



Volume 59- Number 07

CTCI Chapter #7

July 2022

"WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION THERE IS NO CLUB"
Communication - Information - ACTIONS = Participation

July Events

July 24 (Sunday)

"Old Fashion Day in the Park"

You don't want to miss this opportunity to help celebrate the Classic Yacht Association free event featuring **Classic Yachts and Classic Cars in Burton Chace Park in Marina del Rey**. Address is: 13650 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey. We're volunteering with the AACA (Antique Automobile Club of America) to help set up ourselves in prime parking spots from 7:45-8:00 AM and then set up three other groups of collector cars to their assigned areas from 8:00 to 8:30 am At 8:30 another group will set up their antique engines, (remember those "hit or miss" engines?). **The Classic Yacht Owners will welcome the AACA and Earlybirds to their Yachts from 9:00 to 10:00 am**. The gates will be open to the public from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. They will be "walk ins".

This is a fun event especially when meeting the women yacht owners and learning about their yachts and their adventures. There are also plenty of classic cars to see and the antique engine association with their "hit or miss" engines provides fascinating demonstrations. In the past the Classic Yachts has served us breakfast. For lunch, bring your picnic lunch or buy from the truck or go to a restaurant.

YOU MUST REGISTER WITH JOE FREITAG BY JULY 6th TO GET A PARKING SPOT. You will receive the normal government form to fill out that releases the County from liability. First come first served. **Preferences will be given to those that have already registered for our Pageant.** Text Joe at: 310 871-2567 with the *names* of those in your Thunderbird and indicate if you have registered for the Pageant.

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Happy 60th Birthday Earlybirds!

It's hard to believe but this month is the 60th Anniversary of our Earlybirds of Southern California chapter, founded in July of 1962. See our history article in this newsletter. Let's get together to celebrate!

Where were you in '62? That would be fun to discuss. How long have you been a member of Earlybirds? If you are an old-timer like me, do you have any memorable items you can bring to share?

We have a tentative location for a potluck event at the end of July. George Adams has invited us to the Cerritos Bahia Marina Yacht Club on Loynes Ave. near Pacific Coast Hwy. in Long Beach. As soon as this is confirmed, we will send out an email blast with details.





Coming up in August.....

August 6 (Saturday). The Unique and Original Creations and Collections of Richard Tupper on Broadway in Gardena

We are fortunate to have been invited with the AACA to Richard's private collection of restored collector cars. They are located in a warehouse that has been converted into a drive-in movie for the entertainment of his family and grandchildren. There is a replica of a 50's café and special lighting effects. We had a tour 5 years ago and we are the first group to be invited since Covid. When we saw him last, he had built replicas of Fire Engines the size of cars. The detail was impressive. Since then, he has built a VW Bug the size of a pick-up truck. It will take 2-3 hours to see what Richard has created. We will see both displays between 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. On site spaces will be available for the AACA cars and our Thunderbirds. Limited number of attendees will be invited. If you want to attend this event, send a text to Joe Freitag at 310 871-2567. Indicate if you have registered for the Pageant.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Message

Hello to all,

It has been a while since I wrote to everyone on behalf of the board. As you know each trustee is responsible to chair the club for a month on a rotational basis. Larry asked me to write a report for him this month.

Let us start with the activities that our club participated in June. As usual we met for a few hours at the local Cars and Coffee places. It is exceptionally nice when we do not have to wear masks, but we still have to watch our drooling on someone else's cars. I was guilty of that as a number of us, Earlybirders, participated in the June 5th Huntington Beach Concours. They had an exceedingly fine showing of all types of special interest and exotic cars. Lin Somsak invited the other T-Bird participants to join our club. Jerry Bieser and Robert Huntington already sent in their membership forms. Jerry said that he didn't know that big 'Birds were now welcome into our club.

On June 18th, we met at the Sizzler in Fullerton for a Luncheon and a Judges Training seminar. Bill showed 114 pictures and explained workmanship issues applicable to

all cars. If you weren't able to attend, you missed an informative session and a good ice cream Sundae, strawberry, chocolate, or caramel. Larry and Barb Kooiman hosted a fun raffle with lots of prizes.

On June 25th, The Earlybirds also participated at the Classic Ford Show at the Zimmerman Automobile Driving Museum in El Segundo. This is a fun place to go for it is not boring and they bring out special interest car for YOU to go for a ride in on weekends. Look for Chris Klein's article at the Zimmerman.

In July, I would like to remind you that your presence is needed at our Pageant planning meetings and club meetings. At present we have the T-shirts designed and the trophies for first and second place selected. Best of Show award is being discussed. We need the help to make the Pageant run smo-o-oth and our club too. We are going to have a Pageant planning meeting at Joe Jost's bar and grill. This place is special for it is the oldest bar and grill in Long Beach. Plastered on the walls near the bar are pictures of famous stars and elites from the early 1900s. In the large back room where we will hold our meeting was a pool and snooker parlor. Plywood has been put over the famous tables for us to have our meeting and lunch. Overlooking the tables are floor-to-ceiling pictures of starlites and stars in the skimpy costumes of the day. In pubs like *Joe Jost's in Long Beach California*, pickled eggs are served with an icy cold mug beer, sprinkled with fresh cracked pepper. Car parking is excellent. Remember, it is not good for a car to sit idle week after week. Drive it and enjoy it. Watch for information of where we are going to meet for our 60th anniversary party. Suggestions valued, call me. Bill Somsak, 714-496-9159



Happy 60th Birthday--Earlybirds of Southern California

The Earlybirds of Southern California began as a club in 1962, with about 10 cars in their group. They met at Noyes Ford in San Gabriel. The first President was Bill Lowry, who was also the service manager of the dealership. We were chartered July 1, 1965 as CTCI Chapter #7, one of the first 9 founding chapters of CTCI.

As the club grew in membership, the members decided to hold meetings at local restaurants. They met and still meet the third Saturday of each month. Since our members reside in the "Greater Los Angeles area" from Ventura and Simi Valley to Dana Point and Palm Springs, we try to rotate to different locations for meetings and activities.

The club continued to grow, the gas prices soared, and the distance for some members became extreme. Several new clubs branched off from the Earlybirds such as The Thunderbird Circle of Orange County, the Valley Classic Thunderbird Club, the Inland Empire Classic Thunderbird Club and the Thunderbirds of South Bay. We, in the Earlybirds of Southern California, are pleased that many of the members of each of our "offspring" chapters have kept their membership in our club over the years. We continue to keep our friendships alive by participating in joint chapter activities together.

We have had a close relationship with CTCI through the years. Many of our members have served as CTCI directors and officers. Four were elected CTCI President, Paul Hudgins, George Watts, Sue Smith, and Martha Lazdins and two have served as editors of the *EarlyBird*, Bill Cornell and Lin Somsak (for 34 years!). Four of our very dedicated members, Margie Price, George Watts, Jim Hack and Sue Smith, have been honored with the Paul Hudgins Memorial Award, the highest honor in CTCI. Margie also served as our Headquarters Office Manager for 25 years! Jim Hack served as an Interim Office Manager and CTCI Treasurer. George Barlow also served as CTCI Headquarters Office Manager. Sue Smith, George Watts, Larry Kooiman and Sam Hitchcock all served as CTCI Treasurer. Many members have served as Directors.

Many of our members have attended the International Conventions from the beginning in Estes Park, Colorado in 1965 to the 2018 in Knoxville, TN, and also from the first Regional Conventions in 1973 to the 2019 in Flagstaff, AZ.

We were very honored to be designated as host chapter for the International Conventions in 1972 held in sunny Palm Springs and 2016 in San Diego. We also hosted the Regional Conventions for 1977 in Long Beach, 1987 in Newport Beach, 2003 in Ventura and 2007 in Ontario.

Our events are normally scheduled for the 4th, or last, Sunday of each month, and we have a variety of activities such as tours, car clinics, picnics, progressive dinners, rallies, to mention just a few. We also host the largest all Thunderbird show on the West Coast. This year in September will be the 47th Anniversary of our Pageant of the Thunderbird!

These past 2 years were a challenge because of COVID-19 and stay-at-home orders but many of us still enjoyed driving our cars and reaching out to visit members we haven't seen. This year, we will celebrate the 60th birthday of the Earlybirds of Southern California with many fun activities planned! Come join the fun with us!

Submitted by Lin Somsak



July Birthdays

1	Sam Hitchcock
13	Becky Money
13	Dan Deane
19	Dan Eichstedt
20	Joe Freitag
22	Twaunnie Busse



July Anniversaries

10	George and Daina Schultz
27	Yann and Laura Staelens