

What's New in Birdland

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 8

AUGUST 1959

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG

Do you know these people? They are very popular BATOC figures today, but, of course these pictures were taken many years before Thunderbirds were thought of. This time we'll help you find the correct answers. They are contained in the crossword puzzle inside.



ACTIVITIES REPORT

by ANDY LARSEN

Here's one fellow who's glad to be back in the thick of things once again. Sure missed you all. Having all that wonderful weather go by while I stayed in bed just about killed me. I was one of the few who made the tour to the Zoo on July 19th, but from the number of others who showed up I wondered at first if the Club had disbanded. The weather was unusual for San Francisco - sunny. A trip through the lions' den at feeding time was rather enlightening . . . the lions acting like Thunderbird owners at a barbecue. All in all, a rather restful day and quite appropriate for one's first day out of confinement.

Watch the Birds gather when a Winery Tour is mentioned. Over 50 of our friends gathered at Jack London Square a week after the Fleischhacker fiasco. Each car left at one minute intervals, with nobody getting lost, either. We tried our hand at the rally laid out by Bob Growden. A drive-in at Napa was the coffee-break halting spot. I was one of the last cars out, so I didn't see Bill and MaraLee in Napa. It is possible they missed their hot cakes in Napa but I know they didn't miss their steaks at Krug's later on. First place for Chef-ing was a tie between genial Ben Bueno and Waxy Sta-

ples who prepared the 50-odd steaks just the way you wanted them. (And some of them *were* odd - Ed.) We all appreciated their efforts over the hot coals on a very warm day. After the feast, dash plaques were awarded the winners of the rally (*see story elsewhere*). Both first and second places went to Two-Seated Thunderbirds, with Ben Bueno being the best of the One-Seaters. We'll get even next time, fellows.

A problem which occasionally arises on any outing, and was particularly obvious at this one, is the matter of drinking. It is one of grave concern to the Membership Board, as well as your Activities Chairman. If you sometimes feel your toes are being stepped on, please try to be understanding. Our conduct reflects on the Club as a whole. None of us wants to put the rest of the group in a bad light, which over-indulging can certainly do. Nobody wants our events to be policed. We are all over 21 and should know better than to drink too much. But in the event that a member's driving ability may be impaired, we will take steps to make sure that the member gets home safely. An accident while under the influence of liquor can be fatal.

Like to have more people at our Activities meetings. They are held the third Tuesday of every month. Last month Larry Farrell and Lew Edwards showed movies of their vacation up at the lakes.

The September General Meeting will be held at The House of Harvey once more, after which a vote will be taken to see if you want to make the H of H our permanent meeting site. Cocktail Hour is from 6:30 to 7:30, with dinner set for 7:30. Meeting begins at 8:30 on the dot. Indiscriminate selecting caused havoc with Harvey's kitchen last time, so would-be diners are asked to select their entree ahead of time from the following list:

ROAST SIRLOIN OF BEEF AU JUS
BAKED SWEET HAM
(Cumberland Sauce and Candied Yams)
BEEF BROCHETTE

Notify Donna Brooks (KE 6-3616) no later than Friday, September 4th as to your choice of the above.

Warning near Waukegan, Ill., railroad crossing:

"It takes 14 seconds for a train to pass this crossing—whether your car is on it or not."

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- AUG. 23 — TOUR TO COLUMBIA. Leave Jack London Square 8:30 am. The Ghost Town Tour — Let's take a ride into the past. 2 to 2½ hours.
- AUG. 25 — MEMBERSHIP/TECH MEETING, 8 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland.
- SEPT. 5 — GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING at The House of Harvey, 320 Hagenbarger Road. Cocktails 6 - 7; Dinner 7 - 8; Meeting 8:30 sharp. If you plan to join us for dinner, call Donna Brooks at least two days in advance in order to select your entree.
- SEPT. 5 — One day drive to State Line. Call Andy Larsen at KE 6-1244 for sure if you'd like to go. This is not a club-sponsored affair, and departure time has to be decided according to majority will.
- SEPT. 19 — RENO RALLY. \$29.50 per couple. Send the money and 20 to Larry Farrell at once so you may be bivouacked with the others of BATOC who will be going.
- SEPT. 22 — ACTIVITIES Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland
- SEPT. 29 — MEMBERSHIP/TECH MEETING, 8 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland

MEMO from MEMBERSHIP _____ by MARALEE HOUSTON

CONGRATULATIONS to our three new members! Please add their names and addresses to your membership list. They are as follows:

Dorothy Woodyard
225 Mallorca Way - Apt. 301
San Francisco (FI 6-4944)

Bill Bosak
5554 Broadway
Oakland (OL 2-3825)

Ken Keyser
6933 Saroni Drive
Oakland (OL 3-6871)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Rich & Rosemarie Volpatti
7857 MacArthur Blvd.
Oakland

Lew & Faye Edwards
3451 - 35th Avenue
Oakland

Bob Cole
2438 - 35th Avenue
Oakland

WELCOME to the following prospective members and guests at our August General Business Meeting:

DR. LEONARD TEMPLE
RALPH BUONACORSI
MR. & MRS. OLUND
MR. & MRS. WARD
MR. & MRS. BRUUM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following members:

9/3 Rich Volpatti 9/21 Maxine Horsfall
9/8 Bob Growden 9/24 Louise Koonce
9/9 Bob Perry 9/27 Bennie Carroll
9/16 Faye Edwards

MEMBERSHIP & TECHNICAL Committee Meeting will be August 25th - 8 p.m. at 3451 - 35th Ave., Oakland (Apt. 7 - Richard Staples home).

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS - It was decided by the membership committee not to send out Guest Cards along with the third copy of our paper as we have not had one response to this procedure in the past. It is believed that the usual item (see below) regarding how prospectives can join our Club will be sufficient.

"Prospective Members" - If you have had your Guest Card signed at three of our events (one General Business Meeting and two socials) you are eligible to come before the Membership & Technical Committee for car and insurance inspection. (Guest Cards can be obtained at any of our Club events.) If we do not hear from you following the third paper sent you, we will assume you are no longer interested in joining the Club and your name will be dropped from our mailing list.

T-B

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
12.					13.	
					16.	
18.						
			20.	21.		22.
26.	27.	28.				29.
34.				35.	36.	
	39.				40.	41.
44.				45.		

ACROSS

- 1. Call for succor
- 4. Best car club anywhere
- 9. Found in every Bird engine
- 12. Boding ill
- 13. Drama set to music
- 14. To drive (Beatnik jargon)
- 16. Not (L.)
- 17. English (abbr.)
- 18. Nettle
- 19. A "Bird" is a ---
- 20. Sioux Indians
- 23. That which brought us all together in the first place
- 26. One of Staples' staples
- 29. Friend (Fr.)
- 31. A divinating game
- 34. Terminal digit
- 35. Gromeko's famous "Nyet"
- 37. Doctor of Science
- 38. Capuchin monkey
- 39. Sodium

DOWN

- 40. Car club event
- 43. Hostelry
- 44. Cause of Cl demise
- 45. We like to be or --- vives
- 46. Observe
- 1. Said by popu
- 2. Conjunction
- 3. One of only whole world
- 4. Art Horsfall
- 5. Joe White's
- 6. Symbol for t
- 7. A s
- 8. Wris
- 9. Paper box (d
- 10. East Indian
- 11. "Show Me"

WINE TOUR



On July 26th a return engagement of BATOC's most successful tour - to the Winelands - was held. This time a "gimmick" in the form of a rally was added for the benefit of those who habitually holler for them. So where were the rallyists? They were about the only ones who stayed away, as some 57 "socially-minded members partook of the fun and winebibbing.

At least we thought it was fun. But some who didn't go opined it had been a bacchanalia, based on hearsay that too much emphasis had been given the wine feature of the tour instead of the barbe-

cued steaks served up by Messrs. Growden, Bueno, Staples and Co. Prexy Don excoriated all participants at the August membership meeting, probably with some justification. A collision between two Birds did occur on the return trip and could have resulted in bad publicity for the Club even though no one was hurt and drinking was not a factor.

Suave, sophisticated Owen Lewis won the Rally with 35 out of a possible 36 points. Guest Dominic Fulco came in second with 34 points. As an also-ran,

this reporter is prompted to shout, "unfair"! Both winners own two-seated Birds and had three passengers to help spot the clues chosen by Rally-Planner Growden. "Sour Grapes," said both as they proudly accepted their dash plaques, which is a pun, son.

We thought Bob Growden did a superb job. He gets better with each event. Now that Andy is back (even though moon-eyed), we can expect really big things with the two of them working together.

Continued in next column ->



The Wine Raffle was won by Edna Neiss when Mitchell Staples drew her name from the "hat".

NAME

7.	8.		9.	10.	11.
			14.		15.
17.				19.	
23.	24.	25.			
		31.	32.	33.	
	37.		38.		
42.			43.		
			46.		

- 12. Male mystery picture on first page
- 15. Female mystery picture on first page
- 20. Upon
- 21. Ecu
- 22. South America
- 23. Prefix denoting two
- 24. Auto (Beatnik jargon)
- 25. From (Fr.)
- 27. Eras
- 28. Low tide
- 30. Essential ingredient of Dick Nagle's favorite elixir
- 32. Egyptian diety
- 33. Skip's wife
- 36. Material containing valuable metallic constituents
- 37. With (prefix)
- 41. Alcoholics Anonymous
- 42. Chinese unit of measure

If you question this, take another gander at this month's Calendar of Events. You must have gone over it too hurriedly.

Our appreciation must be accorded the Charles Krug Winery for an exceptionally fine afternoon. They provided the barbecue pits, immaculately clean picnic tables on a verdant lawn beneath spreading shade trees - and complete privacy.

SIDELIGHTS . . . Andy's romance seemed to be prospering. Doctor Frank was the one person present who appeared comfortable in the warm weather. Ben Bueno kept his woolen underwear on. Pretty new member Dorothy Woodyard was the cynosure of Ernie Silva's eye. Coca Cola drinking Edna Neiss won the Big Raffle - a six-pack of Krug's finest. Ken Jacuzzi came out of "retirement" after almost a year's absence. Had been hitting the books hard. Mr. Kenneth Dills, our Chas. Krug host, had acquired a '59 T-Bird since our last trip there in March. Wants to start a T-Bird Club in the Wine country. Who did the selling job on him?

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Bring your Insurance Policy, Renewal Certificate, and Driver's License to the September 5th Business Meeting at the House of Harvey. It's time for inspection.

ZOO DAY



July 19th should go forever unchallenged as the absolute nadir of Club functions. At least, if we ever take part in a worse one that will be the day we turn in our Bird on a Corvette. Only four Birds showed up for Zoo Day, scheduled as a fill-in event for a light calendar. Perhaps the allure of Fleischhacker and its noisome effluvia left something to be desired, but what about the camaraderie of just being with your fellow members? All four of 'em?

Whiling away time where the animals can take a good look at us is not our favorite pastime, either. But we hadn't

been to Fleischhacker since the time we took Little Margie 'way back before she was interested in boys. (Must have been ten years ago, as she is now 13.) She seemed to be enjoying her day at the zoo with her father until we got to the lions' house - no doubt the same ones which so impressed Andy 'way back on page one. As she watched the king of beasts masticate half a sheep, she suddenly got a very troubled look on her face, and we asked her what the trouble was.

"I was just wondering, Daddy. In case a lion breaks loose and eats you, what number bus do I take home?"

Don't know why we should get our dander up, though. We got the same kind of attention from a bird of another sort that our BATOC "Birds" give their Editor. A high-flying seagull, outfitted with a Norden Bombsight "chose" him from among the thousands present, scoring a clean(?) hit on his medulla oblongata. Which prompts us to rhyme:

*Little seagull, must you fly
Away above the world so high?
But if you must, won't you
please spare
Us older men with thinning hair?*

ENGAGED

Demure Donna Sell announced her engagement last month to that rugged escort you must have noticed with her at recent events. He's Ralph Buonacorsi, a mighty interesting and conversant fellow. Once tried out for the St. Louis Cardinals as a pitcher, has done deepsea diving, and is currently teaching a school for divers. Has brushed elbows - er fins - with sharks and other deadly denizens of the deep. Has explored sunken hulls fathoms below the ocean's surface, and is even now planning a search off the Golden Gate for a sunken treasure ship in the not too distant future. The bottom of our San Francisco Bay is as familiar to him as a baby's to a maternity nurse,



if you'll pardon the simile - the only one which comes to mind.

No date has yet been set for the wedding.



"PUT THE TONNEAU COVER ON . . . THOSE WERE MY VERY WORDS!"

TOWN & COUNTRY RALLY



When we were urged to accept editorship of this scandal sheet almost a year ago we considered a Club paper rather unnecessary. It was pointed out, however, that the printing of upcoming events for those unable to attend the monthly meeting . . . and the description of such goings-on for the benefit of members who couldn't participate . . . was certainly a utilitarian function. But the way recent events have been unattended, we wonder if we are getting the message across.

You've all heard murmurings such as, "the Club is getting too social" or "why don't we have more rallies?" With a certain bloc pointedly remaining away from so-called "social" affairs, the Activities people became concerned, setting up a couple of rallies to go with recent Sunday tours. The same bloc remained away. What's more, many of the dependable "regulars" stayed away, too. All of which clearly indicates two things. One, we are definitely a social group, and, two, we don't really have a competition-minded section at all, merely members who are dissatisfied with this year's regime and are taking every opportunity to criticize. Finding fault is easy. We are a young Club, and we're still making mistakes. But a good member will realize this and patiently help to improve it, not remain in the background and carp.

The recent Winery Tour was well attended, although only one rally-type member participated. Bob Growden had made six trips to the Krug Winery just to work the bugs out of the rally feature, labor totally unnecessary for an ordinary Sunday Tour.

Two weeks ago a Time & Distance Rally enticed but eight Birds and one MG, but four of the Birds manned checkpoints, etc. Andy Larsen had gone over the route four times beforehand - for the benefit of one rally nut who showed up. Guess who felt like the nut that day.

Luckily for the Activities people, we have a good core of members who will come out for everything, regardless of

whether it's something they like or not. We need more people who feel this way. It must be terribly discouraging to hard workers like Andy and Bob when so many show their apathy by remaining away. Insofar as we are concerned, anyone mentioning the subject of rallies very soon again will give us an acute case of proctalgia. Are we getting across?

Those who went to the Marin Town & Country Club - bet you thought we had forgotten the title of this article - had a wonderful relaxing day. Every conceivable type of outdoor entertainment was available and the day was warm. But our piece-de-resistance was ogling the guys and dolls (especially the latter) from the cast of "Oklahoma" who were there enjoying a day off. Fifteen or twenty of them were dancing, swimming and just plain rubbing - er, elbows with the likes of us. We wouldn't know about you, but we ordered our tickets to "Oklahoma" the next day.

As for the Rally proper, Paul Tanzillo won that, with his buddy Ken Keyser but one second off in time. Appropriate awards will be engraved and sent them shortly.

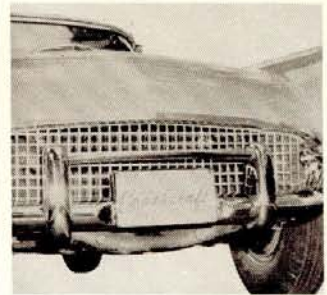
We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Growden for carrying on so valiantly during Andy's recent operation and convalescence.

IMPORTANT!

Portions of our By-laws will be up for revision at the Sept. meeting. Under discussion will be such items as mandatory annual dues, degree of body modifications permissible, and - the four-passenger Thunderbird matter. If you have strong convictions on any of these, hadn't you better be there?

BIRDLAND
BADINAGE

The trip to Las Vegas, tentatively set for October 24 and 25, is still under consideration. However, the management of the Thunderbird Hotel insists that a representative of our Club come to L.V. to complete arrangements. Anyone going to Vegas in the next few weeks? . . . Max and Blanche Semler wrecked their Bird while on vacation in Oregon - and speedily bought another '57 . . . Up for sale is the Volpatti Bird. It's a slightly customized '57 going for only \$2700. Donna Brooks knows a ladybird with another '57 to sell. Has all the power extras - and air-conditioning. She wants \$3100 . . . Don't overlook this coming Sunday's trip to Columbia (8/23). Columbia was once the richest and most colorful camp of the Mother Lode and is now in the throes of restoration . . . Art Horsfall's Used Car Lot is doing so well that he had to take a leave of absence from Cirimele Ford. Congratulations, lad. We can always say, "We knew him when..."

THUNDERBIRD
ACCESSORIES

BUMPER GUARD

Are you envious of those other Birds in the Club - the two or three - which don't have dented grilles or grille moldings? Is your Bird forever being backed into by lumbering Detroit iron in parking situations? Then this beautiful new item is just for you. It's a front bumper guard made especially for Thunderbirds by Coachcraft, 9015 Santa Monica Blvd, Hollywood 46, and sells for \$25 with freight prepaid if check or money order accompanies order. Be sure to specify year of your Bird.

The upright sections are available singly (without the cross-bar), for either front or rear bumpers at \$8 each.



CLUB JACKETS

All our accessory items this month are beautiful. After you've feasted your optics on the lovely above, focus them on the garment she is wearing. It's a reasonable facsimile of the jacket being offered BATOC members (for \$11). Larry Farrell is a committee of one taking orders. If you'd like yours ready in time for Reno, the deadline is September 1st, but it'll take a deposit of at least \$5 to set the needles in motion. Jacket will have T-Bird emblem across the front, and your name in script if you like.

(Why doesn't somebody give this girl a T-Bird and get her in the Club?)