



# ***Der Skooner***

Great Plains Region / Porsche Club of America

January/February 2012

Volume 46 Issue 1

## ***Holiday Party***



Join us on Saturday, January 21, for our annual Holiday Party at Oak Hills Country Club in Omaha.

Cash bar will start at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 7 p.m., with awards following.

Dinner will include salad and dessert, with your choice of Steak Diane, Chicken Jerusalem, or Atlantic Salmon for your entree. Wine will also be included.

Oak Hills Country Club is

located at 12325 Golfing Green Drive, Omaha.

RSVP to Steve Wilwerding, [steve.wilwerding@gmail.com](mailto:steve.wilwerding@gmail.com) or 402-319-8623, by January 13 (with dinner choice).

The menu for the evening will be:

House Salad topped with a Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing  
Fresh Rolls with piped Butter

Steak Diane: Sliced Tenderloin Medallions with a

Tomato Mushroom Demi-glaze  
Chicken Jerusalem:

Sautéed Breast of Chicken with Artichoke Caper Cream Sauce

Atlantic Salmon: Fresh Salmon Fillet topped with a Lemon Herb Compound Butter

Chef's Choice Starch & Vegetable

Chocolate Lovin' Spoon Cake

Beverage Details: Fountain Pop, Iced Tea & Coffee Included. Wine with Dinner

*Continued on page 8*

# Inside Track

By Steve Wilwerding



**H**appy New Year! By the time you read this, 2012 will be upon us, and we are already working in earnest to get events on the 2012 GPR calendar.

The first event of the year is our annual Holiday Party on January 21 at Oak Hills Country Club in Omaha. Dinner is a choice of chicken, salmon, or steak. Cash bar starts at 6:00, dinner at 7:00, followed by awards and raffle. This year, we will be raffling off gift certificates to Brix, Woodhouse, Borsheims, In the Garage, as well as a certificate for a free 2012 DE weekend. We will also have some door prizes to raffle off, so make sure to bring some extra cash to participate in the drawings. Also, as of the first of the year, your membership fees are due – the easiest way to renew is to bring an extra \$20 to the Holiday Party and renew at the door. There are more details about the Holiday Party in this issue – please RSVP to me with your dinner choice. This is one of the best events of the year, so

make plans to attend.

We are also planning what has become an annual late-winter event at Bella Vita in Elkhorn. We don't have a firm date yet, but it will likely be in the first part of February, so stay tuned.

We also have two track weekends on the calendar in 2012 – we will be holding a two-day DE at MAM April 28-29, and the Club Race weekend at MPH is June 1-3. We are also working to get a MAM date in early September, but we have not nailed down a date just yet – stay tuned.

2012 marks the 45th Anniversary of the GPR. We have already identified a Porsche factory driver that we would like to bring in for the event – the date of the event will depend on his availability, but we are tentatively looking for the event to happen in late fall.

At a few of the past events, I have gotten questions from members about publishing another member directory. Given the increasingly sensitive

nature of addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses, PCA has a policy that we are not allowed to publish a hard-copy member directory. We have discussed this at past Board meetings, and we feel that the best solution is that the Board will be available to provide contact information for other members. If you need to contact another Porsche Club member, your best bet is to get in touch with our new Membership Chair Sandy Bruso (though you are free to contact any Board member) and we will provide the latest contact information for other members. I realize that this is not an ideal solution, and that many of our members miss having a printed member directory, but given our limitations, this will have to suffice.

As the new year begins, I would like to reflect a little bit on 2011. Tom Cooper, Steve Eckhart, Steve Gallagher, JR Sanders, Jon Theobald, Ardey Clark, Abe Schlott, Eric Elliott,

*Continued on page 10.*

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# Open Letter to Zone 10

As of December 31 my Appointment as your PCA Zone 10 Representative ended. Much to my enjoyment, I have spent the last 5 years working with the leadership and members of the 10 Regions of Zone 10 as we have negotiated the twists and turns of a major volunteer organization. I feel we have accomplished a lot on the road to making PCA a better organization and of better service to the membership. Most times it's been easy, sometimes not so much, however, at the end of the day I think the Club is better for the effort all involved have exerted.

I would like to personally thank each and every Zone 10 member that I have met at your Region events, Parade, or wherever we have come together for your hospitality and friendship. I have met

many more PCA members in the last 5 years than I can possibly remember, but have always enjoyed the pleasure.

I will not be fading away completely. This last May I was appointed by the PCA Executive Council to the newly created position of PCA National Escape Coordinator, Escape being the "other" national event. Escape has grown tremendously over the past several years and I have been charged with the task of bringing some continuity to the process, assisting the hosting Region or Regions in bringing forward a successful event, and collecting historical materials and data for record and use by future Regions in developing an efficient Escape strategy. I am looking forward to the new challenges. I guess my philosophy concerning being a member of any organization

has always been; If you're a member, get involved, do something other than just go along for the ride.

My recently appointed successor to the PCA Zone 10 Representative position is Ms. Kim Fritze of the Nord Stern Region. I am sure she will be able to step into the position easily and will probably make improvements along her way. Please afford Kim the same level of courtesy you have shown me over my term as your Zone Rep.

Thanks again, and I hope to see you again at another PCA function in the future, maybe even an Escape.

Doug Pierce  
PCA Zone 10  
Representative 2007 – 2011  
PCA National Escape  
Coordinator

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# ***Zone 10 January/February Events***

## ***January***

21 St. Louis Region Diecast Cars and Coffee

## ***February***

4 St. Louis Region 991 Introduction at Parktown  
10 Central Iowa Region 991 Launch Event Lujack's  
20 Kansas City Region Wine Tasting at A Wine Flights Bar & Bistro, Leawood, KS  
25 Wichita Region Scholfield Auto Plaza 911 Launch Party

For detailed information about listed events, see the respective Region's website or the PCA National site at [www.pca.org](http://www.pca.org).

Central Iowa Region: [cia.pca.org](http://cia.pca.org)

Dakotas Region: [dak.pca.org](http://dak.pca.org)

Kansas City Region: [kcrpca.org](http://kcrpca.org)

Nord Stern Region: [www.nordstern.org](http://www.nordstern.org)

Ozark Lakes Region: [olk.pca.org](http://olk.pca.org)

Red River Region: [redriverpca.org](http://redriverpca.org)

St. Louis Region: [www.stlpca.org](http://www.stlpca.org)

Wichita Region: [wic.pca.org](http://wic.pca.org)

## ***Membership Due***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

PCA Number: \_\_\_\_\_

National Dues Current? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Car Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Car Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Car Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues for the 2012 calendar year are due this month. The dues are only \$20 a year. Please complete the form above and mail with your check made out to GPR/PCA to:

**Great Plains Region, PCA c/o Sandy Bruso**

**2862 Duane Plz. Apt D**

**Bellevue, NE 68123**

# Upcoming Events

Holiday Party .....January 21

Dinner at Bella Vita.....February 4

Drivers Ed at Mid America Motorplex.....April 28-29

Carrera GT at Motorsports Park Hastings.....June 1-3

***Watch your email for additional events that may come up after we went to press.***

## ***Be sure to support our fine sponsors.***

When you do, please mention that you saw their ad in *Der Skooner*. And thank them for their sponsorship which helps us keep the club going.

## ***Correction***

In the November/December 2011 issue of *Der Skooner*, a number of photos were credited to Russ Gifford. The photos were actually taken by Russ Standage. I regret the error.

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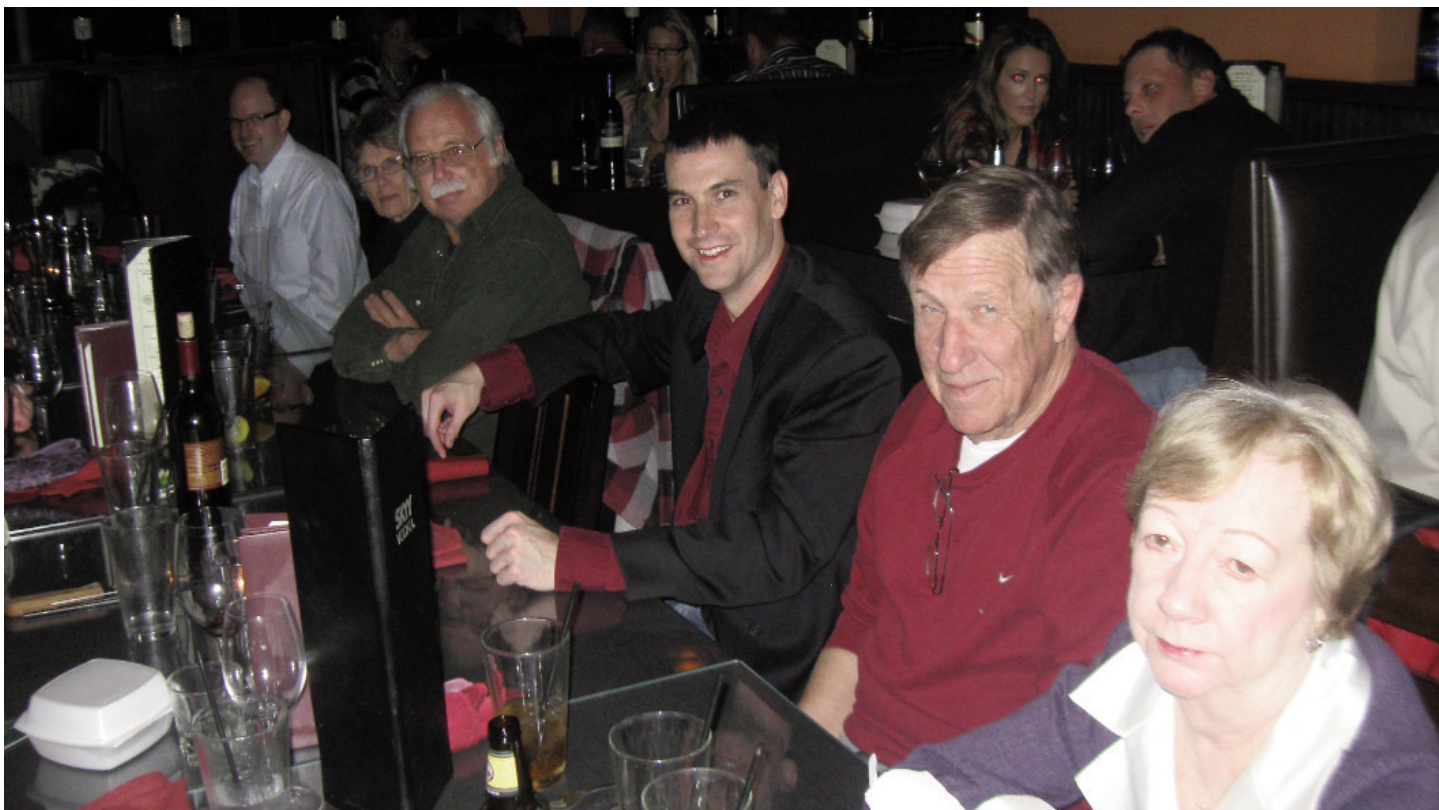


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# ***Dinner at Ryan's Bistro***



On November 12, about 20 GPR members met at Ryan's Bistro for a casual dinner. The conversation was engaging and the food was delicious. In particular, the white truffle risotto is spectacular.

In the months to come, watch Der Skooner, your email, and the club web site at [gpl.pca.org](http://gpl.pca.org) for future events like this one.

As we say, it's not just the cars, it's the people.





PORSCHE

## Service FAQs

### Q: What can I do to prolong the life of my battery?

**A:** The best thing would be to drive your car everyday until the vehicle was at operating temperature for a good half hour, but that's not always possible. Cold temperatures and short trips are battery killers. Cold batteries won't take a charge and the short trips don't allow time for the battery to warm up and take the charge. As a result, the battery keeps losing a charge until it's too low to either start the car or it freezes which ruins the battery. Thus the reason to use a battery minder which keeps the battery charged when the car is not in use.

### Q: I want to keep my car clean---do I have to buy the expensive car products? Can I just use household soaps?

**A:** There is a difference between household products and automotive products. An example of this would be dish soap—it will certainly clean your car, but it will also strip away the wax that you put on last week. It can also eat the clear finish off the wheels and tarnish them. This is a case of using the right product for the right application. Your car will love you for it by looking great.

### Q: What's the best way to keep the inside of my car clean?

**A:** Quit eating inside your car is the best way to keep it clean. Really, spilled food and drink is the fastest way to ruin the looks of a car. Respect your car if you want it to look good, then take care of it like you would yourself. If you look bad, well then you know where to start!

### Q: When should I service my vehicle?

**A:** Don't think of maintenance as what I have to do, but rather what I can do to prevent unexpected repairs as well as what the car requires to have done. If you maintain your vehicle and replace worn items before they have failed, you will enjoy a better relationship with your car. It also results in less unexpected surprises and more quality driving time. In short, follow the owner's manual as a minimum.

### Q: Is there such a thing as switching from summer air to winter air?

**A:** Really! Well, technically they are not the same and it can make a difference. At least in this part of the country our summers are pretty humid. If you had your tires filled on a hot humid day you just put a lot of moisture into the tire. Whereas in the winter we have much drier air in which you would have less moisture going into the tire. The less moisture in the air the less the tire pressures change with temperature. This is the main reason for using Nitrogen in tires—less moisture which allow more consistent tire pressures.

**If you have any service questions, please contact our service manager  
Andy Hipwell at 402-592-1000 or [andrew.hipwell@woodhouse.com](mailto:andrew.hipwell@woodhouse.com).**



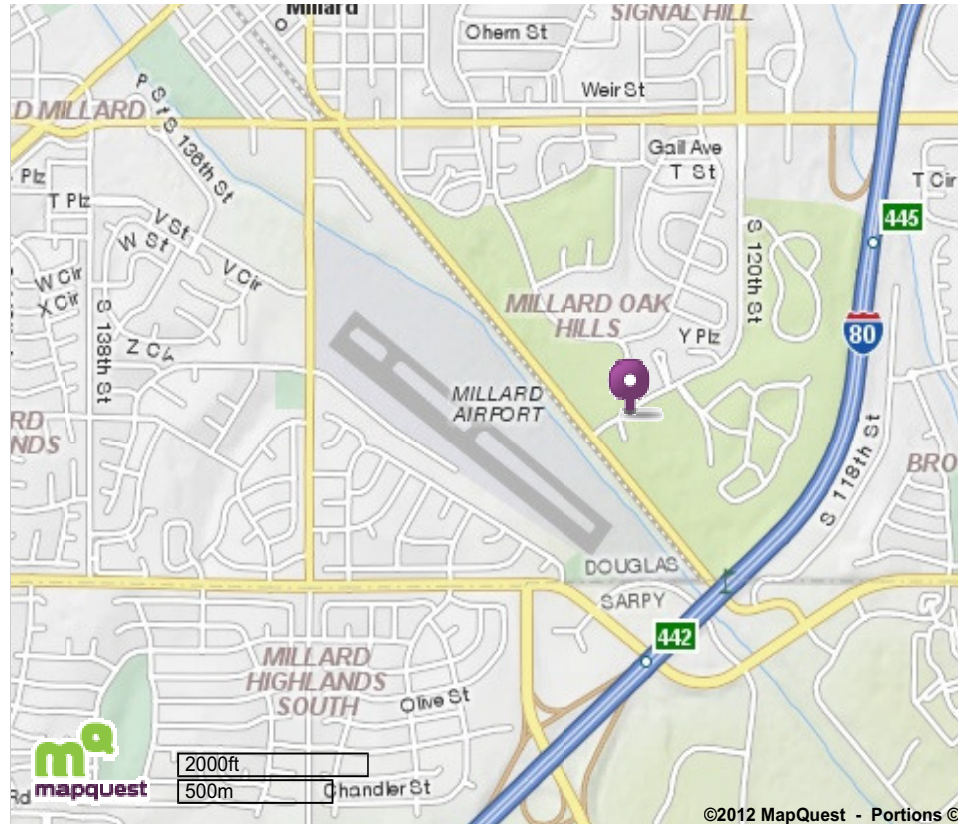
# Holiday Party (cont.)

Included. Otherwise a Cash Bar.

Also, be sure to bring cash, as we will have a \$1-a-chance raffle for Borsheims, In the Garage, Woodhouse, and Brix \$50 gift certificates. We will also be having a \$5-a-chance raffle for a free 2012 DE weekend!

The cost is \$32 per person. Please RSVP with dinner choice by January 13th to Steve Wilwerding (steve.wilwerding@gmail.com or 402-319-8623).

Hope we'll see you there.



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# ***Dinner at Bella Vita***

Saturday, February 4, we will have another dinner event at Bella Vita in Elkhorn. The cash bar will begin at 6:00 p.m. and dinner will be at 7:00 p.m.

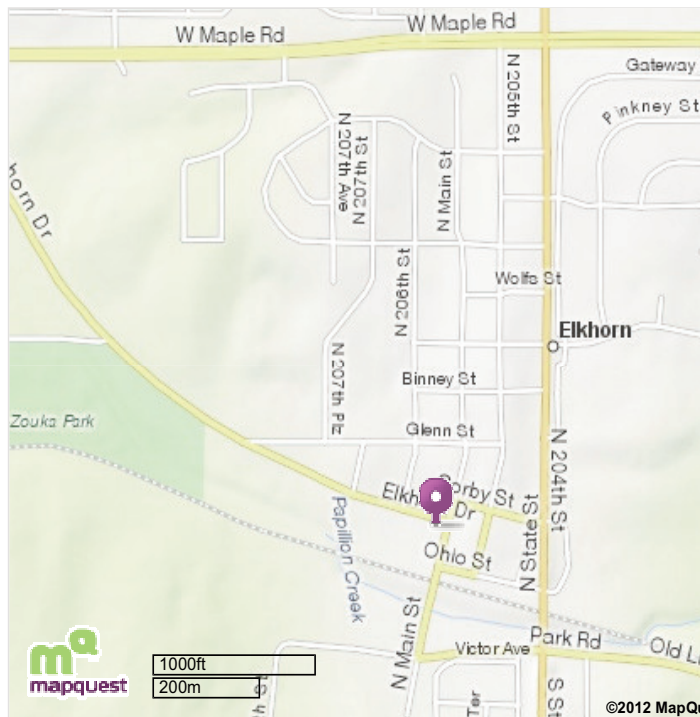
Like last year, qw will be having a pasta bar with two kinds of pasta, three sauces, and chicken and italian sausage. Salad and soft drinks are included.

The cost is only \$16 per person, which covers dinner and gratuity.

RSVPs to Steve Wilwerding at (402) 319-8623 or [steve.wilwerding@gmail.com](mailto:steve.wilwerding@gmail.com).

Bella Vita is located at 2620 North Main St, in Elkhorn, NE.

Last year the food was delicious and the conversation was better. Don't miss it!



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# **Breakfast at Wheatfields** *by Steve Wilwerding*

On Saturday, December 3, a dozen GPR members met at Wheatfields Cafe for a year-end breakfast get-together. Despite the increasingly nasty weather and a large pre-holiday crowd, we enjoyed a delicious breakfast and good company. The scent of hundreds of pies, cakes, cookies, and other holiday goodies meant that most of us were unable to leave without taking some baked goods with us, and on the way out, everyone exchanged holiday greetings and a desire to meet again at the upcoming Holiday Party.



## **Inside Track (cont.)**

and John Krecek have all, through their extensive efforts in 2011, made my life as President immeasurably easier. If you attended and enjoyed a GPR event in 2011, it was due to their efforts, and they deserve every member's thanks. I would also like to thank our newsletter and Club Race

sponsors. There are too many to list here, but if you look throughout the newsletter and on the back page, you can see them all. After examining the financials from 2011, it is apparent that we would not have been able to hold the same number and quality of events if not for their sponsorship, so if

you have occasion to patronize their businesses, please do. Finally, I would like to thank you, our members. It is because of you that this Club exists and holds events, and we hope that you had an enjoyable 2011 with the GPR, and I hope to see all of you at our 2012 events.



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# GPR Board and Minutes

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**PCA Zone 10 Rep:**

Kim Fritze  
zone10rep@yahoo.com

**Web Page:** <http://gpl.pca.org>

**Web Master:** Eric Elliot

## Minutes of the November 8, 2011 Board Meeting

Attending were board members Tom Cooper, Steve Wilwerding, Steve Gallagher, Steve Eckhart, and Abe Schlott. Also present were Sally Knapp, Sandy Bruso, and Past President Jon Theobald.

Social: No report.

Secretary: Approve minutes from October meeting. Board sustained as balloted with over 30 votes for vs. 0 against.

President: Discussed 2011 awards and January 21 Holiday Party at Oak Hills. Tentative DE 4/29-30 at MAM. Club Race 6/1-3 at MPH. Board is considering a 2-day event in the fall

Registrar: Reviewed Club Race details for 2011. MPH has a limit of 42 cars which could affect our ability to do an enduro. Application process has begun.

Chief Driving Instructor (via remote): John recommended 2 day events exclusively to allow better experiences for novices.

Treasurer: Steve Gallagher reviewed financials.

Club Race Chair: No Report.

Membership: For his years of service to the Porsche Club and his faithful work at our Club Races, the Board voted to honor Bob Thompson as a lifetime member. 2 new members this month. Directory likely going away due to new privacy policy from national

Safety: Taste of the track going away next year due to national requirements.

Newsletter: Went out on time last week.

Website: No report

Past President: No report

Respectfully submitted by Abe Schlott



**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.

