



Der Skooner

Great Plains Region / Porsche Club of America

April 2011

Volume 45 Issue 3

Spring Fling Drivers Education at Mid America Motorplex



This is the track at Mid America Motorplex in Pacific Junction, Iowa, about 13 miles south of Council Bluffs on I-29.

The first Driver's Education (DE) of the season will be held on Saturday, May 7, at Mid America Motorplex. The Spring Fling is a one-day DE with instructors available for novice drivers. This is the first chance to wake your car up from its winter slumber and get it on the track, so come on out!

Registration is now open

online at <http://register.pca.org>.

This year, the Porsche Club of America has loosened the safety rules. In particular, you no longer need a fire extinguisher mounted in the car. Also, short-sleeved shirts are now allowed, however, if you choose to wear a driving suit it must be a PCA Club Race-approved suit.

You can see the full technical regulations at <http://gpl.pca.org/extrapages/detechform.pdf>

This is a great opportunity to learn just what your vehicle can do in safe conditions. And, no one will ask you to make a contribution toward easing the state budget deficit for doing so.

Inside Track

By Steve Wilwerding



Just as the last issue of *Der Skooner* went to press, we received some bad news – Katrina Phillips had passed away after a long struggle with illness. For those who don't know Katrina, she served as membership chair and newsletter editor several years ago. In fact, I took over newsletter from her back in 2004, and I was never able to equal her accomplishments—she won the Porsche Club National Newsletter Award, and as many times as I entered over the five years I was newsletter editor, I don't think I ever placed higher than seventh. Katrina was also a diligent membership chair, and under her guidance, membership in the GPR ballooned. When Katrina was active in the Club, I don't remember an event that she didn't attend, and she was tireless in her dedication to her Board positions. She will be greatly missed.

A few weeks ago, a memorial service was held for

Katrina. I think it says something special about the GPR and its members that nearly half of the people in attendance knew Katrina through the Porsche Club. As much as we tend to think of club functions as lighthearted social events, this really is a tight knit group, and, speaking personally, I've made a number of lifelong friends through the GPR – friends who have always been there for me when I needed them, and who know that they can count on me to be there for them. It is an honor to be associated with an organization whose members are true friends and always support each other.

I saw a graphic on Facebook the other day that showed a computer installation progress bar that had stalled at 68%, and the accompanying error message stated that "Spring has failed to successfully load. Please close and try again in a few weeks." Unfortunately, the weather lately has not been conducive to

getting Porsches out (especially for those of us with the cabriolet variety). Hopefully, by the time you read this, the weather will have substantially improved, and Porsche season will be in full swing.

We have a lot of exciting events coming up, so stay tuned. Our first DE is close, and we hope to have a good turnout and good weather. The Club Race is also just a month away, and if you're not racing and have the weekend free, I would ask that you consider volunteering at the track – I know that there is no such thing as too many volunteers at a Club Race! We've also got Show 'N' Shines, picnics, fun runs, and many other activities, so stay tuned.

On a final note, I would like to express my appreciation to our newsletter advertisers. We just finished ad renewal season, and many of our longtime advertisers have again offered to support the Club. Thanks to all of you, as it makes the newsletter much more affordable to print and mail to our members.

Hope to see you soon, either on the track or out on the road – fingers crossed, the top will be down.

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Zone 10 Presidents' Meeting *by Steve Wilwerding*

A few weeks ago, I attended the Zone 10 Presidents' Meeting held in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, hosted by our Zone 10 rep, Doug Pierce.

While the "historic" hotel left something to be desired, the meeting itself with all of the other Zone 10 presidents was very informative and well worth the time. All of the Zone 10 presidents, with the exception of the Manitoba region's president, were in attendance, and the majority of us were first time presidents, which certainly added a different flavor to the meeting.

The biggest takeaway I had from the meeting is that all of the other regions are in exactly the same boat our Club is in – they are trying to work with a limited number of volunteers to put on events for the enjoyment of their membership. However, I was heartened by some factors that did elevate the GPR above some of the other regions.

One aspect of our Club that all of the other regions envied was our relationship with our local Porsche dealer, Woodhouse Porsche of Omaha. Most of the other regions either did not have local dealerships or had adversarial rather than symbiotic relationships with their dealers. We were singled out as having a mutually beneficial relationship with Woodhouse, and most of the other regions wished they were in our shoes.

Another aspect of our Club that left me with a feeling of

pride was the participation of our members. Obviously, places like Kansas City, St. Louis, and Minneapolis have far larger memberships than the GPR, but even they mentioned that for a well-attended event, they attract fewer than 100 people. While our region has less than half as many members as some of the larger regions, the number of active participants in our Club is about the same, so as a percentage, we have very active members. Some of the other regions like Schonesland and the Dakota region are lucky to get 10 people to their events, so it is also nice to have at least 50 members who can be counted on to attend most of our events.

Finally, all of the other regions commented on the well-run and expertly instructed track events that the GPR hosts. The other presidents all said that they and their members loved coming to our DEs and Club Races. They all felt that the events were well organized and that the instructors were all top notch. As other regions like St. Louis are losing racetracks, we in the

GPR are lucky to have two tracks in Nebraska that are easily accessible.

The item from the meeting most of interest for our members is the plethora of events, both nationally and regionally, that are available. If you are a serious Porsche-phile, Parade (which is being held in Savannah, Georgia this year) was recommended as a great event. If you like your events a little more laid back, Doug recommended Escape, which this year is being held in Arizona. A number of the presidents highly recommended Escape – it is a lot less "busy" and informal than Parade, and you can drive on some truly scenic and memorable roads.

In addition to the national events, the surrounding regions are holding some exciting events this year. The Dakotas Region will be running a Loess Hills rally in June, and we will be having dinner on Friday night and breakfast on Saturday morning with them, and any of our members are free to join the drive after

Continued on page 8.

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Harley-Davidson Tour Survey

We are planning for the W GPR to take a tour of the Harley-Davidson factory in Kansas City in the fall. Our social chairman, Ardey Clark, would like to conduct a survey to see what the club members prefer.

Ardey's initial plan is to tour the factory in November. The factory is only open during the week so we would have to take the tour on a Friday. The tour will take about an hour and a half.

The Kansas City factory is where Harley-Davidson makes the V-Rod engine. Porsche designed the V-Rod engine for Harley. It was Harley's first water cooled engine. The V-Rod has been winning against the Japanese bikes on the NHRA drag races tour.

In order to gauge interest, please send an email to Ardey at jclark70@cox.net and let Ardey know whether you would plan to attend the event if offered the following options:

Option One: Caravan to the factory on Friday morning. Take the tour, have lunch, and return on the same day.

Option Two: Take a bus to the factory on Friday morning. Take the tour, have lunch, and return the same day.

Option Three: Caravan to the factory on Friday morning. Take the tour. Have lunch and/or dinner together. Stay overnight at the plaza. The women can shop and the men can find a sports bar or whatever.



The GPR is planning to visit the Harley-Davidson factory in Kansas City this fall. Share your thoughts with Social Chairman Ardey Clark.



Harley riders are almost as fanatical about their rides as Porsche drivers are about their cars.

Option Four: Take a bus to the factory on Friday morning. Take the tour. Have lunch and/or dinner together. Stay overnight at the plaza. The women can shop and the men can find a sports bar or whatever.

When you reply, please let Ardey know how interested you are, what you would like to

do if we stay overnight, or any other thoughts you may. In particular, the November date is not set in stone if you would like to do it at a different time of the year. Also let Ardey know if there is something else you would like to do in Kansas City.

Upcoming Events

2011 GPR Events

Road Rally	Postponed, date TBD
Drivers Education at Mid America Motorplex	May 7
Fun Run to James Arthur Vineyards in Raymond.....	May 14
Carrera GT Club Race at Motorsports Park Hastings.....	June 3-5
Loess Hills Fun Run with Dakota Region.....	June 10
Summer Picnic.....	TBD
Soaring Wings Vineyard or Dinner Run	July 30
Drivers Education at Mid America Motorplex	August 13-14
Lincoln Dinner Ride.....	August 27
Woodhouse Track Event at Motorsports Park Hastings	September 9-11
Lauritzen Gardens Car Show	September 18
Drivers Ed at Mid America Motorplex.....	October 1
Indian Cave Fun Run.....	October (TBD)
Harley Davidson Factory Tour in Kansas City	November (TBD)
Pre-holiday Get Together at Brix	December (TBD)

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#A2590A. Silver/black leather, AMG. \$35,995

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#A2529. 4matic, white/back, 32K miles. \$37,995.

2010 Porsche Boxster PDK
#A2471. Black/black, 800 miles, 19" wheels. \$53,995

2008 Porsche Boxster S - SE
#A2572. Orange/black with Alcantara, 6K. \$49,995

2007 Porsche Boxster S
#A2624. Black/natural brown, 785 miles, 6 speed

2006 Porsche Boxster Tiptronic
#A2616. Black/black leather, 22K, pristine

2005 Porsche Boxster S
#A2563. Blue/grey, 25K, 6 spd. \$35,995

2008 Porsche Carrera Cabriolet
#S110105A. Grey, 7K, 6 speed, one owner, local trade

2010 Porsche Cayenne S
#S110065A. Grey/black, 22K, nav, Bose, XM. \$58,995

2010 Porsche Cayenne
#S110104A. Black, 7K, Certified Pre-Owned. \$52,995

2008 Porsche Cayenne Tiptronic
#A2287. Sand white/havanna, one owner. \$39,995

2008 Porsche Cayman
#A2222C. Ruby red, 7K, 6 speed, 19" wheels, nav. \$40,995

To see vehicle photos, go to omaha.porschedealer.com.

Loess Hills Fun Run



Stanley Buman

The Great Plains Region is pleased to announce a joint Fun Run through the Loess Hills of Iowa with the Dakota Region.

We will begin with dinner at Pasta Amore at 11027 Prairie Brook Road in Omaha at 6:30 Friday night, June 10, 2011. We have a private dining room that will accommodate up to 25 people.

Saturday we will meet for breakfast at the Farmhouse (84th and Grover) at 8:30 a.m. Then, we will proceed on a relaxed drive on paved roads through the southern Loess Hills of Iowa; a spectacular and unusual geologic formation right in our own backyard. We will end the day in Nebraska City, NE.

We have a special rate at the Lied Lodge for overnight lodging and other options are listed below. Dinner will be at the Lied Lodge on Saturday night.

On Sunday our return home takes us along the hills of eastern Nebraska to enjoy the hills on the western side of the river. This drive may be "unguided"; however, we will provide maps and route suggestions. Otherwise Sunday is on your own after breakfast at Lied Lodge.

The Lied Lodge is reserving a block of 10 rooms for Saturday night, June 11, 2011. They have given us a reduced rate for the night of \$124 (plus tax). To get this rate please call 1-800-546-5433 and

tell them you are with the "Porsche Club of America-Dakota Region". The Lied Lodge will hold the rooms until May 11, 2011

Other lodging options nearby include...

Super 8 at I-29 and Hwy 2, 1-712-382-2828, is listed at \$48 a night.

Deluxe Inn 17155 11Th St, 1-877-747-8713, listed at \$70 a night.

The Best Western, 1-402-873-7000, will not know if rooms are available until the first part of June due to a wedding.

If you would like to attend, please contact Linda and Dave Shields at lindapshields@yahoo.com. If you will be going to dinner at Pasta Amore or breakfast at the Farmhouse, also let Steve Wilwerding know at steve.wilwerding@gmail.com.

- 1) Name
- 2) Number of people for dinner on Friday night at Pasta Amore
- 3) Number of people for dinner on Saturday at Lied Lodge
- 4) I/we are planning on joining the drive on Saturday
- 5) Phone number in case of late changes
- 6) Email address

If you have questions please call the Shields at (605) 334-5158 or email.

Zone 10 Presidents' Meeting (cont.)

breakfast on Saturday. If you would like to participate in the Loess Hills run, please let me know at steve.wilwerding@gmail.com. The Schonesland Region is hosting a PCA Corral at the Indy Car race in Newton, Iowa in late June, so if you are an Indy Car fan, that should be a great event. Finally, the Dakotas Region has a yearly event called "Run for the Hills", which is a drive around the Black Hills in late August. This was a highly touted event amongst the presidents, so if you are free in late August for a few days, it is a great way to see the Black Hills.

All in all, the Zone 10 meeting was a great success. I



was able to meet the other presidents, find out about how they run their regions and what events they host, and I was able to collect a lot of kudos for the GPR, which I want to pass on to the other members of the Board and to our members. On a final note, just as the other regions have been so active in many of

our events, I would ask our members to check out the other region's websites to perhaps participate in some of their events – I would love to see a large contingent of GPR members for the Loess Hills Run and the Indy Car event to show our solidarity with our PCA "sister regions."

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Fun Run on May 14 to Raymond

We will have a Fun Run to James Arthur Vineyards in Raymond, NE on May 14. We will meet at Nebraska Crossing at 4:30 PM and depart at 4:45 PM for a cruise to the Winery. There will be entertainment that night from James Redding from 6PM to 9PM. Redding plays Southern Rock Music. Wine and cheese will be available. Bring a chair or blanket to sit on and enjoy some music under the stars. Hopefully there will be stars.

From the vineyard's web site (www.jamesarthurvineyards.com): Wine tasting is one of James Arthur Vineyards most popular activities. A typical wine tasting consists of six or four tastings. Wine tasting samples are one ounce per taste and included is a complimentary James Arthur Vineyard wine glass.

A James Arthur Vineyards Six tasting consists of sampling six Nebraska wines from JAV's tasting card. The cost is \$5.00

A James Arthur Vineyards Four tasting consists of four Nebraska wine samples for \$4.00.

James Arthur Vineyards also offers a variety of



Nebraska foods, available a la carte or as a basket.

If you can't meet for the cruise, here are directions to the winery.

James Arthur Vineyards is about 10 miles from downtown Lincoln and about 30 minutes from West Omaha. If coming from Lincoln, go to 14th and Superior. Go straight north on 14th street until you get to Raymond Road. Take a left (west) on Raymond Road for 2.5 miles. James Arthur Vineyards is located on the left (south) side of the road.

If coming from Omaha, take Exit 403 off of I-80 just outside of Lincoln. Go north on 27th street about 1/2 mile to Arbor Road. At Arbor, take a left (west) and go to 14th Street.

At 14th Street, take a right (north) and go until you get to Raymond Road. Take a left (west) on Raymond Road for 2.5 miles. We are located on the left (south) side of the road.

If you are coming from the west on the interstate, take the NW 48th Street Exit just outside of Lincoln. Go north on NW 48th street (it will curve around some to the east) until you come to Highway 34. At Highway 34 take a left (west) and go to Highway 79, about 2 miles (the sign says to Raymond and Valparaiso). At Highway 79 take a right (north) and go until you hit Raymond Road. At Raymond, take a right (east) and we're 2.5 miles on the right side (south) of the road.



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Web Master: Eric Elliot

The GPR/PCA Board met Tuesday, April 5, at Tom and Karen Cooper's home. Members present: Steve Wilwerding, Steve Eckhart, Eric Elliott, Tom Cooper, Steve Gallagher, Jon Theobald, and JR Sanders.

President: Steve covered track events. Our contract with Mid America Motorplex is the same price as last year. Steve attended the Zone 10 Presidents' Meeting and will share a report with the club in *Der Skooner*. We will have a Porsche procession to Katrina Phillips' funeral.

Social: We will combine with the Dakota Region for a Loess Hills Fun Run in June. Discussed having a group go to the Indy Cars race in Newton, IA on 6/25. There will be a Porscheplatz.

Secretary: The March minutes were approved.

Registrar: May DE has eight registrations so far. The 924 group will have a national gathering the day before. The Club Race will be available April 25 for registration. We have asked two doctors to act as race doctors. Also discussed some logistical details for the Club Race.

Membership: 90 paid members this year from a pool of 228 national members in the region. We have two new national members in the area and two new GPR members.

Chief Driving Instructor: Steve Wilwerding shared a report from John Krecek. We are set for the May 7 DE. We will not sign anyone off from the one-day DE.

Treasurer: Gave report. Sponsorship for the Club Race is starting to come in. Advertising revenue coming in, too.

Safety: JR reviewed changes to the safety guidelines for DEs. We no longer require a fire extinguisher. The minimum clothing requirements are slightly relaxed; still need to check with the tracks. See the web site for the latest requirements.

Newsletter: The April issue is at the printers. Some regions are going to a bimonthly or online-only format. For the time being, the board wants to continue *Der Skooner* at 10 issues be year.

Website: Website is mostly up to date – Eric will post updates on events as they come in.

Past President: Jon and Steve are working on lining up Club Race sponsorships.

Old/New Business: The Board wishes to thank Tom and Karen for hosting the meeting and providing dinner.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Eckhart



Editorial Policy: *Der Skooner* is the official publication of the Great Plains Region/Porsche Club of America. Statements and opinions appearing in *Der Skooner* are those of the author and not necessarily those of the GPR, PCA, the Board or the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit all material and to publish only material that is felt to be in the best interest of GPR/PCA. Other regions are welcome to reprint *Der Skooner* articles provided that the source and author are credited. Address changes must be sent to both Tom Cooper, 635 Shorewood Lane, Waterloo, NE 68069 and PCA, P.O. Box 5900, Springfield, VA 22150.

