



'lil' bird drop-ins

Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club, Inc.
modestotbirdclub.org



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH CELEBRATE THUNDERBIRD LOVE

Sunday • February 08 • 12:00 • Firenze Ristorante - Oakdale • Hosted By Jane

NEXT MONTH - SUNDAY - MARCH 08 - 12:00 - MI CASA - TURLOCK - HOST: JAN



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Groundhog Day
February 2nd



Next T-Bird Fun!

FRIEND'S REVISITED

Date: May 01-03 2026 • Location: Watsonville



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Facebook and Instagram
tbirdsofthecentralvalley



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Howdy Fellow T-birders

Happy Sunday morning to all. This past weekend the club had three members attend the annual Turlock Swap Meet in Turlock, CA. Jim, and Donna along with Jan were there and used the Club pop-up and banner to promote the club. This event draws thousands and this will be good exposure. I was wanting to go at some point but a remodel project at home has me tied up for the next couple of months. I do however have an exception to that and that is Friday evening the 30th I will be attending a memorial for Don Cose a long-time member and a friend. Then on the 31st I will be meeting with Keith, Ruben, and Jim M. to put Mom's Bird on a lift and clean up the underside in hopes of finding and fixing a leak that has been menacing me for some time now.

The membership committee will begin having meetings again this year with a stated goal of getting an updated banner, business cards, post cards, and club apparel. The more we're out there the more interest it will bring to the club.

I want to bring up the latest in the events happening within the CTCI organization. This is a simplified version; last November elections were held and new district directors were voted in (two of which are for our club's district). Once these elections are done it is these directors that vote in executive board members. Well, CTCI held the vote but did not include the five newly elected directors, this is violation of the rules as set by CTCI. So, these five directors let it be known that this is not the way for it to be done and instead of recognizing their error, the CTCI president and others decided to remove these five directors that 'we' as contributing chapters elected. At our next meeting more detail will be talked about and a discussion as to whether our club remains a chapter of CTCI will be discussed.

Thanks, and let's get these T-Birds rolling.

**Will See Ya Around The Aviary
Jim Ridenour**

President
Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club



THE MOST SPECIAL DAYS DECEMBER



03 Katie
 22 Keith
 27 Marlon



17
 Jim & Donna



PLAN AHEAD

SUNDAY

MARCH 08 - 12:00

MI CASA - TURLOCK

Host: JAN



For Taking Pictures
 Jim R. and Ruben
 For Serving Cake
 Mona and Elaine
 For Doing The Give Away
 Ruben

Get Ready For FRIENDS REVISITED

Destination Watsonville

Date May 01-03 2026

Sponsored By
 Alan and Sandi Brown
 Monterey Club

Facebook and Instagram
 tbirdsofthecentralvalley



Let's Have Fun!

Find Info & Updates!



VICE PRESIDENT

Ruben Tellez

Thunderbirds

Celebrating Seventy Years ...

these beautiful classics are still amazing!



Happy New Year to everyone! Katrina, and I hosted the January meeting and social at H-B Saloon in Oakdale, it was a full house. Thank you to everyone who attended and welcome to new members Dee and Dan, if you haven't already, please introduce yourself at the next meeting.

Thank you to those of you who have paid your 2026 dues. Those who have not had a chance to pay, please see Elaine at the February meeting or mail it in. If you're not sure you paid, contact Elaine. Payment can be made by cash or by check payable to MACTC.

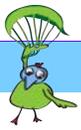
Thank you to the members who have passed on information regarding upcoming car shows and events. Check out the club's website for meeting dates, car shows, newsletters, etc. The website is also a useful tool to refer potential new members. modestotbirdclub.org

The calendar for 2026 meetings, tours and car shows was circulated, please consider being a host and sign-up at the meeting. Something to think about: a suggestion was made to consider having a breakfast or early afternoon meeting possibly on a Thursday or Friday for the months of May and June; this would help mitigate the weekends of Mother/Father's Day celebrations, car shows and the heat in July. Note that sunset is at 8:00 pm in both months.

Alan and Sandi with the Monterey Club, have volunteered to make the hotel reservations for the Thunderbird Friends Revisited event in May. Note the date change... May 1-3 (Friday-Sunday) at the Hampton Inn in Watsonville. Reservation link and other information coming soon.

Bring your Valentine or a friend to the meeting and social Sunday, February 8th - 12:00 at Firenze Ristorante in Oakdale, hosted by Jane.

**T-Birding
is Better Together
Ruben**



JANUARY

H - B SALOON

FIRST MEETING OF 2026



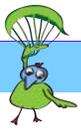


JANUARY H - B SALOON



Ken's 90th
Happy Birthday!





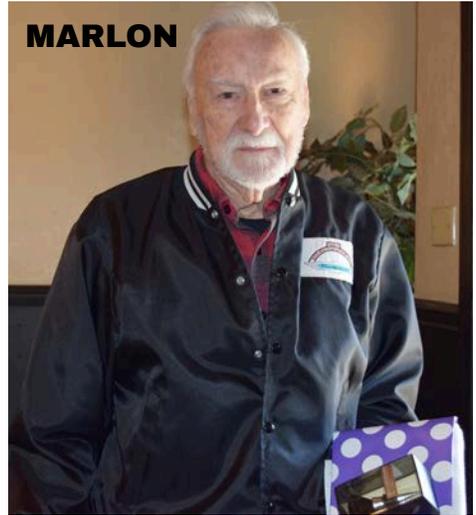
JANUARY WINNERS



KEITH



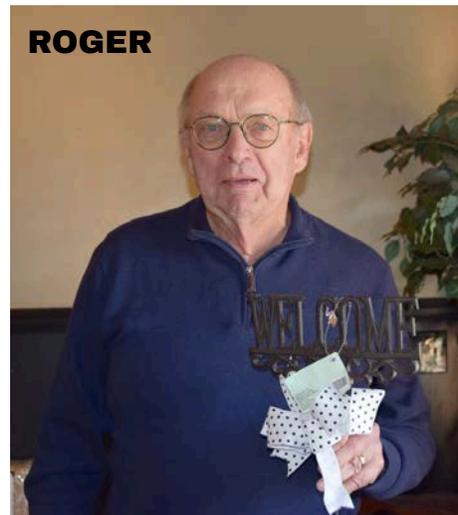
RONNA



MARLON



DONNA



ROGER



DAN



2026 DUES ARE DUE

\$35.00

**Pay at the Meeting
or
Mail to the Treasurer**

**Cash
or
Check made payable to MACTC**



**No Host Bar
Limited Menu
Pay The Treasurer
Cash / Check
Gratuity Included**

THE NEXT BIG THING

**Meeting & Social
Sunday February 08th -12:00
Firenze Ristorante**

502 N. Yosemite Ave. - Oakdale

Hosted by - Jane

Sign up - Call or Text Jane 209.535-7460



Manteca - Stockton - Tracy

**Hwy 99 / Hwy 120 - The restaurant is on the Right just past the bridge/signal
Modesto**

**Milnes or Patterson Rd. - Left on Albers/Yosemite Ave.- towards Escalon
Turlock**

**Geer/Albers/Yosemite towards Escalon
The restaurant is on the Left by the community pool**



Club News

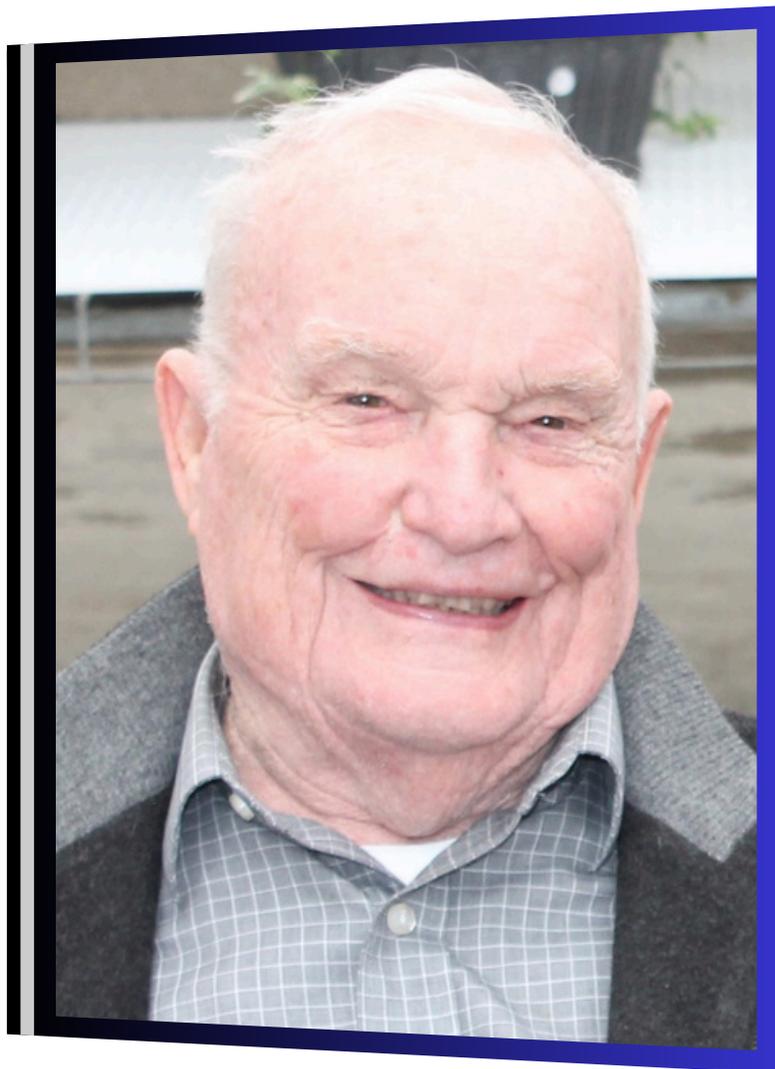
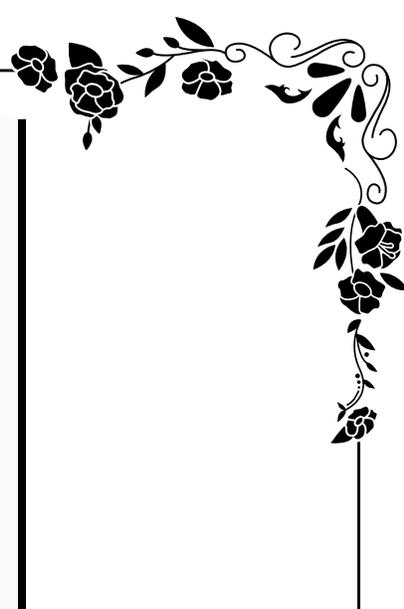
Hoods Up

Welcome to New Members
Dee and Dan
2005 Cashmer
Retro Anniversary Thunderbird

Happy Birthday
Ken celebrates his 90th this
year. Congratulations!

Ruben has removed the
transmission on the '57 and
sending it in to be rebuilt.
He decided to pull the engine to
do other work while that was
being done.

Jan had the original twin four-
barrel carburetor rebuilt and
reinstalled in the '57 E Bird.



Don Albert Cose



March 15, 1932 – November 21, 2025



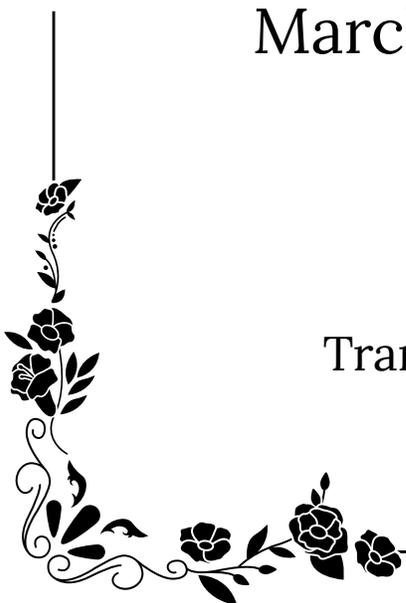
Service for Don

January 30, 2026 - 4 to 7 p.m.

Transportation Center - Downtown Tracy

6th & Central

Same location as Darlene's Service





Don Albert Cose

Don Albert Cose, a devoted husband, be-loved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and treasured member of the Tracy community, passed away peacefully on Friday, November 21, 2025, at his home in Tracy, with family by his side.

Don was born on March 15, 1932, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to Albert and Eleanor Cose. He grew up alongside his sister, Barbara Wells, and his brother, Paul Cose, and enjoyed a childhood full of mischief. As a boy, he dreamed of becoming a cowboy. Although that dream never materialized, he went on to lead a life filled with adventure.

After the family relocated to California, Don attended Wilson High School in Long Beach. It was at a school dance that he met the love of his life, Darlene. Don often said he knew instantly that she was his soulmate. Their engagement was deferred while he served active duty in Guam with the United States Navy, a commitment he later continued as a reservist until retiring as a lieutenant commander j.g.

When Don returned, he and Darlene married and went on to share sixty-seven years together. During that time, they welcomed two sons, Dale and Greg, who filled their home with love and, fittingly, their own share of mischief.

Despite having young children, Don earned his Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical engineering and his master's degree in aerothermodynamics from the University of California, Berkeley. He worked as a rocket scientist for seven years before transitioning into real estate and development. The work was often not glamorous and routinely required getting dirty. Don, Darlene, Dale and Greg routinely worked together on projects that could qualify for an episode of Dirty Jobs.

But Don had a gift for vision and could see potential where others saw only problems.

In 1970, Don and Darlene moved their family to Tracy, where they built their lifelong home. Together with his family, Don acquired several properties in the downtown area and became a strong supporter of local events. He believed deeply in the value of community and often said the heart of Tracy was its downtown. His love for the City of Tracy was unwavering. In 2019, when he was awarded Male Citizen of the Year by the Tracy Chamber of Commerce, Don proudly declared during his acceptance speech, "I love Tracy!" His affection for the community never diminished, and he often spoke of how fortunate he felt to have spent more than five decades in the city.



Don Albert Cose

He pursued many personal passions throughout his life. In their earlier years, he and Darle traveled extensively, visiting Europe, China, Egypt, and Mexico. He later traveled to Ghana and Venezuela for humanitarian work. At home, he found joy in woodworking and spent countless hours in his shop. He also loved collecting antiques, especially classic cars and vintage signs, and enjoyed attending swap meets and car shows.

In his later years, he took great comfort in his familiar weekly routines. He met several times a week with his coffee klatch with Stan Morri, Monty Montgomery, Frank Cameron, Mike Thibodeau and Byron Alvarez, where they would “solve the world’s problems.” He was rarely seen without one of his cashmere sweaters and his ready smile. He loved watching classic films, particularly those featuring John Wayne and anything about WWII. He also spent cherished time at the Tracy Senior Center, where he sang karaoke and danced with friends.

He is survived by his sons, Dale Cose, Greg Cose (Kim); grandchildren, Chris Cose, Haley Mott, Jake Cose, and Sophia Cose, and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Darlene; grandson, Drew Cose; siblings, Barbara Wells and Paul Cose; sister-in-law, Cheryl O’Lenic; parents, Albert and Eleanor Cose.

A celebration of Don’s life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, those who wish to honor his memory are invited to support local causes that were important to him, including the Tracy Rotary Club or the McHenry House, Tracy Sutter Hospital, Tracy Boys and Girls Club and Grand Theater.

A special thanks to Pastor Kal and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and a heartfelt thanks to Don’s devoted caregivers and the support of Annette Hutchinson. Also, a special thanks to Kim Cose for her unwavering dedication to insure the best care for her father-in-law for six years. And also Dr. J Patel who has been an enormous resource for over 35 years.



CTCI Board Meeting Highlights January 16, 2026

Treasurer's Report: John Kledis explained that he was working on the Year End Financials for 2025. He explained that it would be a bit before he would have the financial reports ready. In addition to the Financial Reports, John will be working on the 990 which is the Federal Tax filing.

Member Renewals: Garrett Shropshire, through the Office Activity Report documented Member Renewals. **Member Renewals:** Last year (12/31/2024), we ended up with 3,601 active members. Between January and December of 2025, we gained 187 New Members. In addition, we gained 29 members who returned to CTCI from prior years (before 2024). As of 12/31/2025, we are now at 3,271 active members. At this point, we have 485 Members who have not renewed. Of that total, we have only received 61 notices of dropouts. We are pleased that we have achieved (and exceeded) our planned member membership number of 3,200 by the end of the year. Thus we only ended up with a "Year over Year net loss of 330 members. This is better than in 2024 where we had a net lost 414 members.

Office Activity: The CTCI Activity Report & stats for the Factory Invoices and Merchandise Sales for the whole year of 2024 and 2025 are included for your review. We have assisted the invoice committee in processing 52 Invoice requests in 2025 which is 15 off the same time last year. Merchandise sales for the year is at \$ 15,164.95. We are UP in merchandise sales from the same period in 2024.

Committee's Named for 2026: The following committees were named for 2026. They are:

Executive – Finance

TOA – Joint Events

Membership & Local Club Interaction

OP & P

2026 Convention

Nominating

The Early Bird Advisory

Website

Authenticity

Judge Training

Concours Judging

Retro Restoration & Upkeep

Factory Invoice

Scoring

Publicity

Newsletter Contest

Ford Johnson – Ron McCloud

The next regular Board meeting is set for December 11, 2026, at 10:00 AM Central.

On Behalf of the Board,
Bob Bly, President