



# Checkpoints

VIRGINIA MOTOR SPORT CLUB

VOLUME 32

NUMBER 12

DECEMBER

1987

### DECEMBER 87

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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### JANUARY 88

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DEC 17: VMSC ANNUAL MEETING at the Pizza Hut near the intersection of Staples Mill, and Parham roads. Year-end reports are due. Election of 1988's officers.

DEC 19: The Annual Checkpoints Christmas Party at the home of Gary Stout. See flyer this issue.

DEC 25: Merry Christmas!

JAN 01: Happy New Year!

Jan 07: VMSC Board Meeting at the home of the 1988 president.

JAN 16: VMSC Awards Banquet at the Westwood Raquet Club. See flyer this issue.



\*BRING ALL MARQUE AWARDS TO THE DECEMEBER MEETING!\*

# I'M OKAY, YOU'RE OFF-COURSE

## by Gary Stout

This article is not written on the spur of the moment or as a whim of fancy. It is written out of a continuing concern for what I see and foresee happening. There is an insidious evil creeping into the world of autocrossing, and that evil goes by the name of Money. It is people getting sponsors in order to compete in the Stock class. It is contingency money to winners who use the designated tires, shocks, mufflers, etc. It was a check for \$5000 awarded to somebody who won the "triple crown of autocrossing." It is the removal of the word "fun" from the autocrosser's vocabulary (to be replaced with "professionalism").

Think I'm crazy? crying "wolf"?-- look back to the Sixties (those of us who were around and still remember that golden era of the automobile) and amateur road racing. True, there were the professional series, but there was room for the amateurs to race without ponying up all present and future life savings and earnings along with several large anatomical appendages. Then, unfortunately, Corporate America realized that there was a degree of validity to the phrase "win on Sunday-- sell on Monday." Does anyone see a pattern here? Or should I assume that we too are afflicted with that curious human malady of learning nothing from the past?

Before anyone accuses me of sour grapes, I'll state that I entered my Mugen-shocked, 008-R'ed CRX Si in C-Stock in eleven autocrosses-- and won eleven autocrosses. Yet I'm left wondering if it was ability and experience or bucks-spent car preparation. Consider the newcomer right off the street, perhaps straight-up he still wouldn't beat me-- but now he needs divine intervention. I find myself no longer checking the competition's cars-- I check their tires!

I'm about to purchase a 1988 CRX Si and included in the deal will be Mugen shocks and four spare wheels (Yokohamas in the snow require navigational skills that I would just as soon not test again). Yet I would gladly leave them in their boxes if the rulesmakers would undergo a little psychiatric therapy and perhaps take a quick glance at the past and leave autocrossing what it is-- an enjoyable Sunday afternoon of fun, competition, and camaraderie. It would be a small price to pay for a bit of sanity.

*Announcing  
The 37th Anniversary Awards Banquet  
Of the Virginia Motor Sport Club  
January 16, 1988  
At the Westwood Racquet Club  
At a Cost of \$22.00 per person*

*6:00 P.M. - Cocktail Hour*

*7:00 P.M. - Dinner*

*8:00 P.M. - Awards Presentation*

*9:00 - 12:30 A.M. - Dancing to Flashback*

*All past and present members and friends of the club are cordially invited to attend. Cost includes setups, dinner, awards presentation, and dancing to Flashback.*

*B.Y.O.L. (no beer) Reservations by prepayment only.*

*Send checks made payable to V.M.S.C. to:  
Warren Beam  
2012 Shady Branch Trail  
Richmond, Va. 23233*

# RALLY REPORT FADE TO BLACK (THE EULOGY)

by Gary Stout

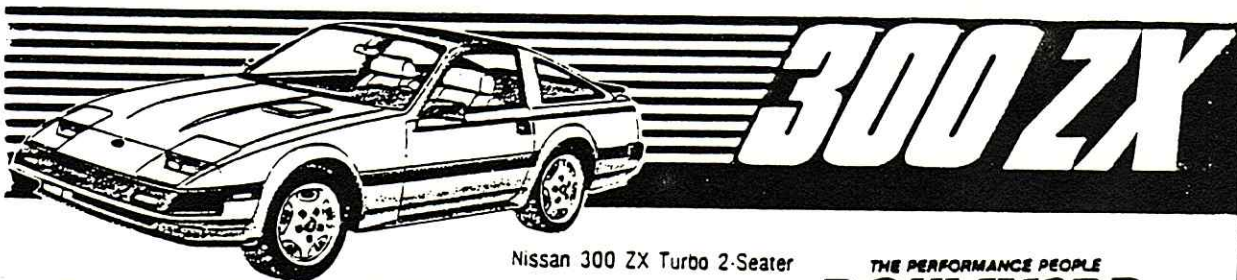
With the continued depletion of the ranks of Rallymasters in VMSC, there are few people remaining who stage events that I, for one, genuinely look forward to and anticipate running. Floyd and Marvin Mills have been two such people. Their events can be characterized as unique and, perhaps more importantly, sportsmanlike-- low blows need not apply. However and unfortunately, with their self-descriptively titled "Fade to Black", they too appear to have declared a state of retirement. Of course, we can always hope-- after all, how many times has Rocky resurrected himself.

The format of the rally was strictly Do-It-Yourself. With the exception of two closed, manned controls (to dissuade anyone with visions of a Monte Carlo), it was DIY all day long--calculate time-in, zero odometer, assign out-time, and motor on in a control-free, hermetically-sealed, tamper-proof environment.

The traps were of the plain-brown-wrapper variety: free zone/overlap; blank instruction; non-pause at a non-existing road; turn at end of route (not your route, just a route; confidence leg; and so on. Gratefully, considering the only control slip was a compendium distributed at the finish, there were no earth-shattering, precedent-setting traps that could send contestants off to the nether reaches of countryside Virginia.

Upon reflection, the difficulty of conducting such a rally lies not in the duplication of traps (double jeopardy, so to speak, and not applicable on this rally--sportsmanship, remember?). No, the major task is to avoid using earlier traps for common course following later. Even with control slips this can be a problem. But without information and, effectively, no call-back mileages, Rallymasters can court catastrophe with just a minor oversight.

"Quit while you're ahead" is an all-too-common cliché, but in this case it is more than accurate-- for that is exactly what the Mills Brothers are doing. Those of us who ran "Mainframe", "Split Decision", and "Fade to Black" will sorely miss them-- their imagination and their creativity.



## TAKE OFF IN A TURBO Z!

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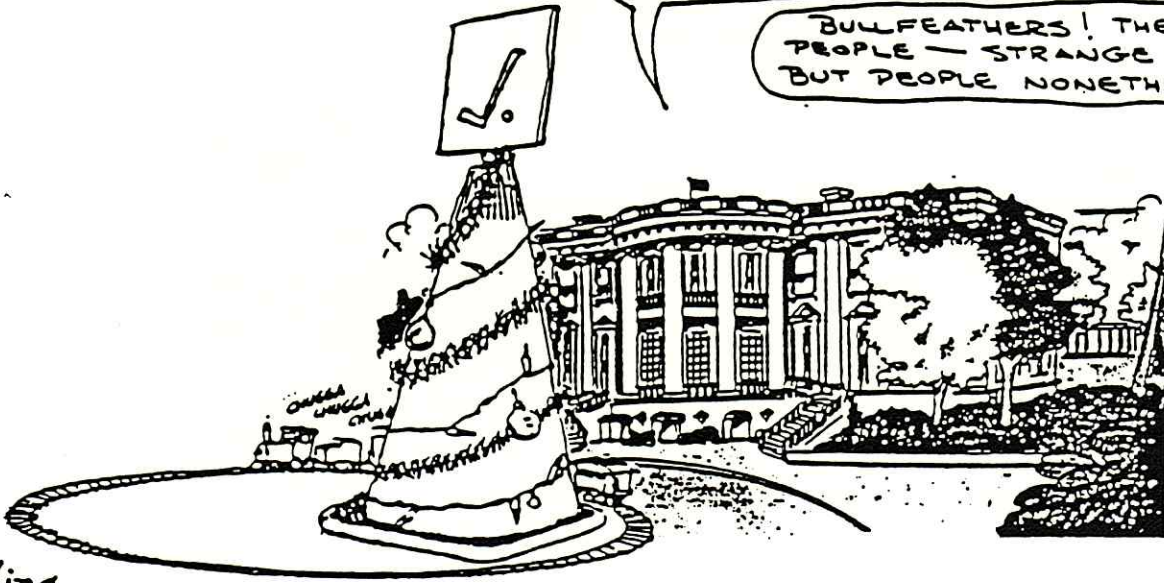
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MISTER PRESIDENT, ISN'T THIS GOING A BIT FAR IN APPEALING TO SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS?

BULLFEATHERS! THEY'RE PEOPLE — STRANGE PEOPLE — BUT PEOPLE NONETHELESS

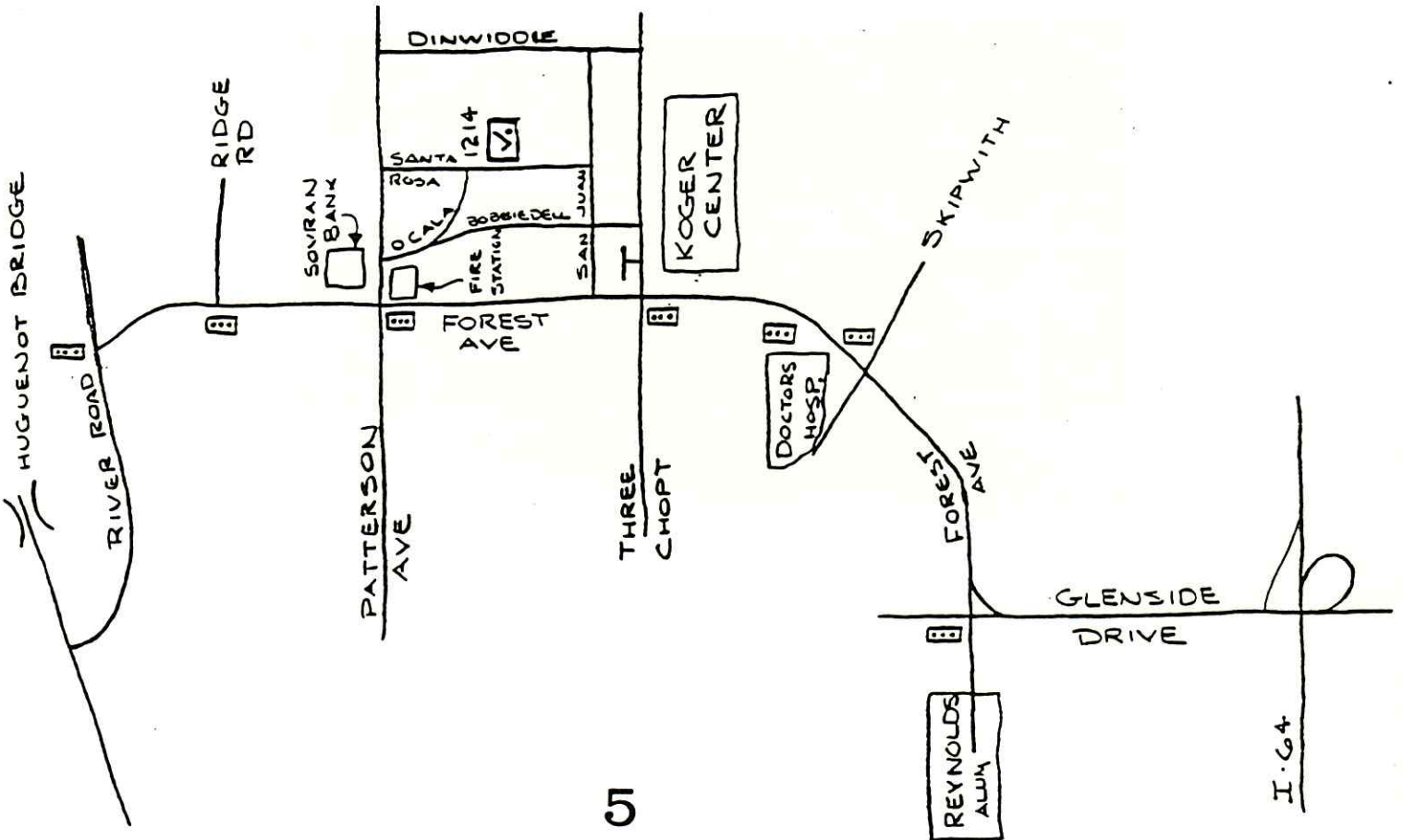


Presenting  
**THE 7<sup>TH</sup> STOUT  
10<sup>TH</sup> RUNNING OF THE  
11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHECKPOINTS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1987  
AT 7:59 PM (ZERO HOURS, 59 MINUTES — COORDINATED  
UNIVERSAL TIME)

1214 SANTA ROSA RD.

featuring the usual highly acclimated bid of fare



RESULTS: FADE TO BLACK RALLY

RALLYMASTERS: FLOYD AND HARVIN HILLS  
 OFFICIAL CHECKS: NEALE DICKINSON AND SCOTT POWELL

#	TEAM	CL.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	M1	M2	TOT	POSITION
1	HUNTER/STOUT	E	0	2	8	1	5	3	0	2	0	0	5	5	31	1E/10A T
2	BELL*/ARMSTRONG	U	0	0	1	8	2	1	1	6	3	2	15	8	47	2U/30A
3	HILLS/HUNTER	U	0	3	2	0	0	2	0	2	1	1	10	14	35	1U/20A T
4	WAGNERS*	E	0	1	26	1	2	1	0	2	1	52	3	21	110	2E/40A
5	BURTON/ADAMS	U	0	140	60	1	0	4	0	5	2	1	200	13	426	3U/70A
7	HUTSONS*	E	1	137	2	2	8	3	1	2	0	53	9	21	239	3E/60A
9	PERRY*/WRIGHT*	R	60	180	198	77	200	200	59	26	38	200	197	14	1449	4R/110A
10	STONE*/JOHNSON*	R	29	143	56	71	200	55	44	39	183	133	85	32	1070	2R/90A
11	GREENWOODS	E	0	2	2	200	5	1	0	2	0	2	5	3	222	3E/50A
13	FISHER*/SIGHON*	R	176	200	16	200	200	200	200	200	193	200	200	200	2185	5R/120A
14	FISHER*/MARTIN*	R	5	132	80	5	61	200	195	6	134	57	32	134	1041	1R/80A T
15	UNDERWOOD*/MADISON*	R	27	168	48	200	200	80	44	59	32	140	134	7	1139	3R/100A

MANY THANKS TO OUR WORKERS: NEALE DICKINSON, SCOTT POWELL, AND DOUG BURTON

\* - DENOTES NON-MEMBER  
 T - DENOTES TROPHY POSITION



The editors of Checkpoints wish to thank all the people who contributed articles for publication this year. We greatly appreciate your fine efforts. We also would like to remind all club members that the club will only be a success if you participate and help put on events. The club needs O.D.'s for next year events. This includes both rallies and autocrosses. Remember the event will not take place if nobody agrees to put them on. If you are the least bit interested, even if you have never done one before, please contact either the 1987 second vice president or the newly elected 1988 second vice president. We may be able to find someone with experience to work with you.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MARIAN DEBARDELEBEN, FOR ALL YOUR HELP. You sure made our job easier.

The slate of officers presented by the nominating committee for 1988 at the November club meeting are:

President	Jet Burton
First vice president	Bill Lloyd
Second vice president	Gerry Eberhard
Treasurer	Floyd Mills
Secretary	Bob Murray
Assistant secretary	Sandy Eberhard

Remember that the VMSC Annual Meeting is December 17. Come out and vote.

Congratulations to Sue and John Adams on the birth of their son on November 24, 1987. His name is John McClain Adams II.

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FOR SALE: Zeron 770 Rally Computer  
Price: \$450.00  
Contact: Barbara or Bookie Westbrook  
after 4:00 pm or on Weekends  
Phone number is 741-0577.

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CHECKPOINTS is the monthly publication of the Virginia Motor Sport Club, Inc. It is mailed free to members. Subscriptions to non-dues paying parties are \$8.00 per year. Deadline for contributions to the editors is the first Thursday of the month.

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