



'lil' bird drop-ins

Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club, Inc.
modestotbirdclub.org



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

THUNDERBIRDS BRIGHT & SUNNY DAYS

Sunday • July 13 • 10:00 • Breakfast La Grange Odd Fellows • Hosted By Bob & Marilyn

NEXT MONTH - SUNDAY - AUGUST 10 - 12:00 - LA CASA - TURLOCK - HOST: JAN



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Next Tour

MODESTO AREA CLASSIC THUNDERBIRDS

Date: ??? 2025 • Location: ???



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Facebook and Instagram
tbirdsofthecentralvalley



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Howdy - Fellow T-birders



Welcome to summer, it has finally warmed up to summer temps. It's about time really because it has been somewhat mild so far. And so today we had a breakfast meeting in La Grange, 9 cars (1 retro, 5 classics and 3 brand X's) left Waterford @ 0930 hrs. It was a very pleasant drive east to La Grange. We had breakfast at the I.O.O.F, it was fantastic. The club meeting was at 1100 hrs. and ended roughly at 1200 hrs., by then it had warmed up. It was nice to get home and put Mom's bird away and get inside for the day.

I mentioned at the meeting that a lot has happened since our last meeting in May, notably it was QC 2025, Sac. Extravaganza, graffiti Classic CS, Graffiti festival and the Elks #1282 CS. This is of course just the start of CS season, coming up for me is the F100 CS, Del Rio CS, Lions Club CS and CS at the Classic Car Museum. There are of course others.

A thing happened at the Elks Car Show, that was a surprise to me from some of our members which was the debut of our new custom Pop-up tent. Of course, I knew one had been ordered but I did not know that it had arrived, and it is beautiful. This was the result of our club's membership committee with the intent of this popup to get our club's name out there and draw more memberships. Speaking of memberships, we just received an application for a new member, we have also (during Car Show's) drawn interest from individuals interested in our club. Sometimes this type of inquiry gets memberships sometimes they do not.

That's it for now. We are back on our regular club schedule so I will see everyone soon.

We'll See Ya Around The Aviary
Jim Ridenour

President
Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club



THE MOST SPECIAL DAYS JULY



04 Patricia
19 Cheryl
19 Marilyn
21 Roger
23 Jane



None



PLAN AHEAD

SUNDAY

August 10, 2025 - 12:00

Mi Casa - Turlock

Host: Jan

*Thank
you!*

Elaine & Bill Cross
for Q.C. Pictures

To everyone that sent in
pictures and information
for car shows

Get Ready For FRIENDS REVISITED

Destination Watsonville

Date May 16-18 2026

Sponsored By
Alan and Sandi Brown
of Monterey

Let's Have Fun!

Facebook and Instagram
[tbirdsofthecentralvalley](https://www.facebook.com/tbirdsofthecentralvalley)



Find Info & Updates!



VICE PRESIDENT

Ruben Tellez



The month of July kicked up the heat a bit, just in time for the MACTC Popup to be debuted at the Elk's Car Show. While setting up that morning, Bob P. and Jim M. surprised President, Jim R. with the new MACTC popup tent. The tent was expected to be received in time for the Graffiti Car Show but was lost in transit and had to be reordered. For members attending car shows and events, MACTC is now prepared for sunny days the rest of the summer and future summers with shade, complete with logo and club information. Donated by Bob P. is a nice back panel for the popup with the club's information on it. Thank You Bob! It's being stored at President Jim R.'s home. Members are welcome to use the popup whenever attending car shows, please contact Jim R. when needed. Congratulations to MACTC Elk's Car Show winners, Cheryl for her Retro and Ken and Roberta for their '57. Look for pictures of the new popup and the Elk's award winners in the August newsletter.

President, Jim R. has reminded members to consider volunteering for a position as an officer or a chair for the year 2026. I would also like to encourage members to consider filling a position. None of the positions are hard, past officers/chairs will be available to answer questions or fill in should the need arise.

There are many car shows yet this summer. Sign up /send in your registration forms early to be sure and get a spot. There is a list of events at the end of the newsletter.

For members interested the **2025 VTCI/CTCI JOINT THUNDERBIRD CONVENTION** is being held September 9-13, 2025, in Grapevine, Texas. See the C.T.C.I. website, ctci.org.

The next meeting will be Sunday August 10th - 12:00 in Turlock, hosted by Jan. The information can be found on the MACTC website and The Next Big Thing, August edition.

**T-Birding
is Better Together
Ruben**



Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale

THE END

AND A NEW BEGINNING

Friday May the 16th Q.C. that began - as a get together of 5 (then 7) T-bird Clubs, friends and their cars – just for fun – it's lasted longer than anyone guessed.

After Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club last year (a great event) it was with great anticipation MACTC looked forward to 2025 and as Bill Cross the Q.C. Guy called it the 'FINALE'. Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club set an impressive lineup of beautiful cars. We arrived in different groups – but our main very colorful caravan left together and included Ruben and Katrina, (Dusk Rose with White '57) leading, Jim and Donna Montavon in Tweety ('57 Inca Gold with White), Jack and Janis Martin (Coral Sand with White '57), myself and Terry Helton in Old Blue (Star Mist Blue with White '57), Jane Hacker in her shiny Red '57 (previously owned by Earl and Dolly Reedy), Keith and Elaine Rogers in their Colonial White '57, and Bob and Marilyn Taylor in their T-bird Blue '02 Retro. A beautiful sight to see and after a very bumpy ride we made it down I-5 to Harris Ranch. Ken and Roberta Van Dyke trailered their Flare Red '56, Mike and Julie Van Dyke in their Sky Blue '03 Retro, Frank and Cecilia Sousa (Black with Black '55), Dean and Jo Ann Baker (Star Mist Blue with White '57). After a great lunch we all set off for Embassy Suites, it was a long drive (I'm getting too old for this) and uneventful until Keith and Elaine had brake trouble. We parked and checked in along with Eric and Fran Herskowitz up from Bakersfield with their White with Black '57 so MACTC was getting the Kay Carmichael Award for the final time! The parking lot was full of T-Bird's all parked in the order that they landed (arrived). There was no roped off area – so there would be no Show and Shine the next morning – a big part of Q.C. fun. Cars from Sacramento, Monterey Bay, and Ventura clubs were just a few that made Q.C. Frank and Lisa from Prestige Thunderbird arrived with orders and they filled Jane's trunk with my stuff. Thank You! We went to the hospitality room and met with old friends and got our swag bags. There was food and a lot of pictures of past Q.C.'s on a board, by Mary Doberzenski.



Jim M. found Ruben's break light Loose



View from the 4th floor



Katie L. & Katrina @ Hospitality



Ken V. closing up his 1956



Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Arrival





Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Meet & Greet

The hotels happy hour was coming up so Q.C. moved to the lobby with T-bird friends filling up the room. The Meet and Greet was next, with assorted sliders and sides, after our plates were empty, we were still visiting until we retired and went to our rooms. It was a long day.





Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Tour Norgrove Railway



Saturday the 17th — Terry Helton was up early and headed to breakfast, Jane and I soon followed then we all stopped off at the hospitality room where our third poker card was drawn and met our T-bird friends back in the lobby. Central Coast Classy Birds planned a tour to Norgrove Railway from 11-2. We left at 10:30 following Bill Cross on the 101. Norgrove Railroad is a narrow gage track that winds through vineyards and citrus groves to the top of a small coastal mountain (great view). All of the T-Birds were told to park in front of the rail round house — some great pictures were taken. The owner was our docent and let us look over everything and, buy wine of course. Soon it was time to take the mini train up the hill to lunch — but where was Jane? She's in the engine up front getting a bird's eye view! The catered lunch was waiting at the top of the hill where tables were set up. We had lunch and were drawing our poker cards when the owner brought the rail roads restored fire truck (1951 GMC) up for pictures.





Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Tour Norgrove Railway





Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Tour





Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Tour



Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Tour Rugged Radio & Taco Cafe'



Now back down the hill and to our birds for a short flight to the Rugged Radio. The owner Greg Contrell has a family '55 T-bird (modified) and garages filled with motorized vehicles. I didn't take the tour, but the Foly's and I checked out the T-bird. Terry and I waited and followed a small group back to the hotel. Others had a presidents and editors meeting at Rugged Radio - Taco Café. I was tired and we still had the banquet to attend later.



Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Tour

Rugged Radio & Taco Cafe'





Rugged Radio & Taco Cafe`



Cleaned up and changed Jane and I headed to the hotel happy hour as more T-birders filled the hotel lobby, 7 pm was a long wait. As hotel happy hour ended at 7, the group in the lobby had swelled with Q.C. people that were ready for the final banquet. Soon we were headed down the long hall eager for a buffet. It was nice to see Katie Langenbeck with her son, Jeff at the MACTC table.





Q.C. Forty-Seven Finale - Banquet

Soon Bill Cross called our table numbers, and it got real quite as we enjoyed the meal. After dinner Allen Bown shared a plan for a gathering of T-bird friends on the first weekend of next May 2026. More information will be sent to former Q.C. clubs shortly. Prestige Thunderbird and Frank and Lisa were thanked for all of their support for Q.C.. Since there was no show and shine or big raffle Larry Burke announced the winners of the silent auction – Dean Baker, the poker walk with three jacks – that was me! (I won the poker run in Modesto last year, it was a tie with Mary Dobresnski my fifth card was higher) our V.P. Ruben Tellez won the 50/50 raffle – all Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Members and we retained the Kay Carmichael Award too. Many thanks to Bill Cross and the CCCB'ers for their final event. Tomorrow is Thunderbird appreciation day.



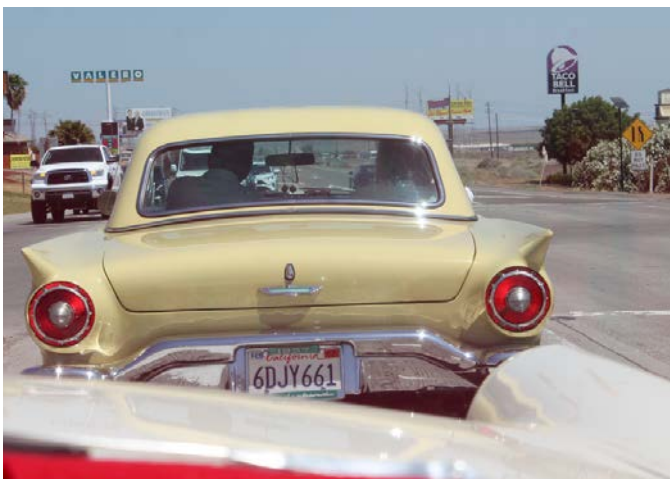


Sunday the 18th Jane and I were up early packing our totes, cleaning up the room – then shower dress and head out the door for breakfast with Terry – then load the cars, go fuel up (these Birds love gas!) – and back to the hotel for final Thank You's and goodbyes. The small MACTC group followed Ruben and Katrina up the 101 to return on the 'James Dean Highway'. At HWY 33 Jim Montavon took the lead with Keith and Elaine, Jane and myself with Terry. Lunch was at Harris Ranch, where we saw the Souza's – back to I-5 with the wind blowing the T-Birds all over. Jane and I honked and waved goodbye to Jim and Donna, Keith and Elaine taking that bumpy road towards Los Banos. After we left the security of our little MACTC caravan my troubles began. Between the gusty wind and bumpy road my top came loose. I pulled over and Terry and I latched the top down (whew!) – another job for Ruben. Next it was Janes turn – I saw her hub cap spinner work loose and was almost off – we pulled over again and Jane removed the spinner (whew!). These were minor troubles that we caught in time but Keith and Elaine lost their breaks on Crows Landing Road, limped to their shop and pushed their Tbird inside. Q. C. had been a long trip and our cars were tired too. It was great to see everyone and I had fun. Central Coast Classy Bird's picked a great hotel and I have great memories of (the Finale One).

In TBird Love Always - Jan Peterson



HEADING HOME





EXTRAVAGANZA

Sacramento



ATTENDING
the
Extravaganza

DENNIS & PAT

JIM R.

JAN WITH JANE



Extravaganza 2 1/2 & Other Car Fun



After Q.C., MACTC members had some T-Bird fun. I'm just giving a brief recap from my notes.

Our longest distance members Dennis and Pat Jeffries came to Turlock May 30th. Dennis drove the R.V. with Pat's '56 on a trailer and Pat drove her '05 Bronze Retro T-Bird. They couldn't make Q.C. but they planned to make Graffiti week.

The first event was the Sacramento Thunderbird Extravaganza 2 1/2, May 31st. This was a nice show with T-Birds only in the California Auto Museum's parking lot. Three members from MACTC attended: Jim R. leading, Dennis and Pat in the '56 and me with Jane in her Red '57. At the California Auto Museum about 35 T-Birds of all years filled the lot - a beautiful site. C.T.C.I. donated surplus stock for a 'free' raffle and Jim R., Pat and I all won. California Auto Museum gave discounted tickets for the museum visitors and in spite of the hot weather, it was nice to see all of the T-Birds from several clubs. MACTC left in our little group of three - but in Modesto Jane's car quit - so part of the ride home was by AAA. Submitted by - Jan Peterson





Extravaganza and Other Car Fun

Jane and I found Jim R. with his T-Bird at McHenry Village. Bob E., Jim M. and friends were also attending with their entries, showing a preview of Graffiti week - a great show put on by the Modesto Area Street Rod Association. Holly Folly's '57 Dusk Rose received an award and Jane and I drove up in Brand X and joined the fun. These great car shows kick off Graffiti week. Monday was American Chevrolet - Pat and Dennis was the only T-Bird. Tuesday in Escalon - Wednesday was downtown Modesto and MACTC brought out the little birds. Leaving my house in Turlock were Jane (Red '57), Dennis and Pat (White '56), and myself with (Old Blue '57) - all with hard tops. In Modesto at 11th and 'N' we met Jim R. (White '57), Holly and Tim (Red '57) and Jim and Donna (Tweetie - Inca Gold '57), all were topless (OH-NO!) - a very pretty line up. A lot of pictures were taken; hope you enjoy them! Thursday was at Cool Hand Lukes in Riverbank.





Extravaganza and Other Car Fun



Friday found Pat J. and I in Modesto getting signed up for our packets for the BIG Graffiti Car Show Saturday and Sunday at MJC. Friday night was "the Cruze" (parade) no cars from MACTC entered this year. Saturday morning early - Jane met at my house - but no Pat and Dennis. We went by the R.V. to find out that their cat had escaped - so we took off for Jim R.'s house without them. Pat and Dennis would find the cat and come up to the car show - but they weren't able to park with MACTC. Jim M. and Ruben and Katrina also took Lil Birds to the show and the group of five parked together. The guys set up a couple of pop-ups and Jim R. brought 'the BBQ'. We had a fun day and Katrina and Ruben got an award for their Dusk Rose '57. Sunday the MACTC group returned to watch the award presentation. Congratulations!



Pat and Dennis spent a few more days in Turlock as the Bronze '05 lost its AC on the trip down - it spent several days at Price Ford - finally it was repaired, and they left for Sweet Home Oregon and home. In a couple of days my phone rang, and it was Pat saying Thank You and they were home safely.

Graffiti was finally over, and it was good fun - there are car shows every weekend this summer - so let's have some MACTC fun!

All Things T-Bird ... Jan Peterson



Graffiti Car Show at MJC



Meeting at Jim R. home for the Graffiti Car Show



YUMMY...
A BIG Ice cream
cookie sandwich
Perfect on hot day!



Jim & Donna
Jan
Ruben & Katrina
Jane
Jim & Mona



Graffiti Car Show at MJC



Jane



Jan



Graffiti Award at MJC



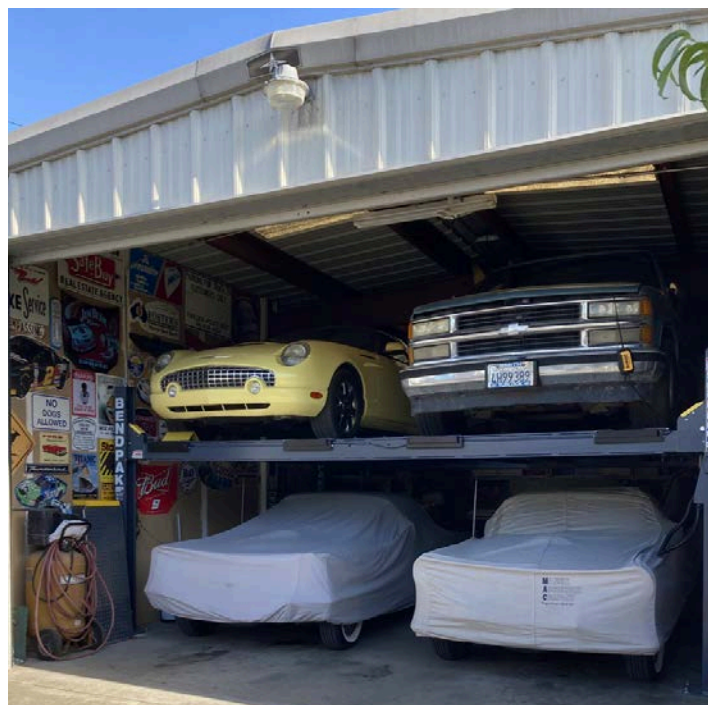
It isn't a
Cadillac
Elvis, but it
is Pink!

Ruben &
Katrina
2025 Award
Winner in
the Graffiti
Classic Car
Show



A widow in Manteca is moving to South Carolina. She is selling her husband's 1960 Thunderbird hardtop. It was running when garaged but she has not started it for past 3 years.

Tom Hower - 805-402-3851



Jan's Cool Car Lift



Meet at Pioneer Shopping
Center in Waterford at 9:00
12138 Yosemite Blvd
Leave for La Grange at 9:30

THE NEXT BIG THING

Meeting & Social

Sunday July 13 - 10:00

Odd Fellows Breakfast

30018 Yosemite Blvd. - La Grange

Hosted by - Bob & Marilyn

Sign up or Cancel

Call Bob 209.848.8746



Odd Fellows Breakfast
\$10.00 per person
The Museum has reopened
and now has Air Conditioning
for those interested in visiting

Manteca - Stockton - Tracy
Mariposa Rd. - Escalon/Bellota - Lft. Lone Tree Rd. - Rt. Valley Home Rd - Lft. Hwy 120
Follow from Oakdale
Oakdale
S. Yosemite/Albers Road - Lft. Oakdale Waterford Hwy - Turn Rt. onto Yosemite Ave.
Turlock
Geer/Albers/Yosemite - Turn Right on Yosemite Ave.
Pioneer Market is on the Right



2025

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MACTC MEETINGS, TOURS AND CAR SHOWS				
DATE	HOST/HOSTS	PLACE	TIME	
MEETINGS				
January 12	Ruben & Katrina	H-B Saloon - Oakdale	12:00	
February 8	Jan	Grizzly Rock Café - Turlock	12:00	
March 9	Ruben & Katrina	Firenze - Oakdale	12:00	
April 13	Jim & Mona	Graffiti Museum - Modesto	12:00	
May 4/10	Mike & Julie	TBA	12:00	
June	DARK	DARK	N/A	
July 13	Bob & Marilyn	Odd Fellows - La Grange	10:00	
August 10	Jan	Mi Casa - Turlock	12:00	
September 14	Jim & Donna	Montavon's	12:00	
October 12	Bob E & Patricia	TBA	12:00	
November 9	Frank & Cecilia	Brookside Country Club Stkn	12:00	
December 7	Club Officers	Fruit Yard - Christmas Party	11:30	
CAR SHOWS	TOWN	SHOW	TIME	Flyer
August 15	Modesto	Vintage Faire Music & BBQ	5-8	Yes
August 16	Manteca	KSK 2nd Annual	7-3	Yes
August 22	Modesto	English Oaks	5-7	Yes
September 13	Escalon	Lions Club Autumn Cruise	8-4	Yes
September 20	Oakdale	Blast From The Past	9-3	Yes
October 18	Manteca	Wheels of Woodbridge	9-2	Yes
DATE	HOST	TOUR		
February 18/22	Jim & Donna	Almond Blossom Tour & Lunch	AM-Lunch	
October	Jim & Donna	Overnight - Chicken Ranch	TBA	
December	Keith & Elaine	Poinsettia & Lunch Tour	AM-Lunch	