# checkpoints

# VIRGINIA MOTOR SPORT CLUB



Vol II No. 13

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

November 1958

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov 16	Seventh Point - Turkey Rallye - J. Crenshaw
Nov 20	Meeting - Nominations
Dec 14	Eighth Point - Christmas Rallye - 1. Fitch
Dec 18	Meeting - Elections
Jan 3	Annual Banquet

# NEXT EVENT

CHRISTMAS RALLYE
December 14
Willard Fitch, 0. D.

Start - Southside Plaza Shopping Center - First Car Out - 1:00 p.m. - interesting rallye - all hard-surfaced roads - get-together afterwards for dinner at a restaurant - Christmas gift for each entrant!

#### SNOW RALLYE TIME

The first time that there are two inches or more of snow on the ground in Richmond on Sunday, there will be a Snow Rallye run by Bill Harding. If you would like to participate, send or give Bill a card with your name and telephone numbers where you could possibly be reached Saturday night or Sunday morning. When the snow comes, he will call and notify you. Low speeds, short course.

#### NE.

Frisky with Berkeley 3 cylinders in rear - rumored.

The first Grand Prix of the U.S. - Sebring, Florida, the day after the 12-hour endurance - a very big weekend - 21 and 22 March.

If you	To the Tune of the Marine's Hymn			
can	T 03 0			
read	From the floors of Sports Car Sales			
this,	To Danville's asphalt track			
you	We will race our little cars			
are	Painted red and white and black			
doing	See us sliding round the hairpins			
just	Gaily waving to the crowd			
fine.	We are drivers of SCCA			
	And boy, are we proud!			
2 1 15	-/9==-			

This space reserved for the coffee break.



CHECKPOINTS is published monthly by the Virginia Motor Sport Club, mailed free to paid members. Subscription rates to non-members, \$1.50 per year. Meetings are held every third Thursday at 7.30 p.m. at the Branch House, Monument and Davis Avenues, Richmond, Virginia. EDITOR - Ed Wright, STAFF ASSISTANTS - Marvin Donger, Ed Wood, John Kessler, Bill Harding, Ed Remick, Judy Baylor, Caroline Crenshaw. Deadline for material - 10th of each month. All letters addressed to 3806 Dover Road.

## EDITORIAL

We are sorry that this issue is the same as the others and not the Lithiographical magazine that had been promised, but, due to a lack of material, it was decided to save money and publish the first photo issue in January.

Banquet time will soon be here; so, make sure you have your reservations in early. There will be fun and prizes for all, dancing, joke telling, cocktails, food and prizes that won't affect your amatuer standing. Entry blank is around here someplace.

#### HALLOWEEN RALLYE

Moan again - Fred Johnson absconded to Carolina with all the results, ergo, he go, we no go, sorry.

## GRAMPA BUCKETBUTT'S BANALITIES #3

Once there was a couple who decided to go rallying. They did and decided that this was a fun thing. They then bought some equipment and began to go to every rally within reach. It wasn't too long before the husband was beginning to try very hard to win each event. This led to nerves. His wife, poor misguided soul, still thought that they were having FUN. Her husband soon began to correct this delusion by yelling and swearing and generally giving the impression that he was out to WIN, not just to have FUN. His wife was amazed. She had never yelled at him and he had never yelled at her before in all their Well! She knew just what to do about that! She looked around married life. the club and found another couple who were having the same difficulty, it wasn't really too hard to find one, and convinced the wife that they ought to get together and have FUN and let the men WIN. They switched around and the men and their wives each pursued their own bent, the former grimly, the latter chuckling, all the while. Well, at the end of the year, when the points were added up, the wives beat the men by a comfortably embarrassing margin.

Moral: When you yell at your wife, make sure you know what you're yelling about.

.Grampa has spoke.

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I understand that Ed Wright tried to take home a 20lb. turkey in the Berkeley. He was last seen heading west - at 1,500 feet, yelling, "You put me down!"

A young man crossed a parakeet with a tiger. He still doesn't know what he's got, but when it talks he listens.

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# COLD WEATHER STARTING

#### by "Happy" Batchelor

If you were to enter a race you would not expect to win if your car were not in a state of top tune; likewise top tune is essential in cold weather starting. Spark plugs, distributor points and condenser must be up to snuff, also carburetors, battery and the balance of the electrical system.

Your battery should test, with a hydrometer, 1.260 to 1.280 on all cells with a difference of no more than 0.020 between cells. If the difference between cells exceeds this amount, the battery is probably on the verge of collapse. Even if it may seem to be working now, it can be expected to drop dead on one of these real cold mornings. If the state of charge is below 1.250, it should be slow charged overnight or so. "Fast" charging is considered an emergency measure only and can be dangerous to the battery life. It goes without saying that the battery exterior and environs should be clean. Cleaning can be effectively done by washing with a soda-water solution (1 quart warm water and 2 tablespoons baking soda).

Assuming all is mechanically and electrically well, here are a few "kinks" that may help: use one range hotter plugs set .002 closer, set ignition points .002 closer and retard ignition about 2°. These three steps will reduce performance but will increase starting ability considerably.

If your car is still stubborn about starting, consider the possibility of adding heat under the hood during the night - a 100-watt bulb placed under the hood near (but not touching) the carburetor(s).

Then if you like to live dangerously, try this - caution, I said "dangerously": With someone inside the car to operate the starter, place an unlit propane blowtorch against the air cleaner; turn on the propane gas and then push the start; be ready to remove the torch quickly in case of backfire; when the engine catches (not afire, I hope) keep feeding the propane gas for several seconds, so that the gasoline will take over smoothly.

Another method: If your car has a mesh type air cleaner, place about one teaspoon of either ether, chloroform, lighter fuel or lacquer thinner on the mesh prior to pushing the starter button. This method is not so dangerous as the above but on the other hand not so effective either.

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ELgin 8-1511

Tired of bread? Try my cake. Marie Antoinette's Bake Shop, Paris.

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#### TRAN-SPORT

1010 & 1200 N. Boulevard - EL 9-5751

13	John Kessler	1200
14	Suzanne Kessler	1145
15	Len Vinslow	1140
16	Wade Norton	1090
17	Willard Fitch	1075
18	Ed Wright	1055
19	Marvin Donger	1045
20	Stan Clark	1030

A woman carefully rolled up her windows, locked all the doors, put the keys in her purse, then walked off-leaving the top down.

## ENTRY FORM - ANNUAL BANQUET

Place - Downtown Club - Raleigh Hotel, 9th and Bank Streets

When - 3 January 1959

Time - Starting Event (production), 6:30 p.m., Cocktail Party

Second Event (all modified), Dinner and Awards

Third Event (endurance), 10:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m., Dance

Entry Fee - \$10.00 per crew - singles \$5.00

Entries  $\underline{\text{MUST}}$  be in by the 19th of December; there will be  $\underline{\text{NO}}$  late entries.

Fill in the blank below and mail it, with money, to Len Minslow, 1927 N. Hamilton, or bring it to the next meeting.