

# YEARS AGO

## *in the Southern California Region*

(OR AS RECOGNIZED BY THE IRS, THE CLASSIC CAR CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA)

How many current members of our Region are aware that in the late 1970s (and 1980), the Region published a trio of books chronicling its members, its Classics and the events of the day? "California Classics, Volume 1" was published in 1977 with Editor John C. Meyer, III introducing this historic effort with these words:

*This book represents a quarter-century milestone in the history of the Classic Car Club of Southern California, Inc., a club devoted to the preservation and enjoyment of the very finest automobiles built during a quarter century (1925 to 1948) which we call the Classic Era.*

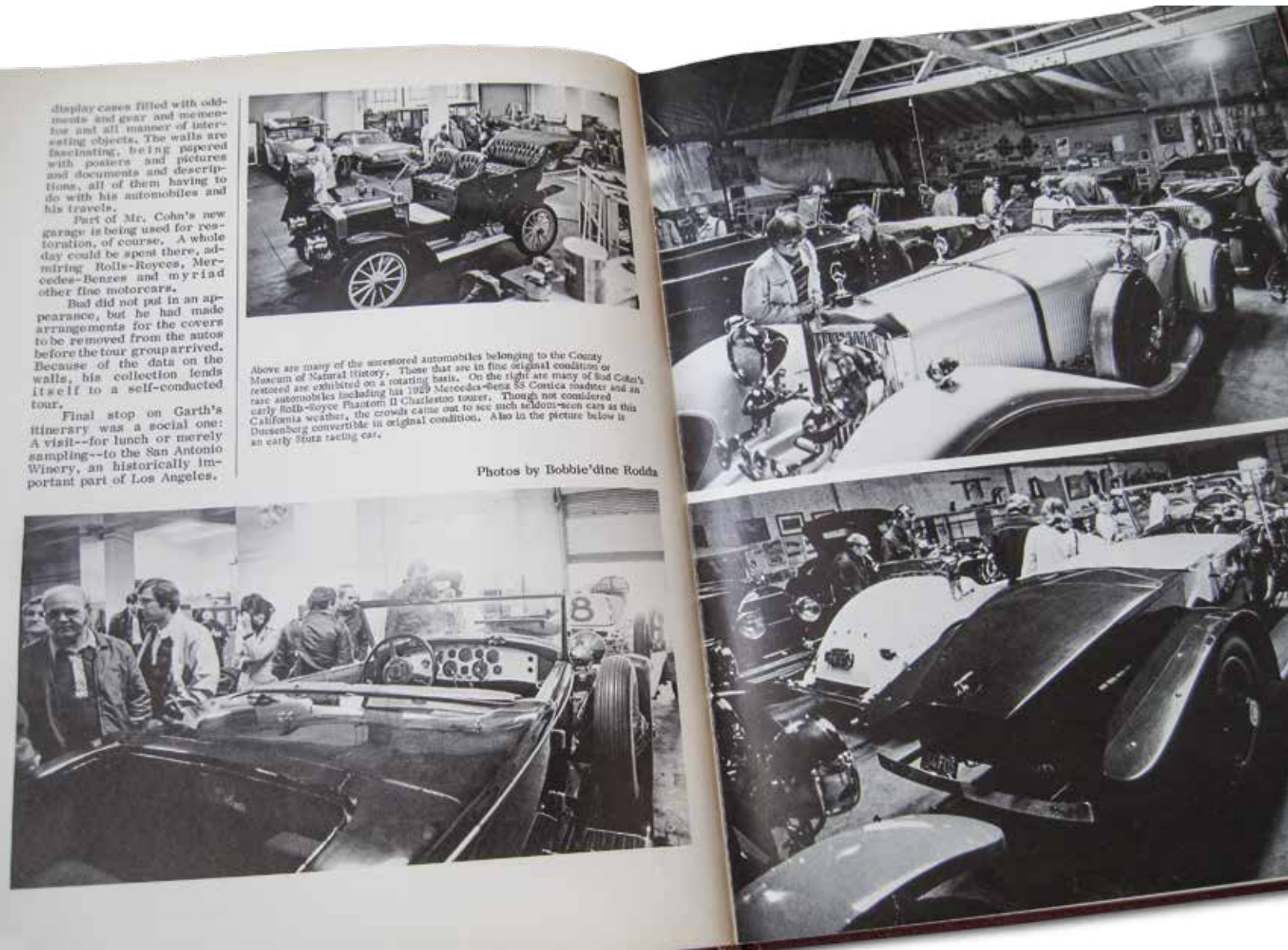
Volume 1's 200+ pages are filled with events from a kinder and gentler time when members were not afraid to drive their Classics. In his coverage of "The Rainy Day Tour" in 1976, John Meyer recounts the day's journey to three automotive destinations—the restoration shop of Jeff Robinson, the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History and Bud Cohn's

collection, followed by lunch at the San Antonio Winery. Naturally, images were captured by our intrepid photographer, Bobbie'dine Rodda.

Pages through these volumes, you can't help but feel nostalgic for the good old days. But as Carly Simon wrote in her hit *Anticipation*, "These are the good old days" and I encourage you to not only drive your

Classic, but join us in the event we plan for you today.

Volume 1 has long been sold out (and I think in high demand on the resale market), but Volumes II and III are still available. Each volume is a hardbound, 200+ pages in length with black & white photographs. If you're interested, the cost is \$10 each + shipping and tax. Contact Ron Verschoor for details.



display cases filled with oddments and gear and memorabilia and all manner of interesting objects. The walls are fascinating, being papered with posters and pictures and documents and descriptions, all of them having to do with his automobiles and his travels.

Part of Mr. Cohn's new garage is being used for restoration, of course. A whole day could be spent there, admiring Rolls-Royces, Mercedes-Benzes and myriad other fine motorcars.

Bud did not put in an appearance, but he had made arrangements for the covers to be removed from the autos before the tour group arrived. Because of the data on the walls, his collection lends itself to a self-conducted tour.

Final stop on Garth's itinerary was a social one: A visit--for lunch or merely sampling--to the San Antonio Winery, an historically important part of Los Angeles.



Above are many of the unrestored automobiles belonging to the County Museum of Natural History. Those that are in fine original condition or restored are exhibited on a rotating basis. On the right are many of Bud Cohn's restored automobiles including his 1929 Mercedes-Benz SS Comica roadster and an early Buick-Boycce Phantom II Charleston tourist. Though not considered California weather, the crowds came out to see such seldom-seen cars as this Duesenberg convertible in original condition. Also in the picture below is an early Stutz racing car.

Photos by Bobbie'dine Rodda

