

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

Volume 1, Number 8

December 1958

### ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- DEC. 12 – INSTALLATION DINNER – the only event scheduled for this month. The 1959 officers will be officially inaugurated at 8:00 p.m. There will also be a Christmas Party, so bring a small gift along, not over one dollar in value.
- JAN. 6 – GENERAL MEETING, 7:30 p.m. at Art's Buffet, 4031 Broadway, Oakland.
- JAN. 10 – SMORGASBORD, 7:30 p.m. at Lake Temescal Club House, Oakland. \$1.00 per person. Beer, coffee and Coca Cola to slake your thirst. Bring a guest to help enjoy this gala affair.
- JAN. 16 – RALLY SEMINAR, 8:00 p.m. at the Penthouse, 2438 – 35th Avenue, Oakland. Learn what you should know and do on a rally. Bob Perry, our Rallymaster, will give us all the dope needed to win a few trophies.
- JAN. 18 – ENIGMATIC TOUR, 8:00 a.m., Jack London Square. No one seems to know much about this tour, or where we will be going – but it promises to be different from any yet conducted. You'll be sorry if you miss this one.
- FEB. 2 – GENERAL MEETING, 7:30 p.m., Art's Buffet, 4031 Broadway, Oakland.
- FEB. 6 – FRIDAY NIGHT RALLY (Open). Three hours.

### ACTIVITIES REPORT

ANDY LARSEN

A Nazi helmet, back scratchers, a box of Ex-lax, a policeman's badge, and sundry items of that ilk might have gotten you a dash plaque in the Scavenger Hunt held November 22nd at Art and Maxine's home. We are indebted to the Volpattis for working out the details so well that everyone participating had a marvelous time. I hear tell that some members are still looking for a 500-watt light bulb, and the Oakland police are searching for the person or persons who were going around collecting garbage can lids. Wonder who that was? By the way the food disappeared it was evident that all those present worked up good appetites.

Congratulations to Owen and Lorraine Lewis for winning first place. Richard and Beverly Staples were next and Lou and Faye Edwards came in third. Even those who didn't win anything else ended up with an extra garbage can lid or so. Speaking for all of us, I'd like to thank the Horsfalls and Volpattis for a real BIG big time.

The Jack Taylor Quartet opened at the Serenader in November and are already the talk of the town. You jazz lovers will want to get down to the Serenader at the north end of Lake Merritt just off Grand Avenue to listen to this fine jazz group.

The December Activities meeting held some surprises for quite a few members, yours truly included. The 1959 President and members present thought that Lars, alias Wolf, alias Hardtop, alias Andy Larsen should be Activities Chairman for the coming year. I accepted just before I went down for the third time. Wish that darned pool weren't so handy.

As my assistants I have Rich Volpatti and Joe White. Other appointees were:

Bob Perry, Rallymaster	Dr. Frank Ficker, Trophy Awards
Russ Pratt, Social Director	Joe Koonce, Sports Director
Dail Moffett, Tour Director	

**IMPORTANT REMINDER** – The snow trip tour will be held the last of February and you will want to be sure to keep this period open. Remember, February 28 and March 1 are snow days.

### FOR THE BIRDS

THE EDITOR

A big hand goes out to all the 1958 officers whose names grace the "Birdland" box for the last time with this, the December issue. The five elected officers, Skip Riggs, Art Horsfall, Dick Nagle, Mid Riggs and Faye Edwards, along with their appointed committee members, certainly did yeoman service in building our Club to its present state in one abbreviated year. Congratulations on a job very well done!

The Activities Committee turned in an exceptional performance in our opinion. With Chairman Brooks cracking the whip at his two fine lieutenants, Larry Farrell and 'Lief Larsen, we were afforded many fascinating amusements. Month after month they came up with intriguing tours and other events to keep our interest from lagging. Unhappily, a large segment of the membership did not avail themselves of these stimulating diversions. It is ever an enigma

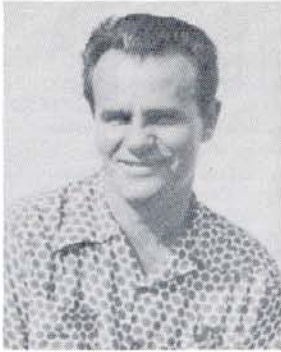
to us why the regular monthly meetings consistently lure 75-80% of the membership from their homes, whereas the much more interesting events draw about 30% participation. It must have been terribly discouraging to these hard workers. All of the members should try to attend these scheduled Club functions, if only to show appreciation for the hard work the Activities people put out for you. Let's show the new group that we are grateful for all of the time, labor and gasoline that they will expend in providing entertainment for us in 1959. They deserve a better fate than the '58 group received.

But it could have been worse. Only three Birds went to Disneyland when we tried our hand at promoting a tour.

The same vote of appreciation is accorded to the other committeemen who performed their tasks in the best possible manner. We trust they will always be ready to help out the new men if they are ever needed.



## Introducing in this CORNER ... BEN BUENO



Our tale begins . . .

Ben Bueno was born in Hollister, California, on December 29, 1921. Fortunately, Ben favors Thunderbirds over motorcycles; else he might be rather unpopular with the citizenry of his home town.

Even as a youngster, Ben carried unlimited enthusiasm in his heart for parades. Gathering the neighborhood children together, he would take position as leader and navigate the miniature militia

through Hollister. Most likely, this is the reason for Ben's eager assent when asked to participate in parades which the Club has been solicited to enter.

After several address changes between Hollister and Oakland, the Bueno family established residence in San Leandro during 1937.

In 1940, Clo appeared in Ben's life. A native resident of Oakland, Clo was working at the Fruitvale Canning Co., and luckily for both, Ben was employed by the same concern. The friendship grew and two years later, the Buenos took their marriage vows in the City of Alameda.

For the past ten years, Ben has been employed in the produce warehouse of Safeway Stores, where he works an alternatine shift of one month on days and one month on nights. Clo does her share to supplement the family emoluments by assuming general office duty two days a week at Hogan Wholesale Building Materials.

Hobbies? Sure! Caring for the Bueno duplex commands part of Ben's spare time. Of course, it goes without saying that the Bird must be kept in concourse shape! Ben likes music too - Frank Sinatra and big-name bands preferably. It might also be mentioned that a yearly excursion to Las Vegas is a "must" on the Bueno agenda. But Ben, the *Reno Rally*?

The Buenos came into the Thunderbird fold via an invitation from Lew and Faye Edwards, neighbor-tenants of the duplex. The only regret that Ben and Clo have expressed since joining us is, "We wish we were able to attend even more of the Club activities."

- D. M.



## THINGS ARE FINE FOR '59

As all of you members sit in our General Meetings next year opportunities for a better Club will be at hand. For behind the rostrum at which your elected Executive Board is sitting will be a nice roaring fireplace, including fire. Those who are not paying attention . . . plo! If your President gets out of hand . . . plo! A better Club for all who can survive!

In an effort to bring to our Club an interesting meeting it has been decided that a change of pace is needed. Thus the plan was evolved to switch meeting place and date occasionally. So, for the next three months only - January, February and March - our General Meetings will be held at . . .

ART'S BUFFET, 4031 Broadway, Oakland

. . . in the intimate Fireside Room off the Cocktail Lounge (per A.A.A. coffee available). We of the Board hope this meets with your approval. If not . . . plo! Those of you who attend the Installation Dinner/Christmas Party will have the advantage of a sneak preview, for this is the Fireside Room we are reserving. Did I say *'those of you who will attend'*? Naturally ALL will attend or . . . plo!

At the present, Monday is felt by some to be too close to the weekend and people are generally tired. If other people are tired, so must us Thunderbirds be. So . . . effective immediately, meeting time will be . . .

8:00 P.M. - FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Remember, this is for three months only. After that, place, time and date may be changed to please the majority. This change occurred because somebody spoke up. Let's hear from youse.

For the fight fans in the Club, the monthly Board Meeting will be held on the same night - same place - only it'll be a dinner meeting at 6:00 p.m. Sixteen-ounce gloves are mandatory.

- D. B.



Now we've seen everything! For the latest in Sports Car paraphernalia . . . the newest . . . the craziest car cap ever, take a good look at the picture above. See the built-in tail-light? It actually works - by plugging an inconspicuous wire into the cigarette lighter of your dashboard. It can be a stop-light too, high enough up so those BIG Detroit monsters can see it and keep from climbing on your rear bumper. Ideal Christmas gifts for boys and gals. Available from Cole Industries, P.O. Box 2611, San Francisco 26. The cost? \$7.95 postpaid. Add 50¢ if you wish both tail-light and stop-light features.

Our only excuse for printing the picture at the left is to show you what a 1956 Thunderbird looks like. After all, a '56 is three years old, and some of you may have forgotten its styling due to the passage of time. Incidental to the car are George Nader and Kathy Marlowe of the Ellery Queen show. The latter, by the way, shows you capri- and parka-wearing gals what the Southern California femmes are wearing in their T-Birds these days.



# POTPOURRI . . .

We were all pleasantly surprised to see Mary Lou Pratt at the December meeting after a prolonged illness involving a 22-day sojourn in the hospital. She'll be convalescing a few weeks yet, but welcomes visits from Club members at her home . . . Andrew H. Larsen, newly-appointed Activities Chairman, is lonesome for Nordic companionship. So his first event is a Smorgasbord, as reported in the Activities Calendar on the first page, designed to make Swedes of all of us (his joke). We expect to replenish the coffers because the food will be donated, and everything but the renting of the Temescal Clubhouse will be free. Food will cost \$1 per person, (pure profit) and beer and soft drinks will be available at nominal charge. If Dick Nagle comes, this sideline will show a profit also. Incidentally, all owners of '55, '56 and '57 Thunderbirds are invited to come, whether members of the BATOC or not . . . The two-day stay in the snow country scheduled for Feb. 28 and March 1 is being offered members at the ridiculously low price of \$1 per day per person, excluding food, of course. Offsetting this is the peculiar sleeping arrangements at the Lodge, not destined for lasting popularity - boys must sleep with boys, dormitory style, and girls with girls. Even those who have been married for 23 and 11/12ths years. Tsk, tsk. . . Winsome Donna Brooks hastens to deny Don's charge that she collects old, wornout articles, except him, of course. She brands the lie to the charge that articles left at their home for our Rummage Sale run the risk of being appropriated by her . . . Welcome to new member, Bob Groden of 24 Du-boce, San Francisco, who became our 42nd member after success-

fully passing our entrance requirements. We're happy to have his winning smile become a permanent fixture. Better add his name and address to your list of members. Phone number is PRespect 5-0145. . . Admittedly, we know little about the ladies' hair styles. Nonetheless we dare to compliment Rich Staples, hair stylist, on the stunning effect of Beverly's new coiffure. Very cute baby they have, by the way. Has the disposition of an angel. Some of us wish a little of it could brush off . . . Always give the pedestrian the right-of-way. He may be on the way to move his car from the parking space you're looking for . . . Rumor has it that another T-Bird Club is making its bow in the Bay Area - The Contra Costa Thunderbird Association . . . Roy Shideler and wife Paula became parents on the last day of November, and promptly named the girl Valerie. Congratulations . . . "Frequent naps, such as when driving a car, keep you from getting old" - Dottie Farrell . . . Skip and Mid (Day) Riggs have moved away from their "Birdnest" home on Colton Blvd. - to Contra Costa somewhere. Any connection with that rumor above, Skip? . . . Art and Maxine Horsfall have sold their mansion, the Falcon's Lair, and there goes another of our birds' favorite roosting hangouts. This leaves only the Brooks' Penthouse and your Editor's Bat Nest as available aviaries for informal Bird assemblages. Art and Maxine plan a two months' tour of Europe sans Bird. Postcards from Paris are a definite promise. Our best wishes for a nice vacation to the Horsfalls. During one shopping tour last Christmas when Edna squeezed a doll it cried "Mama." But later on when I squeezed another doll it screamed, "Floorwalker!" How come? . . . That's about it for this month. See you all at the Installation Dinner Friday.

'What's New in Birdland' is published monthly by the Bay Area Thunderbird Owners Club. All inquiries should be addressed to ROGER NEISS, Editor, 45 Ecker Street, San Francisco 5, Calif.

### 1958 OFFICERS

SKIP RIGGS	President
ART HORSFALL	Vice-President
DICK NAGLE	Treasurer
MID RIGGS	Recording Secretary
FAYE EDWARDS	Corresponding Secretary
MARA LEE HOUSTON	Membership
BERT BROWN	Technical
DON BROOKS	Activities
DR. FRANK FICKER	Publicity
DAIL MOFFETT	Parades
JACK TAYLOR	Ways & Means
OWEN LEWIS, DR. FICKER	Photography
LEW EDWARDS	Censor

## Rummage Sale

Fed up with having to listen to financial problems at every turn, Dick Staples has suggested a Rummage Sale to rid the Club of its monetary miseries once and for all. His own experience in conducting rummage sales and skill in polemics sold everyone present at the December meeting on the idea. The big event isn't actually set as yet, pending accumulation of odds and ends to put up for sale, but this is a reminder to all of you to throw away nothing that might possibly be wanted by somebody. And it would surprise you to learn how useless an article has to be before nobody would want it. Dick has of-

ferred to store this material temporarily, and suggests that every member fill his T-Bird with donations before attending any Club event in the coming weeks. Suggested are: discarded clothing, old books, magazines, broken toys, games, car parts, old dishes, jars, etc. Bert Brown will be happy to come to your home with his pick-up truck for loads too large to transport in your Bird. Simply phone him at LO 2-3250 between the hours of 4 and 6 any evening. But be sure to make it a worthwhile load, even if you have to petition your neighbors for their rummage. Not a bad idea for the rest of us, either. Let's get a real big collection together and put this drive over in top style!



Nothing stopped this gang from going to Disneyland over Thanksgiving Day. When the going got too rough for Thunderbirds, the journey continued by ox-cart. A real good time was reported by all, as you can see by their grinning visages, B. P. (before poverty set in).

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Wanted - 5 Chrome Wire Wheels for 15-inch tires. With or without Knock-off Hubs. Don Brooks, KEllogg 6-3616.

'55 T-BIRD, Clean, Ford-o-matic. Call Art Horsfall, TWInoaks 3-4567.

25% Discount on CHROME PLATING to all Club members. Johnson Plating Works, 2526 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland.

Rear '56 T-Bird BUMPER, less brackets, perfect - \$25. '56 Std. Transmission and linkage - \$75. Stan Motyka, 2237 N. Monitor Avenue, Chicago 39, Illinois.

Girl needs job. Is willing to struggle if given opportunity.

15% Discount on All Parts - Gene Lockhart MUFFLERS. 3019 E. 14th Street, Oakland. Phone KEllogg 2-7736. (This location only.)

For Sale - SUPERCHARGER for T-Bird, with gauges - \$200 (Contact your Editor, as this seller is in the Los Angeles area.)

TOPS, CARPETS, TONNEAU COVERS, 25% Discount. Kwik Covers, 3530 Broadway, Oakland. Phone OLYmpic 3-0636.

Wanted - Clean '56 T-BIRD. Art Horsfall, TWInoaks 3-4567.

Wanted - Garwood 15-inch Wire Wheel Hub-Cap. Call Jim Prichard, BErkeley 4-1425.

For Sale - 4 Wire Wheel Hub Caps, 15-inch. Don Brooks, KEllogg 6-3616.

Sue was congratulating Lela on her driving ability. "Why, you're handling the car like a veteran."

"How do you know," countered Lela. "You've never seen me handle a veteran."



'Twas the evening preceding the 25th, When throughout the entire domicile there was not the slightest sign of activity.

Not even one small rodent was taking its nocturnal perambulations in search of provender.

The woolen coverings for the pedular extremities were arranged neatly on the mantel, With the expectancy that presently a benevolent old gentlemen with snowy white hirsutism

Would fill them to overflowing . . .

(What are you gentlemen in the white coats doing here?)

## And a Merry Christmas to All



# Letters

Dear Editor:

I bin readin yer last 2 papers and if I wuz you I'd lern how to spell big words before I used 'em. You mis-spelt 'sesquipedalian' last month. How do you expect us to understan words when you can't spell 'em rite?

(Sd) Eighth Grader

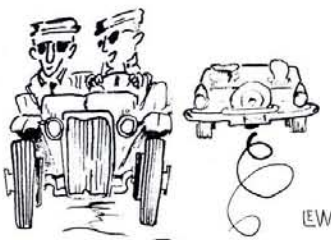
Dear Eighth Grader:

A very discerning reader you are, catching one of the two errors which crept into the November issue. However, this word was misspelled by the letter-writer, not us. We do not edit letters which appear in this column, fortunately for you. But may we commend your interest in orthography just the same? We have always loved semantics and blondes - in reverse order - not to forget brunettes and redheads in any order. To encourage your further interest in words we invite you and others who may be interested to try the following word test. Twelve words are shown. Throw out the two most difficult and then score ten points for yourself for every correct definition you can come up with on the remaining ten. A score of 50 or better is excellent. 30-40 is average. If you can't get two of them you're a prime candidate for the Corvette Club and you can turn in your Bird.

CAVILIER	PHILOGYN	CAPTIUS
ELEEMOSYNARY	ERGOPHOBIA	MISOGYNY
MEMORABILIA	POSTERN	GAUCHE
FLAUNT	PICAYUNE	PUDENT

Correct answers WILL NOT BE FOUND elsewhere in these pages. We want YOU to consult Webster and learn the various shades of meaning for yourself.

... and you had better! We're going to sprinkle them throughout the copy next month.



"By the way, what do you think of the segregation problem?"

Dear Editor:

Are you trying to save paper for World War 3 or are you subsidized by the Amalgamated Order of Optometrists? I never could see you as an editor and now I can't even see your type. The top line of an eye doctor's chart is like a Foster & Kleiser sign compared to the November bulletin. I haven't seen print that small since I bought stock in the Fly-By-Night Mining Company of Gossamer, Montana. My advice to you is cut down on your part of the paper and put in more of the good stuff (from the other members), or subsidize the thing yourself and add extra pages.

(Sd) Blind Tom  
(and many others)

Dear Blind Tom  
(and many others):

My advice to you is drop . . . Oh, well, have it your way. Starting with this issue the type will be a bit larger. But there'll be less "good stuff". Who's editor around here, anyway?

Dear Editor:

Your censor isn't doing a very good job. The stuff you put in the bulletin would make a marine sergeant blush.

(Sd) Prudence Pimplenose

Dear Prudence:

Why did you suppose we selected a censor who lives across the Bay?

## SPORTS CAR FASHION NOTES

The following article was sent in anonymously a few days ago, and fills a long-felt need - something for the girls. As you will note, it is exceedingly well-written. We'd like this member to make herself known to the Editor with the idea of supplying material for a similar article each month, whether she wishes to maintain her anonymity or otherwise.

MADAME DE L'AUTO . . . . . by Francoise\*  
\*(a shy BATOC member)

Those charming tie-on straw hats that were so very popular this summer are high style again this fall. They can be purchased in all the lovely fall shades of wool jersey at the Roos-Atkins stores.

Fur-trimmed Car Coats are the rage this fall and winter. A white coat trimmed with brown beaver or black lamb is the leading color combination. These coats can be purchased at most of the local department stores.

What to give HIM for Christmas? Why not the Long-Playing record, "Sports Cars in Hi-Fi", listing number RLP-5002. Another ideal gift for the sports-minded man is the jeweled tire pressure gauge. This item is available at the Auto Supply Stores and the novelty section of the Department Stores.

Merry Christmas Madame & Mssrs. de l'Auto.