



'lil' bird drop-ins

Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club, Inc.
modestotbirdclub.org



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH MERRY CHRISTMAS THUNDERBIRDS

Sunday December 3 • 11:30 • H-B Saloon • Oakdale • Hosted By Officers & Board

NEXT MONTH JANUARY 14 - 12:00 - THE STATION - TURLOCK - HOST: RUBEN & KATRINA



IN THIS ISSUE

- Ads and Info Page 04
- Anniversaries Page 03
- Birthdays Page 03
- Calendar of Events Page 21
- Car Shows & Swap Meets Page 20
- Club Activities Page 07
- Meeting Information Page 12
- Minutes Page 15
- Monthly Winners Page 12
- Presidents News Page 03
- Tech Tip Page 17
- Vice President Page 05

T-BIRD FRIENDS ARE LIKE STARS, YOU DON'T ALWAYS SEE THEM, BUT YOU KNOW THEY'RE ALWAYS THERE



Next QC:

MODESTO CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB

Date: May 17-19 2024 • Location: Modesto



OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

President: KEITH ROGERS
209-527-2639

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classic57duskrose@gmail.com

Vice President: JIM RIDENOUR
209-505-3512

Treasurer: ELAINE ROGERS
209-527-2639

Secretary: PATRICIA MASON
209-204-8282

Board Members:
Jack Martin
209-538-6652

Jim Montavon
209-522-8830

CTCI: Jim Montavon
209-522-8830

Newsletter: Katrina Tellez
209-480-3628

Publicity: Patricia Mason
209-204-8282

Sunshine: Donna Montavon
209-522-8830

Give Away: Keith & Elaine Rogers
209-527-2639



The club is on Facebook!
Visit Us
Modesto TBird Club



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Hello TBird Lovers



Well, the Holiday Season has arrived. Families near and far will be gathering. No matter how far you will be traveling, travel safe.

A big thank you to Jan for hosting our November meeting. She had to change the location because the first restaurant canceled our reservation. The new location, Grizzly Rock Cafe turned out great, and we had a wonderful time.

To our club members who have hosted a meeting this

year, a big thank you. Without a host there would be no meeting. Now is a good time to think about hosting next year. Let our new VP, Julie, what month you would like to sign up for. If you need help, ask anyone in the club, always willing to help out.

A few days after the meeting some of us went to Duarte nursery in Hughson to see and purchase the beautiful Poinsettia's. It is unbelievable to see all the different varieties and see the thousands of plants in the giant greenhouse. We then went to The Fruit Yard for a delicious lunch.

Due to some health issues this past year I was unable to do some of the things I have enjoyed in the past years. Hopefully things will be better next year. Thanks to the officers that stepped up and helped me out. Without your help things would not have taken place. So, a big thanks to all of you. I appreciate all your support.

Thanks to all the new officers and chairpersons for the upcoming year. I look forward to working with all of you.

Officers will be installed at the Christmas Party. Hope to see you there.

Enjoy all the Holiday activities coming up and stay safe.

KEITH

MEMBERSHIP DUES

2024 Dues \$35.00

January Thru December 2024

Pay at the Christmas Party

January Meeting or Mail to Elaine

CTCI Dues Pay on your own



THE MOST SPECIAL DAYS DECEMBER

Happy Birthday

- 5 Judy Lyon
- 7 Shirley Mattos
- 12 Frank Souza



*To Love and Laughter
and Happily Ever After*

29 Jim & Mona



PLAN AHEAD

January 14, 2023
 Meeting & Social
 The Station - Turlock
 Host: Ruben & Katrina

THANK YOU

For Pictures
 Elaine
 Julie
 Ruben

Donations
 Jan - Lights
 Mike & Julie - Wine, Holiday Sign

Get Ready For QC MMXXIV

Destination Modesto
 Date May 17-19 2024

Hosted By
 Modesto Area Classic
 Thunderbird Club

Let's Have Fun!

The Modesto Bee



facebook.com/calitourguide



Find Info & Updates!



VICE PRESIDENT



Howdy Fellow T-Birders,

This November VP letter is my last for 2023 and my last as VP. Next year I am taking on the role of President and I am looking forward to it.

As we wind down this year there are a couple of car shows coming up. They are both on Saturday December 2nd and they are both from 10 to 2. One is a toy for tot's drive and car show and is at the Regal Theater in Modesto, the other is a coats and blanket drive and is at the Graffiti Museum in Modesto.

Also on tap for December is our end of year Christmas Party Luncheon and Installation of next year's officers. This year it is again at the H-B Saloon in Oakdale at 11:30.

Several things took place for my T-Bird this year. Starting with a new fuel pump then I put some new tires on and while the old rubber was off, I cleaned up my rims and painted them red (it's not original but I like it). After that I attended at least one car show a month and would like to have attended more.

So that is it for now and I will send my next letter as your President.

**I look forward to seeing everyone at our Christmas Party on
Sunday - December 3rd
Thanks - Jim**



QC 2024

Committee Chair: Jim Ridenour

Committee members: Pat & Bob, Jim & Donna, Ken & Roberta, Keith & Elaine, Ruben & Katrina and Mike & Julie

Raffle Chair: Katrina & Ruben

Timeline:

July 24th started corresponding, Aug 2 first meeting, we have had 3 additional meetings. The first meeting was to determine whether to have QC2024 (obviously it was determined based on feedback from other clubs that we would host it) and the dates of May 17, 18 and 19 and that it has a theme of American Graffiti. In between meetings members have been looking at venues. We started with 14 hotels in the Modesto area, we then narrowed it down to about 5 that met our requirements and in our last meeting we narrowed it down to 3 hotels. Our next meeting, we will finalize the hotel.

Last month we also came up with a flier that will be sent out to most of the clubs in Northern CA.

Throughout this time, we have also been talking about activities and have come up with a sequence of events that looks something like:

Friday May 17 afternoon and evening arrivals followed by a meet and greet.

Saturday starts with a show and shine then goes into a poker run and culminates with the awards banquet.

Show and shine will be at the hotel. The poker run will start at the hotel (1 card) and go to the graffiti museum (2 cards), drive the graffiti route downtown and end up in Ceres at the Berryhill winery for a tour and lunch. (last 2 poker cards).

The afternoon will be free to do whatever (we will provide suggestions for activities) and then the banquet will be at the hotel.

This is a rough draft and will be finalized at our next meeting on December 7th. The registration forms will go out in January.

We welcome any input from all of you and we will be asking for volunteers for certain activities throughout that weekend.

To wrap it up we are asking that each member provide a raffle prize, examples are a themed gift basket and or gift card / gift certificate. All raffle items need to be gift ready (meaning wrapped or put in an envelope) and ready for display and gifting. Remember when preparing your item(s), this is where the club will get back what we need to help cover the cost of hosting the QC.

QUESTIONS and IDEAS may be presented to any of the committee members.

Jim Ridenour
Committee Chair



Meeting



and Social





Meeting



and Social

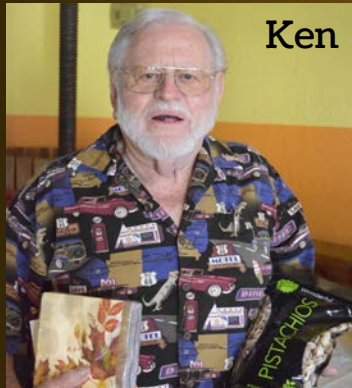




Winners



Ruben



Ken



Julie



Donna



Julie



Terry



Keith





Meeting Minutes

Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club, Inc.
Meeting Minutes for **November 12, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 12:59 pm by President Keith Rogers. Keith thanked Jan for hosting the meeting and social at Grizzly Rock Cafe, in Turlock, California. There were 19 members and 2 guests in attendance. Margaret, Terry Helton’s daughter and Earl Pillow, Jan’s friend.

Secretary - Patricia Mason absent, Keith asked if there were any corrections or errors for the October meeting minutes as reported in the November newsletter. No corrections or errors were noted. A motion was made by Jim Ridenour and seconded by Jim Montavon to approve the October minutes as printed in the newsletter. Motion carried.

Treasurer - Elaine Rogers reported the following for October: Expenses: Give-Away \$48.90. Total Expenses \$48.90. Income: Give-Away \$85.00, Donation from Monterey Club for QC \$500.00 - Total Income \$585.00.

Sunshine - Donna Montavon reported sending Anniversary and Birthday cards for the month of November. Thinking of you card to Gil Long, now in a care home. Get well card to Mona recovering from hip surgery. Ken and Roberta celebrated their 69th anniversary, Mike and Julie their 4th.

CTCI - Jim Montavon No election results to report.

Meetings, Tours and Car Shows - Jim Ridenour - Meetings - No meeting until January 2024. **Car Shows** - December 2 Coats & Jackets hosted by West Coast Customs at the American Graffiti Museum 10-2 pm. Regal Theater, December 2 10-2 Toys for Tots (1 Toy entry, minimum \$25.00). Sunday December 3, 11:30 am, Annual Christmas Party and Installation of Officers, H-B Saloon - Oakdale. QC, May 17-19, 2024. Theme American Graffiti. Out of 14 Hotels choices were narrowed down to Residence Inn, Courtyard by Merriott, and Holiday Express. Waiting on a quote from the Courtyard. Friday will be arrival day with an evening Meet and Greet, Saturday show and shine car show and poker run, suggested destination Barryhill Winery with an evening banquet at the hotel or local venue. Will need volunteers for the various events. Katrina has volunteered to be raffle chair. Asking each membership to donate an already put together raffle prize, any theme. Bob Taylor, anyone interested in the Oakdale Christmas Parade can get a form at the Oakdale Chamber of Commerce.

Old Business - Nominations for the 2024 officers and chairs are President - Jim Ridenour, Vice President/Meetings & Tours - Julie Van Dyke, Treasurer - Elaine Rogers, Secretary - Katrina Tellez, Sunshine - Frank Sousa, Publicity - Pat Mason, Newsletter - Katrina Tellez, Give Away - Keith & Elaine Rogers. A motion was made by Mike Van Dyke, seconded by Marlon Helton to vote in the nominated officers and chairs for 2024. Motion Passed.

New Business - No New Business

Christmas Party and Installation of Officers to be held on Sunday December 3, 11:30 at the H-B Saloon in Oakdale.

Meeting adjourned at 13:26 Respectfully Submitted:

Katrina Tellez

Giveaway Winners: 791*Ruben - 795*Ken - 066*Julie - 794*Donna - 067*Julie - 796*Keith - 793*Terry



Annual Poinsettia tour and lunch...





Thank you, Keith and Elaine, always a fun day!





John, Judy's son, came to visit. They fired up the T-Bird and Judy took it for a spin. She said it runs great and really enjoyed taking it out!



THE NEXT BIG THING



**Christmas Party & Installation of Officers
Sunday December 03 - 11:30**

H-B Saloon

401 East "F" St., Oakdale

Hosted by - Officers & Board

Sign up or Cancel

By Monday November 27

Call/Text 209 - 480 - 3628

**Dues for
2024
\$35.00**

**C.T.C.I
Dues
On Your Own**

Manteca - Stockton - Tracy

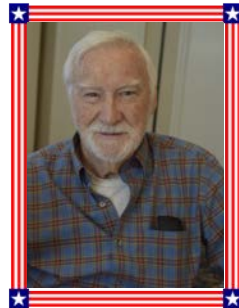
HWY 120 - Escalon - Oakdale

Through the main light then Left at the light on East "G" Street - Left South Sierra Ave.

Turlock - Geer/Albers/Yosemite - Right at the light on East "G" Street - Left South Sierra Ave.



Keith opened the meeting with a celebration of the clubs Veterans, thanking them for their service. Following are the stories that were shared by those members attending the meeting. The expose's are information I found on the intranet and may not be entirely accurate (because Wikipedia is not always known to be accurate). Also, with the acoustics in the restaurant and my less than perfect hearing, I may have reported some things incorrectly, please let me know and I will correct it in the January newsletter.



Marlon served in the Marine Corp. He and a third-grade buddy made a pact to join the Marine's when they grew up. When the guys graduated high school, his buddy asked Marlon if he remembered their pact to join the Marines? Marlon did not remember, but he said if they made a pact then he was going to keep his promise. Marlon was stationed in San Diego August 3, 1959 and served 7 years.

Marine Corps Recruit Depot (commonly referred to as MCRD) San Diego is a United States Marine Corps military installation in San Diego, California. It lies between San Diego Bay and Interstate 5, adjacent to San Diego International Airport and the former Naval Training Center San Diego.[3] MCRD San Diego's main mission is the initial training of enlisted male and female recruits living west of the Mississippi River. Over 21,000 recruits are trained each year. As of 2022, 1.5 million recruits have completed their boot camp training at the Depot.[4] The Depot also is the home to the Marine Corps' Recruiter School and Drill Instructors School.

Recruit training for those enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, includes a thirteen-week process during which the recruit becomes cut off from the civilian world and must adapt to a Marine Corps lifestyle. During training, drill instructors train recruits in a wide variety of subjects including weapons training, Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, personal hygiene and cleanliness, close order drill, and Marine Corps history. The training emphasizes physical fitness, and recruits must attain a minimum standard of fitness to graduate by passing a Physical Fitness Test. Recruits must also meet minimum combat-oriented swimming qualifications, qualify in rifle marksmanship with the M16A4 service rifle, and pass a 54-hour simulated combat exercise known as "The Crucible".



Elaine's father, Gaylen Rydelis, served in the Army and received the Bronze Star.

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a United States Armed Forces decoration awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone.

Keith's brother was a Veteran from the First Infantry in Viet Nam



The 1st Infantry Division, aka Big Red One, continued their storied history in the US Army with participation in Vietnam. In 1965, they were the first divisional unit deployed with the 2nd Brigade doing the honors in July. Their sector and command was known as III Corps and they engaged Viet Cong (VC) and regular North Vietnamese Army (NVA) forces in the jungles northwest of Saigon to the Cambodian border. Many battles occurred along the Highway 13 corridor and various spurs North-Northwest of Saigon on the road to An Loc.

During the enemy Tet Offensive of 1968, the 1st Infantry Division secured the Tan Son Nhut Airbase the primary hub for air operations within all of Vietnam. They returned to their home at Fort Riley, Kansas in 1970.

Keith's father made topographic maps for the military, he was not enlisted and worked out of Washington D.C.



The term topography originated in ancient Greece and continued in ancient Rome, as the detailed description of a place. The word comes from the Greek τόπος (topos, "place") and -γραφία (-graphia, "writing").[3] In classical literature this refers to writing about a place or places, what is now largely called 'local history'. In Britain and in Europe in general, the word topography is still sometimes used in its original sense.[4]

Detailed military surveys in Britain (beginning in the late eighteenth century) were called Ordnance Surveys, and this term was used into the 20th century as generic for topographic surveys and maps.[5] The earliest scientific surveys in France were called the Cassini maps after the family who produced them over four generations. [citation needed] The term "topographic surveys" appears to be American in origin. The earliest detailed surveys in the United States were made by the "Topographical Bureau of the Army", formed during the War of 1812,[6] which became the Corps of Topographical Engineers in 1838.[7] After the work of national mapping was assumed by the U.S. Geological Survey in 1878, the term topographical remained as a general term for detailed surveys and mapping programs, and has been adopted by most other nations as standard.



Julie's father was in the Navy. She flew his flag in the Oakdale Veteran's parade.



Jim M., father served in the Army



Jim R. served in the Army Reserve from 1978-1984 at the Military Training Command in Pleasanton California



Camp Parks, home of the Army's 91st Division, and part of the U.S. Army Combat Support Training Center at Fort Hunter Liggett, is located in the eastern reaches of the San Francisco Bay Area near the City of Livermore, California in Alameda County. The Parks Reserve Forces Area, historically known as Camp Parks, is located in the city of Dublin, California, 28 miles Southeast of Oakland.

Camp Parks services more than 250 units with more than 20,000 Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers in the greater San Francisco area.

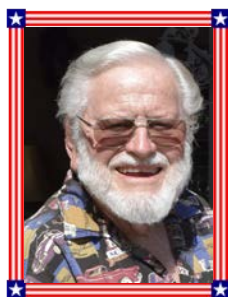
Camp Parks' assets include a Rappel Tower, Leadership Reaction Course, state-of-the-art Medical Skills Lab, and a Distance Learning Center equipped with 24 computers, and bed space for more than 800. The facility was built during World War II and was commissioned 19 January 1943 as Camp Parks.

Originally, it was home to the Navy Seabees then transferred to the Air Force who establishing a basic training center during the Korean War and renamed the facility Parks Air Force Base.

In July 1959, the installation was transferred to the United States Army and In 1973, the Army determined that Camp Parks was needed as a mobilization and training center for Reserve Components in the event of war or natural disaster.

Thousands of National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers—and 94 Naval Reserve Seabees' train for war at Camp Parks. One occupant, 1st Brigade of the 91st Division trains Army units using computer simulators.

The base supports some 11,000 San Francisco Bay Area Army Reserve and California National Guard Soldiers from 180 units.



Ken Van Dyke served in the Army National Guard, Orange CA. He was denied entry to the service, because he was married and had children. Not long after the family relocated from Southern California to Oakdale, Ken received a phone call. Ken asked Roberta where his discharge papers were. She said, "Why do you need your discharge papers?" Ken said, "Because they're coming to arrest me for being AWOL!" She said, "I don't know, probably out in those unpacked boxes!" There they went digging through boxes looking for Ken's DD214 so he would not be arrested. That was the first of many erroneous encounters with the other Ken Van Dyke in Oakdale! The armory is now used for public service and slated to be a historical landmark.





Donna Montavon's father was an Air Force Fighter Pilot. He flew P-51's and shot down two enemy aircraft.



The North American P-51 Mustang represents the pinnacle of American aviation development during World War 2. The aircraft is a remarkable testament to the rapid progression of American WW2 planes from the unreliable and underpowered early WW2 fighters dubbed flying coffins. This North American Aviation WWII fighter was conceived as a British fighter for the Royal Air Force RAF and manufactured under license from Curtiss Wright Corporation. Fortunately, the proposal was scrapped, and a more modern design was approved.

The P-51 Mustang had the shortest development period compared to other World War planes, and it would go on to be among the most produced planes in WW2. The P-51 filled a gaping hole left by existing American WWII fighters operating in the European theater by providing much-needed long-range escorts to allied bomber missions across Europe. The aircraft's combination of speed, maneuverability, and long-range operation devastated the indomitable Luftwaffe fighting force. It shattered German illusions of European hegemony and hastened the end of the war in Europe by opening up the skies to allied aircraft. Perhaps, the best validation of the P-51 absolute air supremacy was Hermann Göring, commander of the Luftwaffe's famous statement, "When I saw Mustangs over Berlin, I knew the jig was up."



Jan's father was in the Navy, submarine division. In WWII he was stationed in Australia where he met Jan's mother Audrey. Her dad was punished and spent 30 days away from his new bride. His family received the news of his marriage and weren't sure if he was bringing home an Aborigine or an Aussie! Jan probably wouldn't be here if it weren't for the war and the Navy!



World War II submarine bases were established in both Brisbane and Fremantle in 1942. The U.S. submarines, which fell back on Australia in early 1942, were the remnants of the Asiatic Fleet Submarine Force. They were literally on the front line of the Pacific War with the Japanese occupying the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia).

From 1943 to 1945 Fremantle based boats sank over 273,000 tons of enemy tankers as well as 19 destroyers, 16 frigates, 4 minesweepers, 9 submarine chasers and 6 patrol craft. From 1942-45 354 patrols were undertaken and 11 boats were lost. Western Australia based submarines completed only 22 percent of the total Pacific submarine war patrols but they accounted for 38 percent of the Japanese oil tanker tonnage sunk. That the Fremantle boats could maintain such an offensive against Japanese oil supplies attests not only to the strategic situation of Fremantle but also to the technical efficiency of the base. The high morale of the crews who lived and relaxed among the people of Albany, Fremantle and Perth between patrols was a significant factor, borne out by the many enduring friendships and marriages which ensued.



Fall-ing In Love

For their 69th anniversary Ken and Roberta spent a couple of days in the Yosemite area.

So many beautiful fall colors, the waterfall was wonderful. The Yosemite area is so enjoyable with all of it's amazing and serene scenery.

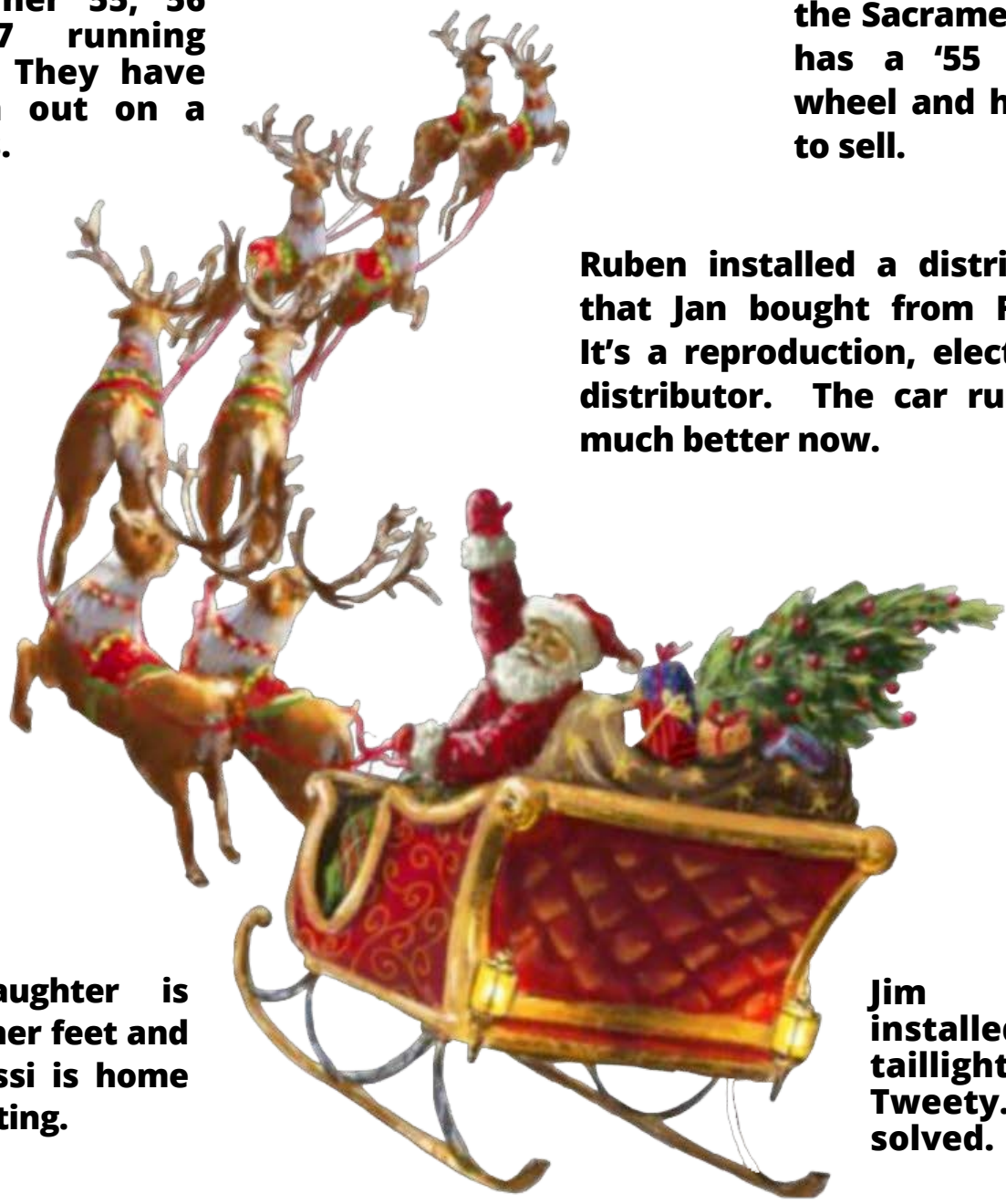




Jan has her '55, '56 and '57 running strong. They have all been out on a few runs.

Ross Woodman with the Sacramento Club has a '55 steering wheel and horn ring to sell.

Ruben installed a distributor that Jan bought from Frank. It's a reproduction, electronic distributor. The car runs so much better now.



Pat's daughter is back on her feet and Bob Ertassi is home recuperating.

Jim Montavon installed a new taillight switch on Tweety. Problem solved.



2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Meetings



Tours



Shows

SUNDAY
 December 03 - 11:30
 Christmas Party
 H-B - Oakdale
 Hosts
 Officers & Board Members

2024
 Sunday
 January 14 - 12:00
 The Station - Turlock
 Hosts
 Ruben & Katrina

No Tours

December 2 10-2
 Graffiti Muesum
 Coats and Blankets
 Sponsored by
 West Coast Custom Car Club

December 2 - 10-2
 Regal Theater
 3959 McHenry Ave
 1 Unwrapped Toy Entry -
 \$25.00 Min.