OMG! It is 2017 – are you already????

December is always a good month. Besides the celebrations and holiday fun, our club had a couple of fun events. First we celebrated our entry into the holidays with a dinner celebration and also to acknowledge our new board of directors. A very important note is that your board of directors and committee leaders all agreed to again serve another year. So you have great dedicated peoples, who do a good job, volunteer to do it again. That is really a great thing!!!

The second greatness of December is our Christmas Homes Lights Tour. We did rotate the tour one week due to rainy weather. We picked a new date that was in between two storms and enjoy a wonderful evening without any problems. I sort of almost got lost once, but no one saw or complained – what a good group we are. The Lights Tour was a fun evening and then we landed at Round Table Pizza. Given our private room, the pizza was delicious and everyone seem to enjoy that part of the evening. Be with friends, drive an old car and get free pizza – that is what I call a good day!

Just in case you forgot, club dues are due! Cheap at $20 per family you will reap your rewards in cookies and pizza within a few months of the year. Actually due December 31th we need your dues as we must submit a 2017 roster to AACA National by February 2017. Also, did you pay your AACA National dues?

Bob Caldwell

Thank you to the members who bring Snacks and Drinks to our General Meetings. At our next General Meeting in January 2017, the Bennett’s will be providing snacks and drinks. As always, if you need assistance our Chairperson for refreshments is Marilyn Chase.

Visit our web site!

Go to it now: scvaac.com

Have you visited our web site lately?? Take a look and visit our BLOG. Our web master Jhoe Abejon is doing a fantastic job
General Meetings of the SCVAAC are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Bouquet Canyon Church, 27000 Bouquet Canyon Rd., Saugus.

Our club is a region of the Antique Automobile Club of America; Inc. National club membership is required. The national address is: AACA, 501 W. Governor Road, P.O. Box 417, Hershey PA, 17033.

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<th>OFFICERS:</th>
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<td>President</td>
<td>Bob Caldwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Don Mattais</td>
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<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Ron Mosher</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jack Beaver</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Barbara Koehler</td>
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Santa Clarita Antique Auto Club
P.O. Box 220142
Santa Clarita, CA 91322-0142
E-mail Address: caldwellbob@sbcglobal.net
FAX 661-259-3513

Our Web site is: scvaac.com

Board Meetings are held at the call of the club president. Meetings are normally held in odd numbered months on the third Monday. Meetings begin at 7:30 pm and all members are invited to attend.

CLUB Activities and Tours

January 5th – Thursday, Our General Meeting at 7:30 pm
We can discuss last year and plan for the new year. We are always open to new ideas – be ready to express yourself.

January 23rd – Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
We need to plan the new year. This meeting will be held at the Korhler’s residence. All members are invited to attend but we need an RSVP prior to this meeting. Please advise president Bob Caldwell if you want to attend this meeting.

Wednesday Burger Night. (January 4, 11, 18 and 25th) we are at Wendy’s Burger.
Enjoy a full menu from burger to salad to ice cream in a peaceful and quiet evening at on Bouquet Cyn Road at Wendy’s. Bring your collectible car. We are well represented – come enjoy the food. Hours are 6pm to 8pm.
Our Annual Christmas and Installation Dinner

We held our Installation and Christmas party at our local Coco’s Restaurant. There were about 24 members attending and it was a lovely evening. An evening of good food and good friends continued.

Several members were recognized for their support for the year. The Bennett’s were acknowledged for the attendance to activities as was Ken Spencer both as our hero’s of the year.

At the left is a special award presented from our Membership Chair John Baber to Barbara Koehler for her assistance during 2016 as the best volunteer of the year.

A special 2017 calendar was presented to all – see below.

The 2017 Santa Clarita Valley Antique Auto Club calendar

The 2017 features 12 calendars with 12 Club automobiles. It is so accurate it even reminds you of club general meeting dates!

It is a fund raising idea and we want you to donate a minimum of $5.00 for this fine calendar. Actually if your car is featured then you should increase your donation appropriately.

See Bob Caldwell if you wish to have this fine calendar.
The Christmas Homes Lights Tour

The tour through the north area of Santa Clarita revealed many homes lite for the holidays.

Editor's note: did you notice that some pictures displayed are better than others? Well, thank you to Jhое Abejon.
And what is a Club tour without food? We ended up at Round Table Pizza to the delight of all! Your club furnished free PIZZA and drinks!!!!!!

The Pursell’s

Generations of the Edgington’s

The Baber’s family...

The Koehler’s and a hungry citizen (VP – Don)

Meet Gary Newman

Gary is on the left and his friend Tom Edgington is on the right.

Gary was an instructor of automobile mechanics so it is our belief that we can really use his talents.

Welcome Gary.
Use of Electronic Wireless Devices – Driving a motor vehicle while hold and operating a handheld wireless telephone or a wireless electronic communications device will be prohibited, unless the device is mounted on a vehicle’s windshield or to the dashboard or center console. The driver’s hand may only be used to activate or deactivate the device with a single swipe, but not holding it.

Child Safety Seats – This law requires a parent or the driver of the motor vehicle to properly secure a child who is younger than 2 years of age in an appropriate rear-facing child passenger restraint system, unless the child weights 40 or more pounds or is 40 or ore inches in height (3 foot, 3 inches). (Editor’s note: the bail schedule on this is about $600)

Motorcycle Lane Splitting – This law defines "lane splitting" as driving a two-wheel motorcycle between rows of stopped or moving vehicles in the same lane. The law authorizes the California Highway Patrol to develop educational guidelines relating to lane splitting in a manner that would ensure the safety of motorcyclists, drivers, and passengers. In developing these guidelines, the law requires the CHP to consult with specified agencies and organizations that have an interest in road safety and motorcyclist behavior.

Vehicle Registration Fee – This law increases the vehicle registration fee on every vehicle or trailer coach from $43 to $53 beginning April 1, 2017.

Environmental License Plate – This law increases the fee for the issuance of Environmental License Plates from $43 to $53, starting July 1, 2017. This law also increased the fee for the removal, retention, transfer, or duplication of Environmental License Plates (personalized) from $38 to $43 starting January 1, 2017.

Accident Reporting – This law increased the minimum financial threshold for property damage that is required to be reported to the DMV from $750 to $1,000 when a driver is involved in a motor vehicle collision.

Vehicle Safety Recalls – This law enacts the Consumer Automotive Recall Safety (CARS) Act, and requires the DMV to include a general advisory regarding vehicle recalls and needed repairs on each vehicle registration renewal notice. The law prohibits a dealer on a rental car company from renting or leasing a vehicle with a manufacturer’s recall no later than 48 hours after receiving the notice – until the vehicle has bee repaired. This law gives a limited excepting for a licensed dealer with a fleet of 34 or fewer loaner or rental vehicles.

Year of Manufacture License Plates - This law expands the Year of Manufacture (YOM) license plate program to include vehicles and license plates manufactured through 1980. This law benefits the owners of vintage motor vehicles who obtain license plates from the year corresponding to the vehicle’s model-year, and wish to use those vintage plates in lieu of regular license plates. Such plates are commonly found from different sources, including relatives, garage sales, estate sales, etc. The program will include the blue and yellow license plates issue for use on California motor vehicles from 1970 until 1980.

Installing Counterfeit or Nonfunctional Air Bags – This law prohibits knowingly and intentionally manufacturing, importing, installing, reinstalling, distributing, or selling any device intended to replace an air bag system in any motor vehicle if the device is a counterfeit or nonfunctional air bag system, or does not meet federal safety requirements. The law also prohibits selling, installing, or reinstalling any device that would cause a vehicle’s diagnostic system to fail to warn when the vehicle is equipped with a counterfeit, nonfunctional, or a case in which no air bag was installed. This violation is a misdemeanor punishable by a $5,000 fine and/or one year in county jail.
I have received two letters regarding the AACA Museum.

From the AACA National Board of Directors:
“The Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) has always valued our partnership with the Museum that bears our name. We are, however, writing to inform you that, after much deliberation, we have made the difficult but responsible decision in the best interest of our members to discontinue our relationship and financial support with the AACA Museum”.

“Since 1993, AAQCA National has donated $1,095,175 to the Museum, including annual payments of $80,000 which began in 2008.”

The AACA Library and Research Center open the Museum as a non-profit status in 2003. AACA merged the Library and Research Center with National in 2006, but after years of negotiation have been unable to reach an agreement with the Museum board of directors.

“The AACA Library and Research Center is now wholly owned by the club…and we were keenly aware the need to substantially expand your library and Research Center… Accordingly, it is our hope that a new facility could be built at the Museum site. While that can no longer happen, we are still in immediate need of a new facility. The need to concentrate efforts on our own fundraising goals means we will no longer be directly supporting fundraising on behalf of the museum. Giving is a personal decision, and we strongly urge your region to make their own decision regarding their philanthropy”.

From the AACA Museum:
“2016 has been an exciting year for the AACA Museum, thanks to your generous past support!” In 2017 they plan to reconfigure two underutilized spaces. Both spaces require remodeling and this project has been estimated at $50,000.

The Museum is asking for donations of $25, $50, $100 or more. “Your generous support, regardless of amount, will make it possible for our Museum to continue as a must-see attraction.

In case you forgot, we need dues in by December 31st. Our club dues are $20 and that is a bargain. Please mail in your dues to the club – see our address on page 2.

Also AACA National wants their dues also. It is $35 per family and their address is also on page 2 of this newsletter.

Our requirements is to collect dues and submit a complete roster to AACA National by February. If you do not pay we will have to drop membership until they are paid. They are sticky wicket regarding dues that are due!!

Thank you for your efforts in getting dues in!!!!
The American Sport Car – the beginning and the Chevrolet Corvette

The Corvette celebrates its 63rd year as the Corvette was first produced in 1953. Today the Corvette is America’s premium sport car, but the beginning years were full of problems, mistakes and the Corvette was nearly discontinued as fast as it had appeared.

The Corvette’s introduction came at a time when America wanted, but did not have a sport car. Those interested in sport cars bought foreign cars – usually British cars. The Corvette was introduced at the 1953 Motorama – a General Motors car show of all their automobiles. One of the early great men in the Corvette’s history was Harley Earl. As the head designer, he developed a streamlined, aerodynamic sport car. He was the decider who wanted to build a car in fiberglass. The first Corvettes even though hand built, the fiberglass bodies were full of imperfections. The quality was so poor that many new owners returned cars as unacceptable.

The Corvette body was poor; the same was true of its 6 cylinder, 225 cubic inch engine that produced only 150 horsepower! Chevrolet also used the Powerglide two speed automatic transmissions, which was unresponsive and not an item for a sport car. The 1953 Corvettes were available only as a convertible and painted “Polo” white with a red interior. The target selling price was $1,800; however they sold for $3,513, which was higher price than a Cadillac. The total Corvette production in 1953 was just 300 cars, but only 183 were sold.

The second year 1954, Corvette production was at 3,640 cars, however over 1,000 cars were unsold. At the Detroit Auto Show in Michigan, the Ford Motor company introduced their new two-seat convertible called the “Thunderbird”. The Thunderbird went on sale in September 1954 and immediately sold over 4,000 cars the first day. The Thunderbird was equipped with a V-8 engine as General Motors was still developing an V-8. While Ford was trying to catch up this was a “wakeup call” to General Motors. At this time, the demise of the Corvette was a strong possibility, Ford actions pushed General Motors decision to continue with the Corvette. Chevrolet then introduced a small block V8 265 cubic inch engine.

In 1953, a second major person had arrived to influence Corvette’s future. This was Zora Akus-Duntov – called the father of the Corvette. As an engineer and former racecar driver, he was appointed the director of High Performance Development. He defined sport cars as synonymous with speed. Duntov brought Corvette to be the first production car ever to top 150 mph. The American sports car was born.

Frequent rumors remain that the Corvette was the first American sport car and the first one build in fiberglass – wrong on both accounts. In 1913 the Mercer Raceabout was s sport car was considered an American first sports car and was taken immediately to a racetrack. The Kaiser Car Company produced a sport car in 1952 called the Darrin and it was a complete car built of fiberglass.

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<th>Generation</th>
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<td>1st</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>1968 – 1982</td>
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Speaking of... Do you remember?

The first drive-in gas station!!

The first drive-in movie!!

Editors note: if you do remember, have prices increased???

What’s Coming Up?

Turlock Swap Meet

The biggest or bestest swap of the year.

There is nothing in the automotive world that has not graced its presence at this swap meet.

Our member (Ron Mosher) will be present. Look for his setup space, and if he does not have the part, he will now where it can be located.

PS: he serves and excellent sandwich.
Always maintain your car and remember where you park it.

A NEW AND INFORMAL CAR MEETING SPOT

On *every Saturday morning* from 6:30 am to 8:30 am there is now a “open house” meeting area in our valley.

Come to the parking lot adjacent to K-Mart (Valencia Bl at Bouquet Cyn) and meet with other automobile enthusiasts. Just meet to discuss and love all cars.

It is called *Coffee N' Cars* at it is in front of the Western Bagel Shop. No trophies and no entry fees.
CONGRATULATIONS – no one of any importance was born in January. Editors note: my brother and son were born in January! Do you care?

Linda and Wayne Pursell celebrate their anniversary on January 6th. Keith & Janet Glenn have their anniversary celebration on January 8th.

*except M&K

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*Each Saturday 6:30 – 8:30 am Coffee n’ Cars K-Mart parking*