



Bird Notes for the Month:

- BATOC Attends Annual Tech Session
- May Event Niete Winery Recap
- Sunday Brunch on the Delta June 26th.
- Sponsor needed for Grand Prix Event

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What's New in BIRD-LAND?



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Great Tech Session!

There were more Classic Thunderbirds in Suisun last April 30th than any place other than a CTCI National Club Concours! Over 60 Classic T-Birds from five different clubs blanketed the grounds at Gil Baumgartner's home/shop in rural Suisun. This was the biggest turn out since Gil began offering these annual tech sessions several years ago.

In addition to Gil's instruction sessions, members min-

gled amongst themselves enjoying the perfect spring weather and got a chance to appreciate cars outside of their own clubs they don't

ordinarily see. There were some wonderful cars to behold both stock and non-stock. BATOC members

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Gil demonstrates the correct way to remove upper A-arm bushings.

Anniversary Brunch on the Delta

Come help us celebrate our 46th Year!

Our club event this coming June 26th is our Anniversary brunch on the San Joaquin Delta at the Ryde Hotel in Walnut Grove. All members are encouraged to attend. We will meet at the Bagel Street Café in Danville at

8:30 AM to 9:00 AM and go as a group from there. Cost is only \$25 per person. Details are available within a separate flyer accompanying this month's newsletter.



President's Message

Is it finally here?.....



Dave Adams,
President

Well after a dreary week of rain, I guess Spring and Summer are finally here and it will actually be safe to get the car out and go topless. I've now been caught in the rain twice with no warning and not very happy about it. At least I wasn't too far from home.

Welcome to the return of Don's usual, glorious, full color BATOC newsletter. I

personally am very proud of Don's work and take this opportunity, on behalf of the entire club, to thank him for his great work.

We've have had a couple of very nice outings since we last spoke and thanks to everyone for participating and enjoying the fruits of Connie and Mike Russell's (mostly) efforts. We had a great time and enjoyed a nice picnic at the

annual Tech session at the Baumgartner's and enjoyed the great wine country tour and photo shoot at the Far N'iente Winery a couple of weeks later. Check out the pictures and the recaps inside and on our web site @ www.batoc.org.

I also want to thank one of our newest active mem-

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Tech Session Snapshots



Tech Session Continued.....

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camped out at the far south-west corner of Gil's place where we shared a picnic lunch in between sessions.

We are gifted to have a resource such Gil so close to us. He is authenticity chairman for the International Thunderbird Club and his advice is sought by people all over the world. As busy as he is, he always seems to find the time to answer our questions.

Thanks Gil!



Don't Call Gil.....

Living here in San Francisco and surrounding area, having Gil Baumgartner is a tremendous asset when it comes to restoring our cars but DON'T CALL HIM unless you have checked the CTCI Restoration Details & Specifications Manual that Gil wrote first! This wonderful book is only \$97 available direct from CTCI and can

answer most of your questions. Call (562) 426-2709.

It is the ultimate resource for Classic Thunderbirds with six specific areas covering Undercarriage, Interior, Exterior, Engine, Trunk & Technical sections. It includes many high quality color photos

and a complete index. Every member should have one!





LISA PERRY,
Vice President

"The Far Niente
Winery Tour
was really a
picture perfect
event!"

Vice President's Message

THANK YOU GIL BAUMGARTNER!!

The Tech Session was a huge success. The attendance was larger than usual, the advice was excellent and the socializing was terrific! As usual, Gil had some very sage advice ranging from brakes to suspension. There were 16 "BATOCers" in attendance (Dave Adams and Shanon Carion, Don and me, Maria and Jim Guthrie, Pete Norman, Ron Johnson, Bob and Carol Gaskins, Chuck Buford, Pete Lefevre, Herb and Marilyn Norleen, Terry Ruttman, and Marty Nelson).

vice and information offered by Gil, we managed to get in a considerable amount of chatting and socializing, along with some great snacks. Gil seems to even have managed to arrange for a lovely break in the weather for an absolutely perfect BATOC day!

Thanks again to Gil, I can't wait for next year!!

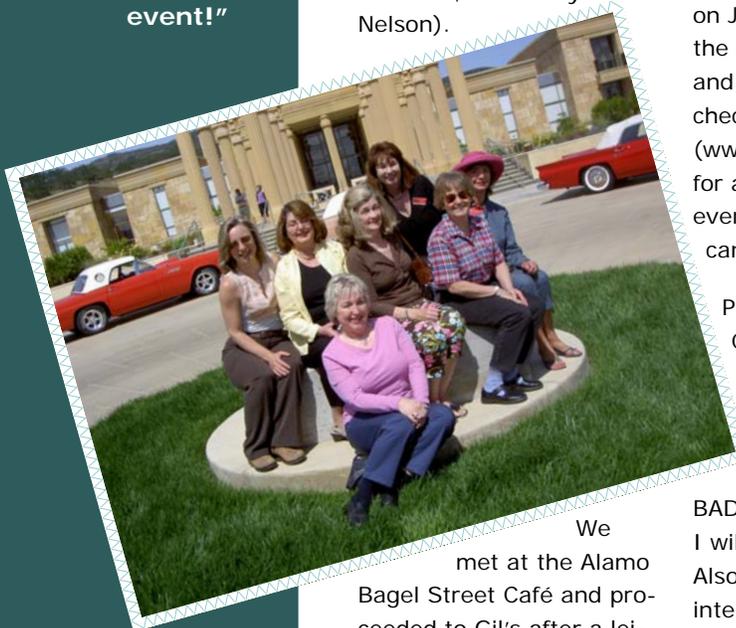
BATOC member Laura Jaramillo is actively showing her T-Bird in the Modesto area this June and is participating in the Kiwanis Modesto American Graffiti Festival and Parade on June 18th. If you are in the Modesto area in May and June you may want to check the Modesto website (www.visitmodesto.com) for a list of activities and events, or of course you can contact Laura.

PLEASE GIVE ME A CALL [925-837-4740] IF YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN BATOC PRODUCTS, I.E. PATCHES, NAME BADGES, T-SHIRTS, ETC. I will be ordering soon. Also let me know of any interest you have in products we don't currently offer. We are developing some new ideas. Please

give me a call if you'd like to purchase a portable CB. Dave has several that he hands out at events, but I've found it handy to have our own so you can chat on the way back from events without having to stop and give it back to Dave.

The Far Niente Winery Tour was really a picture perfect event! With some pun intended. We should have some really outstanding photos of the cars from this event. We toured the auto collect housed there. It's really not a museum. It's the Nickel family garage for cars that they are storing in this area, so it changes constantly. Next we toured some of the 40,000 square feet of underground caves that were excavated for the winery and wine storage. We then sampled three delicious wines along with cheese and cheese puffs, while we chatted with our guide Claudia about the history of Far Niente and the local area. Finally, we assembled the cars for a photo shot on the grounds. Next we drove to Zare, a new restaurant

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BATOC Babes

We met at the Alamo Bagel Street Café and proceeded to Gil's after a leisurely breakfast. Even with all the excellent ad-



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in Yountville. It's in the building which used to house the "Chicken Mexican restaurant". They have completely redecorated and have been open only two weeks. After a leisurely lunch were traveled to the Andretti Winery for another photo op and finally to Darioush Winery for still more photos. Mike Russell really out did himself. Some initial previews of the photos are really outstanding. Thanks again to Mike and Connie the day was really tops!!

The weather for the photo op/winery tour was really beautiful and the turnout for great. Of course, there were Dave Adams and Shanon, Mike and Connie Russell, Don and me, along with Jim and Sandy Hickey, Pete Lefevre and Carolyn Cody, Fred and Judith Lothrop, and soon to be members, again, Lew and Faye Edwards.

Lew and Faye were charter members. You can see them in the photo from our website. They are the cute couple kneeling in the front



center of the photo, next to the BATOC sign. After spending the day with them, I can attest to the fact that they are as cute as ever. Faye is even volunteering to host several events!! As thirty year members



of the Jaguar Club she and Lew have quite a collection of great events to share. Stay tuned for an upcoming profile on this great BATOC couple.

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Unfortunately the Infineon event had to be canceled. It seemed to conflict with several members' schedules so there were not enough participants. A special thanks goes to Bob White for setting it up, hopefully next time more members can attend.

Connie Russell has done a great job of setting up an Anniversary Brunch at the Ryde Hotel in the Delta for June 26th. Check the newsletter for a flyer with more details. I know I can't wait, it sounds wonderful!!
See ya soon!
Lisa



Pete & Lew



President's Message Continued.....

bers, Bob White for his help in organizing the proposed outing to Infineon Raceway for the Wine Country Classic Vintage Car Races on June 4th. Unfortunately the event was canceled when only three members responded. Although it was a great event, timing seemed to be a problem for many members.

We also would like to welcome the return of Lew and Faye Edwards who are original members of BATOC from 1958. It was a pleasure to meet them both and to hear some of their stories from oh-so-long-ago. They joined us

on our wine country tour in their beautiful brand new T-Bird and were wonderful to us all. Welcome back to BATOC.

We are also continuing our Photo-Ops for the 2006 BATOC calendar. This fabulous endeavor has been quite fun so far and we are looking to get everyone's car photographed by the end of summer. The calendar may even include a "Babes of BATOC" page and / or a month of "BATOC Beefcakes". What do ya think? The point is we are starting to narrow in on our pictures and want to see YOUR car featured in this memorable club calendar. Get it out, polish it up and get thyself to an upcoming outing. We hope to com-

plete the photography by early August and have the calendar complete by October.

That is all for now but I hope to see you soon at an upcoming event.

Happy T-Birding
Dave



PROBABLY NOT THE SHOP YOU WANT WORKING ON YOUR CAR!



SUNDAY BRUNCH
ON THE DELTA
JUNE 26, 2005

Join us for a tour of the Delta and Sunday Brunch at the Ryde Hotel in Walnut Grove.

The Ryde Hotel was built in 1927 at the peak of the prohibition era. It was an opulent establishment, complete with beauty salon and barbershop, that served as a riverboat way station. It was also rumored to be a bordello. The lower level was a speakeasy, offering bootleg whiskey and jazz to a clientele in search of a good time. There was even a trap door in the floor that allegedly opened to reveal a tunnel running under the road to a hidden doorway at the river's edge.

Following our Sunday Brunch, we will proceed to a Delta Ferry dock and see if we have any brave T-Bird owners that would like drive their car onto a Ferry for a brief ride and a great photo opportunity.

Meeting Time and Place: 8:30-9:00AM;

Bagel Street Café in Danville in the Livery/Mercantile shopping center in Danville. Take Sycamore Valley Rd (west) exit from Hwy. 680. Continue straight across San Ramon Valley Blvd and into the Shopping Center. Turn right into the parking lot and look for the Bagel Street Café near the Washington Mutual Bank.

Cost of Brunch: \$25.00 per person

Contact: Contact Connie Russell by June 24, 2005 if you would like to join in this event. Connie can be reached at 925 944-0691 or connierussell1@comcast.net.

WANTED!

Sponsor for San Jose Grand Prix July 29th to 31st

Several BATOC members may be interested in attending this event as a group, but not necessarily driving the T-Bird. We are looking for a group leader that would like to help organize a meeting place and logistics for this event. If interested in volunteering, please contact Connie Russell at 925 944-0691 or connierussell1@comcast.net

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, Don Perry, 49 Flora Vista Pl., Danville, CA, 94526-2316. 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: (925) 837-4740.

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!



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FIRST CLASS

