



The Motor Mouth

Annual Gathering

PSEB's Pizza and Planning Party is Perfect



President Duane Niemi presides at annual planning session that promises a great 2010.

The pizza was piping hot and the salads were crisp and tasty as 29 enthusiastic PSEBers met Jan. 9 at Duane and Nancy Niemi's woodland home to plan the 2010 club calendar

With a variety of Papa Murphy's delectable pizzas at the ready, members selected their favorites and enjoyed beer, wine and sodas, as well as coffee. Once the food was polished off (we were a hungry crew), the group gathered in the living and dining rooms to determine the events that would draw us all together during the year.

But first, past president Gordon Thorne sounded a train whistle to focus attention on the ceremonial passing of the gavel from retiring president Ray Vingo to incoming president Duane Niemi. The rest of the new board -- Bob Callard,

vice president; Martha Callard, secretary; and Mike Talbot, treasurer -- were installed. Then it was Duane's turn to express the club's gratitude to Ray for leading the club in 2009 and present him a tangible thank you in the form of a custom T-Bird wristwatch.

Now duly installed, Duane took the reins and led the club in a month-by-month discussion of the proposed events, which were suggested by mem-

(continued on page 3)

**Tour the
USS Stennis
aircraft carrier
in Bremerton**

**Feb. 27
See page 6
for details.**

In this Issue

2 President's Message

5 "Thunderbirds, Ducks and Eagles: When bureaucracies collide" by Jim Stott

7 The Road Ahead 2010

10 PSEB logo clothing order form





President's Message

January has already slipped by and soon we begin the 2010 events. I think there is something for everyone and we'll have a great year!

We had our annual planning meeting Jan. 9 with pizza and libations enjoyed by a great turnout. There were 29 participants who joined in the planning process. The board --Ray Vingo, Gordon Thorne, Bob Callard and I -- met in December and went through all the ideas that were submitted for events for the year. The proposed monthly events were discussed and a motion to accept the slate was approved by the membership.

February's event will be a tour of the USS Stennis, the aircraft carrier home-ported in Bremerton.



The tour is slated for Saturday, Feb. 27, and final details will be forthcoming by e-mail. ***It is imperative that those wishing to attend submit their names to me by Feb. 15. We will have to have a roster of everyone, including vehicle license plate numbers of the vehicle you will be driving through security for parking.***

Did you see the Thornes' beautiful bird on the cover of the Early Bird magazine? It looked fabulous and what a wonderful story with it. Gordon and Judy, congratulations!!

For those who came to our home on the 9th, we can tell you that the sauna is now officially done! The exterior (overhang and rock around base) and landscaping must be completed, but the interior is complete, including the "Sauna Rules." Visitors welcome! --- ***Duane Niemi, President***

OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

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THE MOTOR MOUTH

Vol. 17, No. 2 -- February 2010

Gold Medallion-winning publication of the Puget Sound Early Birds, chapter 81 of Classic Thunderbird Club International.

Members are encouraged to submit articles written by themselves or others. All submissions are subject to editing and space available.

Deadline: 20th of the preceding month

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Our Mission: To encourage and promote the preservation, admiration, ownership, enjoyment and restoration of the 1955, 1956 and 1957 Ford Thunderbirds.

Web site:

www.pugetsoundearlybirds.org

(Continued from page 1)



bers and compiled by the board. With input from members, the 2010 schedule was massaged and finalized. It includes such diverse activities as an oyster feed, aircraft carrier tour, benefit car show and barbecue, Loganberry Festival overnight on Whidbey Island as well as annual fall and winter events. Thanks to suggestions from members and their willingness to plan and host events, 2010 promises to be a stellar year for PSEB.



On hand to help plan the year were hosts Duane and Nancy Niemi, Thom and Joni Bayler, Der and Judy Roupe, Mike Talbot (Sandi was recovering from a broken leg and was greatly missed), Bob and

Martha Callard, Dick and Adrienne Daugherty, Ted and Charline Austin, Barry and Linda Birch, Jim Stott and Darlene McCallum, Phil and Cheryl McCurdy, Gordon and Judy Thorne, Ed and Tanya Johnson, Stan and Gretchen Liebenberg, Tom and



Susan Harris and Ray and Margaret Vingo. For a full list of what's on tap for Puget Sound Early Birds in the coming months, see The Road Ahead on page 7 of this issue.



Yes, Duane, it was a Perfect Pizza and Planning Meeting, thanks to you and Nancy, our ever-so-congenial hosts. Thank you both for all you did to make this an inspired PSEB gathering.





Thunderbirds, Ducks and Eagles When bureaucracies collide

By Jim Stott

As we go through life, we often encounter Ducks and Eagles. Generally, Ducks have little or no authority, but are laden with great responsibilities. Eagles, on the other hand, have tremendous authority with little responsibility and/or accountability. Eagles usually are managers or organizational leaders. Ducks usually are worker bees and often have direct contact with customers.

My never-ending saga to bring my Raven Beauty to her permanent resting place in Gig Harbor encountered endless speed bumps that rolled over the horizon in the ride of my life. My T-Bird was located in Southern California, whilst I reside in the quaint fishing village of Gig Harbor.

Eventually, last fall I became the second owner of my Black Beauty. A month before I brought her home, I checked with the Department of Licensing in Olympia. Here exists a previously unknown gathering of Unlimited Ducks!

I asked DOL what was needed to bring the car into Washington from California, and what paperwork was required. A pleasant Duck advised that I needed a bill of sale and a signed affidavit stating that the widow from whom I purchased my T-Bird was the rightful beneficiary and owner. Seemed easy enough.

Meanwhile, my contact in California was helpful in gathering these documents in anticipation of our document exchange (my money for these pieces of paper) at Check Point Charlie in California.

Eventually, my Bird was trucked to Gig Harbor while I was busy with a DOL agency. Paperwork in hand, I approached the nice Duck lady behind the counter and presented my prized documents. After careful Ducklike examination of the forms, she said she could not transfer the title because my "paperwork is not properly filled

out." When asked why, the Duck said, "We have our rules, and you are not following them." Another Duck came over from the Duck Pond and suggested I needed to obtain these forms from Washington DOL. She added that the certified death certificate and a notarized affidavit must be on Washington state DOL forms.

Spinning, whirling and turning away from the counter, I went home to develop Plan B. I called the good doctor, my contact in Ventura, Calif., and explained my plight. He was as awe-struck as was I. We developed a plan to obtain a certified death certificate. He offered to take the forms (including a scanned Washington DOL affidavit form) to the widow of the original owner. Then he arranged

for a Ventura County notary to meet the widow at home to obtain her signature.

All was well until the widow forwarded her copy, with my signature, of a "change of ownership interest" form to the California DMV. Several days later, a letter arrived from the California DMV Chief Duck. In his aimless missive, he said I now was responsible for all California DMV fees associated with my '56 Black Beauty since 1974 (the last registration date). His Exalted Duckness was kind enough to add that I was also responsible for all delinquent registration fees, additional miscellaneous penalties, late charges and other financial administrivia. Seemed it would have been cheaper and quicker to simply buy a motel in Mexico and start my own country.

After several telephone calls to Duckville in California, I was unable to put any dents in the Chief Duckness' staff opinion. The basis for this group think was that no one had submitted a certificate of non-operation in California for the 35 years the car sat in a box.

My California contact called his friend, the lawyer --



Jim and Black Beauty in Gig Harbor at last!



an Eagle, no doubt. He made the requisite phone call and sent a letter. Voila, the Chief Duck and his loyal ducklings backed off. I was able to submit a certified death certificate, widow's affidavit (on *proper* Washington DOL forms), pink slip, bill of sale, 1974 registration and license plate tags to the Washington DOL agency.

Locally, the good Duck at our DOL agency expressly told me that the cardboard placard with the big letters had to be only on the inside of my rear window. After the fees and taxes were paid, I took my newly minted title (though not to be official for several weeks) and my

placard which I promptly attached to the inside of my T-Bird's rear window. There the placard sat, tightly affixed until my Horseless Carriage plate arrived. I never had the heart to tell the local DOL Duck that my hard top, and the all-important placard, both rested peacefully on my top dolly in the back of the garage.

Well, I'm off to find a few buildings with large plate glass windows. This will allow me to see how good my car looks as I slowly drive by. Though not intentional, I find myself looking at how good the driver also looks in his beautiful 1956 Thunderbird.

Eagles Unite!

Our February event is HUGE!

Join PSEB Saturday, Feb. 27 for a rare opportunity to tour an active aircraft carrier.

To be a part of this exciting day, you must submit the following to Duane Niemi by Feb. 15:

Your name

The vehicle license plate numbers of the vehicle you will be driving through security for parking.

Duane needs to provide a roster with this information prior to our boarding the vessel.

Contact him at 360.297.1245 or duanenancy@centurytel.net

Final details on time and schedule will come via e-mail later in the month.

For now: Save the date and contact Duane.

USS JOHN C. STENNIS

Nimitz-Class aircraft carrier

Displacement: 91,300 tons; Dimensions: 1088' (oa) x 134' x 37' 8" (Max) Armament: 3 Sea Sparrow-SAM, starting with CVN-70 4 20mm CIWS, 90 Aircraft.

Armor: Unknown.

Machinery: 260,000 SHP; 2 Westinghouse (A4W) Reactors Driving Geared Turbines, 4 screws

Speed: 35+ Knots; Crew: 5,617.

Operational and Building Data

Built by Newport News; laid down 13 March 1991; launched 13 November 1993; commissioned 9 December 1995.

Status: Active, In Commission. Home-ported at Bremerton, Wash.





The Road Ahead 2010

Mark your calendar now and join PSEB for great events throughout the year.



<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Hosts</i>
<i>Feb. 27</i>	<i>USS Stennis Tour</i>	<i>Niemis</i>
<i>March 20</i>	<i>PSEB Car Rallye Gig Harbor roundtrip</i>	<i>Callards/Thornes/Stott- McCallum</i>
<i>April 17</i>	<i>Caravan to Sequim and Gilchrists' B&B, antiques and car collection</i>	<i>Gilchrists/Weilers</i>
<i>May TBA</i>	<i>Hood Canal Oyster Feed (date depends on tides)</i>	<i>Perrys</i>
<i>June 20</i>	<i>Kingston Car show to benefit American Cancer Society; barbecue at Baylers'</i>	<i>Baylers</i>
<i>July 25-26</i>	<i>Loganberry Festival and overnight, Whidbey Island</i>	<i>Thornes</i>
<i>Aug. TBD</i>	<i>To be determined</i>	<i>Host needed</i>
<i>Sept. 11-12</i>	<i>Eatonville train ride, Northwest Trek wildlife and overnight</i>	<i>Talbots</i>
<i>Oct. 9 or 10</i>	<i>Port Angeles Dungeness Crab and Seafood Festival</i>	<i>Weilers</i>
<i>Nov. 14</i>	<i>Great Chefs of the Northwest</i>	<i>Johnsons</i>
<i>Dec. TBD</i>	<i>Christmas party/gift exchange</i>	<i>Austins</i>



OLYMPIC CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

TO: OCTC Members, Past Members and
Thunderbird Friends

WHEN: Sunday, March 14th, 2010

WHERE: Billy Baroo's at Foster Links
13500 Interurban Ave. S.
Tukwila, WA 98168
206-588-2763

TIME : Social Hour 2:00 PM
Early Dinner 3:00 PM



We are inviting you to share in the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Olympic Classic Thunderbird Club which was reinstated on March 15th, 1970. This will be a celebration of the past, present and future of OCTC and the many Thunderbirders who have shared in our club's success. We invite you to bring stories, pictures, and memorabilia to share. There will be tables available to display and share your mementos.

A buffet dinner will include grilled marinated sirloin cap steak with caramelized onion demi, grilled wild salmon with apple cider butter, fresh vegetable mix, roasted new potatoes, warm rolls, green salad, pasta salad, fresh fruit, and celebration cake. The cost is \$30.00 per person and includes tax and tip.

Deadline: We will need your reservations and payments no later than March 8th.

For more information on this event please contact Cathy & Frank Stubbs, 425-228-7198, or Dean & Carmen Allstrom, 206-242-4231. We look forward to celebrating this memorable event with all of you. Please complete the following form and return to us with your payment.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Dinners @ \$30.00 \$ _____

Dinner is all inclusive. Please make your check payable to OCTC. Mail this coupon along with your payment to: Cathy Stubbs
8331 144th PL SE
Newcastle, WA 98059



DEADLINE: March 8th



Dedicated To
THE PRESERVATION OF THE
CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD™
(1955, 1956, 1957)



Executive Offices
1308 E. 29TH STREET
SIGNAL HILL, CA 90755-1842
PHONE (562) 426-2709

January 5, 2010

To CTCI Region 3 Chapter Officers, Editors and CTCI Members:

I hope all of you enjoyed a joyous holiday season, and I send my best wishes for a rewarding 2010. As I complete my term as your CTCI Region 3 Director, I would like to thank all of you for your support and guidance these past two years. The input I have received from many of you has helped me tremendously in decisions a board member must make in the course of CTCI business throughout the year. Also, many thanks to all of the newsletter editors who have shared your club newsletters with me as I have enjoyed reading them, and have used them as tools to better understand the needs of the chapter clubs in this region. As of Jan. 1, Chuck Korenko is your new CTCI Region 3 Director.

Looking forward in 2010, please start thinking about attending the CTCI International Convention, "Birds and Planes...The Wright Place Again in Twenty-Ten". This event is hosted by the Ohio Valley Early Birds June 15-20, 2010, at the Hope Hotel and Convention Center, Dayton, Ohio, located on Wright Patterson Air Force Base; we will tour the incredible U.S. Air Force Museum. Please see the Nov/Dec 2009 Early Bird or visit the CTCI web site, www.ctci.org, for more details and the registration form.

The CTCI board has to-date sanctioned a Region 4 Convention for 2011, hosted by the Virginia Classic Thunderbird Club, June 16-19, in Glen Allen, Va. It also appears that a Region 5 (Nebraska) event is in the planning process. It is not too early for the planning to begin for a 2011 CTCI regional event in Region 3. The last two events (2008 and 2009) have been held in the Pacific Northwest.

Over the past two years I have served as chair of the CTCI Web Site Committee. In early summer of 2009 we completed a Request for Proposal, which was sent out to interested developers. This process took about three months, and subsequently we received four bids for a new CTCI Web site. Late last fall, the board chose a developer, and I am pleased to report that the work on this new site is currently progressing and we hope will be ready for review at the February board meeting and will become active shortly thereafter. Along with a new look and more user friendly navigation, the site will include many more opportunities for the sharing of chapter events, information and members' car photos. Please watch the Web site and the Early Bird for calls to the chapters and members for Web site input.

It has been a pleasure serving as your CTCI representative these past two years. I know Chuck Korenko will continue the "open door" policy that your past Region 3 directors have worked to achieve. Please continue to keep him informed by sharing your comments and concerns. I hope to see many of you at our upcoming CTCI events.

Happy New Year,

Cathy Stubbs
Past Region 3 Director
8331 144th Place SE
Newcastle, WA 98059
(425)228-7198
cfstubbs@msn.com



Puget Sound Classic Thunderbird Early Bird's Apparel Order Form

TURQUOISE 100% PIQUE KMIT COTTON SPORT SHIRT

Puget Sound T-Bird logo embroidered left chest
Port Authority - Sizes XS-3X

STYLE	SIZE	PRICE	TOTAL
MEN		\$32.99	
WOMEN		\$32.99	



NAVY BLUE NYLON JACKET W/GREY FLEECE LINING

Puget Sound Classic Thunderbird embroidered left chest
Optional right chest first name personalization \$8.50 each
Port Authority- Unisex style - Sizes XS-3X

STYLE	SIZE	PRICE	NAME	TOTAL	1ST NAME
UNISEX		\$46.50	\$8.50		_____
UNISEX		\$46.50	\$8.50		_____

Print please



FADED BLUE STONE WASHED BALL CAP

100% Cotton with Puget Sound T-Bird logo
Port Authority - One size fits most

QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
UNISEX	\$14.95	



NAVY BLUE FLEECE/SWEATSHIRT - 9 OZ.

Puget Sound T-Bird logo embroidered left chest
Optional right chest first name personalization \$8.50 each
Port Authority - 1/4 Zip - Navy Blue - Sizes are generous XS-3X

STYLE	SIZE	PRICE	NAME	TOTAL	1ST NAME
UNISEX		\$34.50	\$8.50		_____
UNISEX		\$34.50	\$8.50		_____

Print please



TURQUOISE CREWNECK SWEATSHIRT 60% POLYESTER 40% COTTON - 7.5 OZ.

Puget Sound Classic Tbird logo embroidered left chest
Optional right chest first name personalization \$8.50 each
Platinum Sweats Made in USA Sizes S-3XL

STYLE	SIZE	PRICE	NAME	TOTAL	1ST NAME
UNISEX		\$29.95	\$8.50		_____
UNISEX		\$29.95	\$8.50		_____

Print please



Shipping and sales tax will be added to your invoice.
Final order date: March 1, 2010

NAME: _____

SHIP TO: _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

Pricing available for larger than 3X sizing - Tanya Johnson, 360-779-5067 or tjohnson@geiger.com

Sorry no credit card processing available
Your invoice will include shipping and sales tax

Send order form to:

Tanya Johnson, CAS
Geiger
15560 Sandy Hook Road NE
Poulsbo, WA 98370



Birthdays

- 1 Nancy Niemi
- 10 Susan Harris
- 14 Beverly Cooper
- 17 Linda Birch
- 22 Der Roupe
- 24 Barry Birch
Doris Hummel
- 27 Al Fantz
- 28 Judy Thorne

Anniversaries

- 3 Daughertys
- 14 Gilchrists
Weilers
- 18 Stoners

50th in '10

They did 48 state capitals in '08. They did the 49th state capital on a trip to Juneau, Alaska, and the Yukon Territory in '09. Now the intrepid state capital seekers plan to take their T-Birds to the 50th state -- Hawaii -- in 2010, and you can join them.

Lucy Clark and Doc Dockter of the Southern California Classic T-Bird Club are planning to take their classic T-Birds, Betsy Bird and The Chick Magnet respectively, to the Hawaii state capital in Honolulu in April so they can say they've been to all 50 state capitol buildings in fine T-Bird fashion. They are shipping their Birds to Oahu as are several other Birders; others are eschewing the shipping and will rent vehicles on Oahu just to join in the fun.

If you'd like to be a part of the grand finale of the grand tour of U.S. capitol buildings, visit the Web site, www.home.earthlink.net/~50in10, for more information.

Welcome Back!

We are pleased to announce the return of former PSEB members Doug and Lea Cook, who have rejoined the club. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Happy
Valentine's
Day

