



Kaleidoscope

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CORVETTE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED MAY 9, 1957

Volume 7, Number 4

Marie Hoy, Editor

May, 63

PRESIDENT

John Zeh

THE PRESIDENT CORNERED

The NCCA is what is referred to as a Marque Club in "sporty car" circles (one make of car only, owned by the membership). There are certain very real advantages to this setup, such as special technical information on your car can be provided you that a general club could hardly get involved with. However, the advantage not quite so obvious is that you have something in common with your fellow members that is beyond just driving a sports car. You share the same technical problems and ---the same "image" before the public of your particular make of car.

It is in quest of improving this "image" that brings Marque members into a unity seldom if ever enjoyed by general membership clubs. Because the NCCA has pursued the improvement of the Corvette's image from the outset with unusual zeal, all Corvette drivers who live in Northern California have benefited. NCCA members represent no more than 2% of the Corvette owners in the area. In the past six years this small select group has given the Corvette the reputation of being a sports car to be reckoned with in any form of competition. Especially in autocross competition, a type of event believed to be strictly the realm of the small imported sports car, in other parts of the country. Here, the Corvette is known as an autocross car capable of competing with any of them on even terms. The top ten often includes more Corvettes than any other make of car. In events with courses of the "micky mouse" variety---where newcomers will not believe it is possible--NCCA members are driving these Corvettes.

Driving the only 100% U. S. built sports car in competition against all of the imports, and winning, carries a special thrill. We think this is the charm the Corvette has on us.

John Zeh

VICE PRESIDENT

Paul Beshgetoorian

RECORDING SECRETARY

LaVerne Craven

TREASURER

Jack Irasmith

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dudley Combs, Chairman

Gary Carlen

John Coyle

Ronald Craven

Elwin 'Woody' Wood

MEMBERSHIP

By Jack Riis

MEMBERSHIP IS GROWING- At our last meeting at the Training Center, we took in four new members. This brings our total 1963 membership to 69 car members. This month the membership committee has five more prospective members who were listed in our April Bulletin. However, good prospective members need good publicity so for your information we are repeating their names here for you.

BARRY QUINN- 22557 Norwood Dr.
Hayward

RONALD TRETHAN-4100 Kuhnle Ave.
Oakland

JACK FLEIG- 1079 Broadway
San Francisco

JACK and BETTY MACKRODT,
1270 147th Ave.
San Leandro

Welcome Back to the NCCA to former members:

JERRY VERCELLI- 2629 Logan St.
Oakland

BOB and BARBARA EAGLESON-
4262 Central Ave.
Fremont

REMEMBER, new members are not hard to find You are the best advertisement for the NCCA.

- - - - -
Save this space and jot down the name of prospective members .

SOCIAL

By Ernie Grabstein

A slightly dampened group of around thirty attended our April 13th Dinner Meeting at The Pioneer Village in San Leandro to barbecue steaks, eat smorgasbord, and of course bend a few elbows. At those prices that's a steak dinner that's hard to beat. It was well worth venturing out on a rather misty night. Just ask JEAN COYLE, husband JOHN made her change a flat tire(or so Jean tells it)

Besides, we had a mystery member present- it was that fellow that was with LA VERNE CRAVEN. That was you wasn't it JIM?

A DINNER MEETING is planned for June but the exact location has not been confirmed.

JUNE 7, 8 & 9 is LAGUNA SECA-
I hope all members who wished to make their reservations at the Monterey Travel Lodge (as announced in the April Bulletin) were able to mail their deposit by the May 1st deadline.

SUNDAY MAY 5th- AFTER CORVANNA BARBECUE as always proved to be a real fun event. Who ever decided to put the soft drinks and beer in the Grabage can caused no end of duress to PATTIE TSIRLIS (and friend) who insisted in disposing of their garbage with the refreshments.

Other than a few mishaps such as "Treas.", JACK IRASMITH cooking your Social Chairman's steak on 'the rocks' (and I do mean hot rocks")the barbecue was a success so COME ON NEW MEMBERS- Try a Corvanna and Some of the "after" fun.....

Publicity

By Sig Zeh

From

Sports Car Views - April 16th Issue

Pyloneaters

By Max Maximovich

Have you good people heard about the latest requirement for autocrossing these days? A life preserver will hereafter be required as standard equipment for Pleasanton events.

CORVANNA

The NCCA held its first aquavanna.. er, Corvanna of the year and despite all the scheming weatherman could do, it was a splashing..er, smashing success. Actually, the festivities should have been divided into two events, before and after the rain. Those unfortunate enough to run in the wet regretted their decision, as times dropped rapidly as soon as the track dried out. The course itself was excellent, as we have come to expect from the NCCA these days. The whole event was well conceived and smoothly run, a polished job by one of the more experienced clubs in the area.

Of those who ran during the monsoon, the best job was done by John Kelly, and was even more amazing, considering the front shocks were out on his Healey. In the final account, we had some rather fine driving by some old timers running their first events of the year. Dudley Combs finally brought his new Sting Ray into action, and did a beautiful job in winning class A. Not bad for the first time out in a new car.

The big news of the day was that Chuck Pistante returned, driving his SCCA class E competition machine. Running his first event of the year, Chuck walked off with TTOD, and was disappointed at not turning in a faster time. Seems as though the old champions never lose the knack.

From

San Francisco Examiner - Friday, April 5

Checkered Flag

By Jerry Diamond

The Northern California Corvette Association took a second step toward ownership of the 1963 Autocross perpetual trophy last weekend at Alameda County Fairgrounds. Spearheaded by Gary Carlen of Alameda and Terry Weygandt of Sacramento, NCCA grabbed team honors at the Monaco Corvanna, third in a series of championship autocross events.

Carlen and Weygandt whipped around the Fairgrounds course at the wheel of Corvettes in 1:13.88 minutes. The second fastest times of the day combined with top performances by Palo Alto's Dudley Combs and Ed O'Shea nailed-down the contest for NCCA's team.

Best time of the afternoon went to Charles Pistante of Hayward. The Petit Prix SCC wheeler barrelled a Porsche around the course in 1:13.65.

Seven Bay area teams competed in the show before one of the largest autocross crowds in Northern California history.

Next championship event on the calendar is scheduled April 21 at Pleasanton.

Max Maximovich, cont'd

The challenge trophy was won by NCCA, making it 2 out of 3 for the home team. This was due to the fine driving by Gary Carlen and Terry Weygandt, who finished in a dead heat for second overall, just .23 seconds behind the storming blue Porsche. Mike Tsirlis experienced mechanical difficulties half way through his run, and was unable to finish. Judging from his time for one lap, it would have been mighty close between Mike and Chuck for top honors.

Publicity cont'd.

Our thanks to Mr. Maximovich and Mr. Diamond. We also wish to thank the following for giving us publicity, weeks in advance, for both our Monaco and Nurburgring Corvannas. I am listing them on the days their weekly column or calendar appears because so many of you have requested this information be repeated.

Mondays

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE - Gordon Martin's "Roaring Road" in the green sports section.

Wednesdays

OAKLAND TRIBUNE - Hugh Randolph's "Pit Stop" in the sports section.

HAYWARD REVIEW - Al Auger's "Turn One".

PALO ALTO TIMES - Bob Garner's "RPM".

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER - Jerry Diamond's "Checkered Flag" in the sports section.

REDWOOD CITY TRIBUNE - Bob Garner's "Rally Round"

SAN JOSE NEWS - Ed Dunckelmann's "Sports Car Chatter"

Thursdays

BERKELEY GAZETTE - Al Auger's "Turn One".

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE - Gordon Martin's "Roaring Road" in the green sports section.

SACRAMENTO BEE - "Buzzin' Around the Auto Sports" sports section.

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER - "Checkered Flag Calendar" in Examiner want ads, class 185 D.

Thursdays, cont'd.

SAN JOSE NEWS - Ed Dunckelmann's "Sports Car Chatter".

Fridays

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER - Jerry Diamond's "Checkered Flag" in the sports section.

Saturdays & Sundays

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER - "Checkered Flag Calendar" in Examiner want ads class 185 D.

MAGAZINES

SPORTS CAR VIEWS - bi-weekly, P O Box 285, Santa Clara, California

SPORTS CAR NEWS - every 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, P O Box 372, Tarzana, California

Motoracing - biweekly, P O Box 392, Culver City, California.

Permission was granted by Mr. Gary Heitman, Editor of "Today's Motor Sport" to reproduce from the April issue the following two pages from "T. M. S. commends - the 1963 Sting Ray". This article features Charter Member and past Director, Paul Reinhart.

Pleasanton - May 5, Nurburgring Corvanna

The Rain Gods smiled on the NCCA-- as warm and sunny day as you could ask for. Chairman O'Shea got everything rolling about 8:30 AM. The course was decently wide most of the way and lacked any noticeable straightaways. Several turns were great "drifters" -- where the driver could take the line of his choosing. Nothing but praise has heard from any of the 235 drivers about the course. It was great fun to drive whether you were at the wheel of a Sprite or Corvette.

Most of the "old timers" were on hand as well as a great many newcomers to the Sport. Some of the newcomers who try their hand at Autocrossing are somewhat appalled at the fierceness of the competition. Its a make or break affair--one mistake and the driver is out of the money. In some classes there are 30 to 40 entries vying for only three trophies.

The entry list included some exotic machinery. Two Ferrari GTs, two Lotus Super 7s, an AC Cobra and a '63 Chev. Impala (don't laugh, the driver did a capable job).

Team Captin Mike Tsirlis led (with top time) a new crew into competition for defense of our Team Challenge Perpetual Trophy. Max Gum, Jim Smith and Phil Cramer had an average time just 2/100 seconds more than the winning team "Petit Prix SCC". Of the championship autocrosses thus far Petit Prix has won the trophy twice and NCCA three times. With 13 more events to go on the Championship Trail, things will get very interesting later on. With hardly a Sunday away from the wheel.

Like old times, past president and now RDC president, Red Faris was on hand

assisting with announcing and starting. Red even drove out with his SCCA competition Sting Ray and turned some laps over the course--just for kicks, after the last official run.

Woody Wood gave Miss San Leandro, Marie Musso, our trophy queen, a ride around the course in his red Sting Ray. She presented the awards to the lucky winners at Hap's in Pleasanton about 5:30. Members and guests then returned the the Fairgrounds for a barbecue.

The Nurburgring Corvanna was a huge success. No accidents or sticky problems that couldn't be solved. Lets hope our Le Mans Corvanna June 23rd at Cotati is as great.

THE WINNER' CIRCLE

SCCA Stockton Road Races
 Saturday, April 6, Novices only
 Class A 1st. Ernie Grabstein

3rd. Andy Montes

Sunday, April 7

Class A 1st. Bill Sherwood
 2nd. Red Faris

Class B 1st. Ron Craven
 2nd. John Coyle

Sunday, April 7, Red Liner's Autocross
 Top Time of Day and 1st Class A----

1:24.22 = Terry Weygandt

Class B 1st. John Zeh = 1:24.69
 2nd Dudley Combs = 1:25.01
 3rd. Ed O'Shea = 1:26.98

Class C 1st. Gary Carlen = 1:25.86
 2nd Phil Cramer = 1:27.65
 3rd. Max Gumm = 1:27.82

Class J 1st. Barbara Gumm = 1:29.60

Sunday, April 21, Porsche Club Auto-x
 Top Time of Day, Chuck Pistante 1:18.30
 Class A - 1. Terry Weygandt ---- 1:19.96
 Class D- 1. Gary Carlen----- 1:19.17
 2. Ed O'Shea----- 1:19.31
 3. Max Gumm----- 1:19.62
 Class J - 2. Barbara Gumm----- 1:25.49

We also won the CLUB PARTICIPATION
 TROPHY and the NCCA PERPETUAL
 AWARD - team of Carlen, O'Shea, Combs
 and Weygandt with average time 1:19.58

Sunday, April 28, MG Owner's Auto-x
 Mike Tsirlis-TTOD and 1st Class D
 James Smith - 3rd Class A
 Barbara Gumm - 3rd Class J

Sunday, April 28, Sacramento
 Mike Tsirlis - TTOD & 1st. ----1.594
 Terry Weygant - 1st ----- 1.655

Vera Carlen ----- 20
 Barbara Gumm----- 14
 Marily O'Shea ----- 13
 Carole Carlen ----- 6
 Ginger Haines ----- 3

Council Championship points for NCCA
 members, after 3 events:

Gary Carlen-----	56
Mike Tsirlis-----	38
Terry Weygandt-----	38
Ed O'Shea-----	38
Barbara Gumm-----	34
Marilyn O'Shea -----	26
Vera Carlen -----	22
Norm Davis-----	18
John Haynes -----	18
Cedric Carlen -----	14
Dudley Combs -----	14
Phil Cramer-----	4
Carole Carlen -----	2

Corvanna Championship points for
 NCCA members after 2 events:

Modified Class
 Terry Weygandt -----18

Class A
 Dudley Combs ----- 18
 John Zeh -----15
 Ed O'Shea ----- 14
 Norm Davis ----- 6
 John Coyle----- 4
 Paul Beshgetoorian ----- 3
 Ernie Grabstein----- 3
 John Haynes ----- 3
 Jerry Kaufmann ----- 1

Class B
 Gary Carlen ----- 18
 Max Gumm ----- 14
 Mike Tsirlis -----10

Class C
 Phil Cramer ----- 18
 James Smith ----- 18
 Bill Roeber ----- 11
 Tom Robinson ----- 5
 Mel Piambo ----- 2
 Gene Souza ----- 2
 Gene Duley ----- 1

Sedan Class
 Doug Williams ----- 6

Ladies Class - 2
 To the left

EASTER SEAL DRIVE

By Dr. Bob Taylor

April 20th was the appointed day for the final participation in our selected charity, namely the Easter Seal Society. Amidst a driving rain a surprising number of cars appeared to collect the containers which had been distributed on March 9th. As Mr. KEN FLANIGAN said "Its unbelievable that so many people would come out in this rain to undertake a strictly voluntary job". Even though we had anticipated more cars, we were pleasantly surprised when twelve different cars did appear. Those hearty souls who were willing to forego a warm dry house for the wet nasty job of collecting the containers certainly deserve special attention.

It is with deep thanks the committee for the distribution of Easter Seal Containers acknowledges the presence of the following people: BOBBY GUMM, DICK GUMM, "WOODY" WOOD, JOHNNY ZEH AND SIG ZEH, JAVELOS and his charming friend, CHUCK OLSON and friend BIRI, FENTON KELLEY, a special note of thanks to JOHN THOMAS for doing double duty, PAUL and SHIRLEY BESHGETOORIAN, FRED AND CAROL STRANGE, BILL ROEBER and JOHN MARENGO.

As yet we have no idea as to the actual amount of money collected by the containers, but when that information is obtained we shall pass it on to you.

Editors Note: with all due respect to those who assisted on this project I think a lot of credit should be given "Doc" Taylor for his enthusiasm and all the hours of extra-circular work which must have been involved.

THANKS-you reflect a great credit to yourself and to the N.C.C.A. !

MISS SAN LEANDRO PARADE

By "Woody" Wood

Once again when the cry went out for volunteers for service above and beyond the call of duty, it was the NCCA who gallantly answered. Fifteen of our brave lads raised their hands and offered their services in spite of vigorous objections by the wives and sweethearts.

At 9:30 am on Saturday April 13th 1963 fourteen starters were lined up on the pre-grid at Bancroft Jr. High School in San Leandro. The A and B production cars all passed thru tech and then were decked out in gayly colored signs and banners and each car was assigned a co-pilot. Since the course was unfamiliar to most of the drivers, the co-pilots chosen were young ladies of the community who were also entered as candidates for the title of "Miss San Leandro".

After shooting many rolls of film and recruiting a passing Sunbeam Alpine to fill the vacancy on the grid, the familiar, "Gentlemen start your engines", was heard. ..

The parade wound through the streets of San Leandro, with horns blasting, red lights flashing and spark plugs fouling until it reached the pre-determined pit stop at Manor Bowl in Washington Manor. Then as usual the rains came and those who had tops put them up while others improvised with cellophane, newspapers, or what have you.

It was most amusing to watch the spectators along the way. The 'dirty ole man' waved to the girls and the young kids yelled "Boy, look at all those Corvettes"

Miss San Leandro Parade

(Contd)

The names, phone numbers and addresses of the Co-Pilots are being omitted but these are the daring Pilots: JOHN ZEH, GENE DULEY, DOUG WILLIAMS, STEVE INGERSOLL, JOHN HAYNES, CEDIRC CARLEN, MAX GUNN, JAMES SMITH, PAUL BESHGETOORIAN, AL NICCA, FENTON KELLEY, JOHN MARENGO, KEN WILKENSON and "WOODY" WOOD.

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PSALM of the Open Road

(by Way of Corvette)

Corvette is my mount;
I shall always want.

It maketh me to sometime curse it
When it transporteth me not.

Yea, when I walk through the pits
in the shadow of the A.C.Cobra
I fear its evil

For thou art not with me

Thy rods and thy pistons
At times, discomfort me..

Thou blowest a head gasket
in the presence of mine enemies
Thou annointest mine head with oil
My radiator runneth over

Surely, dreams of trophies and
autocrosses
Shall haunt me all the days of
my life

And I shall dwell with the
NCCA FOREVER.

EDITORIAL

Or, "Fool Injection"

BACK AGAIN, and strangely at a loss for words. Two of our talented contributors to the Autocrossing series are sorely missed but future Kalidescopes will feature a return publication for MIKE TSIRLIS and GARY CARLEN. Frankly after watching these boys drive in the Corvanna Sunday I admit it I'M impressed! But remember their glory and that of the other outstanding drivers in our club is not just sheer luck.

So save all the articles and even though you may not always be able to practice Terrys early to bed and early to rise your times in Corvannas this year may surprise even you...

By the way it was especially gratifying at Stockton Races to notice in the pre-grid area that the only cars that drew such a crowd you couldn't even get to the cars was the- yep, you guessed it- so you see we are not alone!

Speaking of Stockton, that weekend proved "Life Can Be Beautiful" for a former autocrossing enthusiast. None other than our own "Ola" Ernie Grabstein took a first Saturday in the Novice race. And if the weather that day didn't prove those Sting Rays are sanforized Nothing will.

So save your blue chip stamps. You may not be able to get a Sting Ray but your local redemption store manager will sure have a few bad moments. (I know!)

SO SEE YOU LATER and remember
I NEED NEWS= How about you?

Marie