

# WHAT'S NEW IN BIRDLAND?

VOLUME 61, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2019



## BAY AREA THUNDERBIRD OWNERS CLUB (BATOC) CTCI Chapter 4

### Upcoming Events

Event	Date
Monthly Meeting April	April 13, 2019
BATOC Whale Watching Trip	April 14, 2019
Fabulous Fords Forever Anaheim	April 14, 2019
Monthly Meeting May	May 11, 2019
CTCI Convention Prescott AZ	May 15-19 2019

### **SPARE CHANGE FOR CHARITY**

Don't forget to bring your spare change to all meetings and outings!



### **BATOC CLUB MONTHLY MEETING IS ON THE SECOND SAT OF EACH MONTH AT:**

Buttercup Grill & Bar  
660 Ygnacio Valley Rd  
Walnut Creek CA  
10am - 12pm \$20 for breakfast

### **FACEBOOK GROUP PAGE: BAY AREA THUNDERBIRD OWNERS CLUB**

**WEBSITE: BATOC.ORG**

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## Meeting Minutes March 9, 2019

41 members attended

Vice President, Guy Cummings, called the meeting to order at 10am and let us know that our President, Dave Adams, is drinking Mai Tai's in Hawaii and sends his best. Guy then gave our club condolences to Lita and Tom. Lita lost her dear mom. On a lighter note, he went on to say he missed another great Super Bowl Party at the Guthrie's because he and Mary were in Disneyland.

On membership, Guy said we are getting new members like Nancy and William Browning and Marty and Linda Lewis. We are the oldest Thunderbird Club in the world. We started in 1958 and we are growing unlike some of the other Thunderbird Clubs who have been struggling. What makes our club successful is the people in the club that get involved and our new members coming in with new, fresh ideas. It is a real privilege to be here, because we have a lot of great people that make our club tick. Let's give a shot out to Dave for his commitment, leadership, wit, and personality that make the meetings fun and keeps us coming back. To Jim and Maria for keeping the finances together, and to Jean for everything she does. The amazing newsletters are the most visible parts, but she and Maria are always working hard behind the scenes. Unbelievably, Jean has taken Bob Dixon's great newsletter to a new level. Thank you, Kim and Bob Dixon, for many years as secretary and newsletter editor. Thanks to Pete Lefevre for his many years as our tech chairman. A special thank you to Mary Cummings who keeps the flow of events alive and all the people who have done these jobs over the years and kept the club alive. We have a plan in place for getting new members. We are talking about a tent and Jean is working on posters.

### Upcoming events

Flash event for Irish coffee and lunch at Gallagher's Pub on Saturday, March 16th. Email to go out with more information. (This turned into beer and lunch at the First Street Alehouse in Livermore and was great fun).

Sunday, March 17th

Nick spoke on the Nor Cal Vintage Club who will have an event at the Oakland Airport with 15 spaces available for our classics to be placed between planes at the Oakland Museum off Doolittle.

Four cars from our club want to participate. We will meet at 10AM at the Museum. Pack a lunch, because there will not be food available for purchase. Nick also mentioned that you can take ride in a vintage aircraft at the Buchanan Airfield on March 14 through March 17. It is a Tri-Motor Airplane built by Ford and was used for military purposes, as well as a passenger plane between 1925 and 1933. The ride is \$72.00 per person. You can find out more about it by going on their website

Experimental Aircraft Association or [EAA.gov](http://EAA.gov)

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### Meeting Minutes con't March 9, 2019

Sunday, April 14th

Kim gave us an update on Whale Watching. We will meet at Stoneridge at 7AM and caravan to Moss Beach. Kim has not decided where we will eat lunch as yet. She is thinking of the Fish Market or Paradise Grill.

Anniversary Party

A Murder Mystery Party Theme: 50 Sock Hop

Guy and Mary reported that they went to see the Ryde Hotel, which they described as, "a little worse for the wear". The Ryde Hotel wants \$500.00 for venue and \$49.00 per person for the meal. They are looking for another place in San Carlos called The Great Highway. It is a 50ties theme place, very cool and impressive. However, they want \$6,500.00 for the venue, and \$50.00 per person. If they can get it down to \$2,500.00 that would be doable.

If anyone has any ideas, please contact Guy and Mary. Neither place had our original date available, which was June 22, so we may be changing the date to June 15.

July 13<sup>th</sup> Delta Cruise

We will meet at Discovery Bay at 9:15AM. Board Boat at 9:45AM Lunch on the boat.

Tesla Factory Tour

Tony Lloyd gave us a progress report on this tour. Last summer Tesla cancelled all tours, unless you know somebody.

Tony knows somebody, so we are waiting for them to give us a date. They will take a maximum of 20 people, 10 cars, and one of those cars must be a Tesla. Our member, Janet Booth, has a Tesla. They give tours only during the week, no weekends. Tony will keep us posted as to when.

August 23, 24 and 25 Hearst Castle

Jean reported we will stay at the Apple Farm for two nights. More to come.

October 2nd or 3rd Saturday (to be decided)

Progressive Dinner

Ed - main course

Greg Cannella - appetizers and drinks

McIntyre's - dessert

Calendars were reprinted and passed out to members who purchased them. \$5.00 was asked of each person replacing their calendars to defray the cost of reprinting.

Peter Lefevre, our technical advisor, spoke on how to verify the timing mark to make sure it did not shift on the pulley. He showed us a special tool that enables you to get the # 1 cylinder at top dead center or TDC. That is the first step in checking the timing to verify the timing mark on the pulley did not shift, because if it did, you cannot check the timing with the light.

This is a common problem on an old car. Paul also cautioned that when you are under the hood, when the engine is running, no loose clothing, no loose jewelry, because there are belts, pulleys and fan belts going around and they can grab anything loose and really hurt you.

After the raffle, Guy adjourned the meeting for our bowling adventure at Granada Lanes.

Respectfully submitted by Marianne Grech, Secretary

### PRES SAYS

#### UNCEREMONIOUSLY REPLACED



It is my understanding that my replacement has been found and that his first meeting in March was a rousing success. Thank you, Guy for carrying the torch forward and seeing to it that I will not be missed. I am certain that you will put me to shame in your new role....I personally have chosen to take up residence in my new grass shack on the Hawaiian beach to focus on my coffee venture. Enjoy.

So, now that April Fool's is out of the way, we can move on to the realities at hand. My understanding is that the club bowling event last month was a huge "comedic" success with a rather large turn-out. Who knew that making fools out of ourselves could be so much fun? I highly recommend this event to all the other clubs, if only for the great laughs.

On a more serious business front...As you know, the club voted to open up this year's BATOC calendar to other member clubs from around the country and to enjoy the beautiful cars and scenery from our fellow T-Birders. We have submitted a "Call For Entries" article to the Early Bird magazine and have started collecting some beautiful pictures. I think this will make for an exciting calendar this year and involve our many friends from all over. But, if you've taken a beautiful picture of your own "BATOC" car be sure to submit it to us at any time. Send them to Guy at [guy@guycummins.com](mailto:guy@guycummins.com).

We've also heard from MBCTC and this years' Birds on the Wharf event is set for Saturday, October 5. This will be a good date that does not conflict with Ironstone, which is set for September 28. The Monterey club is again asking for member assistance on the day of the event and we will be looking for volunteers to help with set-up, parking, registration, etc. We have, of course, offered our full support and we will be looking to you to help out.

### Pres Says con't

I've also heard from the family of our member Richard Porter who, as you will recall, passed away several months ago. They have let me know about a celebration of his life in a casual friend-together on SUNDAY, APRIL 28 FROM 2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM at Travieso Winery and Cask Room, 165 Cristich Lane Campbell, CA 95008. They have invited us all to join in remembering Richard and ask that you let them know if you will be able to attend. Please let them know by April 6<sup>th</sup>. Call 781 729-5828. Here is a rather long link to the evite

[https://www.evite.com/event/029COHCF6XVIOM4WSEPI5SFCE3IRWA/rsvp?gid=02E74F3V5EYGQEOIYEPJARWMJVVFVA&utm\\_campaign=view\\_invitation\\_bt&utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=GUEST\\_UPDATE\\_EVENT](https://www.evite.com/event/029COHCF6XVIOM4WSEPI5SFCE3IRWA/rsvp?gid=02E74F3V5EYGQEOIYEPJARWMJVVFVA&utm_campaign=view_invitation_bt&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=GUEST_UPDATE_EVENT)

And finally, you won't want to miss this year's BATOC Anniversary Murder Mystery. The plans are all set and the flyer is here in the newsletter. Get your reservation in now and join the 1950's motif while we solve the crime of the century. Call Guy and Mary if you have any questions. See you all on the 13<sup>th</sup> for all normal meeting and see you all summer long for a great year of events.

Dave



### Technical Tidbits

Many of us purchased the great booklet of Technical Tips From Thunderbird Land compiled by Robert DePaola. For those of you who haven't purchased it, or are too busy to study it, we will be highlighting many of the great writeups that are included in this booklet. Here is a tidbit on brakes.

#### **BRAKE INSTALLATION CHECK LIST BY GIL BAUMGARTNER**

I have recently observed several Thunderbirds with what I call "maintenance malpractices" used on the brake system. These practices occurred during brake shoe or wheel cylinder changes. The 1955/56 models have the same brakes. The 1957 models have the same type of brakes, but the front shoes and drums are wider. Some of the discrepancies observed are primary shoe in the wrong position, primary shoe retract spring not connected in accordance with shop manual instructions, bonded and riveted shoes installed together on the same wheel and mismatched wheel cylinders. I highly recommend following the shop manual for each year when servicing brakes. Pay particular attention to the following items. Each drum has a primary and secondary shoe. The primary shoe lining is shorter and should be on the front for all four drums. The secondary shoe has a longer lining and should be on the rear for all four drums.

The primary shoe retract spring should be installed first. The secondary return spring overlaps the primary retract spring. Brake shoes function better if they match within individual drums, either all riveted or all bonded.

1957 front brakes have a third retract spring approximately 7.5" long. It connects in the lower holes for the retract springs and passes below the wheel cylinder. All 1957 early and late models originally had this spring.



### BATOC Creativity

As you are all aware, we have a very talented group of people in our club. One such member is Kathy Ramos. Kathy is a whizzbang seamstress and specializes in beautiful quilting. For those of you who were on the Redwood Tour in 2017, we all drove our cars through the Chandelier Tree and took spectacular photos. Well, just look at what Kathy did with her photo – turned it into a beautiful quilt. Now we all want one of these lovely quilts. Thanks Kathy, for your superb artistry.



### BATOC Classifieds

Item	Seller	Price	Photo
New '57 Hardtop Front Clamp PN 50508	Bud Riley 925-373-0403	\$49	
55-56 Used Throttle & Automatic Transmission Bell Crank	Bud Riley 925-373-0403	\$50	
55-57 Used Standard/Non Power Steering Drag Link & Idler Arm	Bud Riley 925-373-0403	\$45	
55-57 Used Cast Iron Generator Bracket	Bud Riley 925-373-0403	\$25	
55-56 Used Right Angle Speedometer Drive	Bud Riley 925-373-0403	\$75	
Aftermarket soft top. Stand alone, does not attach to swing arm.	Tom Schaffer 925-447-1578	\$200	





## Bowling for Laughs!

Once again, Maria and Jim Guthrie planned a wonderful event for the club. After our club meeting on March 9, several club members found their way over to the Granada Bowl in Livermore. Here the BATOC members displayed their bowling skills. We have some pretty respectable bowlers in the group! Bowling was followed by dinner at the nearby Castle Rock Restaurant. We finished off the evening with delectable treats at the Guthrie's'. It really was a very fun time.



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### Bowling For Laughs Con't





## St. Patrick's Day Lunch

Guy and Mary Cummins put together a last minute St. Patrick's Day lunch at the First Street Alehouse in Livermore. The place was very lively, as usual, and we had fun decorations and great party hats and necklaces. The food and Guinness' were great too. Thanks to the Cummins for organizing this fun activity.



## Soaring Among the Planes at the Oakland Air Museum

Who knew we even had an Oakland Air Museum? Nick Verhoek found out that it exists, and that there are special annual open cockpit days there. We were invited to drive our cars into the courtyard and park alongside the relics they have there on one such open cockpit day. It was beautiful weather that day, and it was so much fun. The museum had some very special exhibits too, including a Wright Brother's Model and the Flying Boat. Thanks, Nick, for organizing this great event.





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## Oakland Aviation Museum's Open Cockpit Event



Guy on the Flying Boat



### Whale Watching Trip

**Sunday, April 14, 2019**

**\$35/person**

Possible viewings include shore birds, sea lions, sea otters, dolphins, porpoises, whales, and possibly killer whales if we're lucky! Oh my!



"The High Spirits", operated by Blue Ocean Whale Watch, is a very nice boat that holds about 38 people. There is an indoor area if you prefer to sit inside, and as you can see, areas at the bow and up top for viewing. Captain Kate Cummings is our owner and captain and she provides an informative and fun day.

#### **Itinerary:**

- Depart Buttercup at 7 am
- Caravan 2 hrs to Moss Landing
- Park in paved lot at boat harbor. (\$6 fee payable to harbor master)
- Tour check-in is at 9:30 am
- Tour begins at 10 am (it is a 3 hour tour)
- Lunch after our lovely day out on the water at "The Haute Enchilada" near the harbor in Moss Landing (lunch is not included in \$35 cost)

#### **\*note**

getting to the boat there is some uneven footing, and you climb a short set of steps (maybe 5) to get on the boat. There are deck hands there to help you get on the boat.



**Contact Kim Dixon to reserve your spot by April 1** (510-385-2483 or [kdixon1124@yahoo.com](mailto:kdixon1124@yahoo.com))

Mail your \$35/person check made out to BATOC to Kim at:

807 Marin Rd. El Sobrante, CA 94803

**No refunds after April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

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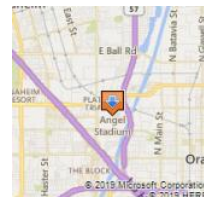
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- ***Fabulous Fords Forever! - April 14, 2019***
- ***THIS IS THE WEST COAST'S LARGEST ALL-FORD CAR SHOW!***
- Presented by the Ford Car Club Council and the Ford Motor Company, the show celebrates **ALL** Ford, Lincoln, and Mercury vehicles, from 1903 to current models.
- The 34th Annual Fabulous Fords Forever car show will take place on Sunday, April 14, 2019 and will be held at **NEW VENUE**: Angels Stadium of Anaheim. That's right, we've moved! Show times will be from 10:00am to 3:00pm.
- Entrance is **FREE FOR SPECTATORS!** Parking is **FREE FOR SPECTATORS at the Stadium!**
- Come celebrate 116 years of the Ford Motor Company, 80 years of Mercury, 60 years of the Ford Galaxie, and 55 years of the Ford Mustang! There will also be a special display honoring the 50th anniversary of the Boss Mustang and the Mach1 Mustang!
- There will be 57 show classes, music, stage interviews, a FABULOUS Ford display, displays from Shelby and Saleen, show sponsors, celebrities & more!
- To register go to this link:

[Fabulous Fords Forever - April 14, 2019](#)



### CTCI CONVENTION (CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB INTERNATIONAL)



If you are not already a member of CTCI, please join today. Go to [ctci.org](http://ctci.org)  
With this membership, you can attend all CTCI events and will receive the bimonthly publication, *Early Bird*.



**21**  
**JUL**

**DANVILLE 2019 HOT  
SUMMER SUNDAYS**

**CAR SHOW**

**11:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

**18**  
**AUG**

**\$25.00 Pre-Registration | \$30.00 Day of Show**

Staging from 8:00 am to 11:00 am on Danville Boulevard.  
680 Freeway, Exit El Cerro. Follow the signs to Danville  
Boulevard. Turn Left. All cars must enter by 11:00am.

Pre-Registered Cars Are Guaranteed Entry to the Show.



**Inviting ALL YEAR Muscle Cars, Hot Rods,  
Classics, Customs, Foreign and Exotic**

Family Friendly Event \* Multiple Award Categories \* VIP Judges  
Collector T-Shirts \* Live Entertainment \* Great Restaurants \* Outside Cafes  
Courtesy of the Danville Merchants' Association – Shop Danville

**Special ABC Breaking News Award Presented by  
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**ONLINE REGISTRATION @ [WWW.DHSSCS.COM](http://WWW.DHSSCS.COM)**

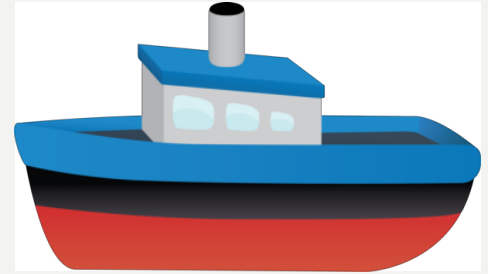
Vendor and Volunteer Opportunities Still Available  
Please Call David at 925-437-3649 or by email [ezasugo@yahoo.com](mailto:ezasugo@yahoo.com)

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Join your BATOC buddies and enjoy a six day Vancouver, BC to Los Angeles cruise on NCL's newest ship, Norwegian Bliss.



**Bask in the lively charm of the west coast leaving September 30 for six days arriving in Los Angeles on October 6.**

The cruise stops at Victoria, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Current cost per person is \$479 for inside, \$749 for ocean view and \$799 for balcony plus port taxes and tips. Estimated airfare is around \$400.

This is a heck of a good deal on a brand new ship! If you want to go, get on it now, and make your deposit. You can cancel later if you change your mind. Space is going fast, and our confirmed reservation just jumped \$100 overnight. Last year's BATOC cruisers had a great time.

**Ed Benson ([ebensonbwa@aol.com](mailto:ebensonbwa@aol.com), 925-943-7011) is our sponsor, and he's working with Randi Schultz of [cruisentours4u](http://cruisentours4u.com), his long time cruise travel agent.**

**If you're interested, please sign up. If you have questions contact Randi Schultz or Ed at 925-943-7011, [ebensonbwa@aol.com](mailto:ebensonbwa@aol.com)**

**Further information can be found on NCL's website:**

<https://www.ncl.com/cruises/6-day-pacific-coastal-from-vancouver-BLISS6VANSEAVICSFOLAX/schedule?embarkationport=4294953420&destinations=4294961384&numberOfGuests=4294953449&state=null&sailmonths=4294942320&itineraryCode=BLISS6VANSEAVICSFOLAX&customerStoriesCurrentPage=1&customerStoriesPageSize=3>



## Bay Area Thunderbird Owners Club

### 2019 Calendar of Events

#### Winter – Meetings Jan 12 / Feb 9

January 19 – President's Mystery Tour (Adams)

February 3 – Super Bowl Party, Livermore (Guthrie)

#### Spring – Meetings Mar 9 / Apr 13 / May 11

March 9 – Bowling (Guthrie)

March 16 – St. Paddy's Day 1<sup>st</sup> St. Alehouse (Cummins)

March 17 – Oakland Aviation Museum Open Cockpit Day (Verhoek)

April 14 – Whale Watching (Dixon)

May 15-19 – CTCI Western Classic Roundup  
Flagstaff, AZ

#### Summer – Meetings Jun 8 / Jul 13 / Aug 10

June 15 – Anniversary Party/Mystery Dinner (Cummins)

July 13 – Delta Cruise (Haffner)

July 21 – Danville Car Show #1

#### Summer (continued)

Aug 3 – Progressive Dinner Party  
(Benson, Cannella, Nadler, McIntyre)

Aug 18 – Danville Car Show #2

Aug 23 - 25 – Hearst Castle (Riley)

#### Autumn – Meetings Sept 14 / Oct 12 / Nov 9

Sept 14 – Alameda Car Show (Mathieson)

Sept 28 – Ironstone, Murphys, CA

Sept 28 – Birds on the Wharf, Santa Cruz

Sept 30 – Oct 6 – Cruise: Vancouver to LA (Benson)

Oct XX – Tbird Calendar Meeting (Adams)

Nov XX –

#### Winter – Meeting Dec 14

Dec 8 – BATOC Holiday Party (Booth)

TBD – Tesla Factory Visit (Lloyd)



Updated 3/30/19

**Ready to plan an event?**

Let us know! [marymac1234@gmail.com](mailto:marymac1234@gmail.com)