

FUTURE
GSVSA
LOGO
HERE

Refer to "Chapter
Contests" on page 2
for complete details

VSA — GARDEN STATE CHAPTER

NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 1, February, 2005

WELCOME TO GSVSA NEWS

For those members who do not have online access, much of the content found on the web page will be disseminated via this, our printed newsletter, which is currently unnamed. While we cannot reproduce the online discussions in an effective manner, a calendar of events, items for sale, key photos, and other items of general interest will be included in our mailings.

Have an idea as to what we should name our newsletter? The chapter is sponsoring two contests in order to help us create our own, unique identity within VSA. Be sure to check out "Chapter Contests" on page 2 to find out how you can participate.

OUR VERY OWN WEB PAGE

We have exciting news for all our online chapter members.

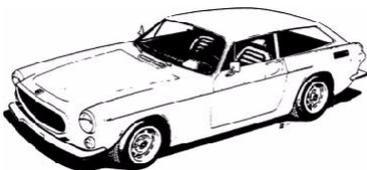
We are pleased to announce the creation of the new online home for the Garden State Chapter of VSA:

<http://www.gsvsa.org>

or

<http://www.GardenStateVSA.org>

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COORDINATOR'S COLUMN

I know you haven't heard from me much since our last event of 2004 — sorry about that, but I'll try to get back in gear now...

First, let me say that I think the first year of the Garden State Chapter went pretty darn well all things considered. We got off to a good start and did more in our first year than some other well established chapters have done in years. That being said, there's still room for improvement.

I want to start by reviewing what we accomplished in 2004:

- **February 2004**

I approached the VSA board and asked to create the chapter.

- **May 2004**

3 events: Edison Car show, Princeton car show, and PA Covered Bridge Tour

- **July 2004**

Several chapter members made the trip to the VSA east coast national meet in Virginia

- **September 2004**

Summit Car Show

- **October 2004**

Windsor Car show, West Point Meet, Peddlers Village car show

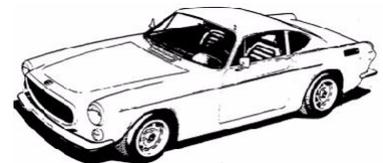
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UPCOMING EVENTS

The dead of winter is a slow time of year for classic car events. However, just because we do not venture out on the Jersey highways with our vehicles during this time of year does not mean that we, the owners, cannot get together during the off-season!

Upcoming events include:

- **February 26, 27:** Atlantic City Classic Car Show
- **March 25 through April 3:** NY International Auto Show, Jacob Javits Center, NY City
- **Sunday, May 1:** Edison Car Show (rain date Saturday, May 7)
- **Sunday, May 15:** Princeton/ Carnegie Car Show
- **Sunday, May 15:** Covered Bridge Tour



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CHAPTER CONTESTS

As part of an effort to create a unique and identifiable look for GSVSA, two contests are currently under way...

1. Design Our Chapter Logo

A picture is worth a thousand words. How many times have we heard that old adage? One of the most important ways for any organization to identify itself is through a logo that reflects, in a single, eye-catching manner, all that an organization is and wants to be. Companies protect their corporate logos as if they were gold - and, in a sense, they are. Positive logo recognition is what every corporation and organization strives to achieve. And GSVSA should be no different.

Logo recognition - that is our end goal. And with that goal in mind, we are soliciting logo ideas from you, our Chapter members. The only guidelines around which the logo should be designed are:

- The logo should reflect the fact that we are the GARDEN STATE Chapter of VSA. Therefore, New Jersey and/or the state outline should be a prominent component of the logo
- We are a VSA chapter. Therefore, VSA and/or Volvo should also be a prominent component of the logo

CONTACT INFORMATION

We may be contacted as follows:

Web Page: www.gsvsa.org

www.gardenstatevsa.org

Paul Graziano: paulgraz@optonline.net

Nancy Graziano: stargazr@optonline.net

Newsletter Submissions:

stargazr@optonline.net

or

paulgraz@optonline.net

- A color logo is preferable. However, do not go overboard. Two or three colors is acceptable. Any more than this can make it difficult to incorporate the chapter logo into hats, t-shirts, etc., down the road.
- Each logo design should be submitted electronically in a standard format, OR, sent hardcopy to the address below.

2. Name Our Newsletter!

Face it - **GSVSA NEWS** is REALLY quite a boring name, and I know that there are MANY creative folks in this chapter that are more than capable of coming up with a catchy title for our in-print newsletter. SO, come on, we want to hear your suggestions for what we should name this thing.

All submissions for both contests must be received by March 31, 2005. Once the submissions have been received, they will be published (anonymously) in the next newsletter, as well as online. The entire chapter membership will then vote for their choices of logo design and newsletter name. In the event of a tie, the logo designs/newsletter names that have tied will be resubmitted to the chapter membership for a tie-breaking vote.

All logos and newsletter names should be submitted as follows:

- Via E-mail to:
paulgraz@optonline.net, or
stargazr@optonline.net
- Via US Mail to:
Paul and Nancy Graziano
4 Revere Court
Howell, NJ 07731

The winning logo/designer and newsletter name/submitter will be announced in the first newsletter following the vote, as well as immediately online. The winners will each receive an as-yet undetermined prize.

Our Very Own Web Page

(continued from page 1)

Here you will find online discussions of chapter and club events, restoration questions and answers, items for sale, and virtually anything else Volvo related. A calendar of upcoming events is in the works, as well as a Photo Gallery where members can post their own pictures. If you have ideas as to other features you would like to see on the page, by all means forward them to us!

Changes to the web page will be occurring rapidly at first, so check back often and be sure to forward us your comments and suggestions.

Nancy

COORDINATOR'S COLUMN

(continued from page 1)

- Throughout the summer, a few of us met several times at local cruise nights, such as those in Freehold and Howell...

All of these were great events, but now let's review our shortcomings, or things that we should try to do better:

- All events were attended by only 1800's. We need to work harder to actively involve other Volvos in our chapter and encourage their owner to attend our events
- Of all those events, only a few were VSA exclusive — we need more chapter-only events
- Not enough driving events. Only the Covered Bridge tour was a driving event - we should be able to do more like that here in NJ. I'm working on a Sunday drive through Ocean County...
- No social events! I think we need a monthly get together (GTG), meet for brunch, or dinner, or ice cream, or a picnic. Maybe even a holiday banquet in December. Something where the car is secondary...

- Involvement. We need chapter members to help out — consider running one event. If each chapter member organized a single event, we would be the busiest chapter in VSA! If we do a monthly get together, pick one month and invite us to gather in your town.

Nancy and I are working on better communications tools. The Yahoo group has its shortcomings (i.e., advertisements, privacy) and the VSA forums are not being used enough. We are going to launch our own web site, www.gsvsa.org, which will also host our own e-mailing list. This hardcopy newsletter is also another tool we will use occasionally.

However, doing a mailing and launching a website costs money, and as a chapter, we have no funds yet. Initially, the publication of this

newsletter, as well as the costs associated with the Chapter's website, are being funded privately by your chapter coordinator. By the end of the upcoming season, we should have built up sufficient chapter funds to cover future chapter expenses. Some chapters have dues over and above the yearly VSA dues — I don't want to do that. Instead, I am trying to come up with some chapter items that we can make a few bucks from — such as t-shirts or window decals. If you have any ideas about what you would like to see us offer, please let us know...

Of course, in order to sell merchandise, first we need a chapter logo. Nancy has created a few ideas, I'd very much like to see other submissions from the rest of the chapter - then we can pick the best one. If you don't have any artistic talent (like me) then just suggest a concept or idea.

Also — there are a few people on the mailing list that are not VSA members. I added them to the chapter under the assumption that they would be joining VSA soon. I have decided that VSA membership is a pre-requisite for membership in this chapter. I encourage those people to join VSA, as I would hate to see anyone dropped from our list. I just feel that a proper VSA chapter should contain only VSA members...

Finally - I think you should know that you won't see my 1800E as much this year, as my car was damaged on the way home from our last event at Peddlers Village. I need to find a good body shop that can remove a dent and maybe return my car to its original Steel Blue Metallic color... (If anyone can suggest a great body shop, let me know...)

Paul



West Point Fall Foliage Tour — October, 2004

REMINDER

Send us your E-mail address.

It is the easiest way for you to stay informed and stay on top of upcoming chapter and club events.

If your E-mail address has changed recently, send us your new address so that we can update our records.

GSVSA
4 Revere Court
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