



# Der Skooner

October 2019

Volume 55 Issue 10

Great Plains Region

Porsche Club of America



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**Front Cover:**  
Octoberfest Fun Run Picture by  
Armando Colorado

## **From the President -by Joe Chambers**

Looking back on the summer we really had it pretty good. Aside from the one scorching week in June the temps weren't that bad this year. Unfortunately for me, I start to get nervous when September rolls around. I really don't like it when daylight starts to become noticeably shorter, mainly because I know that the W thing is right around the corner. Luckily we have the fall to enjoy before we turn into the frozen tundra.

On Sept. 24 we made the difficult decision to cancel our Oct. 12 DE at RPM (Raceway Park of the Midlands) due to the ongoing flooding and the uncertainty whether the track would be safe for us to run. It was unimaginable to think that RPM would flood 3 times in a single year. Our DE program depends on RPM for the obvious reason of its location to Omaha. We will finish the year having run just one event - the Club Race and Advanced DE out in Hastings at the end of May. In April our year looked very promising with 8 potential novice drivers attending our DE101 at Porsche of Omaha. A healthy DE program is dependent on new drivers coming online to replace those that leave the sport. We depend on 30-40 drivers to cover the overhead cost of promoting these events. So, to have both RPM DEs cancelled and missing the opportunity to qualify new drivers is very disappointing for us. Unfortunately, as difficult as this year has been there is reason for concern for 2020. It's uncertain what RPM's fate will be in 2020. MPH (Motorsport Park Hastings) is going through an ownership transition and even though the indication is that it will be business as usual in 2020 we will be watching to see if any changes take place. Our hope is that this year was an anomaly. Our intentions for 2020 are to run a full DE program and we are counting on our DE drivers to hang in there with us and keep the program alive. Only time will tell. For now, we will stay optimistic and hope for the best next year.

On Sunday, Oct. 27 we will be heading to Santa's Woods in Blair for a hayrack ride and bonfire. I have done several of these events over the years and they are a lot of fun. The hayrack ride is about 45 minutes and then we can enjoy the campfire for as long as we want. Come out and bring the kids or grandkids. The club will provide the hot dogs and s'mores. RSVP information is available on our website at [gprpca.com](http://gprpca.com).

We are going to finish out our 2019 social calendar with a new members dinner on Saturday Nov. 9 at Spezia. Those that are new members in 2019 and their guest will enjoy their dinner for free and existing members can enjoy a great meal for \$22 per person. You can find more information in Der Skooner along with the link to RSVP and pre-pay for your meal. This is a great opportunity for our new members to get to know some of the folks that have been in the club for a while. Come join us!

It's a little early to talk about the social calendar for 2020 but I can say that the Winter Party will be on January 18, 2020. We will be returning to Champions Run. So, mark your calendars now and reserve that date for the GPR!

(Continued on Page 5)

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**PORSCHE**

## Letter from the President (Continued from page 3)

September was the final issue of Der Skooner for our long time newsletter editor, Melinda Halvorson. Melinda has served as the newsletter editor/social media position for 6 years. It is truly remarkable the way Melinda has transformed the newsletter during that time. When she took over it was bi-monthly and was printed in black and white. Melinda's creativity and expertise lead us into the digital age. Her ability to capture our club activities and present them in DS and on Facebook was outstanding. Thank you, Melinda, for your passion and energy over the years. We will miss your contributions to the club and look forward to you and Kurt's continued involvement on a social level.

October is always the month that the membership votes on the proposed Board of Directors for the coming year. Ballots are collected during the entire month and the results are tabulated on Nov. 1. I encourage you to take time to cast your vote. The 2020 board will assume their duties on Dec. 1, 2019.

For us racing fans, Porsche continued their dominance - this time in the WEC at Silverstone. They finished P1 and P2 in the LM GTE Pro class in the new 911RSR. After a mediocre qualifying session they gridded for the start of the race P4 and P6. The cars performed extremely well in the rain and ended the race competing against each other for the top position. It was great fun to watch. Silverstone is a beautiful track. The track surface looks perfect and makes you wish you could drive it. Now, if we could drive it in a 911RSR that would be the icing on the cake!

This is the first issue of Der Skooner for our new Newsletter Editor, Mark Eichten. I would like to thank Mark for his willingness to step into some big shoes and accept this role. As you can imagine, this is a big commitment when you are still working and have a family. I trust all of you will encourage and support Mark as he develops the skill to produce our newsletter.

I hope to see you at one of our fall events,

~Joe

## Online and Social Media



[hinstagram.com/#gprpc](https://www.instagram.com/#gprpc)



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



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



[facebook.com/groups/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/)

**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.

# Club Calendar

## October

**GPR Ladies Only Door Hanger Party**

**1** @ 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

**The New Porsche 911**

**11** @ 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Porsche & Pancakes (October)**

**12** @ 8:00 am - 10:00 am

**CANCELLED – DE at Raceway Park of the Midlands**

**Hayrack Ride & Bonfire**

**27** Santa’s Woods, Blair 4:30 pm

## November

**Porsche & Pancakes (November)**

**9** @ 8:00 am - 10:00 am

**New Member Dinner at Spezia**

**9** @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

## DECEMBER

**Porsche & Pancakes (December)**

**14** @ 8:00 am - 10:00 am

# National and Zone Calendar

**Last Fling Nord Stern DT@BIR**

10/05 to 10/6

**"Return of the Perfect 10" HPDE at PMP, CO**

10/05 to 10/06

**Porsche Palooza**

11/7 - 11/9



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# Welcome to our New Members

Jim Medici  
Michael Evans

**Anniversaries**  
20 Years

Thomas Dodds

## Member Name Badges

Look official at our next GPR/PCA event. The magnetic name badges are \$12, includes shipping.

Please contact Melinda at [melinda.halvorson1115@gmail.com](mailto:melinda.halvorson1115@gmail.com). Don't forget to wear your name badge to all GPR events!



## Membership News

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!

You must be a PCA member (pca.org) in order to join the Great Plains Region.

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, annual picnic, 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.

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:

Brandon Koom

Membership Chair

bkoom@cox.net

**146 Paid GPR members** and  
**266 PCA members** in GPR region

## The New Porsche 911

All GPR members and Porsche enthusiasts are invited to attend an upcoming dealership event. Porsche Omaha will unveil the new 911 on Friday, Oct 11 from 4-7:30pm at Oracle Aviation. The reception will include a generational display of 911's, drinks & hor d'oeuvres for guests in attendance.

What: The New Porsche 911

When: Friday, Oct 11

Time: 4:00-7:30pm

Location: Oracle Aviation,  
12916 Millard Airport  
Plaza, Omaha NE 68137

**RSVP's to**

[porsche@woodhouse.com](mailto:porsche@woodhouse.com)

are very much appreciated so we can plan for food & drink accordingly.



# A Wild 2 Days

By Joe Chambers

On September 5, **Kurt Halvorson** and I were leaving Omaha for our first visit to Heartland Motorsports Park in Topeka. We were approaching the I-80 – Hwy 75 interchange to head south when an old Pontiac comes blazing across 3 lanes of traffic. Unfortunately for me, the driver runs over a board and launches it into the center of my Porsche's windshield and then disappears around the curve. I couldn't believe what had just happened. Kurt and I exited at F St. and pulled into a business parking lot to survey the damage. My first concern was that I wouldn't be able to run the DE with a cracked windshield. Luckily all of the damage was to the glass and no body damage. Windshields are easily replaced and cheaper than bodywork. I called the local Safelite in the one-in-a-million chance that they might have the glass on hand. Nope. So, I called the Safelite national line to see if there was one in Topeka or Kansas City. Kansas City had one so I made an appointment to have it fixed at 8am Friday morning. While I was frantically calling Safelite Kurt sent a text to the registrar for the DE in Topeka explaining my situation, more along the lines of maybe getting me a refund due to my misfortune. With the appointment in KC set I told Kurt let's go to Topeka. We were somewhere south of Nebraska City when Kurt calls me and says Dave from KC had replied to his text and said to come on down and I could drive it the way it was. We're not talking about a cracked windshield, this was a larger than a softball sized bull's-eye. We arrived in Topeka an hour late and pulled into registration at the track. I got signed in and confirmed that I was good to go. It was awfully gracious for the KC guys to help me out and I truly appreciate what they did for me. When we got to the hotel I got on the computer and canceled my glass appointment in KC. The Safelite crew in Ralston installed my new glass a week later here in Omaha. I highly recommend the Ralston store if you ever need to replace a windshield. Tom is the resident Porsche specialist and does an outstanding job. I wouldn't go anywhere else.



Heartland Park was an interesting track. This was my first time there so it was full on learning curve time. My first trip up the front straight was unlike any other track I have driven. Those of you that have been there know exactly what I mean. Cresting the hill at 120 looking for a little braking to negotiate turn 1 takes some getting used to. I know, those of you that have been there are now laughing. As Rick Mourey said "topping the hill with your foot in the throttle takes commitment!" I couldn't agree more. We had a fun 2 days learning the track. It's a track that will bite you if you don't respect it. Numerous people were in the grass and at least one that ricocheted off the walls.

We had made it to Topeka, smashed windshield and all. Life was good. We were nearing the end of the second session on Friday when I wheeled around turn 14 onto the front straight. All of a sudden my check engine light comes on and the car got real sluggish. I limped it all the way around the track and got off. First my windshield got crushed and now the car is acting up. I'm really thinking this trip is definitely cursed. I parked it and grabbed a Gatorade. I let the car sit about 10 minutes while I pondered what I thought was wrong with it. I grabbed my OBDII reader and plugged it in. Code P0304.

I go to my computer and read that P0304 is when the Misfire Monitor is tripped. My first thought was ignition coil. The engine got hot enough that an ignition coil had gone intermittent on me. I grabbed my phone and called Aristocrat Porsche in KC. I asked the service manager if they had an ignition coil that would fit my car.

(Continued on page 11)

# Complimentary tech inspections



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**Continued from page 9**

He checks with his parts department and verifies that they have one, literally just one in stock. I asked if he could get me in right away if I came over. He said he would take care of me if I came. I said I'm on my way. So, I'm going past Lawrence, KS when the phone rings. "Joe, this is Rodney at Aristocrat in KC. Are you sending someone over from the track to pick up the ignition coil? (Me) No Rodney, I'm on the highway and will be there soon. (Rodney) Someone from the track in Topeka just called my parts department asking for the same ignition coil you need. (Me) Rodney, that's my coil and I will be there in a few minutes." I got to KC at 2pm and pulled into the service bay. A Panamera had pulled in just in front of me and I thought great that would cost me at least an additional 15 minutes. The driver gets out and I see he has a Porsche shirt on and he says "hello Joe." It was the service manager, Rodney Parker. He goes on to tell me that the other guy who called from the track was extremely upset when he called him back and said the part was already taken. I thanked him profusely for calling me to verify I was on my way. Rodney was a super nice guy and says I'm going to take care of you and don't get too comfortable because you're not going to be here long. They immediately took my car into the shop. Rodney took me to the customer lounge and told me to enjoy a drink and a snack. Their lounge has a huge window that looks into the service area. Rodney points to a service tech and said that is Kris Loftus, he's the best I have and he will be working on your car. The diagnosis was a bad ignition coil on C4. The car was in the air and back on the ground in 40 minutes. I was on my way back to Topeka by 3 and arrived at the track at 4:15 and drove the last session of the day at 4:30. My thanks to Aristocrat Porsche for their excellent customer service that saved my track weekend. Kurt and I had a blast and made it back to Omaha safe and sound without any more incidents. It was a wild 2 days that had a happy ending - unless you count the cost of a new windshield!



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# Share the Corner

By Terry Lessmann

I left Indy last year thinking I had driven it about as well as I could. It didn't take long for me to change my mind. After viewing my videos there were places I could improve. That's not new, but what was new this year is I would be joined by **David Adler** and **Terry Whitney**, who would both be doing their first Indy DE.

We left early Thursday, Aug 8 and arrived in Indy at 5pm. Registration and tech inspection went quickly and we unloaded our equipment in our shared Gran Prix garage. Some hors d'oeuvres at the track, a chalk talk at our B&B house, and we were ready to go. Like Christmas Eve, we anxiously awaited the morning.

Friday was a beautiful day. David and I were in the same open passing run group for high HP cars, although we don't have high HP cars compared to the race cars in our group. David and I could pass (or be passed) anywhere on the track except T1 & T7. The mantra for our run group was 'share the corner'. Terry W was in the highest restricted passing group, with passing only on 3 parts of the track.

David and I lined up for the 1<sup>st</sup> session, along with 50+ other cars. It was very crowded. I showed the way for David in the 1<sup>st</sup> session, but he's a quick learner and left me in subsequent sessions. I had a near miss situation with a black BMW trying to pass me in T1. That was taking 'share the corner' too far – no passing in T1. The officials had a little talk with him and no issues with him thereafter. Terry W was building up his speed as he learned the track.



But the Friday fun was not done when the track went cold at 5:30pm. We were invited to the Speedway Museum for heavy hors d'oeuvres. This year the Museum was celebrating Mario Andretti's 1969 victory. Indy, Sprint, and F1 cars that Mario drove were on display, along with Michael Andretti's team cars. Afterwards, we went back 'home' and chalk talked through my new videos.

Sat dawned as another beautiful day. The sessions remained very busy with clean laps hard to come by. My new technique in T5A was working well. I did have a

silver BMW spin in front of me. There was a GT3 between me and the spinner. Everyone got stopped or around the spinner without incident. I spoke to the GT3 driver afterwards. She said she was afraid I was going to run into her. I told her to check my YouTube channel in a week for the video.

One issue with so many cars and run groups is you have 2 hrs between sessions. David and I had an hr to kill, so we attended Terry W's Sat mid-morning driver's mtg. You never know what you might learn.

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## Share the Corner Continued from 12

They discussed a procedure they were going to do for Terry W's group in the next session. To get limited passing drivers ready to move up to open passing, they were going to run 4 laps doing various exercises to make drivers more comfortable 'sharing the corner'. At the end of the discussion, they said they may not have enough instructors for all the cars. I went up after the mtg, showed my PCA Instructor card, and said I would volunteer if they wanted me. They gladly agreed and set me up with an instructor's wrist band. I would be instructing at Indy, if only for 1 session!

The exercises consisted of 1 lap in single file with the instructor telling the student where to drive offline entering or exiting a corner. Lap 2 had drivers pair up and drive the course side-by-side throughout the lap, even in the corners. In the final 2 laps, the 2 cars would fall in line and do 'leap frog'. The instructor would tell the student where to let the car behind pass, ie go wide in T2 and point the passing car to the inside. It was great fun and very educational for both the driver and instructor. Hopefully the drivers feel more comfortable sharing the corners with their fellow drivers.

Sat ended with parade laps on the speedway oval. We got to do 3 laps behind a pace car but this year drivers were paired up side-by-side. It had the feel of running pace laps before the start of a race.

Sat finished with a meal at Andretti Motorsports shop. It's massive facility full of cars, tires, and parts. Owning multiple race teams is a very expensive proposition.

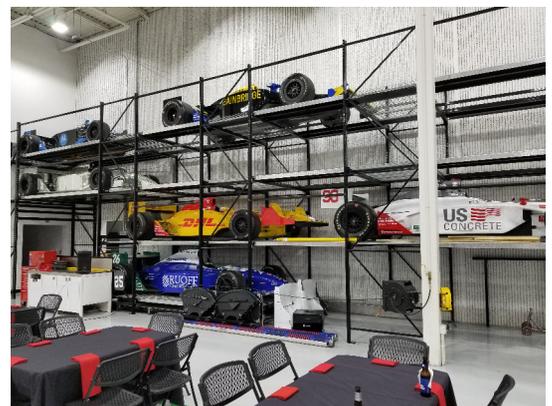
Normal Sun protocol is fewer cars participating as the day progresses. While true, it was still hard to find clear laps. An uneventful day ended with the 4<sup>th</sup> session and sadly we packed up in preparation for the trip home the next day.



David Adler, Terry Whitney and Terry Lessmann



What a great trip! It was fun to shepherd David and Terry W around the massive facility and fabulous to actually instruct for a session. Can't wait for next year! BTW... remember to share the corner.



# PCA Fall Treffen Vermont September 2019

By: Traveling Jeff

This September found Linda and me traveling to our third Treffen, this time in Woodstock Vermont. For those of you unfamiliar with PCA Treffen it is a twice a year get together held in the spring and fall organized by PCA National. Treffens consist of tours, banquets and social events held at top notch hotels in scenic locals. Last but not least it is a gathering of Porsche people and their cars! Treffen Vermont was held in the town of Woodstock Vermont at the historic and charming Woodstock Inn. There were 270 Porsche enthusiasts, and we filled the Inn to its capacity. Unlike Parades Treffens offer no competitions just fun drives, tours and a chance to get to know others, this one was no exception!

Woodstock Vermont is 1368 miles and a 21 hour drive from Omaha, so with some we reluctantly decided to fly and rent a car. My steed for the week was a new 2.3L turbo Mustang Convertible, it really stood out in a field of Porsches but none the less after a little ribbing we fit right in. One gentleman from California had the good luck to rent a

Maserati Ghibli. There were a few other rentals but mostly Porsches of all vintages rounded out the fleet.



The first day found us checking in the historic Inn which is owned by the Woodstock Foundation established by Laurence and Mary Rockefeller in 1968. The Inn was charming exactly what one would expect in historic Woodstock Vermont. Great service, wonderful food, New England style furnishings and of course plenty of Porsches to adorn the parking lots! Each night offered either banquets or hors d'oeuvres and a chance to mingle.

Day two found us departing from the parking lot of Suicide Six, a local ski resort, which judging from the nearly vertical drop of its slopes lived up to its name! Our destination was Ft Ticonderoga a central piece of American early history and now a living museum. I must say we learned quite a bit including the fact that the Fort changed hands many times from the French to the British and finally to the

Americans. Due to its strategic importance on Lake Champlain which gave access to the Hudson River and eventually the Atlantic. Each time it changed hands it was burned down by the departing army. So the current structure is a rebuilt one. On our way to the fort we stop at the University of Vermont's Morgan Horse Farm a historic breeding facility since 1907. The farm boasts one of the first American horse breeds and Vermont's official state animal.

Our lesson in American history continued on day two with a tour of Hildene, the Lincoln family summer home of Robert Todd Lincoln, the only child of President Abraham Lincoln and Mary Harlan Lincoln to survive to maturity. Hildene is derived from two English words meaning hill and valley with stream.

(Continued on Page 15)

## FCA Fall Treffen Continued from 14

Robert Lincoln was a very successful attorney and rose to be CEO of the Pullman Car Company. A 1903 Pullman train car, The Sunbeam, sits on the property and is available to tour. Along with the Sunbeam is a mural depicting the African American porters who worked long hours in grueling conditions at low pay. Since the clientele riding in Pullman cars were mostly wealthy, tips were generous and this helped establish black middle class. The home itself has many of the original furnishings as well as a player organ whose pipes adorn the staircase and workings are held in the lower level.



Our final day before departure was called Navigators Day Off. There were no driving tours. Organized bus tours were available but we chose to head out on our own with friends from the Kansas City Region. We toured President Calvin Coolidge birth place and family home, a grouping of very simple buildings. On the grounds there were two small cottages for the secret service detail and a small guard shack. We also dined at the Simon Pierce Mill and Glass Factory which offered a view of the river, fine dining and a chance to see glass blowing in action. The mill also offered a store with many fine items recently made by the artisans located in the factory below.

All in all it was a wonderful trip with a chance to visit scenic Vermont, visit with old friends and enjoy the many Porsches. The next

Treffen is April 29- May2, 23020 at the Broadmoore Hotel in Colorado Springs. Check the PCA website for further details, hope to see you there!



# All European Show & Shine

## Lauritzen Gardens Omaha Botanical Garden

Pictures by Armando Colorado (the nice looking ones) and Mark Eichten (VW photos)

This years' All European Show and Shine was held on Sunday September 8 , 2019 at the beautiful Lauritzen Gardens Omaha's Botanical Center. It was a perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon awakening your senses to the surrounding beauty of nature and of esteemed European motors. Models included: Alpha Romeo, Austin Healey, BMW, Ferrari, Fiat, Jaguar, Lamborghini, Volkswagen and of course Porsche. There was a great participation by GPR members, friends, and family. Looking forward to next year.



## All European Show & Shine continued



## Porsches & Pancakes (September)



Garden Cafe played host to the September breakfast. **Joe Chambers** shared a CRN Magazine which highlighted race car driver Joe Banks, article below. Safety Instructor **Rick Mourey** provided us with a quick update on Snell Helmets and then showed off the new helmets for the club.

Photos courtesy of Mark Eichten



## Meet a Member - Brian Feregrino

**When did you join the PCA?** I joined the PCA September of 2018 (the day after I purchased by Porsche!).

**What Porsche(s) have you owned and what do you currently own?** My first and current Porsche is a 2009 Cayman (manual). It is Black and has a beige leather interior!

**Where are you from?** I grew up in Omaha (Florence area) however thankful that I have had the chance to live in New Hampshire, San Diego, and Granada Spain.

**What is your career/current occupation?** I currently work at a local stock brokerage firm and also enjoy BMX events representing a sports nutrition company.

**What makes your car(s) special?** That it is a Porsche! And because it is a two-seater, I get to drive it only with the special people in my life!

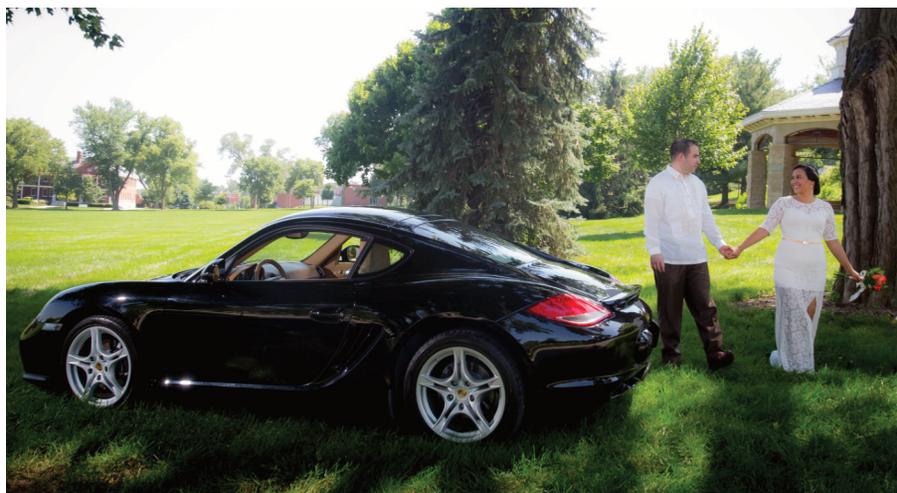
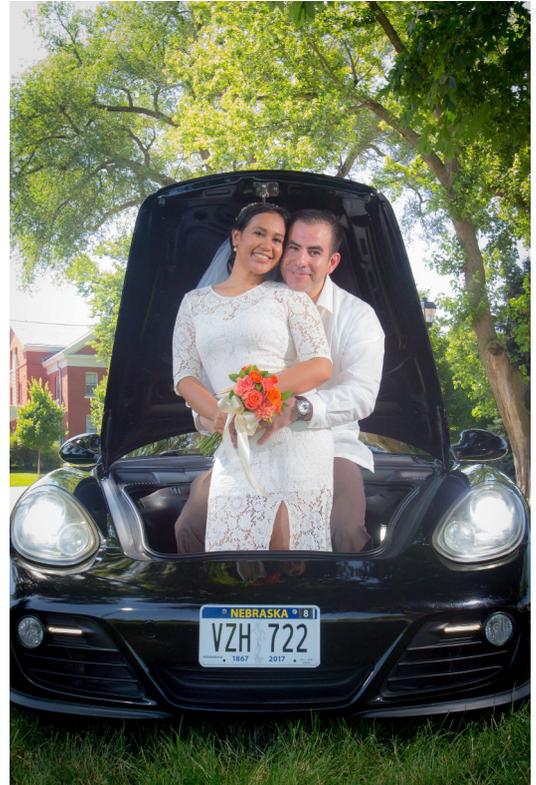
**Next Porsche or current project?** Current project is replacing the shifter cables!

**Favorite memory with your Porsche?** Year one of ownership I have made so many memories! October of 2018 I signed up for the Driver Education (DE) at Raceway Park of the Midlands (RPM)! A 'thank you' goes to **Kurt Halvorson** who took me under his wing. Speeding through turns 5 & 6 at the racetrack sure did put a smile on my face! At the event I had the chance to meet **Derek Meyer** (also a new member) and watch him breeze by in his Boxster S! I would encourage every Porsche owner to sign up for the next DE class! The class was very educational, safe, and extremely fun!

Other memories made this last year were meeting up with **Armando Colorado**. He is like a cool cousin, always willing to go for a drive and take photos of Porsches!

I would also like to mention **Sandy Steckman**. He has been a mentor and true friend! For example, he showed me how to change one rotor/brake pad and let me be on my own for the other three! A thank you also goes to Chris Coda for teaching me to be creative working the car!

(Continued on Page 19)



## Meet a Member Continued from page 18

2018 was a very memorable year of buying my first Porsche and also asking Ellie to marry me! She is not afraid to come out to the garage and give a hand, and I enjoy taking tight turns and hear her laugh (or is it a scream?!). She now has an interest in owning her own Porsche! I had to pinch myself taking our wedding photos together with the car! Dream lady in a dream car! Thank you Ellie for saying 'yes!!' I do love her!

**What got you interested in Porsches?** The interest in Porsche started long ago! I remember during my younger years all the kids talked about owning a Ferrari or a Lamborghini. I was always a bit different so when I found out that a Porsche 911 has an engine in the rear... that stood out to me! Driving around I would turn off my radio and rolling down the windows just to hear the flat-six drive by! Years ago I signed up for all of the Woodhouse events (Des Monies-Panamera launch and SAC Air Museum). Those events gave me a chance to experience all the models including a Boxster Spyder!

**Any other dream cars you would own?** A dream car to own would be a rally-type of 911! I think it would be a blast to have a 914, 944 or a 968! I seem to always find myself looking for a manual Cayenne!



## Octoberfest Fun Run and Dinner

Well the weather held out! Joe kicked us off welcoming all 24 cars and 41 participants to the Fun Run while Kurt provided the route information and Terry gathered our signatures.

After the 66 mile run, the fun continued at the beautiful home of **Bob and Carol Lynch**. Gracious and Generous hosts provided an amazing venue for any Porsche enthusiast. Delicious food and service was catered by John F. Benker.

The beer was donated by John Krecek.

Porsche Omaha care of Mitch and Ed brought out the latest Porsche 911 for all to admire.

**Melinda Halvorson** was honored for her long time service as newsletter editor extraordinaire.

Danke euch allen  
(Thank you everyone)

Photos courtesy of Joe Chambers, Brian Feregrino and Armando Colorado



## JOIN US FOR A HAYRIDE AND BONFIRE AT SANTA'S WOODS!

Join us for a Hayride and Bonfire at Santa's Woods!

Be sure to put October 27th on your calendars!

We'll meet at Santa's Woods at 3764 NE-133, Blair, NE at 4:30 pm. The fun begins with a hayride beginning promptly at 5:00. After a 45 minute ride we return to our campsite to a bonfire all set up and we'll have hotdogs and s'mores.  
Free for current members.

Kids are welcome!

Please RSVP by emailing [Chris Coda](mailto:christopher_coda@hotmail.com) at christopher\_coda@hotmail.com by October 25th.

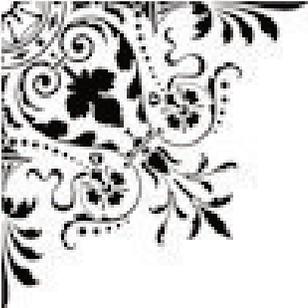
## Thank You and Hello

Hallo (German for hello) all, Thank you to **Melinda Halvorson** for her efforts and dedication to the club and newsletter.

I tend to read my copy digitally on an iPad and I've heard from others that is also the case. So we'll still be printing a few out to have at the Porsche Omaha dealership and events, however the majority will be read online. With that in mind I'll be updating some of the fonts and page layouts over the next couple months. Please provide feedback, and of course feel free to submit articles and pictures! Even if you can't write an article, but have an idea of what you'd like to see in the newsletter please let us know. We're all stewards of the club.

I'm looking forward to the opportunity to serve as the editor.

Thank you,  
Mark Eichten  
[editor@gprpca.com](mailto:editor@gprpca.com)



*Please Join Us*  
*In Welcoming Our New*  
*2019*  
*GPR Members*

You and a Guest are invited to attend  
the Annual Great Plains Region  
New Member Dinner

Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Spezia  
3125 South 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Omaha

6:00 pm

Meals will be provided by the GPR for new members and their guest.  
For existing GPR members there will be a charge of \$22 per person.

Please choose from the following entrée selections:  
Angus Top Sirloin, Scottish Salmon, Mediterranean Chicken or Vegetarian  
A Cash Bar will be available.

You **MUST** be a current GPR member to attend.  
Please RSVP and pre-pay on our secure website:  
[gprpca.com](http://gprpca.com) by November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Adults only, please.

## A Family Affair

By Joe Bank courtesy of CRN

My earliest memories of PCA region's gimmick rallies. in the back seat of my dad's at each other with smiles that we stared outside watching the

At four years old, I had no Porsche or even how special This was just a car that my time traveling salesperson in snow and extreme heat of the car he could choose to drive

This is where my connection, only with Porsche, but with my dad.

The 1971 911 was gone pretty quickly several years later due to some surface rust starting to creak through the beautiful light blue exterior. Not too long afterwards my dad purchased a 1977 911S. After nearly 400,000 miles from my dad (once again using it as his daily driver) I acquired the car and had the motor rebuilt in 1994. This was my first Porsche and I was very honored to own a piece of the history my dad and I shared in it. Countless washes, drives, repairs in our garage, and my senior prom, it was always around looking beautiful.

I owned several other Porsches from 1999-2006 including a 2000 Boxster S, 2006 Cayman S, a 1998 Carrera 2S, but my world with Porsche took on another level when in 2007 I bought a GT3RS. At the time I thought I was just acquiring the pinnacle of street car performance, but I had opened a gateway to a new world for me and Porsche.

After many encouraging pleas from other Porsche friends who had attended DEs, I finally crossed the mental block about taking my special Porsche to the track and attended my first DE, Speed Fever, with the Rocky Mountain region in 2010.

Throughout 2010 and 2011 a lot happened. I attended ten DEs at High Plains Raceway and had just acquired a 2011 997.2 GT3 RS in Mexico Blue. I took Mexico to several Super DEs, including Miller Motorsport Park, Hallet, and the track that secured my eventual interest in racing, Sebring.

This story would not be complete without sharing the friendship that developed over this time with Gavin Riches at Autoquest in Fort Myers, Florida. Gavin spent countless hours coaching and mentoring my driving and urged me to attend the Super DE at Sebring in February of 2012. Gavin is a close friend and I would not have achieved much of my accomplishments without his advice and wisdom.

My love of air-cooled cars was still strong and I've always been drawn to owning something a little out of the ordinary, so in early 2012 I purchased a piece of Porsche Motorsport history and acquired the very first 1998 993 Cup Car Porsche made. I entered my first PCA Club Race at Miller in June 2012 (GTC2).

I still own the 993 Cup and, after racing it in 2012 and 2013, I competed in it at Rennsport Reunion V in 2015. I'm honored to own this special car that competed in the German Carrera Cup with the team that won the series, Tolimit Motorsports. In 2017 I was lucky enough to go with my dad to Germany and meet the team that campaigned the car, spending an entire day with the Team Director.

Class wins were not hard because there are hardly any of these 993 Cups around, but my proudest placing was 6th overall out of 64 cars at the very first COTA race. I also took my first Workers Choice Award, which I am always honored to get.

In 2014 I started racing a 997.2 Cup Car and raced this all over the country at HPR, TWS, COTA, Hallet, Hastings, Miller, Motorsport Ranch and Sebring with nineteen class wins and eight overall wins. I was lucky enough to win the National Championship in 2014 and 2015 in this incredible Cup Car. The 2014 battle for the National Title came down to the very last race of the year and that one was pretty special.

In 2016 I yearned to compete for a podium overall at a big time race, so I once again reached out to my buddy Gavin Riches and told him my Quest. I didn't want this attempt to be just any race, so Gavin and I set 2016 Sebring to be the one to shoot for. He recommended many changes to the car and the end result was a 2011 Cup that had the ability to pull punches against any newer 991 Cup and many RSRs. We used a special rally inspired suspension that Gavin developed and he felt was an advantage to soak up the rough track at Sebring.

(Continued on Page 23)



Porsche are from the St. Louis My little sister, Felice, and I sat Pastel Blue 1971 911T staring stretched from ear to ear as blur of the corn fields.

idea about how special either my dad's Pastel Blue 911 was. dad loved and drove as a full the torrential rain, pounding Midwest climate. He had one and this was it.

respect, and love began, not



## A Family Affair Continued from 22

Once the new GTA2 Cup was finished, I asked Gavin to team up with me in the enduro and I chose to drive the first hour and then Gavin would take the remaining last 25 minutes. My lap times in qualifying for Sprint 1 put me in P8 on grid. I was already quite shocked about where I was starting this big time race. As we were doing the warmup lap for Sprint 1 my heart was pounding just like it was in the very first race I did in my 993 Cup four years earlier. I got a great start and, by the end of the lap 1 I had moved up to P5 overall. Three laps later I was marking two 991 Cups and passed both of them. Unfortunately I had not completed the second pass before a yellow flag came out, so I was called in for that pass.



I was still smiling because I knew Gavin and I could do it in the enduro. My lap times had come down to a 2:08 and I was feeling it. To this day that first hour driving the enduro at Sebring was the hardest I've ever pushed. When I turned the Cup over to Gavin we were in P3 overall. Gavin, being the brilliant driver he is, I knew would secure the P3 even on tires that were well shot! We took the podium and Workers Choice and we both couldn't have been happier.

2016 campaign ended up being epic with 2nd place overall wins at COTA and the rest of the season followed suit. I ended up with P3 nationally in GTA2.

I have charged really hard at PCA racing since 2012 and have decided to take a break this year. All the competition was incredible but my fondest memories are of the many great friends I acquired over the years and the special relationship I continued to develop with my dad since 2014.

He drove from St. Louis either in his car or on his motorcycle to every single race I competed in. How cool is that?

We have had so many laughs and fun times over all those races! Did I must mention that at 98% of those races, he was my pit crew support!

In late 2017 I was reunited after 33 years with Noelle, my friend from high school. Today she is my life partner and best friend. She was able to experience the 2018 season starting with COTA. Noelle and my dad loved hanging out and pit crewed together the whole season. As a team we took a class win at COTA (4th overall) and overall wins at Hastings, Heartland and HPR. So again I'd say, How cool is that!?

I recently traded in the 2011 Cup for a 2016 Gulf Blue GT3RS, and I plan on enjoying the social side of Porsche with Noelle before jumping back into PCA Club Racing.



# Board of Directors Meeting

Date: 09-03-2019

Time: 600pm – Via Phone

In Attendance:

Joe Chambers, Steve Gehring, David Adler, Eric Elliott, Rick Mourey, Terry Lessmann, Chris Coda, Mark Eichten, Brandon Koom, Melinda Halvorson

President (Joe Chambers)

Joe reviewed upcoming board vacancies. Mark Eichten has agreed to take on the newsletter as Melinda is stepping down. Chris Coda will be stepping down as social chair at the end of 2019. He asked for volunteers for the nominating committee which were approved by the board by voice vote. Nominating committee members are David Adler, Rick Mourey, and Steve Gehring. The nominating committee will identify and publish the slate and provide means for members to write-in candidates.

Secretary (David Adler)

August minutes were approved and published in Der Skooner.

Social Chair Updates (Chris Coda)

Porsches & Pancakes: September 14th at 8am

Garden Café – 11040 Oak St

Ladies Night: Creative You Door Décor – October 1st at 6pm

333 N. Spruce St. #100, Valley, NE

Party at the Lynch's (and Fun Run):

Sept. 21st – 6 pm

38 RSVP's as of 9/3

Carol secured catering and menu set (attached) Fun Run: Arrive at 3pm – meet at Bob's barn. Run will begin at 3:30 and last approximately 75 – 90 minutes and return to Lynch's in time for 6pm party start time (details of Run will be provided by Kim Burger)

Carol needs head count by Sept. 16th

Free event for members

DE at RPM – October 12th

Board is discussing cost per car and whether there will be a novice class Santa's Woods – Hayrack ride and bonfire – Blair, NE – October 27th – 4:30/5pm

\$185 deposit (\$9/head, every person counts towards the deposit)

Club provides the food (hot dogs, chips, drinks) – approx. cost of \$500

The board decided to cover the cost of the event

New Member Dinner – Spezia – November 9th

More information to follow along with notifications to the club membership

Safety/CDI Report (Rick Mourey)

No national updates or rules changes to DE or Tour (fun run) rules

Insurance certificate request for the September Oktoberfest Fun Run submitted.

RPM track visit & assessment conducted on August 31st with Joe Chambers.

Track conditions submitted to GPR board at this meeting.

Registrar's Report (Terry Lessmann)

Joe Chambers and Rick Mourey inspected RPM on Aug 31 and feel it will be in good enough shape for our DE on Oct 12. Registration has opened for the event on Club Registration. Joe and I have assembled a list of past DE participants and we'll be sending out a group email to these people to make them aware of this event and its special pricing.

Membership Report (Brandon Koom)

Through August: 146 Paid GPR members and 266 PCA members in GPR region.

The club welcomes new PCA and GPR Members Jim Medici and Michael Evans.

Treasurer Report (Moe Shanley)

August beginning cash balance was \$81,270 and ended the month at \$82,664; an increase of \$1,394. The increase is due to ad revenue from S-Line \$333 and PCA Dues Rebate of \$1,085

Expenses included monthly printing of Der Skooner and office supplies.

Der Skooner (Melinda Halvorson)

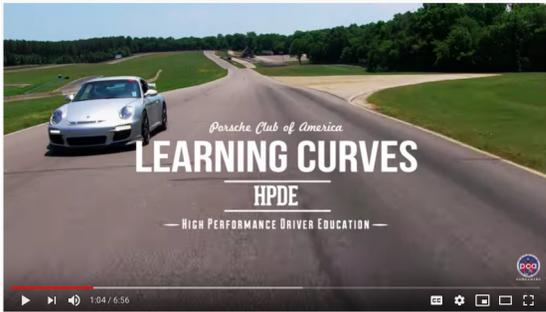
Melinda completed the September newsletter and Eric Elliott has emailed it to the members. She met with Mark Eichten and he plans to take over the Editor position beginning with the October newsletter. Melinda will remain available to answer questions and help Mark with anything in the transition.

Website (Eric Elliott)

Website is current with events through December, including the Oct. DE; Der Skooner was sent out over the weekend along with reminder to RSVP for Oktoberfest party at the Lynch's

# Learning Curves: High Performance Drivers Education

Check out our DE Instructor **John Krecek**  
<https://youtu.be/wWdoNe9eiw4>



An advertisement for Attitude On Food, a catering company. The background is a close-up photograph of several appetizers, likely bruschetta or crostini, served on a white plate. The appetizers consist of a piece of bread, a slice of tomato, a slice of meat, and a small herb garnish. A dark sauce is drizzled over the appetizers. The text "OMAHA'S PREMIER CATERING COMPANY FOR OVER 15 YEARS!" is overlaid in a semi-transparent grey box. The company logo, "A O F", is in a black box in the bottom right corner. The website "www.AttitudeOnFood.com // 402-341-3663" is at the bottom. The text "PHOTOGRAPHY BY JESSICA BLEY" is in the bottom left corner.

## Photo of the Week

Congratulations to **Mark Hoffman** for having his Photo chosen for Photo of the week in the [e-Brake News Sept 24, 2019](#)



Photo by **Mark Hoffman**. Great Plains Region. "My race cars: A 1966 Porsche 912 with original sheet metal (no plastic), numbers matching. It was purchased by my father in 1974, was a daily driver for years, and then was converted to a race car in early '90s. I restored it in 2012 and have been racing it as well. The other one is a 2010 Porsche Cayman S Napleton Intraseries. I race With PCA Club Racing."



# 2020 GPR PCA Board of Directors Slate of Candidates

Ballot for Board of Directors for 2020.

Mark Eichten and Armando Colorado are new to the board this year. Mark and Lindsay have been members since 2017. They drive a 2007 Atlas Grey Metallic Cayman S and 1980 Euro 911.

Armando and Debbie have been members since 2016. Armando drives a 2006 Gray Cayman S.

Members will be emailed the ballot link for voting online.

## 2020 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 2020 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: David Adler, 16194 Capitol Ave., Omaha, NE 68118, no later than December 1, 2019.

PRESIDENT	_____	Joe Chambers	WRITE-IN:	_____
SECRETARY	_____	David Adler	WRITE-IN:	_____
TREASURER	_____	Moe Shanley	WRITE-IN:	_____
REGISTRAR	_____	Terry Lessmann	WRITE-IN:	_____
SOCIAL	_____	Armando Colorado	WRITE-IN:	_____
SAFETY	_____	Rick Mourey	WRITE-IN:	_____
MEMBERSHIP	_____	Brandon Koom	WRITE-IN:	_____
WEBSITE	_____	Eric Elliott	WRITE-IN:	_____
EDITOR	_____	Mark Eichten	WRITE-IN:	_____