



"What's New in BIRD-LAND?"

September 12, 1958

FROM THE BIRD NEST . . . by Skip Riggs

Greetings to all Thunderbird owners and fellow Club members in particular. Once again it is time for me to express my thoughts about events of the preceding month as well as expound on things to come.

August has passed and with it go pleasant moments we have all enjoyed while participating in Club events together. First of these was the Spaghetti Dinner on August 16th, coupled with our long-awaited Technical Inspection and our First Annual (I hope) Powder Puff Rally. My personal thanks go to the Club Activities Co-Chairman Don Brooks and his wife Donna for their tireless efforts in the management of this event. It was a tremendous amount of work, before, during, and after, and it certainly was well done. Our thanks also go to Andy Larsen for securing the liquid refreshments; Larry and Dottie Farrell for securing and cooking the food respectively; to Faye Edwards and husband Lew for cooking and serving; and to the rest of the people who helped produce this fine event.

Technical Inspection was efficiently handled by Chairman Bob Brown and his staff of competent inspectors, Dick Nagle, Dwight Johnston and Bob Perry. As previously stated, this was a long-awaited necessity as membership acceptance hinged on it. Our thanks go also to Powder Puff Rally - Master Bob Perry and his competent staff (Starter Dick Staples, Checkpoint volunteers Dwight and Claire Johnston, and Dr. and Mrs. Frank Ficker who, besides consuming what I consider an unbelievable amount of the choicest product of the brewers' art, also did a remarkable job of keeping Rally participants headed in the right direction). The results found Mrs. Ronald Lee copping First Place; Dottie Farrell Second; and Donna Brooks Third. Congratulations, girls. Compared to the previous open rally in which the men drove, you posted better times for a more difficult course.

The second event during August was the Mystery Tour held on the 24th. Again our thanks must go to hard-working Don Brooks and his capable assistants Larry Farrell and Andy Larsen for a splendid job in setting up this tour. Routes were exceptionally well planned, instruction sheets hard to find, and the awards to the winning side very appropriate. (Say, when are you losers going to pay up?)

Following lunch, the Mystery Tour troupe then proceeded to Camp Stoneman for the purpose of familiarizing the Club with skills needed to drive a gymkhana. Many thanks again to Bob Perry for his efforts in this event. I believe all who attended enjoyed themselves and we should all now realize that the Thunderbird, wonderful automobile though it is, isn't quite nimble enough to make fast, tight corners. (But boy, we can sure show 'em on the straightaways!) Another Gymkhana plus an Autocross is planned for future events; however, they'll be set up so they will be much easier on the cars as well as the drivers. These future events are also planned as closed events.

Members who attended the September 3rd business meeting will recall that as President I appointed five Club members to a nominating committee whose job it is to select two candidates for each office willing to accept the nomination and three members to an elections committee whose job it is to supervise the actual operations of the election in November. I was delegated the power to select these committees and their

The Temescal Club House Eatem and Beatem Dinner was mostly beatem -- but the turnout was terrific. Darn near explosive. Food and fun (lots of both) were had by all. Many, many thanks and a copious sprinkling of birdseed to those who gave their services.

Dottie Farrell and Donna Brooks put forth a spaghetti sauce equalled by few, but what would the sauce be without Tillie Buono's spaghetti? When it comes to French bread, none can excell that of our own Madame Faye Edwards. From Dearborn to San Francisco the raves are sounding for the Chef of Chefs, Mara Lee Houston, and her salad. With the aid of our Norwegian import, Don Larsen, beer and soft drinks flowed like champagne. Let us not forget a few choice birdseeds to the many unheralded birds who served as waiters and dishwashers.

The Mystery Program of the Year . . . if you were a boy named Irving and weighed a ton, would you kick an American can down a drunken street? Or, possibly you might be George Gobel heading for a rodeo on a \$40 horse named Terry. Do you birds who didn't have the opportunity to attend know what the Mystery Tour was? It may still be a mystery to some, but fear not, there's another in the mill. Attending were the Edwards, Neisses, Horsfalls, Houstons, Nagles, Riggses, Brown, Clarke, Andrade, Farrell, Larsen, Perry, Shideler and Volpatti. The Bird-Watcher understands that the losing flock is setting up a birdbath to wash the feathers of those birds in the winning flock.

The Gymkhana at the end of the Mystery Tour was held at Camp Stoneman (thank you, Uncle Sam). After the course was established the birds took off with the following elapsed times:

Brooks	3 min. 4 sec.	Riggs	3 min. 49 sec.	Edwards	4 min. 14 sec.
Larsen	3 " 15 "	Houston	3 " 51 "	Horsfall	4 " 19 "
Perry	3 " 43 "	Farrell	4 " 12 "		

Fastest girl was Mara Lee Houston with 5 min., 41 seconds. The rest of the birds are still in formation and are expected to finish the course any day now.

BIRD MIGRATIONS:

- Sept. 19 -- Football Queen Parade of Lights. Contact Art Horsfall (AN 1-8095). Night Frolic Festival.
- Sept. 21 -- Kustom Kings Rally. Contact Rich Volpatti (LO 2-1291). Panic Picnic. Prizes. Pleasure.
- October 5 -- Vacavalley Road Race. Contact Larry Farrell (KE 2-3019). Rip-roaring rapid road race.
- October 6 -- First monthly membership meeting in the new location -- Lake Merritt Club Room.
- October 12 - First Annual Ye Olde Happy Vallye Rallye. Contact Don Brooks (KE 6-3616). Thunderbird sponsored and supported. Open to sports cars and imports only. Rallye post entry \$2.00. Steak Dinner afterward \$2.50. Either Rallye or Dinner may be attended.

Calling all Bird-Watchers . . . Activities Committee Meeting will be held September 29, Monday night at 7:30 p. m. at the Bird Activities Haven, 2438 - 35th Ave., Oakland (in the Penthouse). Contact Don Brooks -- KE 6-3616.

-- Don Brooks,
Activities Co-Chairman

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The Membership Drive Contest has been extended one more month! Had you begun to wonder? Cards must be in by 7:30 p.m. October 6, 1958 -- the night of the next meeting. May we suggest that rather than leave the cards on parked cars, you try to contact the owner of the Thunderbird personally and strive to get him to come to the next meeting with his car. Winners will be announced at our next general membership meeting. GOOD LUCK to all of you!

ATTENTION, Prospective Members: Those of you who have completed one of our Club Applications and wish to join our group should be sure to be present at the next Membership and Technical Committee meeting September 16, 1958 (Tuesday) at Art Horsfalls' home, 1939 Oakview Drive, Oakland, at which time the Technical boys will inspect your car. Be sure to bring your insurance policy. Then at the next general membership meeting (October 6th) your application will be voted upon, and if accepted you will then receive your membership card and Club emblem. Initiation fee of \$10.00 must be paid at this time.

COME SEE WHO WILL HAVE A MONKEY ON THEIR BACK AT THE NEXT MEETING. Will you be one?

We are proud to announce that we have been invited to participate in the forthcoming PARADE OF LIGHTS held on the 19th of September and sponsored by the Berkeley Junior Chamber of Commerce. Those 14 of you who were selected to carry the Princesses on the night of the Parade (you lucky dawgs), call Dail Moffett (TH 3-6396) or meet him at McNary Chapel parking lot, 1936 University Avenue in Berkeley by 6:30 p.m. sharp. The 15 who are going to be in the float should contact Art Horsfall (TW 3-4567) within the next few days and he will advise you further as to time and place to meet on September 19th. Those of you whose arms had to be twisted to pick up Princesses at S. F. International Airport have to be there by 9 a.m. on the nose. We understand they are meeting beforehand in Oakland and will drive across the Bay en masse. Remember, tops down, tanks full of gas (the car, that is) and dress clothes. Anyone who hasn't volunteered for either duty but would like to should contact Art Horsfall (TW 3-4567). Everyone meet at Pland's, Broadway & MacArthur, in Oakland after the Parade.

We now have the balance of our Club emblems completed. Those eligible who have not yet obtained theirs may do so by contacting Mara Lee Houston. Phone evenings (LO 2-4447).

* * * * * REMEMBER . . . the next Meeting is at LAKE MERRITT CLUB ROOM, October 6th * * * * *

- CLASSIFIED ADS:**
- FOR SALE — 1955 T-Bird Convertible Top, only \$100. Needs covering. Call Art Horsfall (TW 3-4567)
 - FOR SALE — T-Bird Fender Skirts in good shape. \$15.00. Contact Skip Riggs (OL 4-3106)
 - FOR SALE — Convertible Top Bows (no fabric). Call Skip Riggs for details (OL 4-3106)
 - Interested in Traction Masters? See Skip Riggs right away for a special deal (about 1/2 price) before the offer has to be withdrawn. (OL 4-3106)
 - FOR SALE — 3-Carb Offenhauser Intake Manifold with 3 Stromberg 97s. Full set-up incl. progressive linkage. Good condition - \$60. Ray Schideler at TH 5-0841.
 - SPECIAL FOR OCTOBER — Regular \$27.50 Tune-up for only \$19.95 (parts extra). All work to be done by Bert Melberg. CIRIMELE FORD SALES, 3321 Broadway, Oakland.
 - MAJOR TUNE-UP - \$14.95 plus parts. BRAKE RE-LINE - \$19.95 plus parts. Discount on all Tires and Accessories. 2¢ off per gallon on Mobilgas and Mobilgas Special. See Bob for Traction Masters, 100 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.
 - 25% DISCOUNT on PARTS. 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 guaranteed. KWIK COVERS, 3530 Broadway, Oakland.

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chairmen from Article VIII, Section I, of the By-laws of our Club. I feel that the people I have selected for these committees will do a fair and honest job.

As your duly-appointed representative with the responsibility of protecting the interests of the majority of the Club members, I have also put into effect the following two policies as of September 4, 1958. No. 1 is: Commencing September 4th, all prospective members will be passed on by the membership at large at each monthly meeting. This will be performed by the system of secret ballot and memberships can be approved by a majority vote of members present. No. 2 is: Beginning September 4th there will be no checks written on Club funds unless the expenditure has been properly presented to the Board of Directors at a monthly Board meeting held for this purpose.

The reason I have instituted the aforementioned policies is because I feel there has been a lack of coordination between members of the Board and also between the Board and Club members.

As I have stated, I have put these policies into effect to protect the majority of the members of the Club. I feel they should have a voice in whom they desire to have join their Club and likewise where and how their money is being spent. This is not meant to be a criticism of any member or committee chairman in the performance of his duties. I personally feel each and every one has done his utmost to better the Club. It's just that this should better serve to keep each and every Club member informed as to what course his Club is taking.

As was also moved, seconded and approved at our September meeting, future general membership meetings are to be moved out of any and all Ford dealerships. Most members felt that the Club sounded like a commercial venture when prospective members are told that we meet at such-and-such a Ford showroom. We the Club, and myself personally, would like to openly express our deepest appreciation to Mr. Frank Cirimele for his thoughtfulness and unbounded generosity in permitting us the use of his showroom during the period we occupied it for our monthly membership meetings. Commencing in October the meetings are now scheduled for the first Monday of each month until the end of the year. They are to be held at the Lake Merritt Club Room, across from the Scottish Rite Temple on Oak Street in Oakland. Meetings are scheduled from 8 to 11 p. m. Please note this . . . your meetings for the next three months are: OCT. 6, NOV. 3, and DEC. 1, 1958. Reason for the change in days is we were not able to secure any meeting hall outside of Lake Merritt Club Room and this was available only on the first Monday of the month or the last Thursday. In choosing the first Monday it was felt we were adhering as closely as possible to our original meeting day -- the first Wednesday. At the end of the year we are to contact the Recreation Dept. of the City of Oakland with the possibility that another day may be selected if desired by the membership. We have until the end of the year to decide, so think it over and let us know your wishes.

Lastly (and certainly least), at the September meeting I appointed our good friend and "late" member from San Francisco -- Roger Neiss -- to be official Club Editor of the paper (starting next month). I know he will do the fine job on this project that he is doing on his Continental Kit -- in fact, everything that he does. So, if any Club member has an item he'd like to see published he should send it to Roger at 45 Ecker Street, San Francisco 5, or telephone him at YUkon 2-6268.

Well, that about covers everything I believe the Club should be enlightened on for this time. Until we meet on October 6th at the Lake Merritt Club Room, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

L. Davis (Skip) Riggs, Pres.

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