

HOW IT ALL BEGAN.....1971

Late spring of 1971, Jim Rowe and Paul Meske, members of the Southern California Regional Group, placed an ad in the Valley News and Green Sheet about a picnic and registration for a valley chapter of the Early Ford V8 Club, to be held at Balboa Park.

They set up a card table and a make-shift sign and stood around and waited for those early V8's to roll in. They waited quite awhile, but eventually, they came. Paul got 18 names on the guest list. Thirteen enthusiasts paid their dues to become the original charter members and they held their first business meeting June 20.

The club had grown to 17 members. An election of officers was held and The Valley V8 was chosen as the name of the newsletter by the July 18 meeting. Officers were Pres. Jim Rowe, VP Dick Berry, Dir. Paul Meske, Editor Doug Peterson, Hist. Francis Fuerstenberg, Activities Ed Harden, Secretary Bill Hodgson, Treas. Dick Berry.

By October the club was chartered as Regional Group #40, Bob Wilson was the new secretary and Shel Harriman was the activities chairman. The first tour was to Busch Gardens on Oct. 3. The first meeting at Valley Federal Savings was held in October.

The signers of the Petition for Charter were Gordon Chamberlin, Paul Meske, Jim Rowe, Harold Selson and Bob Wilson.

Don Durkee, one of the original 13, recruited Larry Stocker, who signed up in November along with Jack Miles. Six Blue Chip Stamp books were donated to purchase a coffee pot. All members joining before December 31 were considered charter members.

In lieu of a Christmas party, a tour with breakfast was held December 19. Five V8's and twelve