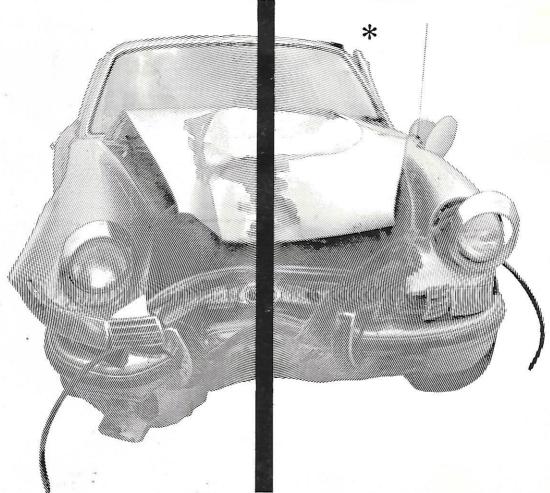
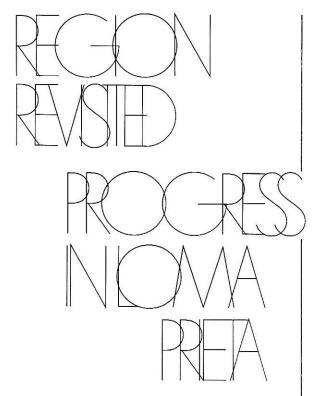
## PANORAMA JULY, 1971







By Bob Rassa National Membership Chairman

The present National Membership Committee was established in late 1969 and the first new region to be chartered after that establishment was Loma Prieta, located in Northern California just south of San Francisco. In the course of my travels for my employer, I was able to personally present

their charter. That was around Easter, 1970; and coincidentally, again travelling for my employer a year later, I had the opportunity to attend a meeting, renew acquaintances with the membership and make an analysis of the growth and general well-being of Loma Prieta as it completed its first year of chartered activity.

The event being held was a regular for this group, a "Pot-Luck Dinner Meeting". Some lucky member volunteers his home, and each of the other members' wives makes one item for the dinner. The hosting member serves as the meal coordinator (so that you don't wind up with 14 desserts and french fries), and each guest brings his own place setting. Serving is done buffet-style, and the family room floor is the most comfortable dining spot.

Loma Prieta is a small region, about 30 members (which is great for a 12 month old region) and everyone is the epitome of hospitality! And such a sumptuous 15-course dinner (no french fries) I couldn't have gotten in any of San Francisco's fabulous restaurants. Apparently the Loma Prieta ladies select their "favorite" recipe, prepare it with TLC, and deliver it Rabbit Express to the host's home. Believe me, you really acquire a tremendous respect for the culinary talents of these lovely ladies.

The reason I have described this meeting in such detail is to offer it as a suggestion for a monthly or bi-monthly meeting idea for PCA's smaller regions in order to build up enthusiasm and interest. (As of March, 1971, 45 of our 74 regions had under 50 members.) Dinner meetings in restaurants are in widespread use in many areas, but do have certain drawbacks: (1) often only a few members show up for the dinner part, perhaps due to expense, coat and tie requirements, etc., (2) the restaurant atmosphere can be too formal for the type of high-spirited conversation that we social PCA folk like to engage in, and (3) it is inconvenient to talk to anyone other than those next to you or across the table.

Since food/drink and good times go so well together, some form of dinner sounds perfect. If restaurant meetings have failed in your area, why

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not try the Pot Luck Party? It might just work for your small region - it has for Loma Prieta and many others.

What about some of the other activities that are working for Loma Prieta? The first of these is their series of scenic tours. Of course, California is noted for its scenic attractions, whereas some other states may not lend themselves as well. California regions can tour to wineries (always a crowd-pleaser!), missions, mining towns, ski areas, national parks, forests and seashores (that lets out a few states!), and to weekend resort towns. The Loma Prieta crowd has already done several of these, each with tremendous success. Chesapeake, my home region, once toured to POAC in New Jersey, and that was one of our most successful single-day events. But these can also be weekend events, as Loma Prieta discovered by having an overnighter on one of their tours. If you think about it, it seems natural that a club founded on the basis of camaraderie with an automobile might like to gather with that automobile and lots of others like it for some other reason than to race, autocross or rallye it. Or, in other words, to have an enjoyable drive in it rather than compete in it.

One of the most important follow-up activities to any of the things mentioned so far, according of Ken Isles, the current president of Loma Prieta, is the maintaining of a scrap-book. Not just a casual scrap-book, but one with a good series of photos from each and every event, faithfully maintained. This is important to bringing back pleasant memories to each member, as well as to show prospective members what kind of fun they might expect. It is important to have the scrap-book at each meeting, already up-dated with the pictures from the previous month's event, to pass around to the membership.

Of course, Loma Prieta also engages in the rallye-autocross-tech session scene actively, but they are more socially oriented than many regions. My experience indicates that more and more regions are headed this way. LP members cooperate with neighboring PCA regions, and they discourage the cliques that often crop up in clubs. Many of the members have citizen's band radios to keep in contact during the tours. Their president is truly an English gentleman, and his personality, charm and very subtle British humor has undoubtedly helped the region a great deal. On their "PCA Information Stand" at the dealer, they sum up their little advertising poster with, "LOMA PRIETA IS THE GOOD TIME REGION". I guess that really does sum it up!



Call for Entries

PORSCHE PANORAMA'S

"PORSCHE . . . a way of life"

PHOTO CONTEST 1971

(black & white only)

Categories

COMPETITION: The Porsche competing in local club events as well as

the big time.

SOCIAL:

The Porsche and it's PCA

friends finding social enjoy-

ment.

TECHNICAL:

The Porsche, inside and out,

shown in a technical nature.

TOURING:

The Porsche in a scenic set-

ting as found on tours and

rallies, etc.

Best photographs in each of the above categories to be published as a photo essay in October 1971. The photograph that best represents the theme, "Porsche . . . a way of life", will be published as the cover of the October 1971 issue.

This contest is intended for PCA amateur photographers and their families. Entries become the property of Porsche Panorama and are to be heretofore unpublished black and white photographs. Entries will not be returned and Panorama reserves first publication rights.

The four entry limit may be in different categories or all combined into one. Glossy or matte finish 8 x 10 prints are desired and each print must be accompanied by a card with the following information: category, name, address, region and some general information about the photo.

All entries must be received no later than Aug. 1, 1971.