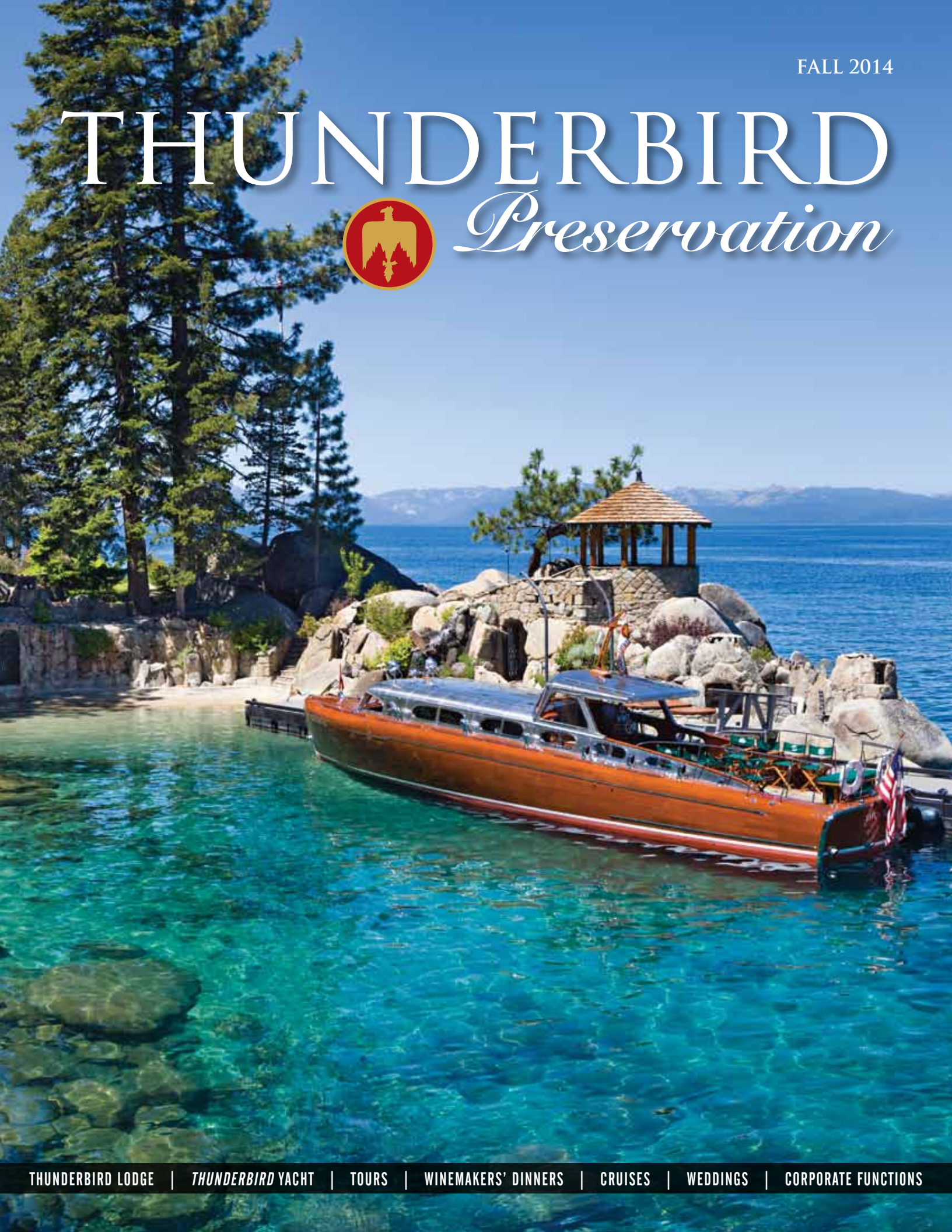


FALL 2014

THUNDERBIRD

Preservation



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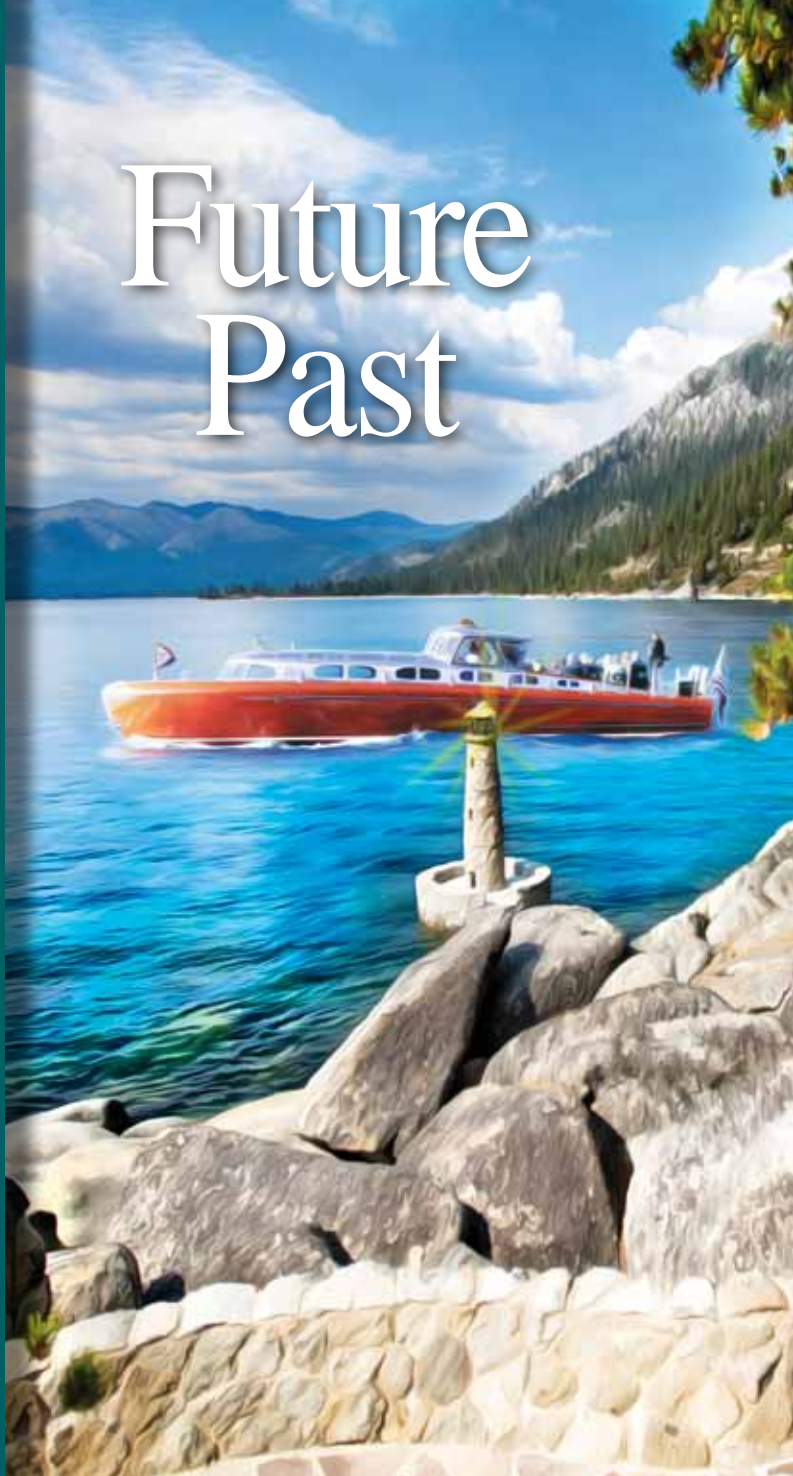


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When George's lantern was lit, it symbolized a quiet connection that guests were welcome at the Thunderbird Lodge.

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Joan Gibb, *Chairman, Governing Board of Directors*

Bill Watson, *Chief Executive and Curator*

Barbi Mooberry, *Director of Marketing & Administration, Editor-in-Chief*

FRONT COVER PHOTO: JARVIS PHOTOGRAPHY

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Thunderbird Friends,



It has now been three years since we introduced this *Thunderbird Preservation* magazine and we're just as proud of it today as we were when we started. I'm also excited to tell you about our new preservation partnership with Chase International Real Estate. Thanks to their sponsorship, we have this lovely expanded issue. Shari Chase and the men and women of Chase International are committed to saving all of Lake Tahoe's treasures, especially the former property of Captain George Whittell. Back in 1998, when Shari sold

Whittell's Thunderbird Lodge for New York financier Jack Dreyfus, she set off a chain reaction of events which culminated in conveying these historic buildings and surrounding lands into the public trust. Little did Shari know she was launching a new awareness for preservation of historic properties at Lake Tahoe. We are grateful to Shari, Sue Lowe, Craig King, the Kerry Donovan Group, Trinkie Watson, and the entire Chase International team for their friendship and ongoing support.

The lack of snow is still hurting all of us here at the Lake in the Sky, yet we are working hard to match our successes of 2013. Reservations for our Hands-on-History school program for 4th and 5th graders are strong, and the 2015 Winemakers' Dinner Series fundraising events are filling up fast. We're looking at exciting new programs for 2015 and beyond. This includes an art exhibition of never-before-seen early Lake Tahoe photographs, tentatively scheduled for summer 2015. With thanks to our dear friend Nancy Binz and so many others, the 1941 Whittell Lake Tahoe films are being digitally remastered and preserved for future generations.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you here at the historic Thunderbird Lodge in 2015!

Sincerely,

Joan Gibb

CHAIRMAN, GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To make a charitable gift to *Thunderbird's* engine restoration project, please visit www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org or call Bill Watson at 775-832-8755. Checks may be made payable to TLPS and mailed to PO Box 6812, Incline Village, NV 89450. Charitable contributions are deductible to the extent permitted by law. Thank you.



Dear Friends,

We urgently need your help. Both of *Thunderbird's* engines have failed. As you know, these are vintage WWII fighter aircraft engines—a pair of 1,150 horsepower Allison V-1710 motors from a P-38 Lightning—and not easily serviced. For the mechanically-minded, an oil analysis revealed high levels of silver, cadmium, and iron. This means the engines are tearing themselves apart from the inside out and must not be run. Sadly, *Thunderbird* was out of service this season due to lack of water, and the need for engine repairs.

The repair price tag is \$250,000 and the deadline is December 31, 2014. That's 25 people at \$10,000 or 50 at \$5,000, or one very gracious gift that can save the day. Any amount helps and is greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, you won't see (or hear) *Thunderbird* cruising Lake Tahoe again until we reach our goal.

Restoration Manager Dave Triano's excellent article appears in this issue, with photos and more details about the *Thunderbird* engine replacement project.

Thunderbird Yacht is a paramount part of the Thunderbird Lodge experience. She is a significant attraction and generates crucial revenue for the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society. Without her, there will certainly be belt tightening, requiring us to forego optional programs and events. In addition, we'll particularly appreciate all of our members who renew (or upgrade) their memberships on time this year; this is imperative to ensure our children's and cultural education programs continue without interruption.

Preservation is a never-ending process. Historic houses and boats take a huge amount of planning, labor, passion, and cash. One day, the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society will have a sufficient endowment to carry on when the unexpected happens. But for now, we need each of you—our friends, members, and strangers alike—to dig deep and help us reach our \$250,000 goal before December. With your generosity, we'll do so and *Thunderbird* will cruise again in 2015.

With everlasting gratitude,

Bill Watson


CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CURATOR

THUNDERBIRD'S WINGS ARE CLIPPED...FOR NOW

Aircraft Engines in Vintage Yacht Need Complete Overhaul

by Dave Triano, Restoration Program Manager

JARVIS PHOTOGRAPHY



A Herculean effort and at least \$250,000 is needed before *Thunderbird* will cruise again. Not only has the lack of winter precipitation confined *Thunderbird* to her berth, but also both of her vintage WWII fighter aircraft engines are fatally impaired.

Three years ago, I initiated a monitoring program in which I sought to find performance trends in the operations of the yacht's systems. This program helps me to spot potential problems before they become more serious. One of my procedures is to draw engine oil for analysis twice each year. This is like a window to see inside each engine and assess its health. By tracking the elements present in the oil—such as lead, silver, cadmium, and iron—I can determine if parts inside the engine are prematurely wearing out or aging as normally expected. These are vintage engines, and with a comprehensive maintenance program they can last two years or 22 years. Many factors contribute to or take away from their longevity, and all must be carefully watched.

Some people may ask “Why does the boat have antique engines?”

The original engines in *Thunderbird* were two 12-cylinder Kermath Sea Raiders, but Bill Harrah installed the twin Allison when he acquired the yacht from its original owner, George Whittell, Jr. This conversion was due to Mr. Harrah having a large stock of Allison engines which he also used in his many hydroplane boats. However, these Allison power plants have become so intimately associated with *Thunderbird* that historians deem replacing them with modern engines unthinkable. Some things in life simply demand impressive, beautiful horsepower and *Thunderbird* is one! The Allison engines are true works of engineering art and, thanks to the generosity of many benefactors, we maintain one of the largest collections of spare parts and components to keep them going.

In 2008, the two engines in the boat were sent for a minor overhaul, thanks to contributions from our most valued supporters. These engines now have about 500 operating hours on them. For the past two years, I have watched the oil iron level rise in both engines, within operational parameters, but certainly worthy of attention. After shutting down last season, the final oil tests spiked, indicating a very high level of particulate iron; this means there is severe trouble internally. Fortunately, this test did its job! We have saved the engines from catastrophic failure and loss of priceless components. However, our beloved *Thunderbird* cannot operate on its current power plants, and will not cruise again until expensive repairs are undertaken. By an unfortunately lucky coincidence, the yacht can't cruise in 2014 anyway, due to low water levels. So it's the perfect time to make these needed repairs.

In order for the yacht to cruise again, the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society faces some daunting challenges. Two spare engines were purchased through the generosity of our donors in 2009. These engines are in “preservation storage” and must be completely disassembled, inspected, and rebuilt to functional status. Because these engines are maintained at or near stock, FAA licensed facilities will perform the work to the manufacturer's original military specifications published in 1943.

Additionally, two other engines will be built to function as hot spares—replacement engines in case of future failure. (The left and right engines are different and not easily interchangeable, so two spares are needed.) With each engine rebuild, associated systems must also be refurbished, including fuel pumps, transmission, cooling system, etc. The number of qualified mechanics who can do this work is limited, and parts are hard to find and very expensive.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Clockwise (starting at top right):

- Many main bearings have heavy scoring, indicating the presence of larger iron particulate in the system.
- Excessive cylinder and ring wear is present.
- Heavy deposits of fine iron are visible in the heads as black dust.



HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

TO MAKE YOUR TAX-
DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TO RESTORE
THE *THUNDERBIRD* ENGINES,
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
THUNDERBIRDTAHOE.ORG
OR CALL BILL WATSON,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CURATOR
AT 775-832-8755. PLEASE MAIL YOUR
GIFT TODAY!



Photos (top to bottom):

- Heavy erosion in the main bearings has occurred.
- Heavy oil burning on all piston tops.
- One of *Thunderbird's* twin Allison's after 2008 overhaul.

During the course of a normal season, many of you visit *Thunderbird Yacht* in her boathouse. A few of you may have had the ride of a lifetime and heard the amazing thunder of her twin Allison V-1710 engines at full song. 2013 was exceptional, with the boat in top form all season long. In a typical year, *Thunderbird* generates over \$200,000 for the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society's charitable programs. It also functions as an effective laboratory of learning for several children's programs centered on this magnificent vessel. Additionally, her appearances at the ACBS South Tahoe Wooden Boat Classic, the Tahoe Yacht Club Concours d'Elegance, and other charitable events boost the communities of Lake Tahoe as only *Thunderbird* can.

We are seeking \$250,000. Costs have nearly doubled since similar work was done back in 2008. To just get on the overhaul shop calendar, our deadline is December 31, 2014. The initial \$100,000 will send the first two motors to the shop; the next \$150,000 gets them out of the shop and into the boat.

The Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society will gratefully accept your tax-deductible gift in any amount. With your help and a good winter, *Thunderbird* will cruise again in 2015.

ALLISON V-1710 SPECIFICATIONS

- **TYPE:** Twin 60° V-12 supercharged, piston aircraft engine
- **STROKES:** 4
- **COOLING:** 2-stage, liquid-cooled
- **DISPLACEMENT:** 1,710 cu in
- **HORSEPOWER:** 1,150 nominal, 3,000 Max Emergency Wartime Rating
- **ENGINE DRY WEIGHT:** 1,395 lb
- **FUEL MILEAGE:** 2 gallons per mile per engine (≈ 60 gallons per hour)
- **NUMBER MANUFACTURED:** > 70,000
- **ENGINE PRICE (1943, NEW):** \$8,500
- **THUNDERBIRD CRUISING SPEED:** 25 knots (28.8 mph)
- **THUNDERBIRD TOP RECORDED SPEED:** 60 knots (69.1 mph)



Since first glimpsing *Thunderbird Yacht* at Tahoe's Concours d'Elegance boat show, Jake and Ruta Rudisill have been avid supporters, contributors, and enthusiastic ambassadors of Thunderbird Lake Tahoe's maritime heritage programs. Rudisill Family Foundation gifts have funded countless schoolchildren who have experienced the yacht firsthand. So to Jake, Ruta, David, and Karen (and pooch Jill, too), we thank you for a lifetime of memories!



THUNDERBIRD *Treasures*

In addition to the spectacular Thunderbird Lodge, grounds, and cottages, Thunderbird Lake Tahoe protects and preserves many artifacts at the historic estate which is listed as a National Historic District. To give you a peek at our collection, we'll showcase selected items in this and future *Preservation* magazine issues.

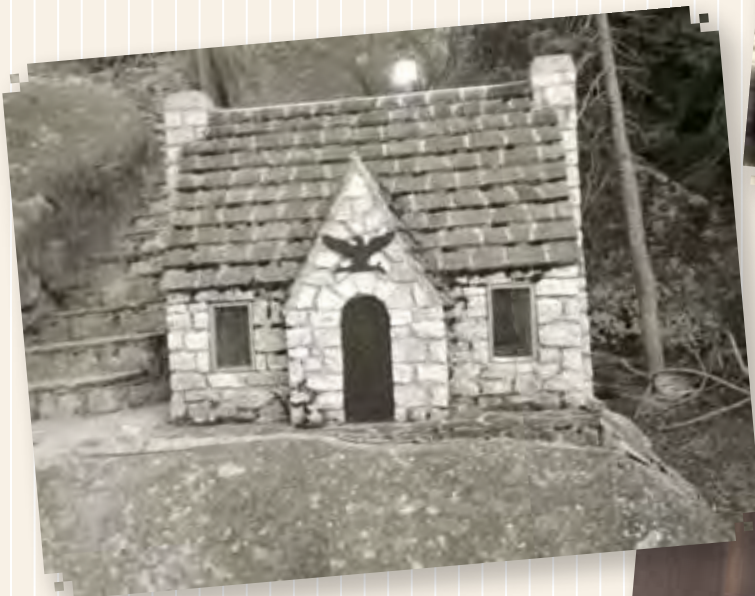
Iron Chandelier, Antonio Soletti, San Mateo, California (c. 1937). Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society Collection.

Soletti and his team of artisans hand-forged most of the light fixtures, fireplace tools, candelabras, chimney art, and many other pieces at Thunderbird Lodge.



Stone Dollhouse (c. 1940). Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society Collection.

Constructed by the students of Carson City's Stewart Indian School, these fanciful architectural features are found throughout the property. While providing a sense of whimsy, they also serve utilitarian purposes, such as concealing fire hydrants, air shafts for the underground tunnels, or electrical equipment.



Framed lithograph, W.J. Morgan Co. of Cleveland, Ohio (c. 1930). Courtesy of Liza Casey.

This image is on loan from Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society friend, Liza Casey. Casey's mother was Whittell's friend, nurse, and manager. This lithograph, originally displayed in Whittell's bedroom at Thunderbird Lodge and later at his Woodside, California home, is believed to be Bill, Whittell's male lion.





GEORGE WHITTELL, JR.



He was considered one of California's—if not North America's—most eligible bachelors. And why not? He was tall, handsome, adventurous, and rich. George Whittell, Jr. was born in San Francisco in 1881. With the death of his four-year-old twin brother, “Junior” became the sole heir to the vast fortune his grandfathers had amassed during the California gold rush. He would never want for anything, and thoroughly enjoyed a self-indulgent lifestyle throughout his lifetime.

Whittell famously stated his ambition as “never working a day in my life,” but he became Lake Tahoe's biggest conservationist, albeit unintentionally, as forever preserving his vast tract of land for public use was decidedly not on his radar. Instead he collected exotic animals, traveled to foreign lands, owned elegant automobiles and boats, and married not one, not two, but three beautiful women (one at a time). Late in life, Whittell became a recluse who preferred the company of his animals over people, and who avoided publicity. This, of course, made him all the more enigmatic. When the press couldn't obtain information on him—much to Whittell's delight—they simply made it up. Even today, separating fact from fiction on this man is challenging for historians and researchers.

INHERITED WEALTH FOR A LIFESTYLE OF PRIVILEGE

George's two immigrant grandfathers shrewdly exploited Gold Rush opportunities, laying the foundation for a financial empire. Hugh Whittell immigrated to America from Ireland in 1828 and came west on a steamship from his home in New York in 1849. Nicholas Luning also arrived in San Francisco in 1849 and both quickly tapped into the vibrant economy. Hugh “grubstaked” the miners, doing well on his investments in mining claims. Nicholas opened a bank which specialized in loans to merchants facing financial emergencies. Both invested heavily in San Francisco real estate.



THUNDERBIRD TRIVIA

Captain Whittell's elephant house features fireplaces in the stalls so that his animals would not get chilled at night. Water ran continuously through troughs in each stall so the animals always had something fresh to drink.



Junior was educated in Europe and claimed fluency in several languages. Inarguably intelligent, he never graduated from University, choosing instead to focus only on those things that interested him. As a teenager, he ran away to join the circus on a whim. Spending time with the Barnum and Bailey Circus, and going on safari with animal trainer Frank "Bring 'Em Back Alive" Buck inspired a life-long love of exotic animals in young George.

THE TITLE OF CAPTAIN

After two unsuccessful and, in his parents' eyes, inappropriate marriages, Whittell embraced another chance for excitement upon the outbreak of World War I. He voluntarily headed to Europe and served in the Italian army as an ambulance driver on the front. He later transferred to the French Army, and finally to the U.S. Army when the United States entered the war in 1917. After receiving an officer's commission, George relished the title "Captain" and used it for the rest of his life. The Captain was slightly wounded toward the end of the war and spent time in a French Army hospital, where a beautiful young volunteer nurse, Elia Pascal, cared for him. George fell in love with Elia, who hailed from French high society. Junior finally married a woman his parents approved of, and the couple settled into a life of privilege on the family Woodside Estate in California.

OPPORTUNE DECISIONS CREATED A NEVADA LEGACY

For a man uninterested in business, Whittell made a surprisingly shrewd move in early 1929 when he liquidated about \$50 million in stock holdings, thereby insulating himself from (and, some say, helping precipitate) the crash of the stock market in October. Following the economic collapse, George

was one of the wealthiest men in California. With so much wealth, it made sense for him to establish residency in Nevada to help avoid the rapidly increasing California income and estate taxes. Once there, he heard of some property at Lake Tahoe offered for sale by the Hobart Lumber interest and other landholders. Eventually, Whittell acquired from them over 40,000 acres of land on the Nevada side of the lake, including 27 miles of shoreline. Though he originally planned several large developments at Lake Tahoe, including casinos at Sand Harbor and Zephyr Cove, his first priority was a summer retreat for himself. Construction of that lakefront estate, Thunderbird Lodge, began in 1936 and was completed in 1941. The estate included five cottages that were modeled after the main house, and a 600' long tunnel that allowed Whittell to move about the property unseen by curious eyes. The Captain's fabulous yacht, *Thunderbird*, was delivered in July 1940.

Whittell spent the last decade of his life using a wheelchair. He enjoyed long hours at Thunderbird Lodge simply gazing out at the lake, or in the company of more than 40 birds, mostly chatty mynahs, in the aviary constructed on the upper terrace of the residence. His last trip to the Lodge was reportedly in 1967.

George Whittell, Jr. passed away in 1969 at the age of 87. In spite of his dedication to idleness, he left a remarkable inheritance for others to enjoy. His private ownership of approximately one-third of the Lake Tahoe shoreline kept development at bay and preserved the land for the enjoyment of people and wildlife alike. Today, the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society proudly maintains and restores Captain Whittell's Thunderbird Lodge and Yacht. Through tours and school programs, the Society educates thousands of visitors and schoolchildren about the man, his land, and his life.

AMERICA'S MOST EXPENSIVE HOUSE – THUNDERBIRD LODGE

An Interview with Shari Chase by Bill Watson, Curator



Shari Chase

In 1972, New York financier and the Lion of Wall Street, Jack Dreyfus, concluded his purchase of George Whittell's Thunderbird Lodge and approximately 25,000 acres of surrounding land. Over the next 20 years, Mr. Dreyfus sold much of this land to Nevada State Parks and the United States Forest Service, ensuring it remained in the public trust in perpetuity. By

1993, he was ready to sell the lodge and remaining lands. Ultimately, this sale resulted in a complex government exchange with the land conveying to the United States Forest Service, and the historic structures to the non-profit Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society. Lake Tahoe realtor Shari Chase and her team were the boots-on-the-ground from start to finish. Here are some of Shari's recollections about those interesting times.

In 1993, Jack Dreyfus owned Thunderbird Lodge and decided to offer it for sale. How did he come to list the property with you? Did you know Jack Dreyfus before this time?

I had not met Jack in person but was recommended by very dear friends. Jack contacted me early in 1993 and for several days we discussed the approach I would take to sell the property. The one sentence that tipped him over the top was when I said, "Jack, I want to be the Captain of your ship and I will look out for your very best interest, taking full responsibility to meet your needs." He then said without hesitation, "You have the job!"

Did any celebrity clients look at the property? If so, can you share who they were?

More captains of industry (some well-known) than celebrities looked at the property. My mindset was that Thunderbird Lodge was a global property with the character and 'energy' to attract people from

all over the world and from all different lifestyles, including presidents, prime ministers, and royalty.

What unique challenges and opportunities does a property like Thunderbird Lodge present?

No matter who comes to Thunderbird Lodge, each leaves with a wonderful experience—there is the history, the story, the architecture, and the lifestyles of two very eccentric owners. We were uniquely challenged; everyone we touched had a different vision for the property. Government agencies were seeing stars in their eyes for public open space and threatened the 'soul' of the property with a plan to demolish the historic structures. But when one's heart is connected to the property, there are very few challenges, with the exception of price. At that time, the highest-priced residence in the United States sold in New York for \$12 million and the Empire State Building had just sold for \$40 million. Our offering price was \$60 million. Nevada was very proud of this property and as I reached out to all of Nevada, many unique offers appeared including the possibility of a land exchange. In my mind, this property is so rare it could be worth any price. Once we felt the essence of the property, sixty million seemed low for such a huge piece of one the most precious places in the world. The opportunities are unlimited.

In a transaction brokered by the American Land Conservancy and others, Del Webb purchased the estate in 1998 to give the land to the U.S. Forest Service in exchange for government land outside of Las Vegas on which Del Webb would build homes. How did this come about as opposed to a private sale?

This was a very favorable time to acquire environmentally sensitive lands so developers could expand their Las Vegas strategies. When this was happening, we had two other private offers on the table. This was great as it made sure the number one placeholder had to perform or lose the



Jack Dreyfus

opportunity. When I think back, Jack Dreyfus's ownership actually preserved the entire east shore of Lake Tahoe. Jack's story about his acquisition from George Whittell's estate is fascinating.

You and Jack Dreyfus ultimately became friends. What was he like and what stories can you share?

Jack's very dear friend was former Secretary of State, William

Rogers. I would speak with either Jack or Bill two or three times a week. These two men were amazing with their insights. At one point, we had an all cash offer, funds verified in U.S. Treasuries, yet the source of the funds could not be traced. Bill and Jack stated, "Shari, at this stage in our

lives, we are not going to chance ruining our reputations for any amount of money—tell the gentleman we are not willing to sell to him."

Jack did not stay at Thunderbird Lodge very often as he thought the boulders held too much energy for him. He loved his Zephyr Cove residence.

Each year, I would travel to New York to visit Jack. He would tell me some of the most amazing stories. For the most part, Jack was a very shy man. A Mark Twain fanatic, he would recite many Twain quotes during the course of our conversations. He knew his many gifts (founder of the Dreyfus Fund, champion

golf and tennis player, head of the New York Thoroughbred Association to name a few) were given to him so he could help those who needed it the most. He founded a charitable medical foundation that changed many lives. But in his heart, he just wanted to be a hobo—to jump on a train and travel the rails. And so, he named his thoroughbred farm in Florida, Hobeau Farm.

How do you feel about your contribution to a process that eventually saved this historic property?

I have a very deep connection to Thunderbird Lodge. It took five years from beginning to end to sell the property. Many tiers of potential ideas for the property were always swirling around, some

very disheartening to me. It takes a special soul to reach into the depth of Thunderbird Lodge and both George Whittell and Jack Dreyfus felt its significance. I felt this too. I am very proud to have participated not only in preserving Thunderbird Lodge, but also for having the opportunity to not let money sway the game. As it turned out, despite the best intentions of the American Land Conservancy, Del Webb, UNR, USFS, and others involved in the original transaction, the entity which most nurtured the life of Thunderbird Lodge is the present Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society.

What would you say to our community about the importance of preserving Lake Tahoe's historic treasures?

In today's world, materialism has taken a front and center role. If one was to realize how life existed and the importance of "being a human being" in harmony with nature at Lake Tahoe, then one realizes the importance of preserving our historic treasures. It is not about developing for material wealth; it is about developing our minds to be filled with joy and radiance that the Lake Tahoe spirit offers us. This brings about joy, health, and success in a totally different realm.

In conclusion, how would you summarize your role in preserving Thunderbird Lodge?

From beginning to end, Chase International Realty opened the door for unlimited potentials. Many people contributed to a final outcome that for some time was not what we believed to be the highest and best use of the property. The key was that we had to balance the different players (including Jack) to keep the train on the track. To be honest, it wasn't until you, Bill, took the helm to direct the long range vision of Thunderbird Lodge that the property began a return to its authentic self. At Chase International, we are all so grateful to be a partner, supporting the future of what I call "one-of-a-kind in the world—Thunderbird Lodge."

Today, Chase International Realty is a true Thunderbird Partner-in-Preservation. Shari Chase invites each of you to join Chase International Realty in supporting Nevada's only historic house museum estate at Lake Tahoe and saving these treasures for future generations.

"As it turned out, from the American Land Conservancy, Del Webb, UNR and USFS, the greatest entity that nurtures the life of the Thunderbird Lodge is the present Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society."

TOURS



THUNDERBIRD TRIVIA

At Thunderbird Lodge, the bathrooms located in each of the master bedroom suites featured the latest innovation in 1937: the hot shower closet instead of a bathtub.



THUNDERBIRD TOURS

Peek into the 1930's lifestyle of the rich and famous—waterfalls, winding pathways, a card house with poker stories, and secret tunnels—are just the beginning. Escape into a world that only a privileged few have dreamed of, and be entertained by the legendary story of George Whittell's Thunderbird Lodge, known as Lake Tahoe's "Castle-in-the-Sky."

This unique castle tour with panoramic Lake Tahoe views can be enjoyed through public tours by land or water, private group tours, corporate outings, or our Hands-on-History school tours.

All public tours are docent-guided and are scheduled from mid-May through mid-October. Private group tours of 15 or more may be scheduled year-round.

Please note: Reservations are required for all tours. Self-guided tours are not available. Smoking is not permitted in the buildings, on the grounds, or aboard shuttle buses and watercraft. Children must be at least six years old. Comfortable walking shoes are required and a warm jacket is recommended. There is no public boat access to Thunderbird Lodge.

PUBLIC TOURS BY LAND

Public tours by land operate mid-May through October from the Incline Village Crystal Bay Visitors Center located on the north shore of the lake. Tours are offered Tuesday through Saturday departing via shuttle from the Visitor's Center to the Thunderbird Lodge. Tickets are \$39 per adult and \$19 for children ages 6 to 12.

Incline Village Crystal Bay Visitor's Center is located at 969 Tahoe Boulevard, Incline Village, Nevada. For reservations by phone, call 1-800-GO-TAHOE or 1-800-468-2463. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. All major credit cards are accepted. Visit www.activitytickets.com to make land tour reservations online.

TOURS FOR SCHOOLS AND YOUTH GROUPS

Thunderbird Lake Tahoe offers field trips year-round, weather permitting, to elementary through high school children. Through our Hands-On-History program, students are introduced to the life of George Whittell, his pet lion Bill, the architecture of the lodge, and the preservation of the surrounding public land. Using their souvenir Thunderbird pencils, children fill out pages in their activity books designed to reinforce what they learn during the tour. Our Hands-on-History program also follows Nevada's Social Studies curriculum standards for 4th and 5th grade students. In order to contribute to the education of Nevada and California children, Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society is pleased to offer a discounted tour rate of \$5 for children in grades 2–12. To schedule a school or youth group field trip, email Susan@ThunderbirdTahoe.org or call 775-832-8753.

WINE AND CHEESE TOURS—NEW!

Make Friday afternoons a special start to your weekend with a Thunderbird Wine and Cheese Tour. Offered at 2:30 p.m. every Friday in July and August, this tour is a unique opportunity to share the stunning lakeside view with family and friends. You'll be greeted by the Curator in the Old Lodge, tour the estate, and finish with light appetizers, non-alcoholic beverages, beer, and wine served in the Dreyfus Room. Extra time is allotted on this tour for you to leisurely stroll the lawn and garden areas of this historic estate at the water's edge.

This adult-oriented tour is \$100 per person and a portion of the proceeds is considered a charitable contribution. All tour participants must check in at the Visitor's Center prior to departure via shuttle for the Thunderbird Lodge. For reservations, call 1-800-GO-TAHOE or 1-800-468-2463. Must be 21 to be served alcohol.



THUNDERBIRD TRIVIA

Thunderbird Lodge was constructed with a modern weather station. Current conditions were reported to Captain Whittell by instruments installed in his bedroom walls.

*Visitors describe Thunderbird Lodge
as simply magical.*



PUBLIC TOURS BY WATER

From Lake Tahoe's South Shore

The historic 40' cruiser *Tahoe* departs from Zephyr Cove Marina in South Lake Tahoe Tuesday through Saturday at 10 a.m. This four-hour experience includes continental breakfast, a narrated cruise along the lake's shoreline, the Thunderbird tour, and a picnic lunch on the grounds of the estate. Ticket prices are \$139 for adults and \$59 for children ages 6 to 12. Call Cruise Tahoe at 775-230-8907 or visit www.CruiseTahoe.com.

From Lake Tahoe's North Shore

Action Water Sports provides boat departures on the north shore from the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe hotel dock each Thursday through Saturday at 9 a.m. The four-hour tour is \$120 for adults and \$90 for children 6 to 12, and includes beverages, fruit, pastries, the Thunderbird tour, and a cruise by the prestigious, exclusive homes of Lakeshore Drive. Call Action Water Sports at 775-831-4386 or visit www.awsIncline.com.

By Kayak from Sand Harbor

For the more adventurous, kayak the pristine east shore waters from Sand Harbor to Thunderbird Lodge with the Tahoe Adventure Company. Tour includes kayak rental, paddle lessons, gear, snack, deli lunch on the beach, and the Thunderbird tour. Offered every Tuesday and by appointment June–September. Cost is \$125 per person with a two-person minimum. Tours start at Sand Harbor State Park. A \$12 State Park parking fee applies. To book a tour call 530-913-9212 or visit www.tahoeadventurecompany.com.

TOURS FOR PRIVATE GROUPS

Thunderbird is available year-round for private group tours. Car clubs, spousal activities, service organizations, church groups, senior centers, large families, wedding parties, non-profit organizations, and government agencies have all enjoyed educational and entertaining visits to Lake Tahoe's Castle-in-the-Sky. Ticket prices are \$39 per adult and \$19 for children ages 6 to 12. Children under six years of age are permitted on private group tours by prior arrangement only. There is a \$500 minimum charge for private group tours.

By advance arrangement, private group tours may arrive on foot, by personal automobile, bicycle, shuttle bus, helicopter, boat, kayak, seaplane, or nearly any kind of transport imaginable.

Call 775-832-8752 or visit us at www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org to make private tour reservations for your group.

2014 RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to Suzi and David Etheridge—*Thunderbird Cruise & Wine Luncheon Raffle Winners!*

With the fabulous Whittell Waterfalls refurbished and once again flowing, we turned our attention to a new preservation project—the Thunderbird Boathouse. To start this \$275,000 preservation project, the Society offered a raffle drawing for a unique Thunderbird experience...a tour of the historic Thunderbird Estate, a *Thunderbird Cruise*, and a private wine luncheon for six.

David and Suzi have been members and supporters of Thunderbird preservation projects since 2004. Whether attending a Winemaker's Dinner, buying an auction item or purchasing a raffle ticket, we can always count on them for their support.

A big thanks to everyone who participated in the raffle. We are one step closer to meeting our \$275,000 goal to complete the Boathouse Restoration project!





WINEMAKERS' DINNERS



THUNDERBIRD TRIVIA

Most of the property's trash was burned in the incinerator. There is a story that in the mid-1950s, a chef was dumping trash and was mauled by a black bear and died a few days later in a Reno hospital.

2015 WINEMAKERS' DINNER SERIES

Mark Your Calendars...

SUNDAY, JULY 12TH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

FLAGSHIP MEMBERS-ONLY DINNER
FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH

There is no place like Thunderbird Lake Tahoe, and no fundraisers quite as unique as our Winemakers' Dinners! These events offer an experience like no other...breathtaking Lake Tahoe views, castle tours, glorious gardens, and terrace sunsets! Did we mention exclusive auction items, and wine drawings? And, let's not forget California's finest wines paired with gourmet preparations by the region's celebrity chefs.

Thunderbird Lake Tahoe hosts a public Winemaker's Dinner on the second Sunday of each month from July through September.

Each dinner provides many ways for you to be philanthropic while experiencing Thunderbird's magic. Make a donation and be entered to win a bottle of each of the evening's wines. Raise your hand to win an exclusive Thunderbird auction item, bid on silent auction items, or purchase select wine at a discount price.

All dinner proceeds go to Thunderbird Lake Tahoe's preservation efforts. This year's targeted preservation project is the refurbishment of the *Thunderbird* Yacht engines. Your participation can help us raise the \$250,000+ needed to restore the engines.

Reservations required; early reservations are recommended as seating is limited to 90 people per dinner. For more information call 775-832-8752 or book online at www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org.

HEIDI HUBER PHOTOGRAPHY



CANDICE IVANCO PHOTOGRAPHY

Wineries, chefs and more details available January 2015 at www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org. Previous chefs and wineries highlighted at Thunderbird's popular Winemakers' Dinners:

Cliff Lede Vineyards
Elyse Winery
Martin Estate Winery Miner Family Wines
Rombauer Vineyards
Palmar Vineyards
Pride Mountain Winery
Whitehall Lane Winery
Honig Vineyard & Winery
Laird Family Estate
Ehlers Estate
Arietta Wines

Chef Douglas Dale ~ Wolfdale's Cuisine Unique
Executive Chef Tom Marrin ~ Season'd Catering Tahoe
Executive Chef Stanley Miller ~ Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe
Owner & Chef Charlie Soule ~ Soule Domain
Chef-Owner Mark Estee ~ Campo
Executive Chef Jason Friendly ~ Six Peaks Grille,
Resort at Squaw Creek
Lone Eagle Grille Chef Rick Koplau ~
Hyatt Regency, Lake Tahoe

THUNDERBIRD EXPERIENCES & OTHER AUCTION ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR BIDDING PLEASURE

| RARE SCOTCH TASTING, THUNDERBIRD CRUISE & STAG'S DEN DINNER | PRIVATE SUMMER GAZEBO WINE LUNCHEON & TOUR |
JARVIS THUNDERBIRD PHOTOGRAPHY | DIAMOND VAULT JEWELRY | MAGNUM OF WHITEHALL LANE CABERNET SAUVIGNON |
CHARCUTERIE LUNCH AND RESERVE CABERNET VERTICAL TASTING AT WHITEHALL LANE WINERY IN THE VIP CLUB ROOM
| PRIVATE COOKING & WINE PAIRING CLASS AT THUNDERBIRD LAKE TAHOE | CAMPO WINE DINNER |

HAPPENINGS

Experience the magic of Thunderbird Lake Tahoe and help save historic national treasures. Both members and non-members are invited to enjoy a unique array of fundraising events year-round.

The non-profit Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society hosts these happenings in order to raise the funds needed to preserve and support the historic Thunderbird Lodge and *Thunderbird* Yacht.

Please visit www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org for the latest happenings!

RESERVATIONS 775-832-8752

or email Reservations@ThunderbirdTahoe.org

To join our members-only events, see page 23 for membership information.

KILEY HOWARD



WINEMAKERS' DINNERS

*July 12th, August 9th, and September 13th
Sundays at 5 p.m.*

Reserve an intimate evening at Thunderbird Lake Tahoe where you'll have the opportunity to meet the winemaker, enjoy a fine meal, tour a castle, and catch a sunset. This unique Lake Tahoe estate hosts the magical pairing of California's finest wines with Tahoe's celebrity chefs. Chat with the winemaker in an intimate setting at our VIP Reception for a classic Thunderbird experience. Make your reservations early for all three dinners held the second Sunday of each month July through September. Limited to 90 guests.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC & ALL THUNDERBIRD LAKE TAHOE MEMBERS.
PRIORITY RESERVATIONS GIVEN TO THUNDERBIRD CAPTAIN,
COMMODORE, ADMIRAL & CASTLE CLUB MEMBERS.

THUNDER THURSDAY RECEPTIONS

*Thursdays 5–7 p.m.
July through September*

Savor summer evenings at Lake Tahoe every Thursday at the historic Thunderbird Lodge. A dazzling array of gourmet hors d'oeuvres, and fine wine and beer will be served while you bask in a summer sunset from the Gazebo or Old Lodge Terrace. We've invited a variety of artists, entertainers, and winemakers to make each week a unique experience. Thunder Thursday is the perfect time to show off the Thunderbird Estate to your friends, or to see and be seen before dining along Lake Tahoe's North Shore.

BY INVITATION TO MEMBERS ONLY: CAPTAIN, COMMODORE, ADMIRAL & CASTLE CLUB MEMBERS AND INVITED GUESTS.



IMAGE ANGELS

IMAGE ANGELS



THUNDER DE MAYO CELEBRATION

Thursday, May 7th, 2015, 5–7 p.m.

Fiesta at Thunderbird Lake Tahoe! Margaritas, mariachi music, and your favorite south-of-the-border hors d'oeuvres spice up this celebration of Mexico's heritage. Kick off the summer with your compadres where the views are priceless. Tours are offered and sombreros are optional.

BY INVITATION TO MEMBERS ONLY: CAPTAIN, COMMODORE, ADMIRAL & CASTLE CLUB MEMBERS AND INVITED GUESTS.



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Thursday, July 2nd, 2015, 5–7 p.m.

Celebrate America's birthday at historic Thunderbird Lake Tahoe. By invitation-only to members, in 2015 we're shaking things up with a good old-fashioned Clambake—the classic New England feast that really lets the good times roll! More details to follow in the invitation.

BY INVITATION TO MEMBERS ONLY: COMMODORE, ADMIRAL & CASTLE CLUB MEMBERS AND INVITED GUESTS.

CHAIRMAN'S RECEPTION

Thursday, September 10th, 2015, 5–7 p.m.

Incoming Thunderbird Board Chairman, Pete Sturtevant, hosts an intimate evening at Thunderbird Lodge to thank you for supporting the charitable programs of Thunderbird Lake Tahoe. There will be a brief program accompanied by a selection of fine wine, beer, and gourmet hors d'oeuvres.

BY INVITATION TO MEMBERS ONLY: EAST SHORE, LIGHTHOUSE, CAPTAIN, COMMODORE, ADMIRAL & CASTLE CLUB MEMBERS AND INVITED GUESTS.



A THUNDERBIRD HOLIDAY GATHERING

Thursday, December 10th, 2015, 5–7 p.m.

It's our favorite time of the year when we invite our Castle Club and Flagship members to ring in the holiday season with good cheer. A decorative end to the season is toasted with special wines from the Thunderbird cellars paired with festive cuisine. It's our opportunity to toast our thanks to the major supporters of our preservation efforts!



Reservations are required for all Happenings and Events.

For reservations, please call 775-832-8752 or email Reservations@ThunderbirdTahoe.org. Unless otherwise indicated, attendees must be at least 21 years of age.

WEDDINGS

A full-page photograph of a wedding couple in a stone castle setting. The bride is in a white gown with a long veil, and the groom is in a dark suit. They are standing on a stone path, with the groom leaning in to kiss the bride. In the background, a large stone building with a steep roof and a tall chimney is visible, surrounded by trees and a clear sky.

Situated at water's edge, Thunderbird Lake Tahoe offers an unparalleled standard in romantic elegance. Built in 1936 for the wealthy eccentric, George Whittell, Jr., this Tudor-style estate is extraordinary in its secluded setting of unspoiled beauty. Imagine celebrating your wedding ceremony, reception, or rehearsal dinner while enjoying sweeping panoramic views of the sparkling mountain lake, against the magical backdrop of an historic mansion.

Every event at Thunderbird Lodge is personal, and hosting only six to eight weddings each year maintains the exclusivity of this unique destination. Your charitable donation to the Preservation Society will last a lifetime, allowing future generations to enjoy this Lake Tahoe gem.

A wedding at Thunderbird Lodge transports your guests back to Captain Whittell's era where they experience the Castle-in-the-Sky through docent-guided tours of the buildings and grounds. A 600-foot underground tunnel leads to the boathouse, home to his magnificent, one-of-a-kind 55' wooden speedboat, the *Thunderbird* Yacht. Charming stone pathways travel through dotted pines, into the fragrant gardens, past the majestic waterfall—all part of the event site of your dreams. The lakeside lawn offers a front row seat to the beauty of a sunset fading into evening as you raise your glasses to toast the history of times past, and the future of your new life together.

For more information about weddings at the Thunderbird Lodge, please visit our website at www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org or call 775-832-8752.

CORPORATE EVENTS



Set the stage for rave reviews from clients, colleagues, and honored guests when you choose the Thunderbird Lodge as your next meeting destination. Nestled on the east shore of Lake Tahoe, this private location offers unique options for your most important gatherings.

For larger groups up to 90, the lakeside Lighthouse Room makes a striking statement with floor to ceiling windows, allowing natural light throughout the day or providing a spectacular Lake Tahoe sunset into the evening. The Dreyfus conference room provides an intimate setting with lake views, and is perfect for executive group meetings for up to 20.

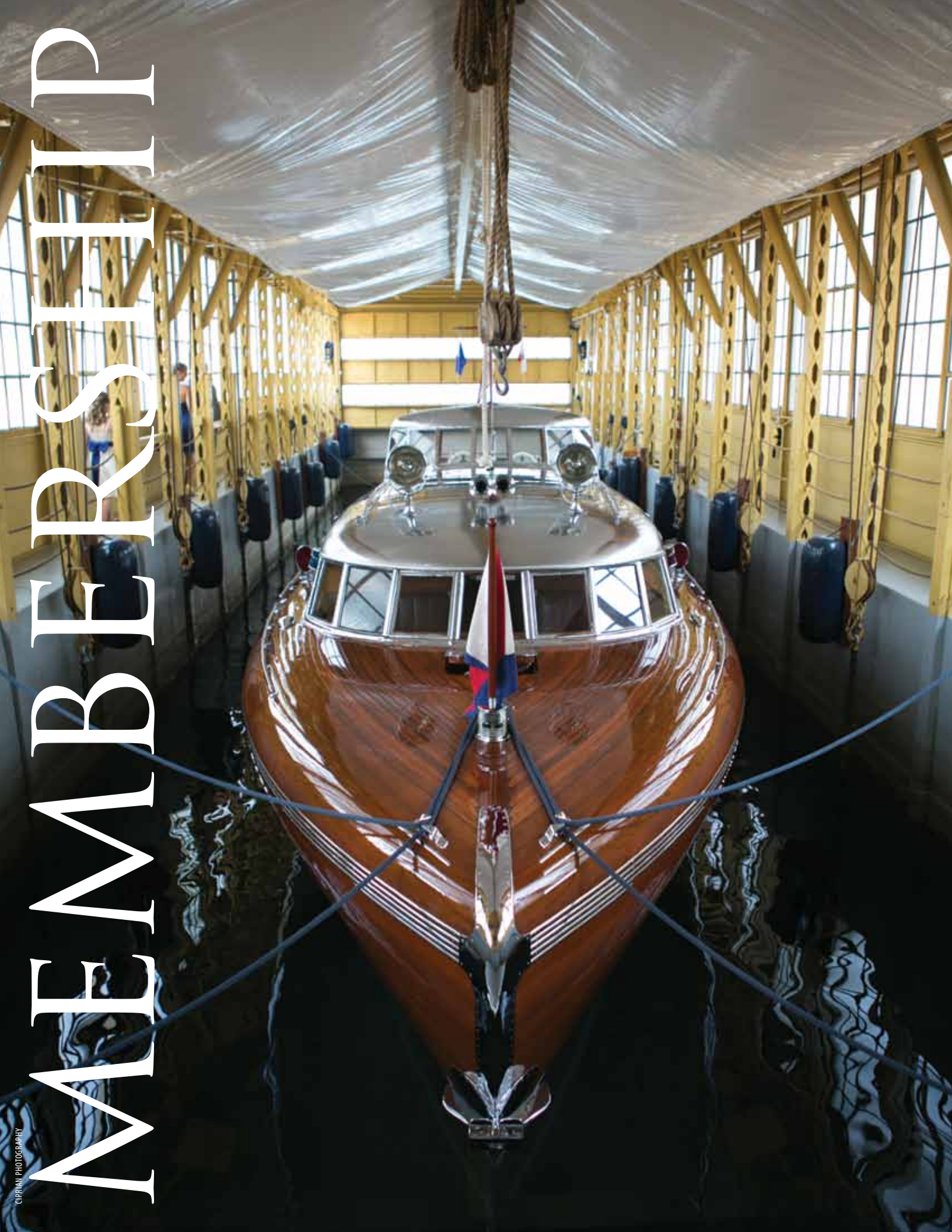
Lawn receptions for up to 150 invite your guests to stroll among the landscaped gardens and rejuvenate their souls with a view Mark Twain described as, “the fairest picture the whole earth affords.”

Whether relaxing with cocktails on our Old Lodge terrace, or enjoying a gourmet meal inside prepared by our personal chef, Thunderbird provides a memorable and unique setting for your corporate needs. For a singularly distinctive experience, start planning your next meeting or special event at Tahoe’s best kept secret, Thunderbird Lake Tahoe.



When Terry and Carol Clapham first pulled their vintage Hacker runabout, *Bootlegger*, alongside *Thunderbird*, the larger sibling dwarfed the other. Nothing, however, dwarfs the generosity of the Clapham family over the years. As one of the first families to commit to Thunderbird Lake Tahoe’s Flagship membership program, their gifts continue to underwrite the operations and programs of Thunderbird Lodge and Yacht. Terry is even coaching granddaughter Emily (age 3) to be the future captain of the *Thunderbird Yacht*! Terry and Carol—thank you so much for being an integral part of the Thunderbird Lake Tahoe family.





MEMBERSHIP

JOIN OR RENEW

Your Thunderbird Lake Tahoe membership underwrites the preservation and restoration costs needed to keep Thunderbird Lodge and Yacht open to the public and sustain the Thunderbird educational and Hands-on-History programs. With compelling benefits and memberships starting at just \$100 per year, joining or renewing your membership annually is as enticing as ever.

In addition to the individual level benefits, Thunderbird Lake Tahoe members receive Museum Store discounts, the *Thunderbird Preservation* magazine, members-only event invitations, newsletters, and monthly email bulletins. We offer membership levels for all budgets or the flexibility to make a donation at any level that is comfortable for you.

FRIENDS LEVELS

\$100 Gatehouse
\$250 Duesenberg
\$500 East Shore
\$1,500 Lighthouse
\$2,500 Captain

FLAGSHIP LEVELS

\$5,000 Commodore
\$10,000 Admiral
\$100,000 Castle Club

Members at the Flagship Levels gain access to invitation-only dinners, Flagship events, and unique Thunderbird experiences. The Castle Club is open to individuals, families, and foundations making a legacy gift of \$100,000 or more to the Society's permanent Preservation Fund.

Please join or renew your Thunderbird Lake Tahoe membership online at www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org or call 775-832-8752. Sign up today to take advantage of the members-only events this coming season!

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

Thunderbird Lake Tahoe welcomes corporate sponsorships of cash, products, or services allowing businesses to support specific preservation efforts. In appreciation for your sponsorship, you will receive defined benefits based on the level of sponsorship, a corporate spotlight on our Wall of Fame showcasing your company logo, and key membership privileges.

Corporate sponsorship level benefits include private receptions, estate dinners, yacht cruises, and special events. We invite your business to become a Thunderbird Lake Tahoe sponsor today. To discuss a corporate sponsorship call 775-832-8752 or visit us at www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org.

*Thunderbird Lake Tahoe receives no government support
and is funded entirely by gifts from friends like you.
We welcome contributions in any amount.*

*Thunderbird Lake Tahoe is operated by
Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society, a 501(c)(3) public charity.
Your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*



CANDICE NYANDO PHOTOGRAPHY



CATHERINE HALL STUDIOS



CATHERINE HALL STUDIOS

GIFTING



THUNDERBIRD TRIVIA

In 2013, the Preservation Society completed a \$300,000 restoration of the famous Whittell Waterfall, and the entire system of falls became operational for the first time since 1946.

LEGACY GIFTS

Like many non-profit organizations, the future of Thunderbird Lake Tahoe rests with its permanent Preservation Fund, or endowment. The Preservation Fund consists of major gifts received from individual donors, businesses, family foundations, private foundations, and donor-advised funds at community foundations. The Preservation Fund's corpus—or principal balance—is never touched; only the investment income the corpus earns is used for capital preservation projects for both the Thunderbird Lodge and *Thunderbird Yacht*.

To sustain preservation of these historic treasures, the Preservation Fund must grow to \$20 million. With thanks to the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation and individual donors, Thunderbird Lake Tahoe's Preservation Fund is at 25% of the goal.

CASTLE CLUB

Despite these difficult times, Thunderbird Lake Tahoe occasionally receives major gifts of \$100,000 or more to its Preservation Fund. These major contributors to the Preservation Fund are automatically inducted into the Thunderbird Castle Club.

And matching gift opportunities are presently available. Other donors have pledged to match \$100,000 and higher contributions to the Preservation Fund dollar-for-dollar.

There are many ways to structure a Castle Club contribution including multi-year gifts, transferring unappreciated stocks or securities, gifting an I.R.A. distribution, establishing a matching gift campaign, granting funds from a family foundation or donor-advised fund, or making a bequest from your estate.

MAKING A BEQUEST

Bequests allow you to make a meaningful gift to Thunderbird Lake Tahoe without jeopardizing your family's security. A bequest can be cash or tangible property, or can be a percentage share of your estate or a specific dollar value. Your bequest can be designated for general purposes, the permanent Preservation Fund, or for a specific Thunderbird Lake Tahoe program or preservation project.

Although you are not obligated to notify Thunderbird Lake Tahoe of your intended gift, doing so will allow us to appropriately thank you for your gift and keep you updated about our charitable works.

For more information about making a Legacy Gift to Thunderbird Lake Tahoe, please contact Chief Executive and Curator Bill Watson at 775-832-8755 or email Watson@ThunderbirdTahoe.org.

Thunderbird Lake Tahoe is operated by Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society, a 501(c)(3) public charity.

Your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



PETER SPAIN



MARK C. PAGE



Larry and Diane McComber volunteer their time as Thunderbird docents and have contributed to the Thunderbird Preservation Fund endowment, a permanent fund to save Thunderbird Lodge and Yacht in perpetuity. Larry says Thunderbird Lodge inspires him like "The magic of make believe." But adds, "It's not make believe, it's history. It's a testament to a unique period in Western history. It's how most of Lake Tahoe's Nevada shore escaped development and retains its natural beauty to this day." Diane chimes in, "The 90 minutes we're allowed as docents is barely enough time to tour the lodge and outline the life and times of George Whittell, Jr., the lodge's builder. Visitors who tour the lodge and hear the story are as captivated as we have been. How could one not support such a treasure?" We couldn't agree more, Diane.





PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING CHEF AUBREY KING TO THE THUNDERBIRD LAKE TAHOE TEAM!



I am thrilled to join the wonderful staff and volunteers associated with Thunderbird Lodge. I have always cherished the beauty of Lake Tahoe, and was lucky enough to have been raised just over the mountain in Gardnerville, Nevada. I grew up skiing, backpacking, and doing everything Lake Tahoe had to offer. But even then, food became my passion early on, and always was an essential aspect of my life. Not only its

nourishment, but the way it can be cooked, preserved, and spiced is so much fun!

That passion evolved into my career beginning with a Bachelor's Degree in Culinary Arts Management from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. In a rigorous four years, I achieved my Level I Sommelier by the Court of Master Sommeliers, and also had the fortunate opportunity to travel through France. Following graduation, my experiences included teaching front-of-house fine dining in Hyde Park's famous Caterina de' Medici restaurant.

Returning home to Nevada with my fiancé, we formed Butter+Salt, a luxury private chef company specializing in personalized menus, attention, and service. As Thunderbird's

new Culinary Program and Events Manager, I will partner with the event sales team, guest and celebrity chefs, and health and wellness experts to craft a dazzling array of educational culinary experiences for members and the public alike.

Thunderbird's 2015 culinary classes are available to our members and the general public. Limited to 10, each class provides a unique cooking experience, interesting wine or beer pairings, and unforgettable memories. Continuing Thunderbird's cultural education program, the gourmet themes offer elegant menus with local, farm-fresh ingredients from regional producers including organic farms, wineries, and breweries.

Please join us at one of our scheduled classes, or book a private Cooking Class at the historic Thunderbird Lodge. Class and booking information can be found online at www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org or call 775-832-8752.

Thunderbird Lake Tahoe is on Facebook so watch there (and our website) for exciting news about upcoming programs and events.

Aubrey King

CULINARY PROGRAM AND EVENTS MANAGER

THUNDERBIRD



LAKE TAHOE

VOLUNTEERS

As anyone who has an historic home well knows, old houses require endless hours of repair and maintenance. Built 75 years ago, Thunderbird Lodge is no exception. With only five full-time employees, the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society couldn't possibly maintain the estate, let alone offer tours and host special events, without our corps of volunteers extraordinaire.

Who guides thousands of tourists through the buildings and grounds each season? Volunteers. Who teaches school children about George Whittell and his contribution to Lake Tahoe? Volunteers. Who prunes, digs, plants, weeds, and waters the lodge's gardens? Volunteers. Who bartends, picks up glasses and plates, and helps with parking on Thunder Thursdays? Volunteers. And who steps up to strip paint, fix locks, and help carry heavy loads? You guessed it! Volunteers.

It sounds like a lot of work, but mostly volunteering at Thunderbird Lodge is a lot of fun. Our team of enthusiastic and responsible volunteers generally helps out from mid-May through October. Gardening takes place on Mondays, but otherwise, folks sign up for tasks that fit within their personal schedules.

Are you our next dedicated volunteer? We provide training, support, a name badge, and an opportunity to give your time and be involved. As a volunteer, you provide your own uniform—khaki or navy pants and a white shirt. You are also required to become a member of the Preservation Society at the volunteer level of \$50/year. The perks of volunteering at Thunderbird Lodge include time to enjoy a spectacularly beautiful place, interaction with like-minded folks, a place in our friendly "Lodge Family," and a chance to support the preservation of an historic Lake Tahoe gem. (You also receive a discount on museum store purchases—free of sales tax, too.)

Is your interest piqued? Please visit www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org to learn more. Click on the Volunteering tab to fill out a volunteer application.

GINNY LEWIS

*Certified Master Gardener
Volunteer Garden Coordinator*

A native of the Golden State, Ginny Aspent three years in England in the 1980s and relocated to Incline Village seven years ago. While abroad, she visited gardens in the UK, France, and Italy, joined the Royal Horticultural Society, and cultivated an interest in rhododendrons, heritage and antique roses, perennial plants and garden design. Since living at Tahoe, Ginny has focused on native and adapted plants appropriate for the sub-alpine environment.

Ginny's interest in the plant world started with her grandparents' nursery and florist shop and with the family fruit and nut ranch. Her house plant business in the 70s, her own gardens, five years volunteering in the Thunderbird garden, and the Master Gardener program at UNR have provided a great deal of experience. While Ginny's avocation is Horticulture & Gardening, her profession is Interior Designer. Her interests are art, architecture, interior design, and gardens. She loves to ski too!

We are so appreciative of Ginny's leadership and expertise. Thanks to her and the rest of the volunteer gardeners, the grounds at Thunderbird Lodge are more beautiful than ever!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joan Gibb, Chairman
 Tony Addario, Co-Vice Chairman
 David Olson, Co-Vice Chairman
 Steve Russell, Secretary
 Pete Sturtevant, Treasurer
 Anne Brockinton Lee, Director
 Michael Fischer, Director

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Bill Watson, Chief Executive and Curator

Lani Bonar, Programming and Grants
 Sue Bernheisel, Museum Store
 Susan Grove, Program Operations
 Aubrey King, Culinary Programs and Events
 Dennis Maloney, Buildings and Grounds
 Dave Marion, Webmaster
 Logan McDowell, Program Sales and Events

Barbi Mooberry,
 Program Marketing and Administration
 Lindsey Pastrell, Program Marketing
 Aaron Pearlman, Yacht Captain
 Mindy Shaw, Finance and Technology
 Dave Triano, Restoration Program Manager

Graphic Design: Kunder Design Studio
 Printing: CPC Solutions

SHOP IN OUR MUSEUM STORE

Jack Dreyfus purchased the Thunderbird Lodge in 1972. In the floorplan of his massive addition, the master bedroom took full advantage of a spectacular northern view of Lake Tahoe. Luckily for us, his bedroom—nicely remodeled in 2013—now serves as the perfect home to both a large display of Whittell artifacts and our cozy Museum Store.

With each visit to the lodge, be sure to enjoy a stop in the Museum Store. Browse through our wide selection of items which commemorate the lodge, the *Thunderbird* Yacht, and Lake Tahoe, in addition to a variety of handicrafts created by local artists. Or purchase online at www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org.

No sales tax on purchases. All proceeds support our preservation projects.

NEW! Due to repeated requests from museum shoppers, we added a cookbook in 2010, already in its second reorder. Now, acknowledging another frequent suggestion, we are pleased to offer our first Thunderbird Lake Tahoe calendar. Full of photos—past and present—celebrating George Whittell, Jr., the lodge, and his famous *Thunderbird* Yacht, this 16 month calendar goes from September 2014 to December 2015.



Along with the best seller, *Castle-in-the-Sky*, we offer a variety of photo books, CDs, and DVDs about the lodge and the lake.

LOGO APPAREL



We carry ever-popular apparel featuring the Thunderbird logo or the yacht. Select from a variety of styles and colors in both men and women's sizes.

Polos and t-shirts
 Pullovers and jackets

Fleece vests
 Hats and visors

GLASSWARE, GIFTS & COLLECTIBLES

Wine glasses
 Shot glasses
 Pint glasses
 Coffee mugs*
 Magnets*
 Keychains*

Wine openers
 Pour spouts
 Pewter ornaments
 Playing cards
 Leather jotters
 Pens and postcards

**New designs for 2014*



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Truckee
Squaw Valley
South Lake Tahoe
London

You Are Cordially Invited

19th Annual Lake Tahoe Luxury Estates Tour

Wednesday, June 24, 2015
10:00am to 5:00pm

Join us for a fabulous day touring some of Lake Tahoe's most prestigious properties for sale and get a rare glimpse into the luxury Tahoe lifestyle.

Would you like to have your home considered for the tour?

Please contact us for more information and for a private invitation to the tour.

Pat Gannon
775 588 6130
luxury@chaseinternational.com

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THUNDERBIRD LODGE
PRESERVATION SOCIETY
PO Box 6812
Incline Village, NV 89450

In 1936, when George Whittell built his "Castle-in-the-Sky," he invited his privileged guests to experience the magic of Lake Tahoe by enjoying his picturesque stone mansion, drinking fine wines, and cruising aboard his *Thunderbird Yacht*.

Today, you can enjoy these elite experiences through public tours, private and group events, fundraisers, Castle dinners, and *Thunderbird* cruises.

For private events, cruises, and dinners, call 775-832-8752 or visit www.ThunderbirdTahoe.org.

Public tours are Tuesday through Saturday, May to October. Call 800-GO-TAHOE (800-468-2463) for public tour information.

All tours and events support the historic preservation of the Thunderbird Lodge and Yacht.

P.O. BOX 6812
INCLINE VILLAGE, NV 89450
WWW.THUNDERBIRDTAHOE.ORG
775-832-8750



Lake Tahoe's Historic House Museum