



'lil' bird drop-ins

Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club, Inc.
modestotbirdclub.org



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

THUNDERBIRD'S REVVING IN THE NEW YEAR!

Sunday January 14 • 12:00 • Central Station • Turlock • Hosted By Ruben & Katrina

NEXT MONTH FEBRUARY 11 - 12:00 - TBA - TBA - HOST: JUDY LYON



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New Year
 New Beginnings
 Revving In A
 Thunderbird



Next QC:

MODESTO CLASSIC THUNDERBIRD CLUB

Date: May 17-19 2024 • Location: Modesto



OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

President: JIM RIDENOUR

209-505-3512

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CTCI: Keith Rogers

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Give Away: Keith & Elaine Rogers

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The club is on Facebook!

Visit Us

Modesto TBird Club



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Howdy Fellow T-Birders



Today is the eve of 2024, it's finally winter in the San Joaquin Valley. It is a typical gloomy valley day that all of us love. With our birds all snuggled safe in the garage we can concentrate on the upcoming year with car shows, events, and meetings. But first let us talk about earlier this month when MACTC had their annual Christmas luncheon. The event was well attended, and we even had a couple of members make a

surprise visit, which made it even more special. We had a lot of time for socializing, had great food and exchanged gifts. Gifts were also given to last year's officers and team members by exiting President Keith Rogers, followed by an introduction of 2024's officers and team members made by myself. Thank you to Donna and the volunteers for all the work of putting on the end of year event.

Our next meeting is scheduled for January 14th and is being hosted by Ruben and Katrina, more information is available in the newsletter. I encourage all of you to pick a month to host a meeting and/or a tour, please see Julie Van Dyke for help with this. Of course, our big event this year is QC 2024 hosted by MACTC, stay tuned for more info at the meeting.

Last year we did increase our membership by a few people, and I know that with simple methods we can get our name out there and increase our membership even more. One belief I have is that just having a presence in the community by attending car shows and trade events can help greatly.

I look forward to being your President this upcoming year and plan on doing what I can to make it one of the best years ever for our Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club.

**MEMBERSHIP
DUES**

2024 Dues \$35.00

January Thru December 2024

Pay at the January Meeting
or Mail a check to Elaine

CTCI Dues Pay on your own



THE MOST SPECIAL DAYS DECEMBER



19 Ken Van Dyke



*To Love and Laughter
and Happily Ever After*

8
Frank & Cecelia



PLAN AHEAD

February 11, 2024
Meeting & Social - 12:00
TBA - TBA
Host: Judy Lyon



To Pat Mason for delivering the toys
To Jim M. for donating the pantry items

For Pictures
Julie, Elaine, Anja

Donna, Cecelia, Julie & Katrina
for setting up the Christmas Party

Get Ready For QC XLVIII

Destination Modesto
Date May 17-19 2024

Hosted By
Modesto Area Classic
Thunderbird Club

Let's Have Fun!

The Modesto Bee



facebook.com/calitourguide



modestotbirdclub.org

Find Info & Updates!



VICE PRESIDENT



Hello Dear Thunderbird Family!

Since I personally have only been in this club for two years, many of you may not know much of my background. I am the daughter-in-law of two of our founding members, Ken & Roberta. I was previously an active member of several other social clubs and an organizer of large events for decades. I believe these strengths, along with the guidance from long time members will be an asset as we move into 2024 and hosting the QC+.

I will be passing around a sign-up sheet for Hosts of our monthly meeting & socials. Let me know if you hear of any upcoming car shows. Please make suggestions on any extra tour ideas or let me know if you need help planning a tour, it's always fun to drive and show off our beautiful cars.

We are going to need as much club participation as possible to share the tasks of hosting a successful QC, set for May 17-19, 2024. Let us know what your strengths and abilities are as many hands make a light workload. Please step up and get involved as much as you are able too.

I'm looking forward to creating an exciting and memorable year!

Julie Van Dyke



HAPPY
holidays





'tis the season
FOR FRIENDS AND A



thunderbird
CELEBRATION





love, peace, and joy





The Love of Thunderbirds



And the fun begins!
Elaine, Julie, Cecelia, & Donna
getting set-up for the Christmas Party





The Spirit of Friendship





The Best of Times





THANK YOU 2023 OFFICERS
KEITH ROGERS

WELCOME 2024 OFFICERS
JIM RIDENOUR



Vice President
Jim Ridenour



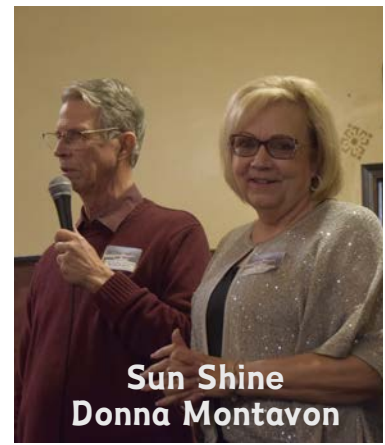
Treasure
Elaine Rogers



Secretary/Publicity
Patricia Mason



Newsletter
Katrina Tellez



Sun Shine
Donna Montavon



Katrina received the Gold Newsletter Award from CTCI



Jim presented Keith with the MACTC presidents trophy



Jim presented Keith with the MACTC presidents plaque



Keith turns the gavel over to Jim Ridenour



Jim introduces Frank Souza 2024 Sun Shine



Jim introduces 2024 Officers Julie, Katrina and Elaine



TOYS FOR TOTS

Keith & Elaine Rogers Holley & Tim Coppetti



Montavon



KEITH & ELAINE



Rogers



Ridenour



HOLLEY & TIM



Coppetti



BY JAN PETERSON

TBird Rescue 101



This all started with a phone call; Keith Rogers was contacted by a lady, Lou from Walnut Creek. The city wanted her to remove a non-running 1960 T-bird from her driveway - I guess the neighbors turned Lou in. Without any luck Lou tried to donate this T-bird to a school or club so it wouldn't be towed away and junked. Keith contacted Jim M. who enlisted the help of Tom Tomlin and Ruben T - a trip was made to Walnut Creek. The car had been parked since 2018 and needed much work. Also, in Lou's driveway was a 1959 Edsel Ranger 2DRHT (two door hard top). Jim M. called Paul Lubker who called the only Edsel nut in our club ... ME.

The rescue was on. Lou was contacted by Jim M. who will fix up the 60 T-bird - I contacted my friend Mike - who bought my Edsel and Mike brought his friend Mark (from Crown Powder Coating) - we set off from Turlock with two car trailers and 8 wheels and tires not knowing what to expect. Lou had tried to sell the two cars, and someone had returned and stole most of the wheels by midnight auto supply!

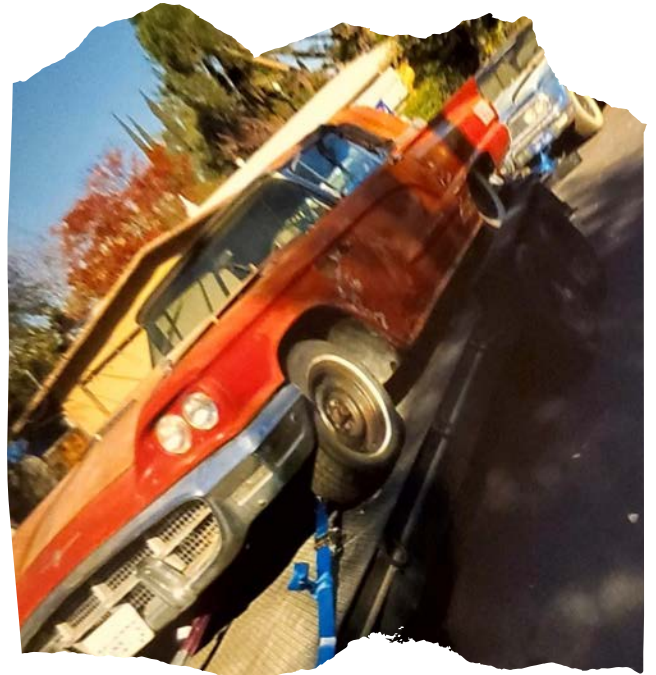
Lou's home is on a cul-de-sac and our car trailers took up the whole block. I met Lou - a women in her mid-80's and a car girl - she used two canes to come out and watch the cars being loaded. I had brought some pictures of my 58 Edsel, and we talked about Lou's trips to Reno's Hot August Nights in the T-bird, and I think both of us went back in time to our younger days. Lou spoke of bringing her parents from Texas out west when the T-bird was new. I know it was hard for Lou to part with her babies (cars) as some of the neighbors watched Mike and Mark struggle to load the cars.

The 60 T-bird put up a good fight as the rear brake drum was frozen and I don't think it wanted to leave Walnut Creek. After much pounding with Ford tools (hammers), the stubborn drum finally came off and the T-bird was on four wheels again. Mark got his loooong car trailer backed into Lou's cul-de-sac and the T-bird was loaded up at last - it really gave us a fight. Next, the Edsel was loaded on Mike's car trailer. Lou brought out some old pictures of the T-bird, Edsel Convertible and a 54 Buick Rag Top - Lou had some nice cars, and she did much of the repairs and maintenance herself, a great lady.





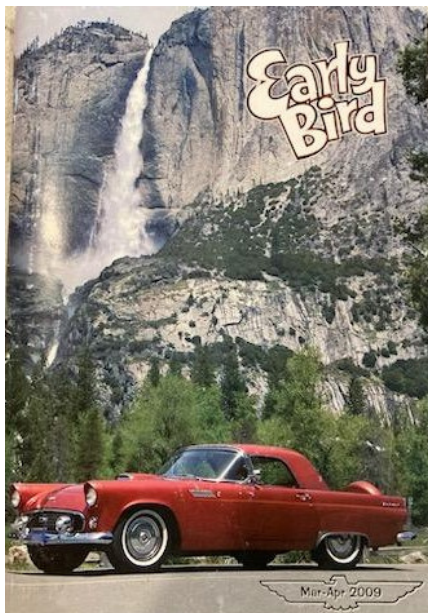
All the paperwork was done, and pictures were taken of Lou, Mark, Mike and I in front of Mike's car trailer and we waved goodbye to Lou and her friend Lisa; and made a dash for the Altamont pass hoping to miss the commute. We got lots of thumbs up and a comment, two for the price of one. It was a beautiful sight to see these cars headed for new homes - knowing they will be back on the road again and looking and running and enjoyed - as they were in Lou's care - they will be like new again.



Our first stop was Jim M. home and we made good time even in the mid-week traffic. Jim had made a spot for the T-bird, and it rolled off the car trailer into Jim's car port. Donna came out and gave me a hug and gave us all water - I wasn't sure how she would like this new project of Jim's! I gave Jim all the T-bird paperwork that I guarded like a king's ransom on my lap all the way from Walnut Creek. We waved goodbye to Jim and Donna - Mike and I took the Edsel - Mark returned the car trailer to Turlock - we were all tired, hungry and ready to rest as it was a long day.

I'm happy to report Mike got the Edsel motor to turn - it had been parked much longer than the T-bird - I know Jim M. has big plans to restore the T-bird. I hope you will be able to see these cars at car shows and being driven - maybe a return to Reno for HOT AUGUST NIGHTS - this is what our car hobby is all about!





Front Cover of the Early Bird 2009

Every spring in March we bring our little 'Bird out of winter hibernation. We feed it a healthy diet of water, gas, oil and air, and sometimes new spark plugs. We are ready for our annual flight to Yosemite National Park.

The flight is about two hours depending on how many landings are made for photo ops. Our roost for the night is the Tanya Lodge just outside the park. Early the next morning we continue into the park via the Hwy 41 entrance from Fresno. From this vantage point there is a spectacular view of the whole valley, including El Capitan, Bridal Veil Falls, and the awesome Half Dome.

Once in the valley floor, we spend the day exploring the wildlife, and the beautiful Dogwood trees in full bloom. The main attraction is the breathtaking waterfalls, which are extremely full after a very heavy winter snowfall and late heavy spring rains.

The year 2005 that we took these pictures as there were many cars passing by and you are not allowed off road parking.

When we left the park late in the afternoon on our return flight home, floodwater was up to the shoulder of the road, all though the weather was clear and sunny. The runoff from snow melting above was beginning to flood the valley floor. The roads were closed shortly after we left the park. Some tourists and campers were stranded in the park for three days. We couldn't think of a better place to be stranded, but not in the T-Bird, as there is not much freeboard. We made a safe landing back home. We still look forward to our flights into the park at least once a year.

We purchased our T-Bird in 1972 to use as a driver. Originally, it was ordered from a local Ford dealer, and we are the third owners. It is an early 1956 Fiesta Red. When we purchased it, the upholstery was in good shape as was the body. We painted it Bronze shortly after we bought it. In 2005 we replaced the engine with a 312 Ford rebuilt one. We added disc brakes and air conditioning, but the upholstery is still original. We hope to be able to remedy that along with new paint sometime this coming year.

Until then, we will continue to enjoy our outings with the Modesto Area Thunderbird Club. Two of our children and their spouses have joined the club this year so we will be having some more fun times six.

T-Birders Forever
Ken and Roberta Van Dyke
CTCI #19446
Oakdale, CA



QC+2 XXXI MAY 2008 - SONORA CA

The concept for the QC event had its inception in a bar in the central coast region of California. The idea was to have a long weekend of the Thunderbird events with the emphasis on fun rather than showing the cars. It was to include five local clubs, hence the QC for Quint Clubs. It was to be for five years, then see what happens. Well look at it now; it has grown to seven clubs (QC + II) with the clubs in agreement that it shouldn't get larger because of the difficulty of booking facilities. We are looking forward to the thirty second meet in 2009 in San Luis Obispo and a good turn-out is expected.

The QC+2 XXXI event for 2008 created pictures, trophies and memories in our minds. Seven Classic T-Bird Clubs came together at the Sonora Oaks Inn on May 1-4th. The clubs attending were Central Coast "Classy" T-Birds, Gold Coast Classic T-Bird, Bakersfield Classic T-Birds, Sequoia Classic T-Birds, Central California Classic T-Birds, Monterey Bay Classic T-Birds and the Host, Modesto Area Classic T-Birds.

Thursday, May 1st, we began arriving at 10:30 a.m. We immediately began to get the Hospitality Room put together. Our Hospitality Guru, Dolly Reedy, was in the hospital and unable to attend so everyone stepped up to the plate and got the show on the road. Lots of good eats (fruit, chips, salsa, clips, smoked salmon, chocolate dipped strawberries, candied walnuts, cookies) were arranged on the table. The Hospitality Room was the focal point for the QC. Registration was done in the room as well as pictures of each T-Birder. Don Cose was our resident photographer, and he did a great job.

Soon other clubs began to arrive. They were registered and given goodie bags chocked full of "stuff". (Everyone needs more "stuff".) They got their pictures taken, checked over raffle prizes, bought tickets for the raffle and munched away on cookies, sodas, and nuts.



We all gathered in the parking lot about 6:00 p.m. and Larry and Della Sullivan led the way to Columbia to see a play, the story of Hank Williams: "Lost Highway". Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening at the theater.

Friday morning, May 2nd, many traveled back to Columbia to see a candy making demonstration and hear all about the process. Columbia is like a step back into time with its quaint stores and blacksmith shops. Friday afternoon most everyone went to Jamestown to tour the Round House at the historical train station. After our tour, we boarded a train pulled by an old steam engine for a pleasant 45-minute ride. Then of course, it was time to do what we do best - EAT. Tables were set among the trees in the park, and we were served a BBQ dinner. Door prizes were given, and fun was had by all..



Show and Shine



Saturday, May 3rd, was show and shine time. They were out bright and early dusting those beauties off. Lots of talking and kicking tires went on until 10:30 a.m. when it was time to line up for the Poker Run. Ken and Roberta Van Dyke arranged a beautiful drive up to Pinecrest Lake with five stops to pick up a card in hopes of having that Royal Flush. At the lake we were treated to a lunch of sandwich, chips, salad, fruit, sodas, water and beautiful scenery.

We had just enough time after lunch to get back to the Motel for a quick nap or just visit with the many friends we've made over the years of QC's. That evening everyone got all duded up for our final night awards dinner.

The Awards Were as Follows

1st to Register - Eric and Fran Hershkowitz

POKER RUN

1st Best Hand - Don and Jean Weber from Sequoia

2nd Best Hand - George and Shirley Mattos from Modesto

SHOW AND SHINE

Best '55 - Jack and Lillie Armistead from Central CA

Best '56 - Monty and Bev Montgomery from Modesto

Best '57 - Juvenal and Rosalie Rosa from Sequoia

People's Choice Award - Ed and Kathy Rogers from Central Coast

Hard Luck Trophy - Bill and Claudean Thwaytes

THE KAY CARMICHAEL AWARD

Bakersfield Classic T-Bird Club

Big "THANKS" go out to Brenda Mooney for organizing the events and the whole club for making everything run as smoothly as possible. It seems everyone was everywhere all the time ready to help when needed. Patty Eckels baskets for the raffle were beautiful.

It's hard to believe this QC+2 event has been going on for 31 years. In those 31 years, we've made many good friends from up and down the state and enjoy see each other every year.

We're looking forward to QC+2 XXXII which will be held on May 14-17, 2009, in San Luis Obispo and hosted by the Central Coast Classy Birds. Their theme is "See You In The Funnies".

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE

Earl Reedy

CTCI #12349

Manteca, California



QC XLVIII

American Grappiti

Hello,

This will be a monthly part of our newsletter for the time being so everyone can stay up to date on the needs from our memberships as we move closer to May and QC 2024.

The committee's next meeting is Jan. 4th, during this meeting we will get updates on QC trophies/plaques, apparel, events, and we will visit the final 3 locations for a hotel (a final vote will be done to pick the hotel). We will also have dinner at the Post restaurant to evaluate it for a possible awards banquet location.

Committee members will also be signing up for Chair positions such as raffle, hospitality, poker run, show and shine, meet and greet and award banquet just to name a few. I am sure you are asking "How can I help?", well the answer is simple; you can contact the specific Chairs and offer to help. It will take help from every MACTC member to pull this off.

Thanks - Jim Ridenour - QC 2024 Chairman



THE NEXT BIG THING



Meeting & Social

Sunday January 14 -12:00

Central Station Bar & Grill

10 East Main Street - Turlock

Hosted by - Ruben & Katrina

Sign up or Cancel

By Friday January 12

Call/Text 209 - 480 - 3628

Dues for
2024
\$35.00

C.T.C.I
Dues
On Your Own

Manteca - Modesto - Stockton - Tracy

Hwy 99 - Exit - Main Street - Head East (left)

Oakdale/Modesto - Albers/Geer - Right on Canal - Left on Golden State - Right on Main



Meeting Minutes

Modesto Area Classic Thunderbird Club, Inc.
Meeting Minutes for 2024

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. Balance \$6,249.46.

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 made a summary report.

Meetings, Tours & Events - December 2 Coach Jacks - 10-11:30 am, 10-2 pm. Regal Theater, 11-12:30 pm. 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 Marriott, and Holiday Express. Waiting on a quote from the Courtyard. Friday will be arrival day with an evening Meet and Greet, Saturday car show and poker run, suggested destination Barryhill Winery with an evening banquet. Will need volunteers for previous events. Katrina has volunteered to be raffle chair. Any suggestions for other raffle prize, any theme. Bob Taylor, any interested parties please contact me. Form at the Oakdale Chamber of Commerce.

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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

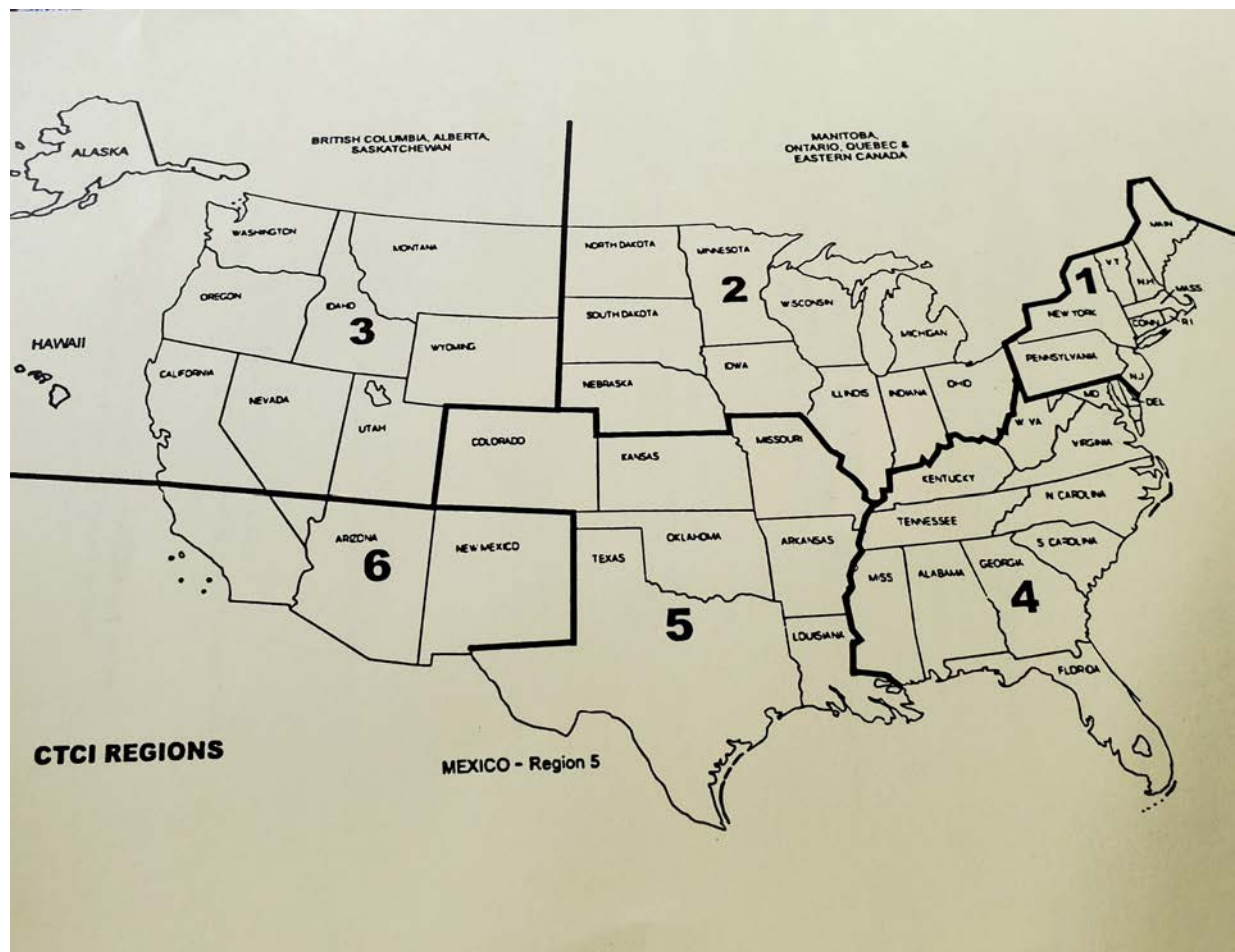
Christmas Party and Installation of Officers to be held on Sunday December 3, 11:30 at the H-B Saloon in Oakdale.

Meeting adjourned at 13:26 Respectfully Submitted:

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



C.T.C.I. Map Showing Region 3





2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Meetings

SUNDAY
January 14 - 12:00
Meeting & Social
Central Station - Turlock
Hosts
Ruben & Katrina

SUNDAY
February 11 - 12:00
TBA
Host
Judy Lyon



Tours

No Tours



Shows

May 17-19
QC XLVIII
Modesto
Hosts - MACTC