



# *The Motor Mouth*

## *Birders Flock to Flight Center*

*Boeing tour takes PSEB to see future of aviation.*



*Ed and Tanya Johnson take off for the wild blue yonder in the cockpit of a Boeing 737.*

We stood next to a huge jet engine and learned how it works. We watched a 3-D movie about building an airplane. We sat in the cockpit of a 737. We designed our own airplanes. And we did all that before we even got to the tour of the Boeing plant.

What a day it was for 17 PSEBers who gathered at the Future of Flight Aviation Center adjacent to the Boeing Everett plant!

Many of us met in Kingston to take the ferry across the pond to Edmonds. It was a

cold, crisp day and snow had fallen the day before, so it

wasn't your typical "bring the Bird" day. But thanks to the intrepid McCurdys, we had one Baby Bird in our midst.

Our leader, Duane Niemi (Nancy was recovering from foot surgery), got us safely to the flight center and we were off on our own to explore the interesting displays -- AND the gift shop.

***LeMay Car Museum  
Private Tour  
Saturday, March 7***

*See page 6 for details.*

***Sip and Sup  
Wine tasting and barbecue  
on tap for  
April 18***

***Save the date now!***



*(continued on page 3)*



## ROLLIN' ALONG

Somehow, we were blessed with one of the only decent weather days in February for our first touring event of 2009. After the snow, Feb. 11 shone with sun and blue skies. Duane Niemi led our group onto the Kingston-Edmonds ferry and we made our way up to Paine Field in Everett.

We then toured the Boeing plant where they do final assembly of the 747,757,767,777, and the newest 787 Dreamliner. It was a fascinating tour, and our thanks to Duane & Nancy Niemi (Nancy was sidelined due to some minor surgery) for their outstanding coordination of the trip.



I hope we can get lucky with the weather again on March 7 for the tour to the LeMay Car Museum in Marymount, which will be led by new members Les and Jo White. It's billed as the largest collection of classic and vintage cars in the world. Let's get our vintage Birds serviced and ready for the road. All the details are included in this newsletter on page 6. Please RSVP soon.

I am still looking for a volunteer to lead the Fall Colors Tour in October. Give me a call (360) 779-4725 if you can do it.

I hope to see many of you March 7!!

--- Ray Vingo, President

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### THE MOTOR MOUTH

Vol. 16, No. 3 -- March 2009

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

**Editor:** Judy Thorne  
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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](http://www.pugetsoundearlybirds.org)



*(Continued from page 1)*

We convened in the center's cafe for sandwiches and salads and then secured our cameras, purses, cell phones and other personal possessions that were not allowed on the assembly-plant tour. Thanks to Judy Roupe, who purchased the use of a locker, many of us were able to cram an incredible amount of personal items inside with hers. (Bill for said usage should be in the mail soon!)

A movie on airplane manufacturing began the tour, then we were off on a shuttle to the world's largest building, the 472 million-cubic-foot Boeing assembly plant.

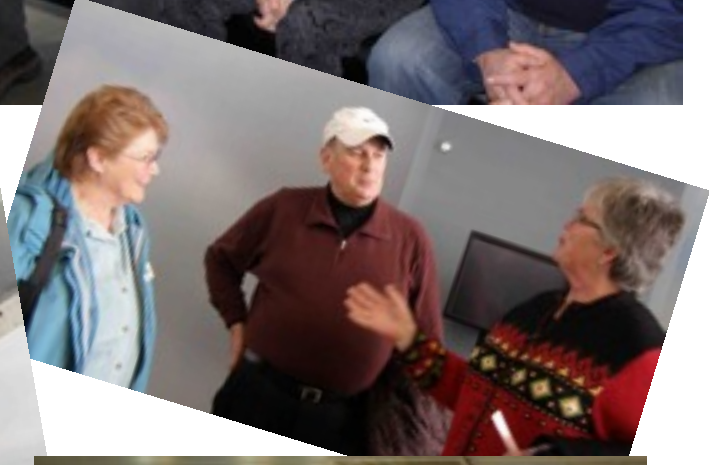
From a series of balconies, we were able to view airplanes in various stages of completion—some with wings, some without; some painted, some with just primer. And all the while, our guide explained the different assembly procedures. It was amazing to look down on a 747 and also to see the first of the new 787 Dreamliners.

We also watched the activity on the assembly floor -- employees bicycling from one area to another, others sitting at desks and computers, and still others doing the work that results in the world's most popular airplanes. Did you know there are several restaurants within the building? It stands to reason there would be, given the size of the building, but it's not something one usually stops to consider.

Among those enjoying the day were Ray and Margaret Vingo, Der and Judy Roupe, Stan and Gretchen Liebenberg, Ed and Tanya Johnson (who took the day off work to attend the mid-week event), Fred and Helen Gilchrist (so good to see you two again), Mike and Sandi Talbot, Phil and Cheryl McCurdy, Gordon and Judy Thorne. And of course, Duane Niemi, our host for the event -- thank you for a great day!!







*Thanks, Duane, for taking us on a high-flying tour -- it was an uplifting day!!*





# The Road Ahead 2009



<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Host</i>
<i>March 7</i> <i>April 18</i>	<i>LeMay Car Museum Tour with our own Les White Private Wine Tasting at E.B. Foote Winery and barbecue at Callards' home in West Seattle</i>	<i>White/Thorne Callard</i>
<i>May 9</i> <i>June 14-15</i>	<i>State Capitol Tour, Olympia Farmers' Market Grand Coulee Dam overnight with Olympic Classic T-Bird Club; back roads tour</i>	<i>Talbot Thorne/Dilores-OCTC</i>
<i>July 18</i>	<i>Brown Maloney auto/motorcycle collection and Sequim Lavender Festival</i>	<i>Maloney/Vingo</i>
<i>August TBD</i>	<i>Paul Allen Heritage Aviation Museum and barbecue at Hummels' beach house</i>	<i>Hummel</i>
<i>September TBD</i> <i>October TBD</i>	<i>Overnight tour to Hobucks Beach, Neah Bay Fall colors tour</i>	<i>Weiler Open</i>
<i>November 15</i> <i>December 13</i>	<i>Great Chefs of the Northwest Christmas Party and Gift Exchange</i>	<i>Roupe Lowe</i>

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## **Non-PSEB Events of Interest**

<i>May 15</i>	<i>Classic Car Show – Bremerton (See full details on page 7)</i>	<i>West Sound Tech</i>
<i>May 22-26</i>	<i>17th Annual Show &amp; Shine, Kelowna, B.C. (See full details on page 9 and 10)</i>	<i>Okanagan T-Bird Club</i>
<i>August 18-21</i>	<i>CTCI Region 3 Convention in Vancouver, B.C. Information in February Motor Mouth</i>	<i>Totem T-Bird Club</i>





*Don't miss this chance for a PSEB members-only tour conducted by our own Les White, a LeMay docent, and Jo White.*

**Who:** Just us Birders in a private tour group.

**What:** A special extended tour (2 1/2 to 2 3/4 hours) and the chance to see things that the ordinary public does not.

**When:** The LeMay Tour begins at 10 a.m., but we'll begin a rolling caravan in Poulsbo, pick up more folks in Gig Harbor and arrive in the Parkland area before 10.

**Details from Poulsbo:** Meet at 7:45 a.m. at the Poulsbo Wal-Mart, depart at 8 sharp. Arrive Gig Harbor 8:45 a.m., depart at 9 or shortly thereafter.

**Directions to Gig Harbor Office Depot parking lot:** South on Hwy. 16 to the Burnham Dr. N.W. exit. At the first roundabout, take the third exit, going east over the highway. At the second roundabout, take the second exit onto Borgen Blvd., still going east. Go past the Home Depot entrance and turn right into the Office Depot entrance. From there, Stan Liebenberg will lead the caravan to Parkland, and Thornes will bring up the rear.



# Private LeMay Car Museum Tour and Rolling Caravan

Saturday, March 7

**RSVP to Gordon/Judy Thorne no later than Thursday, March 5**

253/857-0066 or 857-0063

[gordon.thorne@gmail.com](mailto:gordon.thorne@gmail.com) or

[judyh.thorne@gmail.com](mailto:judyh.thorne@gmail.com)

**Weather permitting:** Please consider driving your Bird. We will be able to park on the grass as a group, and we'll show off our Little Birds to all the museum patrons. **However, please remember,** you are encouraged to drive any vehicle to club events -- we'd much rather see you in a Brand X than not see you at all.

**Admission price:** \$15 per person; \$12 for AAA members. There may be an additional group discount depending on the number attending and whether we can write a single check for admission.

**Cars we'll see:** There are 375 to 400 cars, including 1899 Baldwin Steamer; 1907 Ford Model N; 1929 Ford Model AA; air-cooled Franklin; 1948 Tucker; 1912 Standard Electric; 1942 Chevy blackout model; Crosleys; Nashes; pre-WWII convertibles; USAF 1932 Ford with Boeing-built gas turbine engine.

**Tour details:** Cameras are welcome and photos are encouraged. There will be three restroom opportunities and benches to rest along the way.

**Time for lunch:** The nearby Country Rose restaurant is expecting us for hamburgers, soups, salads and other down-home food at reasonable prices. Dining is encouraged, but it is not required if anyone needs to leave the group after the tour.



# Annual Classic Car Show

**Friday, May 15, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**West Sound Technical Skills Center  
101 National Ave. N.  
Bremerton  
360/473-0577**

Once again, PSEB members are invited to join other Western Washington car clubs in displaying their vehicles at West Sound Tech's annual classic car show. Included in the display will be Early Birds, Model Ts, Packards, Mustangs, rods and customs.

Those who display their cars are invited to enjoy lunch prepared by the school's culinary-arts program. The menu includes teriyaki chicken, beef broccoli, steamed rice, egg roll, dessert, soft drink or bottled water. Price will be about \$8 per person, but will be guaranteed only to those who reserve in advance.

West Sound Tech offers a practical, hands-on experience for high-school juniors and seniors who are seriously considering a career in automotive service, repair and maintenance. PSEB supports this program whenever possible.

If you plan to attend, make your reservation with Gordon Thorne at [gordon.thorne@gmail.com](mailto:gordon.thorne@gmail.com) or 253/857-0066 or 0063.

## March Celebrations

### Birthdays

- 14 Dick Daugherty
- 15 Ed Schlie
- 17 Cheryl McCurdy
- 28 Adrienne Daugherty

### Anniversaries

- 25 The Matthews



## CAR SHOWS & SWAP MEETS

*Call before you go.*

**March 8 -- 4 x 4 and Performance Swap Meet**, Puyallup, Western Washington Fairgrounds, 9-4. \$10 admission. Spanaway Moonshiners Jeep Club, 253/847-8202.

**March 14-15 -- Almost Spring Swap/Vintage Car Show**, Puyallup, Western Washington Fairgrounds, Sat 8-5; Sun 9-3. \$3-5 admission fee. Gallop in Gertie MAFC, 360/456-9038.

**March 22 -- Family Cruise-in**, Triple XXX Root Beer Drive In, Issaquah, noon. Car registration fee. Northwest VW Club, 253/841-2037.

**March 29 -- Leprechaun Days**, 1801 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham. Noon-4. Registration fee. 4th Corner Elites, 360/380-2733.

**April 4 -- 16th Annual Antique Farm Engine and Tractor Show**, Grays Harbor Fairgrounds, Elma; 8-3. Free. Antique Farm Engine and Tractor Association, 206/246-2848.

**April 12 -- All Emergency Vehicle Show**, Triple XXX Root Beer Drive In, Issaquah. 8 a.m.; car registration fee; 425-865-9587.

**April 18-19 -- Defrost Kickoff**, Pacific Raceways, Kent. Sat and Sun 9-5. Admission fee. SOVREN, 425/277-3177.

**April 18 -- Mount Vernon Swap Meet**, Skagit County Fairgrounds, 8-4. Vendor fee \$24, parking \$2, admission free. North Cascade Street Rod Association, 360/421-1407.



## BACK – BY POPULAR DEMAND – GREAT PSEB LOGO CLOTHING

Here's your chance to have one (or two) of the beautiful T-Bird turquoise polo shirts and a jacket that'll keep you warm while cruising in spring and fall when the air is crisp and the top is down!

***Tanya Johnson, who is coordinating the orders and delivery of these beautiful shirts and jackets, reports that she does not quite have the minimum of six orders per garment. If you are planning to order a polo shirt or jacket, please let her know at your earliest convenience so we hopefully can meet the minimum number.***

***You can reach Tanya at 360/779-5067 (work) or 360/598-4262  
[tjohnson@geiger.com](mailto:tjohnson@geiger.com).***



**100% Cotton Pique Knit Sportshirt**  
Turquoise color with Puget Sound T-Bird logo embroidered left chest  
Sizes: XS-6XL  
Price Each  
XS-3XL \$31.99  
4XL- 6XL Call for Estimate

Shipping: Add \$4.50 each shirt  
Minimum order: 6 shirts

Personalization Option: Add \$8.50 each to include your first name embroidered under the logo.



PUGET SOUND  
CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD

Thunderbird

EARLY 55 56 57 BIRDS



**Navy Blue Nylon Jacket** with  
Grey Fleece lining, zippered pockets  
inside pocket with zip closure elastic cuffs  
with hook and loop adjustable straps,  
nylon-lined sleeves for easy on/off, elastic  
waistband. Sizes: XS-6XL  
Price Each  
XS-3XL \$45.50  
4XL-6XL Call for Estimate

Shipping: Add \$5.50 each shirt  
Minimum order: 6 jackets

Personalization Option: Add \$8.50 each to include your first name embroidered under the logo.

**Sportshirts  
and  
Fleece Lined Jacket**

Add 8.6% sales tax  
and send your order to:

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

Payable by check or money order.  
Sorry no credit cards accepted.





*We're invited  
to one of the premier annual  
T-Bird events  
in the Pacific Northwest*

**Okanagan Classic  
Thunderbird Club  
'Rolling Down  
Country Roads'  
17th Annual Show & Shine  
and  
Three-Day Tour  
May 22-26  
Kelowna, B.C.**



*The beautiful Okanagan Valley is the setting for a three-day, back-roads tour.*

**Come one, come all!** The Okanagan Classic Thunderbird Club will present its 17th annual show and shine, followed by a three-day tour through the British Columbia countryside. This event draws T-Bird enthusiasts from as far away as Arizona and Minnesota. In 2008, 80 T-Birds from 1955-2005 participated in the show and 54 enjoyed the three-day tour. Make this the year that you attend!

**Friday, May 22:**

6-9 p.m. Registration at Ramada Hotel.

**Saturday, May 23:**

9:30 a.m. T-Birds parade from hotel to city park.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Show & Shine (walking distance to shopping, restaurants, pubs, parks).

6-7 p.m. Cocktails, Ramada Hotel.

7 p.m. Banquet and trophy presentations

**Sunday, May 24:**

8-9:30 a.m. Breakfast, Ramada Hotel.

9:30 a.m. Tour briefing session.

10 a.m. Tour departure.

**Information:** Ken or Marion Carr, 250/766-1503 or [kencarr@shaw.ca](mailto:kencarr@shaw.ca).

**Hotel information:** Ramada Hotel, 2170 Harvey Ave., Kelowna, BC, V1Y6G8; 800/665-2516 or 250/860-9711. Room rates from \$123 plus taxes. Use the code "Thunderbird Club" for preferred room rates. Room block expires April 28. The Dilworth Hotel, across the street from the Ramada, offers lower rates; 250/762-9666.

**Three-day Tour:** T-Birders are welcome to do all or some of the tour; registration \$10 per car. You need to make your own hotel reservations for each overnight stop. Registration form includes daily meal reservations/options. Questions: Ken and Marion Carr 250/766-1503 or [kencarr@shaw.ca](mailto:kencarr@shaw.ca).

**Day 1, Kelowna to Nakusp;** lunch at golf club, free ferry across Arrow Lake, overnight Kuskanax Lodge, \$74.50, 800/663-0100. Distance: 171 miles.

**Day 2, Nakusp to Chase;** Galena Bay, Revelstoke Railway Museum; lunch at Hillcrest Hotel, free ice cream in Sicamous. Overnights (2) at Talking Rock Resort and Quaaout Lodge, \$125 per night, 250/678-3090. Distance: 172 miles.

**Day 3, Shuswap Lake** scenic tour with lunch or enjoy golf, exploring on your own. Departures for home the next morning..



# Okanagan Classic Thunderbird Club

Dedicated to the Restoration and Preservation of Ford Thunderbird Cars from 1955 – 2005  
Member of VTCl – Northwest Region



## SHOW & SHINE REGISTRATION FORM

May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Show & Shine hosted by the Okanagan Classic Thunderbird Club

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province, State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Postal, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Distance driven to Kelowna \_\_\_\_\_ km/miles

YEAR, MODEL and COLOUR Year: \_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Colour: \_\_\_\_\_  
 of your Thunderbird(s) Entered Year: \_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Colour: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Judging will be done by Participants Year: \_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Colour: \_\_\_\_\_

SHOW and SHINE REGISTRATION FEE:--  
 Number of cars \_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SATURDAY, TOUR, BANQUET, TROPHIES, AWARDS, PRIZES:--  
 Wine & Entertainment Tour:-- Number of Persons \_\_\_\_ x \$ 5.00..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Awards Banquet:-- Number of Persons \_\_\_\_ x \$33.00 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SHOW AND SHINE AMOUNT..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the amount from your 3-Day Tour Registration Form 3-DAY TOUR AMOUNT..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To our American friends: Please reduce your total payment by 10% and submit in US funds.

MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO, AND MAIL TO:  
 (Please mail your Registration Forms and payment  
 as soon as possible but not later than May 10<sup>th</sup>)

OKANAGAN CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB,  
 Ken & Marion Carr, 13575 Forest Hills Drive,  
 Lake Country, BC Canada V4V1A5

Please note:-- Due to commitments made, refunds can only be given if requested prior to May 15<sup>th</sup> 2009

PARTICIPANTS CHOICE TROPHIES:--Three separate classes for 55, 56, and 57 Classes for hardtops 58-60, 61-63 and 64-66. Classes for convertibles 58-60, 61-63 and 64-66. Separate classes for 67-79, 80-97 and 2002-2005.

Additional trophies/awards for 'Best of Show', 'Hard Luck' and 'Longest Distance Driven'.

HOTEL INFORMATION:-Ramada Hotel, 2170 Harvey Ave. Kelowna, BC 800-665-2518  
Use Code 'Thunderbird Club' to receive discounted rates from \$123.00