

June 2018



# ER Skooner

Great Plains Region • Porsche Club of America



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## HANDS ON THE WHEEL

By Steve Gehring

**Second Annual Northern Loess Hills Fun Run**

If you didn't join us on April 28 for our Second Annual Fun Run through the Northern Loess Hills, you missed a wonderful drive. We met at Lake Cunningham on a beautiful Saturday morning and discovered that GPS still has its faults. If you came down State Street from one direction, you drove right into the parking area where we were gathered and if you came the opposite direction on State Street, you ended up on the opposite side of Lake Cunningham wondering where all the Porsches were. We had 25 Porsches and 40 folks. At mid-morning we stopped for coffee, homemade cookies and assorted goodies at the Loess Hills Lavender Farm. We were quite well treated by the people there. If you are just out for a drive over in the Loess Hills, I really recommend stopping there and seeing all the wonderful lavender products (LoessHillsLavender.com). The picture on the front cover was taken as we were leaving. There are more pictures from the event on Page 11. After 69.8 miles, we ended up for a delicious lunch at the Good Fellows restaurant in Woodbine.

Our very special thanks to **Kim Burger** who was kind enough to plan our sister state peregrinations. We are most fortunate to have a member whose living involves

driving and who is kind enough to take the time to put these together. If you missed this one, please don't miss the Second Annual Southern Loess Hills Fun Run down to Tabor, Iowa. More on this later.

**Picnic Time!**

Last year, about 90 people showed up on a beautiful June Sunday for our great barbeque picnic. We decided to do it again. This year it will be at the same location, at Walnut Grove Pavilion, at noon on June 24. **Chris and Erin Coda** and **Jen and Brandon Koom** have graciously agreed to chair the picnic this year. Dickey's will again cater a barbequed brisket and pork lunch and all attendees will be invited to bring some more wonderful desserts. We do have to charge this year. It will be \$12 for adults and children under 10 will eat for free. The Codas and the Kooms have come up with some door prizes to add to the fun this year.

There will also be a Porsche car show with prizes for 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.

**Feeling Old**

It doesn't take much for me to feel

*(Continued on Page 14)*

**Der Skooner - Volume 54 Issue 6**

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 June PCA anniversaries:

25 Years

**Craig Kelley**

10 Years

**Roger DuRand**

*Welcome* to our new PCA and GPR members:

**Jesse Benedict, Lincoln**

**Dave Lake, Papillion**

**Michael Merritt, Logan, IA**

**Paula and Michelle Mau,  
Omaha**

and to our new GPR members:

**Grant Matthies, Omaha**

**Chad Goosmann, Dakota Dunes**

# 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**

## By the Numbers:

129 GPR members

265 PCA members

## On the Front Cover

Drivers and navigators are ready to go on the Northern Loess Hills Fun Run.

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**PORSCHE**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## June

9 <sup>th</sup>	Porsches & Pancakes NO Porsches & Pancakes this month!	Garden Café, 11040 Oak St., Omaha	8:00 am
9 <sup>th</sup>	International Porsche Day	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 Tessman's See Page 9 and RSVP to <a href="mailto:steve.bartlett100@gmail.com">steve.bartlett100@gmail.com</a> by June 9 <sup>th</sup> !	Hastings, NE	6:00 pm
24 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual GPR Picnic & Porsche Car Show See Page 8 for more information and pre-pay NOW at <a href="http://gprpca.com">gprpca.com</a> .	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	Della Costa, Omaha	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

## September

8 <sup>th</sup>	Porsches & Pancakes	Garden Café, 11040 Oak St., Omaha	8:00 am
9 <sup>th</sup>	All-European Show & Shine*	Lauritzen Gardens, Omaha	12-3:00 pm
12 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup>	PCA Treffen Banff	Banff, Alberta, Canada	
16 <sup>th</sup>	Social Self-Pay Dinner	TBA	6:00 pm

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  
**\*\*\*You must pre-pay for this event\*\*\***

Please use our secure website, [gprpca.com](http://gprpca.com) to make your payment.

Prizes for the Car Show:

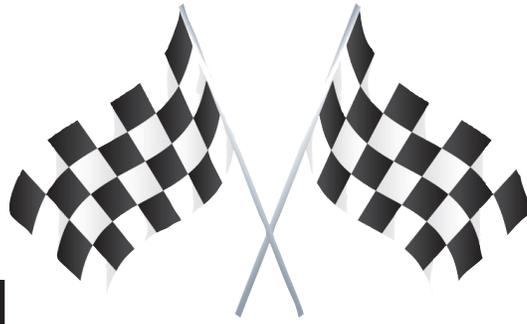
Best in Show, Most Unique, People's Choice, and Best of Era  
(1950-1970; 1971-1990; and 1991-present)

There will be door prizes, too!

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



# You're Invited ... to the Annual Club Race Party at the Tessman's!



Don't miss this year's annual GPR Club Race Party at the Tessman's ... it's always fun and definitely worth the drive! This party is for current GPR members and registered DE and Club Race participants. You don't have to participate in the Club Race or DE to attend the party, but you do need to RSVP!

**Date:** June 16<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Place:** 1601 N. Highland Road  
Hastings, NE

**Hosts:** Dennis and Kathy Tessman

RSVP: You **MUST RSVP** by June 9<sup>th</sup> to Steve Bartlett  
at [steve.bartlett100@gmail.com](mailto:steve.bartlett100@gmail.com).

We would love to see a great showing of Porsches!

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## 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 still a few rooms available. 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



Club Race &  
Advanced DE at MPH  
June 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> **New Rates!**  
Register **NOW** at [ClubRegistration.net!](http://ClubRegistration.net)

*Raceway*  
*Park of the*  
*Midlands*



Summer Fun DE  
at RPM  
July 28<sup>th</sup>

*Raceway*  
*Park of the*  
*Midlands*



Fall Finale DE  
at RPM  
October 13<sup>th</sup>



# Northern Loess Hills Fun Run Pictures - April 28<sup>th</sup>

## 25 cars, 40 people

Photos by Joe Chambers and Terry Lessmann



Right: Lunch at Good Fellows restaurant in Woodbine, Iowa.

# Meet a GPR Member

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

When Joe Strauss came from Germany to America between the World Wars, he soon developed a love of American cars. He passed on that interest to my older brother and me. Early on, my father became the owner of a Graham Paige, a luxury car in its time. It was very rough and knowing my father's meager financial status, I imagine that whiskey and a late night poker game had something to do with his ownership.

When I was nine years old, my brother came to me with a financial proposition. At fifteen, he wanted to buy a Model A Ford but didn't have the full fifty dollar asking price. My life savings was twenty five dollars. He had twenty seven so we became partners in his purchase with two dollars left over for gas. What kid wouldn't want to be part owner of his first car at age nine. I never drove it.

A lot of used cars passed through our family in my early life, nothing very remarkable except for a 1958 Buick Roadmaster that must have had 500 pounds of chrome.

My brother taught me how to drive in a 1936 Chevy with a floor mounted gear shift about as long as flagpole. Someday I said, I will have my own car.

I went to high school in the in the small town of Wahoo, west of Omaha. As a Junior, I bought my first car, a 1954 Ford. I promptly spent as

much money on a new paint job as I did on the car. Beautiful color "1956 Dodge Royal Blue Metallic". It was mildly customized and very cool. I was "stylin".

Now, I had to get my driver's license. My father let me borrow the Buick for the test. One hundred percent on the written and I was sure I would impress the officer with my talented driving skills. As I smoothly parked the big boat in front of the Wahoo courthouse, he turned to me and said, "When do you want to retake your test?" - WHAT?? I have a date tomorrow night with the Homecoming Queen and told my buddy that I would be driving. "Well son, in that 30mph zone on the highway through town, you were doing 55!" Disaster strikes, I was mortified.

My '54 Ford accompanied me to college in Lincoln. After a couple of wrecks, it finally died. Nothing like going 65 down the highway and having the hood fly open. I became adept at begging for rides, hitchhik-

ing, and knowing the locations of various bus stations.

In Medical School in Omaha, I depended on rides from classmates until my brother bought a '55 Chevy 4 door sedan "family car" that he let me use. Not exactly a sexy ride but at least I had wheels.

My first encounter with a Porsche was in Med School, 1967. We were making a beer run to Louies when Howard Shoemaker of GPR fame pulled up along side in his 911. I knew nothing about Porsche. I said, "Cool car," and Howard said, "Ah, you like the Porsche." He was wearing a Viking helmet with horns and roared off into the night. What a guy!

When I graduated medical school in 1968, it was finally time to get myself a real car, something cool. A new dark green Pontiac GTO, big engine, stick shift. It would suck the doors off almost anything on the road.



*Above: Denny in Nam.*

*(Continued on Page 13)*

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

My internship took me to Los Angeles Country Hospital where I had my first Porsche ride. One of my fellow interns had a 911. He really showed me what early 911 oversteer was all about. I thought, "Maybe someday."

After LA it was time to travel to exotic lands - destination, Vietnam. I served as a flight surgeon for a Recon Battalion. Did a lot of flying right seat, both helicopters and fixed wing. Quite an experience. Loved flying except for those moments of sheer terror. In Nam, Road and Track, Car and Driver kept me up on the car world in the states.

I returned to Omaha for a three year residency in Diagnostic Radiology. After a brief return to California, I spent the next 30 years in Radiology at Methodist Hospital here in Omaha. While in California, I bought my first real sports car, a Datsun 280Z. I loved that car. A lady running a stop sign put an end to that love affair.

Now what to do? Was I finally ready for a Porsche? Absolutely, but maybe not a 911, not just yet. I purchased a 924 Turbo S, a really fun car but after replacing the third turbo, I wasn't so sure about this Porsche thing. I thought about going to the dark side and buying a Corvette. With the 924, I had joined GPR and Gary Quast and Bob Lynch told me, "If you really wanted to enjoy a Porsche, get a 911". So "Someday" had finally arrived - a beautiful 1980 silver 911 with a dark blue leather interior was in my garage.

I followed this up with a 1984 911 Turbo look which I still own, only 42,000 miles. A wide body 911

America Roadster was next. Chris and I drove it to Santa Fe, all on back roads, not one mile of Interstate. My last 911 street car was a 1998 Carrera S, last of the air cooled cars. Probably the best car I have ever owned.

After taking several driving courses and talking with racers in California, I got interested in participating in Vintage Racing. A 356 Porsche seemed like a good place to start. I traveled to G and W Motorwerkes in Virginia with GPR 356 Guru Bill Brown and we returned with a 1964 Coupe Racer, a 1960 Roadster and a 1965 Coupe street car. How did that all happen?

I raced with G and W for several years primarily in the Southeast and then with Cox Motor-

sports out of Kansas City. Also got involved in PCA Club Racing and had a great time with GPR friends. My last race car was a bright yellow 1970 911 ST clone. The car remains within GPR in the hands of Dave Anderson.

With Cox Motorsports, we traveled to races throughout the U.S. and had the opportunity to drive at Laguna Seca, Watkins Glen, Road America, Mid Ohio, Sebring and Daytona with a few others scattered in between. How lucky can you get. Road America remains my favorite track.

There were some memorable

Porsche racing moments. My second race was in St. Louis and my wife Chris was my entire pit crew. After unhooking the trailer, we were allowed to do a few recon laps in our Jeep. Now it was time to get the 356 off of the trailer. With Chris giving directions, I started to back off of the trailer. Suddenly, I was looking up at bright blue sky and yes, I did forget to hook the trailer back up to the Jeep. The crew next to me were hysterically laughing. They got the trailer level with the ground and helped me throughout the weekend - we needed it.



At Sebring, some friends convinced me that the night enduro would be fun. When we arrived in the hot pits, all the cars had multiple extra lights mounted, sufficient to light up a movie set. Being true to Porsche, my racing partner Dave Farrell and I were depending on Doctor Porsche's original headlights which gave us a great view of the left edge of the track and anything greater than eight feet tall on the right. It was a most interesting evening.

The yellow ST was entered in two race-car concours events at Road America. The cars leave the track

*(Continued on Page 14)*

*(Meet a GPR Member, continued from Page 13)*

with a police escort and travel to the nearby town of Elkhart Lake where they park on the street around the famous Siebkens Inn. There is a huge crowd of people, many from the Chicago area. The concours is sponsored by Road and Track magazine. The ST got first in class one year, second the next year being runner-up to a restored 904 - a great car.

My last vintage race was in the 911 ST at Daytona. Going three wide on the banking is a bucket list thrill.

When I retired from Methodist radiology, a “graduation present” seemed to be in order. The mid 50’s

Porsche Spyders have always been a favorite of mine. Soon, John Phillips and I were headed West to Baldwin Park, California with an enclosed trailer to bring home a silver / red 550 Spyder replica. It is a blast to drive and I still have it.

It has been quite a Porsche journey with some other cool cars thrown in - BMW, Ferrari, classic Fords and Mercurys and a 1978 Cadillac Coupe d’Ville, black with red leather. I was “stylin”.

The Great Plains Porsche Club has become so very important to me. It has provided Chris and me with so many of our friends. I have served on the board from “Chief Gopher” to President; Chief driving instructor to women’s DE instructor. Pres-

ently on a PCA national committee for driving tour events. Chris and I have sponsored rallies, fun runs and car shows. It never seemed like work because of the wonderful people we were dealing with. The cars, the events, the excitement - all great, but it really is the people that make it all so special.

A future car? The new 911 Carrera T looks interesting as does a Cayman GTS; always have wanted a new turbo but not the new house mortgage that would come with it; an outlaw early 911 would be a kick. At my age, I still need one last really cool car. I keep thinking of something new but if you see me tooling around in a black ’78 Caddy, WAVE-I’ll be stylin’.

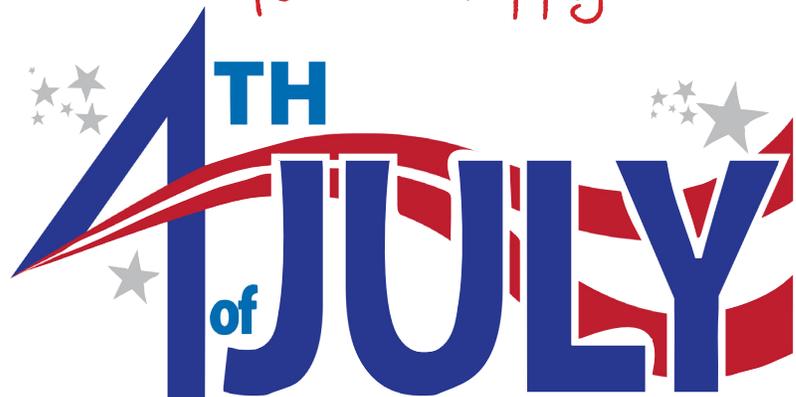
*(Hands on the Wheel, continued from Page 2)*

old these days, but reading the current issue of Christophorus and the article “Nerves of Zeal” did a fine job. For those of you who don’t see Christophorus, the first part of the article involves a Porsche 911 GT2 RS driving contest between Lars Kern and Niklis Krellenberg. You might comment, “well, I know Lars Kern is the Porsche test and development driver who flogged the new GT2 through the Nordschleife at a mind-bending record of 6:43.3 minutes. But who the heck is Niklis Krellenberg and why would he even think about challenging Kern?” As it turns out, young Niklis (also known as “aTTaX Johnson”) was a world rally championship on the Xbox gaming console. After 2 minutes on the Xbox, Krellenberg, the e-racer, is several seconds ahead of Kern,

although Kern has had countless hours in the car and on the simulator. Krellenberg, a 27-year old university student in Magdebourg, Germany, doesn’t even own a car. According to Christophorus, more than 2.2 billion people worldwide compete regularly in e-Sport tournaments. Worldwide sales of computer games exceeded \$100 billion in 2016. In 2022, e-Sports will be a medal

event at the Asian Games. At The International E-Sports Tournament in 2017, the event was streamed live on 33 million computers around the world and \$25 million of prize money was awarded. Ah well, maybe in another lifetime I’ll decide that this type of eye-hand coordination is more fun than burning gasoline and smoking tires – but I doubt it.

*We hope you have a very safe and happy*



# From the GRID

By Rick Mourey, Safety Chair

By the time this is published, we will have run our first DE of the season. So, fingers crossed we had sunshine, warm temps and a safe and fun weekend.

A key DE safety update from PCA for 2019 I'd like everyone to be aware of now is the required use of a HANS device (SFI approved head and neck device) for all drivers AND

passengers in cars using 5/6-point harnesses. Reminder, 4-point harnesses are not allowed even with a HANS. Although not mandatory, I highly recommend anyone using race harnesses to begin using a HANS device this year. They will be mandatory next year and will be verified during tech and on the grid. No HANS, no getting on the track.

The first reasonably local Club Race was held at Heartland Motorsports Park in Topeka, KS on April 28 and 29. Great turnout for this race with 40+ cars in one race group and a good GPR showing. Weather was fantastic, until rain began for the last 3 laps of the final race. Needless to say, with everyone on slicks, we were all looking for the last lap signal

*(Continued on Page 16)*

## PCA Juniors

By Alex Boyd, PCA & GPR Member

You don't have to be a GPR/PCA member for very long to recognize that you receive many benefits in exchange for your modest membership fees. In reading the March, 2018 edition of Panorama, I found a new and under-utilized member benefit – PCA Juniors. The national Porsche Club of America began PCA Juniors with a soft rollout in 2017 as a program to include PCA members' children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. As of March, 2018, PCA reported "more than 800" PCA Juniors members. Considering Club membership exceeds 100,000, the PCA Juniors program is just beginning.

PCA Juniors is a free program for any child under age 18 related to a current PCA member. Each PCA Junior member receives a welcome package that includes a PCA Juniors ID badge and an age-appropriate gift. According to PCA, the PCA Junior member will receive fun surprises each year thereafter. Registration can quickly be completed online at <https://www.pca.org/pca-juniors>.

I was anxious to try out this new member benefit and registered my three-year-old son and nine-month-old daughter. Almost exactly one month later, two welcome packages arrived in the mail. My son received an ID badge, a drawstring bag, and a pair of sunglasses. My daughter received an ID badge and a "preventative maintenance" bib. Every item has the new PCA Juniors logo. I was impressed with the Club's attention to detail with this free benefit.

Hopefully the program will continue to grow and foster the next generation of PCA members. Sometimes



it's the small things that really drive home the saying, "It's not just the cars, it's the people" (and their kids, too)!

*(From the GRID, continued from  
Page 15)*

before things got really ugly. And of course, the rain stopped right at the end of the race. If you are looking for a DE event to add to your track bucket list, I highly recommend Topeka. The KC region runs a great event and the track which has been completely repaved is challenging at 2.5 miles with a nice long front straightaway for you high horse power folks. Lots of fun all around and Class A facilities to boot.

Our GPR Club Race held at Motorsport Park Hastings is coming up in June (16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>). This is another great Midwest facility where we are really pleased to be holding this long-standing event. If you can, visit the Hastings track that weekend for some great PCA Club Racing. GPR will be well represented by drivers in the race and as hosts for the event.

We are always looking for volunteers to help at these events. If you are interested in helping out with the grid, registration, or assistant steward roles, please reach out to Steve Gehring, Terry Lessmann or myself.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ladies Pit Crew Dinner at Sage Bistro - May 14<sup>th</sup>

Article by Theresa Mourey

Many thanks to **Carol Lynch** for organizing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ladies GPR Pit Crew Dinner. We met again at the Sage Student Bistro on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> for a night of delicious tastings prepared by local students. The menu was comprised of a 14 course meal with items ranging from Medjool dates, lobster, pheasant and finally a scrumptious rhubarb torte.

It was a beautiful sunny evening and eleven of us gathered again together to catch up on all things non-Porsche and yes, to also share a Porsche story or two. The service and food from the student cooks and chef were impeccable and our three hour meal flew by. We all look forward to connecting again because we as a group realize it is not always about the cars - believe it or not, gentlemen.



Left to right:  
Carol Lynch, Sheila Christ, Sally Knapp, Jetty Rabler, Pat Shanley, Linda Knight, Sandy Brusco, Theresa Mourey, Patti Adler, Glo McDaniel, Linda Burt Rebrovic

# Tavern 180 - Social Dinner - May 5<sup>th</sup>

Eleven GPR friends enjoyed a wonderful dinner together at Tavern 180 the first Saturday in May. We had a great time and look forward to our next Social Dinner, which is planned for July 21<sup>st</sup>. Look for more information to come and please make plans to join us!



Left to Right:  
Linda Sena, Kurt & Melinda Halvorson, Cindy & Joe Chambers, Walt Wood, Glo McDaniel, Carol & Bob Lynch, Jeff Sena, Terry Lessmann

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REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 30



# Treffen Tamaya

By Traveling Jeff (Sena), GPR Member

Treffen Tamaya was the fourth long weekend event sponsored by PCA National and was held April 25<sup>th</sup> through April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Hyatt Regency Tamaya in Santa Ana Pueblo just Outside of Albuquerque, New Mexico. The event attracted 260 participants and over 142 sports cars, sedans and SUVs, including a rare Porsche 959. Treffen means “to meet” and that’s just what we did! After a long 765 mile drive through desolate SW Kansas we arrived at the Hyatt and met up with friends from Oklahoma and Kansas regions. It has become a coordinated effort to join these people, socialize and sign up for tours together.

Six tours were offered that featured the tri-culturalism of New Mexico: Native American, Hispanic and Anglo. The Tours included Acoma Pueblo, Los Alamos Bradbury Museum, Chimayo, Santa Fe Museum Hill, Unser Racing Museum and Madrid off road. Also, as is custom, Friday was a Navigator’s Day off. There were bus tours to Sandia Peak, Tent Rock and Micro Breweries in Albuquerque. I chose to play the nearby Santa Ana Pueblo golf course while Linda relaxed with a book on our room’s patio.

Our first tour on Thursday was called Chimayo. After a short drive on I-25N we stopped at the Oviedo Ranch and Art Gallery to view the bronze castings and wood carvings by Marco Oviedo, a renowned artist, who has displays at the Smithsonian in Washington D.C. and The Autry Museum in Los Angeles. We toured Marco’s workshop and gallery. Pieces of his art were available for pur-



Jeff and Linda are lined up and ready for their tour.

chase, which some in our group did! Then it was on to Santuario de Chimayo, a small Catholic church built in 1856. Each year some 300,000 people from all over the world make a pilgrimage to this church. Next it was on to a fabulous lunch at Rancho DE Chimayo, a family operated restaurant and winner of the 2016 James Beard Foundation Classic Award.

On Saturday our group toured the Santa Fe Museum Hill which has displays of Indian Arts and Culture. The museum was founded in 1909 with a mission to collect and preserve Southwestern Native American material and culture. Several years later in 1947, John D. Rockefeller founded the addition of The Laboratory of Anthropology at this location. We were given a detailed guided tour by a very knowledgeable docent, helping us understand the unique history of the area. Lunch was at the famous Thunderbird Grill in downtown Santa Fe. We had time to shop the local shops as the return

drive was on our own.

Each day of a Treffen starts with a buffet breakfast and ends with a themed dinner. Dinners included, Latin Dining Experience, Tapas Reception and Dinner, and Route 66 party. Each was held at a different venue on the spacious Hyatt Resort grounds. Dinners provide a chance to socialize and meet people from other regions. All meals with the exception of non-tour day lunch are included in the Treffen registration fee. We also received a “goody bag”; golf shirt and free drink tickets, not a bad deal!

Linda and I have now attended many PCA national and regional events including one Parade, two Treffens, two Alpine region events in Colorado, two Porsche Paloozas, and one Escape to Rapid City South Dakota. Each has been a fun time to drive, meet and make friends and see many fine cars. Consider attending a Treffen, Parade or Regional event, you’ll have a great time!

# A few more Treffen photos



Linda enjoys dinner with Treffen friends.



Jeff spotted this fun 356 getting ready to head out on a tour.



A gorgeous 911 with the Sandia Mountains as the backdrop.

# 2018 Spring Fling

By Terry Lessmann, Registrar, Photos by Melinda Halvorson, Editor

The best laid plans...

After suffering through questionable April weather the last two years, the GPR board thought it would be better to move our 1<sup>st</sup> Driver's Education (DE) event of 2018 to late May at Raceway Park of the Midlands near Pacific Junction, IA. The weather was so bad in 2017 that the 2-day event was cancelled. A May date would have to be better. Twenty-four entrants eagerly awaited the May flowers of the new date vs the April showers of previous dates. Included in the 24 entrants were 4 novices, who would be attempting their 1<sup>st</sup> ever DE. The rest of the field would be split between 7 entrants in the Intermediate run group and 13 in the Advanced run group. Also new this year was a social dinner at the track after the track went 'cold' at 5pm and a series of parade laps on the track. Everyone was set for 2 days of great fun and camaraderie.

Except, someone forgot to inform Mother Nature. All week long the forecast for the Saturday of the DE was for heavy rain in the morning, light rain mid-morning, and potentially strong storms at 5pm (our start time of the parade laps and social dinner). Yikes! A copious number of emails crossed the internet in the days leading up to the DE, deciding whether to cancel or soldier on. A lot of preparation goes into an event like this, so it's not easy to just pull the plug. It was decided to move forward and make game time decisions as warranted.

Registration and tech inspection

opened at 7am on Saturday, May 19. While it was very cloudy, it was not raining, even though the forecast was for heavy rain. Everyone assembled for the required driver's meeting at 8am. **Rick Mourey**, our Safety Chair, went through the various passing zones, passing procedures, and hot pit location. At 8:20 the fun began – each of the 3 run groups would get 20 minutes of track time, with the novices getting to hit the track for the first 20 minute session. They met their instructors and were off. Novices spend the majority of their 1<sup>st</sup> day with an instructor riding with them. After the session, the novice and instructor will discuss the session and things to work on in the next session. Then the novices go to the classroom for instruction from **John Krecek**, our Chief Driving Instructor. Once the novices are off the track, the Intermediate run group takes to the track for their 20 minute session, followed by the Advanced run group for their 20 minutes of fun. There was a brief 10 minute shower around mid-morning that affected each run group for 1 session, but the rest of the day was chilly but dry.

Late in the day, the novices were graduated with a ceremony and a certificate of achievement. The class of Spring Fling 2018 included: **Chris Coda, Mark Eichten, Beth Vacanti, and Jerry Westhoff**. Congratulations to all! They were given the option to run the last 2 sessions of the day by themselves, which they did. At 5pm the DE activities ended, but the Parade Laps began. Anyone could drive their car or SUV on the track following a pace car and

anyone could ride along. Over 20 cars lined up for the fun of driving ½ the speed of the DE participants for 5 laps. Once the parade laps were completed, the social at the track commenced. GPR member **Nathan Newhouse's** award-winning Attitude On Food provided a food truck with delicious sliders and salads. 37 people attended the social, with 7 drivers, their spouses and kids, along with 10 people who just came out to the track for the parade laps and social dinner. We were blessed with beautiful sunshine and everyone enjoyed the delicious food and companionship. On a side note, the young man who was manning the AOF truck arrived early and was amazed at all the gorgeous Porsches in the paddock. I offered to take him out on the track for the parade laps and he jumped at the opportunity. He's a sophomore at UNO majoring in mechanical engineering and was very interested in cars. Maybe he'll be a Porsche owner sometime in the future? He enjoyed the ride in my Boxster. I learned a long time ago that you should always be nice to your food preparers.

We raised \$120 for charity from the parade laps. Watch Der Skooner later in the year for the charity that will receive the donation.

Sunday was an uneventful day on the track. It was cloudy, cool, and windy, which are good conditions for fast track times. The novices were intermingled with the Intermediate group, to give the novices experience with more cars around them. Things wound down a bit after lunch.

*(Continued on Page 21)*

*(2018 Spring Fling, continued from Page 20)*

Everyone packed up and was eagerly anticipating their next event on the track (DEs have that impact on you). We got lucky with the weather and the experiment with the social at the track went well. Track folks have to be hardy and able to roll with the flow, and the people attending Spring Fling 2018 were prime examples of that. Hopefully we'll get a few new participants at the next event at RPM in July. The next event on our calendar is the Club Race and Advanced DE June 16 & 17 at Motorsport Park Hastings (MPH).



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

# GPR May Board Meeting Minutes

The Great Plains PCA Board met at 6:00 p.m. on May 1, 2018, by telephone conference.

Present by telephone were Steve Gehring, Joe Chambers, Russ Rabeler, Terry Lessmann, Steve Bartlett, Kurt Halvorson, Rick Mourey, Melinda Halvorson. Eric Elliott and Peter Jardine were regrets.

**Social Chair:** The various regional and national events were reviewed for April through July. It was reported that 25 cars and 40 persons turned out for the Second Annual Northern Loess Hills Fun Run. There were 2 run groups with the cars ending up at Good Fellows restaurant in Woodbine, Iowa, for lunch. Kudos to Kim Berger for chairing this event, including securing Good Fellows and plotting the drive. The May 5 self-pay dinner will be at Tavern 180 at 6:00 p.m. and there are currently 10 reservations. Carol Lynch has organized a "Pit Crew of GPR/PCA Ladies" of the Club at Sage Student Bistro. The Spring Fling will be held on the 19th and 20th of May with dinner catered by Nathan Newhouse at the track. The Porsches and Pancakes breakfast for June 9 was cancelled in favor of the invitation from Porsche of Omaha for the International Porsche Day event. The National Porsche Parade will be held at Tan-Tar-A at the Lake of the Ozarks. There are currently 16 people attending from GPR.

**Safety/GDI:** The Spring Fling insurance certificate has been received. The instructor refresher for this year will be done by email prior to the Spring Fling event. Changes in PCA DE rules will be reviewed with all instructors. The process for obtaining the driver window sticker following completion of the Saturday drivers' meeting will be continued this year to ensure that persons who are not cleared do not get on the track. It was noted that PCA will begin re-

**Der Skooner**

quiring the use of a certified HANS device for all drivers using a 5/6 point restraint system starting in 2019. The Safety Chair will do a write up for Der Skooner and cover this at the drivers' meetings this year.

**Registrar:** The Registrar reported that there were 15 registrants to date for the Spring Fling. Another email blast went out along with 10 personal invitations from the President. The Registrar is continuing work on the Club Race in June.

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

**President:** It was reported that Will McFarland, the President of the Schoenesland Region in Des Moines, indicated that their Club may want to bring people to the Spring Fling. He also raised a question as to whether our Club wanted to co-sponsor the Hotel Patee event. The President had responded that we would be pleased to co-sponsor the event and share the \$250 from PCA, if it was received. It was discussed that a group of individuals from Leo Daly Co. were interested in coming to the DE, observing the tech session, the drivers' meeting, attending the novice classes, and taking parade laps with instructors over the noon hour. 6 to 10 persons might be attending. Pursuant to the discussion below on parade laps, \$10 will be requested from each parade participant to be donated to charity.

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

**Treasurer:** The opening account balance was \$74,430 and the closing balance was \$75,168. Receipts included dues of \$150, interest of \$16, PCA rebate of \$1,084 and social deposits of \$144. Expenses included administrative of \$60, the PCA insurance \$300, printing newsletter \$120, and social \$176. The President and the Treasurer will check on the need to send a deposit payment to

RPM for the Spring Fling. [It was later determined that a \$500 payment was needed and the Treasurer transmitted that to RPM.]

**Editor:** The Editor discussed whether parade laps should be charged for this year and that amount contributed to charity. It was agreed that a charge of \$10 for participating in parade laps would be requested from participants and a charity would be selected at the end of the year. The May issue of Der Skooner was completed and there is a May 15 deadline for articles. The President will do a write-up of the Fun Run and there will be article on the PCA Junior program by Alex Boyd. Appreciation was expressed to the Editor for her outstanding work on getting the May issue out despite very difficult personal circumstances.

**Membership:** It was reported there were 118 paid GPR members and 265 PCA members. There was 1 new member. It was discussed that there should be a push to get the memberships up in connection with attendance at the June 24 picnic.

**Webmaster:** The webmaster had reported earlier that all calendar updates were made and that he was working diligently on ideas for the website update.

**NEXT MEETING:** June 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Steve Gehring's office.

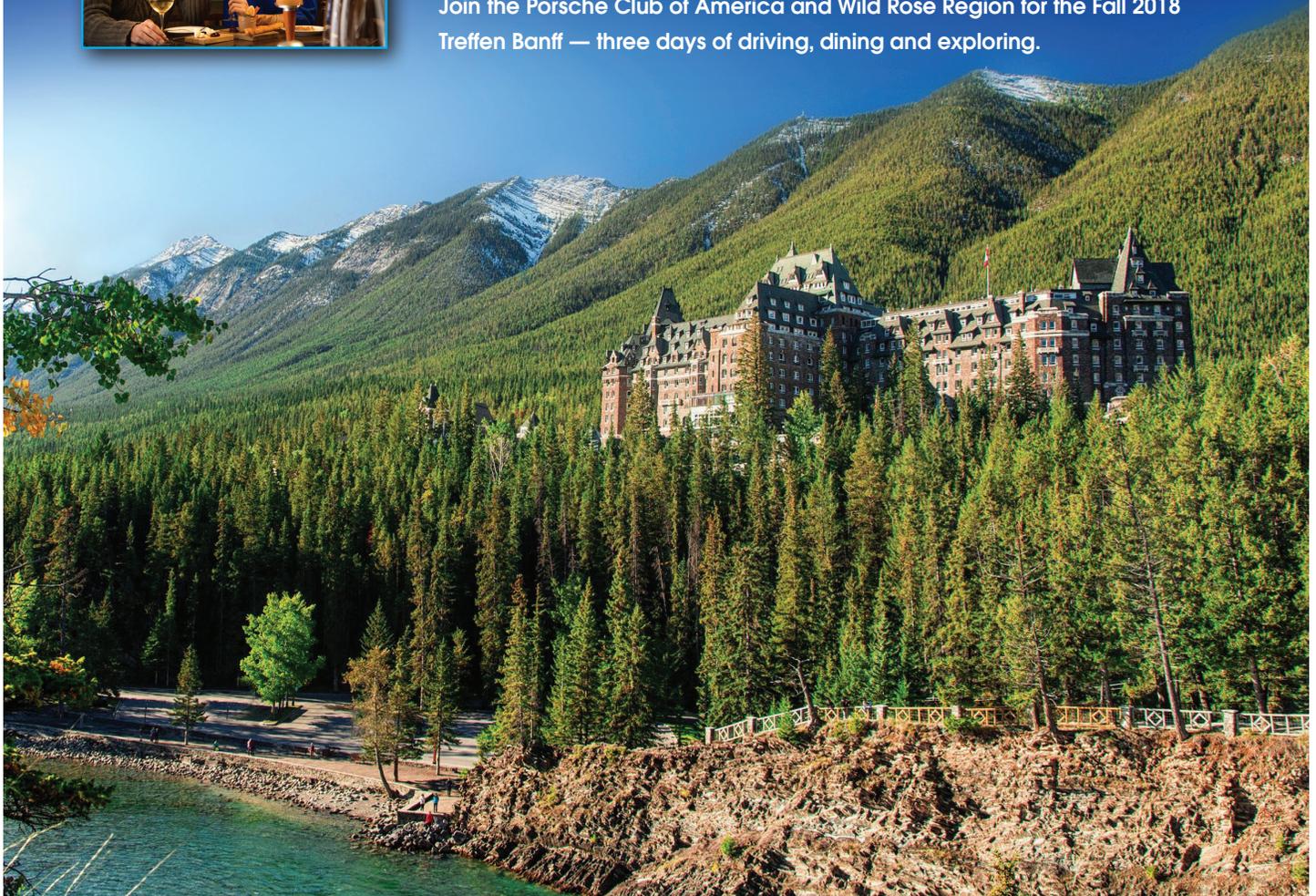
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen E. Gehring  
Acting Secretary



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