



Der Skooner



December 2013

Great Plains Region / Porsche Club of America

Volume 48 Issue 11

Merry Christmas GPR



The Starting Line

By Tom Cooper

Friday November 1st was All Saints Day. I not sure there were an over-abundance of "Saints", but Roland Manarin hosted a hot dog roast at his home that evening. The hot dogs were accompanied by baked beans, salad and other munchies, and the desserts were more than tempting. The view from Roland's living room window is something that should be on everyone's bucket list to see. This is the second event Roland has hosted this year, and we all greatly appreciate the support he has shown the club.

The monthly club breakfast on the 9th had an outstanding turnout, and after breakfast we were led on a fun run through eastern Nebraska by Denny Strauss. We headed north out of Elkhorn on Elk City Road, then east on Nebraska Highway 36 and Bennington Road to 72nd street where we turned back north to connect with Blair High Road. At Fort Calhoun we turned back east toward the Missouri River and the Mormon Bridge. Then we turned back north toward Fort Calhoun and had an entirely different view of Blair High Road as we headed back to Lake Cunningham where the fun run ended.

We still don't have a lot of information about the status of Mid America Motorplex as I write this. We do know there was an auction on November 23rd and the high bidder was a phone bidder. The current RUMOR is that the track was purchased by a racer friendly individual and will be operational in 2014. We'll just have to wait and see

what develops.

Two of our members have stepped up to fill important positions in the Region. Joe Chambers has volunteered to take on the newly created position on the Board of Registrar, and John Krecek has once again offered to be the Club Race Chairman for the 2014 Carrera GT at MPH. Please express your appreciation the next time you see these gentlemen.

Our major sponsor, Porsche of Omaha, part of the Woodhouse Auto Family, is sponsoring a Backpack Challenge to help many of the young children in western Iowa and Nebraska that go hungry each weekend. The goal is to raise \$800,000 to help these youngsters. The Woodhouse Auto Family started the drive with a \$200,000 contribution and are asking their employees to match that amount. In addition, they hope to get contributions from the community to match the total given by the Woodhouse Auto Family and their employees. Go to the web site, www.woodhouse.com, and click on Donate to a Child and pick your level of participation by clicking on one of the backpacks. Let's help our sponsor reach their goal.

Once again we will start the New Year off with a breakfast brunch at the Downtown Hilton. Last year was the first year for this event and while the turn out was relatively light, the food was excellent and the bench racing was fantastic. If you haven't been to brunch at the Downtown

Hilton, this is an event that you don't to miss.

We will continue the monthly breakfast meetings at the Heartland Café in 2014. The first couple of months there will not be a fun run after breakfast since the weather just may be a little unfavorable for that type of event early in the New Year, but we will resume the fun runs just as soon as weather permits.

We seem to be fixated on food during the winter months, since our next event will be the Holiday Party at the Oak Hills Country Club on January 18th. This has been an excellent venue in past years and 2014 looks to be another great time to get together with your Porsche friends.

The board is starting to put together a calendar of events for 2014. Included are a tour to Nebraska City in the spring and an autocross event. Of course, we will have the Club Race at Hastings the weekend after Memorial Day along with the great party Saturday night at the Tessman's. You don't have to be a racer to attend the Club Race and the Saturday night party is really spectacular. We are also looking at hosting a golf tournament. If you have an event that you would like to see the Region host don't hesitate to talk to one of the board members about it.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Tom

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Porsche Winter Storage Tips - courtesy FlatSixes.com

1. Don't get caught outside. Check the forecast, set a date and stick to it.
2. Don't put it away dirty. Wash and clean your Porsche inside and out.
3. Don't let water infiltrate your Gas. Top off the tank and include a fuel additive like STA-BIL.
4. Don't let your tires develop flat spots. Inflate your tires to the highest pressure allowed; or, consider using tire cradles that are shaped to the tire and prevent flat spots without over inflating.
5. Don't forget about the anti-freeze. If your Porsche pumps more water than oil you'll want to check the level of your anti-freeze and make sure it's full and fresh.
6. Don't crack your windshield fluid holder. In the event you cheaped out and used water instead of windshield washer fluid, be sure to top it off with the real stuff and make sure it contains an anti-freezing agent if you live in a cold climate.
7. Don't let your battery die. Either disconnect the battery (Excellence Magazine advises against this in the 997) or attach a trickle charger. If you do disconnect, be sure you have your radio code.
8. Don't apply the parking brake. Leave it in neutral and use wheel chocks, but leaving it in gear or park is fine too.
9. Don't neglect your windshield wipers. Consider propping your wiper arms or placing a small piece of cardboard between the blade and the windshield to protect the wiper blade edges.
10. Don't let your Porsche collect moisture. Consider placing reusable desiccant containers in the car if the garage is not climate controlled. Remember, you will need a number of these as the interior of your Porsche is a large space. You can easily check them once a month or so and reactivate them per the instructions.
11. Don't let your Porsche get scratched or dirty. Put a car cover on it.
12. Don't waste money! You could possibly save big bucks (as much as \$100 per month) by letting your insurance company know your Porsche is off the road. Be sure to check with your agent. Just be sure to let them know before you take it out in the spring!
13. Don't let rodents take over. Put plastic keg cups or tennis balls backwards into the exhaust pipes. Close all air vents.
14. Don't lose your skills. Besides visiting the garage often consider racing games and drive simulators while waiting for the snow to melt.

Porsche Winter Driving Tips - courtesy FlatSixes.com

The Cayenne is simply a snow machine with all season or winter tires and the rear-engine design of the 911 provides excellent mechanical grip. When you combine this with proper tires and wheels a 911 can handle as well (albeit without as much ground clearance) as a Cayenne. If it happens to be an all wheel drive variant, then grip is almost legendary. The following tips are for those of you brave enough to face the winter in your Porsche.

1. Don't slide all over the place. Perhaps the most important aspect of driving your Porsche in the winter is making sure you have the right tires.
2. Don't let your Porsche freeze up! If your Porsche is air-cooled, you might think of changing to a lighter/thinner viscosity (something like a 5W or 10W). If your Porsche is water-cooled then be sure you have clean, quality coolant and it's filled properly. As with our tips above, don't forget about your washer fluid. If you live in a cold climate, be sure your reservoir is filled with a washer fluid that can handle freezing temperatures. It would be bad enough if you couldn't see. It would add insult to injury if you cracked your reservoir or fluid lines.
3. Don't pressure wash your Porsche when it's covered in sand and salt. While it might seem to be the easiest method, this could actually push the salt into places you can't get it out of and speed up corrosion. Instead, use a quality foaming soap and the low pressure setting to carry away all those nasty particles.
4. Don't let your tire pressure get low. Changes in air temperature can change your tire pressure as much as one (1) psi for every 10 degrees Fahrenheit change. Get a Porsche tire gauge and check pressures monthly.
5. Don't neglect your Porsche's body! Cleaning and waxing your Porsche before the winter weather starts is a must. A nice layer of wax makes it easier to clean and will protect your paint from the elements.
6. Don't spin the tires when starting out. Consider starting from second gear in very slippery conditions. While it might lessen the life of your clutch if done frequently, it can be done in tricky situations.

Am I done? - Steve Wilwerding

I cannot think of a Porsche owner who, the day after buying their P-car, didn't already have a list of upgrades in mind. When I bought my 1998 Boxster in 2003, my list started almost immediately - new tires, short shifter, GT3 console delete - I knew that, as time and money allowed, I would never run out of things to upgrade on the car.

In the intervening ten years, I have made a lot of changes to my Boxster. At first, there were simple, relatively inexpensive upgrades - a B&M short shifter, upgraded top cables, the console delete that allowed a tall guy like myself to enjoy sitting in the car for more than 20 minutes. I do remember, very early, that I had my eyes on bigger things - even in 2003, there were people upgrading the power in their cars. At the time, superchargers were very popular, but they had a bad habit of turning your Boxster engine into a very expensive pile of scrap metal. Then, some very adventurous folks realized that getting a 911 engine into a Boxster was feasible.

There was a lot of trial and error in the first years of engine conversions - what aftermarket clutch you needed to deal with the power, how to tune the car's computer for the new engine, how to mount the higher 911 engine into the lower Boxster engine bay. But, I recall that I followed every twist and turn with rapt attention, as I continued to add to my upgrade list - someday, I would put a 911 engine in my car.

I've written about my engine conversion before, but in short, three years ago I found the

perfect engine, and by that time, there were a number of people who had the conversion down pat, and the introduction of the Cayman (with a 300+ HP engine) made finding parts either - it was no longer a matter of piecing together a car from aftermarket parts - you could use off-the-shelf Cayman components for everything.

Now, doing the engine conversion led to a whole new list of upgrades - new clutch, IMS fix on the new engine, brand new stainless steel exhaust. Then, once the upgrade was done, I drove the car to Arkansas in 2012 to have the engine computer remapped for all of the new components. At that point, I was finally able to say that, power and exhaust wise, I was done.

But, pretty quickly, I realized the new engine made other upgrades somewhat mandatory - I added a third radiator very shortly after getting the new engine, and, while the added power was nice on the racetrack, a new differential to get the added power down and a new suspension for the corners would have been even more fun. So, somehow, after putting in a new engine and dozens of new components, my upgrade list kept growing.

After having spent tens of thousands of dollars the last few years, I went into 2013 with the idea that I would take a breather - just enjoy the car for what it now was. But, as soon as the weather got warm and the top went down, the itch returned. I started scouring Internet sites for Quaife differentials, and in May, finally bought one.

At that point, I finally got my upgrade list down to one thing - I had always wanted a ROW M030 suspension (essentially the sportiest stock suspension you can buy). I figured, well, I can wait a few years for that, but invariably, I was reading a Boxster forum one morning this summer, and a gentleman who had bought the ROW kit in 2011 (and hadn't even opened it) decided to clean out his garage and unload the suspension for \$300 less than he paid. So, in July, I was the proud owner of a new suspension as well.

The suspension and differential got installed a few weeks ago, and luckily we have had enough beautiful weather that I have been able to get out and enjoy the new bits. I don't know that any car is perfect, but my Boxster is now closer than I ever imagined it would be.

So, my upgrade list is now empty. A journey that started ten years ago, when I was a 24-year-old straight out of graduate school with big ideas and a light wallet, has culminated today in me honestly saying that I can think of nothing else to upgrade. Sure, the car could use bigger brakes, or a new top, or any number of other things, but those just seem gratuitous, not aspirational.

It's a funny thing, reaching the end of a journey like this - I love my car, and have a deep sense of satisfaction, but there is also that familiar itch, that constant need to improve something. Am I done? Who knows - maybe there's another car out there, a car that just needs a little TLC, and a few, minor upgrades.

November Events Photo Collage

Manarin Bonfire and Hot Dog Roast.

November 1st was unusually cool and wet but that did not deter GPR members from invading the Manarin residence for food, refreshment and fun. Yet another enjoyable social event for Club members.



Denny Strauss understands the need for sustenance. And it wasn't easy; so many



More folks at the bar trying to decide what to eat; so many choices. Thank you Roland for sharing your home with us.

Porsche at SEMA 2013. SEMA is one of the largest conventions in Las Vegas each year. SEMA targets the automobile aftermarket. In excess of 2,000,000 square feet of display and an unbelievable car show to boot.



Mark your calendar *GPR sponsored events underlined*

December

14th - Breakfast at Heartland Cafe, 2615 North Main Street. Elkhorn, NE. 8:30a-???
25th - Merry Christmas.

January 2014

1st-New Years Day Brunch. Hilton Omaha, 1001 Cass Street, Omaha, NE 68102. 9-11a. One may order off the menu as opposed to the buffet. We are scheduled to occupy the semi-private room as we did last year. Great way to start the year! Please RSVP to brian24667@yahoo.com or 402.598.4946.

11th - Breakfast at Heartland Cafe, 2615 North Main Street. Elkhorn, NE. 8:30a-???

18th-Annual Winter Party. Oak Hills Country Club, 12325 Golfing Green Drive, Omaha, NE. 6p-9p. Please RSVP to brian24667@yahoo.com or 402.598.4946 to ensure there is enough food and refreshment for you!

May 2014

30th-31st Carrera GT Club Race and advanced Driver Education. Motorsports Park Hastings, 427 South Showboat Boulevard, Hastings, NE. Details to follow

June 2014

1st Carrera GT Club Race and advanced Driver Education. Motorsports Park Hastings, 427 South Showboat Boulevard, Hastings, NE. Details to follow

July 2014

19th-20th Driver Education. Motorsports Park Hastings, 427 South Showboat Boulevard, Hastings, NE. Details to follow

2014 Winter Party

Oak Hills Country Club. 12325 Golfing Green Drive. Omaha, NE.

6-7p Social reception

*7-8p Dinner House salad with balsamic vinaigrette, fresh baked rolls
Chicken Saltimbocca with garlic and herb roasted potatoes or
Filet Mignon with garlic and herb roasted potatoes or
Pan-seared Salmon with garlic and herb roasted potatoes
Black Forest cake for dessert.*

8-?p: Awards President Tom Cooper, Master of Ceremonies

*RSVP: brian24667@yahoo.com or 402.598.4946 TODAY so
we can ensure adequate food and refreshment for YOU!*

Please visit the respective Region's website or the PCA National site at www.pca.org. should you seek additional information about the non-GPR events noted in Mark Your Calendar above.

Central Iowa Region: www.cia.pca.org
Dakotas Region: dak.pca.org
Schönesland Region: www.schonesland.org
St. Louis Region: www.stlpc.org
Wichita Region: wic.pca.org

Ozark Lakes Region: olk.pca.org
Red River Region: www.RedRiverPCA.org
Kansas City Region: www.kcrpca.org
Nord Stern Region: www.nordstern.org



Somewhere out there, a 911 just did a double take.

The Cayenne has been completely reengineered to resemble only one thing: nothing you've ever seen before. Catch a glimpse, and see each of its lines redrawn to connect more strongly to over 60 years of racing legend. Enter its more luxurious interior, and be quickly reminded of how that legend lives on, as it takes your breath less fuel. So come in for a test drive. The Cayenne feels as great as it looks. Porsche. There is no substitute.

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PORSCHE

THE CASE FOR WINTER TIRES

YOU NEED THEM.* HERE'S WHY.

If you're lucky enough to live somewhere with regular winters, you've probably driven in snow. You also know it leads to donuts and drifting, both of which are enjoyable. But winter can lead to getting stuck, which is not. The solution is nothing new: tires purpose-built for grip on snow, ice, and cold pavement. Get some, give your regular rubber a season off, and enjoy a safe, fun winter. Here are the basics. —DAVID GLUCKMAN

** UNLESS YOU DON'T HAVE WINTER WHERE YOU LIVE. IF THAT'S THE CASE, WE PITY YOU.*

WINTER TIRE COMPOUNDS ARE OPTIMIZED FOR GRIP ON COLD, WET ROADS. AS A TRADE-OFF, THEY'RE LESS GRIPPY WHEN IT'S WARM. YOU DON'T NEED TO CHANGE TO SUMMER RUBBER THE MOMENT IT STOPS SNOWING, BUT DO SWITCH BACK IN SPRING.

THE FLEXIBLE GROOVES CUT OR MOLDED INTO A TIRE'S TREAD ARE CALLED SIPES. THEY INCREASE TRACTION BY UPping THE NUMBER OF EDGES THAT CAN BITE.

"ALL-SEASON TIRES" IS A MISNOMER—THEY'RE REALLY ONLY GOOD FOR THREE SEASONS. LIKE A FUTON, AN ALL-SEASON IS A COMPROMISE, EXCELling AT NOTHING IN PARTICULAR.

WHEN BUYING WINTER RUBBER, CONSIDER A NARROWER TIRE WITH A TALLER SIDEWALL. ALONG WITH THE COLD-ORIENTED RUBBER COMPOUND, THINNER TIRES HELP CUT THROUGH SNOW.

WINTER TIRES SHOULD LAST A FEW SEASONS IF NOT ABUSED. THAT'S TIME YOU'RE NOT USING YOUR SUMMER TIRES, WHICH EXTENDS THEIR LIFE. YOU'LL SEE THE COST SAVINGS DOWN THE . . . ER . . . ROAD.

WITH GOOD WINTER TIRES, EVEN A REAR-DRIVE CAR CAN HANDLE SNOW. AT THAT POINT, GROUND CLEARANCE AND SNOW DEPTH ARE THE ONLY LIMITING FACTORS. AND WHILE ALL-WHEEL DRIVE AIDS STABILITY AND ACCELERATION, IT'S NOT A SILVER BULLET. MORE DRIVE WHEELS HELP YOU GET MOVING, BUT THEY DON'T HELP YOU TURN OR SLOW DOWN.

MORE ONLINE NOT JUST FOR SNOW

To show that winter tires also work on dry roads, we put a set to the hottest of tests: a racetrack in summer.

roadandtrack.com/wintertires

A SET OF WINTER WHEELS KEEPS THE FINISH ON YOUR GOOD RIMS PRESERVED, SALT-FREE. THEY DON'T HAVE TO BE EXPENSIVE. ALSO, BLACK STEELIES LOOK THE BUSINESS.

SIDE BENEFIT OF DEDICATED WHEELS: YOU CAN SWAP THEM YOURSELF AT HOME, WHICH IS FREE. YOU'RE SAVING MONEY.

YES, SNOW TIRES COST MONEY, AND INITIAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE = ANNOYING. BUT THINK OF THE CASH YOU'LL SAVE ON DAMAGED FENDERS, BENT WHEELS, INSURANCE CLAIMS, OR GETTING TOWED OUT OF THE DITCH.

C'EST LA LOI

THE CANADIAN PROVINCE OF QUEBEC MANDATES WINTER TIRES FROM DECEMBER 15 TO MARCH 15. RESEARCH DONE BEFORE THE 2008 LAW WAS ENACTED SHOWED THAT THE 10 PERCENT OF CARS ON ALL-SEASONS ACCOUNTED FOR 38 PERCENT OF WINTER ACCIDENTS.

...that's what I'm talking about

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Not unexpected it snowed for the first time this winter season. Item #1 of the Porsche Winter Storage Tips on page 6 recommends that one plan ahead. The Wednesday before the snow and cold it was warm. Thinking ahead I washed my car, vacuumed the interior, parked it in the garage and affixed the battery tender. And in the nick of time. I'm patting myself on the back for really "thinking ahead". Yes, I know; I was just lucky.

Anyway, some good tips on page 6 if you store your Porsche for the winter. And at the bottom of the page are some great tips if your drive your Porsche during the winter. In addition an article from the December issue of Road & Track Magazine making the case for snow tires in the winter is on page 8.

It's all a good read.

You will remember in the December 2012 issue of Der Skooner member Mark Hoffman wrote a poignant story about restoring the red 912 his father, Dave, raced for so many years. It was a moving article. Well, Mark advised that the article

was reprinted in the Fall 2013 edition of 912 Registry. Very cool and GPR members were blessed to read it first in Der Skooner. Congratulations to Mark on receiving national exposure with the outstanding article about a red 912 and a very special relationship with a very special father.

The Annual Winter Party is January 18th at Oak Hills Country Club. This event is always enjoyable. Please put it on your calendar now. We'd love to see you there. Oh yes, better send a note to Brian so we can guarantee enough food and refreshment for you. Why not do it today.

Please welcome old, old friend John Krecek as a new advertiser in Der Skooner. His new company, Customized Management, LLC., manages commercial real estate for the individual investor. Pass the word. John's very good as what he does.

And now we need to talk about money.

The Winter Party is a GREAT time to pay your annual Great Plains Region annual membership dues of \$20. Consider bringing a check to the party. If you can't make the

party please send Sandy a check. She will be happy and I assure you our wonderful Treasurer Bob, will be happy, happy. You'll also need to submit a completed 2014 Membership Form so we can update our files. (The information will not be shared with the NSA). While you're at it make certain your PCA dues are also up-to-date.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Hopefully you'll be blessed to share the reason for the season with family and friends.

Ed.




**Great Plains Region
Porsche Club of America**

**Great Plains Region
Porsche Club of America
2014 Membership Form**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home () - - Work () - -

E-mail Address: _____

PCA Number: _____

National Dues Current? Yes No

Car Model: _____ Color: _____ Year: _____

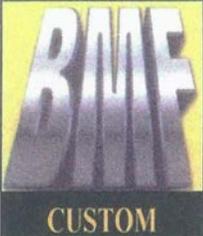
Car Model: _____ Color: _____ Year: _____

Car Model: _____ Color: _____ Year: _____

Please complete all information.
All memberships expire December 31.
You must be a member of PCA to join the Great Plains Region

Make checks for \$20 payable to GPR/PCA
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Help Wanted -

Your club is seeking an individual willing to memorialize events through photography.

Do you enjoy taking really cool photographs? Do you enjoy participating in Club functions? Photographs tell a wonderful story and our club has some great stories to tell. We seek a member who has the vision and can memorialize our stories for posterity.

Please contact Tom Cooper at tcooper@cox.net or George Poulos at gpx@cox.net or your favorite Board Member.

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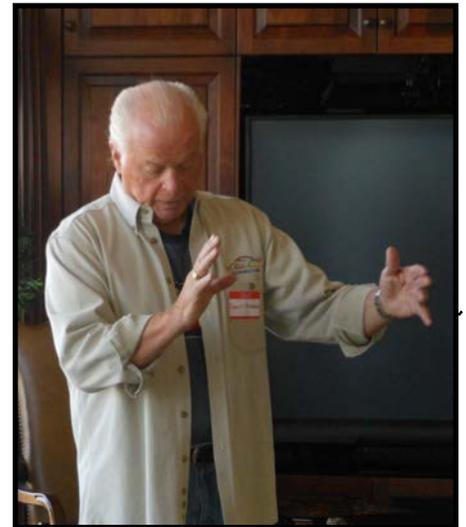


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This photo of Denny Strauss was taken at Roland Manarin's residence late last year before a Simply Stupendous Strauss Scenic Sunday Sightseeing Spree.

**What is Denny trying to tell us?
The earth is round?
The fish was this long?**

**What do you think he's telling us?
Tell me at gpx@cox.net.**

Your responses will be in the next issue of Der Skooner.



GPR Board and Monthly Meeting Minutes

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Great Plains Region Porsche Club - Minutes of November 5, 2013 Meeting

The Great Plains Region PCA Board of Directors met November 5, 2013 at the home of Tom Cooper. Members present: Tom Cooper, Bob Lynch, Brian Tessman, Sandy Brusco, Sally Knapp, Steve Wilwerding, George Poulos, John Krecek and Eric Elliott

Secretary: The minutes from the October meeting were approved.

President: MAM auction is November 23th at 10:00am. The bylaws are now up to date. Eric will create a calendar on the website that members can print out. It was decided not to make a major charitable donation this year, possibly encourage members to donate to the Woodhouse Backpack Fund or the Wounded Warriors Project.

Registrar: A new printer is needed for the Registrar. The 2014 events are Club Race and DE at MPH May 30-June 1; July 19-20 DE at MPH. If MAM is operational, a DE May 3-4 may be added.

Race Chair: The event application has been completed. All positions have been filled except for Sponsorship Chair. There will be no concessions at the Club Race and DE, instead MPH has added lunch service to the contract. An increase of fees was discussed to help cover the cost of the lunch to \$400 for the race and \$135 for the test and tune.

Treasurer: Bob presented the monthly report. It was suggested that board members make a yearly financial contribution to show support for the club. The financial future of the club was discussed; it was decided to try to make events cost neutral, possibly by raising fees at track events.

Social: The tour to Nebraska City was postponed, no date yet for Woodhouse's 911 Turbo Launch, the Holiday Party will be January 18, 2014 at Oak Hills Country Club, Brian will get menu options. Brian requested signs for events.

Membership: We have 2 new members. There are currently 128 GPR members and 241 national members who have renewed their dues this year.

Safety: Discussed insurance for the upcoming fun run.

Newsletter: BMF Custom is a new advertiser. January/February newsletter will be combined. Membership Directory is ready to go to print.

Website: All upcoming events and new logos are on the website.

Old/New Business: Discussed possible car show at SAC Museum to benefit Wounded Warriors.

The next meeting will be December 3, 2013 at the home of John Krecek.

Respectfully submitted, Sally Knapp



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.

Editor
6221 North 158th Avenue Circle
Omaha, Nebraska 68116-4027

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Porscheplatz 1 70435 Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen*