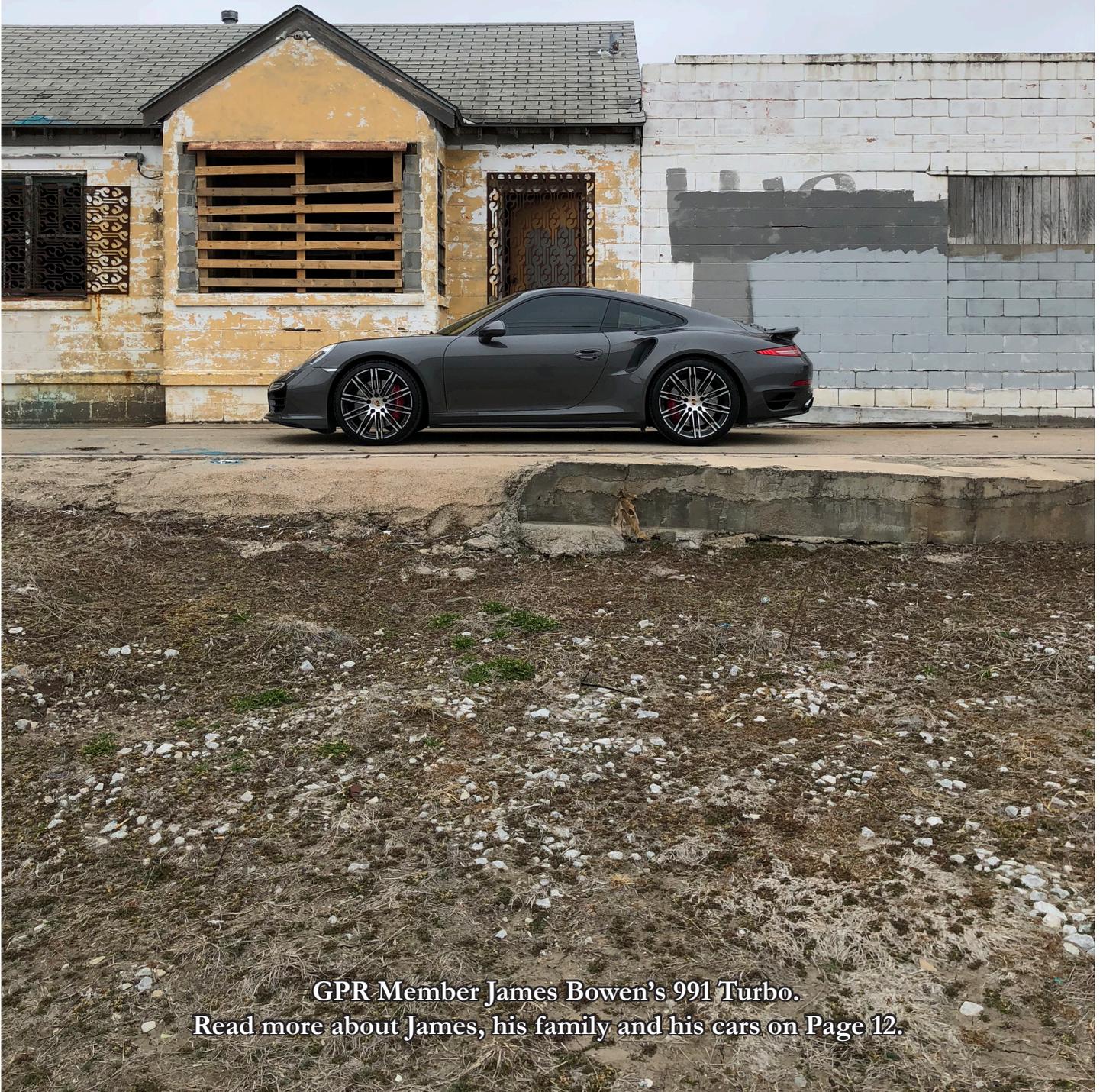




May 2018

# ER Skooner

Great Plains Region • Porsche Club of America



GPR Member James Bowen's 991 Turbo.  
Read more about James, his family and his cars on Page 12.

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**HANDS ON THE WHEEL**

By Steve Gehring

**Tribute to Kurt and Melinda Halvorson**

This month I want to take my hands off the wheel and lay them gently on Melinda and Kurt Halvorson and their son-in-law, Corey. Kurt and Melinda have one child, a daughter Keri, who died April 18 from a Grade 4 Glioblastoma brain tumor. To lose a loved one is always painful and heart wrenching – to lose an only child, at age 30, is beyond the pale.

Keri and Corey were married in Florida in 2015 and settled in Albuquerque. Corey is a worship pastor, while Keri was an accomplished dance choreographer and instructor. Melinda spent the better part of a year in Albuquerque with Keri and Corey as a mother, mother-in-law, caregiver, friend, encourager and dispenser of grace. Kurt, who, as project manager of The Cloisters on the Platte, has had more than a full time job, commuted back and forth

providing the same support. Over the past 5 or 6 years, there are not two people who have given more to our Club than Kurt and Melinda. Throughout this entire process, Melinda has been on virtually every Board call and has taken countless hours to collect and edit information into Der Skooner. Kurt, likewise, has taken his precious time to be on virtually all Board calls and, as I and other members of the Board have needed his time and expertise on DE events, the Club Race, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner, the annual dinner, and countless other items, he has been more than generous with his time, help and advice. This is a remarkable family and we in the Great Plains Porsche Club are blessed and fortunate to have two such energetic and committed people as members.

Let's all of us take our hands off the wheel for a moment and wrap them around the Halvorsons in this difficult and painful time.

**Der Skooner - Volume 54 Issue 5**

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

When you join the Porsche Club of America, you become a member of the largest independent, single marque club in the world. Membership is open to all Porsche owners, co-owners or lessees, who are 18 years of age or older. Club membership allows you to learn more about what your car can do, have more fun with it and get to know other Porsche owners who share your interests. We have fun, do cool stuff and drive some of the finest cars made. Come join the fun!

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 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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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 May PCA anniversaries:

35 Years

**Thomas Kay  
Randall Dotson**

15 Years

**Sally Knapp**

10 Years

**John Pershing  
Michael Cassling  
Randy Cassling**

5 Years

**Dave Hart  
Pete Jardine**

# 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 gprnews-letter@gmail.com.



**Your Name**

*Welcome* to our new PCA and GPR member:

**Jon Smith, Elkhorn**

and to our new GPR member:

**Chuck Lewis, Lincoln**

## *By the Numbers:*

118 GPR members  
265 PCA members

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**Saturday, June 9th  
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Celebrate 70 years of Porsche with us and your Porsche. Park your Porsche and partake in test drives, games, prizes, gourmet hot dogs and more. Mark your calendars and RSVP today.

**Please RSVP to [porsche.rsvp@woodhouse.com](mailto:porsche.rsvp@woodhouse.com)**



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# Porsches and Pancakes

Please join us the second Saturday of every month for a delicious breakfast and great conversation with your fellow Porsche friends. Bring your significant other, too!

We meet at **Garden Café, 11040 Oak Street in the Rockbrook Shopping Center in Omaha.** Our next breakfast is **May 12<sup>th</sup> at 8am.** See you there!

\*\*\*Please note there will be NO Porsches & Pancakes in June. You are invited to attend the International Porsche Day event at Porsche Omaha instead. See Page 4 for details.\*\*\*



Fifteen Porsche friends enjoyed breakfast together at our April gathering.

Photo by Joe Chambers



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## May

|                                    |                                                                                                                             |                                   |                |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup>                    | Social Pay-Your-Own-Way Dinner                                                                                              | Tavern 180, Omaha                 | 6:00 pm        |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>                   | Porsches & Pancakes                                                                                                         | Garden Café, 11040 Oak St., Omaha | 8:00 am        |
| 14 <sup>th</sup>                   | Pit Crew of GPR (Ladies ONLY) Dinner<br>See Page 9 for more information.                                                    | Sage Student Bistro               | 6:30 & 6:45 pm |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> | Spring Fling DE<br>Register NOW at ClubRegistration.net.                                                                    | RPM, Pacific Junction, IA         | 8:00 am        |
| 19 <sup>th</sup>                   | GPR Spring Fling Social at the Track<br>See Page 11. You MUST pre-pay for this event. Go to gprpca.com to register and pay. | RPM                               | 5:30 pm        |

## June

|                                    |                                                                                     |                                              |                    |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 9 <sup>th</sup>                    | <del>Porsches &amp; Pancakes</del><br>NO Porsches & Pancakes this month!            | <del>Garden Café, 11040 Oak St., Omaha</del> | <del>8:00 am</del> |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>                    | International Porsche Day<br>See Page 4 and RSVP now to porsche.rsvp@woodhouse.com. | Porsche Omaha                                | 11am-3 pm          |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> | Carrera GT Club Race & Advanced DE                                                  | MPH, Hastings                                |                    |
| 16 <sup>th</sup>                   | Club Race Party at the Tessmans                                                     | Hastings, NE                                 |                    |
| 24 <sup>th</sup>                   | GPR Picnic                                                                          | Walnut Grove Pavillion, Omaha                | 12:00 pm           |

## July

|                                   |                                        |                                      |         |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 8 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> | 63 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Porsche Parade | Lake of the Ozarks, Tan-Tar-A Resort |         |
| 14 <sup>th</sup>                  | Porsches & Pancakes                    | Garden Café, 11040 Oak St., Omaha    | 8:00 am |
| 21 <sup>st</sup>                  | Social Self-Pay Dinner                 | TBA                                  | 6:00 pm |
| 28 <sup>th</sup>                  | Summer Fun DE                          | RPM - Pacific Junction               | 8:00 am |

## August

|                                  |                                       |                                   |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> | Fun Run and Overnight at Hotel Pattee | Perry, IA                         |         |
| 11 <sup>th</sup>                 | Porsches & Pancakes                   | Garden Café, 11040 Oak St., Omaha | 8:00 am |
| 25 <sup>th</sup>                 | Fun Run                               | TBA                               |         |

Stay up to date on all GPR events on our website: [gprpca.com](http://gprpca.com). This is YOUR Club - be a part of it!

\* Not a GPR/PCA sponsored event

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Please join us for our

# 2nd Annual GPR Picnic and Porsche Car Show!

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The fun starts at noon

Walnut Grove Pavilion  
15050 Q Street  
Omaha

Catered by Dickey's: Barbequed Brisket and Pork Lunch  
Please bring a dessert to share  
Cost: \$12 adults, children under 10 are free

Chris & Erin Coda and Jen & Brandon Koom  
have graciously agreed to chair the picnic this year.

Prizes for the Car Show:

Best in Show, Most Unique, People's Choice, and Best of Era  
(1950-1970; 1971-1990; and 1991-present)

Wear your T-shirts from last year and let's beat the attendance record.

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



# Pit Crew of GPR/PCA

(Just the Ladies of the Club)

Monday, May 14, 2018

Dinner at Sage Student Bistro  
5730 N. 30th Street, Omaha

## Reservations:

8 at 6:30

6 at 6:45

Due to the large number of students this quarter no static menu is offered. There is a tasting menu available at a special prix fixe of \$30.00.

The culinary and baking and pastry students have created this menu. Plan on 2 ½ to 3 hours for dinner.

Wine and beer are available for purchase. You may bring your own bottle of wine for a \$10.00 corkage fee. Separate checks will be available.

Please RSVP by May 9<sup>th</sup> to [carol.lynch356@gmail.com](mailto:carol.lynch356@gmail.com)

When these 14 places are gone they are gone, however, there will be a waitlist for cancellations.

---

## Overnight Fun Run to Hotel Pattee

Kim Burger, our fun run guru, has put together another Western Iowa Driving Tour to Perry, Iowa with an overnight at the Hotel Pattee. The run goes out Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> with a return on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. Hotel Pattee is a unique venue with 40 rooms, each with its own design theme. Folks who went last time gave it rave reviews. There are 15 rooms reserved, of which seven are taken already. Costs range from a classic queen at \$134 to a full suite at \$224. If you have an interest in this really fun event, let Kim know right away at [kmburger37@icloud.com](mailto:kmburger37@icloud.com).



## Stay Current on all Things GPR and PCA:



[gprpca.com](http://gprpca.com)



[pca.org](http://pca.org)



[facebook.com/groups/gprpca](https://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](mailto:gprnewsletter@gmail.com).

~ Editor

The Great Plains Region Invites You to  
Come *Track* with us!

Here are the dates for our 2018 DEs

**Raceway  
Park of the  
Midlands**



**Spring Fling at RPM**

May 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am

Register NOW at [ClubRegistration.net](http://ClubRegistration.net)



**Club Race &  
Advanced DE at MPH**

June 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>

**Raceway  
Park of the  
Midlands**



**Summer Fun DE  
at RPM**

July 28<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 am

**Raceway  
Park of the  
Midlands**



**Fall Finale DE  
at RPM**

October 13<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 am

Drivers and their spouses, significant others, and kids  
are invited to come to the

## *GPR Spring Fling Social at the Track*

**Raceway Park of the Midlands  
Pacific Junction, Iowa  
Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm**

GPR and PCA members not participating in the DE are also welcome

### **Parade Laps 5:00-5:20 pm**

Anyone can drive their car (any car or SUV) on the track,  
following behind a pace car.

Speeds will be approximately 50% of the DE pace. Anyone can ride in the car, too.  
No helmets required. Parade laps safely simulate the track experience, providing participants  
the exhilaration of driving on a track.

NOTE: Anyone interested in participating in the parade laps should arrive at the track **by 4:30pm** to ensure all appropriate  
release forms are signed before the activities begin. No one will be allowed on the track without signing a release form.

### **Food & Drinks 5:30 pm - ?**

The GPR will supply sodas and water. BYOB if that is your preferred beverage.

NOTE: Alcohol consumption will not be allowed until the Parade Laps are completed.

PCA rules prohibit any alcohol consumption while cars are on the track.

### **Attitude on Food will be catering the event:**

Pulled pork sliders w/fried onions, pickles, slaw

OR

Ground beef sirloin on brioche slider buns with bacon jam, sliced tomatoes and Frisee

SIDES: Assorted BBQ sauces, AOF's famous Mac N Cheese, Home-made BBQ chips

Fresh fruit skewer

Plates and silverware included

**Dinner MUST BE PRE-PAID by Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> on our secure website:**

**[www.gprpca.com](http://www.gprpca.com)**

**\$12 for each adult and \$6.00 for each child under age 16.**

**Important notice: The food truck will have enough for those who pay in advance;  
those who don't pre-pay should not plan on eating. No late RSVPs or payments accepted.**

# Meet a GPR Member

The GPR/PCA is made up of a great group of members. This month's feature member is **James Bowen**.

My name is James Bowen and I'm a huge Porsche brand fan, but I'll get to that in a minute. I'm 41 years old now, and am a fairly un-active PCA member, however I hope to change that. I've completed one, two day, Drivers Education event and consider that among that best weekends of my life. My wife's name is Michelle and we have two fantastic kids, Alexis and Kaden. Lexi is 8 and Kaden is 11.

I co-founded Five Nines Technology Group in 2006 and we have become the largest independently owned Managed IT Services company in Nebraska with offices in Lincoln,

Omaha, and Kearney. We are the complete IT Department experience for businesses with 10 to 250 employees and are the best at what we do (GoNines.com). Pretty much everything I've done professionally has been in what has become the outsourced IT Services space, and Five Nines is my life's work. There is a running joke around the office that they will have to bury me out back eventually. (They just don't know it's not a joke.) I love that company, our staff, and our clients. Now back to Porsche.

The 911 was designed for my family. Let me explain...

My son was born 2.5 months early, 11 years ago, the very same week that I created Five Nines. Starting the business out of the NICU at the

hospital, not knowing how insurance and financial stability would play out; was a time which has defined my life.

Kaden was born with Cerebral Palsy and cannot walk or talk, although his mind is fine. One of the best things for kids like him is movement. When he was a baby, he needed to be in motorized swings, when he was a little kid, we would bounce him on trampolines or take him on small amusement park rides, and his favorite activity of all was Go Carts! However, we don't live near any amusement parks and as the poor guy grew he became too big to fit in any of the Go Cart tandem seats. So he has lost that activity from the few things that he did truly enjoy.

Enter the Porsche.

*(Continued on Page 13)*



*Kaden's favorite mode of transportation - a 911 Turbo!*

*(Meet a GPR Member, continued from Page 12)*

My first Porsche was a 987 Cayman. Simple base car with a manual transmission, and I miss it to this day. Since my wife and I's main family vehicle is and always will be a conversion wheelchair van, I decided on a whim that we should have a fun "date night" car as well. Since my son couldn't enjoy his Go Carts and he really needs his motion, I chanced taking him out in the Porsche.

Never has there been a happier and more satisfied child. Never has there been a kid who deserved this more.

As time has gone by my Porsche

habit grew into a 981 Cayman S, and then my first 911, a 991.2 base, followed by a Macan S for my wife, and now we are proud owners of a perfect 991 Turbo. Special thanks to Adam Brooks with Porsche Omaha for nearly all of them!

The 911 is a magical car. Not only does it scratch my itch for a sports car, but the bucket seats in the back fit my son like a glove, and that's necessary as no normal seat can hold him in place. He is more comfortable in the back of the 911 than he is in his own wheelchair.

Going on rides is his favorite activity now. We can even motivate him to try harder at therapy with a car ride

as a reward.

Our family of four can all fit in there just fine, and my kids and I share a lot of nice time in that car. Without this car, my son's life would be less enjoyable, and it has become a part of our family as a result. Not everyone will "need" a 911 in this way, obviously, and we could live without it, but it is a positive addition. The 911 is truly a family experience, and that is something I think makes it extra special. We will always have one.

That's our short story and our reason for enjoying Porsche so much. Hope to meet all of you soon at future GPR/PCA events!



*Lexi, Kaden and James out on a drive.*

# Club Racing: “The Rookie Year”

By Rick Mourey, Safety Chair

For perspective, this all actually brings me back to an off-hand remark that started with, “So Rick”, one esteemed GPR instructor starts with, if you really get into DEs it can be a pretty slippery slope expense wise if you are not careful. Huh, I think, good to know. What should have been stated is, if you blow right through DEs and get into club racing you will fall off an expense cliff (not a slope mind you) never to return.

Now clearly, if I had received that pearl of wisdom I would have ignored it. So even if I wanted to, I can’t blame the instructor who shall remain nameless for what follows.

My first year of club racing begins a full year before my rookie year, as most do. Mine started in Hastings with a shout across the paddock from Sally Knapp of, “Hey Rick, Chester has a race car for sale”!! I think, great, gotta go see Chester. I happen to catch my wife who has come with me to every DE, helps run grid and is super supportive in all of this, rolling her eyes so severely, the earth’s rotation stuttered for a few seconds. But Honey, it’s turnkey, I say. All I have to do is hop in and go racing. More rolling eyes, more slowing of the earth’s rotation. This scenario continues to be repeated to this day.

So, the race car is purchased (it’s a great race car), trailered (I already had a trailer, thank God, I already had a trailer) back from Kansas, and dropped off in Elkhorn. Which is good, right! Well, as we pull up to the driveway, I get the, “So, where are you going to put this thing, since I am not giving up my spot in the garage” question. “Rut roh”, I think,



“Well, the other cars can’t go outside,” I say, and really should have kept that comment in the thought bubble. Now mind you, we do have a four car garage, but like most folks, a bay is jammed with all forms of non car stuff. Not to be deterred, the race car vs garage gymnastics began. Which apparently was so entertaining my neighbors came out to watch. But, my wife kept her spot (as she should have) and I managed to get 4 cars in a four-car garage. Who said miracles don’t happen.

But, I digress, so back to the process. The pre first year is all about paperwork (yup, even here). Race application, resume of track days, phone interview, physical, eye exam – good thing my eye doctor is hot, hot, hot – but of course is on vacation when I need to get this done, more paperwork. And, make sure you sign everything. They (PCA) don’t like missing signatures.....just saying. Finally, done I tell my wife. I am issued a provisional “rookie” racing license. Well, not quite done. Remember the cliff mentioned earlier, yup; need a new helmet, HANS, new dated seat harnesses, SFI racing suit, gloves, racing shoes, fire retardant socks, fire retardant underwear (BTW – don’t but the cheap stuff. It itches like crazy and only becomes noticeable when you are all strapped in sitting on the grid), cool suit and system (thank you, Sandy Steckmann), extra

race tires and rims (DE, qualifying, race – with a seriously limited life span), race jack, spare parts..... And with each visit of the Fed X guy, I could hear, “Turn Key Huh, all you have to do is get in and race.....right?”

Finally, the first race is planned. Hastings, which is good. Kinda like the home track having run so many laps there. But, since I’m the safety chair, also responsible for the test and tune, and DE weekend there as well. Hmmm, maybe should have thought this through a little better. Honey, do you think you could run Grid for me? Dave and Peter will help! She’s a trooper and great at grid and Dave and Peter were great and I am now an inch shorter than I used to be.

Rookie race weekend. Packing for this was nothing like heading out to a DE weekend. Race car loaded, check. Race and qualifying tires, check. Fuel jugs, check. Spares parts, tool boxes, check. Gear bag, check. Wait, did I put everything in the gear bag? Of course I did. Open gear bag. Suit, check. Helmet, check. HANS, check. Socks, check. Cool shirt, check. You get the picture. Everything back in the gear bag. Do I need more tools? Yup. I wonder if I can roll the whole toolbox out and get it in the tow vehicle (which on race weekends is the tow vehicle) and all other times is my wife’s vehi-

*(Continued on Page 15)*

*(Club Racing: The Rookie Year, continued from Page 14)*

cle. The distinction is important.

At last, at the track, but nervous. What's up with that?? It's not like huge sponsors (and for the record, dipping into the kids college fund doesn't count as sponsorship) are here expecting a win first race out. But all is good. Have a crew chief, my wife. And yes, she also says this isn't what she signed up for. But she's a trooper and I can't do this without her. And you need a crew chief. Because you can't get in these things with all your gear, hook up the HANS which doesn't let you move your head, the cool suit, the belts, remove the wheel chocks, close the door because you can't reach it and throw the battery switch, all by yourself. Who knew...?



*Rick Mourey, Rookie, and Sally Knapp, Mentor, at the end of the rookie's 1<sup>st</sup> club race.*

Now, as a rookie at your first race you must have everything

checked and tech'd and attend rookie orientation on Friday afternoon. So at the appointed hour, I trundle over to the clubhouse with my pile of gear, logbook, and provisional license letter to see the race steward. Who as it turns out, aren't green and seven feet tall and eat rookies for breakfast like you said Sally. Sally Knapp is my mentor. Yes, you must have and absolutely want a mentor as a rookie. Sally was a great mentor, having years of racing experience, she helped me through all the nuances of the process, what to expect and also has the distinction of being with me on one of my first laps on a track at MAM as I punted turn one and 360'd a few times into the soy bean field. Fun. Was hoping my first turn in my first race didn't go the same way. Seriously, you think about all of this. I, to this day, have no idea what they talked about in the rookie orientation session. Also, part of being a rookie is you have to place X's on the back of your car so other drivers know you are a rookie, and will probably do something monumentally stupid, so draft and or pass at your own risk. Truth be told. This is a very wise requirement of PCA, because the minute I got in the car with all the gear on, I forgot EVERYTHING....more on that later.

Now keep in mind, up to this point, I haven't even run a practice or qualifying race lap yet. On Friday's it's test and tune sessions, run under DE rules with club racers, right. I'm ready though, sitting on the grid, itching my butt off because of the cheap Nomex underwear, getting the once over by the grid worker (my wife) who, I can read on her face is thinking, if he wrecks this car I'm marrying the Fed Ex guy. Finally, I get the signal to move out onto the track. This is cool. I'm surrounded by all manner of Porsche race cars.

First lap is warm up. Guys, warm up, guys...I have cars going around me like a pedestrian frozen in the middle of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue at rush hour. Holy moley what did I get into? This was the beginning of the, forget EVERYTHING scenario. Little pedal on the right, push down and you go faster. Pedal on the left, must be pushed in BEFORE engaging stick shift. Pedal in the middle, well, darn, I was going so slow compared to everyone else, I didn't need this one. Toto, we are not in a DE anymore!

In club racing, Saturday is really when the fun begins. Practice sessions are also quasi qualifying sessions for your grid spots in the next sessions and the races. So, after the DEish sessions the day before I'm thinking, maybe I should put bigger X's on the back of my car. But first couple of sessions go well. Sally's advice of hold your line and be predictable is spot on and for my first race. I have a grid spot that isn't dead last, and nobody throws their helmet at me from the hot pit for doing something stupid. But the whole rookie thing isn't over yet. Before your actual first real race, PCA has you practice starts during the lunch break. Another great idea! All the rookies must do this, and a handful of veterans participate to help add cars to the session. PCA race starts are rolling starts. We form up, drive a lap two by two, come around to the main straight, starter sees everything looks good, drops the green flag and bang, WOT (Wide Open Throttle) straight into turn one. Race for three turns, slow down form up and do this again two more times. It actually wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. Faster into turn one at Hastings than I have ever gone before with a car beside me but very manageable. Also, all of

*(Continued on Page 16)*

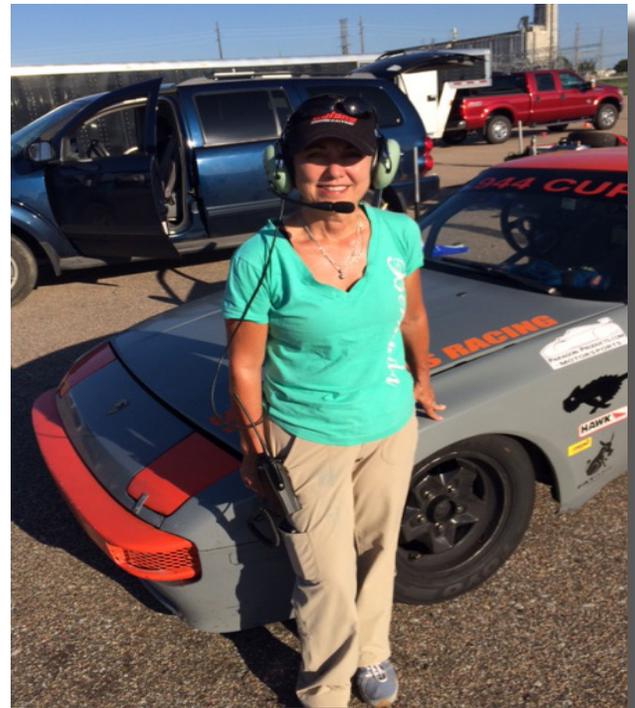
*(Club Racing: The Rookie Year, continued from Page 15)*

these in car sessions have another benefit which is the repetition of getting into the car and all hooked up. No easy feat with driving gear, roll bars and race seat. For the practice starts, my crew chief, aka; wife, grid worker and full on support group needs a break, so I do it myself this time. It went a little like this; climb in, climb out, throw battery switch to on. Climb back in buckle up, flail around to get the HANS hooked up, which must have looked like I was swatting at bees in the car. Reach for steering wheel. Can't reach the steering wheel. Why did I leave it on the passenger floor? Unbuckle, grab steering wheel, lock on the wheel, buckle back up. Close the door. Nope. Can't reach the door sling. Unbuckle, grab door sling, close door, buckle back up. Because it's Hastings, and 200 degrees outside, I'm now drenched in sweat, the Nomex is in high itch mode, and I promise, promise, promise to thank my wife for all her help.

After all of this, finally, my first official race is on. We grid up. I'm not dead last, and we rollout onto the track, come around turn two and there's the splitter dude. This person, standing in the middle of the track with race cars going by points to which side of the track you are to start on. All I can think of is, don't hit the splitter dude. That would be really embarrassing. Just like the practice sessions, in formation, we come around the track towards the start line. Except this time there are 20+ cars, not 8 and they are all weaving back and forth. Heat in the tires or some such thing. Except me. No way. If I do that I'll spinout, hit the car next to me, cause a yellow flag while under yellow and my

racing career is over before it even starts. So, no way, just keep the car pointed in the right direction. We head to the start/finish line. Except at Hastings, if you are down the grid, the lead cars are coming up to the start finish, and you haven't even hit the last turn yet. Well, too bad for you sonny, should have qualified faster, cuz, the green flag drops and your race starts by going into turn 13 on the inside all bunched up. On the main straight, WOT. In front of me they are three wide, one car is in the grass, car on my left is on my door handle and the car behind me I could swear is hooked onto my rear tow loop. We go two wide through turn one. Well that's a first, except that becomes three wide through turn two. What happened to hit the apex, let the car run out to the left side of the track, unwind smoothly. Bunk! It's really, hang on for dear life, hold your crappy line, and try not to get passed. Next time I'm instructing, that's what I'm telling the student. Let's see what they think about that. I get passed by one car (a Boxster – pure humiliation) but I have a complete blast with the rest of the race. Do a cool down lap, get waves and thumbs up from the corner workers, exit the track and that's how you get your first PCA club race finished. Now, while exiting, I did get the "go to scales" sign. Really. But I go to the scales. At Hastings you have to drive up a wood ramp to get weighed. Really, after what I just did! Well, the story with this little event will never, ever be told. Ever.

Fast forward. Last race of the season at Hallett in Oklahoma. This is the end of season championship race, so racers are coming from all over the west and Midwest for this weekend. Great track but very technical and takes me forever to not get lost on the track, but finally have a good race routine down. The real story here is the paddock and who shows up. Remember earlier I mentioned the expense cliff of club racing. Well I'm not even close. We rent a race port which is basically an aluminum car port with electricity. Very handy. We unload. Yes, very supportive wife is still with me and hasn't run off with the Fed Ex guy. Yet. So, unload my jack, tool box, spare race tires etc. Pretty cool. We're a race team, my wife and I.



*Crew Chief & Wife, Theresa Mourey*

In the carport next to us a huge travel trailer pulls up. Two guys unload a full-on Cup Car. Tool boxes, compressor, other things I will learn about as the weekend progresses. First thing they do is hook up an air

*(Continued on Page 20)*

# GPR Online Calendar

By Eric Elliott, GPR Webmaster

Did you know you can add GPR events to your personal calendar right from the website? Read on to find out how.

There are two ways you can add events to your calendar:

## Subscribe to the full calendar

This is the easiest method, and it ensures you always have the full, up-to-date GPR calendar on your phone or computer. Once subscribed to the calendar feed, all events from the website will sync to your calendar, and stay in sync as we add or update events.

To subscribe, simply click on the red "Subscribe" button on the front page of the website, and follow the instructions.

## Add individual events to your calendar

What if you don't want all the GPR events on your calendar, but rather only those you are interested in? You can do this too.

To add a single event to your calendar, simply click on an event to see its full description, scroll down the page a little ways, and click on the "+ GOOGLE CALENDAR" or "+ ICAL EXPORT" button, depending on which calendar you use, and that

event will be added to your calendar. Note that by using this method, the event details will not be updated on your calendar if we update them on the website, but it does allow you to pick and choose which events appear on your calendar.

Hopefully this is useful for you.

Also, stay tuned, as we will be revamping the entire website later this year, including full support for mobile devices, better organized and updated information, and a cleaner, more modern look. And if you have any suggestions on what you'd like to see on the new website, feel free to send an email to [gprpca@gprpca.com](mailto:gprpca@gprpca.com).

**GREAT PLAINS REGION**  
**CARRERA GT AT MPH**  
**JUNE 15\* - 17, 2018 • SPONSORED BY PORSCHE OMAHA**

**\*FRI: TEST AND TUNE FOR CLUB RACERS (OPTIONAL - NOT A PCA DE) - CONTACT MPH DIRECTLY: [ganderson68901@gmail.com](mailto:ganderson68901@gmail.com)**  
**SAT & SUN: ADVANCED DE & THREE SPRINT RACES FOR EACH CLASS**  
**SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL**

**REGISTRATION: [register.pca.org](http://register.pca.org)**  
**MORE INFO: [txlessmann@cox.net](mailto:txlessmann@cox.net) or [www.gprpca.com](http://www.gprpca.com)**

MOTORSPORT PARK HASTINGS  
2.15 MI • HASTINGS, NEBRASKA

**REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 30**

Der Skooner

Dear Great Plains Region Member,

Quality social and driving events are a direct result of your financial support of GPR PCA.

If you have joined us in the past for the Annual Winter Party, the Spring Fling, the summer social in Hastings, or other events involving food and friendship, we hope you have experienced worthwhile events as a Porsche owner. Quality food, a suitable setting and the time to connect with other Porsche enthusiasts make outstanding events, and we would like to continue and improve them.

Revenue from track events, such as the annual Club Race and Driver Education events can help supply revenue to cover the cost of social events, but are insufficient and unreliable sources to support all of our annual events. Our \$30 dues help offset minor club costs, but as a whole do not cover even one large social event during the year.

We thank Porsche Omaha and our individual sponsors in the past year, as well as the many volunteers who have allowed the membership as a whole to enjoy themselves with little to no money coming out of their own pockets to attend club social events.

The GPR needs **your support** to continue the legacy of a great Porsche Club organizing exceptional events. Please consider your support for the GPR for 2018.

Sincerely,

Your GPR Board of Directors

(Please detach the bottom portion and send with your donation.)

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor Levels:**

|            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| 918 Spyder | \$750 and up  |
| 962        | \$500 - \$749 |
| 917        | \$250 - \$499 |
| 908        | \$100 - \$249 |

**Please make your donation payable to: GPR/PCA and mail to:  
Russell Rabeler, Treasurer GPR/PCA  
1712 N. Nye Ave  
Fremont, NE 68025**

Questions? Please email Russ at [rfrabeler@msn.com](mailto:rfrabeler@msn.com).

# GPR April Board Meeting Minutes

The Great Plains PCA Board met at 6:00 p.m. on April 3, 2018, at Steve Gehring's office.

Present in person or by telephone were Steve Gehring, Joe Chambers, Russ Rabeler, Terry

Lessmann, Steve Bartlett, Kurt Halvorson, Rick Mourey, Melinda Halvorson, and Eric Elliott. Peter Jardine was an apology.

**Social:** The March 10 P&P at Garden Café was attended by 19 people. April events include the P&P on April 14 at Garden Café. There was a reminder that a Treffen was being held in New Mexico April 25 – 28. There was an error on the date for the Northern Loess Hills Fun Run. It should be April 28 rather than April 30. Because the self-pay dinner at Tavern 180 would also be on the same day as the Fun Run, it was determined to move the self-pay dinner to May 5, again at Tavern 180. It was determined not to do the Fun Run on May 12, but just to have Porsches & Pancakes breakfast on that date. Spring Fling DE will be held at RPM on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. It was determined to use Stripe to pre-pay the dinner on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Safety:** There were no national updates or changes to report. The safety officer and John Krecek are continuing to work on an appropriate day for the instructor refresher gathering. There was discussion about the Club Race Insurance submission.

**Registrar:** The registrar reported that an old registration website was taken down. Registration is currently open for the Spring Fling DE. The Registrar also completed and filed the observer's report for the March Tech Session at Woodhouse.

**Secretary:** The March Minutes were approved as distributed.

**President:** October 27 was approved for the second annual Southern Loess Hills Fun Run. There was **Der Skooner**

a discussion about an event to show the Steve McQueen LeMans movie at some point. Suggestions were requested as to an appropriate site.

**Past President and Associate Editor:** No report.

**Treasurer:** The opening account balance for March was \$74,560 and the closing balance was \$74,430. Receipts included club sponsorship of \$500, dues of \$130, and interest of \$15. Expenses included an accountant fee for the 2017 tax return of \$565, administrative of \$27 (including \$23 to the IRS) and newsletter printing of \$120 and supplies of \$65.

**Editor:** April 15 deadline for submissions for the May Der Skooner was mentioned. Rick Mourey is doing an article on Club Racing. The President will do a write-up on the Northern Loess Hills Fun Run. Appreciation and kudos were given to the Editor for the member interviews, which have been most entertaining.

**Membership:** There are 114 paid GPR members and 271 PCA members. There were 3 new GPR members since the last meeting.

**Webmaster:** The website is up-to-date through September events. The secure SSL certificate expired and the web host, which renews the certificate, missed it this year. The webmaster has set a calendar reminder for next year to make sure that no problems occur.

There was a considerable discussion about the webmaster's ideas for a new website. Webmaster encouraged everyone to get to him with any suggestions or ideas. The Board approved anticipated costs of \$80 with the understanding that the webmaster could certainly request more if needed. A 6-8 week time frame was set for completion. The goals for the new website are as follows:

1. A cleaner, lighter, more modern

design.

2. A mobile-friendly design is top priority, making the entire site accessible and easy to read via smart phones.

3. A re-organization and re-writing of "permanent" information that is currently on the site. Some of the info is harder to find than it should be, and most of the content was written many years ago. Should be reviewed and revised.

4. Make it easier to find forms needed like tech forms for DE's, etc. People shouldn't have to hunt for these things.

5. Some sort of ongoing "dynamic" content on the site in addition to events. Maybe photo galleries of events if we can get photos (could be hard) or re-publishing select Der Skooner articles each month on the website.

6. A better way to highlight events and new content – the current slider is clunky and old.

7. Links back to national PCA resources as needed, like a link to their website, etc.

8. Maybe a permanent link to Club Registration from the website, so it is easy to find.

9. A sponsors area. I would like to have a place where we can display our sponsors on the website.

**Next Meeting:** May 1, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. – call in.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen E. Gehring  
Acting Secretary

1(*Club Racing: The Rookie Year, continued from Page 16*)

line to the car. Up it comes on in-board air jacks. What?! I want that. So, I ask, do you guys share the driving? No, we're the race crew. Drove up from Dallas last night. Driver is flying in from Houston this morning. What?! I want to do that. These two guys are great and offer help all weekend. That's club racing! Carport on the other side. Great big stacked rig. Four race prepped Boxster's get rolled out. They have the entire car port and four, four, mechanics. Drivers just hang around on the picnic tables all weekend when they aren't in the cars. Fancy, shiny alignment ramps and scales take up one side of their car port. Up go the Boxsters for alignment and corner balancing. This went on all weekend. What?! I want those too. Whole different economic gene pool going on here. Really honey, we don't have to put all the kids through university, do we? Such is the learnings and experiences of a first year of club racing. Can't wait for year two, but seriously thinking of leaving the rookie X's on my car and getting a second job. The earth's rotation continues to stutter.

## GPR Classifieds

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Porsche Omaha has two aftermarket parts they would like to offer to anyone in the Club at a discounted price. The links to the items are below:

**EVOMS 987 air filter kit: Normal price-\$299, Sale Price-\$150**

**LN Engineering deep sump for 997: Normal price-\$249, Sale Price-\$129**

[http://www.evoms.com/category\\_s/2085.htm](http://www.evoms.com/category_s/2085.htm)

<https://lnengineering.com/bilt-racing-0-5qt-deep-sump-oil-pan-extension-kit.html>

If interested, contact Andy Hipwell, Service Manager  
[andrew.hipwell@woodhouse.com](mailto:andrew.hipwell@woodhouse.com)  
402-592-1000  
800-889-1893

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### **Porsche Panoramas for Sale:**

Issues include May 1964-February 1973; 1989-1991; 1997; 1999-2017.

Thirty-two years, 384 issues.

Excellent condition. \$90. 402-202-9233 or [deon.susan@gmail.com](mailto:deon.susan@gmail.com)



**JULY 8-14, 2018**