

Moraga Movers Go to Fleet Week

Submitted by George Fisher and Chuck Treat



A good time was had by all

Photo submitted

The Moraga Movers kicked off its fall membership drive at the Moraga Commons Pear Festival on September 29. The 2008 application forms are available at the Hacienda Park office and La Sala or by calling the office at 376-6622. Applicants joining between October 1 and the end of December will automatically be members through 2008. Moraga Movers is dedicated to activities and needs for adults 55 plus and the nominal dues are tax deductible.

For those unfamiliar with some of the exciting activities offered to members, the Moraga Movers' Chuck Treat offers this account of a recent excursion:

Dottie Baker led fifty-five Moraga Movers and Lafayette Seniors to San Francisco for the Fleet Week Air Show finale, Bay Cruise and buffet on Sunday October 7.

Upon boarding The San Francisco Belle, a 295 foot long, four deck river boat replica, the crew led us to our reserved seating on the first deck where we enjoyed a buffet lunch. They kept our Mimosa flutes filled and

the ship's whistle sounded as we got underway at 2:30. The Bay was full of sailboats and motor craft of all types including the California Maritime Academy's Golden Bear, USS Jeremiah O'Brien, and FDR's yacht Potomac now restored and operating out of Jack London Square.

The Air Show started with a fly-by by Air Force Captain Russ Piggott, a Lafayette native and pilot for the USAF Viper West Coast Demonstration team flying an F-16 Fighter, and his 65 year old father, Lafayette resident John Piggott, flying in tight formation next to his son in his Russian Sukhoi Su-29 war bird. They made numerous passes right overhead. Next up was John Piggott in his Pitts Special biplane. The Pitts biplane is small but was easy to follow by its tail of smoke as Piggott performed acrobatics from just feet above the Bay surface to what I estimate was 5,000 feet or higher.

The Blue Angels, six Navy fighters with their C130 support plane then roared overhead and the grand finale was on. They put on a spectacular show of close precision flying while trailing red, white and blue smoke, first at high speed and then at low speed with landing gear and tail hooks down. Their signature aerobatic is flying straight up, make that vertical, and then rolling over to fly straight down as they trail smoke causing some of us to wonder if they will pull up in time. They do.

We arrived back in Moraga that evening thoroughly satisfied with our Fleet Week adventure. We vowed to return next year and all agreed that Dottie Baker had delivered yet another memorable excursion.

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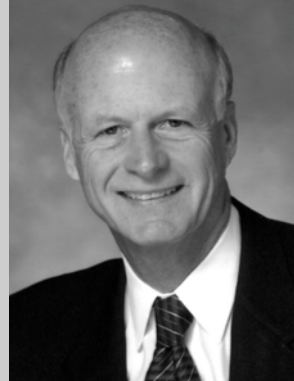
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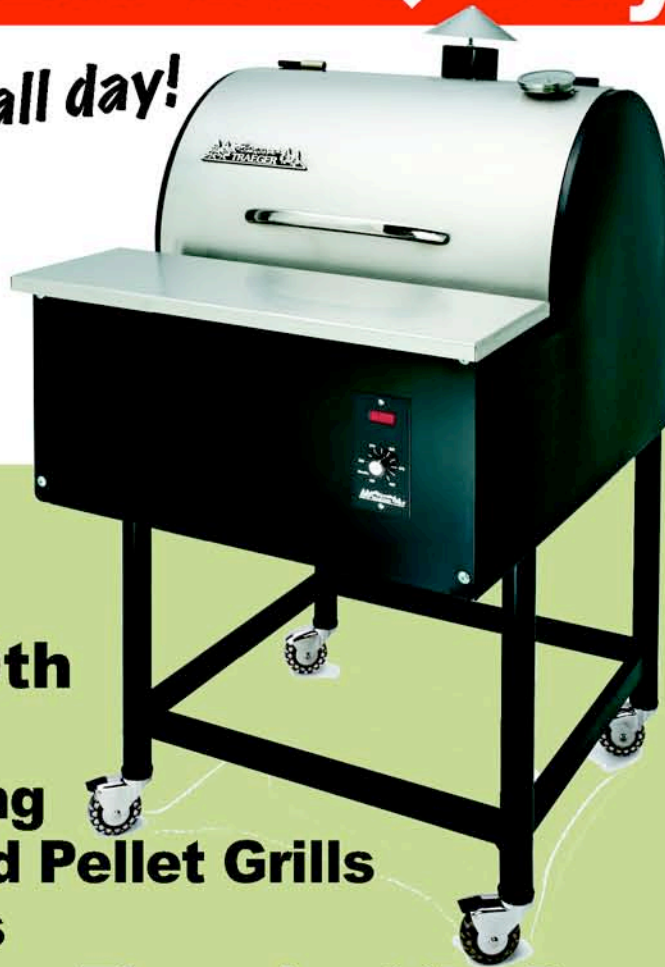


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