



Der Skooner

Great Plains Region / Porsche Club of America

July 2010

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Carrera GT at Motorsports Park Hastings Special Issue *by Steve Eckhart*



Club racers round the final turn and head for the checkered flag at Motorsports Park Hastings.

Perfect weather, wonderful people, and an outstanding track added up to a fantastic weekend of friendships renewed and made, fun with the greatest cars on earth, and a little friendly competition. The 2010 Carrera GT at Motorsports Park Hastings (MPH) was a great success. Over the weekend of June 4 through 6, the Great Plains Region hosted 39 racers from eight regions. We also ran an advanced

Drivers Education (DE) event with 32 participants.

Drivers came from as far as Dallas, St. Louis, and Minneapolis. For the club race, we had the following breakdown:

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Great Plains | 12 |
| Rocky Mountain | 12 |
| Kansas City | 7 |
| Nord Stern | 2 |
| Wichita | 3 |
| Cimarron | 2 |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Maverick | 1 |
| Saint Louis | 1 |

The weekend began with a day of testing and tuning on Friday. Drivers familiarized themselves with the track and made final adjustments to their vehicles.

On Saturday, the track was busy throughout the day. Drivers broke out into two groups, Red and Blue. The club racers each had a warm up

Continue on page 8.

From the Prez

By Jon Theobald



The Great Plains Region Carrera GT Club Race of 2010 at Motorsports Park Hastings (MPH) was an astounding success by all measures and I can't express how thankful I am for all the participants, sponsors, and volunteers that helped make it the great event it was. We ended up with 39 racers and close to 30 Driver Education participants, far exceeding our total number expectations for the weekend. Credit Tom Cooper (who also served as registrar) and John Krecek, our Club Race co-chairs for putting on one heckuva fun weekend for all the participants.

George Anderson of MPH was his usual impressively-gracious self and if there is anyone that can be in more than one place at a time it's him. He puts the Energizer Rabbit to shame in the activity level department.

Our sponsors really stepped up this year and we had a very successful sponsorship drive. I'd like to list them individually

here in my article for extra attention:

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In the Garage

Thank you so much for

supporting the GPR and our 2010 Club Race!

I'd also like to thank our grid workers: Russ Standage, Eric Elliot, and Ken Kusik. Your guidance and organization on grid is greatly appreciated!

Many thanks to our other volunteers: Sandy Bruso (Steward Assistant), Sean Cahill (Scrutineer's Assistant), Larry Anderson (Impound Mechanic), John Krecek and Steve Eckhart (Pace Car), Matt Anderson (photographer), Jim Avilla (Race Brochure), Roland Nieves (Timing and Scoring), Bob Thomson (Medical Safety Liaison), and JR Sanders (Tech Chair).

A special thanks to Dennis and Kathy Tessman, who threw a massive dinner party for all the race participants at their retro garage. There were at least 100 people in attendance Saturday night for pizza, hot dogs, hamburgers and a long list of other homemade delicious items, not to mention the

Continued on page 4.



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The Journey

By Steve Eckhart



The first weekend in June, we held the Carrera GT at MPH club race. This year was a new experience for me, as I got to volunteer as the radio man in the pace car with “Fast Johnny” Krecek at the wheel. Woodhouse Porsche of Omaha provided a silver 2010 Cayman S as the pace car, and it is one sweet ride. Juggling the three radios while John drove, I had a blast keeping the race steward informed as the field formed behind us coming out of turn three, past the splitter (Jon Theobald), and then exiting the track at speed, hopefully in time to watch the racers take the green flag.

Fortunately, “Fast Johnny” and I only had to go out on the track once for a full-course yellow. The club racers did a great job of driving safely with each other. The only yellow was for a broken axle. George Anderson and his crew at Motorsport Park Hastings (MPH) did an excellent job of getting the stricken car off the track and allowing the rest of the race to continue.

(Ed. Note: I am red-faced. Have you ever had one of those days where something gets stuck in your head and you repeat the same error over and over? Well, in last month's Der Skooner, I repeatedly referred to Motorsport Park Hastings as Motor Plex Hastings. I want to apologize to George and his partners. I should know better.)

When I wasn't slaving away (okay, it wasn't that tough a job with the A/C blasting), I was meeting as many of our visitors as I could.

The club racing community is an interesting subset of the Porsche Club of America. More than the rest of us, they want to squeeze every possible erg out of their Porsches. In addition to making necessary safety modifications to their vehicles (roll cage, five point harness, etc.), the racers invest in full driving suits. They also must earn a PCA racing license. Club racing isn't for the faint of heart or those not willing to make a major commitment.

I enjoyed meeting Kim and Keith Fritze (pronounced Frit-zee) from Minnesota. Kim is the current president of the Nord Stern region. Keith was running in his first club race and even won his class in his first time out. He even got some votes from the corner workers for the coveted corner workers awards.

John and Cathy Crosby were here from New Orleans representing the national club. John was the race steward and Cathy was the chief of timing and scoring. The Crosby's pull a fun little Smart car behind their motor home painted like a race car. They were extremely friendly, even allowing Jordan and me to drive the Smart. Ruth really liked their dog, Mister.

I also had a chance to meet the EMTs who were ready to rescue any endangered driver. Thankfully, their services weren't needed.

I can't say enough about the Saturday night party put on by Dennis and Kathy Tessman. They did all the cooking for about 100 people. During dinner, we got to

meet more of the drivers from all over the country.

This year, I brought the family out with me, too. They had a good time, spending a little time on the paddock. (Ruth watched about 10 minutes of racing and was ready to go to the waterpark.) In addition to MPH, Hastings has a fun little water park that was very reasonable (\$6 for kids and \$7 for adults). And, we took in the Hastings Museum and learned all about the history of Kool-Aid.

But, the highlight of the weekend for me (and many of us), was getting to meet Officer Jerry Esch of the Hastings Police Department. Jerry is a melanoma survivor. We arranged for Sally Knapp to take Jerry out for a few hot laps with no one else on the track. Jerry has a great sense of humor and said that he's ready for his hair to start growing back after going through chemotherapy. I told him I'd been waiting 20 years for my hair to come back and pray that he doesn't have to wait that long.

All in all, this year's Carrera GT at MPH was a blast. I can't wait until next year. If you didn't make it this year, be sure to get it on your calendar for next year. If you don't want to drive, we'll need plenty of volunteers. And, you'll get to spend a weekend with people who are almost as passionate about Porsches as you are.

From the Prez (cont. from pg. 2)

coolers of beverages that tasted oh-so-good after a long day at the track. We presented the Tessmans with a vintage and original Texaco star in appreciation of their party.

Thanks to the national PCA folks that made the long trip to Hastings: Kathy Crosby (Timing and Scoring), John Crosby (Race Steward), and Colin Mazolla (Scrutineer). Also, thanks to our Zone 10 Representative, Doug Pierce,

for making an appearance and participating in the fun!

I apologize if I've left anyone out but thanks again for a wonderful weekend of racing!

July is a busy month. We kick it off with the Candlewood Picnic Saturday, July 10. The following weekend we've got the Kearney Cruise Night July 17. Please note that the Fun Run to Manning, Iowa, that was scheduled for July 18 has been

postponed to later in the year with a date to be determined.

July 24-25 is our Driver Education weekend at Mid-America Motorplex. We will be accepting novice registrants, so this would be a great weekend for you track newbies to get out and get some personalized track driving instruction by our own GPR Porsche Certified Driving Instructors!

Have a wonderful July!

Candlewood Picnic July 17

Bring your appetites and sunscreen for a picnic with the GPR/PCA at Candlewood Park on Lake Candlewood in Omaha. There are picnic tables, grills, playground equipment, a sandy beach, swimming in the lake, fishing, pontoon boat rides, and plenty of tasty picnic food.

Please bring one dish of choice that serves several people (main dish, side, or dessert.) There are grills available, so any meat can be cooked over charcoal. GPR/PCA will provide plates, napkins, utensils, charcoal, soda, and beer. The event starts at 1:00 p.m.

Directions:

1. Go north on 132nd from Dodge.
2. Turn right on Cuming Street into Candlewood.
3. Take the second right onto



You may find desserts as pretty as this at the Candlewood Picnic on July 17.

Burt Street at the roundabout.

The park is on Burt Street at the end of the block. Bring the kids and pets for a fun picnic on

Candlewood Lake!

If you have any questions about this event, please call Jon Theobald at 659-6068.

Upcoming Events

2010 GPR Events

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Candlewood Picnic..... | July 10 |
| Kearney Cruise Nite..... | July 17 |
| Drivers Education at Mid America Motorplex | July 24-25 |
| Steak Fry Grill and Chill..... | August 14 |
| Sonic Show 'N' Shine | August 28 |
| Fun Run to the Hausbarn in Manning, Iowa..... | TBD |
| Havelock Car Show | September 12 |
| All-Euro Car Show at Lauritzen Gardens..... | September 19 |
| Porsche Pride at Fatburger | September 23 |

Woodhouse Porsche of Omaha Events

Our friends at Woodhouse Porsche of Omaha are hosting the following events. Mark your calendars. More details will follow.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| September 11 | Racoon River Lodge in West Des Moines |
| September 18-19 | Woodhouse Track Event at Mid America Motorplex |

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Kearney Cruise Nite Autobahn Cruise Caravan Express *by Eric Elliot*

All aboard for the Autobahn Cruise Caravan Express departing from gate number 1 on July 17! Our destination is Kearney for their spectacular celebration of the automobile, the 23rd Annual Kearney Cruise Nite. They close down the town for this event featuring over 700 cars of all makes, marques, and vintages. Stand up, be counted, and show your pride in your German car. We plan to proudly represent and make Germany's finest a real presence at this event when it has not been previously. Get on board for the great cruise, caravan, cars, and "carnival" atmosphere. Our space for the Show 'n' Shine has been reserved. Get your ticket now for the cruise caravan express!

The Omaha express will depart on Saturday morning, July 17 (exact time and place to be announced soon!) and make a connection in Lincoln at Husker BMW in Lincoln, located at 6833 Telluride Drive just off the I-80 and N. 27th



Line up on July 17 for the Autobahn Cruise Caravan Express.

Street exit, where we will hook up with the BMW club and enjoy coffee and donuts. We will all head out at 8:30 a.m. and arrive in Kearney around 10:30 am to get registered and set up for the Show 'n' Shine. The Show 'n' Shine runs from noon until 4 p.m. A short parade follows at 5 p.m. that you can watch or participate in. Following the parade, we will enjoy a cookout with the BMW club at the home of Robin and Lynette Elliott. From there, you can either head back home, or hang around and enjoy the literally thousands of cars that

will "cruise" Kearney all evening long.

The cost of the Show 'n' Shine is \$10 if you register at www.motortopia.com/event/3118 by July 13; or \$15 day of show.

Please RSVP to this event by July 13 to Eric Elliott at ericelliott@mac.com so we can plan ahead. For more information on this club event, call Eric Elliott at 770-7986 or Ken Kusik at 429-6070. For the full details on Kearney Cruise Nite and all the activities going on, go to www.motortopia.com/event/3118.

Kearney Cruise Nite has grown into one of the largest car events in Nebraska. You won't want to miss it! Get your boarding pass today and don't delay!

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Meet our team:

Jason Bien
Porsche Service Manager



Jason's hard work and talent has earned him a spot on the Porsche team. He started off his Woodhouse career as a Lot Porter at our Mazda store from June to September 2007. From September to February 2008, he was a Service Advisor at our Lincoln-Mercury store. The most recent step on his career ladder was as a Production Estimator/Fleet Manager at our Omaha Body Shop from February 2008 to April 2010. He then became the Porsche Service Manager.

Jason enjoys riding his motorcycle, backpacking, and spending time with his wife and son, Emily and Jacob.

Since joining the Porsche team, Jason has truly enjoyed working with the customers. He shares your enthusiasm and passion for the Porsche brand and can't wait to attend more DE's.

Getting to know Jason:

1. What is your full legal name?

Jason Joseph Bien

2. How many years/months have you been with the Woodhouse Auto Family?

3 years

3. If married. . . what is your spouse's name?

Emily

4. How many children do you have?

One - Jacob

5. What is your first thought when you wake up in the morning?

I can't believe my wife is out running at 5:30am! Crazy lady.

6. What kind of car do you drive?

'02 Silverado 2500 HD (love my truck)... a Porsche soon enough!

7. What is/was your favorite vacation?

Hawaii & my annual backpacking trip in the Tetons

8. What is one thing most people do not know about you?

I'm allergic to peanut butter.. but I still eat it (it's worth it!)

9. What is your favorite pasttime/hobbies?

Backpacking, biking, and anything including a bonfire.

10. What kind of music do you listen to most?

Classic rock! Who doesn't enjoy Zeppelin?

11. What is your favorite movie?

Big Lebowski. It doesn't matter how bad I think things are, that movie picks me right up.

12. What is your favorite food?

Kipper snacks...I'm not allowed to eat them in the house though.

13. Tell us something that makes you happy.

BBQ on a Friday evening is always a good start.

14. What is your favorite Porsche?

Just drove a new Turbo S Cab...wowww. Otherwise, a clean 993 turbo is the way to go.

15. What color would it be?

I've always loved white, black tint, BBS LM wheels. Can't go wrong.

16. Where would you rather drive your favorite Porsche: race track or scenic road?

Can we drive both?

Club Race Coverage (continued)

session. In between sessions, the DE group got plenty of time on track.

Then, each race group had a Fun Race. For the Fun Race, the group had three practice starts. Following the third practice start, the drivers raced for three hot laps. Then, the next group ran.

Following the Fun Race (and another DE session), each group ran a Sprint Race. First up was the Blue group with 20 racers from the E and SP1 classes (and one racer in SP2). Richard Bennett was the overall winner in a green, 1987 951. Chris Blazer was the top finisher in SP1 and Daniel Mayer finished 12th overall as the sole SP2 participant. The top three from each group were (and overall placement):

E Class

Richard Bennett (1)

William Petty (2)

Joe Ennett (3)

SP1 Class

Chris Blazer (9)

Dale Tuety (10)



Two racers painted as the famous Pink Pig together on the grid.

Terry Morris (11)

The second Sprint Race of the day was for 18 racers in the Red Group from the GTA1, GTC3, GT4S, GTB1, G, D, SPB, GTSS, and GT1S classes. The overall winner was Robert Prilika in a 2000 996 GT3 R. The group winners (and overall placement) were:

GTA1

Robert Prilika (1)

GTC3

Timothy Peterson (2)

GT4S

David Farrell (3)

GTB1

Henry Davis (4)

G

Scott Norby (6)

D

Sandy Steckman (8)

SPB

Keith Fritze (9)

GTSS

Marcia Hubbell (15)



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Still More Club Race



Green! Green! Green!

GT1S

Roland Manarin (18)

At the party on Saturday evening at the Tessman's home, the groups agreed to run the next day as one large, combined run group. In the first race of the day, Prilika was again the overall winner. The class winners were:

GTA1

Robert Prilika (1)

GTC3

Timothy Peterson (2)

GT4S

David Farrell (3)

E

Richard Bennett (4)

G

Scott Norby (5)

GTB1

Randal Cassling (6)

K

Roland Manarin (8)

D

Sandy Steckman (10)

SPB

Keith Fritze (14)

SP1

Dale Tuety (17)

SP2

Daniel Mayer (23)

GTSS

Marcia Hubbell (26)

The final sprint race of the day produced the most drama. Nearing the end of the race, Prilika was within seconds of lapping the field when he had to exit the race track just before the final lap with a fuel problem. Roland Manarin of the GPR came away with the victory in his backup car after breaking an axle in an earlier race. The final race standings of the day showed:

K

Roland Manarin (1)

GTB1

Henry Davis (2)

E

Richard Bennett (3)

D

Sandy Steckman (6)

GTA1

Robert Prilika (9)

SPB

J Chester Bailey (11)

SP1

Chris Blazer (13)

GT4S

Michael Hemingway (24)

GTSS

Jay Burr (25)

GTC3

Timothy Peterson (28)

G

Robert Thompson (29)

More Club Race Photos



Russ Standage, Eric Elliot, and Ken Kusek run the grid.



Sally Knapp gets strapped in.



The timing crew gets ready for the next race.



The crew in race control did an excellent job.



Indispensable, but thankfully not needed.



In the pits, drivers and crews prepare for another race.



GPR President Jon Theobald presents the Tessmans with a token of appreciation for hosting a wonderful party.

GPR Board and Minutes

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Web Master: Eric Elliot

Due to severe weather (including a tornado watch), the GPR board did not meet in June. All business for the month was conducted informally during the club race and via email.

Fun Run Cancelled

We have cancelled the Fun Run to Manning, Iowa, originally scheduled for July 18, due to the close proximity to the Kearney Cruise Night. We encourage everyone who can to cruise to Kearney. We will reschedule the Manning Fun Run and provided details as soon as we have them.



Sally Knapp gave Hastings Police Officer Jerry Esch a ride for some hot laps. Officer Esch is a melanoma survivor.



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John Krecek, Race Co-chair and pace car driver, displays the Cayman S Woodhouse provided for the Carrera GT at MPH.

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Great Plains Carrera GT at MPH

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