



While wet weather didn't warrant a drive in a classic car, Past President Christopher Slater did bring out his sporty 2007 Porsche 911 GT3 Coupe.

Ahoy, Sailor! Freewheelers Tour the Red Oak Victory

— by Richard Bae

What started out as a cold and rainy morning turned to a gorgeously sunny and bright day for the Freewheeler's November event; 55 Freewheelers braved the brisk weather and came out to tour the SS Red Oak Victory and the Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front Visitors Center.

Sadly, due to the rain, few fabulous vehicles made it to the event, but the Freewheelers carried on by enjoying some hot coffee and low-cal donuts while catching up with each other in the parking lot of the SS Red Oak Victory. We were soon welcomed on board by volunteer docents who came out to provide private guided tours for us all and shared their knowledge of the SS Red Oak Victory and of the Richmond Ship Yards where the SS Red Oak Victory was built. Turns out many ships, over 700, came from this shipyard... the most of any shipyard in the country.

The docents took us on virtually every level of the ship, from stern to bow, starboard to port sides, including the engine room. We saw where meals were made, and meals were consumed (the mess!); and where all 35 crew members slept (the majority in a single room, sharing 2 toilets and 2 showers.) We also toured the higher decks, and got to fiddle around with the guns, used for defense, scattered among the ship. Our group's tour culminated in the heart of the ship – at the gift shop and museum where folks then proceeded to make their plans for lunch.

After lunch, the Freewheelers met up again at the Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front Visitors Center located in what was the Oil House of the former Ford Assembly Factory of Richmond. We were welcomed there by the Park Ranger docents who provided us with a private screening of two films, one documenting the support of the home front towards the WWII effort, and particularly the role women and minorities in the effort. The second film focused more closely on Richmond and the history of the Kaiser Shipyards.

After these film screenings, members went about touring the historical exhibits and installments that further explained the contributions of women and minorities to the WWII efforts on the home front. As the sun started to set, Freewheelers started to say their goodbyes, taking with them a piece of American and local history back to the present day.

(Photos from this event can be found on page 5-6.)

President's Message

Christmas is once again upon us and on behalf of the Freewheelers board I want to wish all of our members a happy holiday. Every year we are fortunate enough to have our holiday party at the lovely home of longtime member John McCue, however, due to a scheduling conflict this year we will be celebrating at a brand new venue. I do want to thank John for always being such a gracious host.

We are very excited to have our annual event this year at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Pleasanton. Your board has some great new surprises in store and it is looking to be a great event! Make sure you save the date as this is one party you won't want to miss. Be sure to check your email for the invite and this newsletter or website for additional information.

Just a reminder that there will not be a newsletter for January as we've caved in and decided to give our fantastic newsletter editor, Marty Hanson, a well deserved month off. In addition I want to thank all of our board members for another spectacular year. Be sure to thank them for the great job they do year round when you see them next. In addition, if you would like to partake in organizing an event or getting more involved in the club we welcome you to join in, because it's all of you, the membership, that make our club so great. Have a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to seeing all of you in the new year. Until then, happy motoring.

Peter Escobedo

President, Freewheelers Car Club



Board of Directors 2015		Member Information		
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Freewheelers 2015 Holiday Party

—by Scott Mikkelson & Christopher Slater



We're putting lots of HO-HO-HO into the HO-liday Party this year! Come one, come all! The times they are a changin' so we are changin' as well! The Veterans Hall in Pleasanton is the site for this year's holiday gathering. If the weather is nice bring one of your classics and receive a special parking space. We'd like to assemble a lot full of classics and create our own Holiday Concours.

With this venue we will have plenty of tables and seating so everyone will be able to enjoy their meal together. There is even a stage where one of you might want to do a little entertaining! ("Hey gang! Let's put on a Show!!")

Todd and Scott have revamped the menu this year to make the meal truly lavish and beyond fabulous! You may want to wear your "pantalones d' buffet." I can smell that turkey already! Bring your appetite BUT do not bring any alcohol-- this is a booze-free event!

We've even changed up the white elephant gift exchange into a fresh new concept.....

Santa has lost control of his Elves! For years they've heard Santa tell stories about the Freewheeler's Holiday Party - the fantastic dinner, the outrageous holiday outfits, and the beautiful collector cars. So they've escaped the North Pole and are partnering with the Freewheelers to help make this year's Holiday Party the best party of the year!

The Elves have moved the party to Pleasanton with a sleigh full of decorations, and are already preparing a feast fit for a King and a Queen. But before leaving the North Pole, Santa's Elves decided to shake things up this year with a BRAND NEW gift raffle. That's right, there's no gift exchange this year because the Elves are bringing a mountain of highly desirable gifts, all of which you can win!

Santa says that you've been very good this year. So bring lots of your well-earned cash to the party so you can participate in this year's Freewheelers Holiday Gift Raffle. The Elves don't want you to go home empty handed so come prepared to purchase lots raffle tickets, and win, win, win!

(Paid for by the Committee for a Fabulous Holiday Party. Santa approves this message.)

At-a Glance:

When: Sunday, December 13 – doors open at 11 am, dinner served at 1:00 pm

Where: Veterans Memorial Hall, 301 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566

Event Fee: \$25.00* event fee which includes your fabulous feast and one raffle ticket!

RSVP: Via the Eventbrite Invitation or contact Jay Remick at 831-601-8080, jayremick@me.com by no later than Monday, December 7 so that we may have an accurate head count.

***If you do not RSVP, you may be subject to an additional charge and/or availability of food.**





Freewheelers 2016 Annual Business and Planning Meeting

Join your fellow Freewheelers and your Board of Directors on **Sunday, February 7th, 2016** for our Annual Business and Planning Meeting at the beautiful **Vallejo Yacht Club**. You will enjoy a catered lunch and the company of your fellow Freewheelers as we recap 2015's accomplishments and talk about our plans for 2016 – including West Coast Meet which we will be hosting! We will also be looking for nominations for open board positions as well as ideas for 2016 events. So mark your calendar to come on out and join us for cars and camaraderie, as well as to discuss the state of the club and help us develop a calendar of fun events for the coming year! Watch for the upcoming Eventbrite invitation next month. We hope to see you there!

Freewheelers Mourn the Passing of Another Long-Time Member

—by Michael Amodt

Long-time Freewheelers Club member, Richard Palmer, has passed away. His devoted husband, Henry Hopkins was at his side. An architect and general contractor by trade, he and Henry were involved in real estate together and built several houses. Both Richard and Henry were active members in the club for many years.

In addition the popular duo was quite the force when it came to bringing special automobiles back to life. In their Richmond compound they lived alongside their restoration shop which for many years had several car projects going at the same time. They once spotted a dilapidated La Salle convertible on the hook of a tow truck and after following its driver, bought the car. Following hundreds of hours of hard work it was a show stopper. Their varied stable of cars rarely failed to win trophies or take best of show.

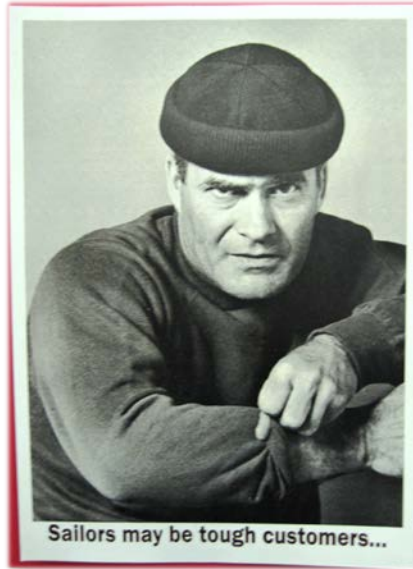
Photographs of many of their beautiful cars will live on in the countless car books and national magazines in which they have appeared over the years. I always found Richard to be a very friendly and kind gentleman and know he will be missed by all who knew him.



Henry (l) and Richard (r) in 2012



Richard's amazing 1960 & 1961 Imperial Convertibles



Freewheelers fill the gang plank as they prepare to board the Red Oak Victory. Michael Amode points out the Reefer Stores. Club President Peter Escobedo flashes his pearly whites. Sailors may be tough customers! Event Coordinator Eric Whitney arrived in his nautical attire. Freewheelers gather for a group shot on the bow.



The Red Oak Victory. John Rivett & David Schnitzer make the most of close quarters. Rosie says "We can do it!" Bill Neill contemplates the gun turret. Look out below - Bill Peachee mans the engine room. Freewheelers gather for the historical documentary presentation.

Welcome New Members!

Jeff Anhalt

5439 Miraloma Court
Livermore, CA 94551
408-888-8619
janhalt@yahoo.com
Car: 1966 Dodge Charger Fastback

Cody Brownell

3622 Peak Drive
San Jose, CA 95127
408-206-0397
cody@homesdash.com
Cars: 1965 Ford Thunderbird Convertible
2000 Chevrolet Corvette Coupe
2010 GMC Yukon XL SUV

Gordon Seligson

6 Clipper Hill
Oakland, CA 94618
510-845-1216
sixchx@att.net
Car: 2004 Toyota Camry Solara Convertible

Dave Tandy & Emil Buama

1403 Cary Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94401
650-303-8818
davidtandy@gmail.com
Car: 2015 BMW 325i M

CLASSIFIEDS



FOR SALE: 1990 Buick Reatta with about 123K miles in 8-10 condition in all areas. Everything works, drives like a dream. I'm 3rd owner. Very original. \$4,800. Contact Nowell at psmobilemechanic@aol.com for more information. (1)



FOR SALE: 1979 Lincoln Continental Town Coupe 41K original miles. Dark Champagne w/tan leather. All original local San Jose car. 3rd owner. \$5,000. Message Peter at Peter95111@att.net. (2)



DECEMBER 2015

Sunday, 12/13 – The Freewheelers Annual Holiday Party in Pleasanton. See page 3 for more information.

JANUARY 2016

Sunday, 01/10 – Board of Directors Meeting, 11 am, at the Rainbow Community Center in Concord

FEBRUARY 2016

Sunday, 02/07 – The Freewheelers 2016 Annual Business and Planning Meeting at the Vallejo Yacht Club. See page 4 for more information and a reminder to go out in January.

NOTE: Calendar listings subject to change without notice.

Don't forget to renew your membership with the fabulous Freewheelers!



Joining now will cover your membership for the remainder of this year for new members and all of next year. Our 2015 events have been very well received and attended. Our 2016 line-up promises to be excellent as well.

A record number of members have switched to our online Flyer and interactive online Roster. Members who choose this option pay just \$35 annually. You can also pay \$50 to receive hard copies of both the Flyer and Roster in the mail.

Feel free to fill out your application online, or use the application included in this issue of the Flyer. You may also download the application from our website (www.thefreewheelers.net). Payment options include PayPal which will allow paying with your bank account or using a credit card if you have a PayPal account. Still not crazy about paying online? No problem! Mail your application with a check (mailing address on the form).

Editor's Note: There is no newsletter sent out in January however event and membership reminders will continue to be sent via email, snail mail and Eventbrite! Happy New Year!



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Only Santa would put the top down on his convertible in a snowstorm!

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