November 2017

The Skooner

Great Plains Region • Porsche Club of America

Porsches gathering for the start of the Loess Hills Fun Run on September 30th.
Photo by Kurt Halvorson

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HANDS ON THE WHEEL

By Steve Gehring

Loess Hills Fun Run

It was wonderful and exciting to have a Club event oversubscribed! The Fun Run through the Loess Hills on September 30th drew 39 cars and 56 participants. Many, many thanks to Kim Burger, who has been willing to serve as our route planner and guide. The group was so large that we had to break into three run groups. We ended with a great lunch at Tussey's. We got lucky on the weather with some light rain before we left, but it lifted almost immediately.

We will definitely look to schedule this event again for next year. Perhaps we can do it on another Saturday where we could have lunch at Roux's in Woodbine. Watch for it in the 2018 calendar.

Odds and Ends

Porsche NA is starting a new deal, first in Atlanta, where you can drive multiple new P cars for only $2000 per month (base option). It's called Passport and it's an all-costs-in program to let you drive, and swap as you want, a Boxster, Cayman S, Cayenne and Macon S. Wait for it to come to Omaha. Sorry, even with the Accelerate upgrade to $3000 per month, no GT2.

If you have not seen the video or read another article about it, please go online to Jay Leno's Garage and watch the terrific piece on the West Coast Customs 356 restomod at https://www.motor1.com/news/182956/porsche-cayman-356-conversion/. The shop apparently had a client with virtually no financial constraints who wanted to put a rusted-out 356 body on a 2008 Cayman frame. The result is quite incredible, and the car looks like great fun to drive. The 356 body was cut in half and metal added to it to fit the Cayman frame. The car is apparently available for sale and I was curious about the price, although I could not find it. If any of you has seen the video or is aware of the price, I am curious; please send me a note at sgehring@clinewilliams.com.

There was a recent news report that Porsche was seeking €200 million damage compensation from Audi relating to the diesel scandal. Aren't Porsche and Audi owned by the same entity? This seems a bit like Buick seeking compensation from Chevrolet. Curious.

In the otherworld arena of hyperfast cars, it was interesting to note that the Bugatti Chiron recently set a record going from a dead stop to 248.5 mph (400 km/h) and back to a stop again in 42 seconds. Fewer than 30 days later, Koenigsegg took out its new Agera RS supercar and did the same thing in 37 seconds. Mind blowing!

Der Skooner - Volume 52 Issue 11

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.

Membership News

By Joe Chambers
Membership Chair

We are getting close to having 2017 in the books and it will be time to renew your membership for 2018. Many of you have paid in advance using the multiple year options and I know it's hard to keep up with your last payment. Please contact me if you need to be reminded of the status of your membership.

Why not save time and renew for 2 or 3 years? The benefits are many: you will be able to attend GPR member-only events such as the always popular Winter Party, Spring Fling Social, New Member Dinner, as well as enjoy free advertising for car-related items for sale in Der Skooner. You must be a PCA member (pca.org) in order to join the Great Plains Region. All GPR memberships expire on December 31st, unless you renew for multiple years.

Please go to gprpca.com and click on the green button: **"Join or Renew Your GPR Membership Online"**. Be sure to add your significant other to the email list so she/he can also receive GPR/PCA emails. Complete the information and pay by credit card on our secure site. If you prefer to pay by check, you may print the online form and mail it in.

Questions?
Contact Joe Chambers
Membership Chair
402.250.7032 or
gprmem@gmail.com

Congratulations

to our members with a November PCA anniversary:

35 Years
Rudy Strnot

20 Years
Dave Nelson

15 Years
Jim Avilla

10 Years
Walt Wood

5 Years
Tom Allisma
Jeff Gehring
Steve Gehring

GPR Member Numbers

154 paid 2017 GPR members
271 PCA members in our Region

GPR Name Badges

Look official at our next GPR/PCA event. The magnetic name badges are $12, which includes shipping to your home. They take about 3 weeks to arrive.

If you would like to order one, please contact Melinda at gprnewsletter@gmail.com.

Your Name

Welcome to our new PCA member:

Scott Hekter, Omaha

And welcome to our new PCA and GPR member:

Brenda Siffring, Omaha

Please make them both feel welcome the next time you see them at an event.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

9th-11th	Porsche Palooza	Eureka Springs, Arkansas	
11th	Porsches & Pancakes - First Watch	3605 N. 147th St., Omaha	8:00 am
	Please RSVP to steve.bartlett100@gmail.com by Wednesday, November 8th.		
11th	GPR New Member Dinner	Oak Hills Country Club, Omaha	6:00 pm Social
	See Page 10 for your invitation.	12325 Golfing Green Drive	7:00 pm Dinner

December

9th	Porsches & Pancakes - First Watch	3605 N. 147th St., Omaha	8:00 am

January - 2018

13th	Porsches & Pancakes - First Watch	3605 N. 147th St., Omaha	8:00 am
20th	GPR Annual Winter Party	The Club at Indian Creek	6:00 pm Social
	Watch for more information in Der Skooner.	Elkhorn, NE	7:00 pm Dinner

February

10th	Porsches & Pancakes - First Watch	3605 N. 147th St., Omaha	8:00 am

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

This is YOUR Club - be a part of it!

* Not a GPR/PCA sponsored event

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• IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS •

SeptemberFest DE - September 16th

18 Cars

Photos by Dalton Fellows

Put the following GPR DEs on Your 2018 Calendar

Spring Fling	RPM	May 19th & 20th
Club Race & DE	MPH	June 15th, 16th & 17th

More DEs are being planned for 2018. Watch future issues of Der Skooner, the GPR website and your email for all of the latest information.

Did you know...

By Gary Quast, GPR Member

...that there was once a large motel at 78th and West Dodge Road? It was a 330 room Quality Inn and it was named the "New Tower Inn". It was the home of Omaha's Crystal Tree Dining Room, Crest Steak Room, Frontier Coffee, Birdcage Piano Bar and Lazy Leopard Lounge.

In addition to the entertainment available, it also had direct dial phone, hi-fi radio, color TV and sauna baths.

The land for this large motel was purchased in 1934, outside of the city on the far western fringes of the Omaha area. Sadly, the entire complex was torn down in 1997, in order to build the shopping center that exists there today. All of the colored glass from the lounges went to the "Burnzzz Bar" on 33rd and Cass Streets.

Why is this of any history of interest to the GPR? Well, a few years before it was run down, the National Board of Directors of the PCA came to Omaha for a "long weekend" of board meeting. The GPR had a dinner and several auto events during the week and socialized with the Board members as they participated in the events.

The most popular event was the Birdcage Piano Bar. Everyone participated in the Karaoke events int he evening. While a few members were reluctant to join the singing initially, they were right in the loudest group by late evening.

Another thing that makes this event important to our history was the request from Dr. Porsche. He asked several of the board members to acquire an "Indian blanket" for him.

For those who may not know, the Western European people have a special fascination with American Old West. Apparently, Dr. Porsche shared this fascination with his fellow countrymen.

The members of the GPR went to work and were able to acquire a fine, original Native American blanket which was sent to Dr. Porsche. A short time later, the Club received a nice letter from Dr. Porsche, thanking us for his gift.

Stay Current on all Things GPR and PCA:

gprpca.com

pca.org

facebook.com/groups/gprpca

I Want Your Car...

... on the front cover of Der Skooner!

I would like pictures submitted for consideration for the front cover to be portrait (vertical) orientation, please.

I also need pictures of your car(s) for Member Rides! Those can be any orientation. Send your JPG(s) to: gprnewsletter@gmail.com.

~ Editor

You and a Guest
are invited to the
Annual GPR New Member Dinner
on
Saturday, November 11th, 2017
at
Oak Hills Country Club
12325 Golfing Green Drive, Omaha

6:00 Social Hour (Cash Bar)
7:00 Buffet Dinner

Help us welcome our new 2017 GPR members to the Great Plains Region! This will give you an opportunity to meet your new fellow members and welcome them to a great organization. ALL current GPR members and a guest are invited to attend. Dinner will be provided by the GPR.

You MUST be a current GPR member to attend. Please email our Social Chair, Steve Bartlett, at steve.bartlett100@gmail.com by Saturday, November 4th to RSVP. Adults only. No jeans, please.

This is an away game for the Huskers. If it is a night game we will have a tv available in the bar so you won't miss a thing!

Loess Hills Fun Run - September 30th - 39 Cars

By Kurt Halvorson, Past President

The day dawned partly sunny, but with clouds looming to the west, the rain shower moved through and dampened the freshly washed cars which showed up to participate in the Fall Fun Run to Logan, Iowa on September 30th. The route was mapped by Kim Burger, and took us through the Loess Hills Scenic By-way, with a stop to stretch our legs at the city park in Logan. With three run groups spread out by a 5-10 minute interval, we were able to stay together in a caravan within each group. After a short break at the city park, we were back on the road, heading towards Tussey's restaurant off 48th Street and north I-680 for a lunch buffet. The 56 members who participated enjoyed a great time socializing and checking out each other's cars as we staged for the run, as well as when we returned for lunch. It was a great day to exercise our Porsches before the weather turns and we tuck them away for winter.

Photo by Steve Bartlett

Photo by Kurt Halvorson

Photo by Shawn Keeler

(More Pictures on Page 12)

Loess Hills Fun Run

Photo by Shawn Keeler

Photo by Cindy Chambers

Photo by Shawn Keeler

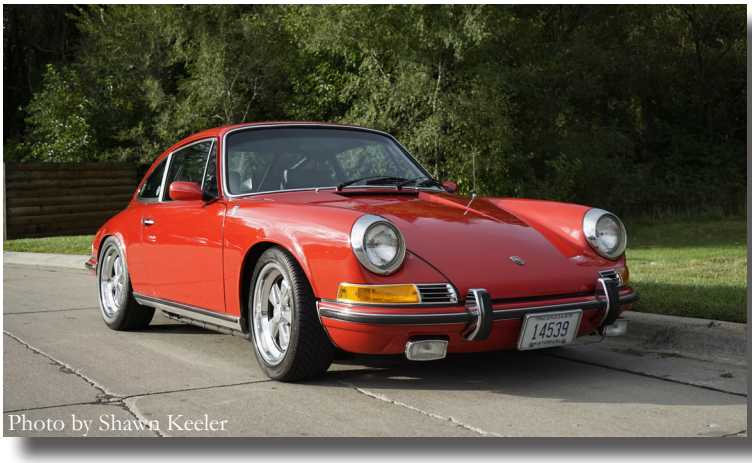


Photo by Shawn Keeler

Photo by Shawn Keeler

Save the Date!

The date for the always popular GPR Winter Party has been set!
Please put **Saturday, January 20th, 2018** on your calendars.

The party will be held at The Club at Indian Creek in Elkhorn, Nebraska.
The 2017 Year in Review slide show will run during the cash bar social hour
from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, followed by a wonderful dinner.
Awards and a raffle with great prizes will finish off the evening.

You won't want to miss it!

Watch your email and the December issue of Der Skooner for more information.

You must be a GPR member to attend this event, so join or renew now at gprpca.com.

2018 GPR PCA Board of Directors Slate of Candidates

The Nominating Committee met pursuant to the by-laws and unanimously approved the slate of candidates standing for election this year. Please cast your ballot for the calendar year 2018 Great Plains Region Porsche Club of America Board of Directors. Current nominees for each Board position are listed below. Space to write in a candidate is also provided. Watch for an email from Eric Elliott, our GPR webmaster, which will allow you to vote electronically.

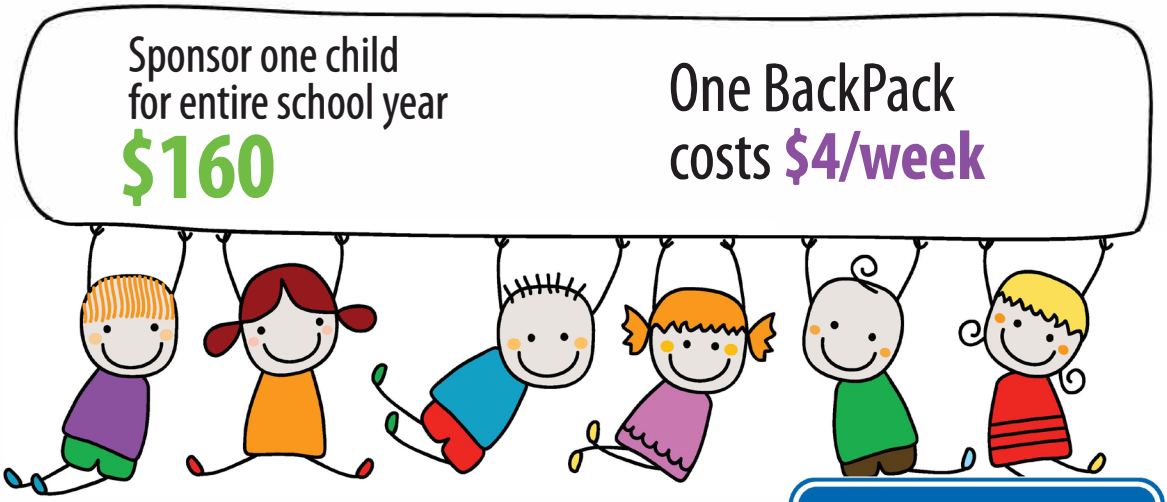
If you prefer to vote by mail, please mail this ballot to: Pete Jardine, 4226 N. 176th St., Omaha, NE 68116, no later than December 1, 2017.

PRESIDENT	_____	Steve Gehring	Write-in: _____
SECRETARY	_____	Pete Jardine	Write-in: _____
TREASURER	_____	Russ Rabeler	Write-in: _____
REGISTRAR	_____	Terry Lessmann	Write-in: _____
SOCIAL	_____	Steve Bartlett	Write-in: _____
SAFETY	_____	Rick Mourey	Write-in: _____
MEMBERSHIP	_____	Joe Chambers	Write-in: _____
WEBMASTER	_____	Eric Elliott	Write-in: _____
EDITOR	_____	Melinda Halvorson	Write-in: _____

WOODHOUSE Backpack Challenge

Approximately **8,700 children** in more than 240 schools in Nebraska and western Iowa receive backpacks full of nutritious food each week.
The bags are discretely distributed to hungry children each Friday at school so they have something to eat during the weekend. Your contribution can help us fill those backpacks.

The Woodhouse Auto Family urges you to help by participating in the Woodhouse Backpack Challenge and donate to Food Bank for the Heartland's BackPack Program and Food Bank of Siouxland.



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Meet a GPR Member

The GPR PCA is made up of a great group of members. This month's feature member is **Louis Whitehead**.

1. When did you join the PCA?
I joined the PCA in 2010. It was not long after I acquired my first Porsche, a slate grey 2001 Boxster S.

2. What Porsche(s) have you owned and what do you currently own?
Altogether I've owned four Porsches: a 2001 Boxster S, a 2006 Cayman S, a 2006 911 Carrera S, and my current 2014 Boxster S.

3. Where are you from?
I was born and raised in the Brookings, South Dakota area and continue to live here.

4. What is your career/current occupation?
For the last seven years I've been the owner/CEO of LGW Investments in Brookings. Otherwise I'm a published author and continue to write for various publications. stage, and screen. And I've been an active part of the local music scene as a drummer/percussionist for several years.

5. What makes your car(s) special?
The '14 Boxster S is basically an homage to my first Porsche, a slate grey 2001 Boxster S. The colors (including for the wheels) and equipment of the newer car aren't exactly the same as those of the older car, but I feel the newer car captures the essence of the older car. The '14 Boxster is also the first car I bought after my father died, and since my dad always shared and encouraged my enthusiasm for cars I like to think something of his spirit inspired some of the choices I made in having the car built.

6. Next Porsche or current project?
Right now I'm looking at options for setting up the Boxster to race in SS (Super Street) for Sports Car Club of America autocross events next season. As for future Porsches I'm interested in Cayman GT4s, 911 GTSes and GT3s.

7. Favorite memory with your Porsche?
I don't have a specific favorite memory of time spent with the '14 Boxster, but I do have many fond memories of driving challenging roads like Vanocker Canyon and Iron Mountain Road in the Black Hills of South Dakota with friends from my local autocross scene.

8. What got you interested in Porsches?
Sports cars, including Porsches, have always held my interest since I was a kid. I've been fortunate to own different marques' sports cars over the years but have always held Porsches in especially high regard for their performance, style, and racing heritage. And I was bitten by the bug once that '01 Boxster S came into my life.

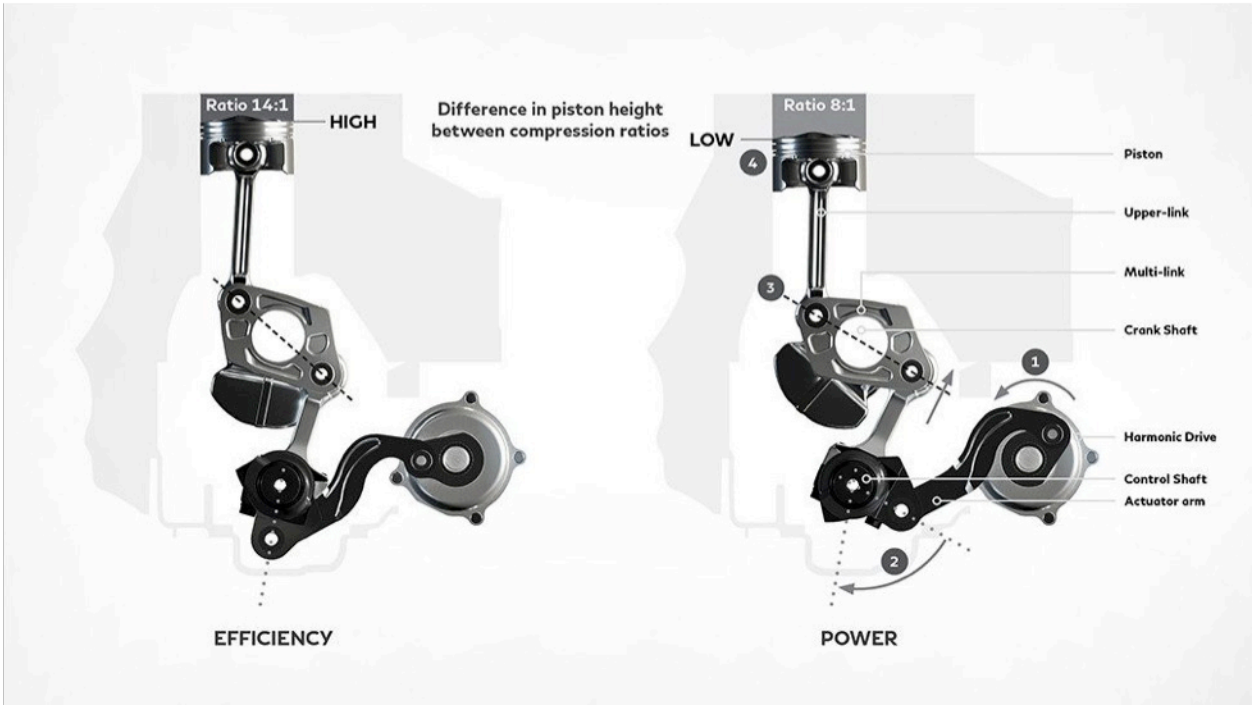
9. Any other dream cars you would own?
Apart from the aforementioned Porsches I think it'd be cool to have an Audi R8, Mercedes-Benz SLR, E36 BMW M3, second-gen Toyota MR2 Turbo, or Acura Integra Type R.

A New Take on Adjustable Compression

By Jason Bien, GPR Member, Globally Certified Service Advisor, Porsche Omaha

Lately, even more concepts have surfaced for adjusting the compression ratio of an engine. The race for the simplest and most efficient design is heating up, the automotive company with the best design will set a whole new benchmark in fuel economy and performance.

For those who are new to this concept, don't worry, you're not alone. The vast majority of patent holders are still far into the development stages on this, however a small few may be hitting the road within the next couple years. This new thinking on internal combustion will define a whole new era of engines for decades to come. With the ever increasing use of turbo charging, this technology stands to maximize the benefits afforded by both small displacement and forced induction.



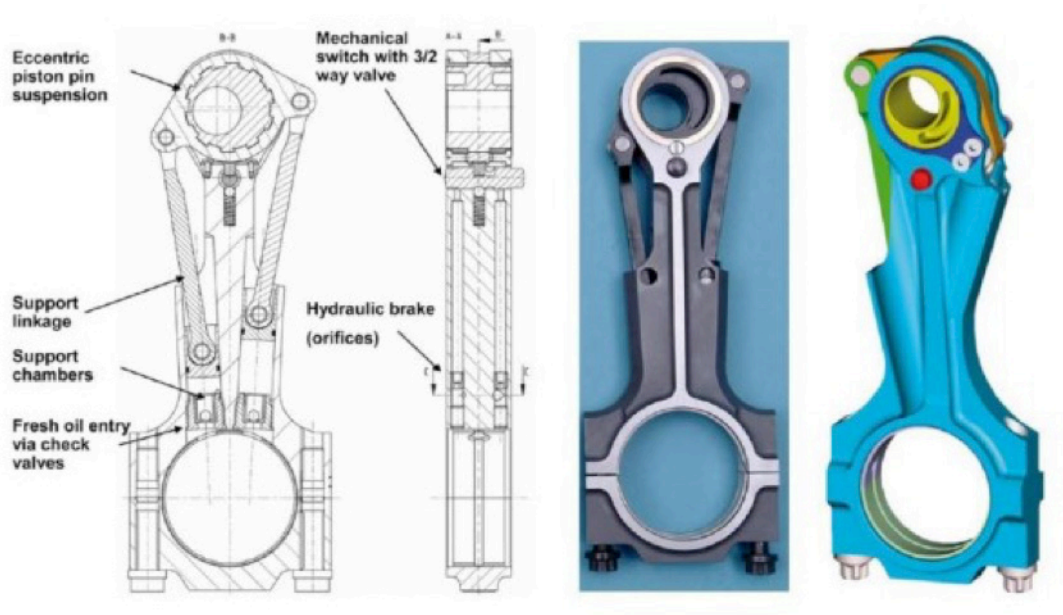
INFINITY VC-T Engine

Over the years numerous designs have surfaced for creating the capability of adjusting the compression of an engine on the fly. This would allow for maximum torque at lower RPMs, something a small displacement engine lacks significantly. Under minimal load, high compression works on nearly any platform and environment. As load increases, so does the likelihood of detonation. This can be curbed with the use of higher octane fuel, but when compounded with forced induction like turbocharging and supercharging, even premium fuel is out of the question. So, the holy grail of all this is finding a suitable blend of both worlds. To date, this doesn't exist. So, what we're left with is either a low compression turbo engine which is anemic off idle causing a need for boost pressure in order to have any usable power, which in turn greatly affects fuel economy; or, we have a high compression naturally aspirated engine with higher displacement to account for its lack of power adder… this all assumes both engines are to be making the same power.

Currently, there are fantastic examples of low horsepower, small displacement, high compression engines that are getting well over 40mpg. Mazda's Skyactiv engines are a great example of this. There are also great examples of small displacement and powerful turbo engines as well, but to tap into any of that power you need to tap into the boost from the turbo, thus killing economy. Not until recently could you even dream of having both. This is paramount when considering we spend most of our commute under 10% throttle. Here is why turbo diesels are so favorable; high compression and turbocharged…the perfect combo!

(Continued on Page 17)

(A New Take on Adjustable Compression, Continued from Page 16)



Unfortunately, the EPAs regulations in the US are extremely harsh on nitric oxides emissions. Something a fuel with a high specific gravity like diesel can't escape without additives like AdBlue and creative uses of particulate filters and exotic EGR systems. Systems like these are heavy, large, expensive, and worst of all power-robbing.

What's very exciting about all this is it's creating a demand for engineers to come up with a new type of gasoline engine, and they are designing at a fever pitch. Ultimately the winning design will come down to the one that is the simplest, least expensive, and most durable. So far, Infinity/Nissan are the first to the table and have announced that they will be rolling out their new 2.0L turbo 4 cylinder by 2018 (see first picture) that will have the ability to switch between 8.1:1 compression all the way up to a diesel-like 14:1 compression. For all the gear heads out there, this is truly a feat of engineering. Other manufacturers and private firms are working tirelessly on a viable competitor. Undoubtedly, more will come. Likely very soon. As always, good competition drives innovation; thankfully this competition will be a win-win that everyone can enjoy. From a Prius to a Pagani the applications are endless.

RIP future diesel passenger vehicles, this innovation may just have sealed your fate for good.

Member Rides

GPR member **Dave Farrell's** 1997 Supercup. He just finished restoring it back to the way it left the factory. It was raced in the Supercup series by Frank Stippler.

Thanks for sending in the picture, Dave!

Do you have a picture of your Porsche(s)? Email a JPG to Melinda at gprnewsletter@gmail.com.

Porsches and Pancakes - October 14th

Twenty-four Porsche friends enjoyed breakfast at our Porsches & Pancakes breakfast in October. Join us for our next breakfast on Saturday, November 11th. We meet at 8 am at First Watch, 3605 N. 147th St., Omaha. **As always, please RSVP to our Social Chair, Steve Bartlett, at steve.bartlett100@gmail.com by Wednesday, November 8th.**

Photo by Steve Gehring

Photo by Kurt Halvorson

GPR October Board Meeting Minutes

The Great Plains Region PCA Board met at 6:00 pm on October 3, 2017 at the offices of Cline Williams.

Present were: Steve Gehring, Joe Chambers, Pete Jardine, Eric Elliott, Terry Lessmann, Russ Rabeler, and Kurt Halvorson. Richard Mourey, Steve Bartlett and Melinda Halvorson were apologies.

Social: 9 cars attended the Fun Run to Lincoln on 9/9. 40 folks attended Rennsport Night, held at Lo Sole Mio on 9/16. 56 folks and 39 cars attended the Loess Hills Fun Run on 9/30. Thanks to Kim Burger for leading the effort. Upcoming events include: P&P breakfast on 10/14; 50th Anniversary Dinner at Hilton Hotel on 10/21; New Member dinner at Oak Hills CC on 11/11; P&P breakfast on 11/11; Winter Party at Indian Creek GC on 1/20/18.

Safety/CDI: SeptemberFest DE at RPM: No issues/incidents to report. Observer report filed with National. Theresa Mourey ran Grid while Steve Gehring and Rick Mourey ran tech. In spite of some rain, GPR and the track remained flexible with run group times until the weather cleared and all drivers gained some valuable experience on a wet track. GPR held 8 insurable events for 2017 including 1 Club Race, 4 DE events, 2 Fun Runs and 1 Tech Event (DE 101). DE events combined for 8 DE days with approximately 150 driver (participant) days. Fun runs combined for approximately 50 participating vehicles. From these entire events 1 reportable incident was filed with National in June. That reportable event was a single car incident (tire wall impacted between turns 12 & 13) during the Club Race Test & Tune. No injuries and the car was repaired and continued to participate. Safety Chair will be organizing some P&P Breakfast Chalk Talks on various topics such as winter storage or detailing etc. Board discussed doing these talks once a quarter. Safety Chair also will start to organize a resource directory for our members. This directory would include resources where members could find experts within our club on such subjects as parts, tools, repairs etc.

Registrar: There were 18 cars for the SeptemberFest DE. Total expenses of $2,300 (track rental and insurance) and total income of $2,677 (registration fees). 6 participants received Board of Directors discount or Instructors discount while one driver used a previous credit.

Secretary: The minutes of the September meeting were approved as distributed. Email votes made during the month of September were ratified. Votes ratified included the purchase of new radios, the appointment of David Adler, George Poullos and Elisa Stutheit as the 2017 nominating committee, appointment of Kurt Halvorson as associate editor, and approval of the ballot for 2018 officer/board slate. It was moved and approved to appoint Melinda Halvorson as the region's new Social Media Chair.

President: The Club Race is booked at MPH June 15-17. A discussion was had regarding the MPH DE currently scheduled for May 19-20. It was decided to move the DE from MPH to RPM if the weekend is available. President will be contacting RPM this week to finalize. 50th Anniversary Dinner plans remain on track.

Past President: A discussion was had regarding an inquiry the Past President had in regards to unaffiliated individuals who have an interest in engineering or are engineers expressing interest attending an upcoming DE and riding along with instructors as passengers. The Board discussed pros and cons and it was decided to move this request to the Safety Chair for his review.

Treasurer: The opening account balance for September was $80,219.62 and the closing balance was $86,860.64. Receipts included DE Receipts of $7,264.24, Dues of $210, Club Sponsorship of $100, Social of $830 (includes $250 PCA assistance for New Member Dinner), PCA Rebate of $1,302 and Interest Income of $13.74. Expenses included DE of $1,800, Club Race Refund of Expense Item of ($463), Administration of $545.92 (includes new radios purchase of $347.70), Social of $1,021.75 for Lo Sole Mio dinner (net cost was $241.75 after deposits), Newsletter of $119.71, and NE Department of Revenue tax of $54.58.

Editor: There was a reminder of the October 15 deadline for the November Der Skooner. Articles planned include: 2018 GPR Board slate of candidates; Tech Article by Jason Bien; Woodhouse BackPack Program; SeptemberFest DE photos; Did You Know?; Meet A Member; Article and pictures from the Loess

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Hills Fun Run and lunch; Porsche Palooza. Upcoming events to be highlighted include New Member Dinner, and DE dates (if available). Highlights of the Social Media Webinar "Guide to Facebook" attended included: Every region should have a Social Media Chair. Update officer list when a person is appointed and Board should define the role and implement region social media guidelines and pin those guidelines to the top of the FB page. Enforce when necessary; Decide whether a FB Page or a FB Group is best suited for the region. A Page is where an admin posts as the region, as if the region could talk versus a Group is where the admin posts as himself; Know how to add or remove an Admin, group members, etc.; Hash tags turn a word into a searchable topic. Make a hast tag for your region and for specific events; FB can be used to: promote events, provide updates, promote the newsletter, thank sponsors, promote fellow regions, and promote national events; Polls can be created or trivia questions can be asked which increases membership involvement; there will be a special FB Group for Social Media Chairs only – be sure to have one appointed from our region to join the group.

Membership: There are 154 paid GPR members for 2017. There are 271 National PCA Members. There were 2 new National PCA Members added to our region and 0 new GPR Members added to our region. There was 1 new National PCA Member and new GPR Member added to our region.

Webmaster: Website was updated to reflect upcoming events. A suggestion was made that the October 2017 Der Skooner article written by Mike Reynolds entitled "Drivers Education: A Novice's Guide" be published on the website under the Driver's Education page. A blast email was sent to the membership with Board ballots. 44 responses have been received thus far.

Other Business: Kurt Halvorson introduced the Board to the Loew Cornell paint pen and indicated its use in repairing paint chips.

The next meeting will be held on November 7, 2017 as a call in meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Pete Jardine
Secretary

GPR Classifieds

FREE complete set of Excellence magazines, from the first issue to current month's (250 issues), available to anyone in the Club. Contact Bob Anderson at robertanderson911@gmail.com, or 402-990-8041.

The GPR would like to extend our thanks to Bob for volunteering every year at the Club Race at MPH as our Track Physician. Bob and his wife Kathy will be moving to Maine to be closer to family. We will miss you!

18" OEM wheels with Blizzaks used on '11 Cayenne
Offers please.

OEM 19's from my '15 Macan with aPirelli Scorpions
Used one season. Stored at Woodhouse. Offers please.

Bob Knapp
bkcarrera@gmail.com
402.968.9011