

"What's New in BIRD-LAND?"

Volume 2, Number 1

January, 1959

ACTIVITIES REPORT

.....by ANDY LARSEN

The new regime of the BATOC was officially inaugurated at Art's Buffet on December 12th. Following a few cocktails and a steak dinner we were all party to a most sentimental affair. Outgoing President Skip Riggs introduced his 1958 officers one by one, giving each a vote of appreciation for his efforts, and then Skip himself received a trophy from President-elect Don Brooks as a token of our esteem for all of the blood, sweat and tears he had put into founding the Bay Area Thunderbird Owners' Club. Following the presentation of the gavel to Don Brooks, guest-speaker Don French of the Oakland Tribune took over, regaling all present and our editor especially (Don threw out some gags from "Birdland"). Following the dinner, Bennie Carroll and yours truly played the part of Santa Clauses and dispensed presents to the members. Much fun and frivolity were had by all, and we understand many members gravitated to other night spots and celebrated until daylight.

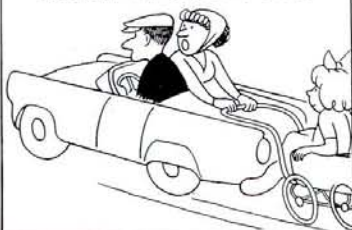
Rocking and rolling to the Frank Ficker Combo set the pace for the Brooks' New Year's Eve affair. Their penthouse will never be the same. Early in the evening Don reminded that it was then 12 o'clock in New York, and if he missed any borough over 25,000 population, I didn't know it. And after the new year had arrived in San Francisco, Don began to select islands in the Pacific. Our thanks to host and hostess for a very enjoyable evening. This time we understand no member had to be swept out with the cigarette butts the following morning.

More details on our ski tour scheduled for next month . . .

Leave Friday night, February 27 at 8:00 p.m. Each person to furnish own sleeping bag. Ski equipment can be rented at most sporting goods stores in the Bay Area. Jim Ellis Sports Shop, 5773 Foothill Blvd., is quite reasonable.

Hog jowls, sowbelly and chitlins will be imported for the occasion. The cook was deported for non-payment of dues, so K-P rations will be the order of the day. The cost? \$1.50 per person a night for the lodge and about 50¢ per meal for fodder. Custodian of the lodge will bring the food supply.

"ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME WE BOUGHT A BIGGER CAR?"



ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- JAN. 25 - JACK TAYLOR'S "WEDDING OF THE ARTS", Happy Valley Inn, Lafayette. Times: 2 to 6 and 7:30 to 11.
- JAN. 27 - Activities/Membership Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m., The Penthouse, 2438 - 35th Avenue, Oakland. BATOC is your Club, so come and give us ideas for events to schedule during the coming year.
- JAN. 31 - DeMOLAY PARADE. If you weren't one of those lucky enough to squire a queen at the Parade of Lights, you surely won't want to miss this one. Larry Doan's the chap to contact - Phone TH 3-1470.
- FEB. 3 - GENERAL MEETING, 7:30 p.m. - Art's Buffet, 4031 Broadway, Oakland. Board meeting precedes - at 6:30 p.m.
- FEB. 6 - FRIDAY NIGHT RALLY (Open) - Three hours, rain or shine. Bob Perry is Rallymaster. Phone YELLOWSTONE 4-2109.

RALLY PENDING

On Friday, February 6th, the first Rally of the new year will be staged. It's a three hour rally open to sports, imports and stock cars, laid out with the following thoughts in mind:

- To provide a fair challenge to the experienced rallyist.
- To assist the novice in gaining the necessary experience for longer, more difficult events.
- To provide you, the driver, with a few hours' car fun.
- To make a little money for the Club.

There are no tricks or gimmicks to confuse you. It's a straight time and distance contest beginning at 7:30 p.m. from Rheems Center, Moraga. Entry fee of \$1.50 per car is being charged and awards go to the first three places.

- Bob Perry, Rallymaster

A SAD TALE

*Here lie the bones of Felia Frump,
She drove too fast and struck a bump,
Wrapped her Thunderbird 'round a
stump -
Remains are in the city dump.
The Bird, that is, not Mrs. Frump.*



MEMO from MEMBERSHIP

by MARALEE HOUSTON

CONGRATULATIONS to new members Blanche and Max Semler of 85 Mirabel Ave., San Francisco (Phone VA 4-2527). We suggest you add this information to your membership list. We now have 43 cars and 66 people in the Club. Blanche and Max, we are sorry we didn't see you at our January meeting. Missed you.

Our new Vice-President, Dick Staples, announced at the last membership meeting the following positions for the membership board:

Membership Chairman . . . MaraLee Houston
Financial Secretary . . . Rosemarie Volpatti
Recording Secretary . . . Clo Bueno
New Membership Committee:

Guest Cards &

Applications . . . Rosemarie Volpatti

Hostess . . . Faye Edwards

Guest Book . . . Doris Carroll

Name Badges . . . Lorraine Lewis

Technical Committee:

Chairman . . . Bill Houston

Assistants . . . Bob Growden and

James Prichard

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

It has been agreed that the Membership and Technical Committees will hold their monthly meeting on the same night and along with the Activities Committee. The place? Don & Donna's Penthouse, 2438 35th Ave. (Please, don't put your car in the private parking area in the rear of the apartments.) The Membership meeting begins at 8 sharp. Each committee may sit in on the other meetings if they so desire. January 27th is the time.

ATTENTION, '55, '56, and '57 THUNDERBIRD OWNERS . . . You are cordially invited to attend any one of our Club activities and/or business meetings. The latter are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Art's Buffet, 40th and Broadway, Oakland, 7:30 p.m. For activity dates see the

Activities Calendar on the first page of this publication. For further information regarding the Club and how to join it please call me, MaraLee Houston, LO 2-4447, after 5:30 p.m.

HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?

We would like to wish the following members a Very Happy Birthday:

JANUARY

1/19 Bill Houston

1/21 Doris Carroll

FEBRUARY

2/7 Bev. Staples

2/16 Larry Farrell

2/22 George Rudy

CHANGE OF ADDRESS SECTION:

Skip and Mid Riggs, 1343 Jenkinson, Concord, phone MU 5-1580.

WELL, LOOK WHO'S HERE!

Those members who entered *Ye Olde Happy Valley Rallye* as contestants will remember the personnel supervising checkpoints 1 and 5 - that is, those of you who found checkpoints 1 and 5. The one minute lay-over period revealed the very efficient father-son team of Koonce Senior and Junior busy at their tasks.



Joe was born in Kinston, North Carolina on August 15th, 1922. Joe spent his childhood in Kinston but at 15 left to join the noteworthy ranks of that now defunct governmental organization, the Civilian Conservation Corps.

In 1942 Joe entered the ranks of another federal institution, the U. S. Navy. Joe claims that the only interesting things that happened during his Navy service cannot be published. (Depends upon whom you are talking to, Joe.) Although modest about his tour of duty, it is noteworthy that he visited most of the theatres, particularly the Pacific arena where he was a member of the Navy Underwater Demolition team.

While sauntering around Norfolk, Va., Sailor Koonce encountered Louise, a young miss he had been acquainted with during his youth in Kinston. Altho he had no premonition of events to follow, this chance meeting was a fateful step in the life of our Mr. K. Two years later, Joe and Louise made their nuptial vows in Kinston.

In 1945 Sailor Koonce was promoted to Civilian Koonce at Camp Schumaker, Calif. Then, as a bird in flight, it was off to the East as a civilian employee of the U. S. Navy and Marine Corps. Six years of gentle persuasion were required, but another C.C.C. - the California Chamber of Commerce - finally lured Joe and Louise to our state and permanent residence in Oakland.

Joe is currently a machinist for Fischerberg while Louise is employed by Builders Exchange in Oakland. Altho details are scarce, and possibly confidential, the birth of the Nautilus was aided by the talents of our own Mr. Koonce.

His chief interests are his family, chi-

- Continued on page 3

GIGANTIC CLEARANCE
SALE

All Must GO!

SPECIAL PRICED TO CLEAR. PIPE
RACKS AND LOW RENT MAKE
THIS AMAZING SACRIFICE POSSIBLE

This ad could appear in your local papers. And soon. Just as soon as you make a small effort to clear out your used, misused, unused and discarded objects. Nothing rejected.

That which is portable bring to the next meeting. That which isn't, call Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Staples or Mr. B. S. Brown and then arrangements will be made to transport your goods to the proper place.

Do it now and the sale can be planned soon. Postpone your good intentions and the sale is off. Then the treasury will be empty and the poor helpless officers of the BATOC will again hound you for money.

- Richard Staples

And don't think he doesn't mean it! Those in attendance at the January meeting will recall that Dick and Larry Farrell, the new Treasurer, accosted all present who were in arrears in their dues, and ended up \$68 richer by the end of the evening. If you are slightly behind, better settle up with Larry soon as the by-laws state that a member 90 days behind is automatically dropped from membership.

Why not take advantage of the "cut rate" special offered of only \$10 for the ensuing 12 months by paying your dues in advance?

HEARSAY by HORSFALL

Hi, fellow Bird Brains! How nice to be up here in the crow's nest for a change instead of the bird's nest. Now I'm looking on.

We are going through festive and rainy spells and functions in comparison have been few and far apart. This is when the real backbone of the membership must keep the Club together. Hold out through the worst of this winter until the weatherman turns us birds loose again. We have had nine months of trial and error. Help us to stay organized during this lull so we can all be together doing the things we enjoyed so much last year. Don't stray - STAY!

Let's all get behind our officers and chairmen and help them work up more and better attractions. And when we go, let's ALL GO! Everyone together can have a heck of a swell time, but a small turnout is so disheartening after so much work planning an activity.

Our new P.O. Box No. is 2734, Dimond Station, Oakland. Write in (or phone) your ideas of what you'd enjoy and where. Our newest members are very enthusiastic about the Club. Let's give them just cause.

When spring breaks and all young men's fancy turns to driving Thunderbirds (alias), let's have at least 50 ready and anxious members on hand to prove we're the best Club in Northern California.

- Art Horsfall

YOU can
develop a stronger
HE-MAN
VOICE!

BE A "SOMEBODY"

Command attention . . . compel women to do your bidding. Have a voice that speaks with character . . . excite mobs. Don't envy the fellow with the Stentorian blast that can shake walnuts out of a tree.

TRAIN YOUR VOICE
AT HOME...PRIVATELY

Any normal voice can be strengthened by adding Lew Edwards Special Driveway Gravel to the breakfast cereal. Phone Timbuctoo 6-9966 and if a woman's voice answers, hang up, for you've dialed the wrong number. Even Faye sounds like Tallulah Bankhead.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

by DON BROOKS

As the days dwindle away we are drawing near the end of my first month's administration as President of the finest Club to be found anywhere in this vast land. And part of my duty I find is to put forth a word or two in our monthly Birdland for all to digest, provided, of course, you have the stamina.

Usually it's expected of the President to congratulate those members deserving it for tasks performed for the Club's enjoyment. This prescribed task, in a dignified and regal manner (per Little Butterball's husband) with all good and sincere intent is what I am trying to do. However, in a sports car/social club such as ours where do you begin? How does one separate one member who has devoted time and energy toward a club project from another who has devoted time and energy toward the same goal?

The Good Book says that King Solomon faced a similar task and I think he would

SMORGASBORD

The very first event of the New Year and the new regime was carried out by the hard-working ladies of the Club to a fabulous \$ucce\$\$! The Smorgasbord Dinner on January 10th was attended by more than 80 T-Birders and friends plus a smattering of MG and other sportscar-minded people. With the viands being donated by members and labor by the afore-mentioned gals, each serving sold added a buck to the anemic treasury. Sale of beer and soft drinks on the side augmented the take to nearly \$100, by far the best money-raising event we've ever put on.

As one who will never forget the price of giving his lady love the full treatment, gastronomically speaking - pâté de foie gras, champagne and caviar on a National Guard private's salary (and living on corn flakes and water and cobbling my own shoes for six months after each date) - we long ago joined forces with kindred spirits advocating the smorgasbord/hamburger type of banquet on dates. The Society of Big Livers and Small Spenders this group was called, or SOBLASS for short. Some folks, especially girls, shortened it still further by using just the first three initials.

But we digress. Now you can see why we were so pleased when the Club decided on a smorgasbord to start off the New Year, getting off the Steak Dinner kick for a change. Oh, Steak Dinners are fine, only why do we always have to hold ours on a Friday? In case you didn't know it, fish prepared by a restaurant which serves steak as a specialty, tastes like a warmed over girle.

But again we digress. Isn't it nice to read a good financial report for once!

"Hot Lips" Andy Larsen made a New Year's resolution to get the Club back in the red (his joke again). Just to help him along, we now have new stationery printed up with a "professional" mailing address, viz., P.O. Box 2734, Dimond Station, Oakland 2. But those of you who wish to continue firing letters of protest to the Editor should use the San Francisco address as before.

have handled my problem today by asking each of you to take a Thunderbird membership list and study each name carefully, for every person on this list is to be congratulated. For they are all the workers, the doers, the lovers of the Thunderbird who make our club the success it is.

JOE KOONCE

-Continued from page 2

huhua and golf, concerning which he manfully swallows the bitter vetch and admits, "I'm lousy!"

Joe became a welcome addition to our early list of charter members when he took the suggestion placed on his windshield by the indefatigable Faye Edwards and attended a BATOC meeting. Has been with us ever since; a valuable and worthy member. - Dail Moffett

Do you have any particular member whose life story you believe would be interesting, or who seems to be less well known than he or she should be? Or would you like us to print your own tale in this column? Drop your Editor the word. We'd like to hear from you.

WHO'S WHO IN BIRDLAND

Shortly after Christmas a member in good standing was seen on 14th Street in a 190L Mercedes . . . Several members of the Club had a unique party invitation to a lighthouse. They were taken for a 20-minute boat ride on picturesque moonlit San Pablo Bay. At the lighthouse a boom was lowered and boat (complete with scared passengers) was lifted 20 feet to the dock. Although all arrived safely, one lady took several hours to recover. Much fun and frolic had by all . . . Someone is 'way out ahead at breaking the most balloons and someone else has to have a silk petticoat in order to wipe his glasses. All pictures taken should be gassers . . . Many Club members found themselves at the same New Year's party. Wow, what a party! The Club has discovered a new 3 piece band destined to go places - other parties. Also a very artistic hula dancer . . . Who do you suppose wanted to go swimming in the Brooks pool at 2:00 a.m.? . . . Over in a corner three gents played cards, missing all the fun . . . At least two members are going on a diet. Maybe all this carousing helped bring on this drastic action . . . Who ever heard of a tree jumping out in front of a Thunderbird? Deepest sympathy to a wounded bird . . . Who's burning the midnight oil in order to outdo that 270 in the Club and all comers? . . . What Board member is on a baby food kick since attending all the holiday parties, especially the one on 35th Avenue? - By A. Nonymus

Thunderbird	
BAY AREA OWNERS CLUB	
DON BROOKS	President
DICK STAPLES	Vice-President
LARRY FARRELL	Treasurer
MARALEE HOUSTON	Corresponding Secretary
EDNA NEISS	Recording Secretary
ROGER NEISS, Editor 45 Ecker Street, San Francisco, YUkon 2-6268	

IT'S FOR THE BIRDS

BY THE EDITOR

JANUARY MEETING . . .

Our first general business meeting at the new locale - Art's Buffet, Broadway at 40th - was held on January 6th. Thirty-one cars showed up - about 50 members - and everyone we polled thought it one of the nicest meetings yet. Prexy Babbling - er, Don Brooks conducted a brisk and businesslike meeting during the first portion of the evening and then, after a coffee break, produced color/sound movies of past Indianapolis auto races. "The only way Don will ever top this is by having Brigitte Bardot as guest of honor," remarked one pleased member. Well, he may do almost as well. We believe he is scouting around for one of La Belle France's earlier (and unexpurgated) films, so don't miss the February meeting.

Present at this month's meeting were the following prospective members: Rita Torgouitsky, Melvyn Tally (270 engine), Lucy Sanchez, George Surnos, Rich Milani and Margaret Tracy. Acknowledging a penchant for misspelling names, nevertheless we trust they liked the rest of the members enough to overlook your editor's failings.

Past-president Skip produced some T-Bird jewelry for us to order if interested. Manufactured by the indigent Navajo Indians (Don Sherwood, Chief), available at nominal cost are cufflinks, tie clasps and lapel pins for the gals. Take our word for it if you weren't there. These are good enough to order sight unseen. Or give Skip a call.

A letter of resignation from - of all people - George Rudy was read by Don at this meeting, who has too many irons in the sportscar fire to continue activities in two clubs. Don, return the letter marked "unopened" or "no such address". We can't give up such a valuable member. And maybe he has had a change of heart by now (we hope).

A joint Activities/Membership meeting is set for the Brooks habitation on January 27th and all interested members are invited. Remember, you don't have to be on a committee in order to sit in on any Club gathering. And there may even be refreshments!

"Why should I join the Thunderbird Club?"

"Because we've got 30 times more beautiful girls than guys in the Club."

"Gee, that sounds fine. How come?"

"No beautiful fellows."

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE . . .

Donna Brooks, Art Horsfall, Faye Edwards, Pat Nagle, Dick Staples, Dail Moffett, Jack Taylor, Andy Larsen, Bob Perry, MaraLee Houston, Don Brooks.

Sign on a cross-country truck: "This truck stops for all crossroads, railroad crossings, blondes, brunettes, and will back up 20 feet for a redhead."

Art's Buffet

New York and Filet Steak Dinners - \$1.75

4031 Broadway Oakland

POTPOURRI . . .

There is no "Man of the Month" article this month. Matter of fact, nobody did much of a distinguishing nature during December except perhaps in the field of hoisting cup to lip at prevailing holiday parties. Were we to single out a champion for that we couldn't overlook the qualifications of our own little woman whose ability to extract the most cheer from a cup of spirits should go unchallenged. With a cigarette in one hand, a glass of the bubbly in the other, and an attentive ear on the adjoining stool, she can have more fun than people with good brains. Her "proof" as to who wears the pants in the family nearly brought down the house.

Edna got a good scare during 1958, however. She read so much about the tie-in between smoking and cancer that she decided to give up reading for 1959.

Perhaps the word "wine" carried unpleasant overtones so soon after the holidays. In any event, the scheduled Winery Tour for January (called Enigmatic in the December bulletin) was deferred until later in the year.

We're so sorry to learn that Mary Lou Pratt is still ailing. We're sure that you missed this handsome couple from practically all the December partying that went on. Mary Lou had not recovered from the infection which sent her to the hospital in November. In fact, following our December meeting she had to return to the hospital and didn't get out of bed until January 17th. The infection just wouldn't give up. But Russ believes she is finally on the recovery road this time and reports they are camping at the bit to get back into the swing of things.

FLASH - one of the noblest Romans of them all - a charter member, in fact - has capitulated. On the 17th inst. he bought a '59 Thunderbird Convertible from Cirimele

Ford! Others have indicated they were "looking at" a Porsche, Jag or Mercedes, but the Nagles were the first to act. What happens now? The by-laws specifically debar 2-seated Thunderbirds. We're sure glad we don't have to make a decision on this and at the same time pleased that they chose Thunderbird so long as they were determined to buy a new car. This leaves their 1956 olive colored soft-top for sale, by the way. You all know what a dream car it is. Won first place the only time it was entered in a concourse (Lake Merritt 1958). Dick wants \$2600 for it with wire wheels, and \$2400 with other wheels. Give him a call (TE 2-3866) if you'd like to acquire this beaut.

Jack Taylor heads our new Publicity committee, and has selected as assistants Donna Sell (what an appropriate name for a publicity gal!), Rich Volpatti and Dail Moffett. All appointees were "drafted", but accepted willingly.

"WEDDING OF THE ARTS"

The BATOC is sponsoring Jack Taylor's music festival called "Wedding of the Arts" on the 25th at Happy Valley Inn in Lafayette. In addition to the Jack Taylor Quartet will be several other musical combos, vocalists, and exhibitions by artists Alex Loomis, Jack Wilson and other Bay Area illustrators. This is a benefit to raise funds to present jazz to high schools and colleges. To make it possible for more people to attend, two complete performances are offered - 2 to 6 and 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Contribution is \$1.50 and our Club realizes 10% from each admission sold.

If you ever drove up to the Associated Station at Coolidge and MacArthur you must have thought Larry Farrell was leading a double life. It is run by Larry's brother who looks so much like him you want to pay him your dues. Drop by sometime to gas up. He's a nice guy and will give you a square deal.

MADAME DE L'AUTO...by Francoise

From Paris we have the new short hemline. Mesdames, get out your needle and thread. The new hemline is only one inch below the knee.

Another popular creation comes to us from the fashion experts of 'Gay Paree'. This is the 'Empire Look'. No wardrobe is complete without a black empire sheath dress. This dress with a smart tweed skirt and soft orlon sweater would be ideal for those overnight tours with the auto club.

For that trip to the snow you will enjoy a pair of black or red leg-o-tards. The new leg-o-tards are not only warm but also solve the old problem of slipping and twisting that you had with the knee stockings. These are very attractive under your wool Bermuda Shorts. Try it and see for yourselves.

Letters

I use the word "Dear" only because I know no other way to begin a letter. If the type used in the December paper was any bigger than before, I failed to see it. In fact, I even failed to see the lousy bulletin until I put binoculars on it and I got eyes like a hawk.

(Sd) Weakeyes Yokum

You could call me "Mr. Neiss", pronounced "Nice" (the similarity being appropriate) - with the "e" being silent like the "g" in bologna (the similarity ending there).

Last month's bulletin DID have larger type - 5% larger, according to the actual camera setting. Apparently your problem is to improve your hawk-like eyesight. With this end in mind we are reprinting below an ad from a high-class 15c pulp magazine. May we suggest that you invest the \$3.98 recommended and be able to read every word in "Birdland". One member (Edna M.) even professes to enjoy it.

- Ed

TECH TIPS by BILL HOUSTON

How would you like to be able to do your own repair work? If you would, then you should obtain a "Shop Manual" for your particular model year in which every mechanical feature of your car is delineated. The manual covers everything from changing a wiper blade to dismantling a hardtop. Each volume has over 500 pages and is just full of lucid drawings and photographs. Most of us T-Birders are the sort who do not want callous, unfeeling outsiders tinkering with our pets. And even when time or equipment prohibit doing the work yourself, you like to know how it should be done.

This volume costs about \$3.00 and is obtainable from:

HELM FOUNDATION,
Ford Publications Dept.,
3000 East Jefferson Street,
Detroit 7, Michigan

Everybody seems to be having trouble with leaks these rainy days. Contrary to accepted opinion, there are a few things to be done about this in addition to rolling up the trousers and trying to dodge the larger drops. By loosening the little Allen set screws in the clamps you may find that a turn or two of the clamp will force the top down snugger against the windshield header and body. Then too, the rubber weatherstripping that goes around the doors is often in a sad state. This item can be replaced through your Ford dealer and you can do the work yourself with the aid of a tube of special cement sold by all auto supply stores. Note: this rubber moulding is not one continuous piece; the points where they butt together must be sealed carefully by the adhesive.

Skip Riggs comes up with a handy hint to make this rubber last indefinitely. At night he leaves his doors closed to the first catch only, i.e., slightly ajar, so as not to flatten the rubber unnecessarily.

And Art Horsfall provides the clincher. Guaranteed to keep the T-Bird rug dry is his trick of taking it out and putting it in the house until spring. Thanks, Art.

READING GLASSES THAT MAGNIFY

WEAR THEM ON 10-DAY TRIAL FREE (includes special chemical cloth to clean glasses quick.)

Here's good news for those who can't read Thunderbird bulletins. NOW YOU CAN READ SMALL PRINT! Throw away your present old-fashioned prescription lenses because these precision spectacles give you a magnifying glass for both eyes at the same time.

NOW! PRECISION GROUND GLASSES ONLY \$3.98

LAST RESORT OPTICAL COMPANY
Box 1234, Cincinnati 567, Ohio

WITH THUNDERBIRD'S MARRIAGE TO THE GALAXIE THIS YEAR DOES IT MEAN THAT ALL EARLIER MODELS ARE ILLGITIMATE?



"What's New in BIRD-LAND?"

Volume 2, Number 2

February, 1959

ACTIVITIES REPORT

by ANDY LARSEN

With our first Rally Seminar under our belts I see where I have to get my old math book out and do a little studying. We were happy to see so many members interested in improving themselves in this rally game. Don (Seat-of-the-Pants) Brooks thinks he's doing great if he finishes a rally - the heck with winning it.

The first thing to remember is never to take your wife or best friend along as navigator. Your wife will divorce you and the friend will become your worst enemy.

Upon finding that you're lost the best thing to do is head for the nearest bar for a cool one and sooner or later Dick Nagle - I mean the rest of them - will wander in and find you. Which is a quote from Mr. Tallulah Edwards.

Reading your rally instructions carefully so you'll know whether to turn right or bear right is another point Bob Perry brought out. Using a slide rule isn't as difficult as it looks in measuring time and distance after Bob explained it. Most of us are eagerly anticipating these Friday nighters.

On January 31st the DeMolay Motorcade through most of the East Bay proved a very cool outing. With a pretty girl and escort your fellow-members were able to show off their cars to good advantage. This Motorcade was the longest yet for our Club. Starting at Lake Merritt it progressed through downtown Oakland to Berkeley, back to MacArthur Blvd. and out to 90th Street. We were all happy to

see Russ Pratt come out of seclusion and to learn that his pretty little wife is much better - finally.

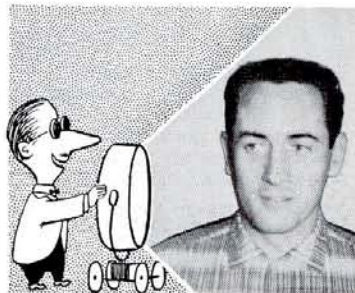
On February 5th Checkpoint personnel met with Bob Perry at Larsen's pad for final instructions for the Rally on the 6th. On Friday, the 6th, the first car was out at 8:30 p.m. I was at the first checkpoint, wondering when that car would show up. Where could Brownie be? The average wasn't bad, though. 50% finished. The Farrells came traipsing in two hours after the others. Maybe he had to work late.

The results found the Brookses lugging home the hardware, even if he didn't really try. Donna was navigator, too; so far no hint of divorce. (Imagine having that delectable morsel being offered up as bachelor bait!) Our friend, Don Marchy and gal-pal Linda, came in second, and in an (ugh) Corvette, at that. This was Don's first rally and probably won't be his last.

Bill and MaraLee Houston didn't get lost this time. Came in third, in fact!

Not much of February left as you read this, for one reason and another. But be sure to scan the Club Calendar on this page anyway. Attend the March meeting if you possibly can and learn the details of the events that rascal Larsen has conjured up for March and April. Big things are being cooked up in the lad's fertile mind.

THE BIRDLAND SPOTLIGHT IS ON



LARRY DOAN

Plagiarizing a title from the Reader's Digest, our profile this month concerns a young bachelor charter member of the Bird-Nest, who is the Most...Unforgettable...and believe it, a Character.

A native Californian, Larry Doan was born in Alturas when T was a model and not a Bird. His family moved to San Francisco in 1932 when Larry was one year old. Even then he possessed an independent spirit, but he came along, as the family ties were still strong.

Again, the family moved when Larry was five. This time the move took them north to Oregon. (It is suspected that the folks hoped to cool him down a bit when the rains came.)

The usual childhood, and escapades of youth, some on the ranches of Eastern Oregon where he spent his summers, brought Larry to adulthood at which time he answered the call of his country. He spent a three-year hitch in the Coast Guard, taking his boot training at Government Island in Alameda. With memories of his childhood haunts somewhat dimmed by the years, Larry quickly found new ones, which strengthened his resolve to some day return.

Larry attended Electronics Technician School in Groton, Connecticut, served in various areas and capacities, and was discharged (honorably) as an ET2, in 1954.

Two years of college followed, with emphasis on Electrical Engineering. The call of the home state then became too great, plus the desire to try his wings in an area somewhat more exciting than the home town of Portland.

Larry returned to the Bay Area in the

- Continued on next page

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- FEB. 27** - 3-DAY SNOW TRIP -- Snow conditions are the greatest right now!
- MAR. 3** - GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING -- Art's Buffet, 40th & Broadway, Oakland - 7:30 p.m. Board meeting precedes, at 6:30.
- MAR. 8** - WINERY TOUR -- Meet at Jack London Square 8 a.m. Three or four wineries are on the itinerary, followed by lunch. Back to J. London Square for Pizza.
- MAR. 22** - PHOTO RALLY - This one's a real gasser. Don't miss it. First group out at 8:30 a.m. Come to the Alameda Shopping Center on Park Street.

MEMO from MEMBERSHIP

by MARALEE HOUSTON

CONGRATULATIONS to our three new members, Gene Andrade, 2054 Alameda Ave., Apt. C, Alameda (LA 3-8508); Margaret L. Tracy (Tracy), 137 Kendall Rd., Walnut Creek (YE 5-3790); and Melvin L. Talley (Corky), 1015 Morrison Canyon Road, Niles (SY 3-2964). Don't forget to add their names and addresses to your membership list. We now have 46 cars and 67 people in our club.

Suggest you make the following correction on your address list:

Jack Enright, 3292 Withers, Lafayette
(no phone)

Thanks go to Art and Maxine Horsfall for submitting the most prospective names for January, '59 (four). Don't forget to call LO 2-4447 and submit the names of your prospects so I can send them a paper. Like to say how nice it was to see the following guests at our February business meeting and hope we see a lot more of them in the future:

Jack Bras Maxine Nunes Jim Postich
Chuck Bras Richard Milani Jay Stewart
Rita Torgovitsky

30- 60- 90-DAYS DELINQUENCY

As some of you already know, we are sending out 30, 60 and 90-day due notices to those behind in their dues. If you are one of those to receive such a letter, be sure to act upon it immediately so we won't have to send the follow-up. The 90-day notice will be the final one and if you don't respond then your name will be brought before the Board of Directors for action to cancel your membership. If this paragraph hits YOU, your cooperation will be appreciated so that such action need never be taken.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In order to join our club you must have a Guest Card signed at three club functions (two socials and one general business meeting) within a two months period of time. If you have had guest card signed in accordance with the above we suggest you then come to our next Membership and Technical Committee meeting (the last Tuesday of each month) at the Brooks home, 2438 - 35th Ave., Oakland, for car and insurance inspection. If you haven't got a Guest Card, you may get one at any club affair - or there will be one attached to the third copy of the club paper for your convenience. If we don't hear from you following the third paper we will assume you are not interested in joining the club and your name will be dropped from our mailing list. (Remember - the Membership and Technical group meets the last Tuesday

of each month.)

ACTIVE MEMBERS TAKE NOTICE:

We had only 24 cars present at the February meeting. Twenty-four out of 46 is not too good a turnout - let's see more of you at the March meeting. Don't forget - "TOGETHERNESS" makes the Club.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

March
6 Clara Johnston
23 Attilio Rossi
27 B. S. (Brownie) Brown

If your name doesn't appear it's because I don't have your birth date. But I would like to - so hop to it and let me have your natal day before it's too late.

NEW CLUB MEMBER



On February 2nd our membership was swelled by the addition of 8 lb. Lisa Loren Staples who entered this vale at 4 a.m. Impatient Lisa missed her mommie's birthday by only five days (Feb. 7). All are doing fine. (Except your Editor. Did Dick *have* to give out the cigars at the General Meeting?)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

by DON BROOKS

From Up Here on the Limb I Would Like to See . . .

Someone winning a Concours d'Elegance besides Skippy . . . An American Rally between Thunderbirds and Corvettes (strictly seat-of-the-pants, of course) . . . Art and Maxine getting to make that trip to Europe, buying a 160 Mercedes, being active as a member of the Board of Directors, and working as a Chevrolet salesman . . . More than eight members on a rally . . . Some interest in the films I break my neck getting to show at our General Meetings . . . Contributors to "Birdland" getting their articles in early so Roger Neiss won't get gray hair . . . Dwight Johnston without a mustache and more hair topside . . . A Thunderbird station wagon for expanding families . . . Bev Staples not pregnant . . . Jack Taylor playing Chopin (I would much prefer Tschaiowsky but I can spell Chopin) . . . Some place to put the front license on our Birds . . . Ben Bueno with a muddy Bird or even dusty once in awhile . . . Membership Committee paying attention to the Activities Committee in their joint meeting . . . A Miss Thunderbird sponsored by the Club in the Miss Oakland Pageant . . . A Thunderbird participating in an auto cross . . . Lars Larsen with a girl friend . . . Bob Perry receiving recognition for all the work he does on our rallies . . . More than eight members on a rally (that's twice) . . . Bert Brown laughing . . . MaraLee Houston mad . . . Skip Riggs not talking . . . Mid Riggs period . . . Jack Enright and Rosemary Hallum with Jack Taylor and Donna Sell on a double date - in one Thunderbird! . . . Joe White drinking something besides brandy . . . Dick Nagle drinking milk . . . A Corvette that won't melt in the sun . . . More members like Bob Growden . . . Trees as lovely as a poem that Rich Volpatti can hit . . . Owen Lewis bald . . . Sue Ranley as an active member . . . Someone giving Dail Moffett pills for his nerves . . . 46 members on a rally . . . 46 members at a social . . . Nobody

showing up for the general meeting . . . More joint activities . . . Less cliques . . . Roy and Paula Shideler at our socials (he's a rally man) . . . Mary Lou Pratt back in the swing of things . . . Joe Koonce connecting with a golf ball (he'd drive it a mile) . . . Lela staying sober at a New Year's party so she can stay til the bitter end . . . Frank Ficker's Dixieland band playing on the Lawrence Welk Show . . . Something I would not like to see . . . Larry Farrell in a crap game with the Club's money . . . More things I would like to see . . . Bernie Carroll and her boyfriend being active (members) . . . Warren and Jackie getting married and moving closer to Oakland . . . Larry Doan with plenty of cars on time for a parade . . . Lew Edwards taking first place at Del Monte Lodge Concours . . . Frenchy Andrade getting up early in the morning . . . one hundred members driving Thunderbirds (big ones or small ones so long as all members like one another as much as I like all of you).

LARRY DOAN - cont.

fall of '57, and is once again a full fledged native son. Currently a draftsman at Shand and Jurs in Berkeley, he does intend to return to the University for his Degree. In the meantime he's busy as Parade Chairman for the Club, and in the multitude of avenues open for a Bachelor with a Bird.

Hobbies of Hi-Fi, skiing and dancing . . . a perfectionist by nature . . . a good-looking guy with a wide interest in the affairs of the world . . . a Bird without a mate . . . these things characterize the profile of the month.

From his aerie high in the Berkeley Hills, ready to wing his way into almost any adventure . . . even romance . . . Larry Doan.

- Glenn Leuning

BAY AREA Thunderbird OWNERS CLUB

DON BROOKS President
DICK STAPLES Vice-President
LARRY FARRELL Treasurer
MARALEE HOUSTON Corresponding Secretary
EDNA NEISS Recording Secretary

ROGER NEISS, Editor
45 Ecker Street, San Francisco, YUkon 2-6268

TRAVEL

PLANNING A SPRING VACATION?

WHY NOT MEXICO?

Many American tourists are spending their vacations down Mexico-way. Many others ask, "Why Mexico?" Speaking as a couple who have driven to Mexico City and Acapulco, we loved it, and plan to go again this spring.

On our last trip we found Mazatlan to have the most of what we wanted. Endless miles of white sandy beaches, moderate weather and low prices. Also excellent sea foods and fruit salads.

We stayed at the newest and best recommended hotel with a private beach extending from three to five miles in length. This is the Hotel Playa Mazatlan. An attractive double room facing the ocean was \$7 per day. Meals ran from 40¢ for breakfast to \$1.60 for a very fancy dinner. Mexican Beer was only 8¢ a bottle and mixed drinks from 20¢ up.

Besides swimming in 72 degree water, there is deep sea fishing, horseback riding and surf boarding. About four hours south of Mazatlan there is a primitive tropical town where the jungle is thick with banana, papaya and mango trees. It also boasts many rare and beautiful birds. The five hour motorboat trip up a winding river from this tropical city called San Blas is a must. The natives live in grass huts and wash their clothes on the rocks at the river bank.

Tentative plans are being made for a 10-day trip the last week of April or first week of May. To go to Mazatlan you have to enter Mexico at Nogales which is just south of Tucson, Ariz. We figure time on the road to Tucson for about 12 hours, and then 14 hours down to Mazatlan. The Owen Lewises and Horsfalls are planning to go down with us. Anyone else interested in joining? For more information, call the Nagles, TE 2-3866.

— Pat Nagle

As Editor of this rag it is our lot to perform many parts. You have doubtless noted we often double as reporter, typesetter, cameraman, artist, and sometimes play Cynthia Grey to those in need of heart balm (the publication is under subscribed). So now let us make like a travel editor and give you our opinion of the seemingly fascinating story of Mexico as described by our friend, Pat Nagle.

Not just because of the trouble U.S. citizens have been having down there of late, we would advise against going to Mexico at present. First off, it costs.

For another thing, it is too hot. Day-time temperatures hover between 70 and 90 degrees, and may even go higher. If you discard your California garb for the shorts and halter get-up, exposure to the merciless sun can result in dark discoloration of the skin. This may even become a deep tan, exceedingly unbecoming when you return to California.

Prices may have gone up some since I was a lad — after all, Mexico was discovered by Spain in the meantime. But in our early days one could get three lbs of sugar, a pound of coffee, a quart of whisky and a wife for \$3 in Mexico. But how good is Mexican whisky?

Should you venture from your motel at all you run grave risk of hosting sand fleas, hook worms and ticks which are lying in wait to sample American flesh. And if you elect to loll about poolside beneath a beach umbrella, your siesta is

quite likely to be disrupted by the stinging sensation in your big toe caused by the 3-inch scorpion which has decided to set up housekeeping on your metatarsal. And this choice character has a playful friend — the tarantula — who gets the tourists the scorpion overlooks. Is this what you want?

But if you are determined to go to Mexico anyway, be very careful what you eat while there. Boil all the water, especially for coffee. (In Nagle's case, he will have to boil his beer.) Mexicans thrive on food that affects a Northerner like a red-hot ramrod thrust through the mouth and on into the nether regions. One bite of native chili can send a tourist to bed for a week. And don't think it is easy to avoid eating chili. What you take to be shredded wheat will have chili impregnated in it. At lunch the meat-loaf is — you guessed it — really chili in disguise. For the main meal you have a choice between enchiladas, tortillas, tostados, chalupas — and chili. To break the monotony you may have pie for dessert — made from tamales! All over the dining rooms of Mexico one can hear muffled screams from tourists who have innocently partaken of native food and are on their way to bed for a week. Is this what you want?

Don't let it happen to you. Don't go to Mexico this spring. Stay here with the rest of us who can't afford to go, either. A leaky top isn't really so terrible.

MADAME DE L'AUTO

by Françoise

Big News! The spring styles will appeal to the men again this year. The sack dress is completely out. The feminine waist will be almost normal. A modified empire with a short jacket is most popular. However, the fancy shirt waist dress and the full skirt are still in style. The House of Dior showed many dresses with large stand-up collars and the sailor-type collar at their spring fashion show.

Blue in all its shades is the foremost color for spring. Running from the very palest shades to navy blue, the favored fabrics are shantung silk taffeta, chiffon and linen.

To have imagination and variety in one's cooking is always in style. The recipe for this month is a tasty hot dish which can be served with any meat.

CORN FONDUE

1 Cup Milk	1 Tblsp. Melted Butter
1 Cup Bread Crumbs	1/2 Tsp. Salt
1 Cup Grated Fresh Cheese	1/4 Tsp. Pepper
1 Cup Corn	Dash Paprika
2 Eggs	Chopped Parsley

Combine the first four ingredients and the egg yolks — fold in the stiffly beaten egg whites. Bake one hour at 324 degrees. This will serve four to six people.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE — Two '56 Birds (formerly owned by Messrs. Pritchard and Owens). Call Art Horsfall, TW 3-4567.

FOR SALE — '55 Bird with Fordomatic. Warren Clark, KE 2-8542).

FOR SALE — Soft Top for T-Bird in excellent shape. Call Bill Laws (Radio KROW) at TEmplebar 2-1655 and make offer.

BABY SITTING — 40¢ an hour. 50¢ per hour after midnight. Telephone Dale Horsfall, ANdover 1-8095.

TRADE — Your car plus ??? for a '57 Bird, Standard transmission and 18,000 miles. Prefer Fordomatic. Art Horsfall — TW 3-4567.

FOR SALE — Convertible Top from the Lewis '56. Nice condition. \$150. Call Owen Lewis (KE 3-7430).

WANTED — White and Black Seat for '57 T-Bird. Call Max or Blanche Semler (VA 4-2522) between 1 and 4 p.m.

QUESTION — Why doesn't some member trade his tired '55 or '56 in on the Nagle Prize Winner? It's still unsold. TEmplebar 2-3866.

CATTLE BARON OR CITY SLICKER?

Herein is member Warren Clarke's decision . . .



Charter member Warren Clark was born in 1937 at Covelo, Calif. Covelo, for those astute club members who are willing to risk themselves and Birds in search of the picturesque by-ways of our state, is located approximately 65 miles north-east of Ukiah in the sparsely settled regions of No. Calif. (Factual data: Covelo, pop. 348 — 1950 census.)

Warren's first conveyance, other than foot, was a horse. In fact, Warren still has a horse — a luxury generally available only to the family possessing two cattle ranches.

Like most young males of our generation, member Clarke acquired an early yen for sports cars. At the age of 14, Warren's grandfather brought him a bright red 1929 Model A Roadster. "It wasn't exactly a sports car, but it was sporty."

Upon graduation from high school in 1955, Warren joined the forces of the State Division of Forestry, fighting fires to help keep California green and golden. Following this, Ranger Clarke worked at the mill of the Crawford Lmbr. Co. for two years. It was then that a seed of unrest began to grow within him. He wanted to see the big city. The urge became unbearable; our hero packed his bags and set course for Oakland.

After spending a month in Oakland he moved to San Rafael, his present residence. He is now employed by H. Koch & Sons Fibreglass Products in Corte Madera, where he spends his time as an inspector on the production line.

Inspector Clarke was now ready to fulfill a second desire. And fill it he did! Most club members are aware of Warren's prize possession; a sharp-looking red T-Bird. (*What about Jackie?* — Ed) Shortly after obtaining the beloved Bird, Warren was asked to join the BATOC by, of all things, a non-member!

Warren and Jackie (*At Last!* — Ed) (Mr. Clarke's main interest) have been regular comers to the club meetings and activities for some time now. It seems incredible considering their present active participation, that Jackie wouldn't even come in from the car the first time this twosome attended a meeting. Apparently our club is blessed with some high calibre salesmen, for Jackie's appearance has been very dependable since that time.

As for Warren's major decision — City Slicker seems to be winning hands down!

— Dail Moffett

When you buy a convertible top on time you really are in debt over your ears.

POTPOURRI . . .

Our apologies to Joe White for neglecting to include this personal item in last month's Birdland. His daughter, Andrea, was married in Pasadena on January 2nd to Richard Selfridge, who just happens to own a T-Bird too. Joe's other daughter, the stunning Mary Lou, was Maid of Honor. Lucky people, they got to see the Rose Parade first-hand while in the Southland.

Well, well. Three more '56 Birds figuratively bit the dust lately. Jim and Joan Prichard traded for a station wagon; The Lewis's for a '59 T-Bird hard top; and vice-president Dick Staples for a new T-Bird convertible. All needed extra space of one kind or another.

When it comes to active members, we will take Frank Ficker over everybody. He accepts each assignment with Grace!

Did you realize Owen Lewis recently underwent surgery on his jaw for cyst removal? Doctors believe this the cause of his temperamental digestive system, rather than ulcers as first diagnosed. Glad to report Owen is well along the road to complete recovery.

Another fine meeting was held on February 3rd, though not so well attended as some. Many interesting subjects were discussed and we are only sorry all of you weren't there to participate. Brother Brooks does a swell job planning and conducting a meeting, and even if he failed to produce Brigitte Bardot, he did come up with Jimmy Stewart in a safe-driving opus entitled, "And Then There Were Four". Too bad some thought it time to call it an evening as the movie began. They missed a thought-provoking commentary on the hazards of everyday driving.

Don wishes to remind any of you who may have taken "home movies" of past Thunderbird affairs to bring their films to one of the monthly meetings for general viewing.

Our thanks to Art's Buffet for use of their main dining room for Club meetings. There has been no charge for this privilege. We just hope our presence has resulted in enough extra business to make it worth their while.

In case you were wondering what happened to the rummage sale pickups a few Sundays back, Dick Staples is an amateur meteorologist and knew it was going to blow up a gale. (It did!) But bring what stuff you can to the March 3rd meeting, at which time another date will be chosen to call for your heavy loads.

CAR ACTING UP?
LET US TUNE AND TEST
IT WITH OUR NEW
**SUN-SCOPE
MOTOR TESTER**

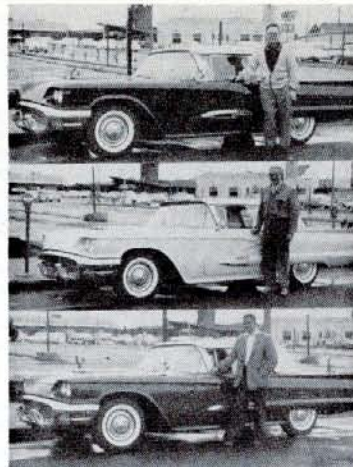
This amazing "electronic detective" quickly locates hard-to-find engine and ignition troubles. Drive in and let us tell you more about it - See it demonstrated on your own car!

**BOB FARRELL'S
FLYING "A"**

KE 2-9266
COOLIDGE & MacARTHUR BLVD.

Those 4-Passenger T-Birds . . .

PROUD OWNERS OF NEW BIRDS



Now we come to perhaps the most important feature of this, the February "Birdland". As most of you already know, we are faced with a weighty decision inasmuch as three of our most cherished members have capitulated and bought new 2-seated Thunderbirds. Since an amendment to the charter was passed only a short time ago, limiting membership to owners of '55, '56 and '57 models, we must now decide whether to rewrite the charter to include ANY Thunderbird, or allow these fine members to leave our club after six months. It's a very tough decision to make, with salient arguments on each side. Your Editor has received many letters pro and con for inclusion in the February "Birdland" - too many, in fact, to include in any one issue. We have selected the smaller ones perforce, so that you may study as many different opin-

ions as possible. Should this matter remain unsettled by the time we prepare the March publication, we will print more of these letters then. The suggestion of Maralee Houston below seems a wise course to follow for the time being, inasmuch as a member remains in the club for six months after parting with his Bird anyway.

A further word seems in order. The Big Decision is not ours individually to make. The entire matter will be in the hands of your duly-elected Board of Officers, viz.: Dick Staples, Edna Neiss, Maralee Houston, Larry Farrell, and the five members of the Advisory Board who collectively share President Don's one vote between them. Now read on, and if it prompts you to write a few words yourself on the issue, please feel free to do so. - Editor

. . . none of us really knows just how it will work out - one way or the other. I'd like to suggest that rather than vote again just now, anyone presently a member who buys a '58 or '59 Thunderbird, remain his six months in the club as per our present Constitution and By-Laws. Then we can see how things work out with a few '58 and '59s in the club, and vote at that time. - Maralee Houston

In 1956 had I wanted a competitive racing car I wouldn't have bought a Thunderbird. I wanted comfort, handling and style. I still want them, and before making a purchase I tried several competitive makes. Again I bought comfort, handling and style - in my '59 Thunderbird.

My feelings toward the Club follow the social trend. I am more proud of this car than I was of my 1956. I just couldn't bring myself to spend money on a three year-old car. Many of you are facing the same problem and ruling out the 4-passenger Bird will knock out half the charter members in the next year. This club is what we hope to be a permanent Thunderbird Club, no matter what the year. We are a group of people who enjoy our cars and each other. We don't want to doom this club to a couple of years - and then inevitable death.

It is clearly defined even by the Ford Motor Co. that all Thunderbirds are personal cars and not sports cars. Those of us who have tried to compete with sports cars know that only too well. I can see no good reason for excluding the new type Thunderbird. Can you???? - Richard Nagle

It is with deep regret that I learn of the defection of some of our most valued members. However, this leaves me with the same feeling I have when reading an obituary notice.

I was one of the members in attendance at a meeting where more than a majority indicated they would never stray from the purpose for which this Club was formed, or fail to remember that our common denominator is a car proudly presented as a competitor with or companion to a sports car.

It is unfortunate that the people of FoMoCo disavowed us as a sports car, first calling the Thunderbird a personal car, then manufacturing a sedan with a Thunderbird label on it. THIS IS THE HEIGHT OF BLASPHEMY! How can we identify ourselves with sports car groups driving busses?

I reiterate - I would deeply regret the loss of any member who strays from the fold, BUT our constitution and by-laws specifically designate the conditions of eligibility for our Club.

I feel it is *presumptuous and most unfair* to those of us who have a dedicated feeling for this "gem" of a car to ask us to make a special provision because of their defection, and I would rather bid them a fond adieu than see the BAY AREA THUNDERBIRD OWNERS CLUB cluttered up with Detroit iron having not the slightest resemblance to the car around which the Club was formed. - Dought F. Johnston

Your Editor regrets being unable to print more of the material submitted on this subject. A paragraph or so was all that had been solicited, but evidently this item inspired all to rise to great heights of oratory. Our apologies to Skip Riggs, Lew Edwards, Dail Moffett, Owen Lewis and Art Horsfall for carrying over their thoughts until next month.



"But I AM car sick. When I look at the new Thunderbirds, then look at ours, I get car sick!"

PARADES

Cooperation from the weatherman provided the Bird Club with the opportunity to participate in two parades during January. The first, on Jan. 17th, was the annual March of Dimes Parade through downtown Oakland with Maj. Gen. William F. Dean as Grand Marshall. Notables from surrounding cities, Queens in their finery, floats and bands, vied with the colorful Birds to make this an outstanding parade, re-emphasizing a worthy and needy cause. Six cars were requested and provided. Special thanks go to Donna Brooks who helped to carry the load in making arrangements.

The second parade was the DeMolay Sweethearts Parade on the 31st. Thirteen cars were requested for this one but only eleven responded, partly due to a misinterpretation as to the date of the parade from a report in a local paper. The event was otherwise successful and the spirit of the members was made manifest by those who dashed down to the meeting place to see if they could be of help, once the misconception as to the date had been cleared.

The combination of beautiful girls, sleek T-Birds with proud owners, and a balmy sunny California morning is one that is hard to beat. The success of the January parades should be auspicious for parades throughout the year.

- Larry Doan

"What's New in BIRD-LAND?"

Volume 2, Number 3

March, 1959

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- MAR. 31 - Activities Meeting at the Brooks Manse, 2438 - 35th Avenue.
- APR. 7 - General Business Meeting at Beppo's, 4130 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 7:30 p. m. Board meeting precedes at 6:30. NOTE THE CHANGE OF LOCALE. Art's Buffet was not available on this particular night, hence the substitution.
- APR. 12 - Piedmont Fashion Parade. Ten cars only. Bachelors, don't rush . . . you're first, after me. Larry Doan, Chairman, TH 3-1470.
- APR. 19 - Hound 'n Hare Rally. This type of rally is all fun, no work (it says here). Luck and good eyesight are all you need. \$1.00 per car. 10:00 a. m. at Rheem Center in Moraga.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

by ANDY LARSEN

By golly, you sure missed a great time if you passed up the Ski Tour to Squaw Valley. Plans for a follow-up snow trip were being formulated even before we had a chance to recuperate from this one.

Departing Oakland in three groups, yours truly was the first to get lost. Bob Groden, Larry and Dottie Farrell, who acted as my navigators, can be replaced. The Ground Cow in Auburn was the first checkpoint, with time out for coffee. Passing over Donner Summit at 1:00 a.m. with a full moon above was a beautiful sight to behold.

Stolen from "The President's Perch": From down here by the curb I would like to see . . . a chain lift to the cabin. Doris warned us not to take any more luggage than we could carry, but I think she could have told us the climb was second only to Mount Everest.

With three hours sleep Friday night, this happy group of pioneers set forth to brave the dangers of the slopes. Silhouetted against the mountain top was a figure - Olympic Games material to be sure. The skill of the pro was evident in his every move as he glided gracefully toward the bottom. This might have been his first run of the day, but you could tell he had it. That was our boy, Gene Andrade. What's this? He's down! WAS he down! Down with a sprained ankle. Gene wasn't seen on the slopes any more but but he was with us in everything else that we did.

A side trip to State Line Saturday night emphasized once more that there is no sure system for beating the tables.

Dottie, the master cook, was unanimously voted Pancake Queen for '59. I pass along this piece of advice. Never distract her when she's working because she wields a mean butcher knife. Man of many talents, Bob Groden displayed his nefarious technique in getting a locked car started. If you're troubled with sunburn, ask Bob what he uses.

Everyone present enjoyed the tour immensely, but we all wished more could have attended. With all the work and time the Activities Committee puts into these events we expect more members to participate.

Start saving your money for our trip to Yosemite at the end of May. Let's get 30 cars for this one. This may well be the biggest event for BATOC in 1959. Don't miss it!

SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN CLUBS MEET

Much interest is being cooked up locally in the upcoming joint rally of the Southern and Northern California Thunderbird Clubs now set for the three-day weekend beginning May 29th. We meet at Yosemite in an event which should prove to be the highlight of the entire year.

The Southern Cal bunch is dedicated to fun and frivolity much as we are, with emphasis being placed on the social aspects of automobiling, rather than competitive sports car maneuvers. They have a few more members than we do - 56 to 40 - and they do allow 4-passenger Birds to join their group. Ray Davis, their fine president, expects fifty cars to make this trip. That's 89% of the membership! We will have to show up with 36 cars to match this enthusiasm. Think we can do it?

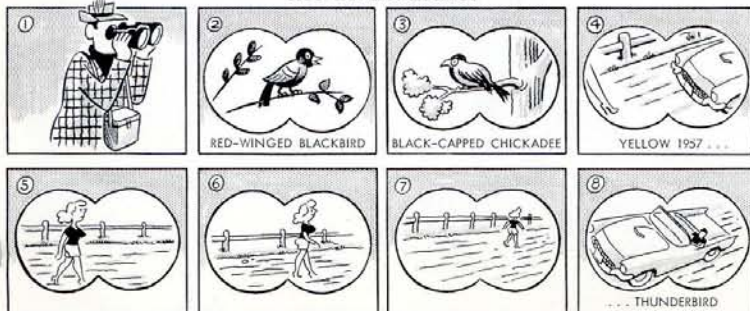
So-Cal makes one or more annual overnight economy runs, gas and oil being donated by interested Ford dealers and gasoline companies. The Yosemite Tour will be such a test for them, providing added interest in the run. Andy Larsen is looking into the feasibility of our doing likewise.

But just in case you and I end up paying all our own expenses as usual, better begin saving up those kopecks now. You will kick yourself from here to Christmas if you miss this one.

Movie stars? We dunno. But pretty girls they do have. We've seen pictures of Doris Shadwick, girl editor of our sister publication, "Tempo", and she'll be worth the trip even if you don't like Yosemite.

More about this Tour next month.

the birdwatcher



RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE

YELLOW 1957 . . .

. . . THUNDERBIRD

MEMO from MEMBERSHIP

by MARALEE HOUSTON

CONGRATULATIONS to our new member, Richard Milani, of 5506 Carlton Street, Oakland. Phone number is OL 5-2134. Suggest you add his name and address to your membership list - especially you single girls.

NEW ADDRESSES:
Melvyn (Corky) Talley, 76 Morrison Canyon Road, Niles, California.
Byron & Paula Shideler, 832 Flint Avenue, Concord, California. Phone MU 5-6649.

We suggest you scratch the following names from your membership list, members who are no longer in our Club for various reasons:

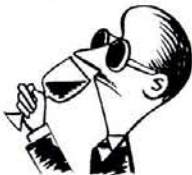
Mary Ellen Johnson Jim & Joan Prichard
Fred Nelson Buzz Hawes
Danny Nieto Jim Siegel
Ron Phillips

We now have 40 cars and 60 people in our Club as of 3/3/59. We had a 3-way tie of members providing the most prospects during February. They are: Don & Donna Brooks, Faye & Lew Edwards, and Rich & Rosemarie Volpatti. Here it is the 6th of March and no one has called with a new name. Let's get on the ball. You too can have your name in our paper. Call LO 2-4447 - man answers, hang up. Eleven names were given during Feb.

IMPORTANT NOTICE PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In order to join our Club you must have a Guest Card signed at three Club functions (two socials and one general business meeting) within a two months period of time. If you have had a guest card signed in accordance with the above, we suggest you then come to our next Membership and Technical Committee meeting (the last Tuesday of each month) at the Brooks home, 2438 - 35th Ave., Oakland, for car and insurance policy inspection. If you haven't got a guest

WINERY TOUR



Hey, how about that Winery Tour! It was just the best attended tour we've ever had, that's what. We counted 24 cars, a remarkable showing when you consider that we have a contingent who just won't go on a tour even if we had Sophia Loren perched in the lead car in the role of Lady Godiva. Whether it was the outstanding weather, or the prospect of potatoes along the way that lured so many, we cannot say. We can say, however, that everybody had a real swell time and nobody got lost except Bob Groden, our hard-working tour leader, who doubled us back and forth over a five-mile stretch of Napa Valley highway until we know it as well now as we know the way to work. Nobody can get mad at Bob, though, and that Italian dinner at the Union Hotel in Occidental which concluded the day left everybody beaming. Mucho gratias to Bob and Andy for a wonderful day!

card you may obtain one at any Club affair - or there will be one attached to the third copy of the Club paper for your convenience. If we don't hear from you following the third paper we will assume you are not interested and your name will be dropped from our mailing list. (Remember - the Membership/Technical group meets the last Tuesday of each month.)

Welcome to the following prospective members: Joseph Gonzales, Paul Guaraglia, Paul Fanzello, Joseph Halbach, Jack & Tillie McNeil, Maxine Nunes, Jay Stewart and J. Trombley.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

April 20 - Richard Staples
April 22 - Ken Jacuzzi

INTRODUCING IN THIS CORNER . . .



. . . A PIANO PRODIGY

Our nutshell biography this month features Rosemary Hallum - a young lady with pronounced musical ability.

Rosemary is a native of Oakland. Obviously she is pleased with the environment offered by the Bay Area - having remained in residence here since birth.

Our Miss Hallum attended the University of California at Berkeley, majoring in English, and managing to claim a bounty of seven scholarships during her undergrad days. (The latter item causing a lump in this reporter's throat.) After graduation, Rosemary continued at Cal for another year as a graduate student in En-

glish and a Teaching Assistant.

It would seem that time hung heavy on the young miss' hands, for she participated in and won, the California State Young Artists Music Contest. One might conservatively state that Rosemary certainly got a running start at the musical profession.

This long-haired pianist (no pun intended) has performed at a number of recitals and benefits. Notable among these are the Redlands Bowl and the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium; over 500 USO, camp and hospital shows; and our own San Leandro Symphony.

By no means is piano Rosemary Hallum's only interest. She enjoys dancing, music, travel, cars, clothes, hi-fi, photography, dating, and men - not necessarily in that order. (Ed, take note! This many-faceted girl has traveled in Canada, Europe and Hawaii; received honorable mentions for her photographic work in several local camera contests . . . in fact, it would seem as though she has run the gamut of activity.

Active Miss Hallum likes automobiles too. (I should hope so!) In passing, it might be mentioned that both of her brothers are sports car enthusiasts - one placed third at the 57 Cobb Mountain Hill Climb in a (shudder) Porsche.

At present, this busy gal teaches kindergarten in Oakland. In her spare time Rosemary tutors piano students and plays on Saturdays and Sundays at a restaurant-cocktail lounge in San Leandro. As to the future, Rosemary speculates either attending San Jose State for a Masters degree, or further world travels. In any case, kindergarten teaching, piano tutoring, and dating will continue.

Rosemary states that she hopes for more leisure time so that she may participate more actively in the T-Bird Club.

All of us echo that sentiment, Rosemary. It's always a pleasure to have your charm grace our meetings and activities.

- Dail Moffett

Then there was the cow that swallowed a bottle of ink and moored indigo.

•••

Many a man has lost control of the car by teaching his wife to drive.

•••



A DECIDUOUS PALFREY

When We Were Young

You know these club members today quite well. The trick is, can you recognize them in these pictures? Clues are given in the picture captions, but if you're not feeling particularly sharp today, the answers will be found elsewhere in these pages.



NAOMI'S SHELTER

MORE ON THE FOUR-PASSENGERS

by LEW EDWARDS

Almost a year ago now we formed our Club. We are people from many walks of life with diversified interests, but we all own the same type of car. We're proud of them and we like to regard them as sports cars. And why not? They look like sports cars and they can perform as well as many of the other sports cars. Certainly, it was this common belief that brought us together.

Beginning in 1958, the Ford Motor Co. ceased manufacture of the original style Thunderbird and began to make an entirely new style of Thunderbird, which should not be belittled for it is a beautiful, high-performing automobile. But it lacks one thing — individuality, for the new Thunderbird is the same as any other Detroit model. It lacks that "sportscariness" that in the beginning brought us together.

So I say, if we wish to remain a sports car club, let us stay the way we are. If not, let's join a Country Club.

— Lew Edwards

by SKIP RIGGS

I have been requested to speak on my favorite subject, Thunderbirds. By this, I refer to the REAL Thunderbird, the ROADSTER, which was an engineer's dream and an owner's delight.

Now there is another move under way by some of our members to have the by-laws amended to include owners of the Ford Galaxie. Far be it from me to condemn this automobile, for it certainly must be functional in its own right. However, I hardly feel that it is a sports type auto, such as the Roadster was intended to be and is.

My original thought when I formed the Club almost a year ago was to bring together people who like myself owned and were proud of their Thunderbirds. I feel that these people, regardless of diversified backgrounds, would have a common interest to share. Over the past year this Club has grown, much to the enjoyment of all. One of the reasons we have grown is because each of us was able to participate in various Club functions with a car we all enjoyed and held in high esteem. Were we a social Club, like a Bridge Club, etc., we would have little or no qualms about what the other fellow did, where he lived or what he drove. Inasmuch as we are not a bridge club, but a club comprised of a particular automobile, I feel that most of us would be desirous of having only owners of that particular automobile in our Club. As was previously stated, I believe the original thought of most of us who joined was that we would have a Club to sponsor and stage events for our enjoyment with our Thunderbirds. Each of us was given a set of Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws which set forth the aims and governing rules of our Club. One of these rules was that any person who sold his Thunderbird or otherwise disposed of it, had a six months period in which to obtain another Thunderbird or drop from the Club. Although this was not clearly de-

fined in the By-Laws as meaning the 2-passenger T-Bird, that was clearly defined at a subsequent date by a majority of the membership by democratic vote.

Now we are once again faced with the problem of a few members who, for one reason or another, have disposed of their Thunderbirds and consequently are creating strife in the Club to accommodate their automobile. From Galaxies, we shall go to Mercury, Lincoln, Cads, etc., leading to the ultimate destruction of the Club. If these people are so hell-bent on having a club, let them form their own Galaxie Club and leave us in peace. I am sure this would be a very easy task, for I seem to see these autos everywhere I turn.

The only thing I can add in closing is this. I feel if this proposed amendment is passed, it will result in a split in the membership. I would hate to see this because each of us has worked long and hard to make our Club the success it is today.

— Skip Riggs

by ART HORSFALL

As you know, the proposition, "Should our by-laws be amended to allow four-passenger Thunderbirds in the Club" will be voted upon at our April 7th general membership meeting. The same issue was defeated last year, but that was before any of our own members was involved.

Now three of our most cherished and valued members have had to trade their aging Birds in on newer cars, and all chose '59 Thunderbirds in the hope they might still be ruled eligible to retain their BATOC membership. Each has said that he would have purchased a non-Ford car had there been no possibility of remaining in the Club with their many friends.

One of these is Dick Nagle, charter member, and one of the two founding fathers of the Club. Another is Owen Lewis, popular member, who is always present at every activity, despite an ample social life entirely apart from this Club. His good standing is evinced by the fact that he was nominated for the 1959 presidency of BATOC. Third member is Dick Staples, whose recent blessed event demanded more space in the family automobile. All are good, active members, and Dick's pet activity, the Rummage Sale, bids fair to eliminate our financial ills once and for all.

As a Ford salesman, I see a high class of people buying '59 Thunderbirds. This is the type of new member we like to attract into our Club in order to maintain the present standard. But our present by-laws bar them from ever becoming members. I, too, am presently enroute East to pick up a '59 Thunderbird, and know of at least two other charter members who plan to order new Thunderbirds in 1959.

The tremendous success of our social functions as contrasted to the poor attendance at rallies surely has proven that we enjoy one another's company much more than we do competitive events and I say the people involved are more

important than the size of the Thunderbirds they drive.

We understand certain members may quit the Club if this election does not rule against the four-passenger Thunderbird. Isn't a member who WANTS to remain in the Club more valuable than one who threatens to quit if he doesn't get his way?

— Art Horsfall

EDITOR'S ADDENDUM

Left over still are two additional articles — by Owen Lewis and Dail Moffett (who sent in a particularly fair treatise in favor of restricting membership to the one-seaters) — but it seems we could devote the entire paper to this one subject, without uncovering much news. Every paper is entitled to its "editorial opinion", and here, for what it is worth, is ours. First off, whichever way the majority rules, it is earnestly hoped the losing side will not act rashly. Take the defeat with good grace and continue to work as hard as before to make the BATOC the best darned car club in the business.

It surely is a pretty sight to see a perky flock of one-seaters in flight along the open highway or clustered about a drive-in restaurant. The addition of even one huge (by comparison) '59 model sounds a little incongruous. On the other hand, it doesn't appear to be as important as retaining the likes of Dick Nagle, Owen Lewis and Richard Staples.

Our very name, The Bay Area Thunderbird Owners' Club, implies ALL Thunderbirds. If we vote to retain the one-seater exclusively, then the name should be changed to something like, "The Classic Thunderbird Owners Club", which would indicate at once just which cars are eligible for membership.

SO NOW YOU KNOW . . .

"Four-passenger Thunderbirds are not eligible for late-model NASCAR competition. Two-passenger T-Birds and Corvettes are considered as sports cars in NASCAR's rule book." — Motor Trend

IS THIS DETROIT IRON?

Daytona Beach, Feb. 23 (UPI) — Hard-driving Johnny Beauchamp staged a spectacular finish to nose out Lee Petty and win the 500-mi. NASCAR international sweepstakes title and more than \$12,500 in prize money yesterday.

Driving a 1959 Thunderbird, the 35-year-old Beauchamp set an all-time speed record for stock cars at the 500-mile distance of 135.75 miles per hour.

People who make fun of women drivers don't realize how hard it is to drive in the center of the road.

TRAVEL

Our faith in homo sapiens is all but shattered. Last month, under this aegis, we tried to be helpful to those well-to-do members planning the Mexico trip in late April (which is open to ALL other members, by the way). We not only offended these fine members by "damning with faint praise" the whole scheme, but we have also alienated the affections of another group of stay-at-homes who feel we have been giving too much space to the ones who are getting out and doing things. Now the former won't let us go with them and the latter won't allow us to stay at home. So, it is with a feeling that we have lost all our friends anyway, that we continue . . .

No passports are necessary to enter Mexico, but you will have to buy a tourist permit for about \$3. You'll need proof of American citizenship in order to get it. If you don't get a smallpox vaccination before you leave, you'll have to have one before you may re-enter the U.S., but the border people will gleefully give you one free.

One thing you had better understand before you cross the border. That's the facts of life with regard to the Aztec Two-Step, sometimes known as Montezuma's Revenge. Here at home the malady is more apt to be called the Trots. It is brought about by failing to boil the water as we told you last month. If you're afraid to start a fire with all those pretty senoritas around, you can treat the water with Halazone Tablets - no relation to halitosis tablets. The former retail for about 50¢ the hundred, but we don't hold much hope for the latter which, in fact, passed from the scene along with near beer. And if you'd rather read about the Aztec Two-Step than experience it, you will avoid eating any fruit except that with thick skins such as bananas and oranges.

For the real American drinking man or woman it's a mistake to use water for anything but bathing anyway. Mexican beer is purported to be the best anywhere. Tequila is distilled from dynamite and cactus and it's practically free. A dollar will buy enough to keep you stultified the entire ten days. Unless you're the hero type, stay away from mescal, which comes with a dried worm in the bottle. The worm is to give it added flavor. This concoction abrades the enamel from your teeth in passing by, as well as eliminating dandruff - along with the hair.

We would like to switch our dissertation to Mexico's famous redlight districts, but this is a family publication. Suffice to say, if you are handed a flashy business card with some innocuous message like, "Casa Des Noches - Fine Articles for Gentlemen", be assured they are not referring to haberdashery. Or art goods.

That about finishes our travelogue on Mexico. Perhaps us, too. Oh well, we went into this Club with only one friend. It sure is "Neiss" to have a wife who sticks by you!

•••

An English inventor took out a patent on a prefabricated birdnest. Just keeping you posted on matters ornithological.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE - Wheels, tires and hub-caps from a '57 T-Bird. Best offer. Call MU 5-1580 after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE - T-Bird Fender Skirts. I'll give 'em to you just to get rid of them - if you'll give me a couple of fins. Check with your witty editor at any hour of the day.

FOR SALE - Rear bumpers, brackets and tire mount for '56 T-Bird. \$50 or best offer. Fred Fox, 714 Barbara Street, New Cumberland, Penna.

TRADE - Convertible top, virtually brand new. New fittings. Want hardtop with portholes. Phone MU 5-1580 after 6 p.m. A deciduous palfrey would be a Horsfall. Naomi's shelter is synonymous for Mara-Lee.

T-BIRD CAMS & KITS

Make all O.H.V. Fords, Edsels and Mercs REALLY go! Guaranteed performance.

We also have in stock almost every conceivable racing item for O.H.V. Fords from racing gears to reworked heads. Write for literature on cams and parts.

T-Bird Power Products Company
(Division of Holman & Moody)
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A TAYLOR ON THE MOVE

When someone comes along who gets around more than Jack Taylor, let us know. Until then, he gets our nod as Mr. Marco Polo of '59. In less than a year, he has had some half dozen jobs we know of. But it isn't creditors who keep him on the move . . . it's part and parcel of this business of being a musician. Currently, he's at the Backstage with his quartet, just two blocks from Fisherman's Wharf. If you like modern jazz with your highball, give the lad a tumble. In fact, even if you don't, come anyway and give yourself a chance to learn to like it. Jack says his jazz is the expression of the rebellious young of boundless energy. Which rules out your editor. I just don't like highballs.

FROM THE SO-CAL T-BIRD CLUB BULLETIN . . .

Are you an active member,
The kind who would be missed,
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings,
And mingle with the crowd?
Or do you keep your Bird at home,
And crab both long and loud?

Do you ever go to visit
A member who is sick -
Or leave the work for just a few
And talk about "the Clique"?

So come to ALL the Club affairs
Pitch in with hand and heart.
Don't be just a crabbing member,
But take an active part.

Think this over, member,
Are we right or are we wrong?
Are you an Active Member,
Or do you just belong?

REMOVABLE FIBRE-GLAS TOPS



Plasticon Inc. of El Monte now manufactures brand new hardtops for Thunderbirds. They come without portholes but have large plexiglass wrap-around rear windows that are quite distinctive in appearance. The tops are made of strong fibre-glas reinforced plastic and weigh around 25 lbs. A special feature is the plastic foam headliner in white, gray or blue which deadens outside noises. The tops are shipped in black prime coat with chrome plated fittings installed and are said to meet all qualifications - appearance, fit, weather-proofing and ease of installation. At this writing, tops for the two-seated T-Birds are not available.

The price for the Plasticon Hardtop is \$225.00 plus \$7.00 for crating. If you wish to have the top painted, it will cost you \$10 more - \$15.00 for an exact color match. Paint used is lacquer.

Address queries or orders to Plasticon, 9721 Klingerman Street, El Monte, Calif.

VALETUDINARY MARYLOU

Pity pretty Marylou Pratt. She is still having a terrible time with the after-effects of peritonitis, which felled her before Christmas. She has been in the hospital so many times since that she knows the trustees of Merrick Hospital by their first names. At latest report, she must spend two weeks out of every month back in the hosp. for observation. How about lots of cards and letters to show Marylou how much she is missed!

A pessimist is a woman who's afraid she won't be able to squeeze her car into a very small parking space. An optimist is a man who believes she won't try.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you won't be able to attend the April general membership meeting, you can still vote on the Four-Passenger Thunderbird issue by calling MaraLee at LO 2-4447 and she will send you a Proxy Vote form. Sign same and return it to 2423 - 76th Avenue, Oakland. Your vote may decide whether the Big Birds are out or in.

And, don't forget - the April meeting will not be held at Art's Buffet. For this time only, we are gathering at Beppo's, 4130 Telegraph Avenue in Oakland.

"What's New in BIRD-LAND?"

Volume 2, Number 4

April 1959

ACTIVITIES REPORT

by ANDY LARSEN

Well, fellow-Thunderbirds, after the events of the past month we of the Activities Committee decided that a new system was in order to insure that future events will run more smoothly.

We've decided that perhaps we've allowed ourselves to get in a rut and that a call for new blood might be just the transfusion needed. Until now the bulk of the work has fallen on one or two fellows, and the events just couldn't get the necessary attention. In the future, we're going to call on two assistants per event. With three members pitching in the time that each has to spend will be brief. And don't forget, at the last Membership Meeting we were voted up to \$25 travel expense in planning tours and rallies.

Under the new plan we will assign a new member and an old member to work with an Activities committeeman on each event. Such members will be selected at the monthly Activities meeting and notified by phone. If you have a valid reason for not accepting a specific assignment, you will be expected to volunteer for an alternate event. Please don't pass the buck if you are called upon. Too many members have fallen back on "excusitis" recently, and that's being mighty unfair to the few hard-workers who have been doing all the work for the enjoyment of the majority. 'Nuff sed.

I guess all of us were disappointed with the change of destination for the first annual meeting with the Southern California T-Bird Club. But the drive along the coast to Santa Maria is a beautiful one, and part of the gas may be put up by sponsoring Ford dealers if we are successful in making this an economy run. But the nice people at the other end of the trip will be the same ones we were going to meet at Yosemite, so plan to go along with us. Final details and plans will be announced at our General Business Meeting in May as well as the next Birdland.

Congrats to Bob Cole for placing first in the T-Bird class in the First Cabin Rally put on by the Corvette Club. Yours truly placed third in a field of three. Poor Donna and Don. They ran this rally and didn't even have a chance to work up a good fight. Maybe next time. All kidding aside, we enjoyed ourselves very much; only next time my navigator is going to wear his glasses.

The gathering at Bob Cole's place on 35th Ave. after the so-called Photo Tour turned into a grand climax for the day. Wish I could have gotten up there for some of that Chinese food.

Be looking for you all at our next event.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- MAY 5** - GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING -- Art's Buffet, 40th & Broadway, Oakland - 7:30 p. m. Board meeting first -- at 6:30.
- MAY 9** - MISS OAKLAND PARADE. This is the one for you lady-lovers. Ring up dot schnook Larsen if you'd like to convoy a real lovely, tho with Donna and Bev and Dottie and Lucy and Jackie and Faye and Mary Lou right in our own group, how can you find better? The number's KE 6-1244.
- MAY 10** - BEACH PARTY -- an economy tour so you can save your dough for the event following. Sun, sand and water for the red-blooded. (In May? Brrr-r-r-r!)
- MAY 29, 30 & 31** - THE MAIN EVENT OF '59! The first annual meeting with our Southern California neighbors at Santa Maria. More sun, sand and water, with corn and rye added for those who like. Fun and conviviality for all. Plan to come to this if you never make another event!

LOST? We don't want to lose you! According to our By-Laws, those who are three months behind in their dues are automatically dropped from membership. Annual dues are just \$10 if paid in advance, and \$1 per month otherwise. So, if this concerns you, please see Larry Farrell and settle up. Don't get lost!



WASN'T ALWAYS "NICE"

When We Were Young

Here are two more celebrated Club members as they looked to these long years ago. You can get your clues beneath the pics, but if you didn't bring your sharp brains today, you can find the answers in other parts of this paper.



TODAY GLABROUS

We hope you like this feature of "Birdland". If so, maybe you have an old picture of yourself, your hubby, or your wife that you'd like to see printed. We'd certainly appreciate your sending it to us. And if you can sneak the picture to us without your loved one's knowledge, so much the better. No harm will befall your treasured snaps.



The above photo was not posed. It was taken on Sunday, March 22, during the Mystery Tour, an event which has already been acknowledged the worst affair we've yet staged. Perhaps we should forget the whole sorry mess and keep our fingers crossed hoping it won't happen again. But that would be the coward's way out and besides, it presents your Editor with grist for his monthly essay. After all, we can't write about Mexico indefinitely.

This is not an indictment against the chaps who planned this tour, and then were unable to make it themselves. Although this didn't help matters, the bad features of the Mystery Tour have been all too evident in the past.

The guest participant in the above snapshot had a flat tire 'way off in no man's land. He waved the caravan on, not knowing that his spare was also devoid of air. But someone could have stopped to see what was wrong. As a result, this poor lad had to wait 45 minutes before a passing Corvette, of all cars, drove him to the nearest town for help in repairing the tire.

We understand that the "mystery" part of this tour was its terminus, the Old Winchester House in San Jose, which had lost its esoteric aspects for this particular group of T-Birders back in ought three. And, because the tariff had recently been increased to \$1.50 per head - er, person (head privileges were free), only one guest couple decided to invest the \$3.00 to learn why Old Lady Winchester wanted to live so long. When they emerged an hour or so later, it was to find all the other tourers gone! Had it been hot-headed little us, we would have made a purchase on the premises and taken up the pursuit with a Winchester .22.

We think these matters should be mentioned, if only to illustrate a facet of T-Bird touring that has occurred before, i.e., running off and leaving someone behind. After several close calls ourselves, the Neisses learned never to be last in a convoy . . . never to dally around to admire the scenery . . . and never (but never) to go off alone to make a coffee deposit without first removing the ignition keys from every assembled Thunderbird! When stopping at restaurants, we make it a point to sit by the door so that when some impetuous eager beaver starts his move we are always swept along with the vanguard. Sometimes by the time we get back to San Francisco there is an extreme urgency to visit the bathroom but, by golly, we GET back!

MEMO from MEMBERSHIP

by MARALEE HOUSTON

CONGRATULATIONS to our four new members. Suggest you add their names and addresses to your membership list. We're growing all the time - we now have 43 cars and 63 people in our Club.

PAUL A. TANZILLO, 2212 Woolsey St., Berkeley, Calif. - TH 5-8044

LUCY C. SANCHEZ, 785 Pinedate Court, Hayward, Calif. - LU 1-4593

MAXINE NUNES, 20347 Rancho Court, Hayward, Calif. - JE 8-4225

JAY V. STEWART, 3545 Harrison Street, Oakland, Calif. - OL 4-0715

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

LELA MIRGON, 2141 Buchanan St., San Francisco, Calif. - WE 1-5942

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES to Melvin (Corky) Talley and his new bride. Hope to see you both real soon.

New member Lucy Sanchez and old-timers Don and Donna Brooks tied for submitting the most names of prospec-

tive members during March - 2 each. Twelve names given in all, for an approximate total of 56 prospective members.

WELCOME to our guests and prospective members at our April general business meeting. Guests: Mr. & Mrs. Ray DeCosta and Dick Wilson of the M-G Owners' Club. Prospective Members: Mr. & Mrs. John McNeil, Ernest Silva, Joe Gonzales, Bob White and David Hoptry. Hope to see a lot of you in the future.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

5/3 - Roger Neiss 5/25 - Dick Nagle
5/14 - G. Andrade 5/26 - Art Horsfall
5/20 - Mid Riggs

MEMBERSHIP & TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING at Don Brooks, 2438 - 35th Ave., Oakland, April 28, 1959 - 8:00 p.m. sharp.

WOW! We had 33 cars out of 43 and 45 members out of 63 at our April meeting - I wonder why? Would be nice if we could have that kind of enthusiasm shown at all of our meetings and club events.

•••

PICKED UP AT THE APRIL MEETING . . .

DON SHERWOOD

Activities Chairman A. Larsen forgot to mention in his column that he'd like to know how many would care to sit in on one of Don Sherwood's Thursday evening T-V shows. This would be an upcoming mid-week "extra" if enough evince an interest to make the event worthwhile.

Bet you didn't know that D. Sherwood used to own a '56 Thunderbird, did you? This item we culled from an old issue of The Thunderbird Club of America 'News'. Today, however, Don drives a Cadillac - the cad!

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

Didn't it make you glow all over when new member Richard Milani got up and suggested a hand for Don Brooks follow the hour-long hassle over election procedure? It was the loudest round of applause these old ears have yet heard within the BATOC inner sanctum. Dom well deserved it was, too!

ACTIVITIES MEETING CHANGE

Formerly held jointly with Membership/Technical, the Activities Meeting (A. Larsen, prop.), will henceforth be held on the third Tuesday of each month, leaving the Membership people to go it alone on the fourth Tuesday. As of now, the Brooks Hostelry, 2438 - 35th Street in Oakland, continues to be the site. Both groups like to have a big audience, so drop around some Tuesday.

AND ONE FINAL ITEM . . .

That old Salt-and-Pepper Head who sits in as your Recording Secretary demands that we give equal time to Donald Brooks. "After all, BOTH of them are handsome physical specimens," is her contention, "and people must get awfully tired reading how beautiful you think Donna is. Say something nice about

Don once." You know, the lady may have a point there.

That was two weeks ago. I still haven't thought of anything nice to say. All right, he IS a handsome cuss. Or was until he got his crewcut. He once had cranial foliage sufficient to hide a crate of cabbage. Now he looks like a shorn sheep. And this is the guy who publicly chided Dwight Johnston for wearing his top crop shorter than his mustache!

Oh well, we tried.



"Morning, Skip - This is Bob Perry. You gonna get up and go on the rally?"

AN OPEN LETTER

This month we held an election to decide what to do about the big Birds - whether or not to allow them in our Club. Here we are on page 3 before even mentioning this very important matter. Frankly, we don't know just what to report as most of what transpired was 'way over our heads. All we know for certain is that after far too much discussion over protocol, the election was finally held and '58 and '59 Thunderbirds voted out. But because the members involved had participated in the voting, someone pointed out that this was illegal according to our by-laws, and Chairman Brooks ruled the election "no contest", with the entire matter being shelved until next meeting.

In view of the fact that we had a large number of outside guests present, we felt that our Club was exposing itself to ridicule with all the long-drawn out arguments and constant interruptions by a small group of dissidents. In fact, some people were seen to leave during the intermission. Granted that this is a most important matter with memberships to be terminated no matter which way the issue is resolved, we had expected to see a better show of harmony than we did. We just hope that the people involved really have the best interests of the Club in mind.

On the advice of President Don we are terminating further discussion in these pages by either faction. Don believes the issues have been clearly stated and enough space given in the past two months. Instead, we are printing the following article by Maralee Houston, whose interest in the welfare of our group should go unquestioned.

Dear Members:

I am sure I speak for most of you when I say that we like the idea of our own Thunderbird Club - a club for our own personal car - where we can acquire new friends, go and see new places, and just have a good time together. The BATOC will be a great club IF and when we get on our feet and get squared away. Sure, there will be disagreements - no two people can get together without disagreeing once in awhile, let alone some 60-odd. Express your opinion. Fine. But if the outcome isn't all you could have wished, accept it as an adult - don't make a federal case of it. You all know what I am trying to say.

Take the big issue at hand - voting on '58 and '59 T-Birds. So much bickering has occurred that everyone is all mixed up. We don't know whether to vote for the car . . . the person . . . or the way a friend tells us. I'd like to make it clear right here that I'm not trying to get you to vote my way. I'm not voting - my

husband is. I just want to suggest that after the May meeting and its election, we accept the outcome and forget the fact that it may not have been the way we would have preferred. I know this matter was voted upon once before, but this time there's a difference - four of our well-liked, active members now have four-passenger Birds, and like the Club so much that they want to remain in it. Or at least they did - until they saw how much furor they had evoked. Now they're not sure they should try to stay - we haven't given them much reason to think so. The abuse they've had to take isn't quite fair. I say, let's vote and get the thing over with . . . everyone is getting tired of the whole business. This could split our fine Club right down the middle unless both factions try to be a little more understanding of the other point of view. Let's act like adults. We must make a decision, then stick by it - not bring it up again and again. I'm sure you'll all agree with this premise.

Our Constitution and By-Laws are in sorry shape, as evinced at our last meeting. Who's to blame? Few of us had any prior experience in writing up a Constitution and By-Laws. At least the effort was made and an attorney went over them for legal flaws. Even he didn't see the contradictions each page would bring. Errors have been made - they should be expected in a growing organization. The thing to do is to correct them as they crop up, not just sit back and gripe about them. You can't start a business or club from scratch and expect everything to go smoothly from then on. There are bound to be obstacles.

A lot of us are unhappy with the way some recent events have turned out. Well, don't sit back and gripe - especially if you've never helped to put one on. There are problems and work involved - get in and help make the next one a success. You'll be surprised how much satisfaction this will provide, whereas griping gets you nowhere. No one person should be blamed - no one person can do the job.

People from other car clubs are watching to see how our Club turns out. No one person is going to get all the credit if all turns out well; no one person will be blamed if it doesn't. I'd like to think, five years from now, that I had a hand in making this Club a success, not a flop. How about you?

Let's not have any more accusations or hard feelings. We all have made mistakes, but at least we are trying. If we err, so what? Nobody is perfect. Let's pitch in and try to help out with the problem, not condemn the member who is trying to do a good job and occasionally flubs up.

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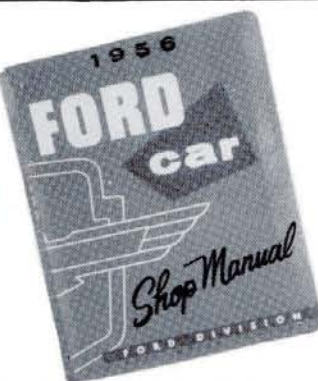
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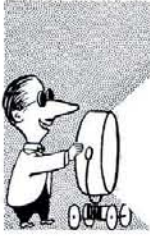
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THE BIRDLAND SPOTLIGHT IS ON



MARALEE HOUSTON

Here's to a member too long unsung in this column for meritorious service beyond the call of duty. Perhaps it was because of her gender that we tended to overlook the important role she plays in the welfare of our Club. Even at this late date she IS the first woman to be so honored, and that admission, coming from an old roue - I mean philogynist - like myself, is inexcusable.

Do you realize that of last year's Board of Officers, she is the only one to be retained this year? Unsung by us she may have been, but the rest of you considered her services so essential that she was again elected one of our officers, although in a slightly different capacity (more work). And, according to no less a person than Prexy Don himself, she's getting better all the time.

This gal really puts out for us. Probably no one except husband Bill really knows how much time she devotes to doing her job the way she thinks it should be done. It's enough to make a coolie holler uncle. There is definitely much more to her job than the two hours we see her at a monthly meeting. There's this paper to fold and mail to some 100 odd members and pseudo-members. And when I say odd, I mean to place myself at the head of the list. The prospective members require a filing system, as Mara-Lee makes darned sure that none of them gets more than his stipulated three consecutive copies.

Then there's screening of new members to be done, insurance policies to be checked out, proxy votes, Committee meetings, birthdays to be catalogued, a column to write for this paper (always on time, I might add), plus numberless tasks we don't pretend to know about. And how about the way she can remember and call out the names of guests at a meeting! Why, I could practice saying Tourgoutsky for thirty minutes and not be able to do as well as MaraLee did spontaneously.

To think that there are some members who claim they are too busy to help out once a year with a rally or something.

Getting material on this paragon's background was virtually impossible. Her inherent modesty forbade her helping out in the preparation of this article, which, incidentally, she told us positively NOT to write. So, with absolutely no cooperation from her we did learn that she is one of twin girls born 26 years ago right here in Oakland. We have no idea where she went to school. We contacted Contra Costa School for Wayward Girls (because some of our best friends came from there), but they had never even heard of MaraLee.

About six years ago, young Bill Houston recognized MaraLee's sterling qualities and began courting our heroine. When she knew Bill was coming over, she used to go to her butcher and ask for two "special" steaks for her boyfriend. A

year later they were married, and on returning from their honeymoon, they stopped at the same butcher shop for more steaks. MaraLee proudly introduced the new husband those steaks had helped her capture. "That's the first time anybody ever accused me of playing Cupid," remarked the butcher. The anti-climax to this tale is that Bill really likes hamburger better than steak!

MaraLee first heard about the incipient Thunderbird Club from busy Faye Edwards who has always been our No. 1 proselyter. The Houstons were among the original founders of the Club and were in attendance the night the Charter was drawn up.

Her daytime job is with an insurance company, and if she works as hard for them as she does for us, her salary should be no less than \$600 per month.

We're so lucky to have this remarkable gal on our team.

NEED PARTS FOR YOUR THUNDERBIRD ?

Reg Montgomery, Parts Manager, takes a keen interest in the problems of T-Bird owners, viz., "How to obtain parts". His department is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. As an added feature, Reg maintains a record of T-Bird parts in stock by each Bay Area Ford dealer, and often can supply that hard-to-get part without having to send to Dearborn for it.

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ROGER NEISS, Editor
45 Ecker Street, San Francisco, YUkon 2-6268

Contributions must be in the Editor's office by the 15th in order to be printed in that month.



"Took your top down early this year, didn't you?"

POTPOURRI . . .

Back from an extended tour (8,000 mi.) of these United States and Canada are the doting Horsfalls - doting over their latest acquisition, i.e., a '59 Hardtop Thunderbird. Flying to Chicago in late March, they picked up the new Bird and pointed it south to Miami; thence to Washington, D.C., New York, Montreal, Niagara Falls and all points between. They're so nuts about the '59 and the way it handles that we've heard talk they may buy another one and name them 'His' and 'Hers'. . . Because of the prevailing "BIG BIRD" matter too little attention is being given the upcoming meeting with the Southern California Chapter of the Thunderbird Club of America. The end of May will be here before we know it and you'll be caught with your billfold flat. Even your Editor has little to add to what's already been said, except that John Russell, who plays "Lawman" on ABC-TV, is a popular member of our neighboring club to the south, a fact which ought to appeal to the ladies of our group. . . Bill Houston won a beautiful trophy recently by scoring over 400 points in safety checks and work done on the Houston "Blue Bird". Bill is presently serving his third term as Treasurer of the East Oakland Road Gents Car Club. . . This is news? Skip Riggs collected another trophy at the recent Stockton Auto Races - but not for racing, you may be sure. . . WANTED - a clean '55 Bird by A. Horsfall who has a buyer. . . Also WANTED - another '55 T-Bird. Call Allen Graef, MONTROSE 1-1076. . . The "old-timers" shown on page one are Edna N. and Joe White. Did you guess 'em? . . . Macabre Thought - Are we about to refute the membership of our fighting vice-president (the 4-passenger T-Bird matter) just as he was about to lead us to financial independence? Which reminds us - how's your collection of rummage doing? Dick needs only a little more stuff in order to go ahead with the Rummage Sale.

Two finishes for Thunderbirds - Lacquer and Liqueur.



Dear Editor:

I keep sending in jokes and cartoons and you never print them. If you don't use some of my material in the April paper please return it as I have other irons in the fire. (Sd) A. Contributor

Dear Mr. Contributor:

I considered your material very carefully and herewith advise you to put it with your other irons. - Editor

NOTE: Seriously, many contributions are sent in which do not qualify for reprinting. Remember - such material MUST be apropos to automobiling and not too risque. AND - it must be received by the 15th of the month.

"What's New in BIRD-LAND?"

Volume 2, Number 5

MAY, 1959

ACTIVITIES REPORT _____ by ANDY LARSEN

My Fellow-Thunder-Birders:

With half our members now working on future activities, I hope we can talk the rest of you into coming out to enjoy them. The MG Owners Club of Oakland invited us to attend their Question and Answer Rally and quite a few accepted—13, in fact. (They only had 12 themselves!) The day was a huge success and even those who didn't bag a trophy had a good time. The change to daylight-saving time fouled up a few cars, but all arrived safely at Mt. Diablo before the day was over. The Fun-Khana or regular Gymkhana had been considered off-limits to Thunderbirds— at least whenever any of our members tried their hand at it they didn't fare too well. But one of our lads got into his little white Bird and showed up everyone in the MG outing. Took 10 points out of a possible 10, that's all! Then, to top off his day, he made another 10 in the rally to complete a perfect day. Congratulations to handsome (and eligible) Bob Perry! An MG came in second, but then followed a long line of Thunderbirds: Dick Staples in a "lumbering" (?) '59 model; Gene Andrade and Bill Houston. How about that Dick Staples and his Big Bird! Didn't think he could do it!

The Piedmont Parade proved a slow-moving affair. Lucky that none of our Birds over-heated. Most of us saw parts of the Piedmont hills we had never seen before, and I'm not referring to the pectoral attainments of some of the passengers. There were 12 T-Birds and a like number of comely girls aged from 8 to 28. Quite an age span. Of course, we bachelors got the right

ones. The right ones being from 8 to 80. Had our first casualty that afternoon, however. In the parade from Jack London Square Richard Milani wasn't able to stop fast enough to avoid crashing into the back of a sound truck. (Ed. Note: Bet he was looking at his beautiful passenger.) I hope this will be our last casualty. Let's all be extra careful and make sure that it is.

When you get a phone call from one of our girls asking for a little help on a committee, I hope you'll say "Yes". The June Social, for instance, will need a lot of cooperation in order to be put over BIG.

Like to see new faces at the Activities meetings. Not that we're tired of the old ones, but new blood always seems to increase enthusiasm and ideas. Right now, we want five or six members to work with Mr. Riggs and myself on the T-Bird sponsored Concourse mentioned at the May 5th meeting. It will be coming off in August and we'd like to get the paper work disposed of as soon as possible. You can call me (Lars) at KE 6-1244. (Ed. Note: If a girl answers, hang up. He can talk to you anytime.)

The July 4th Picnic is to be a family affair and we're going to sell tickets for this one. The MG Club has been invited and we want you to bring your friends. We will need to know how many people to plan for, however. All kinds of games for young and old. Bring your own food. Maybe four or five can get together and cook up something.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

MAY 30 & 31 — Santa Maria Tour, 4:00 am . . .

and the long-heralded meeting with Southern California's T-Bird Club. Leaving Hy's Drive-In at 4 a.m., best time to be on the highways and by-ways. A small group led by Art Horsfall is leaving somewhat later. We should have a big turnout for this (see story on back page). Estimated five hours driving time.

JUNE 5 — General Business Meeting, 7:30 pm . . .

celebrating our first year of existence. Note that this is a Friday instead of Tuesday. Also, for this month only, the meeting takes place on "THE SHOWBOAT" off Jack London Square. There will be a very brief business meeting, followed by dinner (\$2.75 a plate) and dancing to live music. Shirt and tie mandatory, fellows.

JUNE 7 — Pebble Beach Auto Races, 7:00 am . . .

Our second Annual Tour to Monterey. Those who attended last year know what a good time is to be had and we should do even better this time around. Bring lunch and lots of beer. We want to see most of the races, hence the early hour. Hy's Drive-In. If you have binoculars, bring 'em.

JUNE 14 — Moving of Rummage for Sale June 15th . . .

If you have anything left to be picked up, call Dick Staples or ANYBODY! (TE 6-1688)

JUNE 15 — Rummage Sale . . . at St. George Hall, 2436 Grove Street in Oakland.

JUNE 21 — Mt. Tamalpais Tour . . .

We've been on this side of the Bay so long we want to get a look at the other side for a change.

NOTE: Shortly after submitting his column for May, Andy had the bad luck to suffer a crippling back ailment which will probably involve surgery and a long stay in the hospital. How about a deluge of cards and visits for a really fine member who is certainly going to be missed around here! Hurry up and get well, Andy. We miss you already.

MEMO from MEMBERSHIP _____ by MARALEE HOUSTON

Our next Membership/Technical Committee Meeting will be June 30th (8:00 pm) at 3452—35th Ave. (Apt. 6), Oakland. Please note that this is a NEW address. All members presently on these committees and anyone wishing to be should attend.

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS — If you have had your Guest Card signed at three of our events (one business and two socials) you are eligible to come before the above-mentioned committees for car and insurance policy inspection. If you have not received a Guest Card prior to this time you will receive one when we send you the third copy of our Club paper. If we don't hear from you following the third paper, we will assume you are not interested in joining the Club and your name will be dropped from our mailing list.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW MEMBERS — Accepted during April were:

Bob Cole, 3452—35th Ave., Oak., Apt. 12, KE 6-2926.
Joseph and Ruth Gonzales, 36933 Niles Blvd., Niles, Calif., SY 7-2894.

Accepted at our May meeting were:

Bob White, 1944 Sutter Ave., San Pablo, BE 2-3267.
Ernest Silva, 1512 University Ave., Apt. 10, Berkeley, Calif., TH 5-7090.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS FOR THE FOLLOWING:
Mel & Barbara Talley, Rt. 1, RFD Box 310, Newark, Calif., SY 3-2276.
Dail Moffett, 1425 Oak St., Apt. 20, Oakland, GL 2-4553.

I regret at this writing I do not have a complete list of our guests at our last general business meeting. However, I want to let them know they were welcome and we hope we see them at future activities. One guest we do recall was a special one from Southern California — Martha Nicoll who was a welcome addition. Hope she enjoyed our meeting as much as we enjoyed having her with us.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following:

June 2 — Larry Doan June 22 — Lew Edwards

WEDDING BELLS



A "little Bird" of a different sort tells us that one of our eligible bachelors and his favorite navigator have decided to feather a nest along about October 3. A tip of our sports cap to Warren Clarke and pretty Jackie Andrade.

T-BIRDS vs. MGs

On April 26th the BATOC was invited to run with the MG Owners Club of Oakland on their first Rall-Khana, a Royal Coachman rally to Turtle Rock Ranch culminating in a picnic lunch. Apologies were given for a "tight" course, but T-Birders prevailed just the same. Competing against 12 MGs and two Sprites, Bob Perry scored 20 out of a possible 20 in his Bird. An MG was second, followed by Dick Staples in his over-sized '59, Gene Andrade and Bill Houston! Not bad for a car that is so lightly regarded by the sports car gentry. All BATOC participants had a whale of a good time, and were pleased as punch to have come out so well against a car that IS accepted as a true sports car.

RUMMAGE SALE

The date has finally been set. It's June 15th, only a few days away. The place will be St. George Hall at 2436 Grove Street in Oakland. Doors open at 9 a.m. so this is positively the last call for goods you may wish to donate. Bring what you can to every meeting or event you attend from here on and turn it over to Dick Staples or Don Brooks. If what you have is too big to toss into the trunk of your T-Bird, call one of the ladies listed below and arrangements will be made to pick up what you have.

Much help will be needed to transport the rummage from 21 Grand to St. George Hall on Sunday, June 14th. Volunteers, please heed. Call Lorraine Lewis (KE 3-7430), Donna Brooks (now KE 2-3019) or Bev Staples (TE 6-1688) if you'd like to help.

There will be a private sale for Club members on Sunday afternoon, the 14th.

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG



WORLD RULING SEA DOG



HEIR TO COFFEE FORTUNE?

FROM THE EDITOR'S SOAP BOX

That fellar Don Brooks is even more persuasive than many of us surmised. Besides getting beauteous Donna to say "yes", this month he just about convinced the membership that we are all illegitimate members of a spurious organization. Following months of haggling over the 2-Seated Thunderbirds, now Donsy-Boy comes up with facts and figures to prove that, due to conflicting paragraphs in our By-Laws, the amendment which tended to debar the Big Birds was illegal to begin with. Moreover, he contends that the legality of his own tenure in office is open to question. Frankly, we're so confused right now we don't know if we're putting out this sheet for Thunderbird or Corvette people. All we know for sure is we're somewhat taken aback by this inference to our bastardy inasmuch as our forebears are no longer around to defend us. For nigh onto half a century we had deemed our lineage to be on a par with the Windsors. To find it a moot topic at this late date is somewhat disconcerting.

Following a suggestion by Skip Riggs that the 2-Seated Thunderbird matter be shelved for six months, it was finally decided that the thing to do was to re-

verse the By-Laws now and worry about just which Thunderbirds would be eligible for membership later. So now we can go on to more pleasant things.

Our appreciation goes out to all for the pacific atmosphere prevailing at the May 2nd meeting when some thirteen guests were in attendance, including Martha Nicoll, gracious representative of the Southern California Thunderbird Club. By the way, if any of you are ever in the environs of Hollywood around the first Saturday of the month, an invitation has been extended to drop in on one of their meetings. The spot is the Nickodell Restaurant at Selma Avenue and Argyle Street, just two blocks away from famed Hollywood and Vine.

NORTH AND SOUTH T-BIRD GROUPS MEET DECORATION DAY

Bright and early on Friday, May 29th, four intrepid BATOC members will be leaving for Santa Maria down the California Coast and a trysting with our Southern California Thunderbird Club neighbors. This group will be dwarfed by between 20 and 30 LA cars - until our Saturday segment shows up to join in the fun and frivolity. Southern Cal is making an "Economy Run" of their tour, having scheduled side trips to make this a 240-mile trip for them, approximately the same distance we will have to traverse. Our meeting site is beautiful Rick's in Santa Maria, a mammoth motel complete with swimming pool and other accoutrements to make travel stops so much fun.

After the Friday evening rendezvous, both clubs will make a joint tour to Santa Barbara for the road races Saturday afternoon. That evening we all gather for a "Victory Banquet" at which time trophies will be presented the winners in the So-Cal Economy Run. Sound like fun?

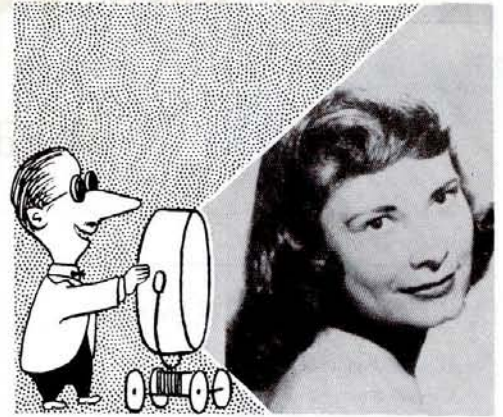
LOOKING FOR A GOOD GARAGE?

Remember Bert Melberg, the super mechanic at Cirimele Ford who was supposed to give individual service to any BATOC car brought in? Somehow that seldom worked out; he was usually tied up on a job he couldn't leave just when you wanted him. Now, however, he is in a position where he can give you the benefit of his skill and experience on Thunderbirds. Recently he became affiliated with Gene's Automotive Service, 3518-35th Avenue, Oakland (AN 1-6973) where he will definitely be the one to work on your Bird when you bring it in. Special low prices to members are being set up to encourage our business.

BIRDLAND BANTER . . .

Our Club has again been selected to transport beautiful ladies in the fall "Parade of Lights" in conjunction with the advent of the football season at the U of C. But don't rush. They're not making the sign-up just yet. . . Back among us after a brief honeymoon are Mel Talley and new bride Barbara. . . Excited about the "Hawaiian Luau" that Lorraine Lewis and cohorts are cooking up? Sounds like just the ticket to lure back some of our stay-at-homes. You probably know the details better than we do. To be held on a Saturday night, Hawaiian get-up is obligatory (Anyone know where I can get a lei?). Demure Dottie Farrell of the sumptuous curves may give a hulu in authentic costume. . . Speaking of members who have been "omniabsent" for some time, wha' happint to the Shidellers, Pratts, Jack Enright, Larry Doan, K. Jacuzzi, Louise Koonce, Mid (Town) Riggs (sister of Milton), Benny Carroll, the Semlers and Lela Mirgon? Please drop in on us once in awhile. . . When Bob Cole purchased the Prichard '56, it marked the first time that a car stayed in the Club after changing owners. . . Domestic drama in a Chronicle want-ad: Placed by Dick McLain, 2727 Jackson Street - "Thunderbird, '55. Pregnant wife says Bird must go before stork arrives. Lovingly cared for, sorrowfully sold." . . . Did you guess lissome Faye Edwards and Don the Gob in our "When We Were Young" game? . . . We kinda miss vibrant Joannie Prichard, don't you?

BIRDLAND'S SPOTLIGHT IS ON



. . . ANOTHER LADYBIRD

It has long been the editorial policy of this "rag" to spotlight those individuals within our organization whose contributions have been of merit yet who don't seem to get the recognition they deserve. One such individual is Miss - ah - Mrs. Rosemarie Volpatti (No offense meant, Rich!)

For the information of the members not aware of it, Rosemarie is the right-hand gal to MaraLee of Membership. You will probably not recognize our Ladybird at the general meetings, for she is always buried nose-deep in large plastic sheaths, chockful of the forms, figures and other paraphernalia requisite to an efficient membership committee.

Your chances of spotting our gal are vastly improved at the Club's monthly activities - Rich and Rosemarie are always in attendance and participation.

Rosemarie is a native of the City of Oaks, as are so many of our members, first entering the population on November 5, 1938. Her later years were spent at Roosevelt Junior and Fremont High Schools. Active on the School Paper and Yearbook; a member of the synchronized swimming team, Rosemarie still managed to maintain a high scholastic average. Although the busy Miss planned a further education in art, the attentions of five younger members of the family gained the decision. Upon graduation, Rosemarie was hired by the Oakland Bank of Commerce - a job which she remained with for two years.

It was then that our active Miss entered the bonds of Holy Matrimony with Richard Volpatti. A rather unusual honeymoon followed - the evening was spent at the Oakland Auto Show.

Today, Rosemarie is employed by Vactronics, a television tube manufacturer, as a bookkeeper. She and Rich are partial to swimming and horseback-riding - that is, when time permits.

Once again, we pay homage to Faye Edwards for introducing another valuable member.

Keep up the good work, Rosemarie. . .

- by Dail Moffett

The life of every gathering she was. . . The MG Club is willing to sponsor us in the Northern Calif. Sports Car Assn. How do you feel about it? . . . We can personally vouch for the kind of service the Howard Eddy Ford people in Concord offer BATOC members. They obtained some rare parts (which had to come from Dearborn) in one week's time. Any other dealer would have required from three to four weeks. Give Skip's protege a trial and find out for yourself. . . What do you think of Birdland's abbreviated format? There are two reasons for it - a slacking off of contributed material and what does come in is late. Anyway, near as we can figure, all but about half a dozen members have been attending recent meetings and therefore know as much about happenings as we do. Maybe more, cuz you're smarter than we are. There is at least one advantage to the present size. As our Clubhead Don will be quick to point out, it leaves less room for the Editor's 1920 style of humor.

What's New in Birdland

Volume 2, Number 6

June 1959

ACTIVITIES REPORT _____ by BOB GROWDEN

(Ed. Note - Most of you will recall that our Andy was bothered by a bad back as last month's Birdland was being printed. He's still ailing, in fact, entered the Peralta Hospital on June 14th for a spinal operation. As it will be some time before he can resume his old pastime (i.e., chasing nurses), he'd certainly appreciate hearing from all of you - in person or via the Contemporary "Get-Well" Card approach. After a week or so, he'll be convalescing at 223 Orange Street in Oakland and will appreciate word from you more than ever - no nurses. If everything goes according to plan, Ol' Hardtop should be back at home around the First of the month.)

Andy - where are you? When you asked for a volunteer, I should have remembered what my drill instructor said, "Never volunteer for anything". We all hope that you have a complete and speedy recovery from your illness.

The Miss Oakland Parade was a success. There were 14 beautiful - (Under "woman" in Roget's Thesaurus it says, "Woman, N., Woman, She, Female, Petticoat, Skirt, Moll, Broad. We took the usual motorcade route through most of the East Bay. Starting at Lake Merritt, we progressed through downtown Oakland to Berkeley, back to MacArthur and out to

90th Street. Then we worked our way back to Lake Merritt where we disbanded and had lunch.

After the parade I found out how the Farrells afforded the renovation of their '55 Bird. Have you ever seen them with their motion picture camera? Well, they go around filming YOU in very embarrassing situations (I found out the hard way). As yet I haven't heard how much it will cost me. So beware.

Softball was the main event at the May 10th Beach Party. In second and third places were the wind and sand. If you awoke that Sunday morning and looked out the window to see that heavy overcast, you probably turned over mumbling, "No beach party today." BUT you were wrong - 18 Birds showed up at the Baracutha on Fishermen's Wharf and all had a good time.

June 7th was a beautiful day for the races at Monterey but only 7 Birds were present. A trip through the Old Custom House before the races proved educational. From Fishermen's Wharf in Monterey I again missed a turn and after five miles prospect Jack McNeill turned me around and led us back to the gate. The Corvettes, by the way, didn't have a chance this year, top honors going to Porsche and Mercedes.

The Hawaiian Night has been set ahead until late in July for a number of reasons. To select one at random, Maralee Houston has a friend who is just dying to go but wouldn't look nice in Hawaiian getup as she is enroute.

JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 30 (Tues) - Membership/Technical Meeting, Apt. 7 at 7:30 p.m. - 3451 - 35th Ave., Oakland. For prospective members and other interested parties.

JULY 4 (Sat) - Old-Fashioned Picnic, 9:00 a.m. - Elderberry Park (½ mi. east of Niles, Calif. on Niles Canyon Road) Swimming, Dancing, Bar-B-Que Pits, Kiddie Playground and Games for all. A "Gimmick" Rally to be the piece-de-resistance, with plaques and trophies. Tickets were sent you weeks ago. Send your money in NOW, returning the tickets you will not use. Better yet, help the Club Exchequer grow by buying all the tickets. Bring nourishment if you don't want to go hungry all day.

JULY 7 (Tues) - General Membership Meeting, 7:30, Art's Buffet, 40th & Broadway, Oakland. Board meeting precedes - 6:30.

JULY 19 (Sun) - Bar-B-Que at Chas. Krug's Winery in St. Helena. Meet at Jack London Square, foot of Broadway in Oakland, 10 a.m. May be deferred one week. We furnish the meat and cook it, with Chas. Krug pouring and supplying B-B-Q pits. Any volunteers for Chef?

JULY 21 (Tues) - Activities Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Brooks Manor, 3451 - 35th Ave., Oakland. Follow "Manager" signs to very door.

MEMO from MEMBERSHIP

_____ by MARALEE HOUSTON

We were happy to welcome five very enthusiastic prospects at our Celebration Dinner and Business Meeting June 5th. Sounds as though we will be seeing more of the following:

Frances Giffin Ken Keyser
Victoria Thorley Bill Bosak
Dorothy Woodyard (Ooh-la-la)

We also had the chance at last to meet Roger's Girl-Friday, Lyda Seamans, with whom many of us have spoken on the telephone without ever having met personally.

Must say I was disappointed at the poor turnout of Charter members for this Celebration Dinner, since it was for them that the special event was scheduled. We still have 26 of the original 33 Charter members on our roster, but only an insignificant 12 cars was represented at the dinner. It was reassuring, however, to note the way the newer members are showing up for anything and everything.

BUSINESS CARDS - We now have our very attractive business cards (thanks to R. N. for all the work he put into them). These will be passed out to the members at the July 7th business meeting.

MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS LIST - What with the Brooks moving to a new location and taking half our membership with them, we have several address changes to make. Instead of listing them all at this time, a complete new list is in the process of being made and should be ready for you at the July business meeting.

MEMBERSHIP & TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING - will be June 30th at Richard Staples, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Apt. No. 7, Oakland. Note that new address. The time: 8:00 p.m. sharp. Prospective members who have their Guest Cards signed three times should be present. Be sure to bring said Card as well as car insurance policy for inspection.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY - JULY . . .

7/6 Frank Ficker 7/12 Owen Lewis
7/7 Russell Pratt 7/20 Donna Brooks
7/11 Richard Milani 7/23 Joe White

MARY MURPHY

This pixyish colleen is Pat Nagle's younger sister whom many will remember meeting at a Horsfall Smorgasbord last year. Miss Murphy was runner-up in the Miss San Francisco Contest held at Golden Gate Park on May 24.



TOGETHERNESS AT SANTA MARIA

On May 29, 30 and 31 the Southern and Northern California T-Bird Owners met at Rick's Rancho, a 200-unit motor hotel in Santa Maria hard by famous Pismo Beach. Thirty-two people from Smogville joined with 20 from Fogville to take over the mammoth layout which featured every conceivable form of entertainment. It would almost be quicker to list the things one couldn't do. Rick's is a veritable town within a town and we didn't so much as start our engine until the day we got ready to go home.

Right on the premises one could find: Walking (that figures), Swimming, Sun-Bathing, Ping Pong, Fireplace Lounging, Television, Chess, Checkers, Cocktail-ing, Croquet, Shuffleboard (indoor and outdoor varieties), Wining, Dining, Girling (we were in our element), Bird Watching (they really had Birds of their own - in an aviary!), Thunderbird Watching, Tip-pling, Dancing to Live Music, Card-Play-ing, Backgammon, and Beer for our Clam-type "Galaxie" owner, Dick Nagle, who is starting a petition to kick all '55, '56 and '57 Birds out of the Club. Cola and ice-vending machines were everywhere for the convenience of those who wanted to "set 'em up" for the others. That included just about all the Southern people who were nothing if not hospitable.

Speaking of R. Nagle, under the affluence of incohol, he expressed vehement incredulity at the fabulous mileage claims of our Southern neighbors for their Birds during the Economy Run to Santa Maria (28 mpg and up). Pat finally left for her motel room when the polemics became too heated. When her lord and master came trudging in hours later, she gave him Holy Ned for drinking too many cans of Olympia, and risking an incident by arguing with new-found friends.

"You've been hitting the suds again," we heard her thunder through the motel's walls. "And don't deny it - I can smell it on your breath."

"I didn't drink a drop," defended our hero. "I was eating frogs legs and what you smell is the hops."

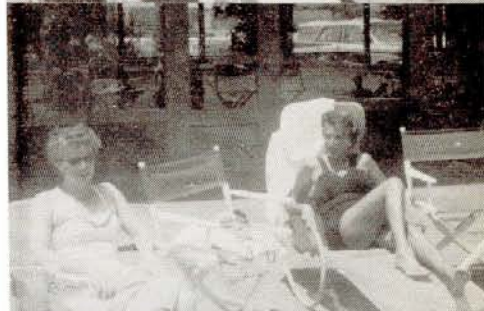
The food at Rick's was exceptionally good, yet moderately priced. Sometimes,

when we've gone to these overnight host-leries and are more or less forced to partake of their fare, the food available would gag a buzzard. Steaks that taste like the business-end of a fly-swatter are the rule rather than the exception. Not so here. Next time you honeymoon, our recommenda-tion is that you give Rick's serious consideration.

The Southern Cal folk are en rapport with us in nearly every particular. Their members include engineers and aircraft workers, insurance men, bachelors and bachelorettes. Their President, Ray Davis, is a talented post-prandial speaker even as our own Clubhead Don Brooks. They have witty fellows like Joe White and an Editor who is even prettier than your own. On their Birds, they decry the use of furbelows, customizing moderately, if at all; add functional gadgets like oil and battery gauges; and maintain their cars and engines much the same as we do. Blocking off exhaust ends is a popular pastime for them, too. Four-passenger Birds are admitted to their ranks, but their owners must be able to take the ribbing when their behemoths are out-maneu-tered by the more nimble one-seaters.

Our own '57 Bluebird was bedecked with brand-new "Ed-Bird" hubcaps (of Edsel and Thunderbird components) which appeared to be the hit of the show. So much favorable comment was heard that we began to fear some kleptomaniac might make off with them during the night. We didn't sleep well after that. Might as well have climbed into the chandelier - we slept so light.

It was regrettable that not one of our own lustrous Board members saw fit to be in attendance. In lieu of an official spokesman, Art Horsfall was called upon and gave an impromptu talk before the Saturday night "Victory Dinner" gather-ing of about fifty members of the combined clubs. Art kept it succinct, but it was a monument to sincerity which expressed our feelings perfectly. Including our group's thanks for having been invited, Art said he hoped it was only the first of many such get-togethers, and he gave a blanket invitation to all So-Cal visitors to drop in on any of our General Business



"WE SOUTHERN CAL GIRLS LOVE TO RIDE WITH THE TOP DOWN!"

Meetings whenever in the Bay Area.

Club members who made the trip be-sides those mentioned were Maxine and Dale Horsfall, Mel and Barbara Talley, Ruth and Joe Gonzalez, beauteous Lucy Sanchez (make room, Donna) and her sister Ann, Donna Sell, Maxine Nunes, Paul Tanzillo, Ken Keyser, Jack Taylor and Lorraine and Owen Lewis who were vaca-tioning in the Southland. Jack Taylor, the Horsfalls and the Lewises fit into the mixed gathering especially well, the former on the bongos and the others giving with Calypso dances (see pics).

Only "casualty" noted was Lucy San-chez who ran afoul of the law when she essayed passing a couple of other T-Birds on the return trip from the auto



YOUR HANDSOME VISAGE ON YOUR NEW DRIVER'S LICENSE

In a new law enacted September 11, 1957, the Dept. of Motor Vehicles now reproduces the operator's photo on every Driver's Permit issued. Some of you may already have one of the new ones, but the rest of you are due for some surprises when next you make application for renewal. Strange things have indeed been happening at Sacramento in the last year or so.

For instance, the "incentive" feature, which "rewards" drivers with perfect or near-perfect records by allowing them to renew their licenses for longer terms - up to as much as five years. Conversely, it also penalizes those who have two or more convictions of the moving traffic law by reducing their renewal privileges to two years or less.

The following information is being printed as an aid in understanding some of the current provisions in effect under the new rulings:

"1. RENEWALS - Driver licenses renewed shall expire on the birthdate of the applicant in the 5th year following expiration of the old license.

"2. TWO YEAR TERM - If the applicant has more than one moving traffic violation in the two years preceding application, the license will expire on the birthdate in the second year following application.

"3. ORIGINAL (THREE YEAR) TERM - Every original driver license shall expire on the anniversary of the date of birth of the applicant in the third year following date of application. EXCEPTION: Two year term if two or more moving violations (in the two years preceding application).

"ORIGINAL (LATE RENEWAL) - If the renewal is not applied for within 30 days after expiration of the old California license, the application is then considered to be an original application. All tests, including a driving test, must be given."

Applications for renewal may be made as early as six months before the expiration date. Get yours out right now and see if you're not eligible for a trip down to your nearest Dept. of Motor Vehicles branch.

To show that the language describing the terms does not mean a license shall be issued for "five years", "three years", or "two years", the Division of Drivers' Licenses explains that to find the expiration date of a "5-Year Term" renewed license, add four years to the birthdate which follows the expiration of the old license.

Examples:

A license expires January 30, 1959. Next birthday is April 15, 1960. Renewed license is good until April 15, 1964.

A license expires January 30, 1959. Next birthday is January 20, 1960. Renewed license is good until January 20, 1964.

For a "Two-Year Term" license, reduced because of two or more convictions following moving traffic violations within the past two years, add one year to birthday which follows the expiration of the old license.

And, if you forgot to apply for a new permit within 30 days after the expiration date shown on your old license, add two years to the birthdate which follows application date.

A pretty potent reason for watching your driving habits, as well as the expiration date on your present license.

Our thanks to recent guest, Ruth Ives, of the Department of Motor Vehicles for supplying us with the foregoing information.

races in Santa Barbara. Tired of trailing the others mile after mile, Luscious Lucy passed 'em both at 70-plus mph. Whereupon three motorcycle policemen who had been trailing, flagged down all three. Even Lucy's obvious charms were unequal to talking the minions of the law out of the tickets.

It was otherwise a wonderful weekend and those of you who didn't go missed a heck of a good time. Our cost was about fifty bucks in cold cash - we call it that because we can't keep money long enough to make it warm - but it was worth every penny of it.

Thanks to Owen for the many flash pictures he took at his own expense for members of both Clubs.



17 years wed and just as lovely today . . .

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG-ER

{No relation to the} {Younger Brothers}

We doubt you'll be able to identify both these prominent Club members, but give it the old college try anyway. Answers appear on page four.

Wouldn't you like to surprise your loved one by having his or her picture appear in this space? If so, bring the pic to the next general meeting and slip it to Ye Ed beneath the table.



Once a Mason & Dixon Bluecoat

RUMMAGE SALE

The Rummage Sale is history. That's being dramatic.

The merchandise was trucked to the site of the sale on Sunday, June 14, and sold Monday, June 15, largely through the efforts of people owning 2-seated Thunderbirds. That's pathetic. What happened to all the owners of single-seaters? Don't they care any more about the well-being of the Club?

To be precise, we have four '59 Birds in our group. Various members of the families of three of these worked like Trojans to make the Rummage Sale successful — the fourth being at Lake Tahoe for the summer (otherwise Big Birds might have had 100% representation). Exactly the same number of people owning single-seaters pitched in and helped, but there are 41 small Birds in the Club. It begins to appear that the really good members — those who get out and help and those who attend the events — very nearly got voted out last month in what would have been a terrible miscarriage of justice.

On the cheery side was the profit of approximately \$100 that was turned over to Treasurer Larry Farrell. While this sum may not be so large as you expected, still it represents a pretty fast 100 bucks to those of us who found some excuse for not helping.

The most heartfelt thanks of all should be accorded Bev and Dick Staples who conceived the idea and then worked like galley slaves to put it over. And thanks to the dozen or so faithful members who helped them make it a success.

PARADE OF LIGHTS

Jim Dunlavey, 1959 Chairman of the Parade of Lights, has selected BATOC to transport Football Princesses again this year. A most glamorous parade and the prettiest college seniors in the land will be our guests.

Though September is still far away, it's still nice to look forward to this event. We will want our own Club represented with a float and banner again as last year. We made quite a hit then.

We are committed for 20 cars to meet at San Francisco Airport to bring the young ladies to Berkeley. 9 a.m. on September 22. Then on Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. we will need 20 cars again for the gals, plus more cars for our own float and display. Keep in touch with your parade chairman.

— A. Horsfall

Drinking while driving is putting the quart before the bear.

TROUBLE GETTING PARTS?

Need a Bird part in a hurry? If we don't have it, we'll check the stock of every Ford dealer in the Bay Area. Finally, we wire Dearborn and you'll receive that critical part in one week or less. At a 25 to 32% discount, too! Call Reg. Montgomery, Parts Mgr., at MU 5-4451.



**HOWARD EDDY
MOTORS**

2395 WILLOW PASS ROAD
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA

MOTOR MELANGE . . .

We were all glad to see By and Paula Shideler come out of hibernation. The Anniversary Meeting on June 5th at "The Showboat" proved to be the big lure, but they promised to be in attendance at more events henceforth . . . The mysterious faces on Page 3 belong to Clo Bueno and Owen Lewis . . . Somebody ought to plan another sojourn to Mexico, as we continue to run across interesting material on our amicable amigos to the South which we'd love to print. The first trip fizzled when the intended travelers dropped out one by one. Could our treatises have hindered rather than helped? . . . The Happy Horsfalls feel just like young parents again. Their daughter, Helene Vredenburg, became a unipara (that's a woman who has had one kid, son — or vice versa) on June 1st when she introduced Barbara Lynn to a waiting world. The grandparents are just doing more than fine, thanks, and if any of you young whippersnappers would like pointers from experts on the application of three-cornered sarongs, drop by for free consultation . . . You think Andy has troubles? We once knew a fellow with lockjaw who got seasick . . . Dick Nagle was transferred to Lake Tahoe by the Coast Guard to patrol those waters for the summer. Knowing his predilection for Old King Sol, Jack Taylor had best look to his laurels in this suntan race.

MT. TAMALPAIS TOUR

It was a warm, sunny day — perfect for gamboling ala Thunderbirds along the highways and by-ways. Evidently many of you thought so, too, for 16 Birds and at least twice that many people made the trip to Mt. Tamalpais last Sunday. Dr. Frank Ficker planned this event thoroughly, making it himself beforehand, and then provided typed direction sheets so that no participant would become lost.

After leisurely lunch atop Mt. Tamalpais, the picnickers meandered on down to Stinson for a beautiful "day at the beach". Daresay many a red nose and forehead are in evidence today. Some of the more audacious souls even ventured 12 inches out into the bounding surf, the shark hazard notwithstanding.

Our "Birdland" plaque is hereby awarded Dr. Frank for a wonderfully well-arranged day!



"The only thing that will save us now is if you were going fast enough to put us in orbit."

LOST — ANOTHER CHARTER MEMBER

It's goodbye to popular Lela Mirgon who has disposed of her yaller '57 and departed this continent for North Africa. There she will do nurse duty in the American Embassy and generally lead the venturesome life which many of you (not me) yearn to lead but haven't the gumption to pursue. She'll be gone two long years, but promises to write and tell all in the meantime. We can scarcely wait to learn if she uses the forehand or backhand smash in manipulating a swatter in doing battle with the tsetse fly, or whether, with a profound bow toward science she disdains both in favor of an aerosol bomb.

NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION

A car caught in an intersection by a changing light has the right, even over pedestrians, to move on out of the intersection in order to clear it.



Dear Editor:

I was a complete bust until I joined the Thunderbird Club and began reading "Was iss loss in Birdland."

(Sd) Joe White

Dear Editor:

I have sent you some jokes which you habitually fail to consider because you are a jerk in my book and not at all "NICE". You are certainly a horse's posterior and utterly no good at selecting suitable or interesting material to publish. Your skill at being stupid is incredible. Why don't you drop dead? If prizes are ever given to the biggest nincompoop in this Club you would certainly get my vote and win easily.

(Sd) Cosimo J. Twiddlepants

P.S. — If you decide to print any of my material this month, then read only every other line.



What's New in Birdland

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 7

JULY 1959

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- JULY 26 — BARBECUE at CHAS. KRUG WINERY. Also a Question and Answer Rally. Meet in Jack London Square at 10 a.m.
- JULY 28 — Membership/Technical Committee Meeting, 3451 - 35th Ave., Oakland (Apt. 7) at 7:30. For prospective members and interested parties.
- AUG. 1 — GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING at The House of Harvey, 320 Hagenberger Road, Oakland. 8:00 p.m. NOTE THE CHANGE OF SCENE!!!!
- AUG. 9 — RALLY & FUN KHANA. Meet at Jack London Sq. at 10 a.m.
- AUG. 17 — Activities Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at "Manager's" Apt., 3451 - 35th Ave., Oakland.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

By BOB GROWDEN

I missed the Mt. Tamalpais Tour, but from all reports everyone had a wonderful time. Eighteen Birds flew to the Mountain for a view of the surrounding countryside. The weather was hot, so after a leisurely lunch, they all glided down to Stinson Beach to cool their feathers before returning to their roosts.

After the Fourth of July Picnic Lunch, a Sack Race, Egg-on-Teespoon Race, a Dance Contest, and a Get-Lost Rally were the main events at Elderberry Park. Dash plaques went to Kangaroo Andrade, Hard-Boiled Silva, and Rock 'n Roll Don Brooks. Trophies went to "Completed" Acosta, M.G. Club President, and the grand trophy for "most points of the day" was taken by the Staples.

Our next event will be the Barbecue and Winery outing on July 26th. We'll be leaving Jack London Square at one minute intervals beginning at 10 a.m. on the "Question and Answer Rally" facet of the tour to the winery. I promise you no one will get lost. But there may be some questions missed. Dash plaques for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

Bring your own silverware and plates. We'll supply the steaks, but if you want anything to go with, better bring it along. For a suggestion: Bake a potato in aluminum foil the night before and reheat it in the Barbecue pit on Sunday. The vintners are furnishing a quart of vino for every three adults, but if you want any other beverage you'll have to bring it.

The Winery requires a clean area when we are finished, and they will levy a 50¢ charge for every wine goblet lost or broken. Naturally, minors will not be permitted to have alcoholic beverages.

The Activities Committee has been

chewed out directly and indirectly lately for not planning more rallies. Our answer to this: No one comes to the rallies. Want proof? Have a look at these figures:

- 2/9 — Friday Night — 9 Birds
- 3/22 — Mystery Rally — 8 Members
- 4/19 — Hare & Hound — 9 Birds
- 7/4 — Picnic Rally — 10 Birds (24 were at the picnic)

Is it worth the time, trouble and expense (for trophies) to conduct a rally? What is more discouraging than a rally planned and fussed over — then unattended? It's like a wedding without a groom.

But we're willing to try again. Sunday, August 9th, we're scheduling a Rally and Fun Khana which should prove exciting to all. Let's have somebody there besides Brooks, Staples, Larsen, White, Perry, Houston, Volpatti, and Andrade.

The Reno Rally is September 19 and 20, with reservations a MUST. So far I have 15 names. Others wishing to go should advise me soon if they want to be bivouacked with the Club. The cost per couple is \$29.50 and that includes just about everything — a room, breakfast, dinner, cocktail hour, a rally, and probably a few bucks for gambling. Make your check payable to Larry Farrell, our Club Treasurer.

WANTED: 3 or 4 Barbecue chefs for the July 26th affair at Chas. Krug Winery. Must be experienced in turning steaks. Contact me, Bon Growden.

WANTED: \$1.00 per person from those who wish to go to the Barbecue. Send same to Larry Farrell, 3451 - 35th Avenue.

AUTO MAGNATE



Auto tycoon demonstrating one of his used Fords to a prospective customer

Art Horsfall always wanted to be his own boss, and now at last he is. He recently purchased the used car lot at 1139 E. 12th Street in Oakland, substituting his own shingle: "ART HORSFALL — USED CARS".

Can an honest man become a successful used car dealer? Frankly, we always doubted it. But Art believes honesty can pay off in the used car field as well as in other businesses, and he aims to prove it.

Tell all your friends who may be in the market for a good used car that you know a dealer who would have ended Diogenes' search. Art is building toward repeat sales and has to mean it when he promises a square deal. The new phone number is TE 2-7750.



It's a big name, but it does a big job, this miracle cleansing agent. Here's a polish that will make your aluminum door sills and valve covers like polished chrome. Recommended for silver, brass, chrome, and other metals also. Imported from Germany, it's non-abrasive and works by chemical action. Can even be used on plexiglas rear windows without scratching. Also available in 8-oz. can for \$2.50.

JAMES AUTO SPECIALTIES
BOX 151, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

FOURTH OF JULY PICNIC

The first annual BATOC Picnic was held at Elderberry Park on the 4th of July. It was a bright, sunny day and there were events aplenty for all. We counted 24 Birds of sundry sizes, but, as most of us had sold tickets to unenlightened friends driving other makes of cars, the total people in our group exceeded 50. There were too many other picnickers present to make an accurate count.

There was swimming for the young of heart in a mammoth sunbathed pool and picnic games for all. And a minor rally for those who get their kicks out of tooting their Birds along the By-ways, plus girl-ogling for the senile. Then there was FOOD!

In picnic competition, Gene Andrade took the Sack Race; Dick Staples the Balloon Shaving contest; Ernie Silva the Spoon-and-Egg Race; and Don Brooks with partner Bev Staples waltzed home with a first in rock and roll dancing. Many were too shy to enter this event, but the winners deserved to win, don't misunderstand. MaraLee's neighbor, Ruth; was miffed because her husband wouldn't dance with her. Well, it WAS pretty hot.

(Speaking of neighbors, MaraLee must have more of 'em than a sideshow medicine man. Seems every time we see her we meet "another neighbor". How does one keep in the good graces of the people next door? Ours won't speak to us, much less attend the same picnic.)

Excuse the editorial interruption. After the park games, the rally began. We wouldn't say it was difficult, but only those far-sighted enough to unwind a ball of twine behind them were able to return the same way they had gone. Nobody got lost but Rich Staples claimed he drove



around the municipality of Hayward for two hours trying to locate someone's piece of string to follow. He finally made it back on his own. The winner of this event was our guest, Ray DeCosta, president of the M-G Club, with Ernie Silva and Don Brooks following in that order. But the day was not a complete bust for our hero Staples. Thanks to his beautiful (and athletic) wife, together they amassed more points than any other family and took the master trophy for the day (see photo).

On the whole, the day was considered a success, with all enjoying themselves and no member becoming one of the National Safety Council's accident statistics.

— Rosemarie Volpatti

(Editorial Comment: A big hand for the two Volpattis who worked mighty hard to make this a full day for the rest of us. Rich, in fact, must have shed a pound or two of avoirdupois. He seems slimmer, somehow.)



Many of you, lucky enough to get vacations in the southern part of our state, will make sure that Las Vegas is at least a stopover spot. But for those not so fortunate, a marvelous two-day "vacation" in Vegas is being worked up by your enterprising Activities Committee and Owen Lewis. The dates are indefinite, but only because an attempt is being made to have our new-found friends from the Southern Cal Club join us. Originally set up for next month, it will now probably be sometime in October.

For the ABCs of fun, Las Vegas can't be beat . . . A - Inexpensive; B - First-class eating and sleeping accommodations; C - Plenty of GOOD entertainment. Also sunshine 365 days a year with many facilities for keeping cool and comfortable.

You can live like an Indian potentate for a day if you but tear yourself away from the gaming devices before the contents of your wallet are gone. Owen believes an arrangement with the Thunderbird Hotel will be made for free accommodations for up to 100 couples in Thunderbirds, plus a big Saturday banquet thrown in. The Hotel considers the vision of a flock of T-Birds parked outside well worth their largesse. Besides, knowing human nature, they realize that they will get it back and then some at the tables.

If you can stop gambling long enough, there's much to sightsee around Vegas. Just 30 minutes away is mighty Boulder Dam with the largest man-made lake in the world. Lake Mead has 550 miles of shoreline and abounds with bathing beaches,

(Continued on Page 4)

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG



HER MOTTO TODAY - "VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE"



26 YEARS AGO, A HONEYMOON

WONDER BOY



Here's a phlegmatic little fellow everybody loves — even misopedic me. (That's a \$2 word meaning a dislike for children, and is your new word for July.) You can harness him to a post, drop his play pen around him and go, or even tell him his father once was the red mustachioed trigger man for the James Boys. Nothing seems to bother him. Nor does he ever appear to run out of gas.

Of course, we're eulogizing the Club's favorite 1½-year-old boy, Mitchell Staples, the most even-tempered little tyke we know. Come to think of it, he may be the only 1½-year-old lad in the Club, which isn't exactly noted for the fertility of its members. Offhand, we can recall only two — the Gonzales and Staples couples who have had as many as two offspring. The notable exception which comes to mind is, of course, your prolific (in more ways than one) editor and his Mrs. who didn't know enough to quit until we had four! That makes us kinda out of place in a Club founded for people with an affinity for a one-seated automobile.

MR. GONZALES

Our sympathy goes out to Joe Gonzales on the death of his dad during the month of June.



"He tried to get into Skip's new club owning a '58 Thunderbird."

On Maids and Mustaches...



One of our favorite boyhood pastimes used to be to dream of the magic age 21, automatic manhood, and the time when we could grow a mustache and be suave with the ladies just like Errol Flynn. (Errol was really younger, but manhood avoided your editor, as you will see.) Words cannot convey the utter frustration and anguish we endured during the first decade of adulthood when hair simply refused to appear on our upper lip. Marriage came, and after that child upon child, but not a single follicle became fertile. Can you imagine the abject humiliation of walking the corridors of maternity hospitals hour after hour and seeing other prospective fathers become shaggy and unkempt with beautiful, bristly whiskers, while our own visage continued to match the cherubic faces in baby bunting on the other side of the viewing glass? It was horrible.

Former school chums (six boys and one girl) who had been shaving twice daily since the 7th grade, ridiculed us at our 30th birthday celebration when only the downiest fuzz was showing on our upper lip. "Grass can't grow where the sun never shines, Pinocchio," they taunted. Even my mother had more of a mustache than I. Father was a swarthy aborigine who needed another shave minutes after putting away his straight-edge. He used to fasten his hard eyes on me (using a Little Giant Stapling Machine) while I applied a concoction of Vigoro and olive oil to my lip. Then, throwing up his hands in a typical gallic gesture (no, not Gaulic, you fools — gallic), he would remark, "Gad, how that kid of yours galls me!" Pa used to shave 30 or 40 times a day himself. (He was a barber, so he did shave 30 or 40 times a day.)

Those were hectic days. And when I say hectic, I mean trying, because I don't know what hectic means. But eventually the scraggly lip foliage you see today put in an appearance and our happiness was boundless — until we found that hair was growing on the rest of our face, too, and it was virile stuff, effectively camouflaging the insipid com silk under the nose. Immediately we were launched on the shave-once-a-day kick that rugged men everywhere abhor. Men unconcerned

with nurturing a mustache envy women, the lucky stiffs, because they don't have to shave at all. The reason they don't have to shave is because they have no beards. The reason they have no beards can be explained by scientific facts. Now I didn't study science in college. In fact, I didn't go to college. (And I don't know the facts.) But the logical explanation seems to be that millions of years ago Mother Nature made women beardless because she knew that no woman would be able to keep her tongue still long enough to shave her chin.

The reason for this long prologue is merely to show you the travail your editor went through before he was able to attain man's estate. Yet, overnight as it were, almost half the male membership of the BATOC has sallied forth (I wonder what's become of Sally?) luxuriant with lip lettuce. "Slick" Staples, "Con" Brooks, "Candy" Larsen, "Knuckles" Silva — yes, and even that young upstart, Joe ("Gat") Gonzales, are challenging the charter members of the Mustache Club for Cookie Duster supremacy. Overnight, I say. It's enough to make one wonder where to go to get an overdose of napping pellets.

Well, I have sad news for these young whippersnappers. Women inherently mistrust the chap with a mustache. Errol's way with a wench was never ours. We were still as unpopular as a flea with bad breath. Whereas the ladies used to acquiesce once in awhile, it was always "no" after the mustache came along. Even if I just asked a gal for the time, she said "no". (This was a leading question calculated to place her in a compromising position. It may have worked for Errol Flynn but it never worked for me.) Hirsute adornment. Phooey!

So, in a mood of total disillusionment, I am now trying to perfect a new product which I am going to call "Reversall". Reversall, if successful, will do away with razors, shaving cream, depilatories, styptic pencils and all that jazz. If it could do away with women, that will be OK with me, too. Applied to the face, Reversall will cause the beard to grow inward where it can easily be bitten off by the teeth. Thank you.



Dottie Farrell clipped her beautiful blonde tresses - "to a length more in keeping with today's styles", she says. Her hubby likes it this way, which should be good enough for the likes of me. This leaves Rosemary Hallum all alone in the Long Hair League if failing eyesight and a dimming memory serve . . . Speaking of hair, my son, "Curly" White doesn't worry about his getting thin. "Who wants fat hair?" sez he . . . Other appearance changes noticed in addition to Don's Cue-Ball Haircut previously mentioned are the crop chops of Messrs. Riggs, Shideler and Houston . . . How about the Little Lord Fauntelroy drawers worn by Board Members Farrell and Staples to the last meeting? If you missed this sight, be sure to come to the August meeting. Now that they bought 'em they have to wear 'em, and where else can they appear without being arrested? . . . Incidentally, the next meeting (August 1) will be held at The House of Harvey and on a Saturday instead of Tuesday. These innovations may become permanent if they meet with majority approval. Where is The House of Harvey? Simply proceed south on the East Shore Freeway toward San Jose - at an obedient 50 mph, of course. Watch for signs indicating the Oakland Airport and Hagenberger Road where you will turn right. The H of H is only a short distance and all by itself. You can't miss it . . . Our distinguished president, not to be outdone by Ray Davis of the Southern California Club, presided over the last half of the July meeting (he was late) attired in white coat and dark, striped trousers. Do you suppose he read that an MC should always appear in full-dress regalia so that if his performance isn't well received all they have to do is fold his arms? At some union meetings, it is considered thoughtful to sew handles into the sides of an MC's trousers. It makes things easier for the pall bearers. But this Club isn't violent, Don. If you want to dress dangerously, it's your privilege . . . Back to the House of Harvey once again - a group of 19 members made a "test run" one Saturday night in early July and liked what they saw. The meeting room is completely closed off from the rest of the restaurant. The food was voted good, even tho one stubborn couple, perhaps from force of habit, still ordered fish. At 9 p.m. a Three-Piece Orchestra took over and was absolutely tops! You have to hear for yourself in order to appreciate fully the wondrous effects to be obtained from a violin, accordion and bass viol when the musicians are experts. Perhaps we should leave the critic's appraisal of music to an expert like Jack Taylor, but at least you get the idea that we liked it. . . Speaking of our boy, Jack,

bet you didn't know he was born to the purple. One of his ancestors had varicose veins . . . Your Editor's hub-caps are still drawing raves. Apparently nobody dislikes them. Unless, of course, we consider one member of the family Canis Familiaris (probably a St. Bernard), who, having discovered the downtown garage where the car is stored, regularly places his moist stamp of disapproval on them. On second thought, it must be a "Bird" dog, because our car is quite secluded. . . . Birdland has received many nice compliments during the past year (in addition to the carping letters we sometimes print.) Much of the credit must be passed along to you people who contribute your efforts and/or offer encouragement so faithfully. It takes help to put out a Club paper, and we'd like to take this chance to thank those of you who have helped in the past year. Thanks, too, to you who may not have submitted any material but were nice enough to say how much you enjoy the paper. It means a lot . . . We were happy to learn that jackets with T-Bird emblem are being considered for our Club. One bid of \$7 has been received which seems more than reasonable . . . The Horsfalls sold their beautiful home in the Oakland hills recently and are now living at 3917 Atlas Street. Art and Maxine really do have two 1959 Birds. Any member owning a lettering brush who can spell 'His' and 'Hers' is invited to drop around . . . The mystery members on page 2 this month are Bev Staples (who changes her hair color practically every other day, and the Fickers, Grace and Frank . . . Dick Nagle was made Chief in the Coast Guard recently . . . Are we slipping? No new members this month, altho we seem to have prospectives at every function . . . Last but not least - an IMPORTANT NOTICE! Portions of our By-Laws will be voted upon at the August meeting. If you have definite convictions as to how they should be written, better be there!

OL' HARDTOP RETURNS

It's a warm welcome back to our congenial bachelor, Andy Larsen, after a long spell of the dorsal miseries that included an operation, hospital stay, and the usual convalescing period at home. But he's back at last, ornamented with, of all things, a bristling, reddish mustache! It'll prove the kiss of death insofar as future success with the ladies is concerned, we fear. Well, at least the fellows welcome you back, Andy.



What most people have ready for a rainy day is a freshly washed car.

LAS VEGAS (Cont. from Page 2)

boat docks, bass and trout. But the one thing Las Vegas is most famed for is its entertainment, and that is practically free. There is no cover at the resort hotels which regularly feature the likes of Frank Sinatra, Marlene Dietrich, Danny Thomas and Carol Channing.

Another way of avoiding too much temptation (at the tables, that is), is to avail yourself of the activities outside the gambling rooms. Most motels have excellent swimming facilities and there are two 18-hole golf courses handy. In all sincerity, there's really too much from which to choose in only one day's time there. It'll seem a waste of time to have to go to sleep.

Plan now to be one of the group to be heading toward Las Vegas in October. Just bring your budget, your will-power, and your Bird. Las Vegas will be everything we promise - plus those real nice people from the Southern Cal T-Bird Club.

MEMO FROM MEMBERSHIP . . . Due to circumstances over which Maralee had no control (Uncle Sam wouldn't deliver mail on a Sunday), her material didn't arrive at our office in time to make print. She says she didn't have much to say anyway. But she phoned in the list of birthdays for the month of August which are as follows:

- 2 - Mel Talley 13 - Byron Shideler
- 4 - Jay Stewart 15 - Joe Koonce
- 12 - Don Brooks 16 - Donna Sell
- 24 - Paul Tanzillo

THUNDERBIRD ACCESSORIES



T-BIRD TURTLE BACK luggage racks are reshaped to fit the deck. They are made of aluminum tubing. Installation is permanent with new, patented fasteners. Specify model year of car for correct fit. The 1957 style shown is \$90 F.O.B. Hollywood. Prices for '55 and '56 Birds are available on request.

Also shown in the picture is a Continental Kit for the '57 T-Bird. You get distinctive beauty plus the trunk space of a big car when you mount the spare wheel outside. This unit sells for \$180 with the extended section in prime paint, and \$200 if chromed.

ORDER DIRECT FROM
COACHCRAFT SALES CORP.
 9015 Santa Monica Blvd.
 Hollywood 46, California

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

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	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.
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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 deity
- 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.

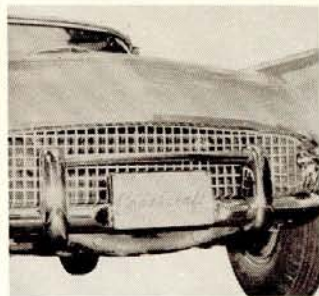
We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Growden for carrying on so valiantly during Andy's recent operation and convalescence.

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?)

What's New in Birdland

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 1959

ACTIVITIES REPORT

by Andy Larsen

Here we are at that time of the month again where I have to put down in writing what we have been up to in recent weeks. But first I find myself asking, "Why are so few attending the events lately?" Those who do come always seem to have a good time, whether it's a tour to Kokomo or a rally to some hideaway for lunch and a beer. Believe me, those of you who have never run a rally might be surprised to find out how interesting they can be. Get out some Friday and take in another Club's rally — the papers are full of them — and perhaps, with more interest, we can set up some of our own again. After you've actually run a rally, let us know what you think of it. Let's have no more of this "I don't like rallies" until you've tried one. So much for rallies.

We had six Birds and one Jag (Bob White's sister and husband) on the run over to Columbia. The valley was a little warm but you only noticed it when you slowed down to sixty. I thought the one-time metropolis of Columbia would be more in keeping with our concept of the old-time Western setting (cowboys and Indians), but the trip there taught us that California only had miners, card players, barkeeps and . . . er, femmes d'joie. Maybe next time we will plan an event where we can play cowboys and Indians. We found a wonderful picnic site out near Boot Hill all by ourselves. Evidently ghosts don't like chicken because they left us strictly alone — us and six trillion yellow jackets who did. We were told to bring along the necessary equipment next time and pan for gold. I think them old-timers are getting their nuggets mixed up with yellow jackets, but isn't the prospect (of prospecting) intriguing!

Other events of the summer have been poorly attended too, perhaps for a variety of good reasons. But, in the chance that your Activities Committee may not have been doing a bang-up job, we want to know it. So, sometime this month you will receive in the mail a questionnaire and we'd certainly appreciate your filling it out and returning it to us. As you might gather, we want to lure some of you out of your cocoons and into the

— Continued on page two

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

September						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	.	.	.

October						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER

- 19 & 20 — RENO RALLY. Leave Hy's Drive-In at 5 am on Saturday, September 19th.
 22 — Pick up Football Princesses at SF Airport.
 22 — ACTIVITIES Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, 3451 35th Avenue, Oakland.
 25 — PARADE OF LIGHTS . . . Berkeley's annual fall football parade. Members and non-members, call Art Horsfall, TE 2-7750 (days) or AN 1-8095.
 29 — MEMBERSHIP/TECH Meeting, 8 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland.

OCTOBER

- 3 — GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING, House of Harvey, 320 Hegenberger Road — unless otherwise notified. A committee is working on a possible new meeting place as we go to press.
 20 — ACTIVITIES Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, 3451 35th Avenue, Oakland.
 24 & 25 — LAS VEGAS TRIP, meeting with the So-Cal TC of America at The Hacienda (see adjoining column of Andy Larsen for details).
 27 — MEMBERSHIP/TECH Meeting, 8 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland.

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG



Nicest
guy in
Club

Still an
enigma
to many



Answers are
revealed
in crossword
puzzle
inside

LADY BIRD WITH WANDERLUST



Resuming our biographical section this month, for the benefit of newer members who very likely have never seen the little lady pictured above, we present young old-timer Sue Ranley. Because of a variety of interests, we aren't often able to entice her to T-Bird affairs, but she is a dyed-in-the-wool Bird lover all the same.

Sue was born some time before World War II. About ten years before, which places her in the mean age bracket of our Club. (We trust you are sufficiently acquainted with word differences to realize that "mean" here is used in Webster's No. 2 definition, i.e., "average", and not in the more familiar sense of "stingy" or "ill-tempered", quite often used in reference to editors but never ladies.) The Bay Area has always been her home and Piedmont High prepped her for Stanford, from whence she graduated in 1952 with a degree in Social Sciences.

While she may prefer the Bay Area as a place to reside, the travel bug hit Sue early but good. After her first job social working for Santa Clara County, she tired of doling out public funds and gathered together some of her own for a summer in Europe during 1954. She kept her nose to the grindstone from 1955 to 1958, receiving checks from United Air Lines thereby, until the urge to peregrinate struck again. So it was off to Europe once more for five glorious months of sightseeing, shopping and just plain loafing.

With the Urge completely satiated (she says), Sue is now ready to settle down to a steady job, having prepared herself for that next job by intensive apprenticeship under several specialists in the field of contact lenses, certainly as new and promising as anything in the atomic age. Any prospective employers reading this?

Interests: Loves sports, but was injured playing - of all things - football for the Stanford Girls' Team, and has performed since become spectator rather than performer in most sports. Just the same, we usually see a football and softball packed among the potato salad and sandwiches whenever Sue does find time to join us at a BATOC outing. She still enjoys swimming and sunning, however, and claims the world's record for just lying around on a sunlit beach. Her fondest dream? To spend a lifetime beside the

pounding surf at Waikiki. Loves to listen to music - nothing classical, please - Hi Fi or FM blasts from morn 'til night and on into same.

Sue evinces a lifelong interest in ogling (do girls do that, too?), talking, and driving automobiles. When the T-Bird first appeared in late '54, it was love at first sight. She managed to control her passion until July of '55 before succumbing to the artifices of the Black Bird she still drives.

Sue Ranley clings to her freedom and the gay abandon of being single, though we strongly suspect she just might be prevailed upon to change her last name should Mr. Right come along.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

- Continued from first page

swing of things. We think we have a good thing going in this Bird Club and perhaps we can get an idea or two out of these questionnaires to persuade others to come join in the fun. And if you have any other suggestions to make, bring them up at a Membership or Activities meeting. We'll be waiting with open arms.

The owner of the Thunderbird Inn at Stateline is much interested in having the BATS (short for BATOC) up to their place this year. Will know more about this and have a full report to make at our next meeting.

The Big Event for this month is the Reno Rally. In October the piece-de-resistance is the Las Vegas trip and another encounter with the Southern Cal TC of A. Final details, such as departure time, etc., will be announced at our October 3rd meeting. But for those not planning to go because of distance or whatever, we offer the world-famous Concourse d'Elegance held annually on the terrace of Del Monte Lodge at Pebble Beach (Saturday, October 24 this year). Many of you went last year and had a wonderful weekend, scrutinizing the ancient vehicles and Skip's polished penguin on Saturday, and viewing the crack-ups at nearby Laguna Seca Sunday. If you're planning to take in either of these dandy affairs, be sure to attend our October 3rd meeting, as time will not permit publishing complete details in the next "Birdland". Or phone me, Andy Larsen, KE 6-1244.

Trade White Hardtop with Portholes for one without in like condition (i.e., perfect). Prefer White. Call Ernie Silva, TH 5-7090.

(From an English newspaper) Mrs. Brown has cast off clothing of all description, invites inspection.

For Sale - Pair Red Thunderbird Floor Mats (new) - \$7.50. Call Ernie Silva, TH 5-7090.

WANTED - Information as to whereabouts of Dail Moffett, Joe Gonzales, Margaret Tracy, Bob Perry, Larry Doan and Doris Carroll.

BAY AREA Thunderbird OWNERS CLUB

DON BROOKS President
 DICK STAPLES Vice-President
 LARRY FARRELL Treasurer
 MARALEE HOUSTON Corresponding Secretary
 EDNA NEISS Recording Secretary

ROGER NEISS, Editor
 45 Ecker Street, San Francisco, YUkon 2-6268

Contributions must be in the Editor's office by the 15th in order to be printed in that month.

WARNING - A 50 cent penalty will be assessed each member who fails to present his or her driver's permit and insurance policy to MaraLee Houston BEFORE our October Meeting. No excuses, please.

(Please don't comply with the above request. We need the money.)

T-BIRD WO

(FREE DRINKS TO THE FIRST TWO MEMBERS)

1	2	3	4	5	6
12				13	
15				16	
18				19	20
			22	23	
24	25	26	27		
31					
34			35		
37			38	39	40
					43
45	46	47	48	49	
54				55	
57				58	
60				61	

ACROSS

1. Flat, circular piece of metal
5. Boatswain
9. Boat impeller
12. Brain passage
13. Behold (Latin)
14. Tiny
15. Note (Latin)
16. Tidy
17. Period
18. Main component of a windshield
20. Arms storehouse
22. Pronoun (Dogpach vernacular)
24. Modern method of travel
27. Bench tool
29. Considered separately
31. To temper
32. Preposition
34. United in one body
35. Open auto (abbr.)
36. Under the voice (Latin)
37. God of War
38. Blue Grass State
40. Salutation (pl.)

43. Fruit drink
44. Golf club
46. Thunderbird
50. To rob or pilfer
54. Aural apparatus
55. Same
57. Cloth measure
58. Pitch (mus.)
59. Found in car bearings
60. To sift (as flour)
61. Otherwise

DOWN

1. To pound or dent
2. Chemical symbol for sodium
3. Hair, rigid
4. When two crows meet
5. Mystery measure (left page)
6. Seas
7. Cicatrix
8. One of Mr. Spock's items
9. One of our members



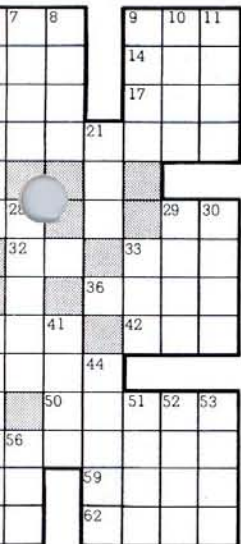
**BIRDLAND
BADINAGE**

Ken Keyser, one of our newer members, made a trip to New York behind the controls of a jet plane one Wednesday, lived it up Thursday, and returned Friday before ever hitting the sack . . . Beverly Staples got bored with housekeeping and child-raising so she got a job - working for another hair stylist. Everyone knows husbands and wives can't work together . . . Lucky Dr. Ficker. He gets paid for doing what your Editor gets slapped for . . . That striking brunette in the rear of the room at the September meeting was Luscius Lucy Sanchez of whom we don't see nearly enough. Real popular she was with the So-Cal bunch at Santa Maria. And, fellows - she's a bachelorette . . .

- continued on page four

WORD GAME

(WORDS TO TURN IN CORRECT SOLUTIONS)



- 10. Var. of era
- 11. Genuine
- 19. Polynesian dances
- 21. Urge
- 23. Lady-admiring Club member
- 24. Music-playing Club member
- 25. Cove
- 26. Trinitrotoluene
- 28. Diner
- 29. City in Oklahoma
- 30. Skin eruption
- 33. Eddie Cantor's boss
- 38. Ape's kin
- 40. Female foxes
- 41. To separate
- 44. Mystery member on first page (right)
- 45. An equal
- 46. Shield bearing (heraldry)
- 48. Opposed to day
- 49. Object of worship
- 51. Pain
- 52. Squirrel fur
- 53. Town in Gray's Harbor, Washington
- 56. Born

**MEMO from
MEMBERSHIP**

by MaraLee Houston

CONGRATULATIONS to our pretty new member, Frances Giffin, whose address is 38 Knoll Way, San Rafael (phone GL 4-6918).

(Remember, fellows, Andy saw her first! - Ed)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

Warren L. Clarke	Richard Milani
1902 E. 14th St.	3464 18th St.
Oakland, Calif.	San Francisco
AN 1-0628	California

WELCOME to prospective members Dominic and Joyce Fulco who were in attendance at our September meeting.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Oct.	Oct.
2 Rosemary Hallum	11 Ernest Silva
4 Dottie Farrell	27 Pat Nagle
10 Ken Keyser	28 Frances Giffin

WELCOME any and all members to our Membership & Technical Committee meetings held the last Tuesday of each month. You do not have to be on said committee to join in.

It was decided on by the membership committee at our last meeting to vote on prospective members only every other month. In-between meetings will be open for discussion of membership problems, etc. Since we voted on new members last time, we will not be doing so again until October 27th. This will give prospects plenty of time to get to two activities and one business meeting. Likewise, it gives us all more time to become acquainted with would-be members.

Next Membership/Technical Meeting (for discussion only) is September 29th, 8 pm, at 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland (Apt. 7)

'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.

IN MEMORIAM

We extend our sympathy to MaraLee Houston on the passing of her grandmother August 16th. MaraLee and her twin sister lost their mother at birth and they were raised by their grandmother.

**THE HOUSE OF HARVEY
(AND OTHER MATTERS)**

The House of Harvey, for the information of those of you who have been away all summer, was tried out in August and September as a possible new meeting place. Unfortunately, someone slipped up and failed to inform Art's Buffet of this temporary arrangement, and now it has become clear that we have figuratively "burned our bridges behind us." Even should we decide against the House of Harvey, we cannot return to our previous meeting site.

Following the September meeting, which found more than 40 of us crowded into a dining room designed for 12, a committee (E. Silva, P. Tanzillo, K. Keyser) was appointed to locate another meeting spot, or make arrangements with the H of H to assure our use of the larger dining room. In fairness to the House of Harvey, the mixup was at least partly our own fault. We were supposed to notify Donna Brooks if - and what - we wanted to eat. Only about a half dozen did, and the Maitre d' didn't feel he could assign one of his waitresses to the large room for less than a dozen people.

Just where next month's meeting is going to be held is not known as we go to press, so you will be notified by postal card later this month.

Personally, we like the House of Harvey fine. There is unlimited parking, complete privacy (when the larger room is used), and the food and music are excellent. Not that we are unappreciative of Mr. Al Botto's generous hospitality during the past six or seven months, but parking was a problem at Art's Buffet. Disadvantages of the House of Harvey that have been pointed out are the inadequate facilities for dancing, and rather high prices.

Concurrent with the change of locale, Saturday night was tried as an experiment, the theory here being that we could remain out later and thus "make a night of it". One group, at least, has certainly done just that. Following the August meeting, Art Horsfall led a dozen or so to the "IT" Club in San Pablo for a continuation of festivities. Nightclubbers though we are not, Art's arresting build-up of a lady athlete who could motivate inert tassels with a "Look, Mac - no hands" come-on, proved irresistible. So your Editor, strictly in the role of reporter, followed at their heels (of whom there were several). Sure enough, featured performer was a blonde dancer with the biological architecture of a ceramic outhouse who really could spin pectoral attachments clockwise or counter clockwise in rhythm to music. Those in search of higher education would do well to avail themselves of any future suggestions made by Mr. Horsfall.

WARNING TO HUSBANDS - If your wife wants to learn to drive, don't stand in her way.



One of the West's great spectacles will begin September 22nd when Berkeley hosts the 14th Annual National Football Festival, sponsored by the Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce, City of Berkeley, and the County of Alameda.

Since its inception in 1946, the Festival has mushroomed into a colorful and gigantic week-long pageant. Campus Queens are imported from universities all over the United States and last year the BATOC was called upon to furnish a fleet of spotless T-Birds to transport these beautiful young women from the SF Airport and again in the Tournament of Lights Parade before thousands of on-lookers. We are again providing transportation this year.

This gala celebration keynotes the "Official Kickoff of the National Collegiate Football Season". It serves to turn the eyes of the nation westward to the Bay Area for the opening of the college football season.

Art Horsfall is responsible for providing BATOC Birds to meet the girls at the Airport Tuesday, Sept. 21 (departing Hy's Drive-In at 9 am) and again on Friday, Sept. 25th for the Parade. Doubtless, Art has already contacted you regarding use of your car at either or both of these occasions, but we wish to remind you it means clean Birds al fresco (without tops), and coats and ties for the fellows.

Women and children step aside!

STORK NEWS



A blessed event is in the offing for charter members Faye and Lou Edwards. The natal day is almost eight months off but svelte Faye is so willowy that rumors begin if she swallows an olive. We take this means to preclude any such gossip.

Watch out for school children. Especially if they are driving cars.

TRAVEL NOTE



Lucky Patsy Nagle! While the rest of us are losing our money at Reno or Las Vegas, she will be parlez-vous-ing all over Europe with her beauty contestant sister, Mary Murphy. And if he's lucky enough to be able to swing a change of leave, Richard the Lion-Hearted will be able to tag along. You remember the Nagles. They're the couple in the red '59 who never used to miss anything before Tahoe.



October 24th is the date set for our Las Vegas trip and another trysting with the So-Cal TB of A. As most of you already know, our contemplated Thunderbird Hotel thing failed to materialize, so now our Southern friends have extended an invitation to join them at The Hacienda, where they have had reservations for six months or more. The cost per couple is \$10 for the Saturday night. If you want in on this, get your ten spot into A. Larsen's hands tout de suite (which means "NOW" - not "for the suite"). Final details will be divulged at our October meeting, but we do know some are planning to take Friday off work and stay in Bakersfield that night. They will then attempt to meet up with the Southern Cal brigade in a gigantic caravan across the desert.

The attractions along the Vegas strip as we go to press are fabulous and some at least will still be around when we go there. Besides the perennial favorites (Sinatra, Dietrich and Tucker), the Four Crosby Boys are wowing 'em at The Sahara; "Ecstasy on Ice" (nudes) is the lure of The Thunderbird Hotel; "Holiday in Japan" bares Oriental frontiers at The New Frontier. Then there's always The Tropicana where the Crosbys find wives in wholesale lots. Plus many, many other attractions. All for only ten bucks! It says here.

BIRDLAND BADINAGE

- continued from page three

... Hardly seems possible, but it's almost election time again. Dwight Johnston heads a committee (comprising Faye Edwards, Dick Staples, Edna N. and Don Brooks) to produce nominees for our consideration in October. Then in November voting will determine our new Board of Officers for 1960. We wish the present Board could be kept intact - they did so well in '59 - but all save one have signified their intent to step down. Too bad.

ON LILY-LIVERED COMPLEXES

(This article mentions birds and thereby qualifies for insertion in a Thunderbird publication.)

Poking around as I often do in the pages of scientific journals (Playboy, Bachelor, Rogue, etc.) I come across many interesting bits of information, much of which is passed along to you by means of these pages. Realizing that you do not have so much time as we for advanced learning, it is our purpose to add to your store from time to time. For instance, now.

Did you know, for example, that lower animals are subject to anxiety complexes just as we are? The lion, believe it or not, spreads his mane when terrified, although one wonders what he's got to be scared of. Or how that can help. The grizzly bear, when frightened (by a lion presumably) develops spots on his chest. The comb of the rooster and the . . . er . . . opposite of the baboon turn livid scarlet when frenzied. And you know how crabs turn red when put into boiling water.

All this has naturally led me to investigate what happens to me when I suffer anxiety. Like when a notice comes in the mail that my Thunderbird payment is overdue. Or my wife says, "Goofy, we're going to have another baby." I notice first of all that my mane spreads, too, though not so much as the lion's, probably because in spite of constant massage with 300 kinds of dandruff remover my mane is not as thick as it once was.

Like the rooster - I am quite unable to investigate a possible similarity with the baboon - my face becomes a bright scarlet, then turns purple and finally a mal-de-mer green. My wife likes to tell any and all who will listen about the color cycle I pass through under such circumstances, and would like to contribute her findings to some reputable scientific foundation. (If my wife doesn't learn to keep her big fat mouth shut I will contribute her.)

On the other hand, I find I have some reactions in a state of anxiety not shared by animals and birds. For example, when I receive an envelope bearing the return address of the Collector of Internal Revenue, I turn blue first, then shiver and my knees begin to quake. This sensation passes and my eyes get glassy and I am unable to sign checks. Moments later, dollar signs appear in the pupils of my eyes and the ink in my fountain pen freezes solid.

Should the phone ring at this time, I involuntarily jump beneath the bed and hide. When my wife (who suffers from nothing unless it is overconfidence) answers it and the voice asks for me, I become petrified and unable to move. She has to pull me out, always forgetting to extricate my nose from the bed springs first.

I hope these reactions are of some use in furthering your fund of information. They're certainly of no use to me.



What's New in Birdland

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 10

OCTOBER 1959

MYSTERY GIRL



Really not much mystery to this pretty little girl's identity - she looks much the same today. If you can recognize her, it'll make working the crossword puzzle inside that much easier. (Our apologies for goofing up last month's puzzle. There should be no flub-ups this time.)



IT'S PARTY TIME AGAIN!

Starting off the social season with a bang, hard-working Richard Volpatti of-

fers a delectable piece of party fare for all to savor! It'll be a Hallowe'en Masquerade at Scioto's Hall, 5117 E. 14th St., Oakland, on the night of October 31st - a Saturday. Ghosts begin wisping about at 8 p.m. in rhythm to a three-piece combination spelled by hi-fi records. Buffet is provided sans charge, with beer and milder potables at nominal prices.

COSTUMES ARE MANDATORY for everyone - even the workers! No one will be admitted wearing regulation attire, so get with it and come up with something sharp. There will be prizes awarded for the best costumes, as well as the expected door prize.

Sell tickets to all your friends like mad, please! Orchestras come high. If you were present at the October business meeting you were probably saddled with a bloc of tickets by our dedicated Rich, but if you're hurting for pasteboards you can get them from any member who was there. He (or she) will be most happy to sell them to you at the going rate of \$1 apiece. And for those who may be tired of the old familiar faces within our own group, you may look forward to seeing the fresh new ones of the M-G Club - after masks have been removed, that is.

IMPORTANT - All unsold tickets must be turned back to Rich before October 31st!

Larry: "Be sure to see "The Fly" when it opens at your neighborhood theatre."

Ben: "If it's one of them dirty pictures, I ain't goin'!"

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

October

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
.	.	.	.	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30

OCTOBER

- 24, 25 - MONTEREY/PEBBLE BEACH. Make your own reservations upon arrival. Leaving Jack London Square at 8 am Saturday.
- 27 - Membership/Technical Meeting, 8 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland
- 31 - HALLOWE'EN PARTY, Scioto's Hall, 5117 E. 14th Street, Oakland - 8 pm. Let's Go!

NOVEMBER

- 7 - GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING, House of Harvey, 320 Hegenberger Road. Cocktails at 7; Dinner at 8. Be sure to notify Mrs. Brooks (KE 6-3616) if you intend to dine.
- 17 - Activities Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland.
- 24 - Membership/Technical Meeting, 8 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland.

(Andy Larsen's Activities Report will be found on page two this month.)

ACTIVITIES REPORT

by ANDY LARSEN

Once again we were given the honor of driving the Queens in the Berkeley Parade of Lights. Fifteen beautiful girls and I'll give you one guess who drove the eventual reigning Queen for '59! I'd like to thank all the people who helped make our part of the Parade such a success and particularly those who came out of hiding after an absence of too long duration. This will probably be your baby again next year, Art, and thanks.

The Reno Rally was the only Club activity for September and not having made the trip myself, I'll leave that for your Editor to tell.

As next month will be my last as your Activities Chairman (the incoming President appoints his own), I want to give my deepest thanks to the members of my committee who worked so hard for your entertainment, and all others who pitched in and helped. I'd like to see as many as possible make it to the Activity meetings. Let's give the new regime all the encouragement and support possible.

THE PARADE OF LIGHTS

I opened my big mouth again and got the duty but now that it's all over I'm proud to have pushed the issue.

Sven Larsen backed me all the way, phoning, overseeing, etc. He's worth his weight in this Club, believe me.

We had to sweat some raising enough cars for the airport - we had 13 promised and needed 19. It wasn't until we threatened to call on the Corvette Club that the members really taxed themselves and we made the airport with one car to spare. This I appreciate, as many had to take half a day from work. This proves their integrity.

Friday night's parade was even more fantastic than last year. Two doctors, prospective members both, George Rudy, Mel Talley, Joe Gonzales, and several more rarely seen members came to help, and they were certainly appreciated. We gained thousands of compliments and our Club became better known and appreciated. Our beautiful cars were even more beautiful with the glowing college beauties aboard and we were decidedly envied by other car clubs. If we ever slip up, Corvette, Jag and MG will all try to take over.

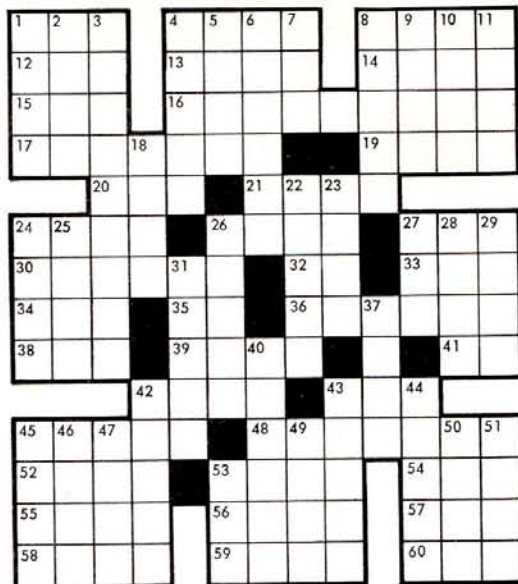
Fifteen lucky drivers got to transport lovely girls and another six or eight were chauffeurs for civic dignitaries. In every block of the parade there was at least one Thunderbird.

Friday evening was topped off by a delicious seafood dinner at Spenger's in Berkeley.

At the Coronation Ball, for which we were given after-dinner tickets (Saturday night), more than a dozen BATOC members saw Miss Joan Griffin of Baylor take the crown. But the winner almost lost and the losers almost won, it was that tough to pick the outstanding beauty.

- by Art Horsfall

T-BIRD WORD GAME



HORIZONTAL

1. A Horsfall
4. Mine cart
8. Your Editor's boss
12. Famous charioteer
13. Well-known California wine
14. Chinese noodles
15. Suffix used in forming names of certain hydrocarbons
16. Pleasing entertainment
17. Threatens
19. Periods of time
20. A hint
21. Direction of sunrise
24. Mr. Taylor's given name
26. Norway's capitol
27. Sacred poem (abbr.)
30. Beetle
32. Advertisement
33. Salt
34. Half a sen-sen
35. Limited (abbr.)
36. Girl in mystery picture
38. A toddler
39. Air (combining form)
41. Opposed to AC
42. In reality (legal)
43. To scold
45. Body organ
48. Becomes red
52. To check
53. Modus operandi
54. Horse fodder
55. Ancient (Med. sp.)
56. Of special interest to Rosemary Hallum
57. South-Southeast
58. Famous basin in N.E. France
59. God of War
60. Annual dues in BATOC
71. Pismire (pl.)
78. Female relative
72. "Remember the _____"
73. Arm & Hammer's famous product
74. Joke
75. Ersatz butter
76. Opposed to chaos
77. 23rd letter of Greek alphabet
78. Found in bottom of bird cages
79. Fish sauce
81. African antelope
87. Most popular holiday
80. Blur again
82. Inside part
83. Girl in mystery picture
84. Halloween character
85. Stout, thick fabric
86. Former BATOC member now in Africa
87. Opera by Verdi
89. Highway division
90. Facility
91. Leap (Scot.)
93. Parent-Teacher Association

VERTICAL

1. Interjection
2. A secret
3. Sharp-edged
4. Sleeplike state
5. Ancient world capitol
6. Entertains
7. Mothers
8. Ant
9. Ruminant mammal
10. Girl's name



BIRDLAND BADINAGE

It's best wishes to our newly-weds, Bob and Doris Growden who middle-aided September 20th. Likewise to any other members perched on the brink of matrimony who may have gone and done it while our back was turned . . . The ballyhooed Las Vegas trip was cancelled due to a severe case of backdownitis. Two months ago 22 members present at an Activities meeting had voted unanimously to accompany Southern Cal to the gambling metropolis . . . The beautiful brunette beside Don at the October meeting is no longer a brunette. That was no powdered wig Donna was wearing. What some peo-

- continued on page four

Solution to September Puzzle



MEMO from MEMBERSHIP

by MaraLee Houston

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR:

Melvin and Barbara Talley, 334 Ohlones Street, Mission San Jose - phone OL 6-4735.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: (November)

- 5 - Rose Volpatti
- 9 - Dail Moffett
- 11 - Joe Gonzales
- 13 - Jack Taylor
- 16 - Edna Neiss
- 18 - Warren Clark
- 19 - Bob White
- 23 - Sue Ranley
- 30 - Lorraine Lewis

There were no new members voted in to our Club during October. As explained last month, every other month we are going to devote our time to open discussion of membership problems, etc. However, in correcting our address list, we find five members whose names should be removed because they are no longer in the Club. They are: B. S. Brown, Jack Enright, Russ Pratt, Skip Riggs and Jay Stewart, which leaves us with 45 cars and 64 people as of September 30th. If you want to bring your list up to date you are welcome to check yours over with mine at any general business meeting. We have six new address changes since the list was received several months ago and if you don't have these additions you should check with mine.

Next Membership & Technical meeting for PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS and any Club members who wish to attend will be October 27th, 8:00 pm, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Apt. 7, Oakland. Following is a list of the members on the Membership Committee:

Richard Staples, M.L. Houston, Rosemary Volpatti, Fay Edwards, Clo Bueno, Pat Nagle, Doris Carroll, Joe White and Don Brooks.

Technical Committee: Bill Houston and Bob Growden.

If you have any questions or complaints regarding Membership or Technical Committees, please feel free to come to one of our meetings, or contact one of the above-named members if unable to attend a meeting.



"NO, ERNIE ... NOT HERE!"

THE BATS

Composer JACK "T. Bird" Taylor

Also known as MECHANORITHOLOGISTS (LOUANI OF THE BATS) on PARADES OF SOME - MECHANORITHOLOGY -

Jack Taylor

Would that we had more members with as much enthusiasm for BATOC as Jack Taylor. He's always coming up with some idea to prove he's been thinking of the Club betimes. Now he has written a piece of music especially for the Bay Area Thunderbird Club and he'd like some clever member to provide words for it. We're printing a facsimile herewith, but if you do not read music, you're welcome to go hear him play it at Nod's, 1971 Shattuck, Berkeley, where he performs from Thursday through Saturday. Nice going, Jack!



LIKE YOUR BEEF BROCHETTE ????????



It seems we made another of our numerous tactical errors when we announced last month there would be a choice of three entrees for those who wished to dine prior to the October business meeting. In reality, but one dish was available - it was take Beef Brochette or dine on crackers and coffee for the same price while glaring balefully at the peppery beef dish in front of you.

When we were told no substitutions would be tolerated, enough rumbling of a non-digestive nature was heard to make this reporter wonder if Mt. Shasta were becoming active again. Beef Brochette is a south-of-the-border concoction that must have been invented by a drunken Mexican and is suggestive of swallowing a hot coal. One lady member who prefers to remain nameless had a \$4 repast of one swallow of Beef Brochette and as

much coffee as the management would provide. Another member, who doesn't particularly care if he remains anonymous or not, my adopted son, Joe "Webster" White (I call him that because words can't describe him), yelled like a stuck pig when Beef Brochette was proclaimed the piece de resistance. Now Webster is nobody's fool - that's why I adopted him - and normally he can digest a saddle. But he had made the mistake of ordering this spicy dish once before and would not soon forget the sleepless after-hours which followed. Besides, he says he bought so much liquor at the bar afterward in an attempt to cool his smouldering innards he could have submerged a submarine.

Well, the news is better for November. It will be several months before Beef Brochette's turn comes 'round again.

BAY AREA Thunderbird OWNERS CLUB	
DON BROOKS	President
DICK STAPLES	Vice-President
LARRY FARRELL	Treasurer
MARALEE HOUSTON	Corresponding Secretary
EDNA NEISS	Recording Secretary
ROGER NEISS, Editor	
45 Ecker Street, San Francisco, YUkon 2-6268	

Contributions must be in the Editor's office by the 15th in order to be printed in that month.

IT'S ELECTION TIME AGAIN

Below are printed names of nominees for the five executive posts of our Club. Other names may be suggested from the floor prior to actual voting time, so don't

hesitate to nominate any persons you believe to be as well or better qualified to serve.

For President:

LEW EDWARDS
BILL HOUSTON
ART HORSFALL*

For Vice-President:

BEN BUENO
ANDY LARSEN
PAUL TANZILLO
GENE ANDRADE

For Treasurer:

MARALEE HOUSTON
ROSEMARIE VOLPATTI

For Recording Secty:

EDNA NEISS
CLARA JOHNSTON

For Corresponding Secty:

LOUISE KOONCE
ROGER NEISS

*Because he is presently holding down two jobs, Art isn't certain he can do full justice to the high office of president. He wants to think about it until next meeting at which time he will

advise us whether or not he will run. In either case, he wishes to thank those who again nominated him for our Club's highest honor.

On the night of November 7th we are faced with selecting a new slate of Officers to govern the Bay Area Thunderbird Owners Club during 1960. President Don Brooks, Vice-President Dick Staples, and Treasurer Larry Farrell are not candidates to succeed themselves, so new blood will be directing our destinies in the months ahead.

The Officers for 1960 have a more challenging job ahead of them than might have been expected. They must recreate the interest and enthusiasm which have obviously lagged during the last half of 1959 . . . provide the plasma needed to restore the "togetherness" we had earlier. These qualifications must be kept in mind when we cast our ballot.

Last year at this time we had a pretty fair spread in these pages on the three candidates for President which included photographs. But this year the election slipped up on us and no one thought to bring a camera or write up synopses for inclusion in this, the last issue of Birdland to be printed prior to voting time. So, in lieu of these features, we are indebted to Dwight Johnston, Chairman of the Nominations Committee, for the following admirable summarization of the problems to ponder over as we await the November 7th election.

FROM THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

We have canvassed our membership for those who are willing and able to serve as Officers of our Club for the coming year, for which services a lamentable number of us find ourselves unavailable.

The recommendation of the Nominating Committee is that we find persons who are imbued with the idea of continuing, and are willing to work toward, our original purpose of a Thunderbird Owners' Club.

It develops that some of our newer members, while feeling they are not eligible, express a willingness to serve, so perhaps we should wink at a point of technicality.

An organization that from past experience has proved itself more a Social than Sports Car Club must ostensibly remain a

Social Club, so it would seem for the next year our Officers should be elected from those members who look in this direction.

Let's have all members of our Club attend the November 7th meeting, vote for the members of their choice and have as good a Board of Officers as we had during the past year. But, remember that the Officers cannot serve efficiently without the wholehearted support of the general membership, and this support will come from regular attendance, and such assistance as they may need.

- Dwight Johnston

THE RENO RALLY

September 19th and 20th marked the 8th Annual Reno Rally and about 36 people from BATOC made the trip and had a ball. Looking for some change (that's a pun, son) and a rest from the long, hot summer (from the play of the same name), your Editor and his beautiful mistress tagged along. The bellboys of the Mapes have the change and the slot machines the rest. Much of the trip was made in steady rainfall which proved it's a rare Bird that doesn't leak. The Edwards tried to outbluff threatening clouds by leaving their top down but finally, with laps full of water, even they capitulated.

Possibly because of the weather, there was no organized rally this year. Instead, the 250 sports cars which met at State-line, moved on to Reno via Virginia City, once Queen of the Comstock and today one of the best restored scenes of another era to be found anywhere.

Gambling-wise, the only real money-winner we noticed was cuddly Dottie Farrell who used her beautiful bosom as a receptacle for about 100 beautiful silver dollars. Others did not fare so well, but the real feature of these overnight stays is provided in the opportunity to get to know one another better. Some of the quiet ones, like Joe and Louise Koonce, we might never have gotten to meet had it not been for Reno, 1958. This year Joe must have found a live one - machine, that is - because we never saw him once. A couple of our loveliest members we

didn't get to know better were Lucy Sanchez and Dorothy Woodyard but that's only because they didn't go. Do you suppose that's why Joe White, the rascal, didn't go, either?

On the profit side of this year's trip was making the acquaintance of the Johnston's virile son, Allan, and attractive wife, Nan. Along with you, we had met them casually before, but it takes over-nights like this to get a better idea of what people are like. Allan is a grad of West Point who has since resigned his commission. Charming people, these. What a wonderful addition they'd make to our ranks were Daddy Dwight to give them a Thunderbird for Christmas! Alas, he is no Daddy Warbucks.

Reno was almost the high point of a jaded lifetime for your Editor. Wondrous Donna Brooks spent an hour in his hotel room. Along with Don and curly-headed Edna, we hasten to add.

Most of us stayed at the Mapes Hotel while in Reno. We wouldn't know about the rest of you, but the shower in our room was strong enough to stun a horse. Had Ben signed up with the rest of us instead of staying in a motel, he would be bald-chested today.

As is customary, prizes were awarded by Mr. Winterringham, sponsor of this annual event. Guess who won the master prize of four bottles of imported champagne. L'il coffee-drinking Edna, that's who. The same little lady who also won the six-pack at Krug's Winery, remember? Dwight Johnston won a giant-size (gal.) bottle of Harrah's Bonded Whiskey. Art Horsfall won a fifth of whiskey and Ernie Silva a driving light. The BATOC thus won the lion's share of all the prizes awarded.

It was a trip I'll remember as long as I live. Maybe longer.



BIRDLAND BADINAGE

- continued from page two

ple won't do to get their names in this paper . . . During 1959, according to L. Farrell, the Club spent \$1,400 and has a current balance of \$112.10, hardly enough to consider purchasing our own meeting site, now is it? . . . Our ubiquitous Ernie Silva knows a custom jeweler who will make up T-Bird Tie-Bars, Cuff-Links, Earrings, etc. in sterling silver for between \$12 and \$15. He's Winston Custom Jeweler, 1165 Besito, Berkeley . . . Ben Bueno has suggested a wonderful 3-day air trip to Vegas next summer for \$109.

What's New in Birdland

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER 1959

ACTIVITIES REPORT

by ANDY LARSEN

- Dec. 1 - ACTIVITIES meeting, 7:30 p.m.** - 3451 - 35th Ave., Oakland. The last time at Don's Diggin's after nearly two years!
- Dec. 5 - INSTALLATION dinner** (See article on this page).
- Dec. 8 - BOARD meeting** to have an auditing and changeover of the reins of management to the new officers. 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland. 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE Party,** Jenny Lind Hall No. 1 - 2265 Telegraph Avenue. Full details next month.

With a slow start in the rounding up of Birds for the Veterans Day Parade, the Club came through with all the cars that were needed for our part in this notable event. We'd like to thank each of you for taking the time to help our group promote a better understanding with the motoring public. I hope we are never referred to as a "hot-rod" club and when we show our interest in community affairs by participating in events such as this I don't think we have anything to worry about.

How does a Ski Trip sound? We have a peach of a deal lined up for the First of the Year. This time with all the comforts of home. Well, almost. The Thunderbird

Motel at South Lake Tahoe has this proposition to consider (are you listening, Lucy and D.W.): Leave Oakland on a Friday early enough to take in the floor show at one of the Clubs. Up early Saturday morning and to the ski runs for the harder ones. And back to the Clubs for a round of Chuck O' Luck, Keno, Black Jack, Roulette, Imbibing, Dancing or another show. Now you're asking, "Where's the Croesus who can afford a weekend like that right after Christmas?" Well, it isn't going to cost quite as much as you might imagine. The price of a room for two at the Thunderbird will be \$20 for two days and two nights. Each person will receive \$10 in gambling scrip for use at the Plaza Casino and \$5 in bar chits. If you don't gamble, cash in the scrip (\$20 for two persons) and you've got yourself a free room for a couple of days and ten bucks to get pie-eyed with the one you love or somebody.

If you can't leave until Saturday, the Thunderbird Motel will charge you only \$12 for the two days and one night (for two). But you'll get \$14 back for games of chance and six for quenching. That's roughly about 12 drinks, and you can make quite a bit of headway with that, if you care for headway-making. Who doesn't?

Let us know if this sort of a lark - it's a play on "Birds", get it? - appeals to the red corpuscles which are to be found in every true Bird lover.



The BIG annual social event of the Bay Area Thunderbird Owners Club is without doubt the combined Installation Dinner and Christmas Party. This gala affair will be held December 5th in the Cascade Terrace of the swank Lake Merritt Hotel which affords a panoramic view of beautiful Lake Merritt.

Cocktail "hour" has been set from 7 to 7:30, with a wonderful dinner to follow promptly. You will have a choice of the Ham entree at \$3.35 or Steak at \$4.00. Dancing begins at 9:00 and continues until 2:00 a.m.

On this occasion, Don Brooks will formally turn the "gavel" over to incoming President Art Horsfall. Following this brief ceremony, "Santa Claus" Larsen will distribute the gifts which all of you so thoughtfully remembered to toss beneath the tree when you came in. It is suggested that each lady bring a present for a man and vice versa, not to exceed \$2 in value. Mark "For Her" or "For Him" on the outside but do not specify any particular recipient as the gifts will be given out indiscriminately. This is to discourage those who might otherwise consider a "ticking" present and marking it "For the Editor".

Single gals - this is the BATOC event you have been waiting for! You can bring your boyfriends secure in the knowledge that they will definitely not be bored by it all. But, like everyone else who attends, they must bring a little gift for a lady. There will positively be no organized business meeting to slow up the fun.

For those of us who have always belonged "across the tracks", the Lake Merritt Hotel is at 1880 Madison in Oakland. Guests and prospective members are more than welcome so long as they remember the aforementioned Christmas packages.

Plan to attend the last Club event of this year, and come prepared for a full evening, including the dinner at 7:30.

MEMO from MEMBERSHIP

by MARALEE HOUSTON

Welcome to prospect Rich Leavitt who attended our November meeting as the guest of Gene Andrade and Lavita, who were practically making a "guest" appearance themselves, having been absent for too many months.

We have a new member - or rather, TWO new members to welcome into the fold (fold of our wings - it's another play on "Birds" - get it?). Happy to have you with us, Joyce and Dom Fulco with your '59 soft-top. Jot down their address on your membership list before you forget it.

Joyce and Dominic Fulco,
905 Elm Street, El Cerrito
Phone: LA 5-2048

While about it, please make the following corrections to your list:

Doris and Bob Growden
1270 Pine Street (Apt. 22)
San Francisco
Home Phone: PR 5-0145
Business: YU 2-8464

Mr. and Mrs. Romey (Meg, Tracy)
11 David Court, Walnut Creek
Home Phone: YE 4-2563

How about those weddings! Three of them since September First! Congratulations to newlyweds . . .

Jackie and Warren Clark
Doris and Bob Growden
Mr. and Mrs. Romey (Meg, Tracy)

December proved to be the birth month of more Bird lovers than any other with 9 members having been one-time "Christmas presents" to their parents.

12/5 - MaraLee Houston
12/7 - Andy Larsen
12/18 - Dwight Johnston
12/24 - Bob Cole
12/27 - Max Semler
12/27 - Maxine Nunes
12/27 - Bill Bosak
12/28 - Clo Bueno
12/29 - Ben Bueno

- Continued on page 4

THE ELECTION



HORSFALL
NEW
PRESIDENT

The Election of Officers for the year 1960 is history!

Despite a last-minute emergency which necessitated much scurrying about by Prexy Don Brooks to secure a substitute meeting place, and then individual phone calls to the membership by glamor-puss Donna, more than 20 eligible voters put in an appearance at Cerro's in El Cerrito to choose the officers for the coming year.

As was the case this year, three fellows and two gals will comprise the new Board. In fact, the gals are the same as last year, only their duties will be slightly different. Irreplaceable MaraLee succeeds Larry Farrell as Treasurer . . . not so mute tribute to her high esteem among the membership. Popular MaraLee Houston thus becomes a fixture at the head table for an unprecedented third straight year! The likeable grey-head, Edna Neiss, was re-elected Recording Secretary unanimously in an emotion-packed gesture.

Art Horsfall, our charter vice-president, inherits the head office so admirably filled by versatile Don Brooks this year. Lew Edwards was elected his running mate, thus succeeding our good friend and bombastic parliamentarian, Dick Staples.

Last, and certainly least, your not-too-humble editor will attempt to follow the wondrous MaraLee in her capacity as Corresponding Secty. It is to be hoped our Rabelaisian typewriter will not imperil the Club's social standing irreparably. Apparently no one took this hazard into consideration, as the selection was unopposed. Or perhaps no one else wanted the job.

Congratulations to our new leader, Art Horsfall. We know he has the qualities to guide the Club wisely in its third and crucial year. He has the necessary enthusiasm to regenerate the interest of apathetic members, and has always had the best interests of the Club uppermost in his heart.

Deepest thanks are in order, too, for the entire outgoing Board which inherited a Club mired in debt and pulled it out of the morass without stinting one whit on fun and frivolity. Many pleasure events were staged during the year with little emphasis placed on their money-making aspects. The fact that we are currently almost \$200 in the black is a fine tribute to outgoing Don Brooks, Dick Staples, Larry Farrell, and their capable committee people who saw to it that we had lots of good times while avoiding events which proved too costly during our first year. A wonderful, wonderful job. Thanks, all of you!

We regret that our photogs, Owen Lewis and Frank Ficker, were not in attendance at the election. As a result,

appropriate election pics are not available at this time. But we'll get 'em at the Installation Dinner next month, eh lads?

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

Thank you for your vote of confidence in selecting me to the highest office of our Club for 1960. I promise to do my job to the very best of my ability. And I'd like to commend this year's officers for keeping the Club intact and laying more groundwork for the years to come.

We now enter our third year and I promise you will see strength and cooperation such as you haven't witnessed before. My motto will be, "The strong members will gather the weak and the weak will become strong."

At the turn of the year I plead with all of you to attend the meetings and regain your enthusiasm. Winter months usually show a slacking off of interest, while spring and summer find interest perking up again. I am going to strive to revitalize the winter events so that spring and summer will be better than ever before.

I call on each and every member to attend the Installation Dinner to pay respects to the outgoing officers who labored so well for us during 1959, and to pledge whole-hearted support to the new regime. This is a call to all. Please be there.

Support your Club and it will continue to be the best in the business. My officers and I are going to do our damndest to make this hold true, but we can't do it alone.

Come - and do! We need you!

- President-elect Art Horsfall

P.S. - Anyone for Committee work? If interested, please contact me.

CRY HELP



Sure would like to have an associate editor to help prepare some of the articles for publication. As said, before, this periodical is somewhat under subscribed, and it gets to be quite a chore writing the articles, re-typing on the composing machine, illustrating, and doing the camera work necessary in preparing copy for photo-offset printing. How about one or two of you gals with a flair for writing stepping out from behind those bushel baskets? We know of five or six eminently qualified.

This is not exactly a thankless job, as witness the accompanying photo of your Editor resplendent in a brand new Club jacket which was presented at Reno in appreciation for a year's work as Editor. We might as well take this opportunity to thank the members for this fine gift and promise to wear it proudly - er, humbly.

NEW STORE OPENS FOR SPORTS CARS

Remember that old song, "There ought to be a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty"? Well, now there is - for poor, unfortunate sports cars. Not a society, perhaps, but a home away from home so to speak, where the sports car owner (and that even includes us!) can "stop and talk", and have a free cup of coffee to boot. At last someone has done it - created a store exclusively for sports cars and imports, and how welcome they are! Faye and Flo Stillely, who originated the idea, claim that the most encouraging part of their business is that everyone tells them, "We're so glad someone has finally done it . . . opened a place just for us!" "Us", of course, being the ever-growing league of individuals who have put the driver back in driving by demanding more in an automobile than push-buttons and tons of chrome.

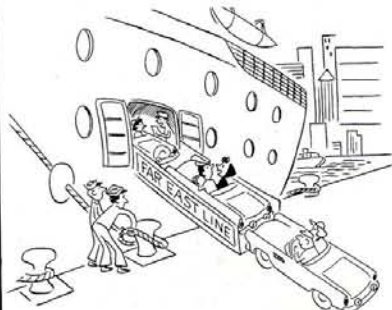
As you well know, from belonging to a distinct group of sports car people, it isn't always easy to be a pioneer in any field. So all the support you can give the "Cole Grand Prix" (pronounced "Pree") will be much appreciated. At the moment, their line of Thunderbird goodies may not be complete, but it is being added to by the day in hopes that Santa Claus will find their shelves full by the time he comes a-shopping next month. Faye and Flo (one girl, one fellow) are searching the four corners of the U.S. for more and better things to brighten the plumage of this proud bird which is second only to the American eagle. Cole Grand Prix is located at 20619 Mission Blvd., Hayward, and remains open Thursday and Friday evenings from 7 until 9, as well as six days a week during regular hours.

If you have any suggestions - constructive ones preferred - these fine people would appreciate hearing from you. In any event, drop around and reiterate, "It's about time!"

"Consumers Research" states that two out of three Ford buyers this year are going to buy a Falcon. What's a Falcon, Daddy? Well, it's not a Thunderbird chick, but a little car with the motor up front where it belongs and the payments in arrears where they belong.

OVERHEARD AT MONTEREY:

"Do you have suitable accommodations where I can put up with my wife?"



"I DIDN'T KNOW RALLIES WERE THIS MUCH FUN."

Halloween Treat

We doff our sports caps to Chairman Rich Volpatti and Co. for a Hallowe'en Party that provided a gay time for some 100 Thunderbird people and their friends. Those who couldn't come missed an orgy.

To the naked eye - and ours was reasonably nude due to the fact that our rubber John Barrymore face mask made glasses unfeasible - all of the costumes were of prize-winning calibre. To single out any here would be unfair to those we might neglect to mention. If one dancing girl's neckline had been any lower she would have been barefoot.

Selecting the best of the lot must have been a tough chore for the judges, but who will argue about the "Pair of Dice" being the best team get-up? They were Joan and Don Highley, friends of the Staples. Second in the best couple category was the caveman team of Pat and John Alvergue.

Best female costume was worn by Betty Duncan, girl friend of "Chief" Ken Keyser. Second among the gals was Mara-Lee Houston in a Thunderbird impersonation that won our nod as being the most original and appropriate of all. First prize for men was taken by clever Jack Reynolds, the hunchback, and who will argue over that choice? Jack later gave a pantomine dance to underscore his versatility. Second to Jack was Herb Sevens, the "female" with the rag-mop hairdo.

Too much praise cannot be given the people who worked so hard to put the Party across. Particularly Joe White, who got out of sick bed to help decorate the hall, and indefatigable Bill Houston who is always Johnny-on-the-Spot when it comes to a work detail. Here's a list of those hard-workers who gave their all for our entertainment. We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted any one.

DECORATIONS - The two Volpattis,



the Buenos, Andy Larsen, Don Maich, Bill Houston, Joe White.

TICKET-TAKERS - Clo Bueno, Don and Donna B, Edna Neiss.

FOOD COMMITTEE - Maxine H and Lorraine L, with food being donated by the wonderful women of the Club. Special mention goes to curvy Dottie Farrell for the clever Jack-O-Lanterns stuffed with salad. Almost made salad look palatable.

JUDGES - Maxine Nunes, Paul Tanzillo, Art Horsfall, Frank Ficker.

CLEANUP - Lew Edwards, Rich Volpatti, Danny Diaz, Bill Bosak and others.

BARTENDERS - Bill Houston (again!) Rich Staples, Ben Bueno.

A bit of inter-consanguineous osculation was detected by your otherwise myopic editor. According to the Bard (Tom Bard of Wetnoodle, Arkansas), every red-blooded male likes to kiss a pretty girl, even if only the ice man has his pick. This reporter received his first kiss in the fourth grade when a sexy 9-year-old blonde and I were munching the same tootsie roll. Our lips met when she ate past her half . . . and we have never completely trusted a female since. As a consequence, we have remained aloof from public amatory displays, although we have been known, in a moment of unbridled passion, to wink at a barmaid. These moments of aggression, horrendous though they may seem, have occurred so rarely that we decided this Hallowe'en night we would savor such assorted flavors of lip-

stick as might be proffered. We would LIVE! And live we did. We would not want to compromise the virtue of all the lovely women we bussed but we just wish we had a nickel for each one. We'd buy a package of gum. One passionate wench kissed with such intensity it made our head reel - Virginia, of course - while smoke curled out of our open-toed Keds. There is much to be said for the interlabial form of greeting.

The music of Rand Thomt and His One Penny was dandy, with Art's Hi-Fi set taking over during the interludes and in the later stages. Don't know why we put this off until last, but the Hallowe'en Party made money. About \$87 worth! Those foxy gals, Maxine and Lorraine, had planted enough potato chips and other saline foods to make a rush on the liquid dispensary a certainty. All the beer sold out and much of the soda pop as well. At a nice profit, needless to say.



In response to many requests - well, one - we are resuming this column after a long layoff. Quietly we have been accumulating these gems against the time when our pages aren't crammed so full of dry stuff hardly anyone reads. So, recklessly discarding the less flattering ones, here we go:

Dear Editor:
I thought you were the clean-living, Sir Galahad type who wouldn't say 'slop' if you had a mouthful of it. Last month's crossword puzzle called for a four-lettered word beginning with 's' for a substance found on the bottom of bird cages. Somebody should edit YOUR material.
(Sd) Truebody Goodpants

Dear Truebody:
Yours is a scatological mind. The word required was 'sand'.

Dear Editor:
A few months ago you told me to put my contributions in the fire because they were pornographic. I'll have you know I don't even own a pornograph.
(Sd) Vilma Piddle

Dear Ed:
I thought this was supposed to be a car publication, not a 1926 edition of Joe Miller's Joke Book. Next time you write something that's supposed to be funny, please mark "humor" after it so we will know.
(Sd) Id E. Ott

Dear Id:
I'll telephone you. The others will know.

A moronic motorist was picked up on the highway and hauled into traffic court. "What's the idea of driving sixty-five miles an hour?" asked the judge.

"I couldn't have been driving sixty miles an hour," said the man, "because I haven't been out an hour yet!"



A few of the revelers at the Hallowe'en Ball. How many can you recognize?

Sports Car * CHRISTMAS CARDS

Did you know that there are several concerns specializing in Christmas cards for sports car aficionados? Well, there are, and as might have been expected, they are located in Southern California. One of them even includes seven variations of a card for Thunderbird owners, but all have general styles which are applicable for the owners of any sports car. If interested, we suggest that you write all three of the dealers listed, asking for their free illustrated brochures. But don't linger too long, as the Yule Season draws on apace and the preparation of personalized Christmas cards takes a little time. What better way can you devise to show your rugged individuality than to send out distinguished sports car cards this year?

At the right we are printing the names of three concerns which specialize in this type of cards, along with their respective prices.



UNIQUES, 9416 Venice Blvd., *
Culver City, Calif.

	12	25	50	75	100
Plain	3.25	6.25	12.50	18.75	25.00
With your Name	5.50	9.00	15.00	20.00	25.00

*Uniques also sell gift wrapping paper to match your Christmas cards.

NOTE: Club discount of 20% for quantities of 100 or more cards placed on one order through BATOC.

MOTT ENTERPRISES, Box 1608,
Manhattan Beach, Calif.

Each	12	100	144
40¢	4.10	31.00	46.00

(No name imprints this year)

JON'S STUDIO, P. O. Box 124,
Monterey Park, Calif.

	12	25	50	100
Plain	4.00	6.25	12.00	21.00
With your Name	7.50	9.75	15.50	24.50

And, of course, you must add 4% to all the foregoing prices for state sales tax.



We saw Doris Carroll at a recent Activities meeting looking not one day older than she did ye eons ago when last she came around. Which prompts one to wonder, "What is there about these 'minor' meetings that so often lures so many absentees back into the swing?" Can it be Donna's or Beverly's coffee? In Doris' case it proved not. Just too many ardent swains competing with us for her time and in most instances the Romeos win out . . . Marvelous MaraLee has taken another job - after waiting a long while for her former employer's business to pick up. A case of one employer's loss being another's gain . . . It's Pat Nagle who's off to England, France and countries adjoining in company with her glamorous beauty contesting sister, Mary Murphy, Richard being unable to get enough time off for such an extended trip.

"Gone are the days of . . ." Richard Staples' 1890 mustache (and Don Brooks' 1980 haircut) . . . Want a handsome thorbred Siamese tomcat free, with no noticeable faults other than possibly abnormally developed sympathetic tendencies toward his feminine contemporaries? He's all yours (and 1200 Oakland lady cats) if you'll but phone the Horsfalls at ANdover 1-8095 . . . Our first Technical Chairman, B. S. Brown, proud possessor of a show-room shiny black '56, has acquired a new bride.

Quite a controversy developed at the October Activities Meeting - a much more sane place to hold them than at a General Business Meeting. The subject was, "Why are signs of apathy beginning to appear?" High on the list of probable reasons was the Saturday meeting nights, and quite likely the new Board will experiment with other days after the First of the Year, perhaps even rotating nights and sites. Another criticism heard was more concentration should be devoted to fewer activities. Inasmuch as more than 20 persons were present, these suggestions may be considered to carry some weight. The questionnaires sent out last month ought to add grist to the mill also.

Donna Sell has been in the hospital suffering from a general malaise. When last we heard, she was at home recuperating slowly . . . As of November 7th, our fiduciary assets totalled \$173.35. Our intangible resources, the wonderful people of the Club, remains incalculable . . . Charter member Dan Nieto has acquired a brown '59 T-Bird (soft-top) and a pretty wife named Betty (blonde-top). Danny is applying for reinstatement.

The "Mystery Man" this month has to be the unknown husband (no photo) of Margaret Tracy. Even Birdbrain, your nosy-newsy editor, cannot supply the answer to this one . . . Have you considered what a devilishly handsome group of men will be facing you from the head table in 1960? . . . Jack Taylor has pulled up stakes again, now performing at "The Pink Elephant", 467 Broadway, in the Big City. He works Wednesday through Sunday each week. If you wanna hear the T-Bird theme song, he advises, better tool on across the Bridge before it is renamed, "When I Take My Brunette In My Little Corvette". See you all at the Installation Dinner.

RAY DeCOSTA HURT

We know you will be sorry to learn our good friend, Ray De Costa, of the M-G Club, was seriously injured while racing his car in the recent Monterey meet. Ray and his clever wife, Rose, have been our guests many times and have been most cooperative in their help to a founding Bird Club which has not been exactly hailed as equals by other established sports car clubs. Ray is still not back on his feed. We know a get-well card from you directed to his home, 1905 E. 17th Street, Oakland, will help to shorten the slow recuperation period he is now undergoing.

CLASSIFIED

WANTED - HARDTOP - any style and color. Call Frances Giffin, San Rafael (GL 4-6918) or Andy Larsen (KE 6-1244).

FOR SALE - '57 BRONZE T-BIRD with hardtop, white interior, power brakes and steering, Fordomatic - \$2900. See Art Horsfall or call eves. (AN 1-8095)

Solution to October Puzzle

1	A	R	T	4	T	R	A	M	8	E	D	N	A
12	H	U	R	13	R	O	M	A	14	M	E	I	N
15	E	N	E	16	A	M	U	S	E	M	E	N	T
17	M	E	N	A	C	E	S	19	E	R	A	S	
20	C	U	E	21	A	S	T						
24	J	O	H	N	26	O	S	L	O	27	P	S	A
30	E	L	A	T	E	R	A	D	33	S	A	L	
34	S	E	N	L	D	36	M	A	X	I	N	E	
38	T	O	T	39	A	E	R	O	M	41	D	C	
				42	I	N	R	E	N	A	G		
45	G	L	A	N	D	48	B	L	U	S	H	E	S
52	R	E	I	N	53	P	L	A	N	54	O	A	T
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58	S	A	A	R	59	A	R	E	S	60	T	E	N

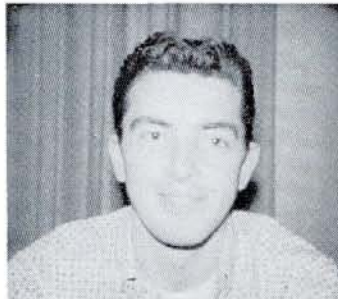
MEMO FROM MEMBERSHIP

- Continued from page 1

(How's that for timing! Maxine and Bill, a "steady" duo, sharing the same birthdate! And Clo and Ben being but a day apart - on the calendar, at least.)

Sincere thanks to Bev and Rich Staples for allowing us the use of their home this past year for Membership and Tech meetings. We truly appreciated it. I personally shall miss those friendly once-a-month gatherings at their home.

Ruth rode on a Thunderbird
Directly back of me:
I hit a bump at 65
And rode on ruthlessly.



Smile of victory is displayed by handsome Lew Edwards following his election to the vice-presidency of BATOC for '60.

"What's New in BIRD-LAND?"

Volume 2, Number 12

DECEMBER 1959

CELEBRATE

New Year's Eve

with the
BATOC!



Having such big turnouts to the social affairs put on by this Club leads me to believe that the upcoming New Year's Eve Party will be the biggest yet. We've been working on this one for some time now and it should come off without a hitch. It's being planned for all members, their close friends, as well as prospective members. Not primarily a money-making event, it is hoped we will do better than break even, however. So just bring the friends with whom you would normally be spending New Year's were the Club not having a wingding. Let's wind up 1959 in gala style.

The cost? Just \$3 per couple (\$1.50 for half-couples).

The matter of victuals for Birds has been a problem all year, but, take my word for it, the food will be strictly first class on New Year's Eve. A catering service will be installed, thus enabling our long-suffering womenfolk a full evening in which to live it up themselves for a change. No hidden costs, either, the price having been determined lo, these many weeks now. Your three bucks covers everything except potables. Beer and soft drinks will be available at the bar at nominal prices. And, for the first time at a BATOC affair, mixed drinks are being provided (about time, too - A.L.).

Liquor cannot be purchased on speculation, so we have had to estimate the consumable quotient of a Bird Club noted for having only one teetotaler in its membership. We have estimated high! Whatever is left over will be sold at cost; ergo bring a little extra moolah along in case you'd like to pick up a case of vodka, bourbon or scotch at wholesale.

Chairman Volpatti (he of Hallowe'en Party fame) hints at many surprises besides. You had better not skip this one.

Date: Thursday, December 31, 9 pm.

Place: Jenny Lind Hall, 2269 Telegraph Ave., Oakland (½ block north of Grand).

Attire: Informal (shirts and ties requested for men).

Dancing: Of course!

Music: Horsfall's Hi-Fi. If you have some good, danceable records, please bring 'em.

Whom: Members, prospects, friends.

Added Attraction: One free drink for each ticket you buy for the door prize.

Extra Added Attraction: For those loth to call it a night after 2 am, "breakfast" will be available at Bernett's New Lucky Restaurant across the street.

NOTE: The Tahoe Snow Tour has had to be postponed until later - probably March.
- Andy Larsen



TOPS for Thunderbird 55-60



SUPREME FABRIC \$19.98
BEST PLASTIC \$37.95

When you unfurled that soft top for the first time this fall did it look so ragged you had to wonder if it would hold up for one more rainy season? With the cost of recovering ranging from \$60 to over \$100, no one can be blamed for using the original top as long as it will do the job - even if it doesn't look as sharp as some of the others in the Club.

Did you ever consider buying a read-made top which you can install yourself?

- Continued on page 3

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec. 31 - **NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**, Jenny Lind Hall, 2269 Telegraph Ave., Oakland (8:00 pm).
- Jan. 5 - Membership Committee meets at Edwards' home, 3451 - 35th Avenue, Oakland (7:30 pm) Everyone interested is invited to attend.
- Jan. 12 - **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** at The Driftwood, 1313 Park Street, Alameda. Invite a T-Bird owner as your guest.
- Jan. 19 - Activities Committee meets at Horsfall home, 3917 Atlas Avenue, Oakland (7:30 pm). Everybody welcome.
- Jan. 24 - **HOUND & HARE RALLY** and **GALA CLUB BREAKFAST**. For social lovers and car fans. Get full details by attending the January 12th Business Meeting.
- Jan. ?? - **QUEEN OF HEARTS PARADE**. Parade people, have your Birds preened and await a call from your Parade Chairman.

COMING IN FEBRUARY . . . Second Annual Wedding of the Arts . . . Second Annual Happy Valley Rally. Details to be divulged at the January 12th Business Meeting.

Installation Dinner

Our Second Annual Installation Dinner and Christmas Party was held Saturday, December 5th, at the Lake Merritt Hotel, specifically the Cascade Terrace. The Terrace Room being a very popular place among the Wine, Dine and Low Neck Set, segregating some 57 BATOC members from the other revelers was a virtual impossibility. Even the most informal of meetings was out of the question.

The dinner was, as usual, fraught with the menu miseries. Seems as how 95% of our people suddenly got in the chips, or at least moderately well-to-do. In any case they weren't about to settle for the lower priced and more plentiful Catsup-Over-Ham entree. The maitre d' was obdurate, claiming a shortage of steak and his Sunday steer was still out to pasture. In short, it was "Take ham or nothing." Eventually, those with the will to argue long enough, won their point and were served steak dinners (for breakfast), after which all meandered off to the Zebra Room for the exchange of presents.

Zebra Room. It was large enough for one pair of zebras - and we had to get some 57 members into it. The 12 x 12 stall was so crowded you couldn't help bumping into bodies like Dottie, Fran, Lorraine, Donna . . . sometimes they were across the room but it was worth the trip.

In the briefest of ceremonies, Donald Brooks handed the gavel over to incoming President Art Horsfall, after which Skip Riggs was introduced and roundly applauded. Likewise, nice guy Ray De Costa, ex-President of the MG Club, who is up and about again after his near brush with the Grim Reaper at Monterey awhile back. But the surprise highlight of the entire evening - to these maudlin eyes, at least - was the presentation by Larry Farrell of a beautiful engraved Thunderbird trophy to outgoing prexy Don Brooks for his year of exceptional effort and achievement. A trophy Don will cherish always . . . and which left even garrulous Don temporarily speechless.

One couldn't help but recall how just one brief year ago Don and his Staff were the new officers. Then they were full of expectations and enthusiasm for the year 1959. Subsequent events proved most of us didn't match their spirit and gradually as the year wore on these forceful people got tired of dragging the rest of us along behind them.

Now we are blessed with new blood on the Board, members imbued with verve and resolution. Have we learned our lesson? Let us hope so. Back the members of the Board whole-heartedly in what they plan for you. Do whatever is asked of you personally, and for heaven's sake, attend the events that are scheduled - whether they be car events or socials - in that way you will encourage your officers to do better and better.



Getting back to the Installation Dinner, there was one unhappy note. Someone forgot to pay for a couple of dinners, and we all forgot about the "amusement" tax - there was live music, you know. The sum of \$188.50 had been collected before the Hotel presented its bill - for \$242.40! Poor Don Brooks. As President, he was our nominal host, and got dunned for the difference . . . \$53.90.

It would not only be unfair to Don to let him be stuck for this amount, it would be positively inconsiderate for us not to chip in a buck apiece for each dinner eaten that night. Please, please send your two dollars to MaraLee right away and enable the Brookses to begin the New Year on a happy note.

And, of course, the chap who owes for the two dinners should ante up his full share.

One of the nicer touches of the Installation Dinner was a congratulatory telegram from Past-President Skip Riggs which was circulated for all to read at table. Skip later showed up in person with his lovely wife, Mildred, and renewed old acquaintanceships.

It was nice seeing the gleaming faces of a few more members who have been noticeable by their absence lately. In addition to the Riggesses, we noted Margaret (Tracy) Romey and her ever-lovin' Len. Also Doris Growden, Bob and Gerry White - not to overlook (as if any man could!) strikingly beautiful Lucy Sanchez. Luscious Lucy was accompanied by her handsome boy friend, we also noted. Well, at least we are the same type - handsome but not conceited - so Lucy is to be commended on her good judgment.

Leonard Romey is another versatile chap worth knowing better. In addition to being a sometime house man at one of Reno's palaces of chance, his real love (after Margaret, of course) is writing. To date he has completed a couple of book-length novels and is all set to sharpen his pencil to begin a third after the starlight fades a bit. Why not a treatise on "How To Win At Reno", Len?

Looking ever more youthful and charming were Clara and Dwight Johnston who had just celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary at Las Vegas. They have found in California what Ponce de Leon failed to locate in Florida, the Fountain of Youth. What a glowing tribute to fidelity our longest-married couple presents. And yet Dwight can appraise the curvi-



linear aspects of a choice filly with the best of 'em. Perhaps that is what keeps him youthful.

Our thanks, so often forgotten, go to Owen Lewis for the many pictures gracing this article. While the rest of us were engaged in body bumping, Owen had to lug his heavy Poloroid and paraphernalia everywhere he went. We appreciate your efforts, Owen - and just to prove it, we are even printing your picture!

GIFTS FOR THE CAR

(Continued from first page)

The J. C. Whitney Co. of Chicago, for instance, offers two styles for Thunderbirds which even dunderheads can put on quite easily. Prices are far below what you would have to pay any auto top shop, too!

Their Supreme Vinyl top is similar to Ford factory material and sells for \$33.98 with a 30-month guarantee. The "Best Vinyl Plastic" top will cost you \$37.95



and carries a 42-month guarantee. Add \$1.30 for shipping and you've got it made.

Either material may be had in Black, White, Tan, Green or Blue. Unless you request it, there will be no zipper along the top of the flexible plastic rear window. Be sure to specify year of your car, color and quality desired when ordering.



MEMO FROM MEMBERSHIP

by MaraLee Houston

Our last membership meeting for 1959 was held on the 24th of November and was open for discussion only - no new members were taken in. We went over our minutes taken this past year and found everything discussed had been disposed of. The membership committee for 1959 inducted 18 new members, of whom all are still in the Club.

The meeting was turned over to incoming Vice-President Lew Edwards by outgoing Dick Staples. I'm happy to announce that Lew appointed most capable and hard-working Rosemarie Volpatti his Membership Chairman. I am taking this opportunity to thank her for the fine assistance she gave me during the past year.

The next Membership Meeting will be January 5th at Lew's apartment, 3451 - 35th Ave. in Oakland. Prospective members who have two events and one busi-

ness meeting on their guest cards should attend this meeting. Also, anyone interested in being on either the Membership or Technical Committees, please come. Lew and Rose will need all the assistance they can get for the coming year.

IT'S A HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO -

1/19 Bill Houston 1/23 Grace Ficker
1/21 Doris Carroll 1/29 Margaret Romey

Thank you all for being so kind and sweet to me this past year - one I shall always remember. It's been fun being your Membership Chairman.

(Your Editor takes this opportunity to thank both MaraLee and Andy Larsen for their faithful contributions each month to "Birdland". Without their valuable help, our little paper could not have been the informative, useful news bulletin we like to think it has become.)

BAY AREA Thunderbird OWNERS CLUB	
ART HORSFALL	President
LEW EDWARDS	Vice-President
MARALEE HOUSTON	Treasurer
EDNA NEISS	Recording Secretary
ROGER NEISS	Corresponding Secretary Editor
Contributions should be submitted to the Editor, 45 Ecker Street, San Francisco	

Civilization is a system under which a man pays fifty cents to park his car so he won't be fined five dollars while spending a dime for a nickel cup of coffee.

NEW MEETING NIGHT AND PLACE

Driftwood's Surf Room

JANUARY 12 IN ALAMEDA

The first General Business Meeting under 1960 "management" will be new in several aspects. The date is January 12, a TUESDAY! The place . . . The Driftwood's SURF ROOM, 1313 Park Street in Alameda, which is opposite the old Strand Theatre. Watch for the prominent marquee as you drive along Park Street. The meeting is set for 8 pm, but those who wish to continue dining prior to our meetings may do so by coming early, say 7. It won't be necessary to notify anyone either, should you decide at the last moment to eat at The Driftwood; however, the management wants it known that they will appreciate your patronage, large or small. No cocktail period is being reserved this year, but there again, a bar and all the usual features are available for your convenience.

The menu provided BATOC diners at The Driftwood is a two-entree affair:

CLUB STEAK - \$3.25*

CHICKEN - \$2.75*

*Includes tax and tip

During 1960 it is intended to hold all meetings on the second Tuesday of the month and at the time and place specified above.

Membership meetings will be con-

ducted by V-P Lew Edwards at his home, 3451 - 35th Avenue, on the third Tuesday of the month. The time: 7:30 pm. Dr. Frank Ficker has been appointed Technical Chairman and he plans a regular monthly feature for these pages covering tips on car care. Have you any questions you'd like to see answered here?

Activities meetings are going to be held at the Horsfall Hacienda, 3917 Atlas Avenue, on the first Tuesday at 7:30 pm. All are welcome to drop in on either or both these regular monthly get-togethers.

Speaking of Activities, this year they will be headed up by vigorous and volatile Volpatti, yclept Richard. And just pipe the All-Star lineup he's got working for him! Don Brooks and Dick Staples are going to be his lieutenants in charge of car events. Ken Keyser and Paul Tanzillo are heading up the social end of Thus, no one person will be taxed out of mind trying to keep everybody satisfied for 12 months running, a well-nigh impossible feat.

Some truly interesting events are being developed as we go to press, so keep that Bird in tiptop shape during these winter months. There'll be plenty of opportunity to use it.

How do we strike others? ? ? ? ?

At the close of our second year of existence it might be prudent to "take inventory of ourselves". Are we perhaps becoming a little too smug, secure in the belief that ours is the best automobile club ever thrown together . . . that T-Bird owners everywhere should be clamoring for admission to the "400 of Motor-dom"?

We wonder.

It may have appeared so earlier this year. It was quite normal then to welcome - if that is the word - four or five new members into our ranks in a month. But, following the "Big Squabble" over which size Thunderbirds should be eligible, applications for membership dwindled to the point where now it is unusual just to see one *prospective* member attend a BATOC function. We point no finger at this one possible cause. Rather it is a combination of circumstances that could be to blame. It has been proven by countless other clubs that growth at first is prodigious, then tapers off to a fairly stable membership, with new people replacing those who drop out at about a 50-50 ratio.

In our case we have been somewhat unique in that we have desisted seeking new blood, preferring instead that T-Bird owners seek us out in the theory that then "every new member will be a good member." Sounds logical, but has it been working out that way?

We wouldn't know. But we believe the following article by one of our newer 1959 members should lead to some soul-searching by all. Our contributor, a lady with a flair for expressing her thoughts in a clear and forthright manner, certainly has few bouquets to toss. Not many heads are apt to swell from reading what she has to say.

The following may or may not come as a surprise to you. But there seems to be a fairly common complaint from an amazing percentage of our membership that the group as a whole is not as friendly as it might be.

Ostensibly BATOC was formed because of our deep and abiding affection for and interest in our Birds. Basically, however, after talking to various members of our organization it seems that a lot of us were looking for a nice group of people with whom we could socialize and join in pleasurable activities.

The majority of members seem interested in acquiring new members; and yet when there are guests, prospective members, or new members present at our meetings or activities there is a noticeable lack of enthusiasm and friendliness on the part of the membership, with very few exceptions.

It seems to this writer that it would take very little effort and cost us absolutely nothing to be a little more friendly when there are newcomers among us, and

to help those who are already members feel comfortable and well-liked when they venture into "Birdland". Who knows, you might even find someone whose company you enjoy.

Regardless of our reasons for joining an organization, it seems logical that it is up to those who are firmly ensconced and secure to make others feel welcome. This is not to say that we should not be discriminating as to those who are among us, but what better way is there to judge than by becoming acquainted?

WATCH WHAT YOU SAY

Life provides certain pleasures which may vary with the individual. Some fellows like to hunt and fish. Others enjoy nothing better than a cold bottle of beer, an easy chair, and a Forty-Niner game on T-V. Women generally go for stage plays, new clothes, labor-saving devices, dining out, or - shocking as it may seem - squalling babies. Of course it goes without saying that both men and women, in this Club at least, love Thunderbirds.

As we have stated on many an occasion, our hedonistic proclivities tend toward philogyny (fondness for the ladies) and semantics (the science of word meanings). BATOC provides this dilettante ample opportunity to observe both avocations. Where could one hope to find more attractive women to gaze upon than we have right here in our own select little group? They're all spoken for, of course, but girl-watching, like bird-watching, is a harmless pastime not necessarily limited to the nubile.

As Editor of this insignificant publication, it is obvious that we must have more than a perfunctory knowledge of the words we use, as even the best-intentioned comment may result in offending some person. This "sword of Damocles" ever-present overhead is something of which we are in mortal terror. We love everybody in the Club and would never knowingly injure anyone.

Getting back to the subject, we plan no drive to enlist others in our girl-watching group. In fact, it hardly seems necessary. While we may have the temerity to write about our predilection, other males in the Club could give us a year's instruction on the subject and we'd still have to return for post-graduate work in order to get a passing grade. Regarding words, however, the shoe may perhaps be on the other foot, to coin a phrase.

We cannot hope to interest you, dear male reader of "Birdland", in anything so prosaic as "big words". But we would like you to play a little word game with us which will help illustrate some of the snares which beset anyone who has the effrontery to become an editor of a publication which numbers several school teachers among its readers. At the same time you will see that things are not al-



"NOTHING, THANK YOU. I NEITHER SMOKE NOR DRINK. . . WHERE'S YOUR WIFE?"

ways what they seem.

Even the most commonplace of words may have an additional or little known meaning which could offend. If you don't believe it, try the little word test below. All of the words are right out of the dictionary and include meanings in addition to those with which you are all familiar. That's where the rub lies. Select the correct definition (or definitions) in this list of common words and see.

ACADEMICIAN - a) lady of low repute; b) member of a society for promoting arts and sciences; c) native of Arcadia.

(a and b are correct)

BARGES - a) flat-bottomed boats; b) fashions; c) boots.

(a and b are correct)

BROADS - a) playing cards; b) counterfeit money; c) inland waterways; d) indelicate stories.

(a, b and c are correct)

CAR* - a) lefthanded; b) war chariot; c) crow of a raven; d) floating box for keeping fish alive.

(a, b and d are correct)

CHIPPY - a) a carpenter; b) to be sick after drinking; c) an impudent person; d) a sparrow.

All are correct.

GAM - a) courage; b) hammock; c) herd of whales; d) a kind of sport.

(a, b and c are correct)

JOHN - a) policeman; b) a Chinaman; c) penguin; d) dried fish.

All are correct.

NOISOME - a) loud; b) smelly; c) dirty; d) wicked; e) stupid.

Only b, thank goodness.

TIRES* - a) pinafores; b) sound of cannon being fired; c) gift-wrapped packages; d) furniture.

(a, b and d are correct)

Frightening, isn't it!

*Notice the subtlety with which we keep every article pertinent to automobiles!

CHIT CHAT

Cute, cuddly, and not quite so curvy, Dottie Farrell has dropped 25 whole lbs since you saw her last. She now has a waistline like a bumble bee. Larry and his elfin bundle celebrated their 3rd anniversary Dec. 27th, while the Neisses observed their 25th a day earlier. Not too much news to report this month.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, EVERYBODY!!!