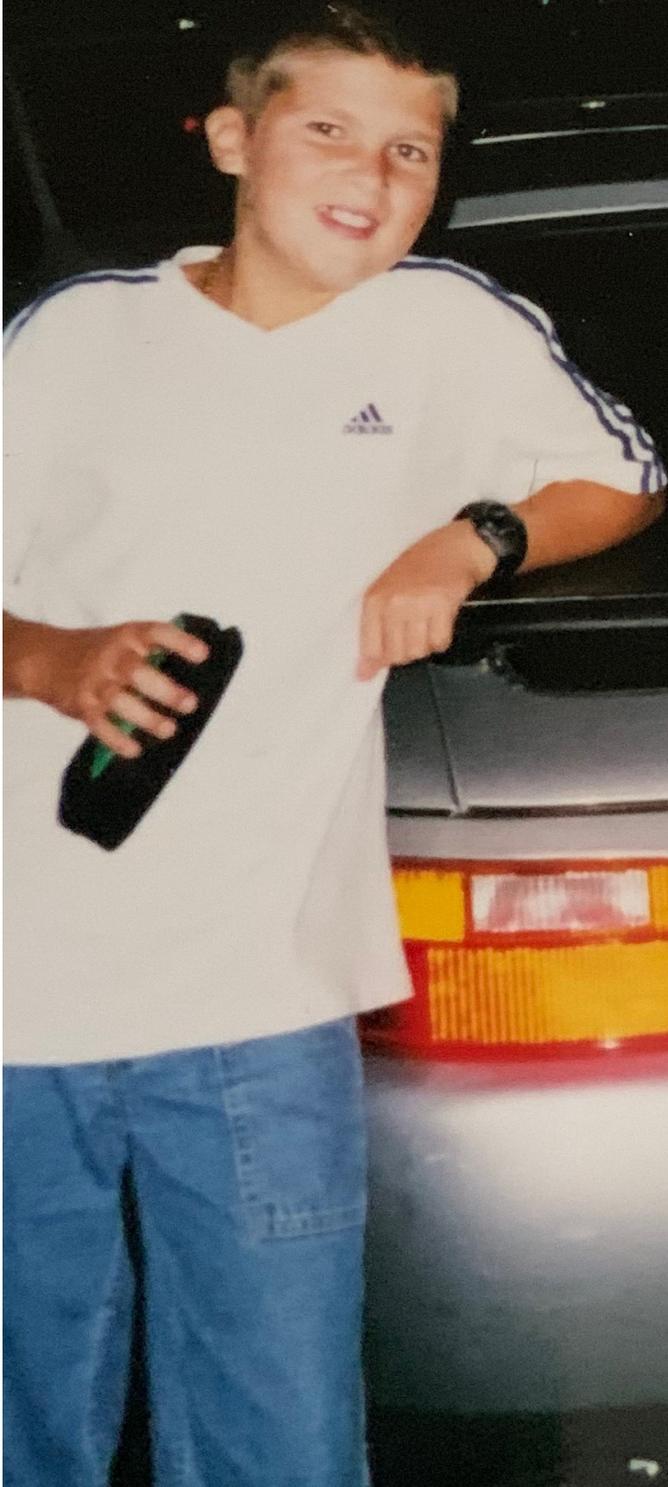




Der Skooner **NOV** **2020**

Porsche Club of America • Great Plains Region • Vol 56 Issue 11



**Meet an Advertiser -
SLM Auto Care
Owner Alex Konuhov
Featured on page 10**



Board of Directors



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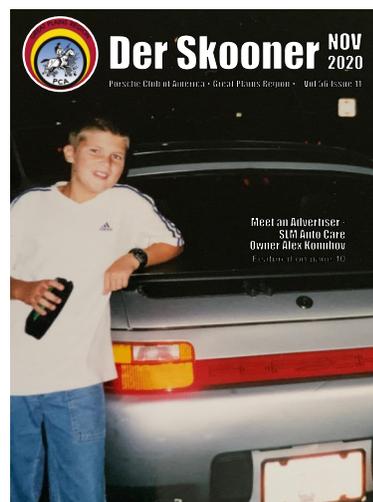
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Der Skooner- Volume 56 Issue 11

Front Cover:
Photo provided by Alex Konuhov

From the President

By Joe Chambers

It's pretty cool outside and hints of winter are in the air. I'm not very excited about the weather changing, but I am excited about the new GPR board of directors that has been elected. I can assure you that our club is in good hands and I look forward to the events they are planning for us next year. Thank you to those who took the time to vote. David Patterson and his team will serve our club well in 2021.

Since we started hosting events again, after the pause for the virus, the response has exceeded our expectations. A club like ours can lose some continuity when there is a large gap like we had between March and late June. The June DE was well attended and clearly indicated people were wanting to get out, not to mention it was a big positive for our DE program. We had another strong outing for the OktoberFast DE with 45 cars. Those are very encouraging numbers and give us confidence in scheduling the 2021 DE events. Porsches and Pancakes returned in August with 25 attendees, the September gathering had about the same and then the October P&P had 30 cars and about 45 people who journeyed out to Fremont. That was a blast. The Champions Lunch had 80 people in attendance. The Fun Run through the Loess Hills had 3 groups! We managed to do all of these things without any incidents of Covid exposure. Your cooperation in following our Covid procedures and your respect for others has been outstanding and we thank you. While Covid numbers continue to fluctuate here in Omaha we will remain fluid. If we feel it is necessary to cancel an event we will do so to keep you safe. We all know that we are not in the clear with this virus. We will continue to ask our members to help us transition to a no-contact format. That means eSignatures for the documents required to attend our events via a ClubRegistration.net account. You will be ready to sign-up when an event is announced. Please take the time to create an account. This is important and we are here to help you with the process. You can view the setup steps at this [link](#).

This is my last article as President. I would like to thank those that have served on the board with me. Your contributions to me and the club are much appreciated. I look back over the last couple of years and we have done a lot of fun stuff. Navigating through 2020 has been challenging, but we remain a strong club and are positioned well for the future.

Life is more fun when you get to share your Porsche passion with other Porsche people! Thanks for making my time as President a rewarding experience.

Safe travels,

~Joe

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.

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PORSCHE

GPR Fun Run and Show at the Fremont Fall Festival



Article and photos by Armando Colorado

Fall is the time of year weather transitions from the hot days of summer to a season that is characterized by cooler temperatures and colorful deciduous trees. The city of Fremont celebrated the beginning of fall by hosting a festival filled with music, food, & art. The organizers of the festival spear headed by Glen Ellis invited the Porsche Club for an inaugural car show on Saturday September 26. The Porsche club did not disappoint. The line-up of cars consisted of old classics and new models. The spectrum of colors such as Chris Coda's Lava Orange GT3RS to Terry Lessmann's Signal Green Cayman S to the Halvorson's Racing Yellow 911 GTS and Ken Burson's Arena Red classic 911 put everyone in an autumn mood. As the conga line of Porsches headed up highway 275 toward Fremont, passersby could be seen taking video and providing that thumbs up. As we approached the outskirts of Fremont we were met by Officer Joe Bauer who escorted the club into the heart of

downtown to our final destination. Festival attendees took photos with the cars and had casual conversations with club members looking to learn more about the brand we are all so passionate about. A big thank you to the fall festival organizers for hosting us and big shout out to Officer Joe Bauer for the police escort. I hope we can do this again next year!

Above: Pano of the Car Show in downtown Fremont

Right: Long view of the lineup



Online and Social Media



[Instagram.com/#gprpca](https://www.instagram.com/#gprpca)



[gprpca.com](https://www.gprpca.com)



[pca.org](https://www.pca.org)



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

Member Name Badges

Look official at our next GPR/PCA event. The magnetic name badges are \$10, includes shipping.

Please contact Melinda at melinda.halvorson1115@gmail.com. Don't forget to wear your name badge to all GPR events!



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Club Calendar

November

7 **CANCELED Ladies-only Fall Luncheon**

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

14 **Porsches & Pancakes (November)**

8:00 am - 10:00 am

December

12 **Porsches & Pancakes (December)**

8:00 am - 10:00 am

[National Calendar](#)



[Zone 10 Calendar](#)



January

23 **GPR Annual Party**

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

[Club Racing Calendar](#)



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Der Skooner

Membership News

ANNIVERSARIES

Stephen Swanstrom 10 years

News

By the Numbers:

154 Paid GPR members

264 PCA members in GPR region

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.

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.

Reminder annual Memberships expire on December 31st. Please go to gprpca.com and click on the link: "[Join or Renew Your GPR Membership](#)".

Questions? Contact:
Brandon Koom
Membership Chair
bkoom@cox.net

A note from the editor

As editor, I would encourage you to share your news, articles, ideas and photos. One of the features in the monthly newsletter is *Meet a Member*. Please consider being featured this year! The process is easy, you can fill out the form [here](#) and upload a few pictures to share your story with the club!

Thank you for additional great article submissions so far this year! Please continue to use the links below to submit articles and Meet a Member submissions.

Article Upload [link](#). Photo Upload [link](#).

Thank you for your contributions to making the Great Plains Porsche Club an excellent community of car enthusiasts.

Please contact:
Mark Eichten
Editor
editor@gprpca.com



GPR Fun Run and Breakfast (October)

Article and photos by Mark Eichten, Editor

On Saturday, October 10th, the GPR switched up our normal breakfast routine. It was a nice clear crisp morning when we all met at the parking lot where over 20 cars showed up for our Fun Run and breakfast. Rick Mourey covered the PCA details and we all fired up our engines and rolled down the road. We all had a close brush with the local police with his radar on, however they pulled over the BMW that was passing us all in the left lane!

We continued to make our way through the Northwest outside of town along the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers, over long rolling straights and some twisty roads. We made it to our destination in Fremont. We made our way across the street to our alternate breakfast location, Milady Coffeehouse. Owner and host, Glen Ellis, provided ample space and a tour of the historic building. The food and more importantly the coffee drinks were delicious.

As the morning wore on the members started to make our way back to the cars to depart on our journey home. It is always a joy to see each other on the roads, enjoying our cars on a spirited drive!

Above Right: Parking lot shot

Right: Parking lot views

Below: Mural of a Cayman and Ford GT



Meet an Advertiser - SLM Auto Care LLC

Article and Photos by Alex Konuhov

What makes your business special?: We focus on relationships. It's very important to build strong relationships with our clients & provide solutions to their problems.

Current project and Next Porsche?:
Current : 2007 Porsche 911 Turbo | Next : 991.2 GT3

Favorite memory with your Porsche?: Tail of the dragon in my 600WHP 996 Turbo.

Any other dream cars you would want to own?: McLaren 720S

What is your business story, what got you interested starting and running the business? My entire life I have had a fascination with cars & motorsport. Growing up in Ukraine my father used to import foreign vehicles from Germany, Czech Republic, & Poland to Ukraine which was still full of Soviet era cars at the time. I was hooked. The styling, technology, power was so much further along than Soviet cars. It was mind blowing. I've been around cars my entire life and remember looking through car windows to see the max speed on the speedometer, this determined how cool the car was. That and how many exhaust tips the car had.

Although the Japanese cars were more popular as they had more gadgets at the time, the German cars were certainly my favorite. Specifically the Audi brand really stood out for me. Fast forward to the year 2000 we immigrated to the USA. The love for cars grew.

I met a friend in school who was also fascinated with cars. His older brother used to take us to Rush Street (Flashbacks) Car Show and occasionally to watch some street racing. I was on top of the world. During my childhood I spent a lot of time

after school at my dad's work and would clean his tools and just hang out.

My father worked for a European auto repair facility since we moved here. I loved it. One summer when I was 13 or 14 years old, Chris at European Motors let me come and help around the shop whether it was painting parts for his old Harley, cleaning, or sandblasting things. This was super cool. I loved being around this atmosphere.

(Continued on page 11)



Above: Alex and friends on the Tail of Dragon



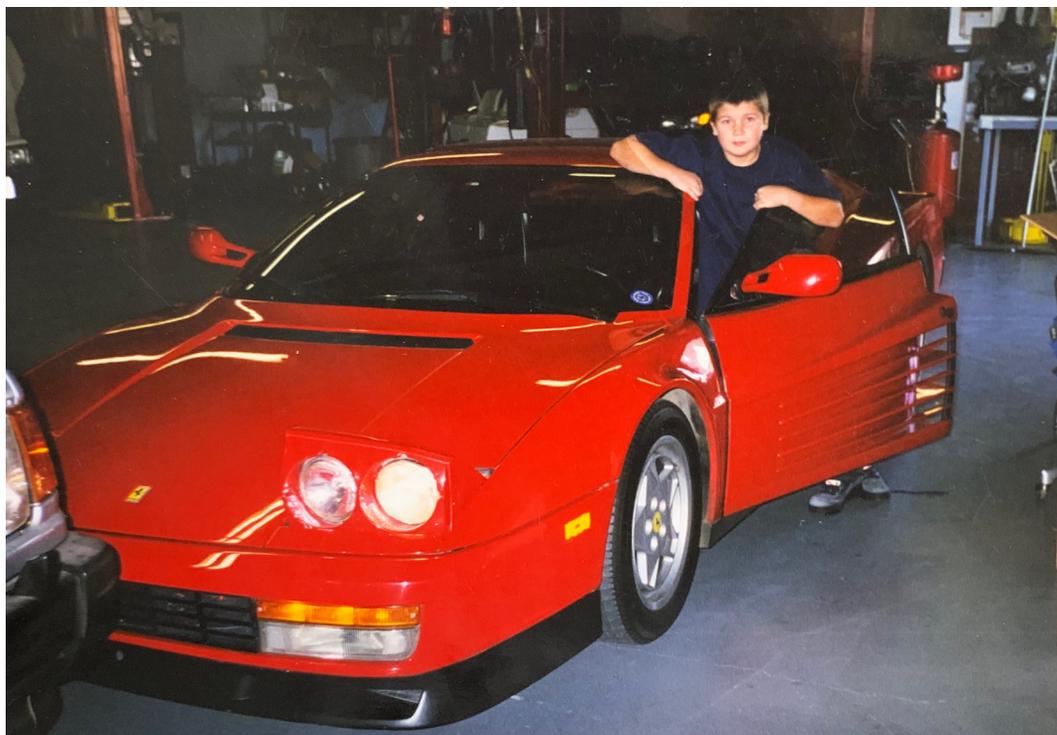
Above: Alex's 997 Turbo
Below: Alex and friends on the Tail of Dragon



(Continued from page 10)

My father definitely tried to keep me away from working on cars and after I grew older I saw how challenging this career really was. I needed to find a way to be in this industry but I knew I wasn't going to be wrenching on cars. While in college for Business Management, my father and I had a small 800 sq-ft shop where we did some occasional projects for our local Audi / VW enthusiasts and bought / sold Audi's / VW's. This was the start of SLM. I was fortunate enough to meet a great friend who later became a business partner through our local Audi / VW group (GOVAG). After becoming good friends, we decided to take our hobby and try to make it into a business. It was not an easy road. I definitely shortened my life expectancy during this time. Every month we made huge mistakes, learned new things & tried to figure out the direction of this business. Slowly but surely the business grew, but there were definitely times when I wanted to call it quits. Not entirely sure what kept me going but I'm glad it did. At the end of 2017 I bought out my business partner and pushed forward. Fall of 2018 we had the opportunity to purchase the building we are in currently, and we took the opportunity. Winter of 2020 we will be occupying the whole 12,000 sq-ft once the renovations are complete after our last tenants moved out. We will be adding an in ground Hunter alignment system with corner balancing and a detail bay. Excited for the future and being able to serve our clients to the highest level. Currently with

more employees we are experiencing some growth pains, but we are working on it! The love for Porsche came with the purchase of my 2004 Porsche 911 Turbo. I've had a lot of cars, but there was nothing close to this car when it came to the power and the thrill that this vehicle provided. Taking this car to Tail Of The Dragon with some friends I was in heaven. This car did things that I never thought were possible. After selling my 996TT I tried to scratch the itch with some other cars like a 2018 Audi RS3, but it was not even close. I needed a Porsche in my life. A Turbo. I found the "perfect" not so perfect 997TT that needed some work and I am finally almost done with making it "mine". I am excited to hit the track with fellow GPR members next year. It has been an absolute pleasure meeting and working with GPR members. I am thankful to be a part of this great club and help in any way we can. SLM is far from perfect & we are still learning how to properly run this business and provide the best customer experience possible with top quality workmanship. We will continue supporting the club and are excited about what's to come! Thank you GPR.



Visiting Roger's New Digs



Article and Photos provided by Terry Lessmann

Registration for the annual Indy Driver's Education (DE) occurs in the March-April time frame. I registered and was looking forward to the DE even more so than in the past. In previous years, the organizers determined which run group to place you in. This year you could select your run group. Previous years had me running in an expanded passing group, which I liked, but in the high horsepower group, which was not good. I would be running against GT4s, GT3s, and race cars. My puny 303hp was a knife at a gunfight. My selection of the expanded passing low HP run group was approved. Perfect! All I had to do was wait for August 7.

Then Covid-19 hit with full force. Everything went into lockdown and on hold. Somewhere along the line 2 things happened: the Indy 500 was rescheduled for August 23 and the Speedway was sold to Roger Penske. The latter was excellent news, the former not so much. For a while the DE appeared to be still on, but that seemed odd since it would be just 2 weeks before the 500. Then the DE was postponed with no date announced. Finally, new

dates were chosen: October 16-18. Rats! That was the same weekend as our GPR OctoberFast DE at RPM. I was slated to do the novice classroom training, on track instructing, as well as registering all entrants at our event. But I can't be in 2 places at once. Joe Chambers was open to selecting a new date for our DE but negotiations with RPM didn't bear fruit. Once again, Joe stepped up and said he would handle the registration portion and John Krecek was available to do the classroom training. That opened the door for me to participate at Indy. Thanks a bunch, guys.

(Continued on page 13)

Below: Terry DE Instructing 944



(Continued from page 12)

About 10 days before Indy, I answered an email from the organizers and mentioned if they needed an extra instructor, I would be available. I immediately got a response back that I could instruct and they assigned me a student. I was pumped, as instructing at Indy was on my bucket list. Sent an email to the student, asking questions about her and her Subaru, crickets. Sent 2 more emails, nothing. She finally responded saying she didn't think she could attend since she didn't meet the 1 DE requirement prior to Indy. I suggested she contact the registrar to let them know. She did and the registrar responded back saying with all the DE cancellations, they'd waive their requirement and let her participate. I chimed in saying if the organizers were OK, then I was too. All set. I emailed her my number before I left for Indy.

Thu Oct 15, I left dark and early for Indy. Arrived at the track at 4:30 pm to register and go thru tech inspection. Got my car unloaded in my Grand Prix garage and was all set for the morning. Checked my student's garage and no Subaru. Sent her an email saying I'd arrived. I grabbed a bite to eat at the track and waited for the morning fun.

Friday morning arrived with very chilly temps. In the driver's mtg, we were told we HAD to wear our masks 100% of the time. The only exception was if we were eating / drinking or wearing our helmet. With Covid positive rates spiking, the county would be patrolling the facilities and were itching to shut us down. Roger Penske (who was supposedly driving the track on Thursday) did not want any negative publicity, so everyone had to comply. Message received.

When I lined up for my 1st session, my outside temp read 35 degrees. There were about 40% less cars lined up – maybe

because of the temps, maybe Covid (there were fewer cars in the garages). My car ran very well but I didn't push it. I kept waiting for the thundering herd to run me over, but was pleasantly pleased when it didn't and I was able to pass as many cars as passed me. This was fun. When my session was over, I contacted the registrar about not hearing from my student.

(Continued on page 14)



(Continued from page 13)

They gave me her phone number and I called. She said she didn't think she could participate because of their 1 DE rule. I explained that it had been waived. Then she said she'd made other plans for the weekend. OK, whatever. I contacted the registrar and said I was available. They had all students assigned to an instructor, so they said I could do black flag area on Sunday if I wanted. As the day warmed up, more cars appeared on the grid but I was still able to pass many cars.

Saturday was a carbon copy of Friday with cold temps in the morning (35 again) with sun and warming to 55 by mid-day. The 3rd session was my best of the weekend with lots of fast laps and consistent driving. The day ended with 3 parade laps around the oval, which is always thrilling. During the Saturday afternoon driver's meeting, we were told someone was sent home for not wearing a mask. They were serious about enforcing the rules. At the end of the meeting, they announced that they needed 2 instructors for Sunday. I rushed up and volunteered. Supposedly my student needed a bit more work before he could solo. The registrar took me to my student's garage and introduced me.

Sunday began at 55 deg but it was very cloudy with a bit of rain. The 1st group out on the track at 8 am was in the dark and they needed headlights to see their way around. That looked like a ton of fun and I was jealous. My run group was next up at 8:20 and it wasn't totally dark but not light either. I enjoyed that run immensely. I then hopped into my student's stock '83 944. He had a very good understanding of corner lines but had serious issues with jerking the

wheel at corner entry and braking very hard at the entry of a corner – so much so he almost came to a stop, then over accelerated thru the corner. After the session we talked about trail braking, being smooth while cornering, and slow in, fast out. I invited him to ride with me in my next session, which he did. He really digested the info as he was order of magnitudes better during his next run. He was trail braking like a pro and was much smoother turning into the corners. His tires were much happier with him too, as they were howling much less than our 1st run. He still needed a bit of coaching on the slow in, fast out, but he understood when he messed up. I released him to go solo in the last session. Afterwards we talked about things he could work on for his next DE – getting a GoPro to film what he was doing, learn how to heel toe, and working on holding the steering wheel at 9 & 3 to prevent shuffle steering.

It was a great time at the track. The worst part of the weekend was driving thru snow from Iowa City to Des Moines. Not fun, but I roll with some great guardian angels. If you're interested in viewing my videos, search '[Terry Lessmann Indy 2020](#)' on YouTube.

Below: Terry's Cayman S



Election Results - Board of Directors

Voting for the 2021 GPR Board of Directors and our recommended By-Law change concluded October 31st. The proposed slate of Directors was approved, as was our By-Law change. Your board for 2021 is as follows:

President – David Patterson
Treasurer – Bob Kirchner
Social Chair – Melinda Halvorson
Membership Chair – Carol Lynch
Registrar – Terry Lessmann
Safety Chair – Rick Mourey
Der Skooner Editor – Mark Eichten
Webmaster – Eric Elliott
Secretary – Kurt Halvorson
Respectfully submitted,
Kurt Halvorson

Board of Directors Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Minutes of the GPR Board Meeting October 6, 2020

The Great Plains PCA Board met at 6:00 pm on October 6, 2020 at Kurt Halvorson's house. Present were Joe Chambers, Steve Gehring (via phone), Rick Mourey (via phone), Terry Lessmann, Brandon Koom, Armando Colorado (via phone), Mark Eichten, Moe Shanley, Eric Elliott (via phone) and Kurt Halvorson. David Patterson, Carol Lynch and Melinda Halvorson, board nominees, joined as observers at the invitation of Joe Chambers.

PRESIDENT: Discussion was initiated around potential member awards for 2020, with decisions to come in November. Club medallions will need to be re-ordered. President Chambers is working on securing pricing. Steve Gehring was recognized for his work on our by-laws and related legal assistance to the club.

SECRETARY: The September minutes were approved as distributed. Secretary Halvorson provided a status update on the annual balloting with 43 member votes cast to date.

SAFETY: Fremont Fall Festival Fun Run observer and event reports were filed with PCA. PCA insurance has been obtained for the October 10th Fun Run, and DE on the 17th and 18th. DE volunteers are set. Electronic mapping for fun runs is still being tested. Continuing to monitor helmet status for 2021. Chair Mourey proposed a committee of three persons to chair the annual GPR/PCA club race in Hastings next year, with a tentative date in June – all to be finalized by the November board meeting.

REGISTRAR: We continue to use ClubRegistration.net for any driving event registration. October 17 & 18 DE at RPM looks to attract over 30 registrants. DE dates for 2021 were discussed.

TREASURER: The club's cash balance was \$79,515 on September 30, 2020, \$2,109 less than August. Dues receipts for September were \$330, new member distribution received from PCA was \$500; newsletter printing costs were \$55, Stripe processing fees \$11, social costs for the September 20th Champions event were \$3,041, and awards costs were \$174.

MEMBERSHIP: Through September, GPR has 154 paid members and 264 PCA members. There were 2 new GPR members, 2 new PCA members in our region and 1 PCA transfer out. Discussion ensued around member renewals timing.

SOCIAL: September 12th Porsches and Pancakes was well attended; September 20th Champions Run Lunch and Car Show attracted 70 members; the Fremont Fall Fest Car Show (not a GPR event) attracted 15 Porsches. October 10th Fun Run to Fremont's Mi Lady café is planned. Working on a Victory Lane facility tour this fall. November 7th Ladies luncheon has 8 registrants thus far. November 14th and December 12th Porsches and Pancakes are back at Garden Café.

EDITOR: Editor Eichten requests articles from the board and members alike! "Meet an Advertiser" column will debut in November's Der Skooner issue. November will also include a PCA Juniors marketing piece.

WEBMASTER: The website is up to date with events and classifieds. Der Skooner was sent out October 3rd. Ballot for the 2021 GPR board and by-law change has been sent out to members. Voting is open through October. Email blasts to remind people to register for the Fremont fun run, Ladies luncheon and DE will be going on a regular basis up to each event.

Next meeting will be Tuesday November 3, 2020 at 6:00 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Kurt Halvorson, Secretary

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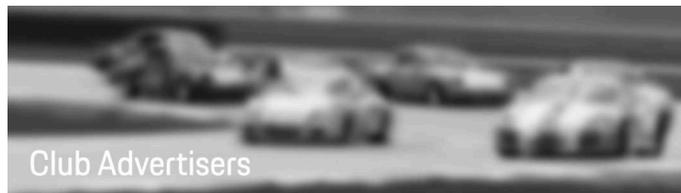
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New Porsche Factory Floor liners front and rear, Porsche #96B04480043E0 to fit 2015 Macan..... \$90.

New WeatherTech front floor liners to fit 2011 Cayenne...\$60. Kburson911@gmail.com or text 402-677-9667



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GPR Classifieds

GPR members can list car-related items for free in Der Skooner and on the website. To place your free ad, contact our [newsletter editor](#).

Advertise your business here.

Contact the editor at editor@gprpca.com for pricing.

Classified Ads

FREE to members, please send your details to editor@gprpca.com for Ads, include pictures and contact information. Ads will be published in the Der Skooner for 2 months unless notified of the item being no longer available.

From the Grid

Article by Rick Mourey, GPR Safety Chair photos by Armando Colorado

With the 2020 DE and Race season now in the rearview mirror, we can by all accounts reflect on a successful season in spite of this year's challenges. GPR managed to pull off two DE events at Raceway Park of the Midlands in June and October after having been closed out for the first part of the year due to COVID restrictions. If we had one bright spot with all of the procedure changes due to COVID it was our move to e-signature for all of the registration and waiver documents this year which has simplified the entire registration process.

Our recent Octoberfest DE was the weekend of extremes. With 45 cars registered, we drew drivers not only from the Omaha metro area, but from Cedar Rapids, Kansas City and South Dakota as well. Saturday was the perfect DE day, with sunshine, temps in the high 70's and full run groups right up to the track going cold at 5:30. Everyone behaved all day long and while we had a spin or two, we only had one on track breakdown and other than some worn out brake pads, tires and money turned into noise, the cars and drivers ended the day the way they started. Sunday on the other hand, started off with having to clean snow off my vehicle and flurries and sleet on the drive to the track. Needless to say, the numbers of cars and drivers on Sunday was way down. But the real drivers who showed up (you all know who you are), got to work on their wet, cold track driving skills. Special thanks to Sandy Brusco for handling the grid on Saturday. With our move over to dragstrip side of RPM the grid is at the end of the race strip which is practically a different time zone. We appreciate Sandy making sure all our drivers got onto to the track safely. With 16 novice students coming through our DE program this year, it's the highest number we've seen in a couple of years and a good sign for future DE events. GPR's novice training program with its robust classroom and on-track training draws both Porsche and non-Porsche drivers from across the region and is supported by one of the strongest instructor pools in the PCA arena. We are really looking forward to 2021.





Above: Novice run group on the Grid



**Above Left and Right: Red Run Group and Green Group on the Grid
Below: Novice Group receiving their Certificates**





Have you signed up for PCA Juniors?

It's not just the cars. And it's not just the grown-ups. PCA is about the kids too!

The PCA Juniors program is here for kids to enjoy PCA events, learn about Porsches, and continue the passion that runs throughout the Porsche Club of America. As a PCA member, you may sign up your child, grandchild, niece, or nephew under the age of 18. It's free to join! Your PCA Junior will receive a welcome box with an ID name badge in the mail. Many region events include activities for children and teens geared to grow enthusiasm for Porsche and PCA for generations to come.

SIGN UP HERE. IT'S FREE! <https://www.pca.org/pca-juniors>

The PCA Juniors program has worked with coloring book illustrator Fireball Tim to create custom coloring sheets for you to download and enjoy.

DOWNLOAD HERE: <https://www.pca.org/pca-juniors-activities>



PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA