



# The Motor Mouth

## An Oyster-o-Rama

*'Birds and bivalves and song, oh my!*



*Joni Bayler photo*

*Vintage early 'Birds shine brightly under a summerlike sun at the Perry's Belfair home on beautiful Hood Canal.*

There really weren't more classic Thunderbirds crammed all over every inch of available space at Michael and Christine Perry's Hood Canal beach house than there were oysters on the beach – it just seemed that way at first because the May event turnout was so huge.

That is until PSEB folks armed with buckets and gloves crunched their way 50 yards or so down the beach to where seemingly zillions of oysters resided, jam-packed on top of one another, each silently screaming, "pick me, pick *me!*" And we did.

We picked them by the bucket, doing our very best to decrease the surplus population of oysters on Hood Canal. And in addition to picking them to take home, we also slurped them up raw on the Perry's lawn with squeezes of lemon and/or sauce, and barbecued on the deck with cheese by Chef Cook --no, that is not a redundancy -- it was Doug Cook

**If it's June, it's the Kingston Car Show to benefit the American Cancer Society**

**Sunday, June 20**

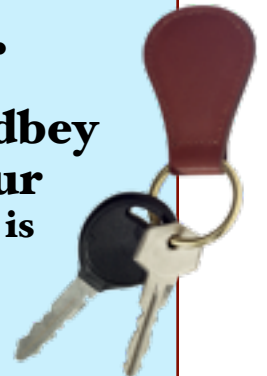
**Plus -- hosts Thom and Joni Bayler are serving up a barbecue at their Kingston home.**

*See Pages 8-10*

...

**July Whidbey Island Tour  
July 25 to 26 is almost full.**

*See page 6*



*(continued on page 3)*



## President's Message



For those of you who love oysters: Oh my, what a feast it was! What a day -- blue skies, sunshine and warm. Michael and Christine Perry went out of their way to make sure we had an opportunity to taste barbecued, bacon-wrapped and raw shooters. Shuck 'em yourself and pick as many as you wanted to take with you. We can't thank you enough; well-done! All in all we had another great turnout of Early Birds with 50 percent of our club attending.

On another subject, this is Judy Thorne's last issue of the Motor Mouth. It will be her 42nd consecutive issue. This includes three Gold Awards including a Gold Medallion Award. These awards are given annually to the editors of the individual

club newsletters by CTCI. Thank you so much, Judy, for all the time and effort you have so unselfishly put into making our newsletter one of the best! WELL DONE!

Welcome back to former members rejoining the flock, Doug and Lea Cook. Welcome new members Ray and Darlene Rohwein and we look forward to meeting Jay and Judy Vascondelos who joined in May.

Also, I want to thank Gordon Thorne, Jim Stott, Dennis and Pat Hasard for bringing their Little Birds to the Bremerton Voc Tech show on May 14.

Our outing this month will benefit cancer research and end up with a fabulous (we know) gathering at the Baylers' home in Eglon. Hope to see you all there! ---**Duane Niemi, President.**

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### THE MOTOR MOUTH

Vol. 17, No. 6 -- June 2010

Gold Medallion-winning publication of the Puget Sound Early Birds, chapter 81 of Classic Thunderbird Club International.

**Members are encouraged to submit articles written by themselves or others. All submissions are subject to editing and space available.**

**Deadline:** 20th of the preceding month

**Editor:** Judy Thorne  
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**Our Mission:** To encourage and promote the preservation, admiration, ownership, enjoyment and restoration of the 1955, 1956 and 1957 Ford Thunderbirds.

**Web site:**  
[www.pugetsoundearlybirds.org](http://www.pugetsoundearlybirds.org)



*(Continued from page 1)*

who cooked them. Chef Michael gave lessons in shucking and slurping to the bivalve challenged, who soon caught on.

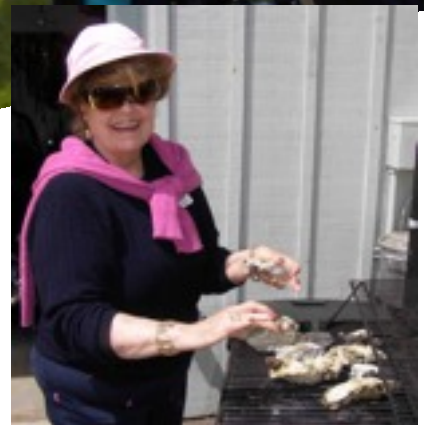
And the Saturday sun shone on, on a delightful May day.

It began for most with a caravan of Birds swooping down from the north, and joined by another five Birds in a church parking lot waiting for them in Gorst. The north caravan sped by, waving but not stopping, forcing the church Birds into pedal-to-the-metal mode to catch up – which they finally did, providing a colorful necklace of jewel-like colors sweeping through Belfair and on down the picturesque North Shore Road on the western side of the lower canal.

At 12.7 miles after the last turn, or 12.1, or 13.4, depending on the vagaries of everyone's mileage indicator, we inched our way down the driveway to the beach where Chef Michael, now wearing his parking lot attendant hat, instructed each couple where to park, cramming in an unbelievable number of Birds, cheek by jowl and bumper to bumper.

We had barely finished climbing out of the Birds, when even more showed up, first Mike and Sandi Talbot, then Doug and Lea Cook, who had recently rejoined the club after a two-year absence, Bob and Martha Callard from across the water, and Phil and Cheryl McCurdy. The Perrys' property,

and that of their next-door neighbors, was turned into a T-Bird parking





lot, with 16 little classics.

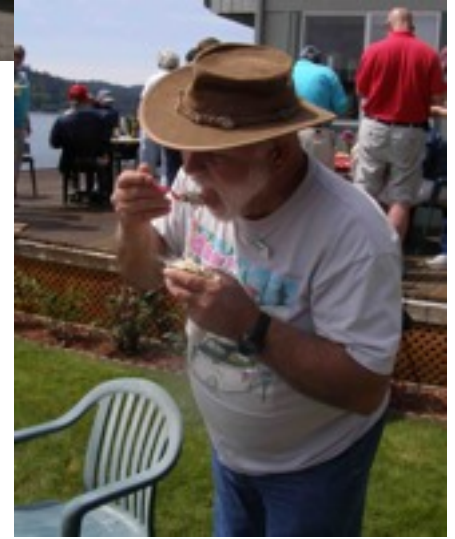
Cold beer and wine popped out of big coolers on the deck, Michael soon put Beverly Cooper to work, showing her how to grill whole oysters on the barbee, and hors d'oeuvres appeared for munching.

Socializing, sipping wine, shucking and slurping raw oysters then became the order of the day. As did consuming Chef Cook's cheesy barbecued oysters. And then it was time for lunch of - well, oysters. Specifically, Chef Michael's famous angels on horseback, grilled oysters wrapped in bacon, with endless platters brought out over and over again by Christine.

For those whose taste buds don't dig oysters, there were meatballs, cold grilled chicken and many good-looking salads, side dishes and desserts. We gorged on oysters and goodies while sitting on lawn chairs and at tables on the deck.



*Ray Vingo photo*



Enjoying the sunshine, the beach, the view, the great food and the camaraderie of friends, were the Austins, Baylers, Callards, Cooks (welcome

back!), Coopers, Dick Daugherty, Tanya Johnson, Liebenbergs, McCurdys, Niemis, Roupes, Rohweins, Ed Schlie and Carolyn Zimmerman, Stoners, Talbots, Thornes, Vingos, and Weilers. With 36 PSEBers in attendance, it was one of the largest regular event turnouts ever, exactly 52 percent of the club!

And then, finally, after we were all satiated, it was time for the long-awaited entertainment; those who attended the Perrys' 2008 oyster feed knew we were in for a big treat.



Maestro Michael was introduced, with appropriate fanfare, and serenaded us with a very funny song entitled "Grow, Mrs. Goldfarb," composed by Allan Sherman, to the tune of "Glow Little Glow Worm." After all the gorging we had done, it was fitting that the song was a lover's listing of the huge amounts of food his lady love consumed, and to exercise, he now ran laps around her ever-expanding circumference.

So, in fitting tribute to Maestro Michael and with apologies to just about everyone, the following song seems appropriate, sung to the tune of "Sing a Song of Sixpence":

**Sing a song of springtime  
And oysters by the sea,  
Six and thirty Birders  
Chowing down with glee.**

**And when the feast was over  
Our host began to sing,  
Wasn't that a lovely way  
To end a T-Bird fling?**

*--story and photos by Gordon Thorne*



*Our heartiest thanks to Michael and Christine for providing one of the year's most memorable days of good food, good friends and great cars!*





## Loganberry Festival overnight tour Whidbey Island -- July 25-26

This is almost the last call if you want to join T-Birders from our own PSEB, Totem T-Bird and Olympic Classic for the Loganberry Festival and overnight tour of Whidbey Island.

At press time, 17 little Birding couples have signed up for the whole event or for Sunday only, with Birders coming from as far away as Sacramento (Region 3 Director Chuck Korenko and his wife, Lani), Portland and British Columbia. The original block of rooms at the Coupeville Inn has been taken, but they've graciously given us four additional rooms.

**If you can't do the entire two days**, we'd love to have you join us for the day on Sunday for the Loganberry Festival and tours exploring Whidbey and Coupeville and a great cocktail party. You would still have time to catch an early evening ferry from Keystone back to Port Townsend or Clinton to Mukilteo.

The tour starts Sunday, July 25 with a scenic ferry ride to Whidbey Island from either Port Townsend or Mukilteo. We'll all meet in Freeland (directions to come) and caravan on side roads to the nearby annual Loganberry Festival, where our

cars will be on display next to the entrance – and the parking fee is waived for us. After ample time to explore the arts and craft exhibits, food booths, beer garden, watch a pie eating contest, have lunch and sample wines, we'll take a leisurely tour of the island's scenic back roads en route to the Coupeville Inn on historic Coupeville's waterfront main street.

**There will be free time to browse** the shops or look under the hoods, followed by our cocktail party, then a short stroll to the historic waterfront Toby's Tavern for dinner. Next morning, after an extended continental breakfast, we'll take a longer two-part tour of more side roads with great water views before saying adieu at historic Fort Casey and heading for our respective ferry terminals.

So come join us, meet our new Region 3 CTCI director, enjoy the festival, browse the fun and funky Coupeville and enjoy the many sweeping scenic views Whidbey offers. To make reservations, contact the Coupeville Inn at 800.247.6162. Ask for Billie or Darlene, and be sure to tell them you're on the Puget Sound T-Bird tour! For questions, contact Gordon and Judy Thorne, 253-857-0066, [gordon.thorne@gmail.com](mailto:gordon.thorne@gmail.com).



# The Road Ahead 2010

Mark your calendar now and join PSEB for great events throughout the year



<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Hosts</i>
<i>June 20</i>	<i>Kingston Car Show to benefit to benefit American Cancer Society followed by barbecue at the Baylers' home</i>	<i>Baylers</i>
<i>July 25-26</i>	<i>Loganberry Festival and overnight, Whidbey Island</i>	<i>Thornes</i>
<i>August TBD</i>	<i>Plans in the Works</i>	<i>Host needed</i>
<i>Sept. 11-12</i>	<i>Eatonville train ride, Northwest Trek wildlife and overnight</i>	<i>Talbots</i>
<i>Oct. 9 or 10</i>	<i>Port Angeles Dungeness Crab and Seafood Festival</i>	<i>Weilers</i>
<i>Nov. 14</i>	<i>Great Chefs of the Northwest</i>	<i>Johnsons</i>
<i>Dec. TBD</i>	<i>Christmas party/gift exchange</i>	<i>Austins</i>



# CAR SHOW FOR A CAUSE

June 20

a full day of fun  
RSVP by June 13

**Thom and Joni Bayler** have arranged for PSEB cars to exhibit together at the North Kitsap Father's Day Car and Motorcycle Show. There will be special undercover parking for T-Birds as long as you let the Baylers know to secure a place for your car.

**Proceeds from the show** go to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the show goes to 5 p.m. After the show, PSEBers will travel to the Baylers' home for a barbecue and (hopefully) a sunny outing on the waterfront.

**The following pages include a flyer about the car show and a pre-registration form.**

**If you can't make the car show, but are able to attend the barbecue, please do!**

Joni says that this NOT a potluck and asks that you RSVP promptly to let them know if you are attending the show and/or the barbecue so they'll know much food to purchase. They will furnish beer, wine, pop, water and coffee.

**RSVP to the Baylers at 360.638.1717  
no later than June 13**

**What to bring:** chairs for the show -- it's a long day and you'll want to sit with your friends and your car.

# FATHERS DAY CAR SHOW

**& MOTORCYCLE W/ARTS & CRAFTS**



*SUNDAY - JUNE 20th 2010*

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

KINGSTON LUMBER ANNEX @ BOND & 104



**BENEFITS: RELAY FOR LIFE  
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**



*\$15 TO PRE-REGISTER OR \$20 DAY OF SHOW*

*DASH PLAQUES TO FIRST 150 PARTICIPANTS*

*\$25 TO REGISTER A BOOTH AS A VENDOR*

*TROPHIES, 'SILENT AUCTION & MUSIC for ALL'*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

**ROB OR CARLA**

**360-638-1600 OR 360-340-6971**

website:nkcarandmotorcycleshow



## REGISTRATION FORM

### North Kitsap Car and Motorcycle Show and arts and crafts show

We are awarding trophies for first, second and third places voted on by the public in addition to plaques awarded by a panel of judges. A limited number of dash plaques will be awarded by order of registrations submitted.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Make \_\_\_\_\_  
 Model \_\_\_\_\_  
 Year \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Car or Motorcycle Club \_\_\_\_\_

Fees are \$15 to pre-register a vehicle and \$20 the day of the show.  
Fees are \$25 for vendors to set up their own booths.

Please make checks payable to The American Cancer Society.  
For more info, contact Rob and Carla Cetnarowski at 360.638.1600 or 360-340-6971 or e-mail: [carlacetnarowski@yahoo.com](mailto:carlacetnarowski@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.nkcarandmotorcycleshow.com](http://www.nkcarandmotorcycleshow.com)

Registration fee is non-refundable  
Send to 7182 Bucklake Road N.E.  
Hansville, WA 98340

Registration fee \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donations \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total \_\_\_\_\_





# A Look Back at 1957

## High Style and Good Times

History looks back fondly at the 1950s as a memorable time in America's development. Riding a wave of unprecedented prosperity, Americans exuded an enthusiasm that pervaded popular music, the national outlook, and especially American cars.

Following 1956 auto sales that were off somewhat from record-setting 1955, the auto industry managed a modest rebound for '57. In this season of the tail fin, those oh-so American rear-end appendages soared bigger and taller, but had not yet reached their zenith.

Chevrolet cleverly face-lifted its cars to a shape destined for near-classic status – as close as any post-war car has come to that exalted level, at any rate. At the time, however, the restyled Fords drew just as much attention. But years passed before the '57 Chev, the '57 Corvette and the '57 T-Bird each became widely recognized as the crown jewels of the Fifties.

Most domestic cars switched to 14-inch wheels, several offered six-way power seats, and luxury models came with elec-

tric door locks. Studebaker-Packard plopped a supercharger atop its V-8 engine – a pop-up device unseen since the final Kaisers, and far more potent. Chevrolet and Pontiac adopted fuel injection for their hottest engines, while Pontiac also used

tional Auto Show, the first since 1940, was held at New York's new Coliseum in late '56 to showcase the longer, lower '57 models. Vice President Nixon spoke at a banquet during the show – the first one to be televised.



An average car sold for \$2,749, whereas the average worker now earned \$4,230 yearly, and median family income neared \$5,000. Teachers stood a little below the overall average, and factory workers might expect to pull in about \$2.08 an hour.

triple carburetion, as did Oldsmobile. Ford experimented with a supercharger as well, putting a Paxton-McCullough on about 200 of its T-Birds, out of a total run of 21,380. At \$500 extra, it was an expensive option – but thanks to the supercharged "F" Bird, Ford won 26 factory-sponsored stock car races to Chev's 21.

Stung by criticism of Detroit's escalating emphasis on horsepower and performance, the Auto Manufacturers Association banned factory-sponsored racing, and resolved to eliminate a focus on speed from auto advertising. The 42nd Na-

The Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the first space satellite, into orbit, followed by Sputnik II, which carried a dog. But America's Viking satellite, meanwhile, exploded prior to takeoff at Cape Canaveral.

It was a fine year for Hollywood, with such popular movies as "Twelve Angry Men," "The Bridge on the River Kwai," and "Gunfight at the O.K. Corral." Liz Taylor, then 24, took her next husband, producer Mike Todd, age 54. The Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants both moved to California.



Raymond Burr's "Perry Mason" appeared on TV for the first time, as did "Wagon Train" and "Leave It to Beaver," along with James Garner in "Maverick." Half of the top shows were westerns – but Dick Clark launched "American Bandstand" to capture the attention of teenagers after school and it become wildly popular.



In music, the Everly Brothers had a hit with "Bye, Bye Love," but their humorous ditty, "Wake Up, Little Susie" was banned in Boston. Jerry Lee Lewis had a huge hit with "Whole Lot of Shakin' Going On," and so did Little Richard with "Lucille." Debbie Rey-

nolds (a long-time classic T-bird owner) hit the pop charts with her rendition of "Tammy," and Harry Belafonte scored with the "Banana Boat Song" ("Day-O").

Parents worried about Asian flu, kids played with Slinky and Hula Hoops, and Sony issued a pocket-size transistor radio. Ford's director of engineering research warned that production of natural petroleum might "peak out" in the next two decades, but few believed that fuel supplies would ever be threatened, and that gasoline would always be available – and cheap.

One-third of new cars were purchased by middle-class families, earning \$5,000 to \$7,000 per year, and more than two-thirds of them were bought on credit, as thousands of suburban families tried to "keep up with the Joneses." Moderate-income



families were even more likely to buy cars on time, as did nearly 90 percent of young shoppers. Not even the prospect of increased credit, though, would help the auto industry through the rocky economic seas that lay immediately ahead.

*--Above excerpts taken from "Cars of the Fabulous '50s", with thanks to author James Flammang and the auto editors of Consumer Guide.*



## Let's Celebrate!!

### June Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Charline Austin
- 3 Archie Matthew
- 5 Thom Bayler
- 12 Pat Howard
- 15 Les White
- 18 Forest Stoner
- 26 Gordon Thorne

- 1 Bob & Judy Lowe
- 11 Ted & Charline Austin
- 14 Barry & Linda Birch





## A Farewell Letter from the Editor

Dear PSEB friends -

In 2005 while I was at a conference, Gordon attended his first PSEB meeting. That night he called me at my hotel and raved on and on about the wonderful people he'd met, how much they made him feel welcome, and the great fun he'd had being with them. A month later, we attended the Region 3 meeting in Olympia, and I had the opportunity to meet some of the PSEB members. It was then I found out that he hadn't exaggerated a bit.

You all are very special - warm human beings who instinctively know how to make a person feel at home and comfortable; this is the essence of graciousness. In my five years in the club, I've come to know and love some remarkable women and men. What sets you apart from other car clubs is that you can talk about something - anything - besides just cars. Thank God!

Because I am so fond of you and respect you all for your many talents, senses of humor, and unique personalities, it has been a privilege for me to document our great club and its members and activities through the pages of the Motor Mouth.



However, as much as I enjoy the actual, physical work of putting together the newsletter, I'm finding that I have increased business and family activities that impinge on the time I have to do it. And so this issue is my Swan Song, my 42nd opportunity to tell you and the world about our unique T-Bird club.

I don't think you all realize how much the Motor Mouth has been a joint venture for Gordon and me. In addition to writing 99 percent of the event stories and taking photos at every event, he has written countless other stories and short items, gathered tech articles and faithfully read each issue of the 15 clubs' newsletters we exchange with - always in the hope of finding a gem to pass along to you. I am forever grateful to him for adding so much to each issue.

Bob Callard has kindly offered to wear yet another PSEB hat as your new editor, and this should mesh nicely with his work as webmaster. Gordon and I will continue to assist him with photos and some writing as needed. Thank you, Bob!

And many thanks to all of you for your kind words and ongoing support. It means the world to me. You all are the greatest!

With love,

*Judy 4*

**WELCOME!**

*to PSEB's newest members*

*Jay and Judy Vasconcelos  
of Gig Harbor  
with a 1957 Starmist Blue T-Bird*

## PSEB Birds score awards at Gig Harbor car show

More than 250 classic and collector cars showed up last month at the second annual Gig Harbor Uptown Car Show despite the on again, off again drizzle.

Two of PSEB's members entered their Baby Birds, and our club went two for two with awards!

Dennis and Pat Hasard placed second in the Classic category with their beautifully restored red 1955, and Jim Stott won third place in the Dream Machine category with his 1956 raven beauty.



The Hasards had left to dodge the raindrops prior to the awards ceremony and when contacted, they were both happy and surprised to learn they had won an award. Pat noted that having a '55 or '56 had been a fantasy for her ever since she saw that the woman who was her high-school freshman teacher had a '56 Bird and realized that it was a cool car for a woman as well as a man.

The show was a 100 percent benefit for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, with everyone volunteering their time, talent, prizes and refreshments.

***Congratulations to Jim and Darlene, Dennis and Pat for a fine showing!***

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## SOMETHING TO KNOW ABOUT THERMOSTATS

By Gil Baumgartner, CTCI authenticity chairman, and obtained from: [www.ctci.org/membership/Gilsgarage/Thermos tats2.htm](http://www.ctci.org/membership/Gilsgarage/Thermos tats2.htm)

Thermostats allow the engine to reach efficient temperature as quickly as possible. They are designed to open at a present temperature. A 160-degree thermostat opens at approximately 160 degrees; the 180 opens at approximately 180 degrees.

Once the thermostat opens it has no control over the engine temperature unless the operating temperature drops below preset.

In my opinion, the 180-degree thermostat provides the most efficient operating temperature for the Ford Y Block engine. It allows the



**Part #4367**

engine to reach operating temperature fairly quickly, which helps eliminate condensation and the black spatter on the rear bumper and trunk.

I have always considered the

Robert Shaw Thermostat made by Cooper Standard to be one of the best. It is a brass thermostat similar to original equipment and has the largest opening available. This type of thermostat is now being offered at Mr. Gasket and can be purchased at Summit Racing, Auto Zone and other parts stores that carry Mr. Gasket products.

Do not order by application; instead order by Part Number 4367. It is packaged for Mopar Big Block Engines, but works perfectly in the Thunderbird and other Ford Y Block engines.



# September Experience

When was the last time you took a historic train ride through the forests of our beautiful state or had a piece of the world's "BEST" homemade blackberry pie or saw wild moose, bear and many other wild animals up close and personal?

If your answer is "never" or "a long, long time," then you won't want to miss our Sept. 11 overnight outing

We will leave Parkland (near Tacoma) at 10:30 a.m. and have a leisurely drive to Eatonville for lunch at Jabino's Italian restaurant. We highly recommend their Italian sausage sandwich (a bit spicy), which is to die for!

After lunch we'll take a beautiful, scenic drive of about an hour to our hotel, the Nisqually Lodge. After checking in, we are off to the Mount Rainier Scenic Railroad station in Elbe where we will board about 3 p.m. There is plenty of good parking at the station. After returning from our 1 1/2 hour train ride through the forest at the foot of the mountain, we'll go back to the hotel to freshen up. There is no formal cocktail party planned but I'm sure our inventive members will make do somehow.

Up the valley is the Copper Creek Inn, a quaint little log cabin restaurant surrounded by mammoth evergreens that dwarf everything in sight. Warning: The restaurant has only **one** coed potty so plan ahead before you leave the hotel! Parking here may be tight as the total restaurant property is small. Why the Copper Creek Inn, you ask? Without a doubt they have the best food in the county. Not only that, they have the world's best blackberry pie! You can't leave without trying it. We suggest you split a piece with your partner.



Breakfast the next day is at 7:30 a.m. next door to the lodge at the Rainier Overland restaurant.

We will leave for Northwest Trek promptly at 9:30 a.m. and should arrive about 10:30. It is important that we go through the entrance gate together so we can have our own tram to tour the park. After you have taken this 1-hour tram ride, you are free to stay or leave -- this is the official end of the outing.

If you plan to go, you need to make your own reservations at the Nisqually Lodge by calling 360.492.5253. The block of 10 rooms is under the name of Puget Sound Early Birds/Sept. 11. There is a charge for the train ride (\$18/person) and entry fee to Northwest Trek (\$12.50/person). I have to send them full payment in advance.

--Mike and Sandi Talbot

**We will need your check for \$30.50 per person for the train ride and Northwest Trek NO LATER THAN AUG. 23**