

# WHAT'S NEW IN BIRD-LAND



**BAY AREA THUNDERBIRD OWNERS CLUB NEWSLETTER**  
CTCI CHAPTER NO. 4                      JANUARY 2004                      VOLUME 47 NO. 01

## ANOTHER YEAR OF LISTENING TO ME RAMBLE...WOW!!

How lucky can you get? You had your chance to elect another leader and you blew it. However, I do thank you for giving me the opportunity and trust to continue moving the club in a positive direction. It has taken a lot of prodding and encouragement but we have put together a very enthusiastic team this year and I look forward to great things. However, I must also warn you that I intend to lead the club in some new directions that will require some group decisions. So be prepared, get involved and participate.



Taking things in order ... First, we had very lovely Christmas party with a respectable turn out of 26, I believe. And, thanks to your generosity we collected a very large pile of toys that I delivered to the local fire station for "Toys For Tots". They were, of course, very appreciative and extended their thanks to everyone. We also continued our traditional collection and donation to St. Anthony's Dining Room and everyone deserves another big Thank You for that.

The Christmas party, unfortunately, brings up my first topic of change for the New Year and here it is briefly ... money. We will discuss this further at this month's meeting but as we embark on putting together a very busy activities calendar for the year, understand that we can't put on outings at 1970's (or earlier) prices. We lost money on the Christmas party for a couple of reasons, but mostly it was an unrealistic attempt (because of earlier complaints) to have a party at under \$35.00 per person. After the proverbial "Tax, License & Doc Fees", it just can't be done anymore and we all need to get over it and stop complaining. But, enough preaching for now.

Our next order of business is, of course, January's meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Be there and participate in the primary order of business ... setting the activities calendar for the year. This is, of course, not only your opportunity to voice your opinions about our plans and the dates that are picked, but to actually get involved by volunteering to organize one. It is really quite easy and we will provide you with tons of support and assistance in your endeavor.

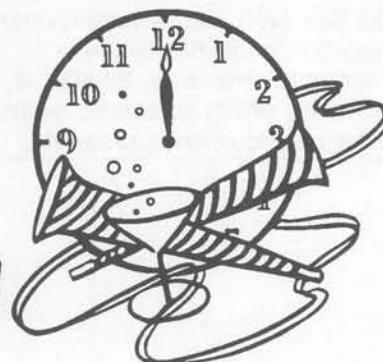
Next ... let's have a round of applause to all of our new volunteers and board members. First, our new Activities Chair, Connie Russell. She is very enthusiastic and has some great ideas. Please help her out by getting involved. Next is Marti Nelson who has taken on the Historian position and will be working with myself and Don Perry to not only maintain but recover the VERY RICH history of this club. The beginnings of this can be found on the web site. Don has worked very hard and is compiling PDF files of ALL of the clubs past newsletters, dating back to the very beginning. Talk about an education and a trip down memory lane. Check this out at [www.batoc.org](http://www.batoc.org). Click on the Newsletter link and enjoy the nostalgia. My EXTREME thank you's to these people. It is this kind of involvement that makes the club exciting and that will return us to being the "Grand-daddy" of all T-Bird clubs.

So, let's see a huge turn-out on the 10<sup>th</sup>...let's all get involved and let's make this an extraordinary year.

As Always: Happy T-Birding

Dave

**A Happy  
New  
Year!**





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY CAP'S

Well, not all January born folks are Capricorns, there could be a couple of Aquarius types, but whichever you are – we wish you a Happy January Birthday!

Yolanda Bloss Frederick  
Ann Gregory  
Sandy Johnson  
Betty Nauratil  
Migs Stallworth  
Bill Van Loo

Come celebrate your birthday at the January 10 Quarterly Brunch/Meeting. There are 14 members for whom I do not have a birthdate – if you are one we missed, apologies are yours.

### Dues are Overdue.....



If you have not yet sent your 2004 dues to our Treasurer David Olson, please do it today. The 2004 BATOC roster will be going to press soon. If you have not paid your dues, you will not be listed. Don't be left out...mail dues today. If you can't find the form that was printed in the last two issues, e-mail or phone the Editor and one will be sent to you.

The other bad thing that will happen is that you will be dropped from the *What's New in Bird-land* mailing list – now you would not want that to happen! Procrastinate tomorrow, but mail in your dues today.

What's New in Bird-Land is the official newsletter of the Bay Area Thunderbird Owners Club. The information in this newsletter is believed to be accurate. However, BATOC is not responsible for any errors contained herein. Corrections will be printed when appropriate.

### [www.batoc.org](http://www.batoc.org) – TAKE A LOOK

Our President **Dave Adams** wears a second hat, that of Web Master. He has continued to develop our web site throughout the past year, and now, with wonderful assistance from member **Don Perry**, there is a new page to peruse.

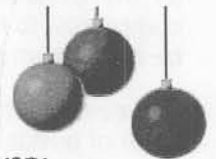
Don has added, so far, two years of old issues of *What's New in Bird-land?* and for those of you who do not have access to the web, I have printed the Jan. 1959 page one so you can get a sample of what is available. Note the attire of the gentlemen – suits and ties!

For years the title of our newsletter was indeed a question. Several years ago it occurred to your Editor that the same four words could be a statement – that is when I dropped the question mark.

Anyway, it is fun to take a look at the old 1958 and '59 issues. After you reach the web site, click on Newsletters then choose "Archives". The prices will amaze you – a small ad on one page announces "Art's Buffet – N.Y. and Filet Steak Dinner - \$1.75"....

Thanks to both Dave and Don for all their time and effort to make BATOC's web site outstanding!

### Holiday Party at Alladini's



About twenty-six folks got together at this very pretty restaurant to celebrate the Holiday Season. As Prez Dave has said, we not only collected toys for kids who might otherwise not get one and collected about \$125 for St. Anthony's Dining Room. It was voted to match this amount from BATOC, as we have done for several years past. So, besides having a good time ourselves, we trust we made some other folks happy too.

### New BATOC Historian appointed

Member **Marty Nelson** has agreed to become Historian. He collected all the albums, which Dave Adams had on display at the Holiday Party. It was there that **Don Perry** got the idea of putting old issues on the web site. Thanks, Marty, for joining the BATOC team players!

# BATOC JANUARY QUARTERLY MEETING



Saturday, January 10, 2004  
10:00 am Brunch  
Buttercup Grill  
660 Ygnacio Valley Road  
Walnut Creek, CA

- Drive your T-Bird (x-brands allowed in emergencies or heavy rains)
- Bring your appetite for a generous breakfast
- Bring a raffle prize with a car related theme
- Wear your name tag and get an extra raffle ticket when you buy one – bring a gift get a second raffle ticket free.
- Schedule about two hours after the brunch (ends about noon) for a mini-trip to an undisclosed location (optional)

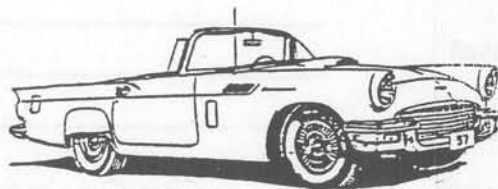
**BRUNCH TAB \$12** – You order from the menu and coffee, tax & tip are included. .

**RAFFLE** – Money raised goes to the Club Treasury. Bring something fun; take one home.

**MEETING** – Agenda items will be planning the year's activities and any other business to come before the membership. Alert Dave Adams if you have an item to discuss.

**NO HOST BAR** – Order from the hostess in our own banquet room

**No Reservations Necessary** – just show up at the Buttercup. T-Birds usually park toward the rear of the lot in a group if possible.



**Directions:** Coming from Walnut Creek on Hwy. 24, take the lanes for Hwy 680 North, then keep to the right and take single lane exit for Ygnacio Valley Rd. At the first stoplight, make a right and proceed a few blocks to Broadway. Get in the left turn lane at Broadway and after your left, a quick right into the courthouse/**Buttercup parking lot**. Coming south on 680, take North Main St. exit. After you exit turn left at the stoplight on Main St. heading South. Follow Main to Ygnacio Valley Rd. where you turn left. Stay on YVR a block or so, then left at Broadway and a quick right into parking lot. Not hard to find! Lots of good parking.

# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR BATOC 2004 EVENTS

Jan. Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> – Quarterly Mtg.  
10:00 am - Buttercup

Feb. Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> – Super Bowl Party – MRGC 2:30 pm  
Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> – Brunch – place tba

Mar. \_\_\_\_ St. Patrick's Day Event ??? by  
\_\_\_\_\_

Apr. Sat. 17<sup>th</sup> – Quarterly Brunch - Buttercup  
& \_\_\_\_\_

May -Overnight to Somewhere –Adams  
& \_\_\_\_\_

June \_\_\_\_\_ Anniv.Prty

July \_\_\_\_\_

Aug. \_\_\_\_\_

Sept – Overnight to Gualala Hotel - Russell

Oct Santa Cruz T-birds on the Wharf (Sat 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Nov. \_\_\_\_\_

Dec. \_\_\_\_\_ Hol.Party

Wine Country Tour  
Day at the Beach

Tour of \_\_\_\_\_ your choice

Brunch

Overnight to Hotel/Motel

Picnic

Visit to a \_\_\_\_\_ your choice

Events by other clubs:

Cool Redding Nights

Hot August Nights

Modesto American Graffiti

T-Birds to Santa Cruz Wharf

Migration 2004

Ford Friendship Day

Our Standards:

Holiday Party

Anniversary Party

President's Day

Or Something New:

(Mystery Tour? Rally? Poker Run?)

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Our *Goals* for Events

Cars can be driven

Safe, fun and fair

Various price levels

Variety

Different Days of Week

Invite other clubs sometimes

Various sponsors

*Bring your Suggestions & Ideas!*



# "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 Claus 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 sportings 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.



## 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.



**CLASSIFIED ADS:** Just a reminder – classified ads are run in *What's New in Bird-land* at no charge to members. See Publisher's box for cost of ads to non-members. Send your ad (preferably by e-mail) to the Editor.

### Car services:

Casco design body "rotisserie" to lend. If you are doing a frame off restoration, don't do it without one of these. Built beyond specifications, this rotisserie gives your car body full support at all body mount points and allows you to roll it around and rotate it to any position for body work, sanding and stripping. Call me if you would like to use it. Dave Adams (925) 855-1491

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*Little known fact.* One of Dave's many companies is Bid Enterprises ... California's leading vehicle appraisal firm. 30 years of placing the most trusted values on America's most valued cars. From an individual classic T-Bird to the entire Harrah's collection we've done it all with the industry's most detailed vehicle appraisals. So if you need an appraisal to satisfy your insurance policy or to shore up your financial statement give 'em a call. Knowing the owner won't get you a discount but you will get the most complete, detailed appraisal available. Call Dave direct or Bid Enterprises at (510) 562-8200.

### Workers wanted:

For first-rate car club a newsletter editor and/or reporter. No experience required, but you should have a computer and some knowledge of a word processing. Pay low but satisfaction is tremendous. Existing staff will assist those needing help on first three issues. Call today – don't miss this opportunity for self-expression and creativity. Call (415) 479-7320 for more information and to apply.

### Car parts:

Brand new, in-the-box Chrome Wheel cover for Continental Kit. No need to special order or wait for it to arrive. \$200. Dave Adams (925) 855-1491.

**Thunderbird Headquarters**  [WWW.TBIRDHQ.COM](http://WWW.TBIRDHQ.COM)

**...One Stop Shopping  
For All Of Your  
Thunderbird Needs**

**JANUARY'S  
FEATURED ITEMS**

**FREE CATALOGS**



**15059/815059**  
Outer Chrome Bezel, Cigar Lighter, 1955-1960.....\$18.95

**Also Available**



**10853R**  
Outer Chrome Bezel, Dash Instrument, 1955-1960..\$12.95



**10868R**  
Rubber Pad For 10853R.....\$1.15

**1080 Detroit Avenue Concord CA, 94518  
(925)825-9550**



## FOOTBALL IN FEBRUARY ??



Yes, for some reason known to those who make these decisions, the Super Bowl Game will this year be on the first Sunday in February.

As a BATOC member, you are invited to attend the Annual Super Bowl Party to be held at the MARIN ROD & GUN CLUB where several BATOC members are members.....

The game begins about 3:30 p.m. but the festivities start about 2:30 p.m. The tickets are usually about \$10 but we have heard \$15 mentioned this year. No one knows yet!

Your ticket entitles you to a delicious dinner prepared by Gun Club members (good cooks) and to lots of nummy hors d'oeuvres that are set out during the first half of the game. Dinner is served at half-time. There is a no-host bar with reasonable prices.

So, if you are interested, please call either Don Gregory or Carol Glander and tell them you want to attend. By mid-January the details should be all established and tickets will be purchased for you – pay Gregory/Glander at the event. There is lots of parking at the club which is at the West end of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The game is shown on a big screen TV and three small satellite TVs also. Please join us for a fun and relaxing afternoon.

"What's New in Bird-land?" is published monthly by the Bay Area Thunderbird Owners Club or BATOC. Articles, flyers or advertising should be sent to the Editor, Ann Gregory, 962 Patricia Way, San Rafael, CA. 94903-2326. Please send camera-ready copy by 20th of month; late material will be in next issue. Non business-related classified ads are FREE to all BATOC members. Non-members ad fee: .05 per word per issue with \$2.50 minimum. Business card ads are \$30 per year

The cost for ads containing graphics or complex media is negotiable. Contact Editor for details: (415) 479-7320.

**BAY AREA THUNDERBIRD OWNERS CLUB is a non-profit organization and is part of CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL, specifically, Chapter No. 4. We welcome all persons interested in the 1955, 56 and 57 Ford Thunderbird cars. Our membership dues and initiation fees are extremely reasonable. We encourage you to attend one of our activities or meetings. Please contact any of our officers listed herein for more information. Join us!**

## MISS the "psst" column ?

Some of you may remember the column that Carol Glander wrote in *WNIB* for several years with newsy and gossipy items about members and events. Your Editor would LOVE someone to take on that column or something like it once again. Anyone who is willing, please call. No experience necessary.

## Disk Brake/Manifold Alert

(Reprinted from "The Wave", Gold Coast T-Bird Club)

Many of the disk brake conversions available today make use of later model dual master cylinders and proportioning valves. These cylinders and valves are in some cases placed directly in harms way from heat generated by the very close left exhaust manifold.

In some cases the heat from the exhaust manifold can cause fluid in the master cylinder or brake lines to boil. This can occur with the stock braking system in '55 through '60 Birds if the master cylinder outlet line is uninsulated or routed too close to the manifold. The boiling fluid will cause brake failure.

In all cases when modifying a braking system one should take great care to keep heat away from all brake components. In the case of disk conversions on Little "birds" the use of insulated lines and replacement of the stock exhaust manifolds with headers that are routed down and away from the brake system is highly recommended. Disk brakes are only safer if they work!

## Share Ware...

Members who read an article from any source which could be helpful to our members are encouraged to send it to the Editor. Or, if you find a problem for which you discover a "fix", please share your personal experiences too. Sharing of information, of course, is one of the main benefits of belonging to a club like BATOC.

Don Perry is also working on contacting our members to encourage them to write a profile. In this way, we can get to know each other a bit better. If you are willing to write up a profile for *WNIB* please contact Don or the Editor. Thanks!



Don & Lisa Perry  
 49 Flora Vista Pl.  
 Danville, CA 94526

TO:



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Ann Gregory, Editor  
 962 Patricia Way  
 San Rafael, CA 94903-2326



Newsletter of the Bay Area Thunderbird Owners Club

**WHAT'S NEW IN BIRD-LAND**

**BAY AREA THUNDERBIRD OWNERS CLUB OFFICERS for 2004**

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<b>V.P./ Membership*</b>	<b>Don Gregory</b>	<b>(415) 479-7320</b>
<b>Secretary*</b>	<b>Carol Glander</b>	<b>(415) 924-3732</b>
<b>Treasurer*</b>	<b>David Olson</b>	<b>(925) 932-5398</b>
<b>Activities Chairpersons*</b>	<b>Connie Russell</b>	<b>(925) 944-0691</b>
	<b>Ann Gregory</b>	<b>(415) 479-7320</b>
<b>C.T.C.I. Representative</b>	<b>Don Gregory</b>	<b>(415) 479-7320</b>
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<b>Web Master</b>	<b>Dave Adams</b>	<b>(925) 855-1491</b>

\*Directors

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU !**

