

THUNDERBIRD LODGE

PRESERVATION SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2008



Thunderbird Sales

They sell out fast! Act now to make your 2009 wine dinner series reservations!

Win a Thunderbird Cruise this Holiday Season

Year-End Gifts Sustain Thunderbird Lodge all Winter Long

This summer, four lucky donors and their invited guests cruised and dined aboard the *Thunderbird* Yacht compliments of Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society. Their journey began with a gift—a selfless act of giving to preserve Whittell's Castle, Thunderbird Lodge. On a stormy winter's eve, fortified in front of a roaring fire at the Lodge, when boating season seemed so far distant, we randomly picked four of you who gave to our 2007 year-end campaign. We couldn't think of a better way to say "Thank You" for your support, and this year we're doing it again.

It's your holiday season contribution that keeps the Lodge afloat during the long winter when there is little income from public tours and special events. Although all appears quiet under a blanket of snow, this is Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society's busiest time of year. This winter, we will stabilize the historic beacon that is at risk of collapsing into the lagoon following last year's storms. Volunteers will organize many of our historic documents archived at Thunderbird Lodge. The staff will continue its regular activities of renewing memberships, fundraising, repairs and maintenance, snow removal, planning next season's wine dinners, replacing dozens of windows broken by weather and vandalism, deep cleaning, and a myriad of other tasks. Thunderbird Lodge needs your help now more than ever.

So, we're combing the basement for some enticing year-end thank-you gifts. We have a few magnums of wine left over from this summer's distinctive Winemaker's Dinner Series, Castle in the Sky Books personally inscribed by authors Ron and Susan James, and much more. We will again draw four lucky winners to fill the *Thunderbird* Yacht each with three

guests for a 2009 Secrets of the East Shore Cocktail Cruise.

For each \$100 you contribute, one raffle ticket is placed in our barrel with your name on it. In other words, a year-end contribution of \$100 nets you one drawing ticket; a \$1,000 contribution is worth ten. For tax purposes, raffle tickets have a fair market cash value of \$1 each. Our staff will contact all winners on or before February 1st.

Each donor contributing \$5,000 is guaranteed an East Shore Cocktail Cruise for four people aboard *Thunderbird*. And, each donor who contributes \$10,000 is guaranteed an East Shore Cocktail Cruise for ten aboard *Thunderbird*. A cruise aboard the *Thunderbird* is a perfect gift to wrap and put under the tree for family and friends to enjoy! Of course, our Castle Club donor level remains available to those wishing to make a charitable contribution of \$100,000 or more to the Thunderbird Lodge sustaining endowment fund. The sustaining fund will underwrite restoration projects at Thunderbird Lodge for years to come.

Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society thanks you for your continuing support.

Happy Holidays!

Bill Watson, CURATOR & MANAGER



Captain Bill (center) &
Mates John O'Hurley (Seinfeld)
and Dan Quayle



© Dewitt Jones

Please Note: Prizes may be collected at Thunderbird Lodge during normal business hours. Out-of-town shipping is available. Boat cruises are contingent on prevailing conditions including weather, mechanical, and scheduling. Cocktail cruises are for adults age 21 and over only.

Check out Thunderbird's Museum store merchandise for the perfect holiday gift and stocking stuffers...playing cards, commemorative coins and *Thunderbird* Yacht posters at www.ThunderbirdLodge.org.

TOUR & CONTACT INFORMATION

www.ThunderbirdLodge.org

Contact e-mail: askus@thunderbirdlodge.org

Thunderbird Lodge: 775-832-8750

Thunderbird Volunteers: 775-832-8753

Thunderbird Event Reservations: 775-832-8754

YOU MAY CALL OR EMAIL TLPS IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE FURTHER MAILINGS.

A heartfelt thank you to our gracious donors...

We recognize all of our friends and supporters for their passion and vision. Your contributions will save the Castle-in-the-Sky for future generations to enjoy.

Our thanks and gratitude to all!

CASTLE CLUB

Joan Gibb
Tony and Bonnie Addario
Ric and Mo Campo
John and Jeanette Finney
Clyde (Buzz) R. Gibb
Dean and Madylon Meiling
Steven Merrill
Dave and Lynn Olson
Foundation 36

ADMIRAL'S LEVEL

Gil and Jenny Amoroso
Paul and Alice Baker
Nancy Binz
Anthony Sires

CAPTAIN'S LEVEL

James Bondoux
Terry and Carol Clapham
Bo and Erin Ellis
Robert Lee and Anne Brockinton
William Mann
Dick and Charlotte McConnell
Barbara Stromquist
Lawrence and Gail Tomlinson

GRANTS & INSTITUTIONS

Antique and Classic Boat Society
Chemco
E.L. Cord Foundation
Robert Z. Hawkins Foundation
Lake of the Sky Garden Club
Donald W. Reynolds Foundation
Tahoe Yacht Club Foundation
The Parasol Community
Foundation

FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

Glen and Merry Alberigi
Paul Anderson
Jim and Ginger Andrasick
Nazir and Mary Ansari
Gail Arnold
Michael and Lee Anne Baker
Jim and Cheryl Bailey
Lynne Bajuk
Jack and Karen Barney
Margaret Barthel
Craig and Bonnie Bauske
Claudio Bellotto
Bruce and Charleen Belshaw
Ben and Dina Bensen
Hal and Sue Bernheisel
John Bervid
Richard and Deb Bessett
Jacqueline Black
Robert and Pamela Black
Andrew Bloom
Dave Bogart
Bill and Elaine Boggess

Nicholas and Colleen Bolick
Joel and Sandy Bourdeau
Norman Bouton
Eric Boyd
Harlan and Kay Braaten
Lynette Branagh
Candy Brown
T.W. and Mary Bryan
Carol Buck
William and Sandy Burdick
Paul and Carolyn Burkett
Earl and Sue Burton
Joseph and Roberta Carcione
Jim and Patti Carlisle
Brian Casey
Robert and Clarice Cherry
Chris Chorn
Trust of James Daniel Church
Douglas and Debra Clayton
Mike and Mary Collins
Edwin Croll
Breeze and Ruth Cross
Carl and Mary Jane Cross
Nancy Cunningham
Shirley Dale
Dick and Ellen Daleke
Clive and Veronica Devenish
Michael and Annette Dickinson
James and Juanita Dickson
Gregory and Kerry Donovan
Gregory Dorman and
Christy Waldie
Bill and Penny Dupin
Carolyn Ehrler
Bud Eisberg
Mimi Ellis-Hogan
Pat and Dick Engels
Lynda English
Gayle Ewing
Jane Fabian
Judith Fasani
Richard Fauver
David Fellers
Harvey and Nancy Fennell
Bruce and Ellen Fraser
Jack Fritschi
Steven Fujii
Ron and Barb Galloway
Larry and Jerilyn Gann
Paul Gilbert
George Gillemot
Preston and Marilyn Gilmore
Tina Godecke
Bruce Gordon
Ross and Lillian Gould
Edward Groenendyke
Tom and Sherry Grundy
Kent and Elise Grusendorf
James Guigli
Don and Lynda Haight
Deborah Hansen

Don and Carol Hardesty
Dave and Jan Hardie
Hank and Betty Harriman
Carolann Harris
Charles and Donna Hawksford
Perry and Leath Hayden
Bonnie Heddlund
Joe Hickingbotham
Doug and Debra Highsmith
Jason Hill
Frederick Hinners
Ray and Kathy Holstead
Carol Jan Hopkins
Paulette Houser
Mike and Denise Hurst
Eric and Beata Jarvis
Ronald Jones
Nancy Joslin
Nancy Kaible
Maury and Cornelia Kallerud
Bob and Anne Keast
Kris Keesling
Jack Kendall
Erin Kerrigan
James and Mary Ann Kidder
Peter King
Zara Koerber
Peter and Marilee Kovacs
Joe Kreuser
Ralph Kuhn
McAvoy and Rebecca Lane
B.H. Larson
Carla and Allen Law
Linda Lester
John and Connie Linneman
Bill and Joyce Loveday
Arthur Lund – Hugh Stuart
Center Charitable Trust
Gordon Macaulay
Luigi and Linda Manzon
Norm Marineau
John Mascarich
Susan Matthes
Bill and Judy Mayorga
George and Sherry McConnell
Tiffany McDougall
Joanne McGrail
Heiner Meldner
Dave and Pat Miller
Derik and Barbi Mooberry
Doug and Linda Morris
Liz Motter
Bion and Barbara Murphy
Stephen and Carol Natcher
Dennis and Darlene Neeley
Chris Nichols
Carol and Jonathan Nicholson
Stephen Paddock – Margaret
Stevenson Foundation
Elizabeth Palmer
Jennifer Patterson

Rick and Cheryl Pettibone
Tom and Barbara Pfeiffer
Picchetti Winery
Bruce and Sheri Pohle
Bob and Eleanor Preger
Dean Price
Gary and Patricia Reback
Betsy Rhodes
Gary and Debby Richardson
Cory Ritchie
Ryan Ritchie
Roger and Bobbi Rosenberger
David Rotman
Thomas and Mary Rowland
Henry and Sandra Rushing
Andrew Sabin Family Foundation
Robert Salz
Julie Savage
Richard Seegmiller
Jan Shines
Katy Simon
Richard and Julie Skow
Marshall and Mary Small
Fred and Mary Smith
Jim Smith
Jonathan and Amy Smith
Marjorie Smith
Winnie Smith
Margaret Solomon –
The Solomon Foundation
Stan and Sandi Solomonson
Charles Soule
Alfred and Josephine Sperry
David and Cindy Stanley
Jim and Janet Steinmann
Ronald and Eleanor Stickney
J. Michael Stone
Ken and Peggy Stover
Ted Stover
Pete and Darra Sturtevant
Douglas and Betsy Sutter
Deborah Swain
Judy Church Swanson
Priscilla Swanson
Steve and Kathy Swigard
Manny Sylvester
Tahoe Logowear Company
Margaret Taylor
Clay and Pat Thomson
Richard and Joan Tice
Carter and Peggy Twedt
Patricia and Robert Vincent
The Vision Service Plan
Nancy Wade
Vernon Waltz
Megan Warren
Bill Watson
Westwind Investors Management
John and Lori White
Nancy Wiedemann
Jerry Willingham

Neil Wilson
Roger and Bea Wittenberg
Steven and Sandra Wolfe
Diana Woodbury
John and Christine Worthington

GIFTS-IN-KIND

Bear Printing
Liza Casey
Creative Coverings
Crystal Bay Club Casino
Darioush Winery
Elyse Winery
Joan Gibb
Girard's Winery
Kathy Grant
Jarvis Photography
Incline Big Tree Cleaners
Le Bistro
Men Weilding Fire
Mark and Pat Miller –
The Diamond Vault
Moody's Bistro
National Automobile Museum
Nevada State Department of
Cultural Affairs
Plumpjack Restaurant
Ashley Quinn, CPA
Scott Rayer
Rombauer Winery
Silver State Liquor
Southern Wine and Spirits
Tahoe Roofing Company
Village Market
Bill Watson
Tom and Julie Williams

VOLUNTEERS

As with all non-profits, we would not exist without our amazing volunteers. This hard-working, dedicated group donates their hours and their labor to assist us with the many tours, never-ending maintenance and with the upkeep of the grounds at the Thunderbird Lodge. Thanks to all of them, we can fulfill our mission to educate and share the story, incredible beauty, history and legacy of Thunderbird Lodge and George Whittell, Jr.—the Captain! We sincerely appreciate all they do and the time and skills they contribute.



THUNDERBIRD LODGE PRESENTS A DAZZLING ARRAY OF EXCITING EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. TO MAKE A RESERVATION OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING EVENTS, PLEASE CALL (775) 832-8750.

Facility RENTAL

Support preservation of the historic site by renting Thunderbird Lodge for your special occasion: weddings, bar mitzvahs, holiday parties, family reunions, conferences, and meetings. The estate accommodates indoor dining for parties up to 90 people, indoor lecture seating for 120, and outdoor events for up to 150. Prices vary by event size and availability.

Group Tours & School Field Trips

Private, docent-guided tours for groups of ten or more are available by appointment throughout the year. Seniors and church groups, car clubs, and conference attendees all enjoy touring Nevada's only house museum estate National Historic District at Lake Tahoe. Adults \$39, School Rate (children) \$5.



Thunder Thursdays

You, your guests, and clients will indulge in warm summer evenings strolling the grounds and buildings of the Thunderbird Lodge Estate. Enjoy beer and wine from the no-host bar and a dazzling array of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres from our private chef. Make this delightful experience a prelude to your night out at Tahoe's North Shore. Thursday evenings 5-7 p.m., June through October. Available at no charge to our Captain's, Admiral's, and Castle Club level donors and invited guests.



Winemaker's DINNER SERIES

The ever-popular Thunderbird Winemaker's Dinner Series remains the highlight of Tahoe's summer social season.

The Thunderbird concierge pairs California's best wineries with Tahoe's celebrity chefs. Now in the seventh year, these fundraising events always sell out. Our 2009 dates are the third Sunday of each month, on July 19th, August 16th, September 20th and October 18th. Past dinners have featured wine from Rombauer, Charles Krug, and Darioush along with chefs Douglas Dale of Tahoe City's Wolfdale's and Mark Estee of Truckee's Moody's Bistro. The evening starts with shuttle service from Incline Village to Thunderbird Lodge followed by tours of the estate, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres. Then, a three or four course dinner in the fabulous Lighthouse Room, vignettes by the winemaker and chef, with exciting auction items and raffle prizes before returning to Incline Village.

Single dinner tickets are \$195 per person or \$700 per person for the entire series of four dinners. Tax deductions are \$120 per dinner.

Public Tours

Thunderbird Lodge is open for public guided tours from June through October each year. Tours by land depart via shuttle bus from the Incline Village Visitor's Center. Water tours are available from Woodwind Cruises. Tours start at \$39, with children's rates available.

DINNER AT THE



Castle

For a nominal donation, up to 16 people will enjoy elegant, private dining at Thunderbird Lodge. These dinners are a popular way to celebrate a birthday, entertain clients, romance your partner, or commemorate a memorable occasion. Imagine a sunset in the gazebo with your friends as waterfalls cascade into the lagoon beside you, or feel the hearth warm you on a chilly winter eve as you and your partner partake in an intimate fireside dinner for two in the romantic Old Lodge.

Our private chef will prepare your pre-ordered four course extravaganza from an array of menu options. This is a prix-fixed dining package with your donation covering the cost of entry, docent-guided tour, parking, non-alcoholic beverages, corkage charges, commemorative program, dinner, service charges, and gratuity. Bring your preferred alcoholic beverages and we'll gladly serve them to you at no extra charge.

2009 EVENTS AT THE CASTLE

Public Tours

TUESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS ~ OPEN JUNE TO OCTOBER

TOURS BY LAND:

1-800-Go Tahoe (1-800-468-2463) • 775-832-1606 or www.gotahoe.com

TOURS BY WATER:

1-888-867-6394 or www.tahoeboatcruises.com

May

16th, Saturday Historic Preservation Month – Open House at Thunderbird Lodge

June

2nd, Tuesday Public Tours Begin
 4th, Thursday First Thunder Thursday – Captain's Club Members & Guests
 7th, Sunday Full Moon *Thunderbird* Cruise
 18th-20th, Thur-Sat *Thunderbird* Yacht at Concours d' Elegance

July

3rd, Friday National Holiday
 4th, Saturday 4th of July
 5th, Sunday *Thunderbird* Cruisin' with the Commodores
 7th, Tuesday Full Moon *Thunderbird* Cruise
 17th- 19th, Fri-Sun *Thunderbird* at ACBS South Shore Boat Classic
 19th, Sunday July Winemaker's Dinner

August

1st, Saturday League to Save Lake Tahoe, *Thunderbird* Cruise & Fashion Show
 6th, Thursday Full Moon *Thunderbird* Cruise
 16th, Sunday August Winemaker's Dinner

September

4th, Friday Full Moon *Thunderbird* Cruise
 7th, Monday Labor Day
 20th, Sunday September Winemaker's Dinner
 28th, Monday Happy Birthday Captain George Whittell

October

4th, Sunday Full Moon *Thunderbird* Cruise
 18th, Sunday October Winemaker's Dinner

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- All events by reservation only.
- All prices are per person.
- Call 1-775-832-8754 for event reservations.
- Unless otherwise noted, no minor children at events.

- Except for themed events, dress is Tahoe dinner casual with a wrap or coat for chilly evenings. Wear comfortable walking shoes if you plan to take the tour.



© Fielding Photography

Wine Dinners & Silent Auctions

The *Thunderbird* Lodge Winemaker's Dinner Series will include unique and fun Silent Auction Items from private Lodge dinners to a chance to enjoy one of our popular summer Full Moon *Thunderbird* Yacht Cocktail Cruises. Be sure to join in our summer excitement and be part of Tahoe's social season at our Winemaker Dinners!

Thunderbird Lodge Private Tours

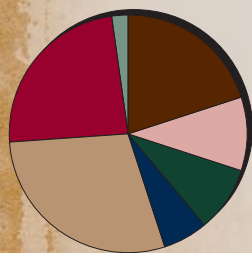
Private Lodge Tours can be booked for parties of 10–25. If you are a social club, car club, a family reunion or just large group of friends, don't miss this opportunity to gather at this incredibly unforgettable meeting sight and enjoy the history of Lake Tahoe's Legacy. Call 775-832-8750 to reserve your spot at the Castle.

2008 REPORT TO OUR FRIENDS AND DONORS

Each year, Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society makes a financial report to its supporters. Despite the faltering economy, you helped preserve Thunderbird Lodge for another year. The capital campaign to fund a perpetual endowment for capital repairs and maintenance continues—this is a prerequisite to Pulte Homes gifting the Lodge buildings to the Preservation Society. The Society has raised almost \$6-million of its \$10-million goal! In early 2009, we'll share the names and celebrate all of you who saved the Castle including new friends and the very special foundation they lead—our angel donors. The Society still needs another \$2-million in its endowment to meet certain matching donation obligations and forego renting the facility to the public for weddings and corporate events. As you see on the revenue graphs below, the Society derives a disproportionate percentage of its income from these potentially harmful activities. With twenty additional donors at the \$100,000 level (or forty at \$50,000), the Society can end its capital campaign and move on to urgently needed preservation and conservation projects.

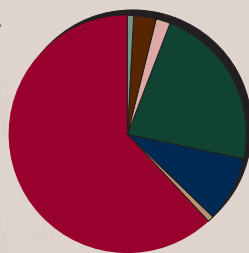
Weather, smoke from California wildfires, high gas prices, and declining visitor counts conspired to make 2008 a difficult year. With your year-end contributions (see front page of this newsletter), the Society hopes to close the annual books without a deficit. 4,500 visitors paid for guided tours, down from 4,700 last year. Another 2,000 or so visitors attended special events at the estate including schoolchildren participating in the Society's Hands-on-History program.

INCOME



- Contributions 20%
- Fundraising 10%
- Membership 9%
- Museum Store 6%
- Rentals 29%
- Tours 24%
- Other 2%

EXPENSES



- Tours & Rentals 3%
- Marketing & PR 2%
- Buildings & Grounds* 23%
- Fundraising 9%
- Museum Store <1%
- General Operations 63%
- Other <1%

*Excluding restoration projects.

Early 2008 expenses included re-roofing 28,000 square feet on seven buildings. The Society accomplished this monumental task through increased grants and personal contributions in late 2007. Many thanks to all of you who blessed this project with your financial assistance—it is so nice not to have to put out nearly 100 buckets when it rains or snows.

A committed Board of Directors, enthusiastic volunteers, and the ever-persevering staff of Thunderbird Lodge remain dedicated to the success of Nevada's only house museum estate National Historic District at Lake Tahoe. There is no way to repay all of you for your time, friendship, and continued support as you make us successful for the generations to follow.

Start your engines - Enjoy a cruise!

First installed 64 years ago in WWII P38 Lightning aircraft, the *Thunderbird Yacht's* aging Allison engines have been pulled from the boat and must be replaced. Toward that end, we have a collection of hydroplane engines and parts we obtained from Buzz Gibb and the estate of Bill Harrah. Turning our parts into working engines will cost \$40,000 each and we hope to build four—enough to keep the rich basso note of Thunderbird reverberating across Lake Tahoe for another generation or two.

We ordered the first new engine but can't take delivery until we pay for it, so we are accepting donations. Gil and Jenny Amoroso kicked in the first \$10,000 and will collect the first cocktail cruise aboard next summer. For \$40,000, we'll name an engine after you. Buy two, and you truly can say that you and your spouse power Thunderbird. Imagine the thrill during boat shows when we throw open the hatch covers to see your name emblazoned on the valve covers?

Humor aside, we are accepting donations in any amount. Please join us in keeping this historic treasure afloat on Lake Tahoe attending all of the shows, events, celebrations, and festivities. Like the Lake itself, she is truly one-of-a-kind. Every motor donor will be invited to *Thunderbird's* 2009 unveiling and Engine Room Party. For more information, contact Barbi Mooberry at 775-828-3536 or Barbi@NV36.com. Checks for *Thunderbird Yacht* may be directed to Foundation 36, a Nevada 501(c)(3) public charity having the mission to preserve Nevada's historic and cultural treasures. The mailing address is 316 California Ave., #36, Reno, Nevada 89509. Charitable contributions are tax exempt to the extent permitted by law.

Please, we need and appreciate YOUR year-end contribution!

Donor Information

Name _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 Email _____

Payment Method

Please make check payable to:
Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society (TLPS)
 Please charge my credit card \$ _____;
 Circle type: VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover
 Please include billing address if different than donor information.
 Account # _____
 Verification # _____ Expires _____
 Signature _____

Thunderbird Tales



WHITTELL'S
THUNDERBIRD
LODGE
LAKE TAHOE
NEVADA

THUNDERBIRD LODGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 6812
INCLINE VILLAGE, NV 89450

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Incline Village, NV
Permit No. 12

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society continues to raise funds for its \$10-million perpetual endowment to pay ongoing maintenance and restoration of the National Historic District. As you may recall, reaching a balance of \$5-million was a pre-condition to Pulte Homes gifting the Lodge buildings to the Preservation Society. In 2009, the Society will celebrate all of those contributing to the campaign and our future success. Standby for some exciting news ...

FUN FACT...

Did you know, the maximum wartime emergency rating on the *Thunderbird Yacht's* Allison V-1710 engines is 1,600 horsepower each? Twin Allison motors propelled the P38 Lightning to 395 miles per hour and *Thunderbird Yacht* is said to have once reached a speed of 60.8 knots or 70 miles per hour!

Donation Amount: A gift of any amount is greatly appreciated!

Please indicate the amount of your year-end contribution:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____ |

Yes, include me in the Thunderbird cruise drawing.

Please return this form with your check or credit card information to:

Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society

P.O. Box 6812 • Incline Village, NV 89450

Contributions needed to fix our weather-damaged beacon.

