



Connecticut Valley Region Porsche Club, the years 2000 to 2009

In 2000, Chandran Rajaratnam is President; Marland Whiteman and Dave Wright are the VPs in charge of Track and Program, respectively. Jerry Charlup is Secretary and Nick Mason is Treasurer. Gary Gudinkas and Walt Hyjek -Autocross, Dick Borio -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup -Webmeister and Noreen & John Howard -Challenge Editors. CVR has a new Community Service program in partnership with Bob Green entitled "Crashing is a Bummer". In January, the plans for 9 DE events are announced, including Lime Rock Park, Watkins Glen International, Pocono Raceway and New Hampshire - NHIS. In May, the 8th Annual Club Race was held on a rainy weekend, May 20-21, which resulted in cutting the laps from 20 down to 15. At some points it was hard to make out the outline of the cars because of the water being kicked up. In July, Helmut Wagner, District Service Manager of Porsche Cars North America, discussed the rationale for Porsche's pursuit of the SUV project at the monthly meeting at Danbury Porsche. The SUV was chosen when studies showed that 60% of Porsche owners also owned an SUV. What were they thinking???? In September, members enjoyed Oktoberfest dining at Helga's Restaurant in Bethel, CT and the music of Joe Rogers' oompah band, 60 adults and eight children attended. The 3rd Annual Black Tie Rally was held with 16 teams, not necessarily driving Porsches. In the words of Sam Gen, Rally Chair, "John and Jayne Fatse drove their red Ferrari 355 Spyder and at the other end of interesting was Rich Bayer's grey Dodge Ram 2500 flatbed truck. Maybe he was expecting to get some big tag sales along the route" In October, CVR held its first DE event at Pocono's 2.5 mile road course with 100 attendees. In November, the Slidefest format was changed from slide presentations to prints and the name changed to Photofest. The following were honored at the annual November banquet: Mary and Ron Tietjen -Enthusiast of the Year; Megan Posey, Janice and John Schnabel -Rookie of the Year; Mark DaVia -Autocross Overall; Kurt Gible -Most Improved Autocrosser; Marilyn and Geoff Muggleton -Concours; Mark Nickson -Driver's Ed Most Improved; Betty and Chris Poythress -Rally Overall.

In 2001, Chandran Rajaratnam is President; Marland Whiteman and Dave Wright are the VPs in charge of Driver's Ed and Program, respectively. Jerry Charlup is Secretary and Nick Mason is Treasurer. Gary Gudinkas and Walt Hyjek -Autocross, Dick Borio -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup -Webmeister and Joanne and Ed Muzzulin -Challenge Editors. In January, the autocross rules were changed to realign the class structure to eliminate one-car classes and facilitate running against a group of other drivers. In February, CVR sponsored a community service program entitled "Crashing is a Bummer" (later to become "Survive the Drive") presented by Bob Green at the Danbury Hospital. Over 300 people attended that night, including several newspaper reporters. In February, the Zone 1 Tech Tactics was held in Springfield, MA. Of note was the dinner speaker, Denise McCluggage, one of the first women to cover motorsports and also a racer. Her talk started with how she happened to try bungee jumping, "I wouldn't have done it, but if you were over 60 it was free". In March, the first DE event at Lime Rock had to be canceled because the snowfall of the winter had not melted in time and

the second date in March was canceled due slippery track conditions and dangerous soft ground surrounding the track. In July CVR and Danbury Porsche sponsored a special package including premiere parking and access to a covered chalet for the Rennsport Reunion held at Lime Rock Park. It was the largest Porsche event in North America in 2001. In September, the "Rich and Claudia's Pre-Wedding Jitters" rally was held, appropriately named since guest rallymasters Rich Bayer and Claudia Houghton were getting married on the following Wednesday. In October, autocross has a record attendance of 66 drivers with 26 in the Novice category. Membership is now at 1,777. CVR is now the third largest PCA region. The following were honored at the annual November banquet: Nancie Giacalone -Enthusiast of the Year; Sue-Ellen McIntyre and Chris Reinsborough -Rookie of the Year; Mark DaVia -Autocross Overall; Barbara and John Kessler -Rally Overall; Drew Wikstrom -Driver's Ed Most Improved; Ron Tietjen -Driver's Ed Instructor of the Year; Marc Shafer -1st winner of the Dale Smith Award. The Dale Smith award was created to honor the memory and contributions Dale Smith to the CVR Drivers Ed program, he helped establish many of the procedures used today. The award is to be presented to the CVR Drivers Ed participant "whose personality and dedication to the program serves as a model to others" and reflects Dale's "commitment to the CVR Drivers Education Program as an inspiration to all".

In 2002, Marland Whiteman is President; Dick Strahota and Jerry Charlup are the VPs in charge of Driver's Ed and Program, respectively. Gary Gudinkas is Secretary and Nick Mason is Treasurer. Mark DaVia and Walt Hyjek -Autocross, Sam Gen -Rally; Dick Borio -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup -Webmeister and Matt Scibek -Challenge Editor. In June, CVR members attended their first ever Cruise Night at Marcus Dairy. Over 50 Porsches were there. First ever out of state Concours has held at the Gedney Manor in New Marlborough, MA. The Concours attracted 55 cars and one Porsche tractor. The 1958 Porsche Super Tractor (the only way to farm is with a Porsche) owned by Roger Funk was included in the Special Interest Group along with David DaVia with his 2001 One Lap of America Car and David Lloyd with his 1979 928. 42 CVR Porsches attended the Gaylord Hospital Car Show in support of Geoff Muggleton's show of appreciation for the staff's role in his recovery from a severe auto accident and presented a CVR check for \$1,000. (The September 2002 Challenge has a picture of "Boxster Babes" Norene Howard and Nancie Giacalone attending the car show). In August a new event was added to Tours, Coffee Runs. Started by Assistant -Tourmeister Richard Garmany, Coffee Runs are a short tour, up to two hours driving time, departing from a designated spot, with the destination being an attractive location where members can enjoy lunch and visit with fellow members. In October, the Zone 1 Autocross was hosted by CVR at Smith and Wesson in Springfield, MA. This event was well attended by PCA members from CVR as well as other regions in the Zone. Official attendance was 98 on Saturday and 88 on Sunday. Membership grew significantly causing our region to be honored with the Net Growth Membership Trophy at the Boise Parade and members receiving \$100 discount certificates from Porsche Cars of North America. Also recognized at the national level was Challenge and the Community Service program. Membership is now at 1,883. The following were honored at the annual November banquet: Jerry Charlup -Enthusiast of the Year; Chuck Veth -Rookie of the Year; Adam Val De Serra and Michelle Smith -Autocross Overall; Drew Wikstrom -Driver's Ed Instructor of the Year; Marland and Mellisa Whiteman -Rally Overall; Mary and Ron Tietjen -Dale Smith Award.

In 2003, Marland Whiteman is President; Dick Strahota and Jerry Charlup are the VPs in charge of Driver's Ed and Program, respectively. Gary Gudinkas is Secretary and Nick

Mason is Treasurer. Mark DaVia and Walt Hyjek -Autocross, James Stephenson -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup and Gary Gudinkas -Webmeisters and John Karam -Challenge Editor. The year of no Autocross. Smith and Wesson parking lot was no longer available for Autocross events. After the fantastic attendance of 2002 it was a great disappointment to the co-chairs that no replacement lot could be found. In January, CVR member Michael Schrom wins the Rolex 24 at Daytona as one of the drivers of Kevin Buckler's #66 The Racer's Group Porsche. In April, snow and ice overnight on April 4th combined with a revised forecast of freezing temperatures for the day, forced the cancellation of "Bonus Day" at Lime Rock. So far three DE days canceled due to weather in 2003. May was the deadline for the new CVR logo contest entries. In June, Concours had a record turnout for a non-anniversary concours, There were 65 cars and to 150 people registered. Thirteen 356's were displayed which was more than at the Zone 1 concours. In August, the field was narrowed down to three finalist for the CVR logo contest. Karen Wright makes CVR history by being the first person to drive a Cayenne at a CVR DE event. In October CVR held its first-ever fall DE event at Watkins Glen with over 150 participants. In November, Paul Heery was the winner of the CVR Logo Contest. The following were honored at the annual November banquet: Gary Gudinkas -Enthusiast of the Year; John Karam -Rookie of the Year; Chuck Veth -Autocross Overall; Ray Minella -Concours; Mike Vessels -Driver's Ed Most Improved; Chuck Veth driver and children Christie and Miles, navigators -Rally Overall.

In 2004, Lisa Musante is President; Rick Sojkowski and Nancie Giacalone are the VPs in charge of Driver's Ed and Program, respectively. Gary Gudinkas is Secretary and Nick Mason is Treasurer. Mark DaVia and Walt Hyjek -Autocross, James Stephenson -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup and Gary Gudinkas -Webmeisters and John Karam -Challenge Editor. In January, a PCA car transporter on the way to Sebring caught fire and was totally consumed, destroying all its contents including CVR member Chris Musante's GT4S racecar. By the end of April CVR membership is 1,945. Club Race , a Spring tradition, was moved to September. The scheduled spring date of April 30th - May 1st was sandwiched between the Porsche Rennsport Reunion and the Mid Ohio Club Race and it was believed that those dates would have had a negative impact on both the race participation and sponsorship. The move was made only for 2004 after which the Club Race would be held in mid-spring. Autocross is back! The autocross events were held at the Plainfield Greyhound Track in exchange for a donation to the track's Greyhound Rescue Program. CVR members Mark DaVia and Drew Wikstrom are the 2004 winners of the Tire Rack Cannonball One Lap of America. October 30th, Happy 45th Birthday CVR! There was a gala celebration at the Dolce Heritage in Southbury with dinner and dancing to a fabulous live band, socializing and reminiscing with CVR members. The fall tour to The Brandywine Valley just missed hurricane Jean, mother nature dictated her own route for the tour by washing out roads that were supposed to be part of the route. The following were honored at the annual November banquet: Jennifer Hansen -Enthusiast of the Year; Rob and Keith McVicar -Rookie of the Year; Adam Val Da Serra and Michelle Libretti -Autocross Overall; Tony Delli and Julie Hoadley -Most Improved Autocrosser; Dick Strahota -Concours; Jim Cipriano -Driver's Ed Most Improved; Chuck and Christie Veth -Rally Overall; Roger Funk -Dale Smith Award.

In 2005, Lisa Musante is President; Rick Sojkowski is VP in charge of Driver's Ed; Gary & Jennifer Hansen and John & Janice Schnabel are VP's Program. Gene Markowski is

Secretary and Nick Mason is Treasurer. Mark DaVia and Walt Hyjek -Autocross, Sam Gen -Rally, James Stephenson -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup and Gary Gudinkas -Webmeisters and John Karam -Challenge Editor. In February, 129 member attended the DE workshop, speakers included Pro driver David Murray. In March, Tech Tactics was held in Springfield, MA, speakers included Uwe Reuter of Porsche and famed racecar driver Brian Redman. Brian's talk at dinner included amusing stories of his experience as a driver and had the audience laughing hysterically. CVR members Mark DaVia and Drew Wikstrom are the 2005 winners of the Tire Rack Cannonball One Lap of America, repeating their win in 2004! The following were honored at the annual November banquet: John Karam -Enthusiast of the Year; Victor dos Santos -Rookie of the Year; George Comenale -Autocross Overall; Trish Carroll and Dick Strahota -Concours; Scott McPherson -Driver's Ed Most Improved; Fred Staudinger -Driver's Ed Instructor of the Year; Chuck Veth driver and children Christie and Miles, navigators - Rally Overall; Dave and Susan Vaccaro -Dale Smith Award.

In 2006, Rick Sojkowski is President; David Bassett is VP in charge of Driver's Ed; John & Janice Schnabel, Jay Barone are VP's Program. Gene Markowski is Secretary and Victor dos Santos is Treasurer. Mark DaVia and Walt Hyjek -Autocross, Harry Viens -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup and Gary Gudinkas -Webmeisters and John Karam -Challenge Editor. The January Monthly Meeting's at Danbury Porsche featured guest was Porsche's newest model the Cayman S, in excess of 140 people attended the meeting. In February, Jerry Charlup wrote an article in Challenge about how his DE experience helped him avoid an accident on the highway. The DE instruction to look as far down the track as possible led to him avoid cars that were stopped in the left travel lane by spotting them well in advance. In March, the Autocross program still was looking for a venue since Plainfield Dog Track management was not returning their phone calls. In April the 15th Annual CVR Club Race included the first-ever Enduro at Lime Rock. The race was another success thanks to last minutes adjustments to get all the cars to meet the noise restrictions, all the cars exceeded the limit the day before the race. Autocross returned to Plainfield Dog Track, with plans for an event every month till October. In May, CVR hosted the Zone 1 Concours. CVR members Mark DaVia and Drew Wikstrom are the 2006 winners of the Tire Rack Cannonball One Lap of America, repeating their wins in 2004 and 2005! In June, Porsche's RS Spyder made its Lime Rock debut at the American Le Mans race. In August, the 356 Registry held its East Coast Holiday in Mystic, CT. In October, CVR membership has grown in 2006 by 221 members to a total of 1,944. CVR hosted its first Car Control Clinic at Plainfield Dog Track, in Plainfield, CT. In November, the Annual Meeting and Photofest featured champion road racer, television motorsport analyst and commentator, David Hobbs as a special guest speaker. Sam Posey was also in attendance and shared some of his stories about his friend, David Hobbs. The following were honored at the annual November banquet: Phil Cracco -Enthusiast of the Year; T.J. Gottwalt -Rookie of the Year; Rich Bello -Autocross Overall; Rob McDonnell -Autocross Most Improved; Ray Minella -Concours; Bill Monde -Driver's Ed Most Improved; David Vaccaro -Driver's Ed Instructor of the Year; Janice and John Schnabel -Dale Smith Award.

In 2007, Rick Sojkowski is President; David Bassett is VP in charge of Driver's Ed; John & Janice Schnabel, Jay Barone are VP's Program. Gene Markowski is Secretary and Victor dos Santos is Treasurer. Walt Hyjek -Autocross, Harry Viens -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup and Gary Gudinkas -Webmeisters and Scott Slauson -Challenge Editor. In March, Tech Tactics was held at a new venue, Farnbacher Loles in Danbury, CT and the format was changed to a single day event. The Third Annual DE Winter Workshop

was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Southbury. The featured speaker was racecar driver, Craig Stanton, he spoke on his road to becoming a Porsche racing driver. CVR members Mark DaVia and Drew Wikstrom are the 2007 winners of the Tire Rack One Lap of America, repeating their wins in 2004, 2005 and 2006! They used the same car for all four wins, something that had never been done before. In August, the Rolex Vintage Festival celebrated 25 years of vintage racing. A Cruise Night was held at Farnbacher Loes, there were many people and great cars at this popular event. In September, the 1st Annual Charity Auction and Record Hop was held to raise funds for various CVR charities. Everyone who attended had a fabulous time, a total of \$18,000 was raised during the event! In October, the Annual Meeting and Photofest was held on a Saturday, instead of the usual mid-week schedule. Rob and Chris Dyson of Dyson Racing were the special guest speakers. CVR membership stands at 1,942 members. Autocross completed its third event at their new venue for 2007 at the LAZ parking lot in Hartford. The following were honored at the annual November banquet: Lisa Musante -Enthusiast of the Year; Susan and Charles Young -Rookie of the Year; Mieko and Mike Odierna -Concours; Mustafa Ugurlu -Driver's Ed Most Improved; John Schnabel -DE Instructor of the Year; Kevin Adams -Dale Smith Award.

In 2008, Roger Funk is President; Jonathan Fairbanks is VP in charge of Driver's Ed; Jay Barone and Mike Odierna are VP's Program. Charles Young is Secretary and T.J. Gottwalt is Treasurer. Walt Hyjek -Autocross, Chris Caouette -Rally, Harry Viens -Tourmeister, Jerry Charlup and Gary Gudinkas -Webmeisters and Scott Slauson - Challenge Editor. In April, CVR Community Service Committee selected the Charter Oak Challenge Foundation as one of the charities the club is supporting. Based on the recent success in raising money for charity, the club was able to donate \$3,500. A main focus of the charity is providing scholarships for college bound students, 100% of the funds that Charter Oak raises go directly to charity. CVR members Mark DaVia and Drew Wikstrom are the 2008 winners of the Tire Rack One Lap of America, repeating their wins in 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007! In June, the 35th annual Father's Day Concours was held at Cranbury Park in Norwalk. This year's special interest display featured Factory Race Cars, including a 1959 718 RSK Spyder, 1964 904 with racing history and a Rothmans 944 with a Rothman's Cup. In July, an announcement is made in Challenge that a committee is being formed to determine how to celebrate CVR's 50th birthday coming up in 2009. In Autocross, Hoffman Porsche of East Hartford will award a new set of tires to a lucky participant, drawing will be at the end of the season. At the ALMS race at Lime Rock Park a special tribute was given to Rob Dyson for his 25 years in professional racing. Rob's original 962 was brought back to life and he drove a celebration lap followed by his son Chris in a Porsche RS Spyder. In September, DE will have an event at the brand new track at the Monticello Motor Club in Monticello, NY. On the Rally front, Chris Caouette volunteers to be chairperson and bring this event back after a hiatus of a few years. In October, the 2nd Annual Charity Auction and Hippee Happening was held. The return of Rally was a Gimmick Rally on a perfect sunny day. The successful Fall Tour marked the final tour for Kathy and Harry Viens as Tourmeisters. The following were honored at the annual November banquet: Susan and Charles Young and Margie and T.J. Gottwalt -Enthusiast of the Year; Maria and Phil Capella -Rookie of the Year; Diane and Jim Martin -Concours; Rebecca Wayland -Driver's Ed Most Improved; Charles Rozier -DE Instructor of the Year; Paul Kudra -Autocross Overall; Nancie Giacalone -Dale Smith Award.

In 2009, Roger Funk is President; Jonathan Fairbanks is VP in charge of Driver's Ed; Mike Odierna VP's Program. Charles Young is Secretary and TJ Gottwalt is Treasurer. Walt Hyjek -Autocross, Chris Caouette -Rally, Maria and Phil Capella -Tourmeister, Phil Capella and Christine Rodriguez -Webmeisters and Scott Slauson -Challenge Editor. In February, 150 people attended the Zone 1 Tech Tactics and special guest Norbert Singer, senior racing engineer at Porsche kept the audience entertained with his funny anecdotes and stories of his illustrious career at Porsche. In April, mother nature helped CVR celebrate its 50th by providing beautiful sunny weather for the 18th Annual CVR Club Race and it was a sell out. Over 100 CVR members volunteered to perform all the tasks needed to put on a fun and safe event. In May, the Spring Tour marked the retirement of Linda and Dick Borio as Spring Tour Tourmeisters. A record 57 cars were part of the tour, a indication of the members appreciation for the nearly 20 years that the Borios have been putting together tours for the club. New Country Porsche in Greenwich put on a Sunday Brunch and Hands On workshop. In June, the Father's Day Concours featured car display was 50 years of Porsches. A Coffee Run in tribute to the late Assistant Tourmeister Richard Garmany for his many years of service to the club members, took place with 100 members participating. A Gimmick Rally Poker Run was also held in June. In July, the 50th Anniversary Committee announces that a special yearbook will be created by John Karam, Bo Parker and Walt Hyjek to commemorative the 50 year history of the club and to capture all the events of 2009. In August, the DE event at Monticello Motor Club was the destination for a group of tour members who were treated to a parade lap on the full course. In September, in commemoration of our 50th Anniversary, Fairfield County Councours d'Elegance provided no entrance fee for the first 50 CVR members. In November, the CVR 50th Anniversary Gala was held at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT. 400 hundred CVR members attended for a night of great food, music, dancing and reminiscing. Michael Bartsch COO of Porsche North America was in attendance as well as Kurt Gibson President of PCA along with other national board members and 11 past presidents of CVR. A 50th Anniversary Raffle was held with first prize of a trip to Germany including a Porsche to drive and factory tour being won by Peter Byeff. Sheila and Dan Porada were key to making the gala a success and ended their tenure as Special Events chairpersons on a high note. The following were honored at the annual November Photofest: Mike Odierna -Enthusiast of the Year; Ernst Benzien -Concours; Gene Kim -Driver's Ed Rookie of the year; Rebecca Wayland -Driver's Ed Most Improved; Charles Rozier -DE Instructor of the Year; Paul Kudra -Autocross Overall; Frank Staudinger -Dale Smith Award; Jerry Charlup, Walt Hyjek, Prescott Kelly and Jim Martin -Frank Carrington Award.