

Blau Rain

January - June 2020

Volume XL, Number 2

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.

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.

Solo Drives

What happens when all Blue Ridge Region and PCA events are canceled? Members take to the road alone and create their own adventures. Joining other members is always the best, but when that cannot happen individuals hit the road having created their own events.

Past Events

After 40 years there have been a lot of Blue Ridge Region events. Some were held almost every year while others were one hit wonders. No matter what the event members had fun. Whether you like to drive and dine, drive on the track, or just socialize, Blue Ridge Region has an event for you.

Past Blau Rain

More recent issues of Blau Rain are on our website and can be accessed from the "DOCUMENTS" page. Page 24 has the Blau Rain cover from 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2010. A lot changed over the years. It is easy to see when the desktop publishing software was used.

Website: www.brr-pca.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BlueRidgePCA

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Solo Drives by the Hogans During the Shutdown

With all Blue Ridge Region and PCA events canceled from mid March until July, the Hogans set out to enjoy their Porsche and record the trips with a Garmin action camera and a Canon still camera.

Follow some of their adventures in pictures in the area Blue Ridge Region covers. Maybe you will see a place you want to visit.



The Hogans were not the only ones to do solo Porsche events during shutdown. Photo: Dan DeHart

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Forty Years of Blue Ridge Region

Since 2020 is the 40th anniversary of Blue Ridge Region, there are several pages of pictures from near past and far past events.

The pictures on pages 12-13 are from the collection of Manuel Sowers.



Do you know what is happening in this 2008 photo? Photo: Jerry Hampton

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Forty Years of Blue Ridge Region and Its People

Needless to say the first half of 2020 has been difficult and filled with new and scary happenings. At Blue Ridge Region we were not exempt.

Since 2020 is the 40th anniversary of Blue Ridge Region, there are several pages of pictures from near past and far past events.

Do you see anyone you know? Some have gotten a little older. Some are no longer members. Take a look at Blue Ridge Region's fun filled past.



Blue Ridge Region members at Carol's Place in 2017



January 2020 Blau Rain is ready for delivery.

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Cover Photo: A drive to Paint Bank, VA on Route 311 is scenic and enjoyable. The Swinging Bridge Restaurant for brunch made the drive even more enjoyable. Photo: Laura Hogan

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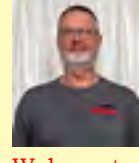
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From The President's Desk

What a different 2020 than what I wrote about six months ago! We are halfway through our 40th year and it is not what we expected in January. With so many things in the works and on the calendar, I had recommended you "fasten your seat belts" but the new COVID-19 reality had different plans.

One of the few successes this year though was the ruling from PCA National that would once again allow the Blue Ridge Region to host a Tire Rack Street Survival school that included "permitted" as well as licensed students. This was something that our regions' leadership had lobbied hard for many years to correct. For the past few years, we have supported the local BMW club chapter with great success and will continue that relationship going forward, sharing the hosting for what we hoped would be two schools a year. Unfortunately, we have had to postpone the schools until at least 2021 but the next one will once again be under the Porsche banner!

With Social Distancing the new normal, we have made many adjustments. Fortunately, our hard-working editor has done a terrific job keeping us informed via our website and Facebook pages. While not able to gather in person, there have been several opportunities to enjoy some solo trips and reflect on our past adventures. Just check out a few of the pictures in this edition of Blau Rain.

From our beginning in 1980 as an off-shoot of the First Settlers Region with barely 30 members (see Dave Shrader's letter below) to nearly 300 members today, it is easy to see we are still a close-knit group of enthusiasts. In fact, many of those first-year members are still active in our region today. While the current pandemic has put a damper on our ability to make much history this year, it is clear to me that there is still a lot of life left in this club. Here's to another 40 years!

Marc Wilson, President

Our first president's first Blau Rain column.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

We are really moving forward in our organization efforts. The First Settlers Region (our sponsors of sorts) Board of Directors has voted to relinquish our territory requested and the membership at large will vote on this April 19, 1980. I have been assured that there will be no problem and that they wholeheartedly support our efforts and look forward to joint events and socials. (See enclosed territory sheet) I would encourage anyone looking for a super good rallye and autocross to attend the First Settlers event on April 19th in Crewe, Virginia, maybe we can bring home a trophy or two!

We are now at 33 members and are adding about 1 every week - keep those applications coming in folks - members keep pushing your friends to join. Make sure you notice the new members listed in this issue and make them feel especially welcome at the next occasion.

The next occasion being the rallye school at Barney's on the night of the 24th of April - 7:30 p.m. We made it this early so we can show a "Movie" that none of you will want to miss - "HOW PORSCHE IS MADE". This was obtained by Barney (Rose Porsche) for us - thanks Barney! Following the movie (24 minutes) at 8:00 we will have our membership school for 30 minutes and at 8:45 p.m. we will start the rallye training school. What a night - don't miss it!

This is in preparation for the 27th Poker Rallye (see Jack's article). If you have any interesting information about club members or about Porsche, please get that to Randy for our newsletter. We will never know about these occurrences unless someone tells us. Examples of what you might send: births, car changes, marriages, promotions, when some of our members attend races, trophy winners, etc.

Don't forget that Dick Hatch is our club Historian and needs pictures or articles about our club. See you all at the Rallye School.

Dave Shrader, President

Around The Web & In Print

This year got off to a good start. There were several events which were well attended. Then, in Mid March, the pandemic hit. What a change that was for everyone. All events were cancelled or postponed until it was safer to go out and be among people.

Our April 40th anniversary celebration has been postponed until later this year. The May Street Survival was moved to September. The last Cars 'n Coffee was March 14th. It appears summer 2020 will allow some restart to our activities. With September Treffen in our back yard, we are hopeful we will get to go.

While we await the easing of restrictions there is much to do. Planning for later events is ongoing, and just awaiting the day. 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 350 followers from around the world. Find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueRidgePCA> then bookmark us.

Statistics show our [website](#) is being used less each year. Faster means of communication are taking its place. Whatever your preference, Blue Ridge Region is communicating with you.

Later in 2020 the fun will continue. Street Survival is 13 September. The August IMSA event at VIR is still scheduled, but no Porscheplatz. Our 40th anniversary celebration is much anticipated. Cars 'n Coffee will continue in the summer months. A variety of activities await you. We try to have something for most everyone.

Dave Hogan,
Newsletter Editor & Social Media Coordinator



FROM THE EDITOR:

From the enthusiastic response I have seen from the officers, committee people and members, it seems we are well on our way! Everyone seems willing to contribute their share of what it takes to make a successful club. All too often I have seen (and I am sure you have, too) where 5 or 10 per cent of the membership do 90 per cent of the work. I do not think this is the case with us. At every board meeting we have had, and every membership meeting, there has been high attendance and active participation by virtually everyone, and I anticipate the same at the upcoming functions. What is my point? The fact that you own a Porsche, you have established yourself as a leader, the creme de la creme of automotive ownership. And you did not get there by waiting on somebody else to set the pace. You had the initiative to set your own goals, and reach them. With such a combination of member leadership and desire to grow, we will be successful as a PCA Regional Club and at the same time continue to grow as individuals.

Randy Zimmerman, Editor

Our first editor's first Blau Rain column.

Charities 2020

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.

Cars 'n Coffee

This year we had only three events, the planning meeting and two Cars 'n Coffee brunches. Since the "stay home" order has been lifted effective July first, we will again schedule events as safety and other requirements emerge.



One of our favorite Cars 'n Coffee stops, Carol's Place in Forest, has closed and been demolished. Photo: Kipp Teague



And just like that, it is gone. Photo: Dave Hogan




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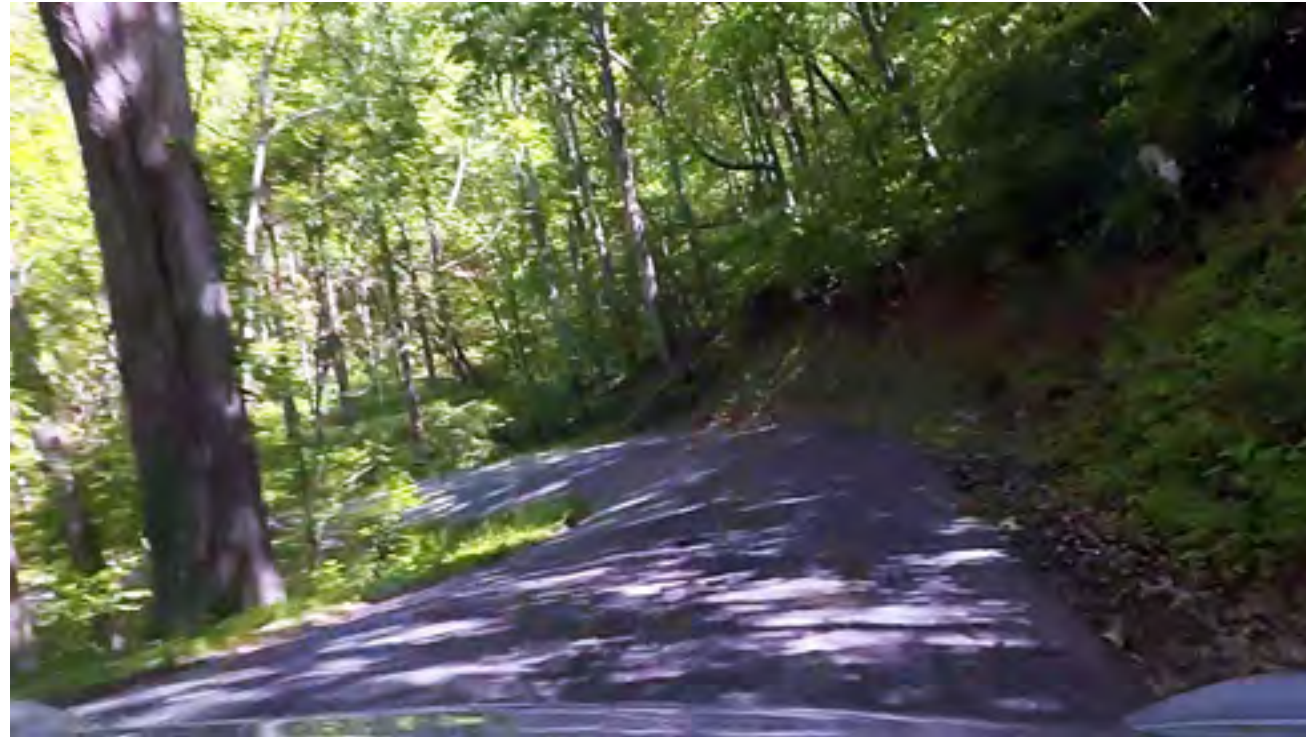
Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Solo Drives by Dave & Laura Hogan

After March 14th all Blue Ridge Region and PCA events were canceled for the duration of the COVID-19 restrictions. Blue Ridge Region Newsletter Editor and Social Media Chair Dave Hogan, along with his wife Laura, put an action camera into their 911 cabriolet and drove the fun and scenic roads in the region.

Below: A curve near Cifax, VA on the type of road Porsche drivers like.

Bottom: Beside the car in front, on the right side of the road, both cars had to dodge a wild turkey.



Above: The sign causes some anticipation for the driver. Senses become more aware of speed and road factors. It is easy to have a reasonable amount of fun on the curves while obeying all laws and safety requirements.

Below: The mountains in the background give both the region and the mountains their name. Part of driving in the area is the opportunity to drive nearly deserted roads and take in the spectacular scenery. In the cabriolet, the smell of freshly cut hay adds an additional sensory sensation.





Above: Our region is blessed to have part of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Apple Orchard Mountain Overlook offers a spectacular view from the highest point in Virginia, 3950 feet.

Below: A picnic lunch at Thunder Ridge offers a relaxing meal during a scenic solo drive.



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, July 15, 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



The January planning session was a good reflection on us.



Hang in there! There is light at the end of the tunnel.

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Past events. Photos: Manuel Sowers




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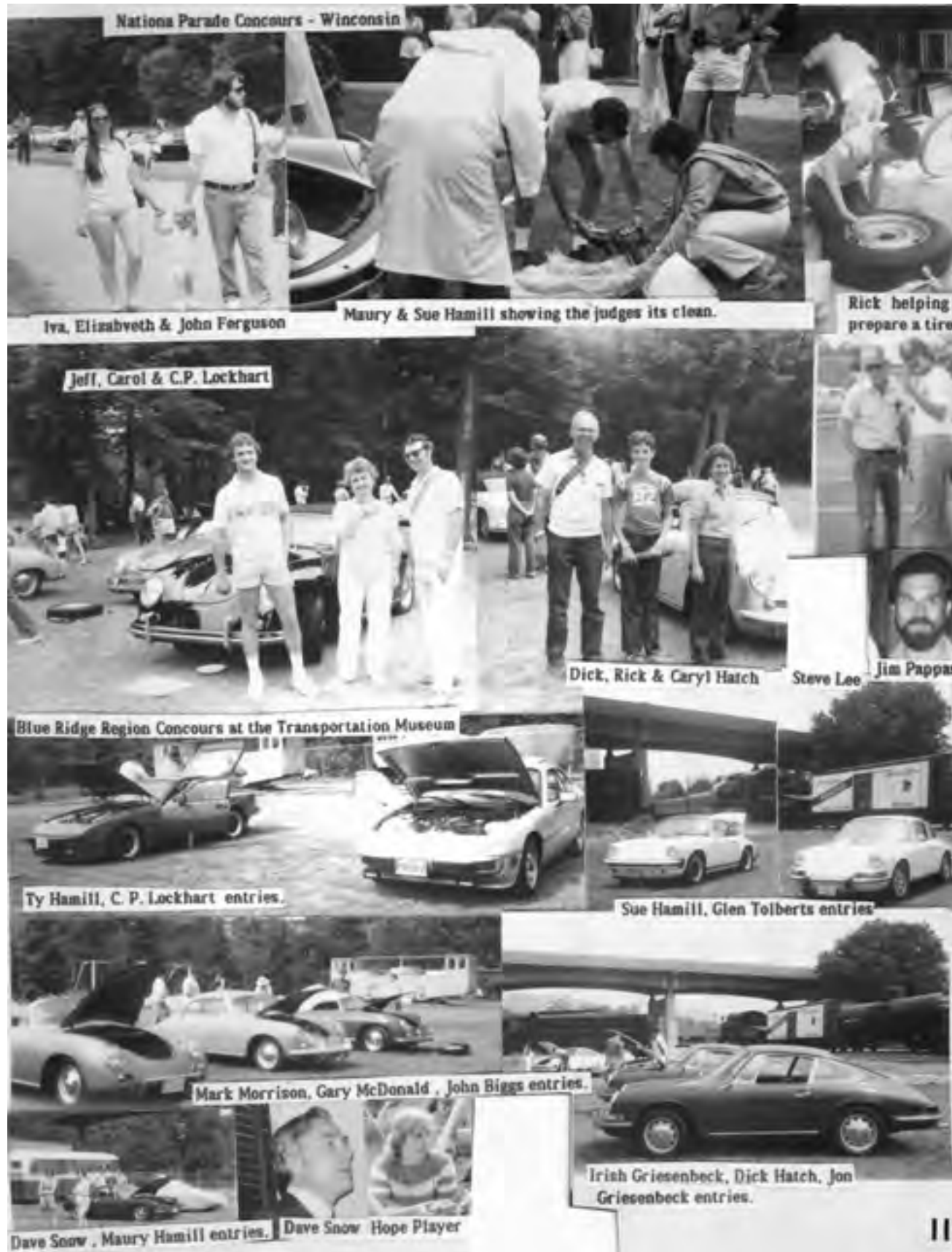
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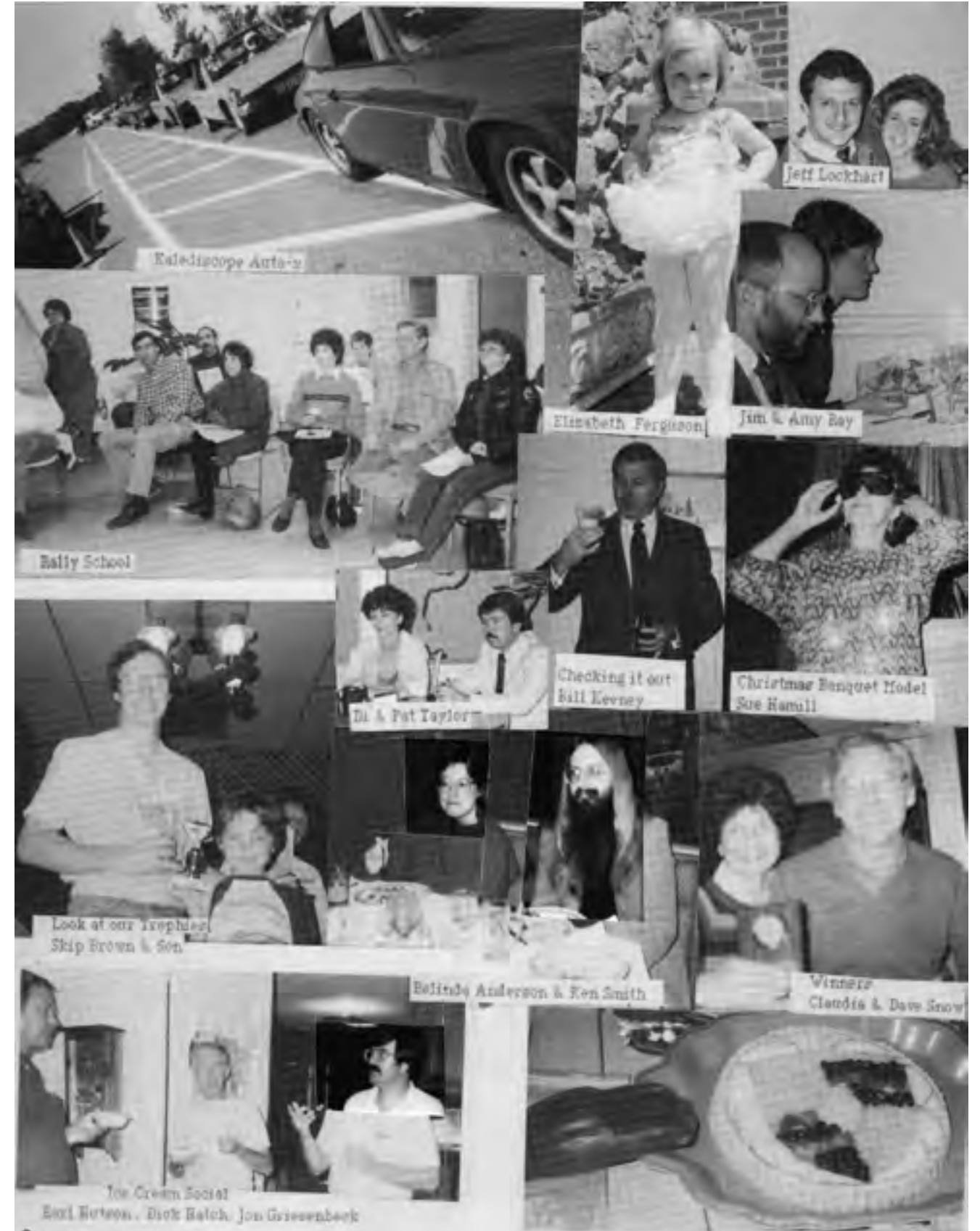


Vintage Race line Up at Summit Point

Dick and our Zone Rep. Alan Friedman

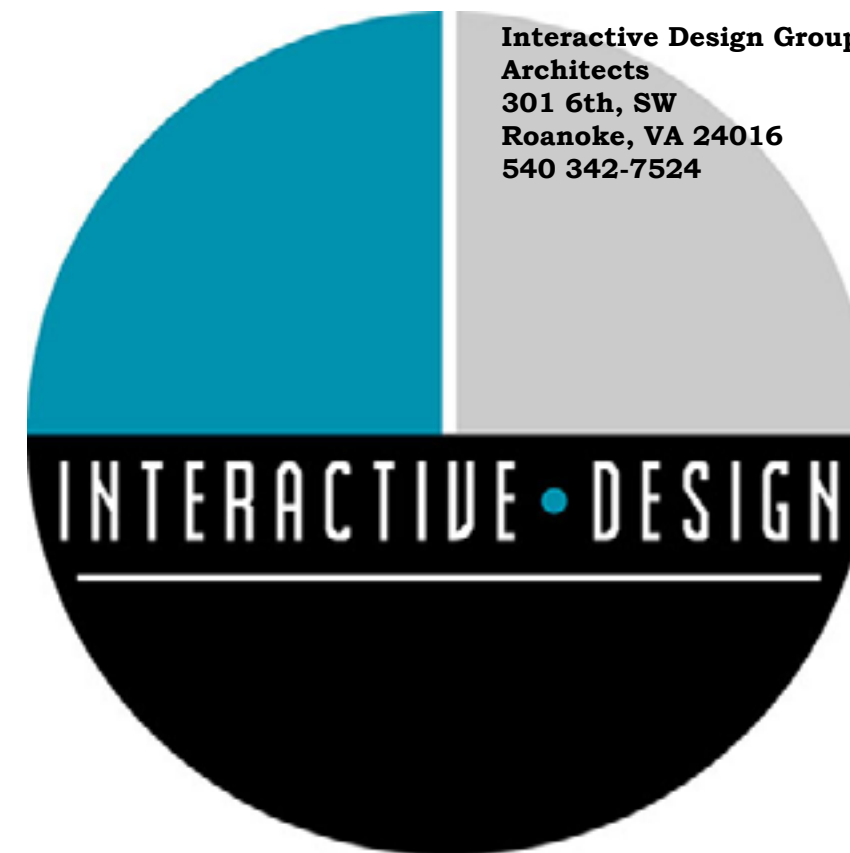
Cole even gets into polishing race cars!

photos by Caryl Hatch





Cover of Blau Rain issues 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2010



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Devil's Backbone Brewery in 2010. A lot has changed since then. The facility was much less crowded and the parking closer.



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Finish Line

Due to the corona virus it has been a disappointing 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 2020. 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

Blau Rain is the official monthly newsletter of the Blue Ridge Region, Porsche Club of America; available only by subscription to BRR members as a portion of the annual PCA dues. For subscriptions for non-BRR PCA members, contact the Editor.

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Annual Commercial Ad Rates: \$200. Contact Jim at business@brr-pca.org.

Communications regarding articles, photos, and other material for Blau Rain should be sent to the Editor. Deadline: the 20th of the month preceding publication.

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Uncredited photos and articles are by the editor.


Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month. Please check the website calendar for time and place.

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

January Blau Rain printed by: Printworks Inc. 701 Leesville Road Lynchburg, Virginia 24502

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