

Pacific Raceways VSA Car Corral

July 6, 2003

By Gary Ramstad, Coordinator
Puget Sound Chapter, Volvo Sports America

The 15Th. Annual Pacific Northwest Vintage Races at Pacific Raceways Kent, Washington - July 4-6, 2003 commemorating 100 years of FORD Racing History.

The 9th Annual Volvo Sports America Puget Sound Car Corral began Sunday morning July 6, 2003, on a cold, cloudy day to start with but then became a hot 75-80 degrees in the afternoon.

We had 16 classic Volvos in the car corral, along with over 200 other car club members. This year a meeting of participants was scheduled by the SOVREN officials at noon before the two parade laps around the track. After the morning races, a special all Ford Race, and the noon lunch break, along with the scheduled meetings regarding the club parade laps. Officials advised drivers that if a car is going too slow he will be asked to exit the track ASAP. This was a real surprise after 9 years of organizing this event for our VSA Car Corral and I was always the last Volvo in the parade lap to line-up in order to take the pictures of our Puget Sound Volvo Sports America club cars. This day I decided to follow the faster Volvos around the track for pictures.

The Pacific Raceways road course is 2.5 miles in length with ten turns, a near ¾ mile front straightaway, and a 300 foot elevation drop down a steep hill with two hairpin turns before the back straight course. It was hard trying to take pictures of the faster 1800 Volvos from my 1967 122S while driving and trying to keep up with them at speeds over 85 mph in the front straightaway course. This was a sight to behold following a fast group of 1800 Volvos racing around the track for two laps as fast as they could to go. It was like? "Go as fast as you can because we have too many cars, clubs and we want to go back to racing ASAP?". This was a real thrill since every track year is different for our Volvo drivers. I have been doing this for nine years with some great Volvo people, and cars to showcase our Puget Sound Volvo Sports America Chapter Club in front of over 10 thousand people at Pacific Raceways

Thanks to the Society of Vintage Racing Enthusiasts or S.O.V.R.E.N. and Pacific Raceways for organizing these Historic Vintage Races every Year at Kent, Washington, all proceeds benefit uncompensated care at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle, This year's goal was to raise \$400,000.

See you there in July 2004 for our 10th Anniversary for this event at Pacific Raceways. Thanks,

Gary Ramstad.
Volvo Sports America Puget Sound Coordinator
Seattle, Washington