

DRIFTING BACK FROM 2009

JANUARY

30 Years Ago (January 1979)

When the dust cleared and the ballots were counted, SVR had a new board of directors for 1979: President -- Ted Colbert; Vice President -- C.C. Craig; Secretary -- Gwen Clark; Treasurer - Paul Baldarelli; Activities Chair - Stan Breyfogle; Rally Chair - Jim Karver; Tech Chair - Dwight Mitchell; Social Chairs - Bess Feil and Kern Breaux; Publicity Chairs - Mary Peters and Lendine Nelson; Drifter Editor - Vicki Willis (Jan-Mar) and Trische Robertson (Apr-Dec); and Past President - Paul Bates. And, on a larger playing field, Paul Bates was selected Zone 7 Representative as white smoke exited a chimney atop the PCA Chapel.

The January 12 dinner meeting at Posey’s Cottage was a culinary dress rehearsal for CRAB 8 with Bess Feil in charge; $12.50 for all the cracked crab you could eat. The big news, however, was the January 14 Rallye de Busse - a rally school by Rik Larson which gave an on-course look at some typical rally situations by taking participants on a short tour using a bus as the classroom. But wait, there was more! Just before the bus fired up, each participant was given a run in the "Laguna Grand Prix Mini-Formula One Cars" - Wow! Jim Karver said it was a great event.

20 Years Ago (January 1989)

After the precincts closed and the ballots fed into electronic ballot-counting devices, the wire services had the news. The new SVR board of directors for 1989 were: President - Randy Vidmar; Vice President - Sally Boeck; Secretary - Mark Smedley; Treasurer - Sara Clements; Social Director - Elizabeth Carr; Competition Director - Kern Breaux; Membership Director - Arlene Pluth; Drifter Editor - Larry Wilson; and Past President - Jim McDade.

Competition Director Kern Breaux held forth during SVR’s January 5th activity planning meeting/party, and extra chairs had to be imported to take care of the larger-than-expected crowd including Social Director Elizabeth Carr and Bob Dennison, Ron and Sally Boeck, Suzanne Planz, Jim McMahan, Karen Mangin, Randy and Marcy Vidmar, Bob Peake, Carol Nye, Allen and Dolores Weddle, Rik Larson, Ken and Marcella Mitchell.

Gooses Too, Three Rally with Phillip Marks as rallymaster on Friday, January 20, a wonderful, clear January night, brought out 25 rally cars to start the event, and 25 rally cars finished the event. No one got lost! SVR rally teams did well. Helen Ashuckian and J. Toney finished first overall (and 1st Expert Equipped Class). Robert Dennison, Elizabeth Carr and daughter, Amelia, won the Beginner Class and Nikki Duncan finished second and
Allen Rosenberg 10th in the same class. Event workers were Rik and Lettie Larson, John Clever, Allen and Dolores Weddle, Mike Willis, Sally Boeck, Stan Breyfogle, Dena King, J. Toney, and Larry and Pat Wilson.

Zone 7 Rep, Bud Behrens (Yosemite Region) announced that presidents of nine of the eleven Zone 7 regions met January 21 and established the 1989 Zone 7 autocross and concours schedule which included seven autocross events (one by SVR) and seven concours events (none by SVR). The rally schedule would be determined later.

10 Years Ago (January 1999)

SVR officers for 1999 were Bob Peake as president, Tim Fleming as vice president, Jose Uranga as Secretary, Masuo Robinson as treasurer, Kellie Finley as social chair, Cindy McKenzie as membership chair, Glen Brooksby as competition and safety chair, Larry Clark as newsletter editor, and Rik Larson as past president. Larry Clark moved the DRIFTER publishing process from the club’s Macintosh computer to a PeeCee platform and nevertheless did a terrific job despite that handicap. Judy Hanna served as Associate Editor bringing great stories to DRIFTER sheets. Larry and Judy’s newsletter work during 1999 would later earn them (and the club) a terrific third-place finish (Class 4) in the annual PCA newsletter contest with the award presented during the PCA Porsche Parade held in Sacramento in the summer of 2000.

The January 8 SVR Planning Meeting at the Round Table Pizza on Greenback Lane featured Tim Fleming working the crowd on the microphone and Kellie working the flip charts to record suggestions for 1999 events. Tentative events and chair-people included salmon fishing (Ambrozewicz), wine tours (McMahan), McClellan AFB museum tour (Vidmar/Weddle), progressive dinner tour (Swenson/Hanna), oyster tour and barbecue (Catherwood/McKee), Octoberfest (Sisson), and a visit to the shooting range (Vidmar).

In advertising her January 29 White Elephant Gift Exchange, event chair Tambra Kroetz pleaded for members to unload those unwanted holiday gifts at the annual gift exchange at Chuck’s Grille in Folsom. And, she got treasures! How about a Volkswagen toilet paper dispenser finally won by Kent Brandon. Or, a gargoyle with lights won by the Jeff Kinder. Or, better yet, faux-leopard fur handcuffs with key won by Cindy McKenzie. Wow, does that get you worked up, or what?

FEBRUARY

30 Years Ago (February 1979)

Among the new members joining the club in February were rallyists George and Nona Morley with their 1972 Porsche 911S, a car they said they would keep forever. They were
probably aghast to see in the February DRIFTER that Loose Lips Jim Karver had revealed many of their friends secret rally-name: Loose Goose, Bruce Moose, the Snake, L3, Hedgehog, Reverend Rod, Sister Singh, Yosemite Sam, Stanley Screw, Donna Two, Gabby, Sleeper & Sport, Curta von Halda, Stick, Buzzard, The Dunk, Bad Guy, Hard Nose Charlie, Dingy, Penguin, Maid Marian, Always Lost, Never Found, Turkey Neck, Chili, and Hot Tamale, just to name a few. This is hot stuff, and should be incorporated with other new-member orientation topics! Will the next Karver revelation be secret rallyist handshakes?

The February DRIFTER also featured many photos taken during the December Christmas frolic, and four of them showed a certain disguised Santa Claus with a traditional hat and mustache/beard, and non-traditional sunglasses and nomex racing suit. The get-up was so outrageous, it could have been Darrel Overstreet, or...it could have been Judge Clint deWitt. Yeah, probably Judge deWitt.

During the February 2 Dinner Meeting at Aomi’s, SVR Treasurer Paul Baldarelli announced Share-the Wealth contributors included Autosport Technology (Dwight Mitchell), Strutz Jewelers (Ted Strutz), Continental Auto Service (Wyn Robertson), Overstreet Racing Enterprises (Darrel Overstreet), Mutual Life (Kern Breaux), Paul Bates, Niello Porsche-Audi, and Lasher Porsche-Audi.

20 Years Ago (February 1989)

Odds 'n' Ends: Minutes of the February 8th board meeting reported that DRIFTER editor, Larry Wilson, upgraded the club’s computer equipment (Mac Plus with two floppy disk drives) to the absolute cutting-edge of future technology by purchasing a 30-meg hard drive and a 2400-baud modem at the recent MacWorld show in San Francisco. Consensus said future editors would never need more capacity. Never, ever. Membership Director, Arlene Pluth, reported that a prospective SVR member, employed by the CHP, appropriately has a copper-colored Porsche. The board, noting that such juxtaposition was very important, voted unanimously to grant membership to this fine officer. Secretary Mark Smedley noted the meeting was adjourned promptly at 9:28 P.M. The February 9 Dinner Meeting, chaired by Marie Smith, was held at The Old Spaghetti Factory at Hazel and U.S. 50.

SVR Treasurer, Sara Clements, noted in the February DRIFTER that the club’s Goodie Store had accumulated several collectable items such as the SVR "1970 Region of the Year" cloth patch, and "Tinklers" from CRAB 8 (1979) which were ceramic wind chimes in the shape of five different model Porsches made by noted Sacramento ceramic artist, Jo Ann Marquardt. According to the wrapper sticker, the Tinklers retail price was $17.00.
10 Years Ago (February 1999)

SVR rallyists did extremely well as they helped to launch the 1999 Zone 7 rally series by running Diablo Region’s February Frolic Rally on St. Valentine’s Day, February 14th. The route covered lightly traveled roads around the Livermore area. J. Toney and Helen Ashuckian took first overall with a total error of TWO seconds for the six rally legs (four zeros and two ones). Al Armellini and Rik Larson won Class C with a score of 47, and Larry and Mary Clark took second in the class with a score of 53. Kirk and Linda Bradford finished second in Class B with a score of 491.

Jim and Kellie Finley hosted the February 18 Valentine’s dinner meeting at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Roseville, and Judy Hanna’s DRIFTER headline, "Valentines, pasta, Dumbkopf highlight February dinner," says it all. Randy Vidmar, the new Dumbkopf award chairman, explained the rules of this prestigious award and how candidates are evaluated by the "clap-o-meter." First up was Randy himself for breaking all the wine glasses in his picnic basket. Next, Randy’s wife, Maureen, for getting lost on an autocross course. Then, Larry Clark got consideration for mixing up telephone numbers in THE DRIFTER. But, new member Mike Linville nailed it, as explained by Jim McDade, for sampling a mysterious fluid leak under his Porsche which was created by Max, the "leaking dog." The clap-o-meter never lies. Linville would have received the award on the spot if the Dumkopf chair had remembered to bring it to the meeting.

MARCH

30 Years Ago (March 1979)

The March 4 "Shakedown" autocross, chaired by Geary Lyon and Stan Breyfogle, was the first of the year for SVR and brought out 112 drivers (netting the Club $100) looking for championship points in the Sacramento Valley Sports Car Club sanctioned event at Cal Expo. First-place finishers included Kern Breaux, Rich Farlinger, Larry Wilson, Sally Weddle, Jim McDade, and Clint deWitt. Workers included the afore-mentioned drivers plus Mike Willis and Pat Wilson. After the regular competition was over, SVR drivers continued with practice runs, two in each direction, in preparation for the upcoming Zone 7 event.

The DRIFTER reported that Lendine Nelson and Mary Peters would assemble SVR’s 1979 scrapbook containing photos and text copy that might be needed to accompany SVR’s submission to PCA for Region of the Year consideration. President Ted Colbert announced the appointment of Geary Lyons as Speed Events Chair, and the appointment of Trisch Robertson as DRIFTER editor taking over in April from Vicki Willis who returns to "civilian life" to give more time to her 15 month-old daughter.
At the March 8 board meeting, Vice President C.C. Craig announced a New Members Committee was formed (Linda Mitchell, Lendine Nelson, Mary Peters, Kern Breaux, and Luana Craig) and would hold a new members party at The Mushroom, April 11. Craig also announced 113 entries were on hand by March 4 for CRAB 8, April 20-22. The March 16 SVR rally was chaired by Stan Breyfogle and attracted 30 rally cars and lots of rain and cold weather. Jim and Denise Boswell finished first in Novice Class, and Jim and Joyce Karver took the Expert Unequipped Class.

20 Years Ago (March 1989)

THE DRIFTER (April issue) announced the March 5 arrival of Clayton Timothy Wilson and congratulated his parents, Michael (a DRIFTER advertiser) and Karen Wilson. (Clayton is now a sophomore at Oregon State University.)

The March 16 Dinner Meeting at newly-opened Gwen’s Of Course restaurant at 4401 Hazel Avenue, Fair Oaks, chaired by Allen and Dolores Weddle, provided a choice of 6 entrees: Chicken Divan, Halibut Steak, Red Snapper, Pepper Steak, or New York Steak, all at $13.00 including tax and tip. Social Director, Elizabeth Carr, said it was a perfect place for a SVR gathering.

The March 10-12 SVR Ski Weekend, chaired by Gary and Alma Thompson, journeyed to Tahoe City and brought out SVR’s hard-core skiers and devout non-skiers alike including Elizabeth Carr and Bob Dennison with their daughter Amelia, Herb and Jan Hoover, Tom and Tambra Kroetz, Bruce Mills and Barbara Rodrigues, Ray and Sara Clements, Jim and Sheila McDade, Bob and Beth Jacobson, Larry and Pat Wilson, and Bob and Marian Berriman. The weather was perfect with 8-inches of snow around 3:00 A.M. Saturday morning, and clear, blue sky through Sunday evening. If you didn’t ski at Alpine, you shopped at Tahoe City or Truckee, or visited Cal-Neva gaming rooms. Bob Jacobson arranged the grand meal Saturday night at Bocci’s Italian Restaurant. Wow, what a great weekend!

10 Years Ago (March 1999)

The March 11 Dinner Meeting was held in cave-like room at Yager’s Tap House in Folsom which, according to a sign on the wall, served as a WWII bomb shelter for the entire city of Folsom. Dumbkopf Chairman, Randy Vidmar, announced he located the Dumbkopf award, so it finally reached Mike Linville (from Rik Larson’s hands). Allen and Dolores Weddle introduced their friend from Germany, Guenther Lang, who kept Kent Brandon and Cindy McKenzie entertained because they were soon traveling to Stuttgart. In the absence of Bob Peake, Tim Fleming held forth during the meeting.
The March 28 Zone 7 Concours by SVR at Niello Porsche had 20 cars entered for judging and an additional 20 cars on display only, according to event chair, Kent Brandon. Judging began at 10:30 AM and trophies were awarded at noon (which has to be an all-time speed record for such things in Zone 7). SVR competitors won most everything in sight: Stuart McIntosh won the 356 Wash 'n' Shine class, Mark Smedley and Ted Blake placed 1st and 2nd respectively in the 356 Full Concours class with Jason Daley fifth and Derek Drake sixth in the same class, Jim Finley placed 2nd in the Water-Cooled Street class, Joe Pitta won the 914 Wash 'n' Shine class, Gerry Wade won the 914 Street class, Glen Brooksby won the Competition class, Phil Lawrence and Jeffery Pisciotta tied for first in the 911 Wash 'n' Shine class, and in the 911 Street class Kent Brandon finished second with Alan Nishimoto and Lowell Irwin third and fifth respectively. A new award, "The Entrants Choice," went to Mark Smedley and his totally original 356 Coupe. Mike and Sue Ambrozewicz’s bratwurst lunches made the day totally successful. Totally.

APRIL

30 Years Ago (April 1979)

SVR odds ‘n’ ends: "Fool’s Gold," the name of SVR’s April 1st rallye/tour, chaired by Trische Robertson and Diane Colbert, took 14 cars from Folsom to Coloma (only 7 avoided off-course deviations) for a scrumptious dinner at the historic Vineyard House. In his May DRIFTER article, Activities Chair Stan Breyfogle said the April 7 Tech Session at Lasher Porsche-Audi was great entertainment, and educational as well, with Dwight Mitchell and Mike Willis expounding on brake, clutch, shock, and transmission matters. The April 8th Zone 7 AX by Redwood Region held at Solano Community College, Fairfield, was named "Hornblower’s Special" and appropriately chaired by Emmett Wilder.

The SVR new members party at The Mushroom, April 11, attracted new members George and Nona Morley, Nancy and Bob Kilburn, Rob Scherer, Al and Lettie Feuerstein, Carol Webber, Jim Crow, and Ron Posey. Old members helping with the meet and greet included C.C. and Launa Craig, Bess Feil, Cindi and Kern Breaux, Stan Breyfogle, Geary Lyons, Mike and Vicki Willis, Michael and Mary Peters, Lendine and Bill Nelson, Dwight and Linda Mitchell, Sally Weddle, Joyce Karver, and Paul Baldarelli.

The April 20-22, CRAB 8 event, Mike and Vicki Willis, chairs, was a great success with 140 cars registered (a record at the time). The Friday headliner was the first ever after-sundown gymkhana by Paul Bates with the course outlined by 100 construction blinker lights. No headlights allowed. Dale Bates and Julie Arnold won in the dark. Delores and Sally Weddle won the Friday tour, and after 150 drivers did their best at CalExpo, Emmett Wilder, Redwood Region, was the fastest, and wife Marlese the fastest woman, both in the ex-Reitmeir 914-6. Sally Weddle won the Snidely Whiplash Bass Ackwards
award. Competition was stiff as 90 rally-cars made their way into the Delta and Club Lido, downtown Ryde, and the expanding communities of Walnut Grove and Locke. Overall winners were the Unequipped entry of Dale Newhouse and Carol Anne Powell with an error of 81 seconds.

20 Years Ago (April 1989)

April 2 Muir Woods Tour by Randy & Marcy Vidmar and Phil & Jean Keith promised a fresh morning walk through nature’s wonderland, Muir Woods in Marin County followed by a picnic at Stinson Beach. Those who enjoyed the Vidmar/Keith production included Richard and Linda Dern, Herb and Jan Hoover, Kirk and Linda Bradford, Marion Berriman, Suzanne Plantz, Jim McMahan, Pat and Larry Wilson, Allen and Dolores Weddle, Ron and Sally Boeck, and Gary and Alma Thompson.

The April DRIFTER featured stories about two SVR racers, each from a different racing era: Arnold O'Shields, in his 1966 Porsche 911, won the 1988 San Francisco Region, SCCA, GT-2 class championship after defeating his opposition in a year-long battle at Sears Point and Laguna Seca race courses; and Oran Crumley, who in the early 1960s raced his 1954 Porsche 356 Carrera (4-cam) Speedster in C-Production SCCA races at Vaca Valley, Cotati, Port of Stockton, and Laguna Seca race courses. Trish O'Shields and Sally Snoop contributed the articles and photos. Arnold and wife Trish joined the club in 1973, while Oran and wife Grace were the only 30-year PCA members in SVR as of April 1989.

The highlight of CRAB 18, April 21-23, chaired by Stan Breyfogle, was the cleaning, polishing, and waxing of John Clever’s old-but-never-before-washed white 944 under the cover of darkness Friday night in the Red Lion parking lot while John was knocking-back crab cocktails in the welcome party. Jeff Lateer of Golden Gate Region led the mischievous bunch who did the deed to the car’s LEFT SIDE, ONLY. It was as if they had masked the car perfectly down the middle, front-to-rear. What contrast! Meanwhile … Tom and Tambra Kroetz won the Crabbiest car competition, and class winners in the Brian Perry’s nighttime funkhana were Ron and Sally Boeck, Bruce Westrup and Mike Willis, and Jim McDade and Kirk Bradford. J. Toney wrote the rally won overall by the team of Rik Larson and John Clever. George and Nona Morley won their class. On Sunday, the SVR autocross class winners were Tom Kroetz, Bruce Westrup, Dwight Mitchell, Pat Wilson, Marcella Mitchell, Sally Boeck, Chris Summerville, and Linda Mitchell. Art Seeger, Yosemite Region, won the Snidley Back-Asswards Whiplash Award, deservedly so.

10 Years Ago (April 1999)

Twenty-six drivers checked-in for the April 3 SVR Autocross at Mather Field chaired by Glen Brooksby. A pre-race sprinkle gave way to mostly sunny but very windy conditions for the year’s first SVR autocross, a very successful event made possible by SVR’s faithful
workers Bill Winkler, Doug DeVetter, Tim Howard, Russ Hildebrand, John Kessler, Tim Fleming, Warren Walker, Kern Breaux, and Don Zinke. Mike and Sue Ambrozewicz were there to make sure everyone had a bratwurst lunch. Pat Costin (Sierra Nevada Region), Glen Brooksby, Tim Fleming, Bill Winkler, and Bill Thorp had the five best times of the day. Tania Bentler, Toni Smith, and Eugenie Thomas had the three best ladies lap-times. Mark Judish earned the top rookie time in Mike Ambrozewicz’s trick 914.

Allen and Dolores Weddle had their annual Champagne Brunch Tour on April 11, and this time it went to Robbers Roost, built of granite and glass on the side of a hill in Foresthill at the 3200-foot level. It sounded so irresistible that 59 members signed up for the tour - and they weren’t disappointed. A scrumptious buffet with fresh fruit, croissants, omelets, blintzes and crepes, bacon and sausage, a carving station with roast beef and ham, eggs Benedict, potatoes, salads, and pasta, along with free-flowing champagne served in our spacious private room helped to top off a beautiful drive and day. Sally Boeck gave out door prizes including dinner for two at the Robbers Roost won by Kent Brandon and Cindy McKenzie. Wyn and Linda Robertson and Marv and Marie Smith shared stories about other long-time SVR members. Greg Peart had trouble getting around with a cast on his leg, but Cyndee provided plenty of help.

MAY

30 Years Ago (May 1979)

In the May issue, DRIFTER editor Trische Robertson announced her marriage to John Meeker. In addition to the usual receipt of wedding gifts, Trische said they made a very nice gift to the casino in Reno’s MGM Grand, which dealt a blow to her schedule for the return of her 912 to road-going status. Other breaking-news in the same issue: Club treasurer Paul Baldarelli announced the SVR treasury had climbed to "about $800," a previously unheard-of balance; and, Jim Karver, in his monthly rally-tips column, revealed that he preferred chartreuse over all other color possibilities for highlighting important phrases in rally instructions. Readers could almost hear Jim’s breathing pick up a bit when he wrote, "The chartreuse color really stands out."

May 13 Mother’s Day Brunch at the Sacramento Inn, with Bess Feil in charge, was a blast! The highlight of the day was the unanimous vote of all present to bestow the SVR Dumbkopf Award to the ENTIRE SVR BOARD OF DIRECTORS because they couldn’t remember what date they had set for their May meeting. Trische Robertson accepted the award on behalf of the board and said, "It ain’t easy out there on the Yellow Brick Road, but we’re learning."

20 Years Ago (May 1989)
The May issue of THE DRIFTER was the first issue printed by Enterprise Printing. What an improvement! The SVR-Enterprise relationship would last eight years until the end of 2006. In the same issue, SVR President Randy Vidmar announced that Gary Thompson accepted the job of Charity Chairperson and was already at work on the September 17 charity auction.

Publicity for the May 19 "The Real McCoy" rally, with Ron Boeck at the helm, asked entrants to "follow our intrepid rallymaster, where few have dared to go, through the wilds of the Delta levees, bogs, and sloughs in the dead of night." And with the promise of cheap thrills and a ride on the U.S.S. Real McCoy, who could pass-up that invitation? Not many, as it turned out, with a huge turnout of workers and entrants. Ron lied, however. . .the ride was on the U.S.S. J-Mack ferry, which was not the Real McCoy. The top winners were Ray and Sara Clements, first in Expert-Unequipped Class; and, Helen Ashuckian and J. Toney, first in Expert-Equipped Class. But, wait - there's more! Ron Boeck also won the SVR Dumbkopf Award when during the awards ceremonies it was discovered that ALL TEN TROPHIES were engraved, "First Place, Expert-Unequipped Class." Nobody listened to Ron's protest that Ray Clements ordered and pickup the awards.

Allen and Dolores Weddle led 26 cars on the May 21 Gold Country Tour with a brunch and champagne destination at the Buckeye Restaurant in Georgetown. The Willis family provided back-door supervision on the tour, and Marv and Marie Smith brought chocolate-chip cookies for in-route nourishment. Mark Hirst and Herb Hoover were big winners in the wine door prize department. Jack and June Samples helped to get the bar in suitable condition in advance of the group's arrival.

10 Years Ago (May 1999)

CRAB 27, April 30 - May 2, with Mike and Sue Ambrozewicz co-chairs, was a smashing success. The Sheraton Hotel in Rancho Cordova served as event headquarters and site for the registration party and gymkhana with the CRAB banquet at the Folsom Community Center. On Sunday, the concours and beer 'n' brat finale was held in Fair Oaks Park. The Friday night gymkhana, Rich McGlumphy chair, was the usual laugh-a-thon, but competition was serious with the team of Tom Provasi and Tim Fleming having the fastest time of 251.47 followed closely by Ron and Sally Boeck with 254.75. Mike and Michelle Willis placed second in Class B with a score of 317.76. On Saturday, Rich Swenson and Judy Hanna led the CRAB Wine Tour through the foothills of Amador and El Dorado counties while thirty-one other drivers tested the CRAB autocross (Kern Beaux, chair). Tom and Sandy Provasi took TTOD (top time of day) for men and women respectively at the autocross. Bob Hollman not only took 1st in Class A in his 1956 356A, but on Sunday he took first in Class 4 AND People's Choice Award in the concours. Also at the concours, Jim
and Linda McMahen won first in Class 2 and Tom and Jude Sisson second in the class for rally entrants. Twenty-nine cars entered the CRAB 27 rally with Larry Clark as rallymaster. Six SVR teams finished in the top eight overall. Helen Ashuckian and J. Toney had the low score of the rally (79 points) with Ira and Carol McKee in second with 107 points. Tina and John Murphy with 121 points, Tom and Jude Sisson with 139 points, and Ron and Sally Boeck with 141 points took fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively. Kirk and Linda Bradford finished 8th with 200 points.

On May 8, SVR held the second Zone 7 rally of 1999, "May Flowers," with Phillip Marks rallymaster. Fifteen rally teams registered for this three-hour, three-leg time and distance rally. The start was at Mocha Joe’s in Davis, and the most distant checkpoint was in Rio Vista. Three SVR teams were entered. Tom and Jude Sisson won the Novice Class with a score of 235 points. J. and Cameron Toney were 3rd in Expert Class with 213 points, and in the same class Larry and Mary Clark were 5th with 907 points. SVR workers included Rik Larson, Richard Wetzel and Pat and Larry Wilson.

JUNE

30 Years Ago (June 1979)

The SVR Tech Session, June 3, at Autosport (under the radar at Condor Court in Carmichael) by Dwight Mitchell covered the 911 engine, from a very basic discussion of the entire engine operation to a look at a partially assembled engine at each major step along the way for 20 members in attendance.

The June 9 Porsche-Corvette Challenge at Cal Expo limited participation to 75 Corvettes and 75 Porsches, $5.00 entry fee. According to SVR event chairman, Ted Colbert, the date was re-scheduled several times before SVR and the Corvette Owners Club of Sacramento could finally agree on car classification rules. This may have been the last Porsche-Corvette Challenge since Porsche drivers won 9 of 13 classes and the TTOD driver, Gary Walton in a 914, beat the nearest Corvette by four seconds. Stan Breyfogle helped run the event, Dwight Mitchell designed the course, Jim Bonney helped with tech, Sally and Delores Weddle worked registration, Jack Samples and the Burkes did the grid, the Wilsons helped with timing, and announcers were C.C. Craig, Kern Breaux, Kirk Bradford and Paul Bates.

The June 16th Luau at Bess Feil’s home promised a memorable event right down to the apple in the roast pig’s mouth from Kato’s Katering and topped off with live Hawaiian music and Polynesian dancers from the Zombie Hut. Kern Breaux was in charge of keeping the Mai Tai assembly line moving.
The June DRIFTER announced the Grand Opening of Superior Motor Cars, 1740 Eureka Way in Redding, as the newest Porsche-Audi-VW dealer in Northern California featuring SVR-members Bill Rhea (owner and president), Gary Waldsmith (sales manager), and Mike McCracken (parts manager). The addition of Superior Motor Cars gave THE DRIFTER three Porsche dealers as newsletter advertisers (with Wes Lasher Porsche on Florin Road and Niello Porsche on Madison Avenue).

20 Years Ago (June 1989)

The June issue of THE DRIFTER featured a story entitled, "Can an Older Woman Help a Younger Man Find True Happiness?" by Pat Wilson about her experience as an instructor at the April Zone 7 autocross school. At the conclusion of the school, her male students said, "yes you can," and they did. But, Marian Berriman worried aloud to her instructor, Sally Boeck, "Will Bob still love me once I become the faster driver of our household?"

The June 24 Brand X Autocross at Cal-Expo, chaired by Kern Breaux, was a smashing success (well, not literally). As the sun came up, Kern had plenty of course setup help from Mike Willis, Dwight Mitchell, Ken Mitchell, Randy Vidmar, Rich McGlumphy, Greg Peart, and Mike Browning, plus some PCAers from other Zone 7 regions including Len Harrington, Dan Holly, and the Beltzes from Yosemite Region, Hank Watts and Catherine Chrisafulli from Loma Prieta Region, and Sandy England from Redwood Region. Those SVR drivers attacking the course included Nikki Duncan, Don Girard, Kevin Alioto, Bob Peake, and Cathy Wolfe. Forty-three drivers turned out for the autocross and informal school, and they each got six runs until "Miller Time" was declared at 4:00 P.M.

10 Years Ago (June 1999)

June 6 Sail Tour

The June 10 Dinner Meeting at the Old Spaghetti Factory, chaired by Herb and Jan Hoover, was a perfect setting for awarding the Dumbkopf Award to Bob Peake, TWICE! Yes, that’s correct - he won it for two separate transgressions. Dumbkopf #1: Bob showed up at an autocross as an instructor in his 914-6 that had only one seat. Okay, Bob, where does the student sit? Dumbkopf #2: He shows up to run the next autocross without first emptying the car’s trunk. The event was stopped after most had completed their first run because of oil on the course and grid. All cars were inspected - it was Bob’s 914 with a pool of fresh oil underneath. Opening the trunk revealed a freshly broken new can leaking oil through holes in the trunk floor. The clap-o-meter went off the scale.

The June 26 SVR Autocross at Mather Field was the third event on the 1999 SVR autocross series, chaired by Glen Brooksby. The 0.65-mile course, designed by John Kessler, was a challenge to all 34 drivers participating. Glen Brooksby took top time
(46.836 seconds) with Pat Costin from Sierra Nevada Region close behind (by 0.030 seconds). My, that IS close! Barbara McCrory had top time for ladies (50.161 seconds) in the '74 914 that husband Steve just happened to bring home one day (he was supposed to be shopping only for a trailer). Russ Hildebrand beat Robert Stefanowicz for third overall and John Kessler, Bill Winkler, Don Zinke, and Steve Nieslony were locked in a battle for 5th before Kessler prevailed. David Pyles and his '87 944 took top time for stock cars edging Bud Behrens in his ‘99 Boxster.

"Hot day, cool caves," was Judy Hanna’s DRIFTER headline for her story about the June 27 Calaveras County Caverns Tour chaired by Jim and Kellie Finley. With the valley heat reaching 80 degrees and climbing at 9:00AM, the 54 degree Calaveras caves were a welcome relief for all but Jude Sisson for whom caves and claustrophobia did not mix well. Nicole, the cave guide, narrated as she led the SVR spelunkers through the underworld with Phil Lawrence occasionally lighting the way with his camera’s flash as he photo-documented the event for THE DRIFTER and Judy Hanna’s story. At the picnic lunch it was time for sharing, and everyone raved about Carla and Vito Blomo’s dessert, especially Arnold Ramirez. Kent Brandon and Cindy McKenzie, and Bob Peake entertained the group with stories about their recent trips to Germany.

**JULY**

**30 Years Ago (July 1979)**

Under the heading of Welcome News was the July DRIFTER announcement that the Sacramento Camellia Festival Committee had named SVR-member Bill Nelson as "Mr. Camellia." The value of Bill’s appointment can be explained best by those SVR members whose cars needed new clutches after they participated in previous-years stop-and-go Camellia Parades down Fulton Avenue (or, was it Arden Way?).

Terry and Judy Zaccone, Golden Gate Region, joined us July 6, Friday night for the Potluck Dinner at the Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse thereby helping to fill out the T-Z Group (bread, chips, etc.). An additional sixteen guests from other Zone 7 regions (in town for SVR’s two-day weekend autocross) brought the total attendance to 70 PCAers. Bess Feil and her helpers were very clever by assigning dessert to the N-S Group, and as a result Marie Smith brought her world-class German Chocolate Cake.

The July 7/8 High-Speed Autocross and Practice Session at Cal Expo chaired by Dwight Mitchell and Stan Breyfogle was an excellent, well organized event. Several casualties, however: Jim McDade’s 914-6 broke its front suspension and encountered a chainlink fence which unsuccessfully protected a small power station (not sure of the sequence
here); Clint deWitt’s 356 "lunched" its engine, and Ken Moore’s 911 GTU car suffered a cracked brake rotor. Oh well, big-bucks racers can afford a few repairs every so often.

The July 20 Missing Parts rally had the biggest turnout of the year with 44 rally cars. European Auto Parts donated the trophies. The rallymasters were Jim Karver and Carl Priess, and they had plenty of held from SVR members: Rich Farlinger, Nancy McDade, and the Pastas worked checkpoint #1; CP #2 had the Wilsons, Jan Matthews, and the Colberts; on CP #3 Rik and Lee Larson; and CP #4 handled by Sally Weddle, Stan Breyfogle and the Dunns. Lettie Larson did the start and Tom Matthews helped cleanup the signs. Rod and Lee Sorenson won the event with a score of 55, and second, with a score of 84 went to Jim and Denise Boswell. In the beginner class, Bud and Maryann Behrens finished 7th with 1,161 points.

20 Years Ago (July 1989)

"SVR Huns Crush YOS Demons," was the DRIFTER headline for the July 15th Yosemite Region (YOS) versus SVR Autocross report. Also known as "Ye Olde Hot Setup Gathering and Jousting Match," the event pitted Lord Robert of Betz and his Merrye Demons from Yosemite-towne against Burgermeister Randy of Vidmar and his Dreaded Huns from Sac-valleye. The prize? The hand(ful) of Maid Marion and possession of the Perpetual Trophye of Otto Kraus. PCA vassals of other fiefdoms were pressed into service to Robert or Randy to achieve fairness as ruled necessary by Princess Mary Ann, the Lady of the Seventh Zone and her faithful escort, Bud of Behrens. The tournament results? SVR Huns (1,417.122 seconds) got the thrill of victory and the YOS Demons (1,505.223 seconds) the agony of defeat. SVR vassals were Mike Browning, Stieve Davidson, Nikki Duncan, Sandy Englund, Steve Gilbert, Jim Johnson, Tom Kroetz, Rich McGlumphy, Sue McGlumphy, Steve Nieslony, Jack Samples, Randy Vidmar, Hank Watts, and Larry Wilson. YOS vassals were Carey Belz, Robert Belz, Oscar Berube, Larry Hall, Len Harrington, Dan Holly, Jim Mrazek, Justine Oehlert, Norm Swanberg, Randy Valencia, Robert Wagner, Anne West, and Dick Williams. After furious calculations on his abacus, Bud of Behrens, declared to all that the Yosemite Demons got more track-time, which of course was true, by 88.1 royal seconds. Princess Mary Ann’s escort demanded the return of all awards. Sir Steven of Nieslony quite truly pleaded, "But yore royal personage, since when did slowe count in the medieval rules of Otto Kraus?" "True, verily," murmured the crowd. Thus, Sir Steven kept the hard-earned Perpetual Trophye for the Huns.

The July 16 Brunch and Towe Museum Tour, Herb and Jan Hoover tour directors, started with 20 people and gained another seven folks at Frasinetti’s Winery, the tour’s midway point. THE DRIFTER featured a photo of the event with this caption: "Randy’s Rowdies park themselves at Frasinetti’s. Most of the group is wandering around in the parking lot
while this after-brunch bunch, obviously having taken in copious amounts of champagne, seat themselves on an old wine truck. From left to right: Sally Boeck cuddles up to Randy Vidmar, Randy is showing no pain, Jean Keith also tries to occupy Randy, Phil Keith cops a feel on Jean, Tom Kroetz looks on in disbelief, and Tambra Kroetz is just having a good day. "Wow, what’s not to like about this club?"

10 Years Ago (July 1999)

Dan and Deb Catherwood chaired the July 24 Oyster Tour to Tomales Bay by way of the Marin French Cheese Factory. Yum-yum! You had the choice of oysters from Hog’s Island in Tomales Bay, or sourdough bread with Brie, Camembert, or Schloss cheese and tasty wine, or all of the above. Sheila McDade chose all of the above and proceeded to eat more than her share of the 227 oysters cooked by Ira and Carol McKee who arrived hours early to pick up the oysters and get the barbecues humming in advance at the picnic site. By the volume of her consumption, Sheila McDade was awarded the Hog Island T-shirt memorializing her impressive pile of empty oyster shells. Dan and Deb said Carol and Ira were the heroes of the day. Everyone drank to that!

The Saturday, July 31, SVR Second Annual Salmon Fishing trip was for true fishermen/fisherwomen. Arranged by Mike and Sue Ambrozewicz, the advance publicity read, "We will leave Sacramento at 3:00 AM to catch the boat which departs from Sausalito at 6:00 AM." What? 3:00 AM, 6:00 AM? Don’t fish sleep? Are they up, yet? Mike had reserved an entire boat which carried 24 people. Participants in the fishing trip were also invited to a fish barbecue the next day on Sunday at Mike and Sue’s house. Mike had all the bases covered by saying, "If the salmon don’t bite on Saturday, there’s always bratwurst on Sunday." There was no event report in THE DRIFTER, but that wasn’t unusual. Still, 3:00 AM, 6:00 AM?

AUGUST

30 Years Ago (August 1979)

Over 100 SVR members and friends experienced the August 5 SVR Charity Picnic/Auction at Bess Feil’s home overlooking the American River in Fair Oaks. Betty Fielding did a terrific job coordinating the event and making sure that quality items were available for the club’s auction and its well-motivated bidders. Betty’s helpers included Ken Fielding, Marie Smith, Delores Weddle, Sally (Weddle) Boeck, Rod Craig, Pat Wilson, Delores McKinnon, Liz Stafford, and the auctioneers Kirk Bradford and Larry Wilson with help on the junior items from Colin Rueb. Over $2,500 was raised for SVR’s charity, partly because of the great turn-out for the event, and partly because of the spectacular artwork donated for auction by SVR-member Dave Marek (later chief designer for Honda.
car company), and by Clayton Turner, internationally known quadriplegic artist whose work was made famous by Great Western Savings and Loan calendars and illustrations in "California Heartland," published by Capra Press, Santa Barbara. The event was featured by an article in the November 1979 issue of PANORAMA which was re-printed in the book, "Porsche PANORAMA, The First 25 Years." Betty wound up her DRIFTER article quoting from 1 Corinthians 13:13 (American King James version): "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three: But the greatest of these is charity."

The August 4 Practice Autocross and School at Cal Expo, chaired by Stan Breyfogle and Geary Lyons, gave seven students a terrific learning opportunity and plenty of laps for the 20 drivers who signed-up for the practice sessions. A week later, on August 11, a tech session at Wyn Robertson’s Continental Auto Service featured Wyn, Dwight Mitchell, and Ken Fielding in a comprehensive discussion about paint, waxes, cleaners, and methods of keeping a Porsche in presentable shape. A few days later, on August 18, Linda Mitchell and Launa Craig presented the Wine & Culture Tour which offered a "gas-saver" opportunity to visit the Crocker Art Galley and the California Railroad Museum, and then a fine private wine tasting, all within walking distance. The $3.00 entry included the wine tasting.

20 Years Ago (August 1989)

August 5 SVR’s Zone 7 Autcross, Dwight Mitchell chair, drew 79 competitors. SVR drivers were Ray Clements, Larry Wilson, Greg Peart, Ken Mitchell, Bruce Westrup, Dwight Mitchell, Rich McGlumphy, Bob Peake, Kern Breaux, Nikki Duncan, Pat Wilson, Marcella Mitchell, Sue McGlumphy, Kelly Miller, Cookie Pacelli, Cathy Wolfe, Linda Mitchell, Don Girard, Mike Browning, Kevin Alioto, Tom Kroetz, and Gary Stratton. The fine administration of this event so moved SVR-member Phil Lawrence that he wrote that he wrote a letter to the DRIFTER editor: "Just a note to let the membership know what a professional job Dwight Mitchell did with the Zone 7 Autocross, August 5. From having Gate 10A open, to printing an instruction sheet, to setting up the course the night before - - a fine job. Tech was handled by our Tech Director, Herb Hoover, and it was "by the book." Grid bosses had headset communications to timing and even the number board person was 'wired.' This event was an example of how all SVR autocrosses should be staged."

The August 26 Anheuser-Busch Plant Tour, Jim and Sheila McDade chairs, had something for both beer and wine fans. Jim and Sheila arranged for SVR members in 23 cars to see how Bud is made (and tastes), and then a nifty picnic lunch at Cusvaison with a bit of their product. Kirk Bradford was pressed into service at the Anheuser-Busch tasting bar. After lunch, the group visited Inglenook Winery in Rutherford.
10 Years Ago (August 1999)

The August 8 Progressive Dinner had its 11:00AM start in Raley’s parking lot at El Dorado Hills, and made four stops (hors d’oeuvres, salad, barbecue, and dessert). The hors d’oeuvres served at Jude and Tom Sisson’s home in Sutter Creek were accompanied by drinks made from roasted and ground beans from a tropical plant, fermented juice of grapes, fermented liquor brewed from malt, and the juice of the poor lemon mixed with water. All mixed together, I think. Next stop was salad, and Kim and Jeff Kinder in Rescue were the hosts. In no time it was back in the cars and head for the Judy Hanna/Rich Swenson abode in Cameron Park for the barbecue. Phil Lawrence arrived early giving himself lots of time for commuting with wild turkeys (or, was it consuming lots of Wild Turkey, I don’t hear good). Rich Swenson had two barbecues going and Dan Catherwood was the ribs squirter. Bob Jacobson did kitchen police duty, then off to Carol and Ira McKee’s home in Latrobe for cakes. ..lots of them (chocolate, double chocolate, white chocolate, dark chocolate, whipped cream, coconut, and fruit).

SVR odds ‘n’ ends: Nearly two dozen Italian food enthusiasts attended the August 12, SVR Dinner Meeting at Il Fornaio restaurant in downtown Sacramento with Joan and Jose Uranga in charge. Tambra and Tom Kroetz won a bottle of Italian wine by getting the most answers correct to a quiz about Italy. A $40 gift certificate from Il Fornaio was raffled off. At the August 22 Zone 7 concours at the Blackhawk Museum in Danville, SVR member Phil Lawrence won the Early 911 Wash and Shine class with a near-perfect score of 199.50. Other SVR winners: Greg Keith first in 914 Street class, and Joe Pitta second in 914 Wash ‘n’ Shine class.

SEPTEMBER

30 Years Ago (September 1979)

A joint rally school held jointly for SVR and the Alfa Romeo Club of Sacramento on September 9 by Rik Larson presented class room training, a one and one-half hour rally, and a classroom post-rally evaluation and discussion. The September DRIFTER presented the Sacramento Valley Sports Car Council T&D rally series standings with SVR-members Jim and Denise Boswell in first place (22 points), and Fred Roloff in 8th place (10 points).

The second leg of the Porsche/Corvette Matchup was held September 23 at Cal Expo. This time, Kirk Bradford was the chair, but the results were the same as the June 9th Porsche-Corvette Challenge -- Porsches won 9 of 13 classes. Class-winning PCAers included Tina Moore, Larry Wilson, Linda Mitchell, Emmett Wilder, Matt Ballentine, Mary Ann Behrens, Terry Zaccone, Judy Zaccone, and Paul Baldarelli.
Carrera de Sierra V, September 29/30, Rik Larson (and Lettie) and Stan Breyfogle as rallymasters, was the largest Carrera rally of all time with 130 cars registered (17 cars of checkpoint workers and 113 rally cars). In all, 255 people participated in this two-day time and distance rally to Yosemite Park and back with six legs and checkpoints each day and a Saturday-night barbeque under the stars of Camp Curry. First Place Overall (and 1st Expert Equipped) went to Keith McMahan and Kathy Hopkins of Golden Gate Region. Jim and Denise Boswell, SVR, took 1st Place Novice Unequipped class. PCA checkpoint workers included Rich and Gail Burke, Sally Weddle and Lee Larson, Larry and Pat Wilson, Ted and Kaylane Robinson, Scott and Kathy Peebles, Mike and Vicki and Michelle Willis, Paul Baldarelli and Laurie Adams, Allen and Delores Weddle, Trische Robertson, Jack and June Samples, Chris and Elyce McIntyre, Emmett and Marliese Wilder, and Jim and Estelle Haskell. The best fun of the weekend came Saturday in West Point as 46 rally cars entered the town after a local parade shut down the only two exit streets. All cars were allowed to proceed, slowly, nose to tail, only after agreeing to become part of the parade, much to the delight of the locals who never had so much attention. After clearing the town, the 46-car group proceeded at speed swarming checkpoint #4. Hello! Ever try to clock in 46 cars and get the recorded in-time (to the second) associated with the correct car number? Ask Mike Willis.

20 Years Ago (September 1989)

Who Done It? That’s what you had to figure out on the September 9th SVR Mystery Rally with Sally Boeck and Karen Mangin as rallymistresses. If you were Sherlock Holmes, you knew Cahn Mann was murdered by his wicked stepsister so she could get an inheritance to pay off her gambling debts. Among the SVR Sherlock wanabees were Mark and Starla Hirst, Allen and Dolores Weddle, Tom and Tambra Kroetz, Rik Larson, Mike and Michelle Willis, Ray and Sara Clements, Elizabeth Carr and Bob Dennison, Barb Schumacher and Suzanne Gallicho, Pat and Larry Wilson, Bob and Mary Siles, and Steve and Karen Taggert.

The September 17 Charity Auction and Picnic with co-chairs Gary and Alma Thompson and Robin and Bruce Pressley at Tom and Brenda Solter’s home on Horseshoe Bar Road in Loomis sent $2,415 to the Sacramento Chapter of Make-A-Wish Foundation. Larry Wilson and Kirk Bradford were auctioneers, and great home-made items gathering serious-money bids included a wooden plate and bowl by Marv Smith, gorgeous afghan by Lettie Larson, and a Christmas Mouse by Sally Boeck.

10 Years Ago (September 1999)

The September 5 Labor Day A-B Rally ended with a barbecue/pool party at Mary and Larry Clark’s home in Granite Bay. But first the Larry Clark-written rally. Surprise, surprise. J. Toney won again - this time running solo - with a score of three points. Ira and
Carol McKee had the next best card with 13. The general instructions said entrants could get two bonus points added to their score by asking, "Where the heck is Bora Bora?" when they reached the finish. Three teams (including one former Zone 7 rally champion) did so, somehow forgetting that the object is to score the LOWEST possible score. The party featured a cat piñata that Larry Clark obtained, and rallyists, in the order of finish, were given a chance to beat the candy out of it. J. Toney tried as did Mike Willis and others - no joy. Finally, Shelagh Matthews decapitated the pussy revealing nothing inside but old Spanish-language newspapers. Both Mary and Larry Clark thought piñatas came stuffed with candy. Right.

On September 9, Rich McGlumphy and Karen Goffin arranged to hold the SVR monthly dinner meeting at Rick’s Hacienda at Highway 99 and Fruitridge Road, one of THE DRIFTER’s advertisers. More than 30 people enjoyed chips and salsa, nachos, Cuervo margaritas, and the combo plate, carnitas and shrimp. Once again the Dumbkopf Award ceremonies took center stage and, guess what? Mary and Larry Clark shared the award for having an empty piñata awaiting Labor Day A-B Rally entrants. The clap-o-meter never lies.

A big turnout for the September 25-26 Carrera de Sierra two-day rally with 12 checkpoints on Saturday to the overnight stay at Bear Valley Lodge, and more on Sunday to the finish in Jackson. Organized by the BMW club with assistance from SVR, the event had 31 rally cars vying for awards in four classes with Keith McMahan and Ken Whitson as rallymasters. J. Toney/Helen Ashuckian finished first overall (557 points) with Phillip Marks/Richard Wetzel in second (733) and Al Armelini/Rik Larson in third (793). Ira and Carol McKee finished 12th overall, Mike and Sue Ambrozewicz 15th, Rich McGlumphy/Karen Goffin 18th, and Tina and John Murphy 31st. Checkpoint workers included Bud and Mary Ann Behrens, George and Nona Morley, Bob Van Heuit, and Tom Sisson.

OCTOBER

30 Years Ago (October 1979)

The full-page DRIFTER ad for the October 4 Dinner Meeting at Zorba’s had this irresistible hook: "We will be entertained by Nick Zorba performing his famous Table Dance, and Princess Samyra will present her exotic bellydance." Wow! No word on the turnout, but it had to be HUGE. Offered a few days later, on October 7, was the SVR High Speed Wine Tour. Tourmasters Jim McDade and Paul Bates promised entrants they would taste their way through at least three wineries in the Napa/Sonoma valleys. Helmets and nomex not required. Trische Robertson said it followed the most unique and longest route she’d ever taken to Sonoma.
On October 21, SVR presented Last Chance II, a Zone 7 autocross at Cal Expo with Larry Wilson as chairman. The last event of the 1979 series attracted 78 drivers, but the only championship still up for grabs was for Class 19, modified six-cylinder cars, and the protagonists were Emmett Wilder (Redwood Region) and Jim McDade (SVR), both in 914-6 race cars. It was a winner-take-all deal, and when the dust cleared, McDade was still looking for 4-thousandths of a second. Yup, ol' Jim clocked 40.539 seconds, Emmett 40.535. After the last run, 48 workers helped Jim drown his sorrows by finishing off three cases of beer. They were: Jack and June Samples, Sally Weddle, Dwight and Linda Mitchell, Trische Robertson, Kerry Creasy, Pat and Larry Wilson, Stan Breyfogle, Mel Pasta, Dave and Debbie Marek, Robin Stone, Jim Chandler, George and Nona Morley, Ted Fukushima, Scott and Kathy Peebles, Jim and Joyce Karver, Michael and Mary Peters, Larry and Gloria Dunn, Fred and Nancy Myron, C.C. and Launa Craig, Rich Farlinger, Nancy McDade, Jim and Sheila McDade, Darrel and C.C. Overstreet, Paul Bates, Rik and Lettie Larson, Kirk Bradford, Ted and Diane Colbert, Howard and Marlene Souza, Glenn and Laquita Hills, Dave Blanchard, and Mike Willis.

20 Years Ago (October 1989)

September 30 - October 1, Carrera de Sierra XII: a two-day time and distance rally departing Fillmore’s in Sacramento with a route through Timbucktoo, Smartville, Loma Rica, Dobbins, Log Cabin, Bassetts, Vinton, Chilcoot, Sparks, Virginia City, Cave Rock, Paynesville, Markleeville, and Jackson, with Phillip Marks as organizer, John Clever as rallymaster, and a worker crew consisting of Rik Larson, Mike Willis and family, Larry and Pat Wilson, Ted and Kay Robinson, Sally and Ron Boeck, Jason Sorenson, Ron and Hazel Rule, Jill Lundstrom, Bob and Mary Siles, and Ray Seamans. Thirty-three rally teams competed for awards in four classes, and the SVR team of Tina and John Murphy won the Beginner Class with only 292 penalty points. Other SVR teams were Ron Boeck and Rod Sorenson (5th, Expert Equipped class), Harvey and Connie Cain (2nd, Expert Unequipped class), George and Nona Morley (7th, Expert Unequipped class), Allen and Dolores Weddle (2nd Novice class), Jim and Joyce Karver (6th, Novice class), and others in Beginner class; Jim McMahen and Suzanne Plantz (3rd), Tom and Tambra Kroetz, (4th), Randy Vidmar and Pals (9th), Dave and Dolores Johnson (10th), and Robert Dennison and Elizabeth Carr (11th). On Saturday near Loyalton, the team of Dave and Dolores Johnson came through the checkpoint in EXACTLY the WRONG direction of travel.

The Second Annual SVR Halloween Costume Party and Dinner Dance, October 28 at the Clarion Hotel, chaired again by Bob Peake, was kicked off, literally, by 10 raisins (Ron and Sally Boeck, Allen and Dolores Weddle, Mark and Starla Hirst, Fred and Fran Seignier, and C.C. Craig and Karen Mangin) all dancing to the tune, "I Heard It On The Grapevine." Bob and Beth Jacobson, disguised as Batman and The Joker, won first place in the costume
contest. Greg and Cyndee Peart appeared as white flower pots and placed second (they were married a few days earlier, October 6th).

October odds and ends: Jim McMahan and his 1979 911SC was the Best of Show winner at the October 22nd SVR Second Annual Wash 'n' Shine Concours. By letter dated October 10, 1989, GRASSROOTS MOTORSPORTS editor, Marjorie J. Suddard, notified SVR that THE DRIFTER had won Class 3 (251-500 circulation) in their nationwide 1989 sportscar club newsletter competition.

10 Years Ago (October 1999)

Jim and Linda McMahan presented their October 15 Napa Valley Wine Tour and Picnic, and in the spirit of the season, each driver received a miniature pumpkin. With a different twist, nine cars started the tour, eleven finished. The group stayed together nicely until, at the first rest stop, Tom Kroetz convinced Bob Jacobson they should swap cars for the next leg. As the group departed, Tom couldn’t figure out how to start Bob’s car. Bob waited. Tom finally succeeded, but the other cars were gone - out of sight. Then, Jim McMahan radioed they he had encountered more Porsches. Part of the group, the Pearts and Hanna/Swenson, broke off and joined McMahan, and after a few minutes they realized they had joined a Diablo Region Tour. By some miracle, all remnants of the original tour including the Murphys re-joined just before reaching S. Anderson Winery for tasting champagne. Rutherford Hills Winery and a picnic was next. The rest of the tour was uneventful, but fun.

Held at the Fair Oaks home of Mike and Sue Ambrozewicz, the October 23 Concours, Charity Auction, and Barbeque with Tom and Jude Sisson as co-chairs and with concours help from Kent Brandon, was a great event with something for everyone and with a noble purpose. First was the concours in the Ambrozewicz front yard. Just one class with awards to the top three. Several tied scores were broken by which car had more gas in its tank. Alan and Diane Nishimoto came in first followed by the tied duo of Dennis and Judy Stettner and Bud and Mary Ann Behrens. With more gas, Bud and Mary Ann got the nod. The picnic went on in the back yard, simultaneously. Herb Hoover, Jeff and Kim Kinder, and Tambra Kroetz brought tables for the auction items. Shade tents and umbrellas were scrounged by Judy Hanna and Rich Swenson, Mike Ambrozewicz, and Rik Larson. The nimble fingers of Sally Boeck rumbled on her laptop as she recorded all winning auction bids. Kirk Bradford and Larry Wilson were auctioneers, and when the dust cleared, the club had clocked over $2,600 for the Sacramento Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer foundation. Is this a good club, or what?

Phil Lawrence organized the October 30 Costume Bowling at Country Club Lanes, and nine costumed keglers showed up: Jude and Tom Sisson as Elvira and a vampire, Herb and Jan
Hoover as a magician and Miss Kitty, Phil Lawrence as El Gringo, Kent Brandon as a hippy and Cindy McKenzie as a baseball, and Larry and Mary Clark as the Pope and an angel. Larry Clark received the best bowling score award. But, how do you launch a bowling ball dressed as a baseball?

NOVEMBER

30 Years Ago (November 1979)

The November 10-12 (Saturday through Monday) Mendocino Tour, chaired by SVR-president and first lady, Ted & Diane Colbert, almost made Ted and Diane permanent recipients of the SVR Dumbkopf Award. After losing half the tour shortly after departure Saturday morning because of incorrectly hand-drawn maps, Ted and Diane managed to collect all wayward cars just before the lunch-stop in Cloverdale, and after a spirited drive out of town (which earned them coverage in the Cloverdale Sunday News), all arrived together at 3:15 P.M. in Mendocino. Most had great difficulty reaching the restaurant for the Saturday evening dinner because the written instructions prepared by Ted and Diane mentioned the restaurant’s name (The Wharf) but not its location. Most scoured Mendocino with no joy until a check of the Yellow Pages revealed they should be looking 10 miles north in the town of Ft. Bragg. The kite flying contest on Sunday was a hit, and so the weekend was looking good again. . .until the trip for dinner in St. Orres. John and Donna Lewis headed the first group for St. Orres, and five minutes later Ted and Diane headed the radio-less second group of cars. Witnesses in the second group said Ted and Diane drove right past the restaurant in St. Orres and continued on for another 14 miles to Gualala before realizing - "we're lost again!" They retraced their steps and found the restaurant in St. Orres and the first group on their third round in the bar. Otherwise, the weekend was super, so thought the tour participants, thus saving Ted and Diane the ignominy that permanent possession of the dreaded Dumbkopf would guarantee. Among the participants were Scott and Kathleen Peebles, Jill and Linda Mitchell, C.C. and Launa Craig, Bill and Betty Rhea, Hank and Kathy Feenstra, Jim and Shirley Chandler, Bill and Carol Ann Barr, Allen and Dolores Weddle, Trische and Robin Robertson, Gary Waldsmith and Delores McKinnon, Garth and Vicki Mason, John and Donna Lewis, and Bill and Lendine Nelson.

The November 17 Tech Session at Niello Porsche, 4609 Madison Ave., provided a debut of the new Porsche 931 (924 Turbo) by Richard Bartholomew of Porsche-Audi which included a slide show highlighting many details of the car and its engine. SVR gearheads turned out in force for this one.
20 Years Ago (November 1989)

The November 10-12 Mendocino Tour, chaired by Rik and Lettie Larson with C.C. Craig and Karen Mangin as tour leaders, started Friday from the El Macero, El Rancho Hotel and headed up Highway 116 past Clear Lake to Wiebel Winery for lunch and wine tasting on a beautiful weekend with spectacular weather. This was the first Mendo Tour for Bob and Mary Siles, John and Arlene Pluth, and Kim McGinnis. Mike, Michelle and Vicki Willis ran backdoor (end of the group to watch for stragglers). After lunch it was on to the Little River Inn for some, and the Albion Inn for others. The traditional kite flying contest was Saturday afternoon at the beach at Big River State Park. Many, however, spent Saturday morning warming-up their kite flying technique (John and Arlene Pluth, Mark and Starla Hirst, the Willis bunch, and C.C. Craig). Contest winners were: Most Original/Best looking kite - Allen Weddle; Highest Flying - the Pluths; Best Navigated - (a tie) Sally Boeck and Don/Margee Grebe; First to Fly - Kim McGinnis; Longest Flying - Vicki and Michelle Willis; Best Effort, but No Joy - Mark and Starla Hirst. Left-it-in-the Hanger - Fred and Fran Siegner. Sunday was shopping and the return trip.

November 18 was the Zone 7 Awards Banquet, long awaited by many SVR autocrossers and rallyists who ran the year-long series. Zone Rep, Bud Behrens, assembled Zone 7 PCAers at the Stockton Golf and Country Club for a social hour, dinner, awards ceremonies, and then dancing to live music starting with his favorite, "Here's That Rainy Day," in the key of "F." The concours awards were handed out, but no SVR members were recognized because they either failed to enter an event or gathered insufficient points. The rally series, chaired by Ron Boeck was a different story as SVR entrants swept the top four spots overall for both driver and navigator: First Place Driver - Harvey Cain, 689 penalty points (Expert Unequipped class); Second Place Driver - Allen Weddle, 1,123 penalty points (Novice class); Third Place Driver - Bob Dennison, 1,142 penalty points (Beginner class); Fourth Place Driver - Ray Clements, 1,162 penalty points (Expert Unequipped class); First Place Navigator - Dolores Weddle, 307 penalty points (Novice class); Second Place Navigator - Connie Cain, 689 penalty points (Expert Unequipped class); Third Place Navigator - Elizabeth Carr, 1,142 penalty points (Beginner class); Fourth Place Navigator - Sara Clements, 1,162 penalty points (Expert Unequipped class). Fourteen SVR members received class awards in the Autocross Series: Larry Wilson, Greg Peart, Ken Mitchell, Bruce Westrup, Bud Behrens, Dwight Mitchell, Bob Peake, Kern Breaux, Nikki Duncan, Pat Wilson, Cyndee Peart, Marcella Mitchell, Mary Ann Behrens, and Linda Mitchell

10 Years Ago (November 1999)

At the November 11 Pizza Party/Dessert Bake-Off at Round Table Pizza with Linda McMahon in charge, party goers brought their favorite homemade baked dessert, and the
lucky judges got to sample all entries to determine the winners. Entries with a holiday theme (Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving or Christmas) received bonus points. No tickets for Share-the-wealth? No problem - Rich McGlumphy came to the rescue with a little-known dollar bill serial number drill that proved more fun than the raffle. The Round Table crew served great pizza. About the bake-off...Karen Goffin won it with her Amaretto cake. Judges loved it. Best of show!

Thirty cars made the trek November 5-7 on the Mendocino Tour chaired by Rik and Lettie Larson. The group included many first timers: Witts, Adams, Doyles, Robinsons, Brandon and McKenzie, and Emily Lloyd. Old folks were there, too: Meuniers, McKees, Groves, and Vidmars. The tour from Mocha Joe's was led by Dan and Deb Catherwood and Rich Swenson and Judy Hanna. After reaching Little River Inn, the social gathering was held in Mike Willis' room. The next day, it was Dan and Deb Catherwood versus Tim and Susan Fleming in a golf match. Flemings won. The weather was looking good for the kite contest. So good in fact, Ron and Sally snuck out early to the headlands for high-wind testing, which did them no good because the venue was changed to the more sheltered State Park beach at Van Damme. Still good wind. Norb and Judi lost their kite (for a while) but retrieved it from across the highway, then lost it again (for good) stuck high in a tall tree. Mike Lommatzsch had a "killer-kite" which promptly killed a van. Tom Sisson had to "fish-out" his shark kite from the river. On Monday, the Larsons, Murphys, and Barnes stayed an extra day while the rest of the group headed back on Highway 128.

DECEMBER

30 Years Ago (December 1979)

The December 7th Christmas Party/Dinner at The Firehouse, 1112 Second Street, was the only SVR event scheduled for the last month of 1979. The top sirloin steak/baked potato dinner menu and music by the Modern Sounds DJ, Gene Orr, for dancing on the three-couple portable dance floor provided the background for the usual end-of-year awards made at the annual club gala. Activity Chair Stan Breyfogle presented the "Most Active New Member" award to first-year members George and Nona Morley. The "Most Active (old) Member" award went to Larry and Pat Wilson. Out-of-town SVR dual members present included Joe and Bev Riedhart, Ken and Tina Moore, and Howard and Marlene Souza from Yosemite Region; Jon Milledge and Glenn and Laquita Hills from Golden Gate Region; and Mike and Vicki Willis from Sierra Nevada Region who announced they would return, permanently, to Sacramento very soon. The partying continued well into the night with our Zone 7 Rep (and SVR member), Paul Bates, becoming nicely loosened up wearing his tie around his forehead backwards. Everyone missed Clint deWitt's red nomex Santa suit costume. And, under the heading of Dumbkopf News, the club couldn't pay the
Firehouse bill that night because event chair, Bess Feil, forgot to get a signed check from the club’s outgoing treasurer, Paul Baldarelli, who was not present. Not long afterwards, the club’s rules were changed to permit other board members to co-sign a check.

20 Years Ago (December 1989)
The December 2 Christmas Party, chaired by Elizabeth Carr, was held in the Terrace Room of the Clarion Hotel on 16th Street, an old favorite place for special club occasions of that era. Dinner, dancing, awards, and recognition - the tried and true formula. This time, a great turnout of past has-beens as 11 of 27 past presidents were present along with the tuxedo bunch of Marv Smith, Jim McDade, Randy Vidmar, Harvey Cain, Kirk Bradford, Gary Thompson, Bob Berriman, Bob Peake, Steve Taggart, and Ron Boeck. Such splendor! Grace and Oran Crumley, PCA members since October 1958, left Paradise (the town) long enough to share the festivities. Founding-member John Muenier, and wife Betty had a shorter drive from Mokelumne Hill. Elizabeth Carr and her daughter, Amelia, did creative work on the table decorations, and Sally Boeck and Sara Clements did a fine job with door prizes for one and all. Ron Boeck was Santa. After dinner, the out-going board was honored for their great work in 1989 and, from outgoing president Randy Vidmar, each received a very nice Porsche tire gage. Randy in turn received a nifty robe good for cutting Zzzzs. The Event of the Year award, a lovely crystal vase, went to Alma and Gary Thompson for their smashing Tahoe Ski Tour in March. Rookies of the Year were Bob and Marion Berriman who also received a crystal vase. Pat and Larry Wilson received the President’s Award. Then the party resumed with dancing.

Friday night, no fog or rain, just a nip in the air, and perfect for the December 15 Tambra’s 2nd Annual Christmas Lights Tour, with Tom and Tambra Kroetz as co-chairs. The route included Christmas scenes on Agena Court and Dovewood Court. On Agena, Tambra assembled the Porsche Tone-deaf Traveling Glee Club for caroling. Singers(?) were Stieve and Grover Davidson, Steven and Karen and Cherie Taggart, Karen Mangin, Dave and Cathie Chandler, R.B. and Brett Chandler, Sally and Ron Boeck, Larry and Pat Wilson, Suzanne Plantz, Dolores and Allen Weddle, Dorren and Uta Unger, Ken and Marcella Mitchell, and others. They gave an underwhelming (no, make that, awful) rendition of seasonal carols. Then, after hitting Dovewood, it was back to the Kroetz home for a party.

10 Years Ago (December 1999)
The December 4 SVR Christmas Party, Susan Fleming in charge, was held in the Terrace Room, Andiamo Restaurant, Sacramento, and party-goers brought new, unwrapped toys to be donated to the Twin Lakes Food Bank’s Christmas Toy Drive. Over 60 people attended with many out-of-town guests (Niedels, Behrens, Mullineaux, Lommatzsch, Provasis)
celebrating Christmas with SVR before hitting the Parade 2000 committee meeting the next day. After recognizing the out-going board and introducing new board members (see the names in this column next month), recognition shifted to the most memorable events of 1999. The Charity Auction was correctly deemed the social event of the year, and its co-chairs, Jude and Tom Sisson, received champagne and truffle baskets. The September Autocross/Dinner was selected as the competitive event of the year, and its co-chairs, Tania and Glen Brooksby, also received champagne and truffle baskets. Dinner was delicious, the dessert superb, and the company great.