

December 2015



Skooner

Great Plains Region • Porsche Club of America



356 from Porsche Parade 2015
Photo by Kurt Halvorson

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THE DRIVER'S SEAT

By Kurt Halvorson

Seeing a dusting of snow this morning as I write means our beautiful fall weather is coming to an end. I'm optimistic a few more dry days exist to get some additional driving in before the streets become salt covered and the cars go into hibernation for the winter. This month's issue features a timely article on Page 5 from Jason Bien on winterizing your Porsche.

November's New Member Dinner, recognizing our GPR members who joined this year, was well attended and Kim Burger regales us with the details on Page 9. The month of December holds our regular Porsches & Pancakes on the 12th at The Egg & I. The rest of the month is quiet for the holidays. January will feature two social events with Porsches & Pancakes on January 9th, followed by our annual GPR Winter Party on January 23rd, to be held at Indian Creek Golf Course on 202nd and Maple. Details are on Page 14. If you are current on your GPR dues for 2016 (renew online at www.gprpca.com) dinner is at no cost to you or your guest.

On February 20th we are presenting a DE 101 session at Porsche Omaha for those who are interested in learning more about what's involved in a Driver Education event. Refreshments and a tech session overview

will also be featured. It should prove fun for those who have not participated in a DE, and a good opportunity for those who have participated to share their experiences. We are also currently working on establishing a date for a detailing session at fellow member Trent Abbott's new detailing business Veloce Brothers, located in Papillion. Expect an early Spring event, just in time to get the cars out and prepped for re-entry into the sunshine and warmer weather.

Fellow member John Artherton is a contributing writer this month, sharing his experience attending the Werks Reunion in California. John shares some great pictures as well as his storied trip. Enjoy the read on Page 11.

Porsche's factory team win at Fuji several weeks ago with the 919 Hybrid clinched the Manufacturer's title in the World Endurance Championship series, and their win and 5th place finish in the season ending race in Bahrain clinched the World Driver Championship for Mark Webber, Timo Bernhard and Brendon Hartley. The race was a nail biter, with Audi and Porsche trading the lead throughout the 6 hour race. With just over an hour to go, one of the 919's suffered an electrical prob-

*(Continued on Page 10)***Der Skooner - Volume 50 Issue 12**

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. Photos by the Editor unless otherwise noted. 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. 129th Circle, Omaha, NE 68154, and PCA, PO Box 5900, Springfield, VA 22150.

Great Plains Region Porsche Club of America 2016 Membership Form



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You can now join or renew your GPR membership online!

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Complete the information and pay by credit card on our secure site.

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All GPR memberships expire on December 31st.

If you prefer to pay by check, print the online form and mail it in. Please contact Sandy Brusco, Membership Chair, with any questions: 402.612.7931.

GPR Name Badges

You may have seen your GPR Board members wearing these name badges at events. We would like to offer them to our members. They are magnetic with the GPR logo.



The name badges are \$12, which includes shipping to your home. They will take about 3 weeks to arrive.

Name badges will be ordered once a month on the last day of each month. If you would like to order one, please contact Melinda at gprnewsletter@gmail.com.

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Deep Freeze Prep

By Jason Bien, Service Professional, Porsche Omaha

3 Tips for Storing Your Porsche

1 - Don't lose your juice!

Maintaining your battery properly and becoming a battery whisperer.

Lead acid batteries are still the most abundant batteries in use today. They're simple, cheap to manufacture, and long living. Yes, long living. A typical lifespan of a 2-3 season sports car battery is just over 2 years (est.), however a battery out of a Cayenne (driven year round) can last 7-8 years. Fundamentally they're the exact same, so what gives?



A lead acid battery needs constant charge and discharge to stay happy. The "set it and forget it" mindset with trickle chargers can lead to your battery's demise despite your best intentions. You must allow your battery to discharge from time to time. A good rotation to use is 2 on 2 off (2 days on a charge, 2 weeks off a charge). This of course is completely dependent on temperature and parasitic draw. In a perfect world the Porsche in your garage is locked and the battery maintainer is not plugged in all the time, but once



a week or every other week. Though this may sound tedious, it will make the difference between 3-6 years of battery life. Keeping the car plugged in all the time with dramatically increase the rate at which your battery acid evaporates and vents out, thus creating a battery half full of acid by Spring despite your best intentions. At this point the lead panels have been exposed to air and have developed the electrolyte equivalent to rust called sulfation, so simply refilling won't bring it back. If a battery is allowed to go dead or kept at a low state of charge, it too can fall victim to the likes of sulfation. So, LCD: Lock your doors, Charge, and Discharge.

2 - Don't dry out!

Keeping a happy valve train.

Today's oil is better than ever, yet lacks concentrations of two key elements that significantly reduce engine wear on engine internals. Concentrations of Zinc and Phosphorus are at an all time low in all modern street legal multi-weight oils due to government mandates for

environmental reasons. You'll see these two elements illustrated as one compound, ZDDP, which has a primary purpose in life as a wear-reduction additive. After an engine sits for a prolonged period, that initial start can be taxing to an engines valve train in terms of wear. Additives such as BG's MOA (\$18.95) have a high concentration of ZDDP and other such wear reducing compounds meant to increase oil's surface tension and lower metal on metal contact. Adding one can before storage can dramatically reduce engine wear at start-up and also reduce that pesky tappet noise.



3 - Wrap it up!

Protect your paint and dress your car up like a spaceship at the same time.

A good car cover can save a beautiful paint job when kids, cats, and

(Continued on Page 8)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

12th Porsches & Pancakes - The Egg & I 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha 8:00 am
Please RSVP to kmburger37@icloud.com by Wednesday, December 9th.

January - 2016

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

23rd GPR Annual Winter Party The Club at Indian Creek 6:00 pm
Put this event on your calendar and RSVP! See Page 14 for your invitation.
You MUST be a current GPR member to attend. Join or renew your membership TODAY. See Page 3.

February

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

20th DE101 Porsche Omaha 2-4:00 pm
Never participated in a Driver Education? See Page 8 for more information and make plans to attend.

March

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

April

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

30th-May 1st Spring Fling Driver Education RPM - Pacific Junction, IA

May

14th Fun Run, Breakfast & Speedway Motors Museum of American Speed, Lincoln
See Page 10. More information to come!

June

3rd, 4th & 5th Carrera GT Club Race & Advanced Driver Education - MPH - Hastings

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

19th-26th Porsche Parade 2016 Jay Peak, Vermont

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

* Not a GPR/PCA sponsored event

Thank You 2015 Sponsors!

The Board of Directors of the Great Plains Region PCA would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our sponsors for 2015. Your sponsorship and contributions allow the GPR to continue to offer social and driving events that make the Great Plains Region one of the most active clubs in the Midwest.

Thanks again for your sponsorship. We look forward to your continued support and a great year in 2016.

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(Deep Freeze Prep, Cont'd from Page 5)

dust are present. Prior to taking cover, make sure your paint is washed, waxed, and void of any dust. A clay bar is an excellent way to remove impurities; it can be time consuming, but well worth the end result you'll have afterwards. Porsche brand car covers are custom fit and look beautiful. They typically range from \$330-\$370.



Have you ever wondered what a Driver Education event is like, and if you should participate in one?

Here is your chance to get your questions answered and find out more! Come to **DE101**. Sally Knapp, our Safety Chair, will walk you through a day at the track and answer all of your questions. We'll have GPR members who have driven at DEs available for you to talk to. And we'll have snacks! Put this event on your calendar and plan to attend.

DE 101
Saturday, February 20, 2016
2-4:00 pm
Porsche Omaha
6625 L Street



New Members

By Sandy Bruso,
Membership Chair

Please introduce yourself and make our new PCA members feel welcome the next time you see them at an event:

Bill Alford
Maurice Shanley

Bill also joined the Great Plains Region. Welcome!



Porsche Photos Needed!

Do you have a winter photo of your Porsche? Please send portrait oriented photos to Melinda at gprnewsletter@gmail.com. It just might end up on the cover of Der Skooner!

New Member Dinner at Bella Vita - November 5th

Story by Kim Burger, Event Photos by Joe Chambers

It is a fairly well established fact that the Porsche Club of America is the largest single marque car club in the world with over 107,000 members in the USA and Canada. The club continues to grow, and because we feel that it is as much about the people as the cars, we always want to take the time to make our members feel a part of something special – especially the new members. On November 5th we did just that by inviting our new members, who have joined PCA and GPR over the past year, to a welcome dinner at Bella Vita in Elkhorn, Nebraska.

Over the past year we have had 19 new members join GPR and Thursday 5 of those new members plus 4 of their guests joined 18 of our current members in a social hour followed by dinner. The night concluded with some ramblings by the social chair (that would be me) and a special gift for each new member present at the event from Mitch Schneringer, General Sales Manager at Porsche Omaha.

Bella Vita did an excellent job on the social serving as well as the food, so I believe everyone enjoyed their experience. Hopefully the evening was considered a success and it is my hope that the new members felt welcome and pleased with their decision to join our group.

Please be sure to seek out any new members at future events and let them know what makes PCA such a special club – once you get past the car. New members are listed in the Der Skooner each month as they become part of the club.



L to R: Jeff Sena, Steve Bronner, Russ Rabeler, Mitch Schneringer



L to R: Tom Cooper, Virginia & Bill Fahl



L to R: Elizebeth Webb, Steve Wilwerding, Denny Strauss, Terry Lessmann
More pictures on Page 10.

More Pictures from the New Member Dinner



L to R: Stephen & Julie Johnson, Dar & Tina Andrews



Kim Burger welcomes the new members and GPR attendees.

(The Driver's Seat, Cont'd from Page 2)

lem which put the car in the pits for nearly 8 laps. Sufficient cushion with those further behind allowed the 5th place finish to secure the overall championship for Porsche. It was a great year for Porsche factory teams and privateers alike.

Our annual board election results will be available after December 1st, so if you haven't yet cast your ballot, you may do so online up to that date.

On behalf of your board of directors, I want to thank all of our GPR members, our sponsors and Porsche Omaha for their financial support and assistance throughout the year. Without all of you we wouldn't have the successful, growing club that we do. THANK YOU!

Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas!

-Kurt



Join us for a unique opportunity for a Fun Run, breakfast, and private viewing of the Museum of American Speed in Lincoln, Nebraska on Saturday, May 14th, 2016. The price will be \$15 for breakfast, and \$15 for museum admission. Limited to the first 30. More information to come!

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Porsches, adult decisions and 4300 miles in 9 days

Story and Photos by John Artherton

Over the past year, I had been toying with the idea of a whirlwind trip to California in my yellow 1972 Porsche 914. Famous highways like Route 66 to L.A., the Pacific Coast Highway to San Francisco and then return to Omaha along the historic Lincoln Highway. Last June, I read about the Werks Reunion, a gathering of Porsches, to be held in Carmel-by-the-Sea, during Monterey Auto Week on August 14th. WOW... OK! I registered in 15 minutes. I have three children and grandchildren living in California and needed to stop in Flagstaff, Arizona. For the month of July, I tried to get my car ready for the trip. It was the first time in the four years that I had owned my modified 914, that I seriously got

into it electrically and mechanically. I planned to head west on the morning of August 8th, after our monthly Porsche breakfast. As the days grew nearer to my departure date, it became clear to me, that my 914 was not ready or suited for this adventure. On August 6th, I found more electrical problems and that was the last straw. Adult decision time....I am ready for this trip....but my car is not. At that point, a weight was lifted from my shoulders. I knew that if I started out on my journey in the 914, I would have worried about its reliability every moment. I am getting too old for that...LOL. My Nissan "daily-driver" is rock solid and performed like a champ. Crossing the desert in Arizona and

Nevada, in early August, would have been more than uncomfortable without air-conditioning in the 914. It was the right decision, this time. Although, the Porsche drive up the Pacific Coast Highway to Carmel, would have been a BLAST. Other than having great visits with my children, grandchildren and ex-wife, the Werks Reunion was a fantastic show. It included 250 Porsches in the Concours and over 500 in the Corral. I arrived early on the 13th and helped lay out three fairways of the Rancho Canada Golf Course. My pictures will show just a glimpse of the many fabulous cars on display. I returned to Omaha, inspired to get the 914 ready for the next adventure, "Escape to Rushmore".

Pictures on Page 12



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Works Reunion photos by John Artherton



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the
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Annual Winter Party*

Saturday, January 23, 2016

**The Club at Indian Creek
3825 N. 202nd Street, Elkhorn, Nebraska**

6:00 Social Hour, 7:00 Dinner followed by Awards

Please choose from the following menu selections:

**Roast Tenderloin of Beef
with
Balsamic Shallot Bordelaise**

**Stuffed Napa Chicken
with
Sun Dried Tomatoes,
Artichokes, Mushrooms,
Red Peppers
White Zinfandel Cream**

**Southwestern Orange
Rougey
with
Tequila Cream,
Black Beans,
Corn, Red Peppers**

**Please RSVP the names of those attending and your menu selections
by Saturday, January 16th, 2016
to our Social Chair, Kim Burger, at kmburger37@icloud.com, or (402)679-8547.**

**You MUST be a current Great Plains Region member to attend this event.
Join or renew your membership today!
See Page 3 for more information.**

GPR Board Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Great Plains Region PCA Board met Tuesday, November 3, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at Oak Hills Country Club.

Members in attendance: Tom Cooper, Joe Chambers, Sally Knapp, Russ Rabeler, John Kreacek, Steve Gehring, Eric Elliot, Kurt and Melinda Halvorson and Kim Burger attended by conference telephone call. Sandy Brusio was unable to attend.

Events Update: Next breakfast is at 8:00 am on November 14, 2015, at The Egg & I. There have been discussions about alternating venues but none has been suggested to date.

The new member hospitality event will be held Thursday November 5, 2015, at Bella Vita in Elkhorn. 19 current members plus 5 new members and their 4 guests have registered. The Club is covering the dinner for the new members and their guests.

The deposit for the 2016 holiday party has been paid to secure January 23, 2016, at Indian Creek Golf Course. It was determined to have single plated entrees. Cost will vary from \$29.50 to \$40.50. The Club will pay for the dinner cost for dues paying members and spouse/significant other.

Amended Bylaws: The Secretary stated that he would prepare a ballot and explanation for adoption of the revised bylaws and work with the website director the following week to get these documents submitted for membership approval.

Secretary: The minutes of the October meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

President: The President and the Registrar will talk with the track directors at RPM and MPH for contracts for the Club race and DE's for next year. Final contract numbers are needed from both tracks. It was discussed that March 26, 2016 may be a good date for a detailing event. The President will contract Trent Abbott to arrange this. There was further discussion of a DE 101 event for approximately one hour. It was discussed that February 20 or 27 would be good dates to run this with a PowerPoint presentation. The safety director and chief driving instructor would put this on. The President will contact Woodhouse to see if they would host the event. There was discussion and suggestions on various awards to be given at the annual dinner.

Past President: The application is close to being ready for submission for approval of the annual Club race at MPH on June 3-5. It should be submitted by November 15.

Treasurer: The opening account balance for October was \$93,809 and the closing balance was \$84,341. Major income included dues of \$210, new member dinner deposits of

\$144, PCA rebate at \$310, and interest income of \$11. Major expenses were a \$9,910 track rental for the September DE, a deposit for the new member dinner of \$150, and administrative and miscellaneous of \$83.

Editor/Newsletter: There was a reminder that November 15 is the cut-off date for the submission of articles. Jason Bien is preparing one on winterizing cars. The Editor solicited other articles.

Membership: There are currently 251 PCA members and 1 new GPR member. There were no renewals during the month.

Registrar: The dates for the Club's four events were reviewed, the Spring Fling on April 30/May 1, 2016; the Club Race and DE at MPH on June 3-5, 2016, the Summer Fun event at MPH on July 16 and 17, 2016; and the Fall Finale at RPM on October 8 and 9, 2016. Registrar reported that he had talked to Keith Regan that past Friday and Keith assured him that the RPM track would operate in 2016. Keith stated that there were planned improvements to the paddock and a new building plan for classroom/meeting space. Track costs may increase for 2016, but maybe not more than \$5 per day per car. Ambulance costs should remain the same for 2016. At MPH, track costs are going to rise slightly and ambulance service is rising approximately \$85 per hour. George is working to seek other lower cost options.

Proposed fees for the Club race are \$445 with the T&T at \$165. DE would be \$165 for one day, \$320 for two days, and \$440 for three days. It was discussed that the Secretary was continuing to work with the Kansas Speedway to see if we could have a DE event there in 2016. The Speedway is currently determining whether it will permit DEs.

Safety: It was determined that there would be an instructor refresher course taught by the chief driving instructor and the safety officer, likely 3-5pm on Friday, April 30, before the Spring Fling. Those instructors who took the refresher course would receive a free DE day. Chief driving instructor will send an email with details.

Website: All matters were up to date. 46 ballots have been received for the board/officer election. The ballot will be taken down on December 1.

The next meeting, and appreciation dinner for the Board, will be December 8, 2015, 6:00 pm at Biaggi's, 13655 California Street. This will be paid by the Club.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Gehring, Secretary

Editor
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Omaha, NE 68154-1283

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

