

Well, here we go, another News Letter on the way.

This will be our first newsletter after two events. And personally I must admit that both events were real enjoyable from this end. The beach party was a lot of fun. We were sorry to lose our number one member, Chet, but we hope he will be with us in spirit. And, once in a while, we hope that we will receive some type of communication from him. For those interested, Chet and Kay's new address is in another spot in this News Letter. And I know they would appreciate hearing from any of you who have the time to drop a line to them.

Everyone is thanking Dr. Thirlby and Dr. Power for the tremendous weekend that we had in Traverse City. And I would like to add my thanks, for it was one real enjoyable weekend. And I hope that this remains a yearly affair - I for one want to be a participant in it again.

Thinking back on the event, I would like to put in a comment here; it is more or less a personal one, and it has to do with the lives and welfare of our members. I have an article that was given to me by a seat belt manufacturer here in Grand Rapids, by name, Aloy's. The name of the article is "Death in 7/10ths of a Second." At a later date when we are looking for news and items to put in the News Letter I will print it in its entirety. But it deals with the very good reasons why people should have seat belts. At the gymkana there was a great lack of seat belts in many of the cars; and in some of the cars that had them, the driver did not have them fastened. I don't know if many of you know it, but the seat belt is one of the greatest little pieces of insurance that you can have. For a tremendous number of deaths take place with the people driving within a few miles of their homes, and under 45 miles an hour. Now if you would keep this in mind, you would wear seat belts. In case some of you who do not have seat belts want to buy them, they can be purchased for \$ 6.00 per belt. This is a deal that was given to us sports car enthusiasts by one of the manufacturers. This is their wholesale cost. And it is one of the best seat belts available - takes 7,000 pounds thrust. So I would like to say it once again, for those who do not have seat belts, for your own safety, buy them and put them in, and above all, use them.

Right now while I am dictating this News Letter, I happen to be watching a real good Perry Mason show - waiting for the Miss America Pageant to come on. And I better get it done before the Miss America Pageant, for I don't think I'll be able to keep my mind off the TV set. I understand these girls are quite attractive.

We have a 'for sale' item here. It is a 1959, 1600 super roadster, silver, black interior, Blaupunkt radio, chrome knock-off wheels, head rests, seat belts, 2,000 miles on completely rebuilt engine. It has never been raced. If you are interested in purchasing this item, or know of anyone who is, please contact B. Eugene McNeillage, 1010 Mason, Dearborn, Michigan - phone LO 5-6200 or DU 1-2464. Personal note; those knock-off hubs sound real nice.

For coming events we have some real dandies. This weekend are the Grayling Races, up at Grayling Airport. Any of you who want to come and watch, please do. These are put on by the Central Western Michigan Region of S.C.C.A. There are always some real interesting races at Grayling.

On the weekend after Grayling, September 23rd, there is the Alpine Speed Climb, at the Plainfield Drive-In Theatre here in Grand Rapids. It's a real nice Porsche course. In fact I think they laid it out for Porsches especially.

On October 14th there will be another time trials - this at Townsend Park, on Cannonsburg Road, just north of Grand Rapids. These last two events are put on by the Check Points.

On October 5th there is the Michigan Majesties Rallye, for which you all received a form in the last News Letter. We have Jan Markle from our club running this, and yours truly. If any of you others have considered entering, think about it real hard, for it will be a nice rallye.

On October 20th and 21st the S.C.C.A. Central Western Michigan Region is going to put on the tenth annual Johnson Park Hill Climb, which you are all invited to attend. You are invited to participate providing, of course, you have roll bar, seat belt, helmet. This is open to non-S.C.C.A. license holders. So if you wish to enter one of the fastest hill climbs, try and make it.

My thanks to Ruth Alexander for the write-up on Traverse City. If any of you have anything to say, please don't hesitate to let me have it - not with a baseball bat please! But, get it to me in writing and we will put it in the News Letter.

Thanks much for a real good show of attendance at Traverse City, and also at the beach party. If we can keep up attendance like this we might have a real going club, and try and hold some bigger and better events, so keep it up. So until the next News Letter, or until we have an event, drive safely and keep those seat belts fastened.

By the way, I fell asleep halfway through the Miss America Pageant!

'Stolen' from South East Michigan's News Letter:

ACHTUNG!

Alles Lookenspeepers

Das computenmaschine ist nicht fur gefingerpoken und mittengrabben. Ist easy schnappen der springwerk, blowenfusen und poppencorken mit spitzensparken. Ist nicht fur gewerken by das dummkopfen. Das rubbernecken sightseeren keepen hands in das pockets, relaxen and watch das blinkenlights.

FROM THE PRESIDENT - - -

There is no amount of praise that would be too great for the wonderful time that was provided us in Traverse City by Dr. Thirlby and Dr. Power. Those who attended all enthusiastically agree that the program left nothing to be desired for fun, interest, competition, and good fellowship.

It is participation in this type of event that draws everybody in our club much closer together and gives our club the fellowship and meaning that is so necessary to keep it interesting and strong.

Yours very truly,

John S. Vander Heide, Jr.

A PARTING PARTY

...Martha Despres

On August 5th, a beautiful Sunday, the Western Michigan Region of the Porsche Club of America, sponsored a beach party at Lake Michigan in honor of Chet and Kay Owen, a very enthusiastic pair who had to bow to advancement for Chet and leave Grand Rapids to reside in Washington, D. C. Their gain is our loss, as both Chet and Kay are lots of fun and wonderful workers who devoted much time and effort to the club. We wish them the best of luck in their new surroundings and hope they will visit here frequently.

Despite the mixed emotions, it seemed to be a fun-filled occasion for all who attended. The weather was perfect and there was swimming, canoeing, and lots of lively talk and laughter. The children seemed to have a good time, what with one large "sky-lift" in operation later in the afternoon. Many pictures were taken and upon looking at them, we are double assured of the laughter part of the afternoon at least.

Each couple brought their own picnic lunch and upon completion of it, a 'Good Luck' cake was presented to Chet and Kay, along with a trophy to the honored pair, suitably engraved by Bill Otten, member from Kalamazoo.

Among those present for the festivities of the day besides the Owens and two of their three children were John and Ruth Alexander, John and Jacqui Schoepel and two daughters, Erich and Gustel Bechler, John and Jane Vander Heide with David and Ricky, all of Grand Rapids; Norman and Mary Dunn and three children, from Holland; Bill and Janet Schwalm and family from Whitehall; Bill and Norma Otten with Connie and Nancy, the Al Sabo's, Jim Thorne and children, Art and Isabel Jones and family and "Princess" Jones, all from Kalamazoo, and the trailer family, Paul, Martha, John, Anne and Sue Despres.

NEW ADDRESS - The Chet Owen family now resides at 4312 Litton Lane, McLean, Virginia.

Western Michigan Region P C A Traverse City Outing
by Ruth Alexander

August 25-26, 1962

In the lineup of red, white, blue, black and yellow PORSCHEs came from Grand Rapids, the John Vander Heides, the John Alexanders, the Paul Despres's, the Erich Bechlers, Janice Markle and Carolyn Mikula; from Kalamazoo, the Jim Thornes and Bill Ottens; from East Jordan, the Bret Rileys; from Cadillac, the Bob Johnsons; from Ludington, Bob Garneau; and from Traverse City, the Dick Thirlbys and the Frank Powers.

About 5:30 Saturday afternoon in convoy headed by Frank Power, seven Porsches wound through Traverse City from the Park Place Hotel to Lu and Dick Thirlby's cottage on the south end of the East Arm of Grand Traverse Bay. Despite cool weather, several of the party went out to sail in the two sailfish. It was a nip and tuck race. Later a motorboat load of "Porsche Pushers," when stranded because of lack of petrol, was led back to shore by none other than Doc Power in his sailfish!

After all kinds of cocktails, came a wonderful dinner, some eating on the porch and viewing a beautiful Northern Michigan sunset, others around the fireplace in the cottage. In the evening there was much talk of Porsches (what's better?) and other conversational items.

By ten o'clock Sunday morning our president, John Vander Heide, was on his way toward winning the concours d'elegance event. On a grassy plot near the hotel five Porsche owners were busy washing and polishing. And who do you think were the judges? The gals! Anyway it paid off for John to get out early. He won a beautiful china mug embossed with the Porsche emblem for first place.

After lunch the twelve Porsches, plus one Austin Healy and one Alpha Romeo, lined up at the high school parking lot to go through their paces in a tricky gymkana layout. The cars paraded through the course once, then each car had a trial run and then two timed runs with the best of the two times counting. The black convertible, owned by vice-president, Paul Despres, took top honors with a PCA mug as prize. Jan Markle had the best time among the women drivers.

A perfect week-end and one long to be remembered by those present! Those not there really missed something.

A great big THANK YOU to Lu and Dick Thirlby and Margot and Frank Power from Western Michigan Region, PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA!

LOST - - - - - AND FOUND

From the beach party of Aug. 5th we still have a white sweat shirt for a child probably from 8 to 12 years of age, and a pair of red thongs for a small child. If the owners will let us know who they are, we will try to get these things returned to them.

A RESULT LIST FROM THE TRAVERSE CITY GYMkana

Official times and places for the gymkana held in Traverse City August 26th are as follows:

Place	Name	Best Run	Other Run
1.	Paul Despres	52.6	53.3
2.	Bill Otten	56.0	57.7
3.	Dick Thirlby	57.0	60.0
4.	John Vander Heide	58.0	60.7
5.	Bob Garneau	59.0	60.2
6.	Frank Power	60.2	62.8
7.	Erich Bechler	61.0	61.4
8.	Bob Johnson	61.2	64.0
9.	Jim Thorne	61.6	63.0
10.	John Alexander	63.0	68.1
11.	Bret Riley	64.2	66.0

LADIES CLASS

1.	Janice Markle	64.6	70.9
2.	Martha Despres	65.6	65.8
3.	Norma Otten	72.2	75.0
4.	Lu Thirlby	93.2	-

Also running for the sport of it were Gordon Cornwell in his Austin Healy and Gene Wolf in his Alpha Romeo. The times were 54.8 and 56.6 for Gordon, and 59.0 and 62.0 for Gene.



10TH
ANNUAL
JOHNSON PARK
HILL CLIMB
OCT 20-21, 1962

All S.C.C.A. production classes, plus Sedans over and under 1500 cc, plus modified over and under 1500 cc... Formula Jr. will run the over 1500 cc category.

All those wishing to enter one of the fastest and demanding courses will find none better than this one held at Johnson Park.

For additional information and entry forms write:

Paul F. C. Despres
1739 Elizabeth, N.W.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

ATTENTION NON S.C.C.A. LICENSE HOLDERS AND NON S.C.C.A. MEMBERS:

The Johnson Park Hill Climb will be open to all those who wish to compete. The S.C.C.A. racing regulations will be enforced - this means roll bar, seat belts, helmets. If you are not a member of S.C.C.A., or do not hold a competition license for S.C.C.A., you may run with a guest license. Guest licenses will be issued at registration the morning of practice October 20th. When you send in your application for the Hill Climb, please note that you wish a guest license. All guest license holders will be observed during practice to make sure they will qualify as a safe and conscientious and careful driver. For if anyone is observed driving in such a condition that would warrant any danger to themselves or anyone else they will be disqualified. The reason for the issuing of guest licenses is so that everyone may have the opportunity to partake in the enjoyment of this event.

PAUL F. DESPRES
1739 Elizabeth Ave., N. W.
Grand Rapids 4, Michigan



HOT
LANKA

BRAD N. ...

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Vander Heide, Jr.

1730 Clearbrook Street, S. E.

Grand Rapids 8, Michigan

OCT 30 - 1962

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