



July 2014

Der Skooner

Great Plains Region/Porsche Club of America

Volume 49 Issue 7



And it's a green flag; time to race at MPH!

The Starting Line - Tom Cooper

The Carrera GT at MPH was a great event this year, and if you don't believe me just check out the Steward's report elsewhere in this issue. There are a lot of people to thank for having a great event, and let's start with the Registrar, Joe Chambers; without him the event would not have been such a success. The Club Race Chair for the event was, John Krecek, and Sally Knapp is our Safety Chair. Russ Standage, Grid guru, and his outstanding group of Eric and Robin Elliot, and Ken Kusik, who incidentally does a job that requires great courage, race splitter, did their usual flawless job on the grid. Then there were the individuals that assisted the National Crew, Sandy Brusio, Wayne Wray, and Steve Eckhart. Of course, we got a lot of help from the excellent staff of MPH, George and Dusty. The National Staff was composed of Gary Knoblauch, Race Steward, Joel Nannis, Scrutineer, Franklin Kalk, Timing and Scoring and Shelly Robinson as Timing and Scoring trainee. Of course, I have to mention the great party Kathy and Dennis Tessman put on for us at their home.

At the Carrera GT it was my honor to present the 2014 Presidents Award for Exemplary Service to Jack Baker. For many years Jack has assisted the club in obtaining donations, recruiting new members and encouraging existing members to volunteer. Be sure to thank Jack for all his years of service the next time you see him.

There was a large crowd at the June breakfast. We had a short fun run after the event that went north out of Elkhorn past Mount Michael, then west toward the Elkhorn River down Deer Ridge Road, through Waterloo, past the West Shores Development, then back east across the Elkhorn and ending up at the parking lot of Manarin Investment for a photo shoot. The Heartland Café is working up a special menu for the July breakfast and the cost will be around six dollars. Weather permitting, we will have another fun run in July.

Speaking of July, don't forget to sign up for the DE at MPH. Hastings is a fun track to drive and a great place to do your

first DE as a novice. There is a softball tournament in Hastings, but we have a small block of rooms at the Comfort Inn. We are planning another Saturday night party in Hastings, but there are so many options that we have not yet nailed down the venue. This will be a fun weekend so mark your calendars now. We won't be back to Hastings until next year.

We are planning a fun run to a winery in August. This event will start around 10:00 A.M. and we will drive to the winery, have a tour, eat lunch and then return to Omaha by your choice of routes.

Terry Lessmann is in California at the Parade, but he has promised me that he will get the details out about the golf tournament as soon as he gets back. You can assemble your own foursome or let Terry pair you up with other club members.

See you at breakfast.

Tom

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Carrera GT Club Race 2014

2014 STEWARDS REPORT - GREAT PLAINS REGION
CARRERA GT AT MPH (Hastings)
MAY 31 AND JUNE 1, 2014

Potential Improvements for Next Year:

This is a superbly set up and managed event. We would not suggest any changes.

Weekend Review

The regions staff has many years of experience in putting together this event. John Krecek did an outstanding job planning this event and was everywhere all weekend. Tom Cooper, the region president, was very helpful all weekend. Joe Chambers did an excellent job running a very smooth registration. There were a number of volunteers available to keep the event running well. This is one of only a few tracks that the owner, George Anderson, is involved in every aspect of making sure things run smoothly.

Race control is run by Dusty Kohl who has many years of experience and is quite easy to work with. The new track manager, Michael O'Neal, is learning to be a hands on manager and was very helpful all weekend.

The National Staff appreciates the regions hospitality and friendship. Each of the National Staff would be pleased to work this event in the future.

Sincerely

Gary Knoblauch

PCA National Steward for 2014 Carrera GT at MPH



Once again the PCA National Steward had nothing but positive comments about our Carrera GT Club Race. Tom Cooper and John Krecek are part of the reason. Are they seeking advice from Bob Lynch? And where's Joe Chambers? Probably working hard as registrar!



Eric Elliott and Russ Standage in a light moment. We're blessed to have these professional's as GPR members. There's no finer grid crew around. Another reason the Carrera GT was successful!

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President



kdhaverson@cox.net

Tessman Club Race Dinner Party



ABOVE: This year attendance at the Tessman Club Race Dinner Party was out the door; standing room only! Kathy and Dennis are so gracious to open their "gas station" to our group. It's such a relaxing event after a long, hot day at the track. Largest attendance yet.

RIGHT: Track owner George Anderson (tan shirt) relaxing with GPR members Jim Avilla, Doug Schlott and Doug Avilla.

BELOW: A neat row of beautiful Porsche's. The black 1989 911 has less than 11,000 original miles - and it looked it!



...while back at the Track



Roland Neves doing his best impression of Sandy Steckman.
Or maybe Sandy learned if from Roland!



Mission almost accomplished!

Las Vegas and Broadway for YOU!

Blue Man Group

October 24 @ 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm | \$64.25



Join fellow club members for an evening of entertainment with the Blue Man Group.

GPR has reserved a block of seats for the Friday, October 24th show at the Orpheum Theater in Omaha. The seats are located in rows B(2) and C(3) and are the best seats in the house.

We will also have a pre-show meet up at [Jackson Street Tavern](#) (1125 Jackson Street.) Meet anytime after 5:30 pm for food and/or beverage.

The cost is \$64.25 per ticket.

In order for us to confirm attendance and submit final payment, we MUST receive your payment by July 24th. Your payment will serve as your RSVP.

Please make checks out to GPR/PCA and remit your payment to:
Bob Lynch
6100 Northern Hills Drive
Omaha, NE 68152

PLEASE NOTE: July 1st tickets are available for member guests on a first come - first served basis.

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

November 21 @ 8:00 pm | \$84.50



Join fellow club members for an evening of Broadway entertainment with the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes.

GPR has reserved a block of seats for the Friday, November 21st show at the Orpheum Theater in Omaha. The seats are located in rows A(1) and B(2) and are the best seats in the house.

We will also have a pre-show meet up at [Jackson Street Tavern](#) (1125 Jackson Street.) Meet anytime after 5:30 pm for food and/or beverage.

The cost is \$84.50 per ticket.

In order for us to confirm attendance and submit final payment, we MUST receive your payment by August 22nd. Your payment will serve as your RSVP.

Please make checks out to GPR/PCA and remit your payment to:
Bob Lynch
6100 Northern Hills Drive
Omaha, NE 68152

PLEASE NOTE: August 1st tickets will be available for member guests on a first come - first served basis.



The Star Class Motors Show 'n Shine at Werner Park was awash in German automobiles, about 65 Mercedes, BMW, Audi and two outstanding P-Cars. Toby Free, wife and son displayed their 2005 Carrera S. Fred Vakili brought his modified 1972 911T. A big thank-you to Toby and Fred for representing the marque!!



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Mark your calendar *GPR sponsored events underlined*

July

- 12 Breakfast at the Heartland Cafe. 2615 N. Main Elkhorn, NE. 8a-???
- 14-15 Cheese Fling DE, Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI
- 19-20 Summer Fun Driver Education. Motorsports Park Hastings, 427 South Showboat Boulevard, Hastings, NE.
- 26-28 Loonacy Club Race and Driver Education, Brainerd International Raceway, Brainerd, MN

August

- 9 GPR Member Golf Scramble. Oak Hills Country Club. 12325 Golfing Green Drive, Omaha, NE. First tee time at 1 pm. Cost is \$70 per person which includes 18 holes of golf, cart, a meal following the Texas scramble and prizes. Everyone is welcome but must be included when signing up so we have an accurate participant count. We have seven tee times/28 participants available. Please contact Terry Lessmann, txlessmann@cox.net. (note the 2 N's) with your email address and participant names.
- 30 Sonic Show N Shine Cruise Nite: "Happy Days" are here again! The neon nostalgia blast from the past that lasts and lasts, Show N Shine Cruise Nite returns from its 20th season! It all started back in 1995 as an informal venue for club member enthusiasts to gather and show their Porsches just like we used to in the "old days" at our favorite hamburger drive-in. Now over 3,000 exceptional automobiles and their owners have found a home at the mecca for summer nite fun. With its newer all European format, under the Porsche banner, we welcome our other enthusiast friends. You might see Ferrari, Audi, BMW, Maserati, Mercedes-Benz, Lotus, VW, Bentley, Jaguar, Triumph or Aston Martin. Last year over 30 marques were represented when we averaged 90 cars a nite! It is the only club event ever covered by newspaper, tv, radio, Panorama and our newsletter. Like the movie "America Graffiti", come back with us to the warm summer nites of cruising. Then we were hanging out with our friends, going steady, watching movies? at the drive-in, gas was cheap and carhops and jukeboxes could still be found. We will be listening to the oldies under the glow of neon at "America's Drive-In: Sonic" at South 48th and Highway 2 in Lincoln. Mark your calendar now for the 20th anniversary opening nite May 17th! The second date is August 30th. Cruise on out and check it out! Getting there is half the fun! We'll be there from 6 to 9 PM, but come and go as you like. See old friends and make some new ones. Fun, friends, half price food and our favorite fast cars. Is this heaven? No, but it is an enthusiasts "Field of Dreams." We'll save you a spot. SSCN: 20 years and still cruising!

September

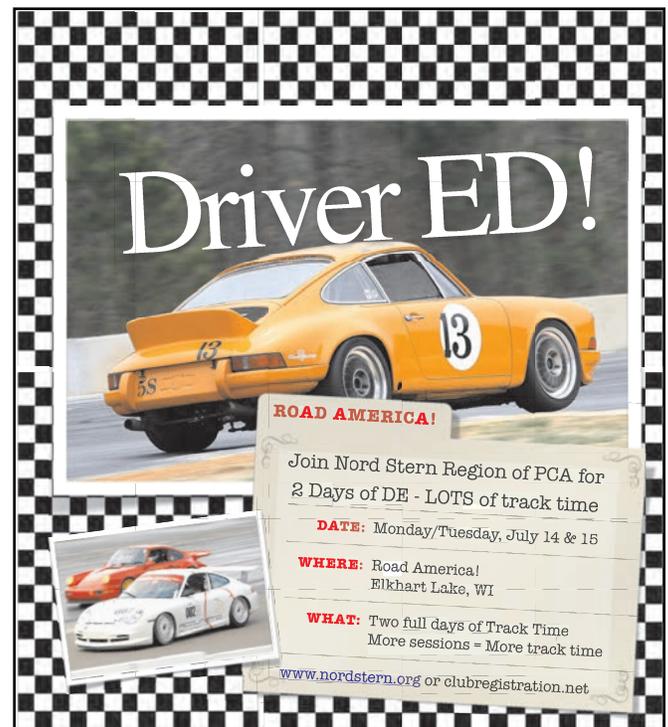
- 13-14 Fall Finally Driver Education. Mid-America Motorplex. Details to follow

October

- 24 Blue Man Group. Orpheum Theatre. 409 S 16th St. Omaha, NE. 8p. Join fellow club members for an evening of outstanding entertainment. GPR has reserved a block of seats located in rows B(2) and C(3) and are the best seats in the house. Pre-show meet up at Jackson Street Tavern, 1125 Jackson Street. Anytime after 5:30p for food and/or beverage. Tickets are now available for member guests on a first come first serve. We MUST receive payment by July 24th or the seats will be released.

November

21. Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes. Orpheum Theatre. 409 S 16th St, Omaha, NE. 8p. Join fellow club members for an evening of outstanding entertainment. GPR has reserved a block of seats located in rows A(1) and B(2) and are the best seats in the house. Pre-show meet up at Jackson Street Tavern, 1125 Jackson Street anytime after 5:30p for food and/or beverage. Only eight tickets remain. August 1st we will accept payment from member guests. We MUST receive payment by August 21st.



Driver ED!

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PORSCHE

Catch you in the Curves - John Krecek

What a wonderful weekend it was. Another Club Race is in the books. We had a great contingent of volunteers to make the event run smoothly. Joe Chambers and Tom Cooper had registration running like a well-oiled machine. Wayne Wray and Doug Schlott kept the scrutineer pleased. Sandy Brusso and Steve Eckhart kept thing in the tower under control at all times. There were numerous other volunteers – Without their help the event would not be a success.

The much anticipated and appreciated dinner at the Tessmans was fabulous as usual. Everyone got plenty of time to chat with their friends from other regions over wonderful home cooking and a beverage of choice.

Our club race is one of the friendliest events in the US. It is all thanks to the people who put it on. It seemed that we were always under a threat of weather but the rain stayed away until the final race. Even then it was manageable. No threat of real storms until we had packed up. As I drove back to Omaha, my rearview mirror was constantly filled with looming black clouds. As fast as the storms were moving, they seemed to be getting smaller in my mirror.

That brings me to the meat of what I have to say. I had the good fortune to drive the pace car for the weekend. It was a bare bones Cayman with PDK on loan from our good friends and sponsor Woodhouse – Porsche of Omaha. At first I thought PDK stood for “Politzi Don’t Katch” (I think that is German). Luckily I did not test that one out. I now believe it stands for “Personal Detailed Knowledge” because this car seemed made for me, with my driving in mind. I am a die-hard stick shift guy. I understand that PDK is faster on the track – a technicality I figured. After driving this car on the highway, creeping around my neighborhood and having to put it through its paces on the track – In my opinion, the PDK shifting is superior in every situation. It knows what you want and when you want it. The harder you brake – The more aggressive the down shifting. The more you get into the throttle (read: foot on the floor), the engine winds completely out to redline before shifting to the next gear – the funny thing is that there is no “snap” of the gearbox. It is virtually seamless in the transition – with the exception of the howl of the exhaust dies back somewhat. The horsepower and torque never takes a breath while shifting – it is continually launching forward. I would force the gear change at the apex of the turn (at the worst possible moment) to see what would happen. All was still perfect! There is a manual shift option for times when you want more control, but what I found fun was leaving it in PDK and manually blipping the paddles to down shift in anticipation of a wanted gear change. 8 seconds later or so, the car goes right back to regular PDK mode on its own. The car knows how you have been driving and adjusts everything. If you are coming home late at night – it is quiet and refined. If you have to get to Hastings in a rush the computer puts a shot of adrenaline into the motor. If you have it on the track – the entire car seems to smile and want to play – using every horse. I think there is even a sensor in the seat to measure pucker and factor that in.

There are lots of amazing aspects of this car – brakes are wonderful, leather is comfortable, seats are perfect, the handling is breathtaking, the steering wheel and controls are laid out intuitively (I have had issue with Porsche in this area in the past). It took me all of 10 seconds to link my phone and music with the car – I was very impressed with that. As a complete package, this car has it. Everything seems well balanced as a system – not just a car that goes fast or that corners or that impresses people in the parking lot. The only thing it does not have is a back seat for my kids. When they grow out of my 911, I know what is first on my shopping list.

Congratulations are in order for the following Great Plains Region Club Race award winners.

Sprint Race 1 - Red:

GT1 - Roland Manarin - 2nd. GTA1 - Randal Cassling - 1st. GTB1 - John Marchant - 1st. J - Jack Baker - 2nd.

Sprint Race 1 - Blue:

E - Sally Knapp - 5th.

Sprint Race 2 - Red:

GT1 - Roland Managin - 1st. GTA1 - Randall Cassling - 1st. GTB1 - John Marchant - 1st. J - Jack Baker - 1st.

Sprint Race 3 - Red:

GTB1 - John Marchant - 1st. J - Jack Baker - 1st. K - Roland Manarin - 1st

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

The Carrera GT Club Race killed it. Take a gander at the Stewards Report on page 3. Note the first two sentences: "This is a superbly set up and managed event. We would not suggest any changes". My gosh, does it get any better than that? To Tom Cooper, John Krecek, Joe Chambers, Sally Knapp and George Anderson and the MPH gang (who did I miss?) - one heck of a darn good job! Congratulations!

Oh yes, Kathy and Dennis ALSO just killed it this year for the Club Race Dinner Party. The estimated crowd count was in excess of 110! It's just a great time. THANK YOU Kathy and Dennis!

CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU for everything, Jack Baker!

NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!

On July 1st tickets to The Blue Man Group performance Friday October 24th are available to members and guests. There are about ten tickets remaining. It is now **FIRST COME - FIRST SERVED**. If you think you want to attend best send your check to Bob Lynch today.

The same procedure will be followed next month for the Radio City Rockettes performance November 21st.

Star Class Motors had about 65 German cars at it's Show 'n Shine at Werner Park the first week of June. While predominately Mercedes, Audi and BMW, Toby Free and Fred Vakili represented the Porsche marque well. Thanks for taking the time Fred and Toby.

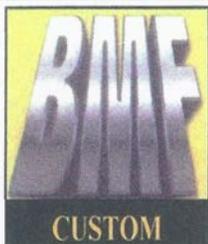
Der Skooner mailing list. We have a couple thoughts if you aren't receiving a copy of Der Skooner on a regular basis. We utilize the PCA Membership list provided to us each month by the national organization as the basis for the Der Skooner mailing list. For the most part it's accurate albeit one month in arrears. (We receive the list for the current month at the end of the month and Der Skooner has already gone to the printer).

So, if you forgot to pay your PCA annual dues you will not be on the list provided by PCA. If your address has changed and you forgot to notify PCA...well, you won't be on the list. So, please notify PCA of any address changes so you can continue to receive Der Skooner and other Club mailings in a timely fashion.

Ed.



Did Jim Avilla get the mother of all deals on black tape? Should have got more; looks like he missed a couple spots!



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It's a Beautiful Morning...*(The Rascals, released spring 1969)*



The morning started with breakfast at The Heartland Cafe in Elkhorn. Der Skooner says it starts at 8, but it's become so popular we're adding tables and chairs by then to accommodate more members; 30 this time! Next month you might want to show up early. Today we're getting ready for the first Fun Run of the season. Denny Strauss wasn't there but the run clearly had his stamp on it! Thanks Denny Strauss!



ABOVE: On Elkhorn Drive ready to run!

ABOVE Rt.: After a couple turns.....

ABOVE Rt: The State of Nebraska Driver's Manual notes that this is an "Advisory Speed Plaque". It is not a limit. You will note in very, very small letters at the bottom of the plaque... "Porsche Drivers DISREGARD".

ABOVE FAR Rt.: Couldn't find this plaque in the Driver's Manual but we did obey both signs!

RIGHT: Our beautiful morning terminated in the parking lot of member Roland Manarin's Manarin Investment Counsel parking lot.

It WAS a beautiful morning!



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GPR Board and Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Great Plains Region PCA Board met Thursday, June 5th, 2014, at the residence of Tom Cooper. Members in attendance: Sally Knapp, Tom Cooper, Sandy Bruso, Eric Elliott, Joe Chambers, Bob Lynch, Abe Schlott, and John Krecek.

- Secretary:** The minutes from the May meeting were approved unanimously.
- President:** The annual meeting is being rescheduled to a later date TBD. Tom went through pricing scenarios for July DE in Hastings so we can target a break even financial.
- Registrar:** Club race was very successful. Received very positive reviews from PCA national. Many positive comments from racers. Summer Fun DE in Hastings on July 10th is now open for registration. Discussed asking Schoneland region if they would like to join us. Discussed the possibility of a dinner in Hastings on Saturday evening and several options on locations. Discussed DE hotel options in Hastings, with a baseball tournament also in town that weekend.
- Club Race Chair:** Discussed alternative tire vendors for Club Race for next year. 17 cars from Nord Stern. Rick Polk was responsible for bringing 5 racers from his region. Thank You to Nord Stern and Rick Polk! Steward's report will be sent to George Anderson.
- Treasurer:** The monthly report was sent via email. Reviewed DE financials.
- Social:** The next Club breakfast is June 14th. There will be a short fun run on June 14th. The GPR will be holding a golf tournament August 9 at Oak Hills; the cost is \$70 for 18 holes and includes dinner after the round. There are only 20 slots available, and information is on the website.
- Membership:** We have 253 national members and 101 GPR members. New national members are Ed Leach and John Rebrovic. New GPR members are Woodard, Jeff Morgan, Rod Feelhaver, Roger Stortonbeaker, John, and Jeff Morgan.
- Ralph**
- Safety:** Test and tune was very safe. Insurance application is in for the July DE. We have purchased four helmets as loaners at track events – cost will be \$10 per day to use them.
- Newsletter:** The monthly report was sent via email.
- Website:** The website is up to date. 2 new events added.
- Past President:** No report.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, July 1st, at 6:00 PM at the residence of Bob Lynch.
Respectfully submitted, 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.

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Blue Man Group

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