

At the end of every year I generally go through all my notes and catalog all of the meeting minutes. It gives me an opportunity to see exactly what the club did in terms of the number of activities the club was involved with. This was a typical year and it included a wide range of activities.

It started in January with our usual casual dinner at Mystic Pizza II which was heavily attended considering how many Florida snowbirds are in the club. Kevin O'Rourke got us back on the road in April with a visit to the Herreshoff marine museum in Newport. Other day trips included the Audrain museum in Newport and car shows in Voluntown, Ledyard, Guilford, Brooklyn, East Hampton and, of course, the Klingberg show in New Britain. We also attended the Elks show in Wakefield, R.I. and the Gathering of the Faithful in Middleboro, M.A. On three occasions members made multi-day trips out of state to Rhinebeck and Syracuse, New York and North Conway, New Hampshire.

The Oak Harbor, Misquamicut and Pavilion cruises were regularly well attended as well as a number of others too numerous to mention. Some other day trip events that the membership faithfully attended were the Cardone and Daughter open house, the Barrett-Jackson auction at the Mohegan Sun, the Apple Rehab, the Westerly Historical Society and the North Stonington fair. In addition to the January dinner other food related events (everyone's favorites) included Clyde's Cider mill, the Calabrese picnic, and the upcoming Christmas dinner at the Richmond Country club.

On the club meeting place home front there were two well attended potluck meetings and a brownbag which netted our highest total ever! Speakers included our own Kevin and Ken on antique and amateur radios, Dave lecturing on AACA judging, Gerry on local repair shops and guest Lee Ratliff giving us life on the road with Evel Knievel. Bob and Ken also took a lecture on the road speaking about antique autos at the Westerly Historical Society. A great highlight of the year was meeting (for most of us the first time) Malcolm Stinson, the sole surviving founder of the club.

Tom and the gaslight crew had a busy year tuning and repairing a number of cars. Remarkably I don't recall any breakdowns this year with one partial exception: pushing and jump starting one vehicle through a New Hampshire toll (hardly a breakdown). Don expertly organized several trips and Vickie, Dave C. and Bill did a great job supporting me at the meetings.

Gerry continues to inform us with the newsletter, mailing list and name tags. Ken Carr grabbed the baton and was off and running developing a first class website for us. John Leite and his committee quickly arranged a fine (and affordable) Christmas party. We could always count on Barbara Coon to give us a little sunshine. May sunshine warm you too, Barb. Oh yeah, I almost forgot Hershey. We'll never be able to fully thank Bob B. and Jim for keeping the ball rolling on this quality event. And lastly, a special, special thanks to Jim and Peggy Varas. They contribute hours and hours of behind-the-scenes tasks every year to keep the club running smoothly and flawlessly. We're so lucky to have them.

I apologize if I've forgotten to thank anyone (yes Sonny, I know Bart IS a ton of fun to hang with!). Finally, all the members contribute to making the club exciting, gratifying and, most of all, FUN!
Looking forward to heading down the road in 2017!

WPRAACA President,

Bob Degoursey