



March 2015

Skooner

Great Plains Region • Porsche Club of America

Great Plains Region Annual Winter Party



Past President Tom Cooper presented Terry Lessmann with the Enthusiast of the Year Award.

All photos by Kurt Halvorson

Be sure to check out the article on Page 5 and more pictures from the party on Page 10.

Carol Lynch received the Most Improved Driver Award.



Carol & Bob Lynch received the Family of the Year Award.



This year's Dumkopf Award goes to Eric Elliott, who was unable to attend the party. Be sure to ask Eric the story behind winning the award.

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THE DRIVER'S SEAT

By Kurt Halvorson

March is soon upon us and with it comes Spring, at least on the calendar! The weather of late reminds us that Winter still has its grip on us, but we can be grateful we have not been battered like the northeast has this winter. The days are getting longer and that invariably means warmer temps cannot be far behind.

This month Kim Burger, our social chair, shares a colorful piece about our annual party held on January 31st at Oak Hills. Joe Chambers, our registrar, summarizes the latest news about Raceway Park of the Midlands (formerly MAM); and Sally Knapp, our safety chair, updates us on all things safety related for driving our cars on road courses, but her points are just as applicable as great maintenance for street driving as well.

We are always looking for contributing writers for Der Skooner (besides board members), so please consider telling us what you and your Porsche are up to – whether it be a trip you took, a project you're undertaking, a car you've purchased, a car you sold – we want to hear from you and about you. The club is about the cars and the people who drive them. Sometimes you will see content pulled from stories written by other third parties – we would prefer those third parties be you!

Be sure to check the calendar for upcoming events and provide us your

ideas for things you would like to do. We find most often that events involving food and informal driving events are the preferred activities attracting the most attendees, but we have tried other events and will continue to listen to you as to what you like and don't like. Speaking of which, the popular Sonic Drive-In Show 'N Shines are back with the first one scheduled for May 2nd in Lincoln with half price food for those who show up. Check the calendar on Page 6 for details. This is usually a big event between the Porsche and BMW clubs, with a smattering of other marques included.

For those of you interested in venturing farther than our region, the annual Porsche Parade is in June in French Lick, Indiana this year. It's the celebration of 60 years of the PCA and proves to be a great Parade to attend. There are a number of special events planned at a location that is second to none. Registration opens March 17th and it is first come, first served. If you are a procrastinator, expect to be left out. Later in the year is the annual Porsche Escape, a sort of mini version of Parade. This year it is being held in the Black Hills, beginning October 1st. This is likely the only chance in the foreseeable future that we will have a national event this close to home to attend, so please consider it in your travel plans!

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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 of 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 Kurt Halvorson, 1217 N. 129 Circle, Omaha, NE 68154, and PCA, PO Box 5900, Springfield, VA 22150.



Great Plains Region

Porsche Club of America

2015 Membership Form



Join the PCA first, and then join the Great Plains Region!

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Please complete all information. All memberships expire each year on December 31st.

Make checks payable to GPR/PCA for \$30.

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Questions? Email Sandy at sandy.brusco@redcross.org

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PORSCHE

The GPR Annual Winter Party

By Kim Burger, Social Chair

*Twas the night of the party,
when all through the town
Not a Porsche was rolling,
THERE WAS SNOW ON THE
GROUND!!!*

Mother Nature reminded us all why we call it the 'Winter Party' with the biggest snow storm of the season on the night of our 2015 GPR/PCA Annual Winter Party. Fortunately she held off the worst of the storm until later in the night so our turn out was excellent. The board would like to thank all of the members for providing RSVP's and turning out in force even with the inclement weather. We had planned for 78 and were only 2 short of that number for a very well attended event.

Once again Oak Hills provided a very nice venue for our event and the staff provided a service level that made the event come off without a hitch.

*The members were nestled
all snug in the bar
With lots of discussion
'bout one brand of car.*

*More rapid than eagles,
the stories they came
They smiled and boasted
and called them by name:
My Cayman, My Cayenne, My 356
My Carrera, My Boxster
Everyone has his or her fix*

I was working the registration table but it appeared that everyone enjoyed the social hour and found their way to dinner without incident. As always the club kitchen and wait staff handled the preparation and serving of food with efficiency and the meal selections were very good. The feedback that I received was positive.

*A call to the dinner,
good food and new friends
An award, a new Board,
a raffle that never ends*

Tom Cooper did a great job of presenting the annual awards as the outgoing President and then passing the gavel to Kurt Halvorson and introducing the new board.

Again I wish to give a special thanks to Denny Strauss for providing two excellent photos of vintage racers for our raffle.

The board also extends a thank you to the many sponsors and Porsche of Omaha for their continued support of GPR and our events. We appreciate the participation of Mitch Schneringer and his sales staff at our party.

With the end of the raffle we called it a night but I know that a number of people remained to continue conversations for at least a short period of time. All in all a very successful event and another reminder that the PCA is as much about the people as the cars.

Thank you again to all of the members that supported the party and I hope we can have an even larger turn out next year. Please let us know if you have any suggestions on what we might do to improve the event for the club.

*Now they sprang from the tables,
all happy and fed
Finished drinks and stories,
and now home and to bed.
But I heard them exclaim
as they left our club fling
Man look at it snow,
how I wish it were Spring!*



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2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

14th Breakfast - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am

April

TBD Spring Clean Up Day Raceway Park of the Midlands (RPM) - formerly MAM

11th Breakfast - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am

25th-26th Spring Fling DE Raceway Park of the Midlands (RPM)
Join us for a Club dinner at Bob & Carol Lynch's home the night of the 25th. See Page 8 for more info!

May

2nd Sonic Drive-In Show 'N Shine South 48th Street & Highway 2, Lincoln 6 - 9:00 pm

9th Breakfast - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am

29th- 31st Carrera GT Club Race & Advanced DE Motorsport Park Hastings
Registration opens April 13th.

June

13th Breakfast - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am

15th- 16th Nord Stern Road American DE - Annual Cheese Fling - Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI

21st- 27th 2015 Porsche Parade French Lick, Indiana
Registration opens March 17th at noon EST. Learn more and register at parade2015.pca.org.

July

11th Breakfast - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am

18th- 19th DE Motorsport Park Hastings

24th- 26th Nord Stern Club Race/DE Brainerd International Raceway

August

8th Breakfast - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am

22nd 2nd Annual GPR Golf Outing Oak Hills Country Club, Omaha 1:00 pm

23rd LCM Show 'N Shine* 1200 N. 181st Court, Elkhorn

September

12th Breakfast - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am

13th All European Car Show* Lauritzen Gardens, Omaha 12:00 - 3:00 pm

19th- 20th Fall Finale DE RPM (Formerly MAM)

October

1st - 3rd Escape to Rushmore 2015 Black Hills of South Dakota
Go to: escape2015.pca.org for more information. Registration opens mid-July.

10th Breakfast - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am

Stay up to date on all GPR events on our website: gprpca.com

* = Not a GPR/PCA sponsored event

RPM Road Course Meeting

By Joe Chambers, Registrar

Editor's note: The management of RPM (formerly MAM) held an informational meeting with all interested parties on Saturday, January 31st.

Keith Ragan, RPM representative, comments:

The road course and the drag strip will be operated as separate entities with each maintaining their own bookkeeping. Any funds generated will be used exclusively for the respective facility.

Road course repairs:

Smoothing out the end of the straight away by grinding the pavement going into Turn 1.

A section in Turn 2 is to be replaced with concrete.

A section coming out of the decreasing radius of Turn 3 is to be replaced with concrete.

The turn between 5 & 6 is to be

ground and smoothed out.

The shoulders in Turns 8 & 9 are to be filled and firmed up and a section between 8 & 9 is to be replaced with concrete.

The shoulders coming into Turn 9 are to be filled and firmed up and a section between Turns 9 & 10 will be replaced with concrete.

The grid will be milled, smoothed and covered in new asphalt.

Other items on the drawing board:

A concrete pad may be installed between the concession building and the fuel pumps. It's intended to be a solid foundation to jack cars up as needed. They also discussed having plywood jack pads available to be used in the paddock area.

The Registration building, as we know it, will be gone by April. Classroom space for 2015 has not been

confirmed but they are working on a possible solution.

Pleas for help:

They will be soliciting volunteers and donations this spring. By Monday, February 2nd, there should be a link on the RPM website (MAM will remain a website throughout 2015 as they transition to RPM.) that will enable people or groups to sign up for volunteer notifications as their needs arise.

Looking forward:

Keith said they have the 2015 Ice Cream Cruise, that has been previously held at Werner Park, inked for August 1 & 2. If it proves successful the organizers are considering 2 events at RPM next year.

A national Corvette event has been inked for June of 2016.



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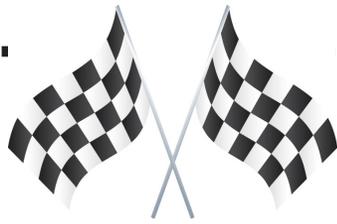
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All Current GPR Members are Invited to Dinner after the DE

If you are a PCA member and NOT a GPR member,
you need to join the GPR to participate.
See Page 3 for your Membership Application,
or go to www.gprpca.com, click on Membership and join today!

Saturday, April 25th

You do not have to participate in the DE to attend the dinner -
ALL GPR members and a guest are invited!

Heavy hors d'oeuvres catered by Attitude On Food
Beer and water provided - any other beverages, please bring
Food served from 6 - 8:00 pm - please arrive promptly

**6100 Northern Hills Drive
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Your RSVP is absolutely necessary for this event!

**Please RSVP by April 15th to Carol at carol.lynch356@gmail.com,
or call 402-573-1684**

Thank You

Special thanks goes to **Tom Cooper** and **Fred Vakili** for their gifts at the Crankshaft Level, and to **David Hart** for his gift at the Rod Level. Their gifts help provide further financial assistance to continue to bring great events to our GPR members.

Don't Miss Breakfast!

Please join us at our next GPR Breakfast at The Egg & I, 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha, on March 14th at 8:00 am. Bring your significant other for a great morning of conversation and coffee.



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for Der Skooner is the **15th of each month**. Please email articles and pictures to Melinda at gprnewsletter@gmail.com. This is YOUR newsletter - let us know what you and your Porsche are up to!

2014 Treasurer's Report

Thanks to our sponsors and increased track participation GPR had a great 2014. We were able to have four social events financed by the club and we were able to keep the fees for track events reasonable. We were also able to support Woodhouse's Back Pack Program.

Balance: 1/1/14	\$61,695.18
Revenue:	\$92,239.69
Expense:	\$82,600.29
Balance: 12/31/14	\$71,334.58

I certainly want to thank all the 2014 sponsors and hope to see you and a few of your friends on the list of sponsors in 2015.

Robert Lynch, Treasurer

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Getting Ready for the Track

By Sally Knapp, Safety Chair

It's March and thoughts just naturally turn to...the track. Yup, it's that time again, sooner than you think. GPR's first Driver Education event is April 25-26 at RPM, formerly MAM, so it's not too soon to start thinking of what you need to do to get your car ready. Let's look at what needs to be in tip-top condition in order to have a fun and safe weekend.

Brakes

Your brake fluid needs to be DOT 4 or DOT 5 and less than 6 months old. Be sure the reservoir is full.

Check your brake pads. You'll probably want at least 50%; you'll be using them.

Make sure your brake lights are working properly.

Tires

Tires are the only part of your car that are in contact with the track, so they need to be in good shape, no cracks or bulges and at least 2/32" of tread, preferably more. You'll be using these, too.

Don't show up Saturday morning with corded tires, we'll be checking.

Wheels

Check for cracks, there's a lot of stress on your wheels in a corner.

Torque your lug nuts!! It's not uncommon for someone to lose a wheel because they neglected to tighten them.

Seat Belts/Harnesses

Make sure your restraints are working properly, we will check them at the

track.

You must have equal restraints, i.e., if you have a 5 or 6 point harness on the driver's seat, you must have the same on the passenger's seat, no exceptions.

Helmet

Snell 2005 or newer. As of this writing, the Snell 2015 helmets are not available; the 2005 is good until 6/1/16.

NO MOTORCYCLE HELMETS. PERIOD. We'll have a few helmets available for rent at the track, but be aware that you might not get one that's the proper size.

Apparel

Full-length cotton pants, short or long sleeve cotton shirt, cotton socks and leather shoes, or PCA Club Racing approved driving suit. No tank tops. Make sure your socks come up over your ankle, you want to be fully protected.

These are just a few of the items that we'll be checking at the track. For a full list, go to GPR's website: www.gprpca.com for the complete Technical Inspection Form. Make sure to have this form signed and completed the morning of the event.

We want everyone to have an awesome weekend at the track and most importantly, to be safe. If you have any questions, email me at sallyknapp@juno.com. See you at the track!!

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MORE INFO: www.gprpca.com or gprclubreg@cox.net

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More Pictures from the GPR Winter Party



Your 2015 GPR Board: Tom Cooper, Kim Burger, Bob Lynch, Sandy Bruso, John Krecek, Sally Knapp, Joe Chambers, Kurt Halvorson
Not pictured: Eric Elliott, Steve Gehring, Melinda Halvorson
Photos by Jeff Morgan, Kurt Halvorson and Joe Chambers



GPR Board Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Great Plains Region PCA Board met Tuesday, February 3, 2015, at Oak Hills Country Club. Members in attendance: Kurt Halvorson, Tom Cooper, Sandy Bruso, Kim Burger, Sally Knapp, Bob Lynch, and Joe Chambers. Melinda Halvorson, Eric Elliott and Steve Gehring attended by conference phone. John Krecek, Race Chair, also attended.

Secretary: The minutes of the January 6, 2015 meeting were approved as distributed.

President: RPM is going to have at least one cleanup day, with an open signup. No dates have been set yet. The President also updated the Board on the National PCA Board meeting.

Past President: The RPM Road Course meeting was held on January 31, 2015. It was reported by the track manager and the owner that the road course and drag strip will be run separately, and profits made on the road course will be put back into the road course. Extensive track repairs are planned, including fixing existing bumps, grinding, and filling. A 24x24 concrete slab will be poured near the concession stand, as an area for car work. There will be a National Corvette Club event held at RPM. There was an extensive discussion on participating with the Kansas City club on DE events. The Board determined to extend an offer to KC to participate in the April DE, which our Club will manage. Any profits made will be shared on a per car basis. If it goes well, the Board will consider further participation.

Treasurer: The net cost of the holiday party was approximately \$4,200. A \$300 contribution was also obtained. Monthly income was derived from ads, dues and sponsorships. Expenses were principally deposits for the race and DE at MPH. The ending balance was \$67,348.97.

Newsletter: February 15 will be the deadline for submissions. Sally Knapp is preparing a tech article. There will be pictures and a summary of the annual party. Der Skooner will be submitted for the National PCA Newsletter Contest.

Membership: Two new members were received for the month. There were 11 renewals received during the month.

Registrar: The 2015 DE fees were approved as recommended by the Registrar. Fee structures will be on the website and available at registration.

Safety: There was a discussion with the Viper club about participating in DEs. The Viper club requested a schedule and costs. On insurance matters, no report yet received on whether non-PCA members are covered by Club insurance for any claims at DEs or for the Dream Car event. A question arose as to insurance coverage for spectator injuries at any event sponsored by the Club. (Subsequent to the meeting, it was determined that non PCA members are covered by Club insurance for Club sponsored events assuming they sign a waiver). Jason Bien will assume Eric's duties at the DEs while Eric is in New York. Eric reported that three grid workers will be acceptable although four would be better.

Race Chair: An autocross is under consideration for 2016.

Social: 75 people attended the annual party. 18 attended the January breakfast. The President stated that we are planning to meet with Children's Hospital as to the Dream Car event. There was significant interest in pursuing a wine tasting event. There was a discussion about a Club event at one of the Jesus Christ Superstar performances at the Omaha Community Playhouse.

Website: All events are up to date on the website. The Board members and officers are listed, and photos are posted. The February Club breakfast will be posted. It was also determined to submit the website for the National PCA contest.

Discussion topics: Online membership. There was a discussion about accepting online membership at a Club cost of \$80-90 for a season. A motion was duly made and seconded. It was approved by Board vote that PCA and GPR membership dues may be paid online. The President will work with the website coordinator on the details. There was one nay vote. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. at the Oak Hills Country Club.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Gehring, Secretary

Der Skooner

GPR Board Meetings are open to all current GPR members.

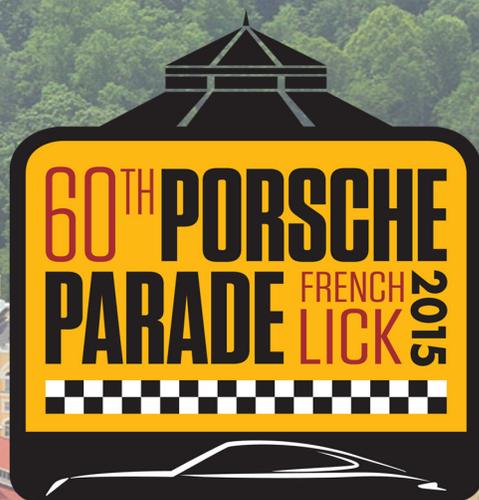
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A Publication of the Great Plains Region • Porsche Club of America

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