that is until it turned into what appeared to be a 49er game. Aside from the broken bones, we did have fun. Movies were taken by vice-president Horsfall, and these movies along with shorts of other Club events were shown at our August 6 meeting.

On the 18th of July Bird Owners roosted at the Old Happy Valley Inn in Lafayette for a delicious dinner and some fine dancing to the tunes produced by member Jack Taylor (and ork) on the vibes and drums. Jack was also instrumental in setting up a dinner that was enjoyed by all. Pictures were taken of the event by Bob Ellis of Outlaw fame and will be available upon request (call Skip Riggs — OL 4-3106) at the going price.

Recently a new publication has appeared on the Sports Car horizon. Being titled "Sports Car World", it is published by one Dick Cook, who is also heard each morning from 9 to 12 over radio station KSFO. This is a tremendous magazine covering Sports Car events in Northern California and in the Bay Area in particular. I've been in contact with Dick regarding an article on our Club and its members for publication in a future issue, and have appointed Roger Neiss (elder citizen from San Francisco) to prepare this article. Inasmuch as Roger has displayed his writing talents to various degrees in corresponding with Club members and also in his assistance with the Club paper, I believe he will do a fine job on this project. So watch for this treatise on our Club in a forthcoming issue of Sports Car World. A subscription may be obtained by sending \$2.00 (good for one year) to Sports Car World, Box 589, San Francisco, California.

Our August meeting was attended by past vice-president George Rudy of Richmond. Much to the gratification of the Club members and myself, I might add. One reason for this is that George is quite a goer. I feel there is sometimes a lack of ventured opinion and/or suggestions at our Club meetings, but this is not so when George is in attendance. He usually has some excellent suggestions and opinions, some of which were expressed at the last meeting. It is hoped more of the members will expound their views on Club management and group activities. To further this idea and to encourage the more reticent to voice their views, a Suggestion Box is going to be provided at the September meeting, complete with pencil and scratch pad. So save up your gripes, opinions and suggestions. Jot 'em down at the next meeting and drop them into the box. You may be sure they will be given every consideration and forwarded on to the appropriate committees.

We have received notice from Cirimele Ford Sales, 3321 Broadway, that Bert Mellberg (Club member who is also on the Safety and Technical Committee) has been assigned to perform all maintenance work on cars brought by members to Cirimele for service. This will be a full-time assignment for Bert, and with his vast knowledge of Thunderbirds, their orders and disorders, this should prove to be a mutually advantageous arrangement both to Cirimele Ford Sales and to the members of BATOC.

With regard to the Club Badges, the backing plates ordered from the Plating Company in Oakland were received some two weeks ago. Several were passed out to members in

attendance at the August 6th meeting. However, they were minus the Bird emblem which was to be secured from the Ford Motor Company. These emblems arrived the following day and are now available to those members who were at the meeting in order that they may have the complete insignia. Members who have not received any portion of their badges as yet should attend the August 16th affair (see August events below) at which time they will be given the complete assembly.

The final event for the month of July included the Rheem Rally on the 26th. Rheem Center is usually one of the warmest spots in the Bay Area but this night it was bitter cold and unusually windy. Nevertheless, an enjoyable time was had by all who had their tops up. Little thought was given to our advance publicity of the event in regard to eligible participants, and as a result we had a pretty good percentage of foreign car entries, one of which copped our first place trophy. Winner was B. Buhr in a 1956 VW Ghia. Second spot went to Dick Staples in his 1956 Thunderbird and third place was taken by Lew Edwards in his 1956 Thunderbird. More of these events are planned in the future and I feel that as Club members become more familiar with this type of event it will grow to become one of our main attractions. Anyone who has participated in one of these events will tell you that it takes a certain amount of skill and a lot of luck to complete the course at all, let alone finish among the winners.

Oh yes, our own Dick Nagle, astute custodian of the Club's finances, entered the 7th Annual Concourse d'Elegance at Lake Merritt on July 20th at the last possible moment and guess what. He won First Prize in the American Sports Car classification. (Printer's comment: The judges must not have noticed the color of his otherwise immaculate '56 Bird.)

That just about takes care of the Birdnest portion of the paper. We're looking forward to seeing each and every one of you at one of our social events or at the next business meeting September 3rd, Cirimele Ford Sales, 3321 Broadway, Oakland.

Fraternally yours,

L. D. Riggs, Jr.  
President

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#### SOCIAL EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST:

No. 1 — Spaghetti Dinner and Technical Inspection for Club Members' vehicles, August 16. The inspection will be held beginning at 5 p.m. at the Lake Temescal Club Room and Parking Lot located on Upper Broadway in Oakland, approximately one mile on the Oakland side of the Orinda Tunnel. The Dinner commences at 7 p.m. It is requested that all members attend, if only to participate in the Tech. Inspection of their cars which shouldn't require more than 15 minutes time. As an added inducement to attend, Club Badges will be distributed at that time. Be sure to come, and receive your much wanted and awaited Club Badge. The spaghetti portion is being handled by various Club members (female) and promises to be a very good meal according to Activities Co-Chairman Don Brooks. Liquid refreshments will be sold (beer, soft drinks). **DON'T FORGET YOUR AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE POLICY. IT IS REQUIRED FOR TECH. INSPECTION.**

No. 2 — Powder Puff Rally will be staged in conjunction with the Spaghetti Dinner and Tech. Inspection. This Rally is open to women drivers only. Entrance fee is \$2.00 and every entrant receives a dash plaque. This Rally kicks off at approximately 9 p.m. and will run about 60 minutes. Trophies are to be awarded to the first three places.

No. 3 — Mystery Tour. This heralded event takes place August 24th. We group at Jack London Square at 8 a.m. sharp (San Francisco members note!) Bring a picnic lunch. An exciting to-do is planned at the destination. Not many details concerning this affair have

been revealed to the writer. Being cloaked in secrecy we cannot tell you too much about it. However, from the few bits of information we have been able to squeeze out of Jack Taylor and Co-Chairman Don Brooks, this promises to be an event that will be talked about for months to come, ha, ha.

Many members will be pleased to know that the Club was incorporated into the laws of California as of August 5th. Interested in more details? Contact Skip Riggs, OL 4-3106.

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**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** Membership Committee meets the third Tuesday of each month at 1939 Oakview Drive, Oakland. Meetings commence at 8 p.m. All interested parties are invited to attend.

**ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:** Activities Committee, under the co-chairmanship of Don Brooks, meets at his palace, 2438 35th Avenue, Apt. 26, Oakland, on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Interested members are welcome.

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 We have several specials to run this month as usual. They are available to old and new Club members alike. Just remember to present your Membership Card at the time of purchase. These reduced prices are available only to members.

**SPECIAL --** September 1 thru 31 at **CIRIMELE FORD SALES**, 3321 Broadway, Oakland:  
 Regular \$27.50 Major Tune Up for \$19.95 (Parts Excluded) All work to be done by Bert Mellberg, Bay Area Thunderbird Technical Committee member. Above secured by Art Horsfall.

**MAJOR TUNE-UP - \$14.95 plus parts. BRAKE RELINE - \$19.95 plus parts. DISCOUNT ON ALL TIRES AND ACCESSORIES. 2¢ OFF PER GALLON ON MOBILGAS AND MOBILGAS SPECIAL. See Bob for your Traction Masters . . . .**  
**BOB'S MOBIL SERVICE STATION, 100 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland 10.**

**25% OFF ON ALL PURCHASED PARTS --** Good until rescinded by W. R. Huston, **PRECISION AUTOMOTIVE PARTS CO., 279 - 26th Street, Oakland.**

**20% DISCOUNT ON TOPS, CARPETS, TONNEAU COVERS.** Prices are as follows: **TOPS - \$54.50. FRONT CARPETS - \$31.50. TONNEAU COVERS - \$40.00.** All work is custom work. Satisfaction is guaranteed. **KWIK COVERS, 3530 Broadway, Oakland.**

**CLASSIFIED SECTION:**

**FOR SALE --** Pair T-Bird Fender Skirts. Good Condition. - \$15.00 -- Skip Riggs, - OL 4-3106

**FOR SALE --** Convertible Top Rack (without Fabric) Call Skip Riggs, OL 4-3106 for details.

**FOR SALE --** One 1957 RED THUNDERBIRD, Hard Top with Portholes, Radio, Heater, White Walls. Standard Transmission and Over-Drive. \$3195. Can be seen at White Auto Sales, 1719 University Ave., Berkeley 3, Calif. Phone Ashberry 3-3509 (This car very sharp. Low mileage).

**FOR SALE --** One (1) Three Carb. Offenhauser Intake Manifold with 3 Stromberg 97s. Full set-up including progressive linkage. Good Condition. \$60.00. Call Roy Schideler at TH 5-0841.

**WANTED --** One Convertible Top for 1955 Thunderbird -- Call Sue Ranley HI 4-0922.

**WANTED --** One 15" Wire Wheel Hub Cap (Garwood Make) -- Call Bob Brown - LO 2-3250)

**MEETING:** Next business meeting will be held on September 3, 1958 at Cirimele Ford Sales, 3321 Broadway, Oakland, California. Any and all Thunderbird owners are invited to attend. For further details, contact L. D. "Skip" Riggs, President, 6650 Colton Blvd., Oakland, California - Phone: Olympic 4 3106.

**P.S. --** The "Birdnest" is always open to Club Members for coffee, bull sessions, story swapping and general "Bird" affairs. It is located at 6650 Colton Blvd., Oakland. Drop in when you are in the neighborhood.

Skip & Mid & Pat

**LAST MINUTE SPECIAL:** '56 Thunderbird FULL POWER WIRE WHEELS, Light Green, a Good Buy. Call Art Horsfall, TWinoaks 3-4567.