DECEMBER 2026 VOLUME 46| ISSUE NO. 12

'lil' bird drop-ins

Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club, Inc.
modestotbirdclub.org



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

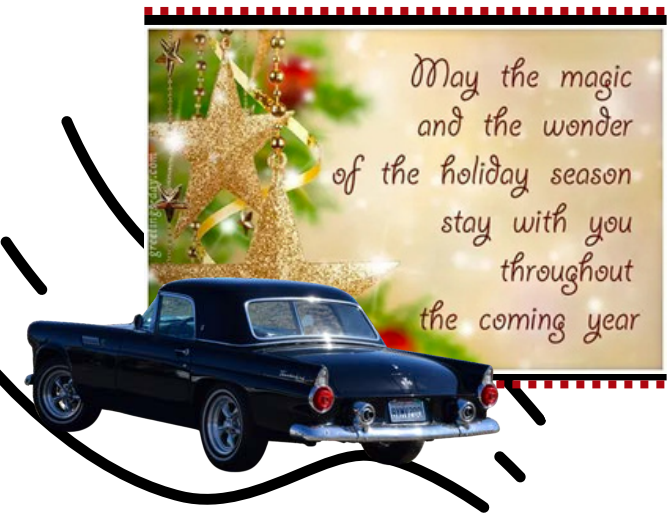
Thunderbirds And Christmas Greetings

Saturday • December 05 • 11:30 • The Fruit Yard • Modesto • Hosted By Club Officers

NEXT MONTH - SUNDAY - JANUARY 10 - 12:00 - H-B SALOON - OAKDALE - HOST: RUBEN & KATRINA

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Next T-Bird Fun!

TBIRD FRIENDS REVISITED

Date: May TBA, 2027 • Harris Ranch: Overnight



OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

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209-324-8183

Facebook and Instagram
tbirdsofthecentralvalley

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE





Howdy Fellow T-birders

Good morning on this cool and windy day as a storm front heads our way. I actually like this this time of year, the cool crisp air, the rain and the wind. When it cools even farther, I will light up the fireplace and enjoy the warmth and crackling of a fire. Of course, the downfall to this time of year is that I can't get "Mom's" bird out. That doesn't mean car shows are over for the year because there are some very important "Toys For Tots" and coat drives coming up. You can keep up with those by checking our website for events and also Facebook and Instagram both have "T-Birds of the Central Valley" on them and they regularly post car show flyers. This is also the best time for football watching because I don't have to feel guilty for sitting around when the weather is beautiful outside. Today is particularly rare because Mona's Vikings are playing at 10:00 and my 49ers are playing at 1:30 and both are televised; this is leading up to a Sunday night battle between the two teams on the 22nd.

Before I go, I want to give a short update on the C.T.C.I. lawsuit and restructuring of how C.T.C.I. does business. First the lawsuit, it has been going on now almost 12 months (far longer than it should have) and the next big thing is a hearing to have the current board thrown out and replaced with the displaced duly elected directors from last year's election. This should take place before the 20th of November. Now as for the changes in how the C.T.C.I. board has changed how they do business. First of all, they have changed how we are allowed to choose who is eligible to run for director positions by making it so that only the current directors can make that choice, not members. They are trying to appeal to the members by holding a ZOOM conference call in an attempt to make us feel like we have a voice in how things are run; the problem is they get to screen the questions beforehand and choose which ones get asked on the call. This zoom call is scheduled for November 20th; Katrina and I plan to attend.

Thanks for your attention to Prez Says and ....



I'll See Ya Around The Aviary
Jim Ridenour

President
Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club

THE MOST SPECIAL DAYS OCTOBER





04	Fran
07	Shirley
12	Alex
24	Frank



December 29
Jim and Mona



PLAN AHEAD

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 05 - 11:30
Christmas Party and
Installation of Officers
The Fruit Yard - Modesto
Host: Club Officers



FOR TAKING PICTURES
Jim R.
Donna
Ruben

For Give Away Prizes
Holley & Tim - Cap, T-Shirt, Cards
Keith & Elaine - Wine

Licence Plate Holder

Contact Elaine to order license plate holders $35.00 each



Let's Have Fun!

Facebook and Instagram
tbirdsofthecentralvalley



Find Info & Updates!

VICE PRESIDENT

Ruben Tellez

Thunderbirds
Celebrating Seventy Years ...
these beautiful classics are still amazing!





Hello to everyone and the last newsletter of the year! The lunch, meeting and social at the Brookside Country Club in Stockton was very enjoyable. Cecilia decorated the tables elegantly for fall and the lunch was excellent; with individual carrot cake bundt cakes for dessert and a beautiful pumpkin take away for the lucky person at each table. Thank you, Frank and Cecilia, for hosting the month of November.

The Modesto Thunderbirds took away quite a few trophies this year. Congratulations to every one of us that won an award and or a trophy or two or more! The club welcomed three new 2026 memberships Dee and Dan M., Dub K. and Jeanette T. and Glen and Sandy W. The club celebrated forty-five years of Thunderbirds and friendships. Thank you all those years back to Marlon, Jan, Ken and Roberta and many, many others that are dearly missed for having the idea, foresight and fun times building this club into what it is today.

As V.P. I would greatly appreciate member participation in the new 2027 calendar for meetings, tours and car shows coming out. There will be some meeting dates already booked, all that will be needed is a host and as always, it's optional to include decorations and/or dessert. Check it out, let's have another great year in 2027!

Last year it was helpful that members sent in information for car shows and events. It would make it easier for Katrina if an original flyer/form/poster could be submitted instead of a texted picture an original makes for better print in the newsletter and on the website. Contact her anytime if help is needed to get the information to us.

Share your individual Thunderbird outings with MACTC friends. For example, the picture of Jim and Donna's car on the front page of the November newsletter. It will make the news fun, interesting and interactive. An article, a story or a few words about the location and day would be a bonus. I can also include a version with a short video.

I, along with other members will be doing some maintenance and repairs during the next couple of months. There is always something to be done on these classics. When the weather warms up, they'll be ready to show off and drive for fun all summer!

Sign up for the Poinsettia Tour, followed by lunch at The Fruit Yard on Wednesday December 2nd. Hosts Keith and Elaine.

The annual Christmas Party, hosted by MACTC officers, is on **Saturday**, December 5th, 11:30 at The Fruit Yard. 'Let's Celebrate Together' all things Thunderbird and Classic Cars with friendships made over the years, new ones to be made and remembering those that were once a part of our life with cars. Friends and family are welcome, note that this is the first year we will not be participating in a gift exchange. Sunday November 29th is the last day to R.S.V.P., the invitation is below. Not mentioned but greatly appreciated would be paper grocery bags for the food pantry.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

T-Birding is Better Together
Ruben





NOVEMBER MEETING





















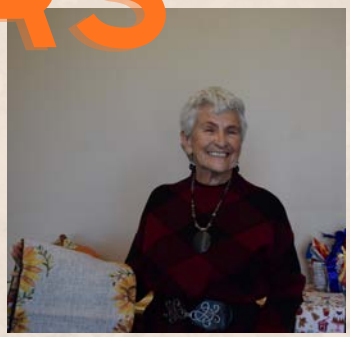




NOVEMBER WINNERS







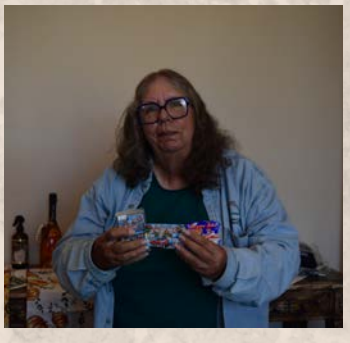


















a little bit of T-Bird fun....







Here is the background on how the Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club, Incorporated (MACTC) was founded:

Marlon started out with a 1955 Thunderbird that he unfortunately wrecked. He then bought a 1957 Thunderbird. While driving on Highway 99 en route to a swap meet in Stockton, another Thunderbird flew past him. Curious to see who was driving, he raced ahead and arrived at the swap meet first. There, he met Jan and her uncle, Leonard. After chatting, Marlon learned about Jan's passion for Thunderbirds, and they quickly became good friends.

At the time, Jan and her mother regularly attended the Sacramento Thunderbird Club meetings. Jan and Marlon decided to start a club in the Modesto area specifically for classic 1955–1957 Thunderbirds. They created a flyer and distributed it at the Annual Model A Club's January Swap Meet. Out of 40 sign-ups, about 15 members began attending the initial meetings.

With guidance from the Sacramento Club, they established their bylaws, became C.T.C.I. Chapter 95, and officially incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The club established a schedule of meetings on the second Thursday evening and tours on the third Sunday of each month. Currently the club hosts meetings and various events on the second and third/fourth Sundays of the month. The club welcomes any classic car enthusiast to join for friendship and fun!

Today, the MACTC remains active in the Central Valley area, with 27 memberships across Bakersfield, Ceres, Manteca, Modesto, Oakdale, Patterson, Stockton, Tracy, Turlock, and Sweet Home, Oregon. For 45 years, the club has showcased some of the most beautiful classic Ford Thunderbirds and continues to win awards today.



POINSETTIA tour



TUESDAY
DECEMBER 02 - 10:30
Meet at Duarte Nursery
1555 Baldwin Road - Hughson
Lunch at The Fruit Yard following the tour
Duarte Nursery - Hatch Rd. & Baldwin * Fruit Yard - Geer & Yosemite

HOSTS
Keith & Elaine
Sign-up Call/Text
209.484.3505

Duarte Only
Acceppts
Cash/Check



Must Pre-Order Lunch to Attend Refer to the Invitation for details and pricing

THE NEXT BIG THING

Christmas Party
Installation of Officers
Saturday December 05th -11:30
The Fruit Yard
7948 Yosemite Blvd. - Modesto
Hosted by - The Officers
Sign up/Cancel - Call or Text Katrina 209.480.3628
By Sunday November 29th



No Host Bar

Manteca - Stockton
Hwy 99 / Exit 'B' St. Modesto - Left Tuolumne Blvd. / 'B' St. - Left 9th' St. - Rt. 'D' St.
Rt. on Hwy 132/Yosemite Blvd. Approximately 8 miles/16 minutes
Modesto - Oakdale - Turlock
Geer Road and Yosemite

Let's Celebrate Together!

JOINS US FOR A

SATURDAY
DEC 05 11:30AM

Friends and family are Welcome

Christmas LUNCHEON

AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

NO HOST BAR - LUNCH PLATE - DESSERT
INCLUDED - DINNER SALAD
ROASTED BABY BAKER POTATOES
SAUTEED VEGETABLES
WATER - ICED TEA - COFFEE

$48.00	$62.00	$64.00
Charbroiled Chicken Breast w Marsala Jerusalem	New York Steak Topped w Brandy-Peppercorn Sauce	Alaskan Salmon Grilled w Lemon & Tartar Sauce

OPTIONAL - DONATIONS

Toys For Tots - Bring an unwrapped toy
Food Bank - Any amount of pantry items/Cash

DUES $35.00

Dues can be paid at anytime or at the luncheon - By Cash/Check

THE FRUIT YARD

7948 Yosemite Ave. & Geer Rd. Modesto

RSVP or cancel your choice of meal by November 28th to Katrina 209-480-3628 Call/Text



Club News

Hoods Up

SAD NEWS

Sandy Hood called Jim and Donna to let the club know that Joe passed away. She will eventually be moving to her daughters. In the meantime, you can call Sandy or mail condolences to:

Sandy Hood
209.620.7072
1827 San Leandro Ct.
Las Cruses, NM 88005

Earl is in a care home at 1309 Oakwood Dr. in Modesto. He can have visitors and cards are welcomed.

Katie is in a Pismo area care home and has recently been put into hospice.

Jane and Jan visited Earl in his new home in Modesto. He was happy to have visitors and they had a nice visit. The ladies also stopped in to visit Judy and spent a little time reminiscing about T-Birds. Judy is at The Gardens in Modesto where she is doing well. Pop in anytime to visit with Earl or Judy for a little bit.

After the meeting Elaine arranged for a word game, Mona won with the most words found. Janis, Donna, Terry and Bob were the winners of the pumpkins from the tables.

Region 1 Convention
June 3-6, 2027 - Albany New York
Registration is Open!



Dear CTCI member,

Please join us for Cruisin' the Capital June 3-6, 2027

Register by mail with downloadble/fillable pdf forms for Members & Non-members or Register online and we look forward to seeing you in 2027!

The headquarters hotel is:

Holiday Inn Express & Conference Center

400 Old Loudon Road, Latham NY 12110

Phone: (518) 783-6161 Room Block code: CTC

Hotel registration online: https://bit.ly/4k3hOtB

The hotel is just minutes from the ALB airport and offers free shuttle service.

Watch for updates and additional information in the *Early Bird* and on the CTCI.org website: https://www.ctci.org/2027-ctci-convention/

The hotel is located 15 mins from downtown Albany, 20 minutes from historical Saratoga Springs, 45 mins to Lake George and 30 mins from Bennington VT. Take a driving tour, bus tour or adventure on your own across the glorious Upstate NY Region and enjoy Cruisin' the Capital!!