

B L A U R A I N

January 2020

Volume XL, Number 1

Blue Ridge Region Porsche Club of America

40th Anniversary Edition



The President's Desk

The president's column summarizes who we are, what we do, and where we are headed. From the interface with Porsche Club of America national to the people we meet, the president represents each of us to the world. Everything starts with good leadership.

Charities

Blue Ridge Region shares a lot with its community. One way is the support of various charities in the region. There is the annual donation to four charities in the region plus other support during the year as determined by the board of directors.

Gary Bell Memorial Rally

Who loves a rally? We at Blue Ridge Region certainly do! The first rally in several years was dedicated and named for long-time member Gary Bell. He will be missed by all who knew him. In his honor, the Gary Bell Memorial Rally was organized.

Tri-Region Tour

What happens when three Porsche Club of America regions join forces? A great event happens! The Resort at Glade Springs in West Virginia was the location, and what an event it was. Road tours, great food, and Porsches always make a great event.

Street Survival

BMW Car Club of America sponsored the Tire Rack Street Survival in Salem. Blue Ridge Region joined BMWCCA by helping organize and carry out this valuable learning session for young drivers. Teen drivers are most at risk for an accident, so the training they get helps save lives.

Cars 'n Coffee

Cars 'n Coffee is a very casual social event. Held ten months of the year, Blue Ridge Region members, friends, and invited guests get together for friends and food. Getting there in a Porsche is part of the fun too. There is nothing like a Porsche drive with friends, and having good food too.

Table of Contents



Various

Blue Ridge Region Events 2019

Beginning with page 8, several 2019 specific events are described in text and photographs. We have a varied schedule and activities, all involving our Porsches. As you read and look at what we did in 2019, there should be something of interest to you. If you are a member, please join us at a future event. We hope to see you at an event in 2020.



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September Event Street Survival

Statistics show around 50% of teen driver fatalities involve a single vehicle.

At Street Survival, young drivers are taught to control their car in unpredictable situations. They learn how make good driving decisions and react more quickly. They become more aware and learn to begin anticipating the actions of other drivers.

For that reason, BRR supports the BMWCCA with their sponsorship of this event.

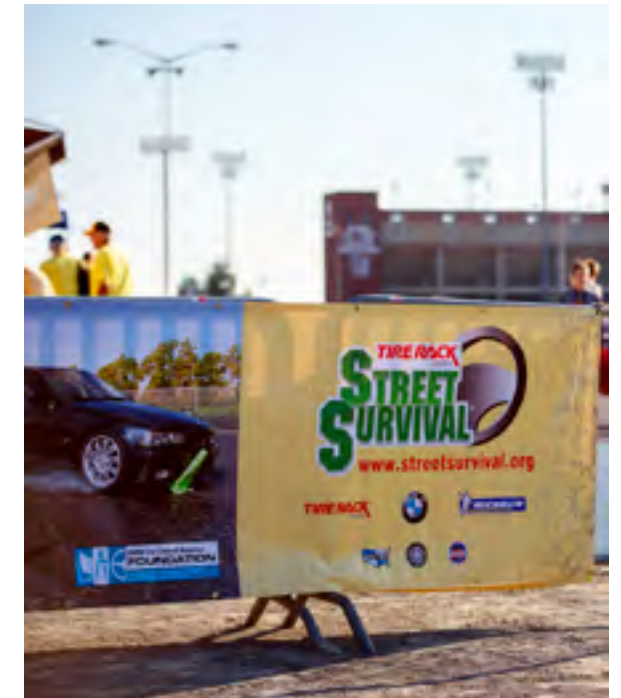
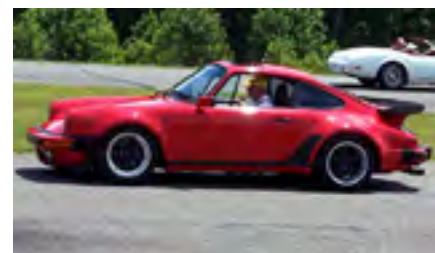


Photo: Anne Sampson Photography.

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October Event Gary Bell Memorial Rally

In 2018 we lost a long time member, Gary Bell. Gary loved a rally so it was fitting the 2019 rally be named in honor of his memory.



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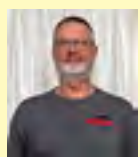
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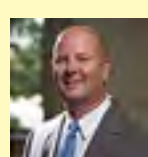
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From The President's Desk

Welcome 2020! I've been a member and have served the Blue Ridge Region in many capacities over the past 30 years but this concludes my first year in the "Driver's Seat". If our 2nd year together is anything like 2019, we better fasten our seatbelts and engage the PSM! Last year I asked "What interests do you have? How can YOUR club best serve you?" and boy did I get answers.

We started out looking for ways to build upon our already popular monthly "Cars and Coffee" events. Organized by our own rock star, Gene Reed we saw record numbers in attendance as well as some pretty popular destinations around our region. With the 4 door Porsches starting to outnumber the 2 doors, this has been a great way to enjoy a Saturday drive/social and bring more friends as well!

And speaking of fun drives, how about our first Annual Gary Bell Rally! Inspired by the club's past Rally Chair, the late Gary Bell, we had more fun than should be allowed behind the wheel. Led by Bill Hume and Gary Templeton I am certain the Rally's namesake was smiling from that great "Porscheplatz" in the sky. How could you not love a beautiful fall drive with destinations like the Homestead Creamery and Smith Mtn. Lake along the way. Throw in some cool trivia and selfies to entertain and you would be hard pressed to top it - but we did, with a great lunch social in Gretna! You won't want to miss the next one.

Moving car events were among your many requests and what better way to test your car and driver skills than an Autocross! With a reasonable contingent of Blue Ridgers, we joined the Shenandoah Region in September for what turned out to be their largest event ever in Verona - we even sported a 4 door from our region (ahem - and a few non-Porsches). Check out the pictures in the coming pages as well as online - serious fun for all skill levels! Since we already have equipment for our Street Survival schools and now an offer from the Shenandoah Region to help, be looking for us to host an Autocross here in Roanoke soon.

Speaking of Street Survival, after several false starts due to scheduling conflicts, in May we

held our annual youth driver training school at the Salem Civic Center with great success - arguably our best yet. Our region continues to lead the way in this extremely effective program known as Tire Rack Street Survival. We share the hosting of this with our friends at the Tarheel Chapter of the BMWCCA as we have for several years now and are working towards hosting 2 schools in 2020! With the equipment and materials inventory ever growing for these events, our region also decided that central storage was necessary and purchased a trailer to consolidate it all!

Keeping the membership informed and engaged is key to any club's success and do we have that covered! Mick Michelson's "Monday Morning Piddlings" are a work of art - not fine art but fun and informative none the less! If you haven't visited recently, check out our website's new look and do it often as our Webmaster, Dave Hogan is always adding events and content - you will love his "Year in Review". They love to hear from you and your suggestions and comments are always welcome.

All the great events and charities wouldn't happen without great leadership - not from me but your region's board. Our past presidents have laid the groundwork for us to succeed (sometimes in spite of me!) and the Board is where the heavy lifting comes in - many hands make light the work. Take a moment to look at the names and faces on our contacts page - these are the people who make this club a success. Financial stability doesn't just happen either. Our Treasurer (and husband of past President Debbie), Bill Repass will be handing over "the books" after many years in great shape to someone many of you already know. Troy Smith might be new to the board but no stranger to our region or finances. Thanks, Bill for your years of service and thanks Troy for stepping up to the job - we look forward to having you on the team!

So, I will ask again - What interests do you have? How can YOUR club best serve you?

Marc Wilson,

President

Around The Web & In Print

This year Blue Ridge Region is 40 years old. A lot has changed in forty years. Porsche vehicles have gotten bigger, water cooled, and filled with electronics. Now there is even a Porsche 4-door sedan, a station wagon, and two SUVs. Modern Porsches are now seldom maintained and repaired in the owner's garage.

The 4-door sedan and SUVs have brought in new members with different ideas. Our club has benefited with more members and changes to make our club better.

Our Facebook page is updated almost daily with event information, photographs of past events, Porsche and other auto news, reminders, and changes.

The good news is you do NOT have to have a Facebook account to see our Facebook page. Go to our website at www.brr-pca.org and click the "Facebook" link in the "Important Links" at the bottom of the home page, then bookmark our Facebook page. It is that easy to stay current on BRR events and happenings, or use your favourite search engine. We have over 300 followers from around the world.

Monday Morning Porsche Piddlings is emailed to members each week. Along with the important announcements, a calendar of events is included. Other interesting tidbits are included and will make you laugh or cringe. The Porsche Gone Bad section may make you sad, but check it out anyway.

Statistics show our website is being used less each year. Faster means of communication are



Printworks office manager Vickie Turner and Blau Rain Editor Dave Hogan review the January 2019 issue of Blau Rain prior to printing. Photo: Laura Hogan

taking its place. Whatever your preference, Blue Ridge Region is communicating with you.

2019 was a fun year in Blue Ridge region. Socials, Cars 'n Coffee, and track events gave some activity for everyone. And many participated in all three activity types. We do have something for everyone! In 2020 the fun continues. Driver education events at VIR are planned by several groups. Cars 'n Coffee continues most months. A variety of activities await you. We try to have something for most everyone.

Dave Hogan,
Newsletter Editor & Social Media/Website Coordinator



Photo: Laura Hogan

At our August Cars 'n Coffee I was surprised to be honored for the work I do for Blue Ridge Region. While I hold several jobs with BRR, I enjoy the work and helping the club. Blue Ridge Bagels, host of the Cars 'n Coffee, participated in helping the club organize the event. In February 2020, I will reach 20 years in BRR. Thank you BRR for all you have done for me.



Charities 2019

Our club is a charitable organization. Each year we raise funds for charity with proceeds going to charities we select from our region. During 2019 we donated \$1000 to each of four charities across our region; Bedford Domestic Violence Coalition, West End Center, NRV Cares, and, CASA of Lynchburg. One charity is chosen from a different area in Blue Ridge Region. Additionally we donate to other

charities during the year as voted by the board. The generosity of our members allows us to give back some of our good fortune. Some members may have used one of our charities, some may use one in the future. Our donations allow the charities to help others during their tough time of need. We are happy to help our friends in need. Donations are welcome throughout the year. Thank you for your support.

New Member/Holiday Party



Photos:
Dan DeHart
Marc Wilson




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Gary Bell Memorial Rally

In 2018 we lost a long time member, Gary Bell. Gary loved a rally so it was fitting the 2019 rally be named in honor of his memory.

The rally began in Roanoke, VA and ended at Smith Mountain Dam Visitors Center in Sandy Level, VA. There was a stop at Homestead Creamery in Wirtz, VA. The ice cream provided a sweet snack for participants to hold them over for the late lunch.

There was a list of stops everyone had to make, and take a selfie of an object. Time and correct answers determined the winners (a picture of the winner is on page 10).

A self guided tour of the Smith Mountain Dam area was spectacular as the fall colors were abundant. The dam is fifty two years old and still in excellent condition. It continues to generate hydro-electric power for American Electric Power. The lake behind the dam provides residences, recreation, and jobs to the area.

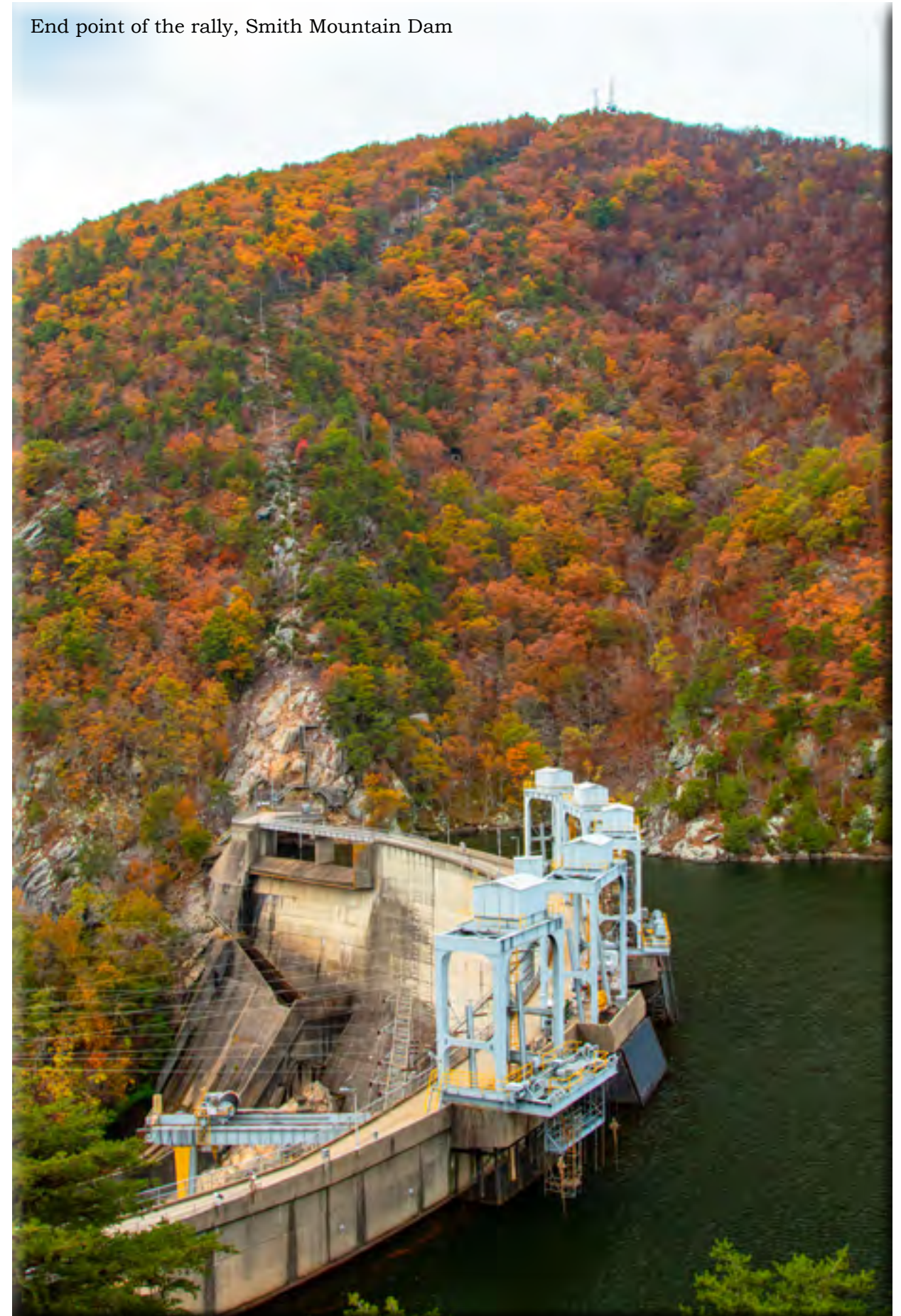
Following the rally several members drove to Mama Rosa's in Gretna, VA for a late lunch.

It was a very successful rally, the first for BRR in many years. It was a fitting tribute to Gary and we will continue the tradition in 2020.



Photo: Unknown

End point of the rally, Smith Mountain Dam





The start, Roanoke, VA. Photo: Marc Wilson



The winning team receives their trophy.



At the Visitors Center Photo: Marc Wilson

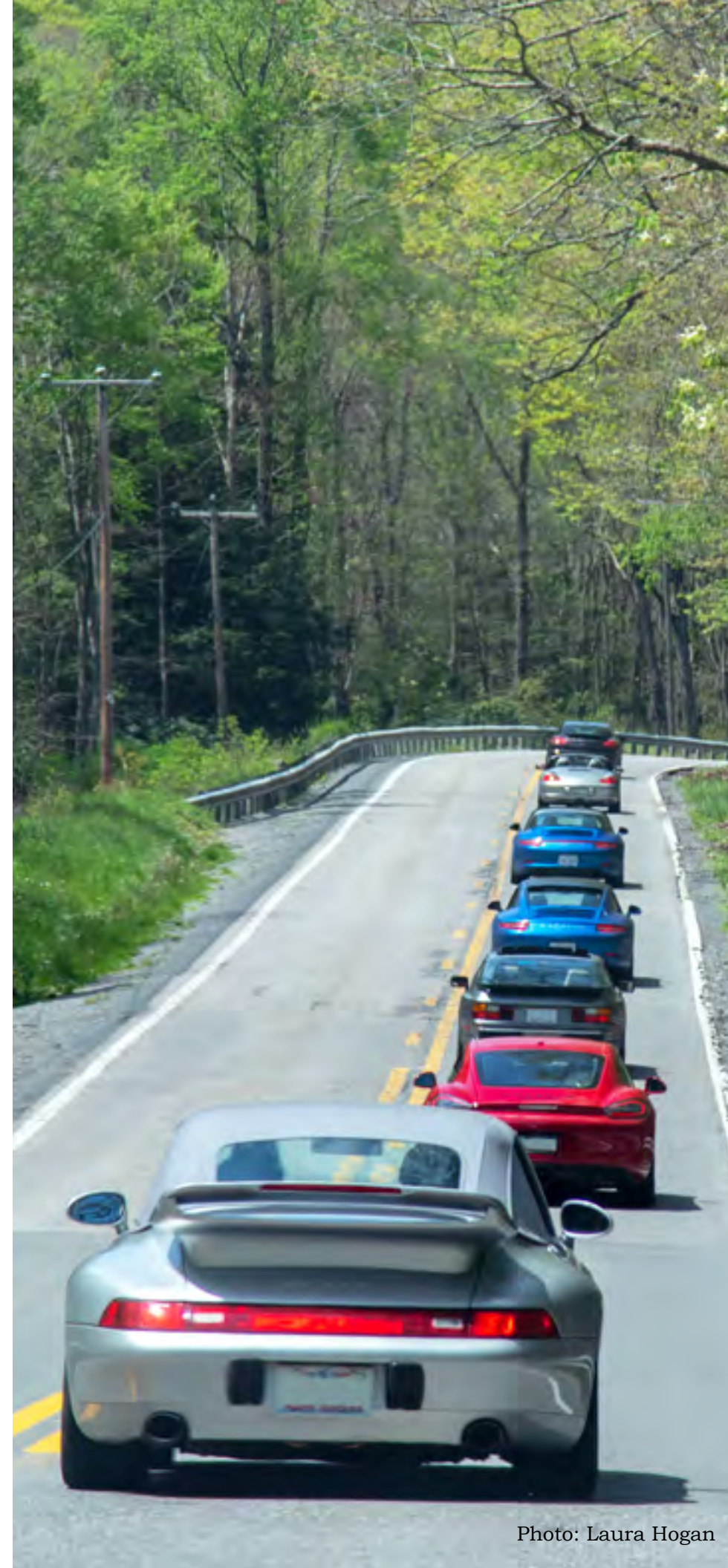


Photo: Laura Hogan



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Tri-Region Tour

The Hurricane, Carolinas, and Blue Ridge regions assembled a Tri-Region Spring Tour 2019 at The Resort at Glade Springs in Daniels, West Virginia. The Tri-Region Spring Tour 2019 was a world class gathering of cars, camaraderie, scenic drives, and dinners paired with wonderful wines chosen by wine expert, Bryan Tucker.

Two days of activities were planned. One day was a choice of scenic drives. The next day was a morning car show followed by sightseeing in the area, enjoying activities at the resort, or just relaxing. An elegant meal, with door prizes, ended both days. Even though it rained each day, it occurred at convenient times and did little to dampen spirits.

One drive went to Paint Bank, Virginia. The other to the New River Gorge. Both venues were a good drive. The itinerary included West Virginia scenic roads leading into Virginia. Lunch

was a la carte at the Swinging Bridge Restaurant in the Paint Bank General Store in Paint Bank, VA.

The other drive was a circle drive to Babcock State Park, New River Gorge Bridge, and Daniel Winery. Approximately 3 hours driving time, total travel time about 6.5 hours. The drive paralleled the New River for a distance, stopped at Sandstone Falls visitor center, continued to the grist mill in Babcock State Park, stopped at the Canyon Rim Visitor Center for a picnic lunch (box lunches were available from the resort), a drive under the New River Gorge Bridge, and then stopped at the Daniel Winery for wine tasting. A small thunderstorm arrived while we were at the winery, so everyone watched the rain and enjoyed the amenities of the winery.

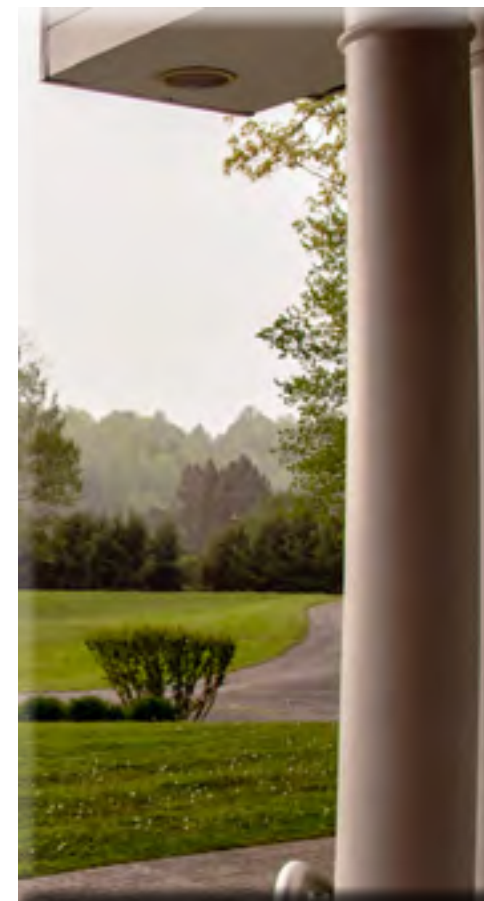
There was only one minor malfunction as one car developed a slow leak in two tires. Even that had a humorous side as related in the article on page 14.



Photo: Tri-Region Tour



It was a fun and friendly event. We made new friends and caught up with old ones. The resort was first class and the activities kept everyone busy.



The Car That Would Not Lose



Photo: Donna Templeton

In recent Blue Ridge Region history, no event is more popular than the monthly Cars 'n Coffee. These events produce the largest crowds and the most Porsche vehicles. One feature of these events is when Mick enlists the aid of a nearby child to select their favourite Porsche of those in the parking lot. And so our story begins.

Among the past events one Blue Ridge Region member, who likes the color white, seemed to have the most popular car. Those white cars are affectionately known as the Snowmobile. When the Snowmobile is present, everyone knows there is a very high likelihood of it being selected as favorite. No matter how many different styles or colors the other Porsches have, the Snowmobile tops them all. When the Snowmobile is not present, others have hope their car will be selected and they can take home the trophy.

A recent event was held at The Resort at Glade Springs in West Virginia. Among the attendees was the Snowmobile. Since there was a "car you would like to drive home" car show scheduled, everyone wondered if the Snowmobile would take home another trophy. On the way to West Virginia, karma seemed to strike the Snowmobile.

First one tire, then two, developed a slow leak. Fortunately, after stops to refill the tires, the Snowmobile limped into the parking lot. Far from home, and with few options, a truck was called to retrieve the stricken Snowmobile and return it home.

The morning of the car show, and just before the show began, a truck arrived and the Snowmobile started home. Blue Ridge Region members began to have hope their car would now be selected as one of the three most popular. After all, the Snowmobile was not in the show. Good luck for the other Blue Ridge Region members you say? Well, karma went the other way at the awards ceremony that night. While no Blue Ridge Region members' car won the most popular, there was one other award to be given, the Chairman's Award. With the theme "car you would like to drive home" the chairman decided the one carried home was the one most wanted to be driven home. So it seems this car can win awards even when it is not there. There is little hope other Blue Ridge Region members will win the prized trophy as long as the Snowmobile is present, and now, even when it is not present. Dave, have you driven that car to buy a lottery ticket?



Photo: Tri-Region Tour



Photo: Donna Templeton



A different angle in this photo, the driver's view from the pit box into the pits.

Street Survival

Photos: Anne Sampson Photography

Again in 2019, Blue Ridge Region volunteers teamed with the BMW Car Club of America which sponsored a Tire Rack Street Survival session at the Salem Civic Center in Salem, VA. Street Survival offers students real-world driving experiences not covered in normal driver education training.

From the classroom to the driving course, students learned how to avoid potential accident situations by learning how their daily driver car reacts and handles, and how each driver can best use the learned skills to control their car.

Dry road and wet road, going straight and turning, the students practiced their new driving skills with an experienced instructor beside them in the car. Important "two wheels off the road" experience helps avoid often deadly over correction accidents.

Experiencing texting while driving in a safe and controlled simulation gives students the reality of distracted. Actions as simple as a radio, heat, or eating cause too many accidents and deaths.

What can you see from the driver's seat of a tractor-trailer? Once inside you cannot see much if cars are too close.

If you have a young driver, give the gift of more driver education and take them to a class near you. For more information see www.streetsurvival.org.

Thank you to the Salem Civic Center, the Salem Fire Department, and our many dedicated volunteers.




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Bill Driskell



Something Old & New

Outside a rustic restaurant sit two Porsche 911 cars with 45 years age difference. The 911 style never ages, it just changes a little with the times. Whether air cooled, or water cooled the Porsche 911 is timeless and to be enjoyed on the highway. And if the 911 is not your style, there are two SUVs and a 4-door sedan to consider.



Wrong Way 911

Which way do I go? Which way do I go? That seems to be the question for this Porsche 911 facing the wrong direction on the track. After a spin in the corner, the other cars avoided an accident. Better hurry and turn around, the field is closing fast. No cars were hurt in making this picture.



Porsches do not melt in the rain

Porsches are meant to be driven, even in bad weather. Many people think a Porsche is a garage queen. While sometimes true, most are driven when the owner wants. A little wet weather means a free wash job. Right? Rain mixed with snow does not deter Porsche drivers.

Porscheplatz at V.I.R.

This is the August event which is eagerly awaited each year, the WeatherTech Sportscar Challenge arrives at Virginia International Raceway and BRR will be there. The 2019 Porscheplatz was larger and in a slightly different location but offered a spectacular

view of a curving section of track. Porscheplatz cars were allowed on the track for parade laps. Parade laps are fun, and a lot of people got to see our cars. Attendance was larger than last year showing the increasing popularity of the event. Join us August 21-23, 2020.



BRR members Dave Hogan and Rich Graham negotiate the Climbing Esses during parade laps at VIR. Photo: IMSA



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Treffen Fall 2020

The fall 2020 Treffen will be in Blue Ridge Regions's back yard. It will take place Wednesday, 16 September through Sunday, 20 September, in the breathtaking Allegheny Mountains at America's Resort, The Greenbrier. Registration for the event will open on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at 3:00 PM (EDT) on the Treffen North America website at treffen.pca.org. Hotel information will also be made available closer to registration opening. The resort will not take reservations until registration opens.

Text from PCA.org
treffen.pca.org



Porsche #911 at Virginia International Raceway

Cars 'n Coffee

Cars 'n Coffee is our monthly casual social event. It is open not only to PCA members, but also all Porsche owners, guests, and anyone willing to listen to us talk about our cars.

Held at 9:30 AM each month in a different area within our area, it gives an opportunity for all members to meet and socialize. Weather permitting, a lot of socializing happens in the parking lot before and after the brunch. These events usually have the largest attendance of our events with numbers ranging from 20-30 people. Some of the places we enjoyed in 2019 are Blue

Apron in Salem, Colonial Restaurant in Rustburg, Peaks of Otter Lodge on the Blue Ridge Parkway, The Hub in Rocky Mount, Blue Ridge Bagels in Lynchburg, and Napoli Cowboy in Wirtz. Each location has its own atmosphere and specialty. Not only are these brunches an excellent social opportunity, but a chance to learn more good places to dine. Many locations offer other things to do after eating. So drive your Porsche and join us. Casual is the word and good friends are there with you. Dates & places are on our website and Facebook page, and in Monday Morning Porsche Piddlings. See you there!



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HALCYON DAYS CIDER CO. AND JJ'S MEAT SHAK

October brought fall temperatures and cloudy skies, but no rain. After early fall heat it was a nice change to need jackets and feel fall in the air. It was a scenic drive to the mountains near Natural Bridge, Virginia and a visit to a small, family owned, cidery. The owners hosted an informative tour of the facility. It was surprising to learn the processes there were done mostly by hand. From the several apple varieties to the different cider flavors, there was much to learn about cider making and how various natural

events affect the quality and taste of cider. Following the tour there was time for tasting the various ciders. Bottles of cider were also available for purchase.

Following the event several Blue Ridge Region members decided to make a short trip to Buena Vista, Virginia for lunch at JJ's Meat Shak. There was a choice of barbecue, burgers, or pizza. Most of the group opted for barbecue with various sides. It was a good choice.



Other Things Members Do



Photos: Dave Hogan



Photos: Reid Kuder

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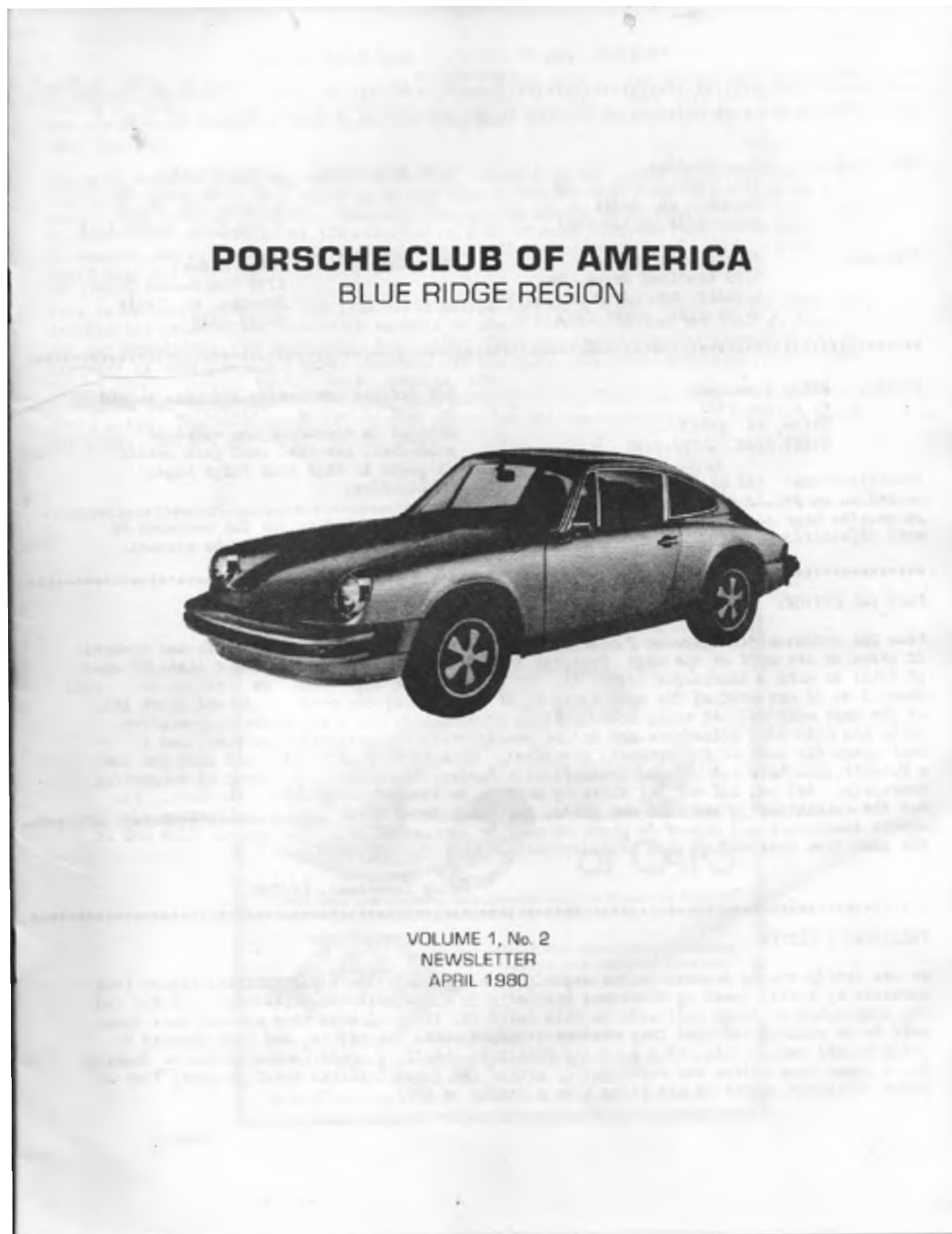


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Cover of issue #2 of what became Blau Rain. The first newsletter did not have a cover.



First newsletter, March 1980, financials and member list.

For all 3 events for both days.

NOTE: Dick Hatch was given the dubious honor of maintaining a CLUB SCRAPBOOK. He could be called officially our HISTORIAN. If you have snapshots of other memorabilia that would be appropriate for this worthy enterprise please give it to Dick - he will bring this to all our regular membership meetings for you to see.

MEMBER "HIGHLIGHT" (We will cover one person per issue)

Randy Zimmerman (our editor), was born in Salem, Virginia June 24, 1954. He has lived in Salem all his life. As a matter of interest he has purchased the house in which he was born in West Salem. He graduated from Glenvar High School in 1972 and attended Virginia Western for two years majoring in architectural engineering and business. His first selling job was at Mahan Porsche Audi in Salem after which he sold clothing and is now a salesmanager with the Life of Virginia office in the First Professional Building off Starkey Road. His first experience with Porsche was a new 914 demo while with Mahan. Other Porsches that he has owned were 1966 912, and his current 1977 1/2 924 white. He is an ardent supporter of the Porsche concept and would ultimately like ~~to~~ ^{to} be very hard for the success of this club. Hold your breath - only he knows who will be HIGHLIGHTED next month.

TREASURERS REPORT March 1980

OPENING BALANCE:	\$ 0.00
Income	
Dues from new members @ \$30.00 ea	\$ 720.00
Dues from transfers @ \$ 9.00 ea	\$ 57.00
Total income	\$ 777.00
Disbursements	
PCA dues paid to PCA	\$ 750.00
Total disbursements	\$ 750.00
Balance on hand	\$ 27.00
Due from outside sources (PCA rebate)	\$ 225.00
Total balance + outside	\$ 252.00
ENDING BALANCE:	\$ 27.00

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST

Dill & Mark Arrington	Brian Boggs	Larry Davidson
John & Iva Ferguson	James (Jonna) Fenton	George & Martha Gasparian
Dick & Caryl Hatch	Patrick Minton	Jack Hobbs
Dusty & Terry Hopkins	Leigh Hurst	Herbert Keaton OD
James King Jr	Keith Martin	Dexter Mitchell
William & Beverley Reefer	Barney & Dee Rosalia	Keith & Teresa Rowe
Frank & Mary Saunders	Charles & Lynn Schlepner	Meldon (Phyllis) Scrogan



TORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA - BLUE RIDGE REGION
 REGIONAL COUNTY BOUNDARIES

3/28/88

Page 11

VIRGINIA (EAST)	ZIP CODES AFFECTED
Pittsylvania	228xx partial only
Campbell	229xx partial only
Amherst	240xx
Nelson	241xx
Augusta	243xx
	242xx partial
WEST VIRGINIA (EAST)	244xx
Hardy	245xx
Hampshire	246xx
	247xx
WEST VIRGINIA (NORTH)	248xx
Mineral	249xx
Grant	
Tucker	
WEST VIRGINIA (WEST)	
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In this 2006 photo, Blue Ridge Region members leave Millstone Tea Room after a valentine event.
Photo: Jerry Hampton

Finish Line

It was a fun and exciting year in Blue Ridge Region. Our club exists because of its people.

Dedicated volunteers make it possible. Our sponsors, advertisers, and supporters contribute both money and time to make us successful. Please remember to support those who support us.

Thank you to each person and organization, contributors to our success in 2019. Without

you we are not a club.

Lastly, Porsche Club of America with its organization and support make Parade, Treffen, DEs, and many other events possible.

Whether your participation in PCA goes from Panorama reader to attending all our events, a large team and many hours go into planning and execution.

Blau Rain*

BLUE RIDGE REGION
PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

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***Blau Rain** is a 17th century German translation meaning Blue Ridge.

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CEL (Check Editor Light)

Please report any errors or omissions found in this magazine.
Send corrections and/or suggestions to editor@brr-pca.org



Sometimes the end looks as good as the beginning

Das Ende