

356CAR

California Alta Region

2025 Issue 4



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President's Message

Looking Back On 2025

Happy New Year and I hope all of you had a wonderful Holiday Season!

Looking back, I believe 2025 was a fabulous year for our club and for all of you who came out and participated in any of our events. One of the highlights of the year was our Gathering of the Faithful at the beautiful Wine and Roses Convention Center in Lodi which actually turned into a two day event for many of us. The Sunday GOF was once again spearheaded by Elaine Cannon with help from Bill Hinkle and Steve Douglas. On Saturday, Steve Styles treated us to a special "barrel" wine tasting at Lodi's M2 Winery and afterwards the group enjoyed dinner together. Not to be outdone, after the GOF on Sunday, Scott and Steve Schneider opened up their shop and "Man Cave" and what a treat that was!

2025 saw approximately 47 new members join 356CAR and at year's end we had 336 primary members plus 242 co-members. Our monthly breakfast gatherings continue to be well attended and provide a wonderful outlet for our members to get together and socialize. 2025 also saw a number of great events for our members to participate in and enjoy. In February, the Sacramento group was treated to a transmission and valve adjustment clinic by Reinhard Riedel and in March the Bay Area had a 356 inspection tech session conducted by Joe Zeiph of Porboys German Automotive and Kirk Patterson of Deutsche Motor Sports. In June we had a combined 356CAR Delta drive to "Al the Wops" in the historic town of Locke and once again, Rick Di Napoli opened his beautiful estate ranch for a "Meet in the Middle" picnic. Our club had two group drives for "Drive Your Porsche Day" - one to the home of Margit and Fred Roland in Los Altos Hills and the other to the Marshall State Park gold discovery site in Coloma.

We had many other events and opportunities to get together during 2025 and I would like to thank everyone who stepped up to help with an event or put one on for the club. At our November 356CAR Board meeting we started the process of planning events and activities for 2026. I'm very excited with our first pass and I believe this will be an exciting year for our club. I'd like to encourage all of you to come out and participate in the driving tours, tech sessions and social gatherings that we will have this year. I would also like to encourage you to get involved by putting on an event for the club or helping with an event.

New 356 California Alta Region Group Facebook page

For quite some time we have been looking for just the right person with technical skills and an interest in social media to build up our facebook presence and hopefully, build awareness and interest in our club. Facebook is also a great way for our club members to share their passion for all things 356 and promote the many activities we have every year. Well, I'd like to introduce you to our new Facebook administrator, Jeff Swain. Jeff and his wife Dana live in Arizona so chances are we won't see them at many of our events but Jeff is a Porsche guy and is also the Facebook administrator for the Arizona Region, PCA. Working with Bob Cannon, Jeff has developed a Facebook Group page where we all of us can contribute pictures and commentary. I hope that all of you will go to our 356 California Alta Region Facebook page and join our group and share your 356 stories and pictures.

Support Our 356CAR Advertisers

Our advertisers, who I have listed below, have all just renewed their advertising in our 356CAR newsletter for 2026 and deserve our support when we're looking for products or service. When you contact these advertisers please thank them for supporting 356CAR and let them know you saw their ad in our newsletter. Our advertisers help to keep a hardcopy of our Newsletter available to our membership.

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Be extra careful driving this time of year and I'll see you on the road.

Kim

On the Cover:

Winter time somewhere.... Photographer unknown, but a great depiction of the charm of a vintage 356

356CAR Membership Update for December

Dana McDaniel, Membership Chair

Our current membership has 336 members and 242 co-members.

We have 2 new members with 2 co-members- **Welcome to 356CAR!**

Member	Co-member	Location
Dana Drysdale	Missy	Cupertino
Larry Buntrock	Dean Talley	Orangevale

We have 42 members expiring 2025 that have not yet renewed their membership. The year you expire is listed on your monthly printed 356CAR newsletter and in emails for about 6 months around the time of July renewals. If you are receiving monthly emails from us or this newsletter in printed or electronic formats, your membership is in good standing. Thanks for your support of 356CAR!

We need your articles for the newsletter!!

Would you like to contribute? We welcome your stories and pictures about various events, breakfast meetings, drives and tech sessions related to the 356! We are also looking for interesting stories about your car(s). It's easy and FUN..

Just send us a story and some pictures (phone pictures OK) about something you attended and we will do the rest. Don't fret about your writing skills, as we will make it look the best we can if we publish it. The same goes for the pictures.

The details for submitting material to 356CAR:

Text formats: MS Word, Pages, generic text files or PDFs

Picture formats: HIGH RESOLUTION (300ppi), full size pictures only. Do not include pictures in MS Word or text files. Send "full size" or "actual size" from your email program. Include captions if possible.

Please email your material to: Elaine Cannon, Newsletter Editor (ecannon@surewest.net)



Save the Dates! Registration Opens in February!

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New Advertiser Welcome! - Chandler Knapp and Starlight Motorcars





From my earliest memories I was around classic and collector cars. Both of my grandfathers were true gearheads. My maternal grandfather - more of a junkyard-scouring-hot-rod-type and then my paternal grandfather - the fine tuned concours going man. The combination - a well rounded grandson with equal parts grit, resourcefulness, refinement and love for all collector automobiles. Throughout high school I forwent the social scenes: dances, football games, parties etc. The garage was where I wanted to be. High school did, however, afford me the opportunity to attend auto shop class where I met my mentor and godfather, Ralph. It was through him I got my first job in the automotive world. I spent eight years in collection management and had incredible opportunities to steward and exhibit very special cars at Pebble Beach Concours and numerous other premier automotive events. I am fortunate enough to own a number of collector cars myself but what brings me just as much joy is working with my clients and their unique cars.

The origin of Starlite Motorcars goes back to my time at the Ramshead Automobile Collection. Adorning the interior of John White's showroom was a number of neon dealer signs, pedal cars, award cases and murals. The west wall of the showroom boasted a diner scene with real neon tubes highlighting the "Starlite Drive-in Diner & Coffee Shop." It always struck me when the tubes lit up in their glorious yellow glow. After Mr. White's passing I knew I wanted to pay tribute and continue his legacy and thus Starlite Motorcars was born. My mission is simple: Provide my clients with a hassle free seller experience from start to finish. Selling collector cars can be a daunting task. I ease that burden by handling the sale for you with passion, professionalism, and an impactful presentation. I keep my overhead low which means I can keep my commission rates competitive. I would love the opportunity to work with you!



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The Gathering of the Faithful

By Elaine Cannon

Every other year (the year when 356CAR is not putting on North Meets South), we have a special event called The Gathering of the Faithful. This year it was held at the Wine and Roses Event center in Lodi.

Although usually a one-day event, this year it was extended into 2 days with an optional "Wine Experience" hosted by M2 Winery in Lodi on Saturday afternoon. 356CAR members Steve and Suzanne Stiles, part owners of the winery, treated about 50 members and guests to lunch, a winery tour, barrel tasting, more wine tasting and an afternoon of great music at their winery. Those who attended enjoyed the opportunity to get up close and personal with the workings of the winery during their visit. Thank you Steve and Suzanne and the M2 Winery for your wonderful hospitality!

On Sunday, attendees were welcomed to the main event with coffee and tea and then encouraged to walk through the beautiful grounds at Wine and Roses. After signing in (*thank you Kathy and Tom Sansone*) everyone received a goodie bag put together by local residents and 356CAR members Jeanne and Bill Hinkle.

At noon, our Tuscan inspired luncheon was served and Kim Nelson, club president, started the program. He introduced the Board of Directors and thanked them for their 3-year commitment to the club. The members who have opened their homes and businesses to the club for our monthly meetings were introduced and thanked. Many members have organized drives or tech sessions and they were also recognized.

Jim and Tina Lauer were given the President's award for chairing the 2024 North Meets South event and were thanked for agreeing to chair the event in 2026. Steve and Lori Douglas and Bob and Elaine Cannon were thanked for their continued service to the club. Rich Peters was recognized for his long-time volunteer work for the club. John Bertolotti was recognized for his efforts in reviving the Bay Area breakfast. And, Del Sessions was thanked for his continued support of our club and its members. The day ended with an invitation from Steve Schneider to visit his garage/workshop in Lodi.

Even though inclement weather was forecasted, this year's Gathering brought together 106 members to enjoy their cars and friendships.

Elaine Cannon was the event coordinator with a lot of help from the Hinkles. Lodi is a wonderful town with lots to see and wineries to visit. The line from the Creedence Clearwater Revival song "Lodi" – "Oh Lord, stuck in Lodi again" is no longer true.

Here is a link to a short video of the event produced by Chris Forrester (*also available on the 356CAR.org website*)-

<https://youtube.com/shorts/VXuus2RZa-Q>







Some of those recognized for their contributions to 356CAR at the Gathering in Lodi

Gathering of the Faithful Recognition Awards- 2025



At each Gathering of the Faithful we try to recognize those in 356CAR who have contributed to our success (and fun..) by sponsoring various events, breakfasts or in many other ways over the last few year

Here is a listing of those recognized in 2025.

- Kristi and Tom Besemer
- John Bertolotti
- Elaine and Bob Cannon
- Vicki and Stephen Childs
- Craig Chu
- Jenny and Tim Derich
- Judy and Ken Dwelle
- Larkin and John Evans
- Paul Frame
- Gayle and Joe Hensler
- Bill Hinkle
- Annette and Fred Huberty
- Dick MacFarlane
- Linda and Jim McMahan

Certificates of Appreciation

- Kathy and Bob Murray
- Rich Peters
- Reinhard Riedel
- Margit and Fred Roland
- Kathy and Tom Sansone
- Steve Schneider
- Lori Schutz
- Del Sessions
- Donal Smith
- Charlene and Ron Stansbury
- Steve and Suzanne Stiles
- Brenda and Mike Terzich
- Kathy and Bruce Ungari
- Tony Van

President's Award

- Tina and Jim Lauer

Special Recognition Awards

- Steve and Lori Douglas
- Elaine and Bob Cannon

Tree Trimming Party at The California Auto Museum

The California Auto Museum has a tradition of allowing the various car clubs in the Sacramento region to decorate Christmas trees featuring their club on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. The 356CAR tree is filled with ornaments showing our cars and their owners. It is always fun to see if your ornament is still there! The 356 group along with the local PCA group made up the largest contingent of attendees and will be hosts for the 2026 event. This year the museum was honoring Mustangs and had representatives of the different models on display. After a great potluck and raffle, everyone left ready to start the Holiday season. Ho, Ho, Ho!



Shriner's Hospital Toy Drive

It is a yearly tradition that the EuroSunday group holds a toy drive for the Shriner's Hospital in Sacramento. Car clubs and individuals drive through the entrance to the hospital drive through to drop off toys while some of the patients and their parents watched from the windows above or down on street level with the donors and the elves who help manage the whole event. Our 356CAR group of eleven cars met at the California Auto Museum and then drove together to the hospital. It was heartwarming event for everyone.



Recent Breakfast Meetings and 356CAR Holiday Party

The Sacramento Area members held their September meeting at the home of Mike and Brenda Terzich in Loomis. The meeting was well attended and the outdoor setting was great.

In November our monthly meeting was held at Bob and Kathy Murray's shop in Loomis. There was a great line-up of the Murray's cars outside to make room for the attendees inside. The Murray's donated the \$400 collected from the breakfast (plus their own donation) to The Gold Country Wildlife Rescue. This charity aids injured and orphaned wild animals and rehabilitates them for possible release. They are currently taking care of 4 bear cubs plus numerous birds and other wildlife. Our club has been a regular supporter of this charity and this donation was greatly appreciated.



December brought everyone from the Bay Area, Sacramento Area, Monterey and the Sierra Foothills to Kim and Rachel Nelson's garage/showroom in Shingle Springs for our annual Christmas get-together. After 3 weeks of fog in the valley everyone was excited to see the sun (*and warmer temperatures!*) there. In fact, it was hard to get people to come inside! The decorations were beautiful, the potluck was great, and we enjoyed music by the "4Cams" band.



Keep It In The Family...

By Rye Livingston

On October 4th my son Nash married his now wife Dori at the Stanislaus River Campground. It was an outdoor wedding, and most attendees were camping. Because he had grown up with our 1963 356S and it was meaningful to him, Nash asked me to bring it for wedding photos. So I drove it up there and my wife pulled our trailer with her SUV. In our campsite it got lots of looks, as the way it was parked, it appeared the 356 had towed the trailer!

The wedding photos with the 356 were very special.



Wedding photo by Sierra Skinner

But there is more to this story. I've owned this car for 35 years, before Nash was born. I'm the second owner, and I used to ride in this car when I was 10 years old, with its original owner, Percival Bliss. Perc and my father were members of the Porsche Owners Club, which merged into the Golden Gate Region of the Porsche Club of America (PCA). Perc and my father were charter members and Perc was the first president of the Golden Gate Region. When we'd all travel to PCA events, and I have two older brothers, we'd all be in my dad's 1955 Speedster, then his 1963 356S Cabriolet, and one or two of us would get farmed out to couples who didn't have kids. So I rode in Perc's car many times as a kid. When Perc died around 1990 (sadly of the flu) I purchased the car from Perc's widow, who was a good friend of my mother's. So to the point, Nash has been riding in this car his whole life, as a matter of fact, this is the car in which he learned to drive a stick shift!

Nash was about 2 years old in these photos helping me wash the car, wearing a garbage bag to protect him from getting soaking wet! In 2020 it was time to restore the car and over the course of some hot, summer days, Nash helped me strip it down.

Since he was a toddler, the 1963 356S has been part of some key moments in Nash's life. It was only fitting that the car be there for Nash's big moment!



By Craig Chu



March 1991 Update

Bay Area monthly breakfast meetings were held at the Villa Hotel on El Camino in San Mateo.

Sacramento breakfast meetings were held at the Radisson Hotel on Highway 160 just north of 80.

After the February Sacramento breakfast, Ted Blake and Dawn Perry held a tech session at Dawn's Restoration and Repair. The session was on restoration and covered engine rebuilding, body restoration, and final detailing.

This issue included a copy of an ad for the 356 (see picture). The ad appeared in the February 1956 issue of *Road & Track*.

Spring/Summer 1991 Newsletter

Following the March breakfast, Leo Droughton conducted a tech session at his shop in Marysville. The topic was carburetors and Leo had an engine set up on a stand with a Solex carburetor mounted on one side and a Zenith on the other. Since the engine was not set up to run Leo could not demonstrate how to adjust the idle mixture screws or how to measure the float levels. He did show how to mount the P77 tool to the Zenith to measure the float level.

The session was organized by Jon Geil. The newsletter article on this session was written by Paul Prethewey.

Carburetor tuning tips from Leo:

1. Before adjusting idle mixture, install new points, set timing, adjust valves, and warm up the engine for fifteen minutes. Adjusting valves is important because it affects how much air each cylinder and consequently each carburetor draws.
2. If you need to turn an idle mixture screw all the way in to start your adjustment process, do not tighten or you will score the tip. If you score the tip, it will be very difficult to fine tune the air flow and you should replace the screw. Try to find original replacement screws because the screws that come with rebuild kits usually have a blunter taper and don't work as well.
3. If you use a Uni-Syn to balance the air flow in the carburetors, hold it down with your hand to make sure it is fully sealed while you are reading it.

4. In order to check that air flow through both carburetors is balanced at about 2500 rpm, you must exert steady pressure on the accelerator. One way to do this is to partially hold down the accelerator with a stick propped against the front seat. Leo suggests pushing the accelerator pedal to the desired position then clamping vise grips to the accelerator linkage under the car to block the accelerator from returning to its neutral position.
5. Use SWEPCO 101 Moly Grease to lubricate the ball joints in the accelerator linkage.

The Greasy Hand wrote an article on how to jack up the rear of your car. Hint: if your car is slightly too low to fit your jack under the transmission hoop, raise it up with a 2x8 or 2x10 under each wheel. Bevel one end of each board and drive your car up onto these "ramps".

The third annual joint meet of the Golden Gate Chapter of the Vintage VW Club and 356CAR was held at the San Jose Historical Museum at Kelly Part in San Jose. The event was organized by Steve Douglas.

Fall 1991 Newsletter

The fifth annual North Meets South was held in July at Morro Bay. It was organized by Bob and Elaine Cannon of 356CAR and Greg and Cheryl Young of the Southern California Chapter of 356 Registry. The event included a concours, a tech session by the Maestro (Harry Pellow), a banquet with awards, and a swap meet. The organizers decided to try a new format for the concours: the A class (including the pre-A's) judged the B's, the B's judged the C's, and the C's judged the A's. Some serious concours participants felt their car was not given the expert evaluation it deserved, but most people appeared to have a good time. Best of Show was won by Olaf Shipstead with his '65 coupe.

The third tech session of the year was held in May at Lukes and Shorman on San Pablo Avenue in Albany. There were three presenters: Harvey Smith had a slide show about restoration, Tom Manning talked about engine rebuilding and machine shop techniques, and Linda Smith talked about preparing your car for a concours and judging. The session was organized by Dick Cottrell.

Author's Comments

Swap meets were really popular back then. There were Porsche swap meets at Partsheaven in Hayward presented by the Loma Prieta Region of PCA, at Roadsport in San Ramon presented by the Diablo Region of PCA, at Automotion in Sunnyvale, at Carlsen Porsche in Palo Alto, at North Meets South, and after the 356CAR June Sacramento breakfast at the Radisson.

For more information on how to tune Zenith carburetors, see "Tuning Zenith NDIX 32" (Web Article 46) by Ron LaDow in the Technical section of the 356 Registry website.

For more information on how to jack up your car, see "Safe Jacking of Your 356" by Tom Farnam and Barry Lee Brisco in the Technical section of the 356 Registry website.

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Niello Serrano Concours

By Joel Jensen

On October 5th, the 21st Niello Concours at Serrano was held on a beautiful day in the Sierra Foothills. It was marred only by the green grass being saturated with water from rain in the days before, making driving on the surfaces "interesting". All else went off nicely except the winners being deprived of their "victory lap" past the awards pavilion.

A 356 Outlaw Class was instituted this year, but for unknown reasons, few chose to enter. Winners in the Class were Bob Murray's T5 Notchback taking a second, the 1964 356 C of Greg Gularte taking a second and Joel Jensen's 63 356 B Sunroof taking the first place award. Steve Raucher's beautiful 1958 Speedster was awarded the Niello Favorite Porsche award to round out the winners.

I'm hoping to see a larger participation by 356 owners, original and outlaw in future events. Thanks to Brian and Michelle Moore and the Niello family for sponsoring this great event.



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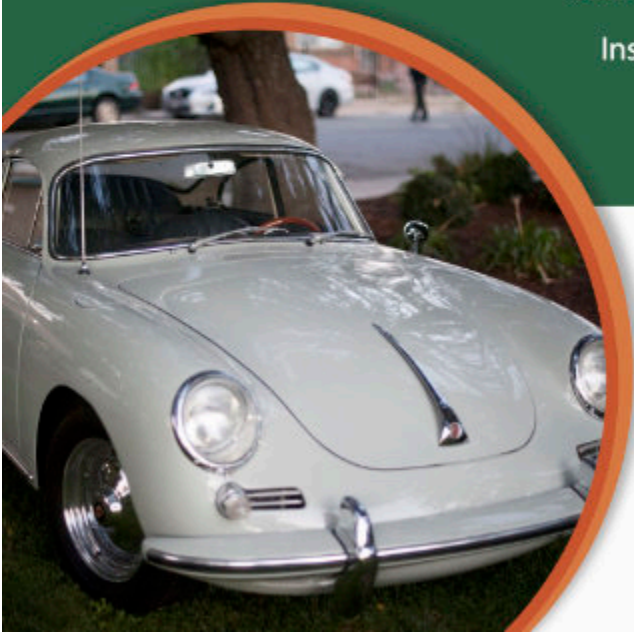
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A lounge for research, referrals, and the investigation of our archives. Make the Classic Center your first stop when exploring the rich Porsche car culture of our region and join us in keeping the air cooled passion alive.

We need your articles for the newsletter!!

Would you like to contribute? We welcome your stories and pictures about various events, breakfast meetings, drives and tech sessions related to the 356! We are also looking for interesting stories about your car(s). It's easy and FUN..

Just send us a story and some pictures (phone pictures OK) about something you attended and we will do the rest. Don't fret about your writing skills, as we will make it look the best we can if we publish it. The same goes for the pictures.

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356CAR Name Badges



Club name badges with magnetic attachments are provided to each active member with new memberships. Additional badges are available for \$15 including mailing. You can order additional badges via the 356CAR website

<http://www.356car.org/misc.html>

356CAR Logo Apparel

356CAR has set up an account with L.L. Bean Direct to Business so that members can purchase a wide variety of clothing items customized with our 356CAR logo embroidered on it. The selection of clothing can be found in the L.L. Bean Direct to Business online catalog that is very similar to the main L.L. Bean catalog. Once an item is selected you can work with the sales representative to choose the logo in colors you prefer to create a suitable contrast with the item you have chosen. While your total cost is dependent on the cost of the clothing item plus the cost of the embroidery, the club has already paid the initial embroidery set up.



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FIRST: visit the L.L. Bean Direct to Business website at www.LLBeanBusiness.com

and select from the online catalog.

THEN: call their account representative at 800.554.4071 and tell her you want to buy an item under the "356 CAR CALIFORNIA ALTA REGION" (Customer No. 7309979974/Design No. 94497). To pay for the item, you will need to provide a credit or debit card and a shipping address.

By the way, orders of 6 or more of the same item in the same color reduce the embroidery cost from \$12 per item to \$5.50 per item. So it pays to get together with a group of friends who wish to order the same items (e.g. hats or jackets of the same color.)



(You may also join or renew online @ www.356car.org)

356CAR Membership Application / Renewal

first name	last name	
co-member's name		
address		
city	state	zip
phone (day)		
phone (cell)		
email		
co-member's email (if they would like to receive 356CAR emails)		

preferred meeting location

- Sacramento
 Bay Area
 Monterey
 North Bay

membership

- new
 renewal

Membership Dues

Dues renew every July 1st

	Online Newsletter	Hardcopy Newsletter
1 year:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
2 years:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60
3 years:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90

Mail your completed application and check (payable to 356CAR) to:

356 CAR
 2931 Lacy Ln
 Sacramento, CA 95821

356CAR

California Alta Region

31 Coronado Court.
Novato, CA 94945

Be sure to check www.356CAR.org and our monthly email blasts for the latest event and meeting information.