

DRIFTING BACK FROM 2007

JANUARY

30 Years Ago (January 1977)

A short bio published in the January *DRIFTER* for each of the 1977 SVR board of directors gave the skinny on president Harvey Cain, vice president Mike Willis, secretary Connie Farlinger, treasurer Kirk Bradford, activities co-chairs Georgene and Merle Dodd, tech and competition chair Larry Wilson, social chair Al King, publicity chair Dan Boone, membership chair Ted Fukushima, and *DRIFTER* editor Lettie Larson. This group included two past presidents and two first-year members of the club.

One hundred ten SVR members wine and dined January 14th at Posey's Cottage (corner of 11th & O Street) and enjoyed club officer reports during the meeting. The menu, coordinated by Phillip Marks, featured cracked crab, salad, and spaghetti, all for \$8.25 including tax and tip. Our honored guest was Tony Maslowski (of then San Joaquin Region, now Sequoia Region), the PCA National Public Relations chair and noted Polish-American storyteller. The crowd voted the Dumbkopf Award to a deserving Harvey Cain. He won this award several times during 1977.

At the annual January awards banquet, Sacramento Valley Sports Car Council presented 1976 autocross awards to SVR members Darrell Overstreet, Ted Colbert, Diane Colbert, Dale Newhouse, Mike Willis, Vicki Willis, Jack Samples, and Jim Ducoing. Patty Porsche, the SVR gossip snoop and *DRIFTER* columnist, said the January 16th Rally School by Phillip Marks and Rik Larson was a "terrific" event for the 19 participating rally teams. Ground school at the Voyager Inn was followed by a three-checkpoint rally (plus a DITY checkpoint). The top-three rally finishers were Ed and Bev Bayless, Michael and Mary Peters, and Jim and Joyce Karver.

20 Years Ago (January 1987)

A new year, a new board of directors for SVR: Jim McDade (President), Randy Vidmar (Vice-president), Stan Breyfogle (Secretary), Herb Hoover (Treasurer), Pam Harley (Social Director), Rik Larson (Competition Director), Bob Jacobson (Membership Director), Larry Wilson (*DRIFTER* Editor), Kirk Bradford (Past President). Like ten years before, SVR started the new year with a January dinner meeting at Posey's Cottage. Suzanne and Mark Plantz reported on the upcoming Tahoe Tour, and Sue McGlumphy spoke about the club's 25th anniversary party planned for March 21st. Randy Vidmar won the Dumbkopf Award because he left his car out of gear and had to chase it downhill (no damage), and because, after the Christmas party, he left the PCA banner at the restaurant. Another club member picked it up for safekeeping, but Randy, wanting to keep the matter quiet, ordered a replacement in time for the next meeting. We had two banners at that meeting.

The January 1987 *DRIFTER* was the first SVR newsletter produced by desktop publishing techniques and printed with an off-set press on slick paper. That issue featured a cover-photo of SVR president Jim McDade in his 914-6 at speed in an SCCA race at Riverside Raceway. Both the car and the track are history, now. Editor Larry Wilson used a Macintosh Plus computer with two floppy drives (no hard disk in a Mac Plus) with PageMaker version 1.2 and borrowed time on an Apple 300-dpi laser printer (with postscript) to produce camera-ready copy for the print shop.

J. Toney was rallymaster for "The Night of January 16th" SVR rally which, of course, was a Friday night rally on January 16th named after Ayn Rand's Broadway stage hit, "The Night of January 16th." Got that? From Food Circus to Woodland the long way, with a good turnout of rally teams, the routes were challenging for the 1st SVSCC event of the year. Top SVR finishers: Tracy James and Steve Hartzell took second in Expert Equipped class, and Jim McMahan with Linda Perry took second in Beginner class. SVR workers included Ron and Sally Boeck, Allen and Dolores Weddle, Fred and Fran Seigner, Helen Ashuckian, Stan Breyfogle, Don Harley, Dwight and Linda Mitchell, George and Nona Morley, John Turner, Don Rasmusson, and Rik Larson.

10 Years Ago (January 1997)

A new board bunch at the wheel of SVR for 1997: Rik Larson (President), Cyndee Peart (Vice-president), Barbara Borzymowski (Secretary), Shelagh Mackay (Treasurer), Bob Peake (Social Director), Dwight Mitchell (Competition Director), Helen Ashuckian (Membership Director), Mike Willis (*DRIFTER* Editor), and Greg Peart (Past President).

The January 9 Activities Planning Meeting at the Round Table Pizza on Greenback Lane featured the pizza and salad bar for only \$5.00 per person. And, what's more, the group of nearly 70 people was armed with information from over 50 Bob Peake survey forms returned by SVR members suggesting nifty improvements in the way of doing activities. Right. The Second Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange was scheduled for January 31 at Chuck's Grill in Folsom.

In the January issue of The *DRIFTER*, editor Mike Willis threw in a photo of SVR smiling faces holding 1996 end-of-the-year Zone 7 awards: Helen Ashuckian (1st place rally), Bill Winkler (1st place autocross class K AND Rookie of the Year, Phil Lawrence (1st place wash & shine concours), and Masuo Robinson (2nd place autocross class LI -- AND -- winner of the Zone 7 Instructor Shoot-Out).

FEBRUARY

30 Years Ago (February 1977)

Los Padres was the site of the February 4th dinner meeting. 128 SVR members and guests turned out for margueritas and enchiladas. Ralph Heath made a challenge to all owners of stock 356s to run against his Jaguar sedan at the upcoming "Son of Low Bucks" autocross.

Randy Blaesi got the Dumbkopf Award for being busted by the CHP while racing with El Presidenti.

The February 6th "Son of Low Bucks" autocross chaired by Mike Willis in Northgate off Main Avenue and Kelton Way had the usual entry fee of \$1.00 per run. Dave Neukom and Pat McLaughlin were chief event assistants. A huge turnout - 110 drivers participated. Worthies deserving special notice included Diane and Ted Colbert, Jim McDade, Darrel Overstreet, Al and Kathy King, Harvey Cain, Jim Boswell, Emmett Wilder, Gail Bates, and Connie and Rich Farlinger. Larry Wilson beat Ralph Heath in the side-bet stock 356 versus Jaguar sedan shootout. Beer at Lord Byrons closed the day.

"Rain Gods in Santa Cruz," was the name given by Paul and Gail Bates to their February 19-21 three-day/two-night tour to Bolder Creek. Couples in 18 cars embarked confidently knowing they were armed with Gary Waldsmith's great find of 10 gallons of wine. Among the group mentioned in the *DRIFTER* were Harvey and Linda Cain, Merle and Georgene Dodds, Art and Hortense Thornton, and Jim and Sheila McDade. After covering 225 miles in only 7 hours (lots of Porsche roads, only 11 miles of freeway), they reached Boulder Creek in time for wine drinking and a late dinner at Scopazzi's. Tours of Carmel, Santa Cruz or Capitola followed the next day. It rained a lot.

20 Years Ago (February 1987)

Big improvement for the February 12 dinner meeting at the Palomino Room - an actual program featuring a presentation by SVR-member Ken Smith (and staffer for the California Air Resources Board) on his visit to the Porsche factory and meeting with Helmuth Bott about the future of methanol-powered Porsches. Afterward, social director Pam Harley said it was standing room-only because the advance advertising said, "We Have A Program!" Ken said his visit included a hair-raising indoctrination of the Weissach off-road course in a Paris-to-Dakkar rally-prepared 911. "The Porsche test drivers are very good," Ken said, "and confident too, since we didn't wear helmets."

For the February 22 "Let's Go Fly A Kite" tour, co-chaired by Ray and Sara Clements, but led by Ken and Marcella Mitchell when the Clements had to bow out, the ad said, "Pack a lunch, and kite. We are headed for the Sonoma coast." And so it was, with a stop at General Vallejo's home and a tour of the gardens and house, and then to Fort Ross and kite flying, or wine drinking, depending on the wind. The group tried their hand at a tour questionnaire, but were skunked by Mike and Vicki Willis. After consuming wine and a picnic lunch, the air began to move, so Don and Pam Harley, Mark and Suzanne Plantz, Jim and Sheila McDade, and Pat and Larry Wilson tried their hand with the kites, but were skunked by Marv and Marie Smith with their French Army kite.

In the February *DRIFTER*, membership chair Bob Jacobson reported SVR membership stands at 289 regular members and 29 dual members. Bob Peake advertised a 1973 914-4 (2.0) with 48K miles for \$9,000, more than twice the amount asked by Greg Peart for his 1975 914-4 (1.8).

10 Years Ago (February 1997)

DRIFTER editor Mike Willis entertained his readers this month with a pithy description of new traffic laws created by the California legislature for 1997. Mike especially liked Senate Bill 1717 which required the DMV to automatically extend for 120 days a 90-day temporary drivers license for alien applicants whenever the Immigration and Naturalization Service is UNABLE to verify the applicant's legal presence in the U.S. of A. Mike didn't mention the bill author's name, but one can hope that term limits ended this worthy's political career.

The February 5th Dinner Meeting at Cattlemen's restaurant featured awards to the best him and her Western git-up. Social chair, Bob Peake, judged the entries. He said lots of him and her cowpokes showed up that night. Maybe it was the grub. Geehaa!

Rik Larson mentioned in this month's *DRIFTER* that Halloween costumes will be de rigueur for those attending the November Mendocino tour. "Those" thus far include Mike and Sue Ambrozewicz, Kirk and Linda Bradford, Ray and Sara Clements, Carol and Ira McKee, Kim and Jeff Kinder, John and Tina Murphy, Horace Searcie and Noreen Schnubnell, Gary and Alma Thompson, and John and Betty Meunier.

MARCH

30 Years Ago (March 1977)

The March *DRIFTER* featured a cover illustration of a Porsche 936 by Dave Marek (SVR member and later designer for the Honda car company). In his column, president Harvey Cain said registration for the 1977 Porsche Parade in San Diego was officially closed with over 700 applications received in the first two weeks of registration. Twenty-three SVR cars were accepted: Bates, Blaesi, Boswell, Bradford, Cain, deWitt, Dodd, Farlinger, Fielding, Freitas, Fukushima, Karver, King, Larson, Lewis, Overstreet, Sample, Schleh, Waldsmith, Weddle, Willis, Wilson, and Young. (Note: 7 more cars were accepted by Parade-time.)

The March 5 driving school, "Set-Up for '77" at Cal-Expo Lot A, chaired by Dave Neukom, included a 50-foot radius skid pad, a mini-course for teaching driving "lines," and a maxi-road-course to put it all together for fun. The early set-up crew included Mike Willis, Jack Samples, Pat McLaughlin, Ted Colbert, and Paul Baldarelli. They were joined later by Larry Wilson, John Wong, Rich Farlinger, and Al King. Registration was handled by Chrissie Neukom, June Samples, Kathy King, and Vickie Willis. Thirty students were given lots of attention by 11 instructors.

The March 6 Rally de Snake by Rik Larson led the group to the Red Lion Inn for a buffet luncheon and March SVR monthly meeting (you could also proceed directly to the buffet).

Twenty-five SVR teams ran the rally and Mike and Mary Peters won with a score of 9 points in the Equipped Class. The top three in Unequipped were Mike and Vicki Willis (50 pts), Candy and John Wong (79 pts), and Glenn and LaQuita Hills (116 pts). Workers included Paul Baldarelli, Lauri Adams, and Lee and Lettie Larson.

SVR had 22 drivers (16 men, 6 women) among the 167 entries for the March 19 Zone 7 season-opener autocross by Loma Prieta Region at Bay Meadows. Ted Colbert was the only local first-place finisher.

20 Years Ago (March 1987)

The March 8 tour to The Candy Store in Burlingame, chaired by Bob Calvert, did not feature tasty sweets, but rather classic cars. The Candy Store is a club of about 40 members having an old Packard dealership building where they may store their collectable cars. Of the 100 or so cars stored in the building, about 35 were placed on display for private, appointment-only, viewing by other groups of car enthusiasts. Seen in this guided tour were a Jordan Playboy, Isotta-Fraschini, Duesenberg, Ferrari, Bugatti, Jaguar, Hupmobile, and other examples of rare and perfect automobiles. Randy Vidmar added his knowledgeable commentary about the cars being viewed. After the tour, the group had a picnic lunch at Coyote Point.

On March 3, President Jim McDade received a very nice letter from Peter W. Schutz, CEO of Porsche AG, offering best wishes on behalf of "all of us at Porsche" for SVR's upcoming 25th anniversary. He said he would send a very special tin-plate to commemorate this occasion and added, "One thing that is even more exciting for us than Porsche cars are the people that drive them. Sharing the joys of our sports cars with members of Porsche Clubs is the fun part of our jobs."

SVR's 25th Anniversary Party, March 21, 1987 at El Rancho Hotel, was chaired by Sue McGlumphy and Pam Harley and advertised slide shows, guest speakers, memorabilia displays, special surprises, and dancing. And the evening didn't disappoint! President Jim McDade welcomed a large crowd including members from 21 of 25 past boards of directors -- Pat Wilson was acknowledged as the "earliest" having served as *DRIFTER* editor in 1965. Others, in chronological order, were: Larry Wilson, Ray Johansen, Connie Farlinger, Marv Smith, Fred Myeron, Merle Dodd, Georgene Dodd, Allen Weddle, Kirk Bradford, Harv Cain, Mike Willis, Vicki Willis, Stan Breyfogle, C.C. Craig, Kern Breaux, Dwight Mitchell, Linda Mitchell, Sara Clements, Bruce Westrup, Jack Samples, Ray Clements, Bob Peake, Jim McDade, Sheila McDade, Pam Harley, Don Harley, Dolores Weddle, Cyndee Nightingale, Karen Mangin, Sue McGlumphy, Bob Jacobson, Randy Vidmar, and Herb Hoover. The "earliest" PCAers present were Oran and Grace Crumley having joined PCA in October 1958. The oldest member present was Jack Samples who in the following week would celebrate his 80th birthday. Twenty-Year PCA membership certificates were presented to Ray and Frankie Engle, Ray and Mary Jane Johansen, Marv and Marie Smith, and Gerry and Madelaine Kiliany. Of course, the party continued until the hotel closed.

10 Years Ago (March 1997)

The March 1st Boxster tech session at Niello Porsche started at 9:30AM with coffee and donuts for about 50 SVR members thirsting for information about the new Porsche Boxster. Niello staff, Howard and Ron, were on hand to answer questions and show off features about the newly designed mid-engined car. Phil Lawrence couldn't get over the spoiler which automatically deployed at 75 mph and retracted at 45 mph. He said it was a bargain at \$40K. Fred Myeron said he was impressed with the cupholders, a first for Porsche. Bob Jacobson used his stopwatch to confirm the 12-second top-up erection time. All attendees received special posters and coffee mugs

Helen Ashuckian was in charge of the March 29th Great Search Kid/Adult Rally and she wanted adult/kid rally teams for this event. Calculators, computers, time-tables, etc. were banned. Thirteen rally teams (18 eager kids and 16 anxious adults) traversed a pastoral countryside through Florin, Sheldon, Sloughhouse, and Rancho Cordova under a beautiful sunny sky. Helen had four rally classes, based on the age of the kid. Top finishers in Class 1 (kids ages 8 & under) were: 1st - Eli and J. Toney, 2nd - Ryan and Tim Fleming, 3rd - Alicia and Tom Sansome. Top finishers in Class 2 (kids ages 9 - 12) were: 1st - Alese, Eric and Dave Asuckian, 2nd - Chris, Diana and Susan George, 3rd - Lyndsay, Lise and John Macri. Top finishers in Class 3 (kids ages 13 - 14) were: 1st - Lisa Wilner and Sally Boeck, 2nd - Lorin Melina and Steve Campbell, 3rd - Patrick and Jim Freeburg. And, top finishers in Class 4 (kids ages 15 - 16) were: 1st - Keven Wilner and Dolores Weddle, 2nd - Lauren and Jose Uranga, 3rd - Lauren Fernandez, Mary Ann Blount and Jim McMahren. Dead Last But Finished Class: Cameron Toney and Sandra Gillies. The team of Lisa Wilner and Sally Boeck were the overall winners. Workers included Shelagh Matthews, Allen Weddle, John Clever, Rik Larson, Dwight Mitchell, Ray Alamares, and J. Toney.

APRIL

30 Years Ago (April 1977)

CRAB 6 (April 15-17, 1977), with John and Candy Wong as chairs, had a huge turnout (125 cars entered by March 10 board meeting, including 60 SVR cars). Jerry Freitas, Paul Baldarelli and Mike Willis helped autocross chair Ted Colbert set up the long course in Lot A, Cal-Expo (last car ran at 6:10 p.m.). More setup help included Dave Neukom, Paul Bates, Jim McDade, Rich Burke, and Rich Farlinger. Larry Wilson and Harvey Cain babbled away as announcers. Tech was handled by Merle and Georgene Dodds, Barry Waltrip, Darrel Overstreet, Kern Breaux, and others. Double-shift course workers included Pat McLaughlin, Scott MacKay, Ray Seamans, Ted Fukushima, Rik and Lettie Larson, and Jack Samples. Joe Reitmier of Golden Gate Region was TTOD, again. At the banquet, Bob Schleh was the Voice of Crab and recognized dignitaries Mick Williams, PCA national president and Hank Malter, national treasurer.

The CRAB 6 Rally on Sunday, written by Rik Larson, covered 110 miles in four hours with, as it turned out, very tough route instructions (only 79 of 92 cars completed the rally). Best score was turned in by the Keith McMahan and Ned McDaniel team (108 pts). John Clever and Jim Pasha max'ed the first rally leg, thus finished fourth in equipped class (736 pts). Mike and Vicki Willis has second best score (359 pts) with Mike Doran and Kathi Koepsell close behind (360 pts). The team of Ralph Heath and Joyce Karver came in last (1,629 pts), but they FINISHED! National PCA Prez, Mick Williams, missed the last two checkpoints.

Non-CRAB news in the April *DRIFTER*: Members Hank Feenstra (E Production Speedster) and Darrel Overstreet (C Production 914-6) just completed SCCA Race Drivers School at Sears Point and will soon be featured at San Francisco Region SCCA road races. Pat Wilson was the only winner (Class 17) among 20 SVR drivers at the April 24th Zone 7 autocross at Fairfield.

20 Years Ago (April 1987)

Mark Plantz complained to event chair, Tandra Kroetz, that excessively slow speeds on the April 12 Nevada City Tour was giving his 911 engine a bad case of sludge build-up. "Nonsense," said Tandra as she set a deliberate path with all due haste to the first stop at a funky bar in Cool for the thirteen cars entered, followed by a tour of historical L.A. (lower Auburn). Gary and Claire Teske of the Shasta Region joined the tour along with new members Linda and Richard Dern and Dave and Janice Witteried. Ron and Sally Boeck led the group to Ron's favorite L.A. bar. Finally, the tour reached its destination - the American Victorian Museum in Nevada City, located in an old foundry that in 1878 actually cast a "variable impulse generator." "Wow!" - the crowd gasped. Refreshments at the Nevada City Winery capped a fine day and one Butte of a Tour.

A "First" for the April 26 SVR Autocross School -- event chair Kern Breaux actually drew the course-map BEFORE driving the truck and autocross trailer around the Cal-Expo parking lot to dispense the cones to outline the course. Twenty-six students and nine instructors had Lot A and the access roads to themselves for a full day of testing and instruction. Plenty of runs. Cindi Breaux wrote the *DRIFTER* piece on this event and confessed that she couldn't develop a "killer instinct" despite the best efforts of instructors Terry Zaccone, Dwight Mitchell, and Mary Ann Behrens. Cindi said she did well, however, in the "social part of autocrossing," this time at the Round Table Pizza parlor. At one point, all nine instructors got on the Lot A course at the same time with passing permitted only on the straights. Right. No PCA Safety Observers admitted to being onsite, thank you very much..

10 Years Ago (April 1997)

At the April 5th Rallye de Bus (actually, a big van), Rik Larson offered 18 people the opportunity to ride in one vehicle and see the lefts and rights of time and distance rallies. The next day, April 6th, the Zone 7 Spring Flowers Rally by SVR with Phillip Marks rallymaster provided 11 rally teams with a simple three-leg easy time and distance rally through the foothills, ending in a Rocklin pizza parlor. Top SVR finishers were Phil Lawrence and Kathleen Riley (3rd Beginners Class - 535 points), Richard Wetzel and Rik Larson (1st Expert Unequipped Class - 53 points), and Helen Ashuckian and J. Toney (1st Expert Equipped Class - 13 points).

The April 12th Car Care tech session hosted by Don Joe of Fabrication Specialties was a hit for 35 attentive SVR members and featured a demonstration of Meguire products to beautify the Porsche. The next day, April 13th, the Blackhawk Tour presented by Rich McGlumphy offered a choice photo-opp in front of the Backhawk Automotive Museum for early sign-ups before checking out the priceless one-of-a-kind and limited production cars on display. The afternoon was devoted to a picnic and wine tasting at Wente Vineyards and more agricultural inspection at Concannon Vinyards.

If you entered the April 19th SVR Autocross & Driver Education at Mather Field by Dwight Mitchell, you were also offered the evening ground school session April 16th at Niello Porsche. Entry was limited to the first 50 registrants to provide an optimum opportunity for students to learn car-control.

April 25-27, CRAB 25, The Silver Anniversary, should say it all. Now for the details. Greg and Cyndee Peart (SVR) won People's Choice at the concours. Tom Provasi (LPR) with a 74.317 seconds run edged out Larry Grove's (RR) 74.617 for TTOD at the autocross. Ralph Heath (SVR), was the top turtle with a run of 100.061 in his newly restored 356A Speedster. He was watchin' out for gravel. The best gymkhana result was tied: two minutes 28 seconds flat turned in by Hank Watts (LPR) and Nikki Duncan (SVR) and Tom and Sandy Provasi (LPR) beating the next fastest team, Roberta Kauk and David Piazzese (SVR) by five seconds. The all-conquering SVR team of Helen Ashuckian and J. Toney won the rally overall beating 45 other teams with a total score of 22 points

MAY

30 Years Ago (May 1977)

The May 6 dinner meeting arranged by Al King at Neptune's Table was also a celebration of SVR's 15th Anniversary and featured a large birthday cake. Kirk Bradford announced that John and Candy Wong had such a good time chairing CRAB 6 last month that they are now expecting an addition to the family. Geary Lyons got the Dumbkopf Award for running over the top of his 914 at a recent autocross.

The May 7/8 Zone 7 "High Speed Autocross School" chaired by Dwight Mitchell at Cal-Expo was a well-organized event with three driver- and worker-groups to share the workload. Mike Willis and Dave Neukom were instrumental in making the event run smoothly.

The May *DRIFTER* advertised a limited number of the nifty SVR 15th Anniversary polo shirt made available by Randy Blaesi with CRAB and SVR logos in dark blue on a gold shirt. Also, the Wes Lasher Porsche parts ad included "factory original 1600 normal pistons & cylinders at \$125 per set."

The mile-long parade of participants on the May 15 SVR Gold Rush Tour by Allen Weddle and Darrell Butner found its way to Placerville and then to Greg Boeger's Winery for a few sips with lunch. Picnickers were entertained with Marie Smith's "passionate wine stories." Then to Shenendoah Valley and D'Agostini's followed by Volcano where Jim McDade, Jim Hans, Allen Koche, Richard Wetzel and Jane Coons, and C.C. and Launa Craig took most of the poker prizes before dinner at the National Hotel in Jackson. Ted and Kaylaine Robinson and Paul and Gail Bates joined the group for dinner

20 Years Ago (May 1987)

According to Bill Newlin (Golden Gate Region), who wrote the *DRIFTER* article about the May 1-3, CRAB 16 weekend, "this year's CRAB event was one of the best ever, and co-chairs Dwight and Linda Mitchell did a super job." Beginning Friday night, with Bob Siles and Garth Mason running the excellent CRAB bar next to Cyndee Nightingale's registration operation, through the beer and brat closer on Sunday cooked up by C.C. Craig and Karen Mangin, the CRAB 16 team ensured non-stop fun all weekend for entrants in the 143 cars registered. Kern Breaux chaired the "Kern's Kinky Kowboy Kaos" funkhana with GGR-members Jeff Reitmeir and Stacy Lynd the horsey winners. Don and Pam Harley were historic co-chairs for the historic tour competition won by Diablo Region members Kirk and Carolyn Doberenz. Bill and Rebecca Newlin won first and second TTOD in the Bob Peake-chaired autocross. Voice of CRAB Kirk Bradford kept the banquet program moving featuring classy ceramic awards created by Tandra Kroetz, and a multitude of door prizes scrounged up by Ken and Marcella Mitchell. Redwood Region member Stan Michelman chaired the REEBOX dance marathon which nearly gave Jim McDade a cardiac arrest for only second place. Diablo Region member John Clever drove solo and won Rik Larson's rally through the Delta wearing a T-shirt he got from Randy and Marcy Vidmar at the CRAB 16 Goodie Store.

The 4th annual Grand Island Mansion Tour, this time May 17, by Allen and Dolores Weddle started at Shari's Restaurant on Florin Road and proceeded as a mirror tour, using the levee road on both sides of the Sacramento River, to the Delta country and a champagne brunch on the terrace of the Grand Island Mansion. With parking in front of the Mansion reserved for Porsches, photo opps were offered to many. Eighty PCAers in 35 cars and two boats participated this year - the Steve Taggarts and the Joe Reitmeirs added a new dimension to the tour arriving by boat. Fred Siegner also celebrated his birthday.

Fourteen SVR members participated in the May 31 Zone 7 autocross at Pleasanton Fair Grounds hosted by the Diablo Region: Greg Peart, Cyndee Nightingale, Rich McGlumphy, Kern and Cindi Breaux, Bruce Westrup, Dwight and Linda Mitchell, Ray and Sara Clements, Sue McGlumphy, Jack Samples, and Pat and Larry Wilson. Jim Pasha was event chair and came up with a controversial track layout for the 123-driver entry-field that featured ONLY right turns (8 of them), and permitted third gear two times per lap.

10 Years Ago (May 1997)

Allen and Dolores Weddle's May 4th Champagne Brunch Tour with 20 Porsches in tow visited the Wine and Roses Country Inn on a hot day and the menu included homemade pastries, fresh fruits from the valley, fruit cobbler, fresh baked breads, cheeses and meats, scrambled eggs, ham, sausages, bacon, quiche, crepes, green salads, salmon, shrimp, and of course the traditional champagne. John and Tina Murphy wrote the recap *DRIFTER* article on this one with John probably writing the incomprehensible part about a flying opossum encountered by Deb and Dan Catherwood and Ron and Sally Boeck during their CB-conversation about whether Merlot was an okay wine. The smart ones were June Samples and Fred Seigner who arrived earlier and greeted the group while sipping blissfully at a shaded table bearing chilled champagne in the grassy parking area.

The May 10th Brewery Tour and Picnic, chaired by Jim McMahan and Neil Pearl, took the group to the Sierra Nevada Brewery and Bidwell Mansion in Chico, but the best part was the event raffle prize: a case of Sierra Nevada. Jeff Kinder arranged the May 14 Wednesday evening Tire Technology tech session with America's Tire Store on Sunrise and Yokohama Tire Co. as hosts.

Jose Uranga chaired the May 18th SVR Charity Car Show at the Pavillions Shopping Center. The Pavillions contributed \$300 to the Mustard Seed School, the event's beneficiary. Nineteen Porsches, including 356, 911, 928, 944, C4, and Boxster models, were on display and a "people's choice" format was used to determine the two best cars. After 111 votes cast during the day were counted, the 1960 356B Roadster of Ray Alamares was the winner and the new Boxster of Ray Gin came in second. Both Rays received nice wine basket prizes.

Phil Lawrence entered his Green Machine (911) in the May 25th Diablo Region-hosted "12th Annual Auto Enthusiast All Porsche Wash 'N' Shine Concours" in Danville and came away with the Best of Show award. The organizers said his car epitomized wash and shine principles: a well maintained car, not all original, but pleasing to look at.

JUNE

30 Years Ago (June 1977)

The June 3 dinner meeting, arranged by Al King at Joe & Dodie's in Folsom, featured all-you-could-eat delicious barbecued ribs, so 80 people showed up with bibs in hand. The Dumbkopf Award did not go to El Presidenti this time, but to Kathy Koepsel for her failure to find the site of a recent autocross.

On June 5, SVR held the season's first SVSCC Championship Autocross at Cal-Expo with Al King and Pat McLaughlin as event co-chairs. Sixty-three SVR workers were led by Ted Colbert (course layout), Kathy King (registration), Rik Larson (timing), Chrissie Neukom (7-Up truck), Jack Samples (pre-grid), Mike Willis (course workers), and Larry Wilson (tech). Thirteen SVR members finished in the top three of their class. Jerry Freitas led a three-car SVR sweep of A Stock class with Jack Samples and Ron Cavallo second and third. Kirk Bradford and Ted Colbert finished first and second in B Stock. Larry Wilson and Paul Baldarelli finished first and second in D Stock. Diane Colbert and Kathy King finished first and second in L Stock. Pat Wilson led a three-car SVR sweep of M Stock class with Lori Owyang and Bev Bayless taking second and third. And, in B Prodified, Jim McDade beat Kam Matichak (240Z) and Lew Nickell (Lotus Elan) to win the class. Tech workers included Jim Boswell, Arnold O'Shield, Eric Riedel, Jim Bonney, John Lewis, Ron Cavallo, Merle Dodd, and Mike Wilson.

The June 11/12 Hell Of A Good Time III by Sierra Nevada Region provided a ribs barbecue at Tahoe North Shore on Saturday and a Zone 7 autocross at Stead Air Base on Sunday. SVR drivers gathered four 1st place finishes (Connie Farlinger, Class 27; Rich Farlinger, Class 11; Pat Wilson, Class 17; and Larry Wilson, Class 1), three 2nd place finishes (Jim McDade, Class 15; Vicki Willis, Class 22; and Kerry Creasy, Class 5), and three 3rd place finishes (Paul Bates, Class 15; Ted Colbert, Class 11; and Mike Willis, Class 6).

20 Years Ago (June 1987)

The June 13/14, Zone 7 Autocross weekend at Cal-Expo's high-speed Lot A also featured a Saturday night pool-side Italian Buffet (arranged by Pam Harley from Que Pasta!) at the home of Dwight and Linda Mitchell. Kern Breaux chaired SVR's autocross day. Course setup workers included Kern, Dwight Mitchell, Rich McGlumphy, Stan Breyfogle, Rik Larson, Greg Peart, Larry Wilson, Kirk Bradford, Mike Willis, and Lee Coleman. Other workers were Cindi Breaux, Tamra Kroetz, Sue McGlumphy, Herb Hoover, Jack Murray, Bob Schisler, Ken Mitchell, Bruce Westrup, Bob Burton, Nick Stubbs, and Dave Witteried. A new spa-stuffing record of 47 people was set Saturday evening at the Mitchell's pool-side spa.

Entrants in 24 Porsches enjoyed the June 27/28 Lake Tahoe Tour chaired by Mark and Suzanne Plantz. The tour wended its way through Placerville to Highway 88 and a rest stop at

Silver Lake. Then a visit to the turn-of-the-century Ehrman mansion before arriving at Timber Cove Lodge on the beach at Lake Tahoe for champagne, hors d'oeuvres, and the usual SVR Tahoe Olympic Games. Mike Willis was one of the up-the-hill tour leaders and, after a U-turn with a half-dozen Porsches in tow, managed to get back on course after being lost. Bob Peake, one of the gentle organizers, urged "athletes" not to get emotionally involved during the "games." Those doing especially well at this were Cindi and Kern Beaux, Ken and Marcella Mitchell, Steve and Karen Taggart, Kirk and Linda Bradford, Greg Peart and Cyndee Nightingale, Dwight and Linda Mitchell, Herb and Jan Hoover, Bob and Bev Jacobson, and Larry and Pat Wilson. The costume theme for the Games was "The 60s Beach Boys." Kirk Bradford wowed everyone by wearing a Friendly Sammy Seal Swim Ring over plaid jams and a Hawaiian shirt, with high-topped basketball shoes and day-glow green colored underwater goggles. Most everyone recovered on Sunday morning sipping coffee from their souvenir ceramic cups created by Tambra Kroetz.

10 Years Ago (June 1997)

The June 7 SVR Driver's Ed and Autocross at Mather Field, chaired by Bill Winkler with help from Masuo Robinson, also included a Thursday evening ground school at Niello Porsche for all students. As before, entry was limited to the first 50 students. At \$20.00 per student, it was a steal!

This month PCA joined the internet-age according to the announcement in the *DRIFTER*: "PCA now has a website on the internet. The site is under construction. There is membership information with a 'regional' map showing the various regions in PCA." The June 11 Dinner Meeting was held at the Old Spaghetti Factory, Hazel and Hwy 50. Hank Woods was the perseverance champ this month. He broke the clutch cable in his 911 as he pulled out of the driveway heading for the June 29th Zone 7 Concours at Parts Heaven in Hayward. Undeterred, Hank continued on his clutchless way, won his class in the concours, purchased a replacement cable from Parts Heaven and installed it in their parking lot, and then returned home without breaking a sweat.

Several SVR members entered the June 15-21 PCA Porsche Parade in San Antonio. J. Toney was there to run the rally with Willie Williams of Carrera Region (they placed 2nd in the equipped class). Rik Larson was there also to run the rally with John Clever of Diablo Region (they placed 4th in the equipped class). Mark Smedley was a judge in the concours event. Larry Wilson was there to conduct the regional newsletter editor workshop and to handle the annual newsletter awards ceremonies during the Monday evening concours and national awards banquet. The big news here was that *DRIFTER* editor Mike Willis received a well-deserved second place newsletter award in the always-tough Class 4 for regions with 350 to 649 members. June Samples and Fred Siegner were there on vacation in their motorhome (aka movable bar) and dispensed libations for those who needed refreshment from the humidity.

JULY

30 Years Ago (July 1977)

The July 15th Canned Heat Rally, chaired by Phillip Marks, was intended as a warm-up for the Parade rally with lots of sneaky tricks. Among SVR entrants, Jim and Joyce Karver finished second in expert class, Lauri Adams was 12th in beginner class, and Allen and Delores Weddle were 8th and Mike and Vicki Willis 9th in expert unequipped class. Workers included Rik and Lettie Larson, Richard Wetzel, Jaqueline Marks, and Pat and Larry Wilson.

The July 17 Buffet Luncheon/Meeting at the Red Lion Inn was, for some, preceded by a Hare & Hound Rally co-chaired by Ed Bayless and Jim Boswell. Awards for the rally went to John and Donna Lewis (first), Mike Doran and Claire Wycoff (second), and Randy Blaes and Kern Breaux (third, and a tough pair to draw to). Tony and Eve Maslowski were special guests at the luncheon, and Tony described the PCA national board meeting he attended in Juarez, Mexico.

The July 24-30 22nd Porsche Parade in San Diego drew thirty SVR cars and many members got a nifty award. Allen Weddle won a speeding ticket while traveling with the "slow group" to Parade. Jim and Nancy Bonney got the best prize - a trip to Germany and tour of the Porsche factory. Three SVR teams trophied in a convoluted, 6-hour, 12-leg rally; Rik and Lettie Larson (2nd overall, 2nd Equipped Class, 353 pts.), Jim and Joyce Karver (3rd Unequipped Class, 1350 pts.), and Ted and Diane Colbert (7th Unequipped Class, 1506 pts.). While the organizers tossed the second and 12th rally legs after receiving \$200 in protest fees, other misdemeanors were not corrected, thus the home-town award for overall. The autocross was no less contentious with tire and other protests. Pat Wilson had fastest time in the women's Class 21 but lost first place at the awards banquet when a guy mistakenly assigned to her class received the award (and he accepted it!). Two nights later, that was corrected, but not easily. Other award winners were Larry Wilson (1st, Class 1), Fred Myeron (3rd, Class 2), Paul Baldarelli (2nd, Class 4), Mike Willis (4th, Class 5), Clint deWitt (1st, Class 9), Ted Colbert (2nd, Class 13), Rich Farlinger (4th, Class 13), Geary Lyons (3rd, Class 14), Al King (6th, Class 15), Nancy Myeron (3rd, Class 22), Vicki Willis, (2nd, Class 25), and Diane Colbert (2nd, Class 33). Paul Baldarelli won a trophy at golf, and Darrel Overstreet won a second-place trophy for his crumbly 924 rendition in the sand-castle contest at the beach. And, up the coast a bit, what was the skinny at Black's Beach, you ask? Better ask Jim or Joyce Karver.

20 Years Ago (July 1987)

According to Sally Snoop in the July *DRIFTER*, Jim McDade was working on his golf game in preparation for the July 11th SVR tournament when she heard the breaking news that he shot 80. Sally wondered if the second nine was any better. Well, Sally, the answer to that question is (drum roll, please). . . "No." Jim finished 18th out of a field of 21 SVR duffers. His

wife, Sheila, had 11 fewer strokes winning the women's class. John Watson beat Garth Mason (with Marv Smith in third) and won the men's division overall score. In other contests, Bruce Mills and Marcy Vidmar hit the longest drives, C.C. Craig and Barbara Rodriguez got closest to the pin, and Garth Mason and Melissa Poirier had best Callaway handicapped score. Event sponsors were Kirk Bradford (golf balls, Sony tees and ball markers) and George Valerio (German wines, champagne and crystal glasses).

The *DRIFTER* cover continued the SVR tradition of a red, white, and blue-colored flag on the cover of the July issue. This year it was a replica of the very first flag authorized by the Continental Congress 210 years before on June 14, 1777. The red/white/blue colors were courtesy of the printer, Copy House, who agree to take a small beating for the sake of patriotism.

The Saturday, July 18 Tour to Vacaville led by Mike Willis had a 4:00PM start from the Beverly Garland Hotel to reach the home of Mark and Suzanne Plantz in Vacaville for a 6:00PM potluck barbecue with chefs Mark Planz and Phil Lawrence directing the crew of Pam and Don Harley and Randy Vidmar. It was a circuitous route via the Mansion Inn and Elmira through the Delta. President, Jim McDade, reported in the July *DRIFTER* that the final car-count for CRAB 16 of 143 cars was down slightly from CRAB 15, but it gave more incentive to CRAB 17 co-chairs Kern and Cindi Breaux to break the record in 1988. Jim also reported "the July 12th SVR Wash & Wax Concours had been scrubbed, in a manner of speaking," because of a date conflict with a similar event by Diablo Region.

10 Years Ago (July 1997)

SVR autocrossers running the 1997 Zone 7 autocross series were busy this month attending the July 5/6 Monterey Bay Region events in the Laguna Seca paddock, and the July 19/20 Golden Gate Region/Loma Prieta Region Zone 7 autocross weekend at Candlestick Park's huge parking lot. SVR rally people settled for the July 13 Diablo Region Zone 7 rally. A Zone 7 Concours was rumored for this month as well.

Sue Ambrozewicz arranged the July 10th dinner meeting at Marie Calendar's in Citrus Heights. The July *DRIFTER* announced that PCA had a web site on the internet at <www.pca.org>, although, at the time, several parts of it were still "under construction." Of particular interest was membership information with a "regional" map showing the various regions in PCA.

The July 26 SVR Driver's Ed/Autocross at Mather Field, chaired by Dwight Mitchell and Bill Winkler, was a great success for 43 drivers, mostly rookies looking to improve their driving skills with expert instruction and lots of seat-time. Students who made noticeable improvements in lap times at the end of the day included Tally Wade, Brenda Cannon, Tyler Breaux, Curtis Poon, Brian Lee, Susan Fleming, Mike Pratt, and Joe Koonse. Mike Ambrozewicz gave a good workout to his purple and white, polka-dotted 914-4 by turning

some very quick times, and Ernie Wassersleben was back from Tucson and Phoenix with a "new" 912.

AUGUST

30 Years Ago (August 1977)

On August 7, SVR held its second SVSCC Championship Autocross at Cal-Expo with Dave Neukom and Rich Burke as co-chairs. Entry was \$4.00, or \$7.00 per couple. Early-bird setup crew included Paul Baldarelli, Paul Bates, Ted Colbert, Rich Farlinger, Jim Karver, Jack Samples, Larry Wilson, Mike Willis, and John Wong. Other workers were Gail Burke, Bill Yee, Darrell Butner, Rik Larson, Ron Tom, Bev Bayless, Diane Colbert, Vicki Willis, Fred Myeron, Laurie Adams, June Samples, the Overstreets, Scott McKay, Kathy King, C.C. Craig, Al Henderson, and Dave Marek. Top-three SVR drivers included Dave Neukom (2nd A Stock), Ted Colbert (1st B Stock), Kirk Bradford (2nd B Stock), Dale Newhouse (3rd B Stock), Mike Willis (2nd C Stock), Larry Wilson (1st D Stock), Kerry Creasy (2nd D Stock), Paul Baldarelli (3rd D Stock), Vicki Willis (1st K Stock), Diane Colbert (1st L Stock), Pat Wilson (1st M Stock), Jim Bonney (3rd C Modified), Darrel Overstreet (2nd B Prodified), and Sheila McDade (3rd I Prodified).

The August 14 Picnic and Charity Auction in William Land Park had on the agenda a picnic and charity auction, but for many the premier event was the 356ers versus 911/912/924 owners volleyball game. After a futile struggle, 911/912/924 owners went down for the count leaving the 356ers (more athletic with prettier women and cars) victorious, once again. The auction, with Kirk Bradford and Larry Wilson as auctioneers) brought in \$1,000 for the club's charity. Some of the big-ticket auction items were Betty Fielding's 911 Tiffany window, pen and ink drawings by Dave Marek, a ladies watch donated by Strutz Jewelers (Ted Strutz) and Lettie Larson's hand-made afghan.

20 Years Ago (August 1987)

Stan Breyfogle was the chairman for the August 2nd Hare 'n Hound rally, and it was a HOT event (the temperature was 108 degrees by 11:30AM). Eleven rally cars took the green flag, as it were, out of the Beverly Garland parking lot looking for the first "P" marked on the pavement. Then they had to guess whether to turn right or left, or proceed straight ahead. A correct choice was indicated by an arrow painted on the pavement within .2 mile of the intersection. Some of those with mechanical odometers discovered they could unwind the odo, in case of a poor guess, by backing up which brought out the locals to stare and wonder. The first car to finish completed the 25.1-mile course in 1.5 hours which returned the field to the Beverly Garland for brunch under the supervision of Fillmore Crank, SVR member and hotel manager. John Clever won the electronic odo class, and Allen and Dolores Weddle (with help from their daughter, Donna Picard) won the mechanical odo class after bird-dogging Mark and Starla Hirst much of the day.

"Let's do it for the kids," was the motto for the August 16 SVR Charity Auction and Picnic at the home of Barbara Rodriques and Bruce Mills, chaired by Jack and June Samples. At the end of the day, SVR auction bidders raised \$2,020 for the Sierra Mountain Special Olympics. The Anheuser-Busch Company played a major part this year by donating T-shirts, sweatshirts, ice chests, beer mugs, posters and a nifty Michelob leather golf bag (C.C. Craig and Fred Siegner fought over this item). Kirk Bradford and Larry Wilson once again served as auctioneers. Jim McDade swallowed the hook, line, and sinker by spending major money for the "Trust Me, It's The Very Last" Steve McQueen Le Mans poster. The SVR Executive Board donated a CRAB 17 entry, and other terrific auction items were donated by Niello Porsche, Bridgestone Tires, Elise and Chris McIntire, Chinois East-West, Red Lion Hotel, Iron Horse, Hobby House, and Marie and Marv Smith.

The Historical Car Races Tour to Laguna Seca, August 21-23, got off to a rocky start on Friday when Jerry and Toni Moore's 911 burst into flames just before the group got to Hollister. Tour leader, Herb Hoover, whipped out his trusty fire extinguisher and got the flames out quickly with no exterior damage. But, some electrical wire insulation was melted as were some of the rubber lines. Fortunately, Bill and Judith Woodson-Blake had their cell phone handy, called for a tow, and eventually all reached Monterey. The races on Saturday were anticlimactic. Saturday night dinner at the Tinnery at Lover's Point in Pacific Grove was followed the next morning by brunch at the Monterey Peninsula Country Club, and then the Sunday afternoon Concours at Pebble Beach wrapped up the weekend.

10 Years Ago (August 1997)

Phil Lawrence led the charge of four SVR entrants in the August 3rd Zone 7 Concours at Carlsen Porsche put on by Golden Gate Region. Phil finished first (198.25 points) in the 911 Wash 'n' Shine class very closely followed in 2nd place by SVR-member Hank Woods (197.75 points). Ray Alamares finished 3rd in the 356 Street class, and Mark Smedley finished 3rd in the 356 Full class.

Rich McGlumphy chaired the August 7th dinner meeting at Tea Cup Cafe, located near the Sacramento Bee building and famed for being about the size of a tea cup, yet easily handling a fair-sized crowd. A traditional, one-size-fits-all, Chinese menu pleased all. The older members of the group remembered when the Tea Cup was even smaller and located across from the Cal-West Life Insurance building on L Street (not the previous Cal-West location on J Street across from Spit-and-Argue Park).

On August 24, Bob Peake and Donna Falk took SVR members in nine tour cars to the Kautz Ironstone Vineyards, just outside of Murphy's in Calaveras County, and toured through their "7-story entertainment complex dedicated to quality and gracious hospitality," which included the winery, caves, a museum (with a 44-pound gold nugget), conference center, gardens, pipe organ from the Alhambra Theater in Sacramento, and amphitheater. As a

special touch, Bob and Donna arranged for a different hors d'oeuvre with each of the seven wines that were sampled.

SEPTEMBER

30 Years Ago (September 1977)

Sixty-five SVR members traveled to the Garden Valley Country Club near Fairfield for the September 9 joint dinner meeting with ten members of Redwood Region. The deluxe affair, arranged by club manager (and SVR member), Phillip Marks, offered golf and tennis tournaments (chaired by Bob Schleh and Joyce and Jim Karver respectively) followed by a most enjoyable evening banquet. Merle Dodd and Joyce Karver won the men's and women's tennis tournament, no report about the golfers. The September 10/11, Redwood-Sacramento Valley Driving School at Sears Point completed the weekend for Paul Bates, Jim and Sheila McDade, Geary and Linda Lyons, Darrel and C.C. Overstreet, Peter Bogy, Dave Neukom, and Dale Newhouse. The first track session went very smoothly, but the rest of the event went south, both on and off the track. Fortunately, festivities ended before it got too terribly out of hand, and the group went to Cattlemen's to do what they did second best - eat.

SVR's September 18 Zone 7 autocross attracted 156 drivers and 40 SVR workers. Tech workers included Delores McKinnon, Larry Dunn, Jim Bonney, Leon Biren, and Kirk Bradford.

Carrera de Sierra III, a two-day, September 24/25, time and distance rally with Rik Larson as rallymaster, was still in its flower with 84 rally cars (including 40 PCA teams) traversing back roads on Saturday (six checkpoints) through Sonora to Yosemite Park for a banquet and overnight stay, and then three more rally legs back to the finish in Stockton on Sunday. Workers included Al King, Lettie and Lee Larson, Phillip Marks, Larry and Pat Wilson, Mike Willis, Dave Neukom, Ray and Frankie Engle, and Rich and Gail Burke. SVR members who trophied were Jim and Joyce Karver (2nd, Expert Unequipped), Dave Brewer (2nd Novice Equipped), Ted and Diane Colbert (5th, Novice Unequipped), Barbara and John Smolich (6th, Novice Unequipped), and Ted Strutz (10th, Novice Unequipped).

20 Years Ago (September 1987)

The September *DRIFTER* cover featured a nice shot of Rich McGlumphy in autocross action with his 914-6. That issue also pictured Fred Siegner putting on the 18th green at Riverbend Golf and Country Club, C.C. Craig receiving his closest-to-the pin award from Shelia McDade, Ray Clements at the wheel of his 924 just after navigator Mike Willis got them lost on the Vacaville BBQ tour, and Sally Boeck teaching Sara Clements how to stick out her tongue in response to the black flag at a GGR time trial. Memorable days were those!

Fifty-four SVR members in 27 Porsches hit five truly great wineries during the September 13 Wine Tour by Jim McDade and Kirk Bradford. "At the Napa Creek Winery, the fellow in

charge kept giving us a bunch of full bottles after we volunteered to help them out by pouring our own samples for tasting," Jim said and added, "they kept opening, so we kept tasting."

The 1987 version of Carrera de Sierra, a two-day, September 26/27, time and distance rally with Stan Breyfogle as chairman and John Clever as rallymaster, attracted 33 rally cars including 15 cars from PCA. They left Rancho Cordova over the Mormon Immigrant Trail to Mono Lake, and then to lunch in Bridgeport, and then to Lee Vining and into the back-way to Yosemite Park for the evening barbecue under the stars. After returning the next day, they had clocked 12 hours of actual rally time. Low score for PCA entrants was Phillip Marks and D.D. King who finished 1st in Expert Unequipped with a score of 266 seconds. Tom & Linda Gardner were 2nd in Beginner Class with 270 seconds. Sanford and Ellen Chance were 1st in Novice Class with 388 seconds. Other PCA finishers were Ron & Sally Boeck (456), George & Nona Morley (939), Don Rassmusson & J. Turner (711), Allen & Dolores Weddle (818), Kirk & Linda Bradford (825), Jim & Sheila McDade (821), John & Arleen Pluth (1055), Jack & Christine Summerville, John & Tina Murphy (1085), Jim McMahon & Joyce Low (1231), Steven & Karen Taggart (2002), and Gale Schuck & Linda Carnes (2017).

10 Years Ago (September 1997)

The September 7 Charity Picnic/Auction at Tom and Brenda Solter's home on Horsebar Road was chaired by Jose Uranga and also featured a "blind" wine tasting contest with Tom and Tandra Kroetz in charge. The day's activities raised \$1,800 for the charity recipient, Mustard Seed School, which provided clothing, immunizations, and education for homeless children of Sacramento. Randy Vidmar served as auctioneer. Allen Weddle, Dolores Weddle, and Shelagh Matthews all tied in getting the best wine tasting contest answers and each won a bottle of wine. Others helping in the event were Jan and Herb Hoover, Gerry and Tally Wade, and Don and Charlene Huist.

Yosemite Region held the September 21st Zone 7 Concours and Champagne Brunch at the Wine & Roses Country Hotel and Restaurant near Lodi, and once again Phil Lawrence was a winner in 911 Wash and Shine class with 198.75 points. Other SVR members scoring well in this class were Tim Fleming (second with 197.25 points), Hank Woods (third with 196.25 points), and Robert Hoy (sixth with 191.50 points).

The September 27/28 Carrera de Sierra, Zone 7 rally, chaired by Rik Larson, followed the two-day format of old, except the overnight destination was Downieville, not Yosemite Park. Forty-four people participated in the rally and tour. In the rally, with a score of 124 points, Jeff and Kim Kinder won the Beginner class with Rich McGlumphy and Karen Goffin in second with 163 (less is better in rallies). Kirk and Linda Bradford scored 118 for second place in Novice class. Richard Wetzel and Bill Jones with 66 points took the win in Expert Unequipped class edging Ron and Sally Boeck in second. In the Expert Equipped class, John

Clever and Susie George took first in class and first overall with a score of 24 points. Following closely behind in second were Helen Ashuckian and J. Toney with 51 points. No word on the rally workers -- maybe it was all DITYS.

OCTOBER

30 Years Ago (October 1977)

The October 9th annual tech session at Wyn Robertson's Continental Auto Service presented the basics of ignition timing and valve adjustment, plus a special program for women members on what to do when alone and faced with a breakdown or flat tire. Plenty of coffee and donuts helped the process. Members Wyn Robertson donated the use of his facility, Ken Fielding made the 911 presentation, Chuck Reed answered many questions, and Linda Robertson demonstrated how to cope with a flat tire and other emergencies.

Thirteen cars on the October 15/16 Fall Wine Tour, co-chaired by Paul Bates and Jim Boswell, left the Voyager in Davis and headed for Sonoma Valley on Saturday and Napa Valley on Sunday with visits to Grand Cru Vineyards, Chateau St. Jean, Inglenook Winery, Kenwood Vineyards, and Domain-Chandon. Jim had asked participants to bring along a picnic lunch for two days. On Saturday, the group unofficially voted Robert Magnani of Grand Cru Vineyards the best guide of the day. On Sunday Richard Pernice of Inglenook Chateau got the nod. During the tour, Merle and Georgene Dodd's dog attracted a male suitor and Marv Smith helped add to the group's wine knowledge. Randy and Lynne Blaesi, C.C. and Launa Craig, Darrell and Carol Butner, and Bob Mattiazzi drank way more wine than others on the tour (if you didn't count Paul Bates and Jim McDade).

20 Years Ago (October 1987)

Ken and Marcella Mitchell arranged the October 9 dinner meeting at The Old Spaghetti Factory at Hazel and U.S. 50. *DRIFTER* photographer, Allen Weddle, captured meaningful moments of attendees Ray & Mary Jane Johansen, Joyce & Jim Karver, Marie and Marv Smith, Fred Myeron, June Samples, Jan Hoover, and Tom and Tandra Kroetz.

Nominating Committee chair, Pam Harley, reported in the October *DRIFTER* that committee members included Barbara Rodrigues, Kathie Chandler, Karen Mangin, and Don Harley. That same issue also reported that Connie Cain was Butterfly Queen in Pacific Grove just a few years ago (just in case you're ever asked). New *DRIFTER* advertiser Niello Porsche nicely filled-out their full-page spread for the October issue.

Before a record-setting crowd of 67,000 fans, Porsche debuted their Indy-car racer in the October 11 Champion Spark Plug 300-kilometer race at Laguna Seca Raceway. The *DRIFTER* was on hand to cover the event with three photos and fewer column-inches for text. It was a disaster. After veteran Al Unser qualified next to last on Saturday, the factory rep

explained to the media, "The car is in its early design stages, and Unser is more of an oval track racer." After that comment made the Sunday morning papers, the team was lucky to get Unser back in the car for the race. In the pits, other reasons were given: no downforce and a gear box problem caused Unser to miss a shift at least once a lap during practice and qualifying, usually out of the last turn. Unser publicly questioned Porsche AG's wisdom of forsaking ground effects tunnels to promote straight-line speed. Mercifully, it was over quickly when Unser parked the car on the 7th lap of the race. The reason given the media was a broken water pump, but it was really a loss of fuel pressure.

The *DRIFTER* also reported the Porsche AG announcement of October 21 that a firm in Southgate, Michigan, would provide components, tooling, and special assembly work for the Cabriolet version of the Porsche 944, expected to debut in 1989. The firm will modify the vehicles in a facility nearby the Neckarsulm, Germany, where all Porsche four-cylinder vehicles were produced.

10 Years Ago (October 1997)

Jim and Sheila McDade chaired the October 4th Napa, Alexander, and Dry Creek Valleys Wine Tour, which included a stop at Cuvaion, a picnic lunch at the Hanna Winery, and more wine sampling at Simi Winery and Lambert Bridge Winery. "Oh, it's wine, wine, wine -- that makes you feel so fine, on the farm -- on the farm," no doubt sang the 40 SVR members who turned out for a couple of hours of twisty roads past Lake Berryessa into Napa Valley to begin the day sampling a \$32-bottle of Merlot and were delighted with a \$90-bottle of 1978 Cabernet Sauvignon as the day's wine tasting finale. In between, there was a lot of "regular" wine. The day ended with dinner at Chantrell in Napa. What could be finer?

The October 17th Octoberfest, at Sudwerk in Davis, also doubled as the region's 35th anniversary party with social chair, Bob Peake, arranging for special displays to memorialize the highlights of SVR's history.

The October issue of the *DRIFTER* had the following classified ad from Phil Lawrence -- "Wanted, navigators for rallies. Requirements: 1) ability to read route instructions; 2) interest in traveling on beautiful roads and having fun. Call Phil at 916-991-1381." Now, what do you suppose Phil had in mind?

NOVEMBER

30 Years Ago (November 1977)

Willard Jones hosted the 4th Annual Pot Luck Dinner, November 4 at The Bluffs, and member Peter Bogy got us a special rate on Buffalo Beer (he was part-owner of Sacramento's own beverage). Al King said, the fine chefs of SVR did it again," referring to the fine array hot dishes, salads, and deserts. Kirk Bradford took particular interest in the

gourmet brownies that he said, "were beyond description." Dave and Chrissie Neukom, among others, stayed late to help with the clean-up.

On November 11-13, the annual SVR pilgrimage to Little River Inn and the rest of the Mendocino Coast, AKA the Mendocino Tour, was chaired by Marv Smith (with Marie's help) and promised wine tasting and lunch at Simi Winery plus scenic roads and gourmet dining on Friday; and on Saturday the agenda was breakfast at Cafe Beaujolais or Sea Gull, Mendocino shopping, botanical gardens, golf, beach combing, free style Frisbee, kite flying competition and a beach cookout at Little River Beach; and Sunday only a leisurely return with dinner at the Mark West. Randy Blaesi took a wrong turn within ten minutes of the start with Jerry Moore in tow. Spirited CB talk got them back. The wind was lacking for the kite contest dealing a blow to winning aspirations of Kirk Bradford. Some thought Ted and Diane Colbert cheated when they used their 911 Targa as a launch vehicle. Peter Bogy used the dark to his advantage, somehow keeping it up. Rik and Lettie Larson and Dave and Chrissie Neukom were co-winners for the "prettiest/most expensive" kites. Wyn and Linda Robertson's kite was "most mechanically elaborate." Bill Florence got the award for "longest flying time with least effort." Later, Bill Rhea hosted a gala party at the Mendocino Hotel. Ken and Betty Fielding and Al and Kathy King enjoyed the party. Pat and Larry Wilson's kite was first up (and, unfortunately first down).

The November 18th "I Road a Turkey, Too" rally, was a nighttime event, the last SVR rally in 1977, and was coordinated by Nancy Myeron with Sparky Koepsell advertised as rallymistress. Sixty cars, including 12 from SVR, were entered, and SVR trophy winners included Mike and Mary Peters, Ted Strutz, Larry and Gloria Dunn, and Bill and Betty Rhea. Two days later, the November 20 Low Bucks Autocross at Lot A, Cal-Expo, with Peter Bogy and Kerry Creasy as co-chairs, ended SVR's autocross season for 1977.

20 Years Ago (November 1987)

The November 8 Time Never Stops rallymaster Stan Breyfogle predicted rain and thus put two checkpoints under bridges to keep the crew nice and dry. Surprise, it was sunny and warm for the 15 rally cars and checkpoint crews. After starting at the Beverly Garland Hotel, rally teams encountered two checkpoints before reaching the campsite John Fremont used during the Bear Flag Revolt (rallies can be educational, too). After four hours, rally cars reached the finish at Pietro's Pizza in Woodland. The results for SVR cars: Sally & Ron Boeck 1st Overall and 1st Unequipped; Dolores & Allen Weddle 1st Novice; Don Rasmusson & Gerry Sekora 6th Novice; John & Tina Murphy 2nd Beginner; Jim McMahon & Joyce Low 3rd Beginner. Workers included Rik Larson, John Clever, J. Toney, Kay Bussell, Pat & Larry Wilson, and Helen Ashuckian.

After days of rain, the November 15 Lighthouse Tour was blessed with clear, sunny skies as nine cars left the Beverly Garland for the coast with Ken and Marcella Mitchell in the lead

car. They picked up their tour mistress, Suzanne Plantz, in Vacaville, rounding out the group to 10 cars. After a stop at the Cheese Factory for supplies, they reached their picnic destination, the Point Reyes Lighthouse. On foot, from the parking lot, it is down 308 steps and across two skateboard ramps, exactly. The down part was easy. The up part coming back was exhausting. This tour required strong legs. Lettie Larson fed the seagulls attracting the entire gull population for 25 miles. They especially liked Ken Mitchell's silver 914-4.

Zone 7 PCAers converged on Le Bistro in Stockton for the November 21 Zone 7 Autocross and Concours Awards Banquet. SVR autocross trophy winners were: CLASS 9 (914-4 2.0) Larry Wilson 1st, Greg Peart 2nd, Steve Nieslony 3rd; CLASS 16 (Shwrm Stk 911) Bob Peake 1st; CLASS 18 (911S 2.2-2.7) Bruce Westrup 2nd; CLASS 22 (930) Marvin Besmer 1st; CLASS 23 (Super Street 6 cyl) Dwight Mitchell 2nd, Kern Breaux 3rd, Rich McGlumphy 4th; CLASS 25 (Impr 911 over 2.2) Bud Behrens 2nd; CLASS 35 (914-4 2.0) Pat Wilson 1st, Cyndee Nightingale 2nd; CLASS 38 (Improved 914-4) Sue McGlumphy 1st; CLASS 49 (Super Street 6 cyl) Cindi Breaux 2nd; CLASS 51 (Impr 911 over 2.2) Mary Ann Behrens. Zone 7 Rep Bud Behrens and Glenn Hills tied in a hard-fought battle for the pleasure of awarding a second place autocross trophy to Dwight Mitchell.

10 Years Ago (November 1997)

The October 31st, November 1st and 2nd Mendocino Tour, chaired by Rik Larson, had a new wrinkle - a Halloween party complete with a costume party/contest. Class winners of the costume thing were the Vidmars (Most In Character as Donald and Daisy Duck), the Meuniers (Most Becoming Clowns), the Wades (Most Scariest), the Thomases (Most Intimidating Bikers), and Mike West and Catherine Jones (Most Original as Indiana Jones and Cat). Kite fliers of note included Greg Peart, Mike and Sue Ambrozewicz, Patti and Jerry Thomas, Horace Searce and Noreen Schubnell, Tom and Tambra Kroetz, and Dolores Weddle.

Turkey Run 1997, chaired by Richard Wetzel on November 16, was the final event of the 1997 Zone 7 Rally Series, and it was a near-sweep with SVR members taking first place in three of the four rally classes. Phil Lawrence and Kathleen Reilly shocked the regular rally types by taking first in the Beginner class with a score of 660. Bob Kittell and Rik Larson took first in the Expert Unequipped class with 303, and in Expert Equipped, Helen Ashuckian and J. Toney did their usual thing by winning their class and overall with a score of 60. Bob and Marianne Gardner of Golden Gate Region won the Novice class with a score of 233. The rally route traversed the towns of Esparto, Capay, Brooks, Tancred, Guinda, and Rumsey.

DRIFTER coverage of the November 22nd Zone 7 awards banquet was kind of skimpy, but the big news, of course, was that SVR's Masuo Robinson was named the Zone 7 Enthusiast of the Year. That's Mr. Speed, himself, and he hasn't slowed down to this very day. SVR also did modestly well with first-place autocross class awards given to Bill Winkler (class KI), Masuo Robinson (class LI), and Tim Fleming (class HP). It was the overall awards for the rally

series that might tickle your fancy. SVR member Helen Ashuckian scorched the field with a score of 970 points to win the overall Zone 7 rally championship for 1997. Hubert Lee of Golden Gate Region was second with a score of 875. Other SVR finishers were J. Toney in 3rd (870 points), Richard Wetzel in 5th (815 points), and Rik Larson in 8th (785 points).

DECEMBER

30 Years Ago (December 1977)

It seemed like everyone turned out for the December 9th Christmas Party at the Mansion Inn Terrace Room with dancing to the music of Catbird. The place was packed! A terrific party. Merle Dodd, 1977 Activities Chairman, used a point system during the year to record the level of club activity of each member in one of two categories: "New Members" (joined SVR within the last 18 months), and "Not New Members." Merle declined using "Old Members" as a category name. During the evening's program, Merle recognized the top-five in each group. The top New Members were Jim and Denise Boswell (97 pts.), Richard and Gail Burke (73 pts), Brian Lewis (40 pts), Ted Strutz (32 pts), and William and Jan Florence (31 pts). The top Not New Members were Ted and Diane Colbert (121 pts), Paul and Gail Bates (111 pts), Paul Baldarelli and Laurie Adams (90 pts), Darrel and C.C. Overstreet (86 pts), and Jim and Joyce Karver (75 points). Board members were not included in the scoring. The top two in each group received trophies. Members of the new board were introduced and the old members were given a token of thanks for their hard work for the club during 1977. Then a serious party began.

The December *DRIFTER* had a few statistics on the 1977 zone 7 autocross series. The eight-event series brought out 1,214 entries, an average of 152 entries per event. 821 (68%) were men, and 393 (32%) were women. Golden Gate Region had the highest turnout with 45% of all entries. Yosemite was next with 17%. SVR had the third highest turnout with 13%. Stock four-cylinder cars were the most popular accounting for 39% of all entries. Stock six-cylinder was next (37%), and all improved/modified cars accounted for 24% of all entries.

20 Years Ago (December 1987)

Ninety-six members attended the December 12th SVR Christmas Party in the Clarion Hotel's Terrace Room at 16th and H Streets, a very moving event chaired by Sara Clements. As pointed out by the disco man, the crowd moved the hotel's portable dance floor about four feet with their heavy dancing. Ken Mitchell and Bob Jacobson helped Sara obtain enough door prizes so that everyone won something. A set of Goodyear tires was the primo door prize. Karen Mangin did the table decorations, and Bob Siles and Steve Taggart helped load a full car-load of member-donated canned food for Operation Santa Claus. The evening highlight was President Jim McDade presenting the SVR President's Award to Allen and Dolores Weddle, and it was received to a standing ovation. Allen and Dolores joined SVR in 1972 shortly after their purchase of a red 1964 Porsche 356 and were instantly active

chairing events including the popular Grand Island Mansion Tour. In commenting about the Weddles, McDade said, "They chair events, they go to CRAB every year, they go to Parades, and they are always available to help with any event. They are also genuinely good people and I am proud to have them as my friends."

Dual SVR-member Susan Hagaman, a member of the Pacific Northwest Region, finished 33rd in the 1987 Porsche Cup competition. In all, 151 drivers earned points in the year-long competition. Susan was the only woman to earn Porsche Cup points after her unprecedented third consecutive national championship in the 1987 SCCA Solo II championship runoffs in Salina, Kansas. In Porsche Cup competition, she finished in a tie with Bob Wollek and Vern Schuppan, both IMSA Camel GT Porsche 962 drivers. The top-15 drivers received their awards personally from Dr. Ferry Porsche December 15 during the annual Porsche Cup awards banquet in Stuttgart, Germany.

10 Years Ago (December 1997)

SVR organized (with Mike Willis as chair) the December 5-7 PCA Club Race at Thunder Hill Raceway, and it was a great success hampered only intermittently by rain. Sixty drivers were registered, many from out of town. Results were posted on the SVR website. The event was possible only because of the tireless workers from SVR and other Zone 7 regions: John Miller, Dave Darling, Marianne and Robbie Gardner, Ken Mitchell, Dwight Mitchell, Larry Heitman, Tim Fleming, Mike Ambrozewicz, Jeff Kinder, Greg Peart, Gerry and Tally Wade, Mike Churkin, Mick Mitterholzer and Bob, Del Lisk, Phil Cloud, Rik Larson, Arnold Ramirez, Dave and Dolores Johnson, Phillip Marks, Herb Hoover, Pat deWitt, Rich McGlumphy, Louise Sousouores, and Donna Mitchell.

The December 13th SVR Christmas Party was chaired by Alma Thompson and held at Andiamo's restaurant on Folsom Boulevard. Bob Peake gave credit to the Thompsons, Clements, and Vidmars for organizing a terrific dinner party and mentioned the percentage of tuxedos was at a record high. In addition to recognizing the outgoing board members, and introducing the incoming members, the evening's ceremonies also included the presentation of the top SVR annual awards (drum roll, please): Social Event of the Year was the White Elephant Gift Exchange by Jim, Linda, and Maryann McMahan; Competitive Event of the Year was the Kids' Rally by Helen Ashuckian; and, the President's Award went to Mike Willis.