

In Memoriam
Sally Knapp
(Wolf Kitten)

Featured on page 10

Meet an Advertiser -
Star Class

Featured on page 5



Der Skooner **DEC** 2020

Porsche Club of America • Great Plains Region • Vol 56 Issue 12



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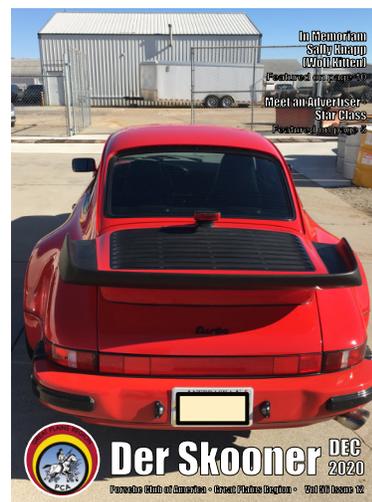
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Der Skooner- Volume 56 Issue 12

Front Cover:
Photo provided by Dane Bergmeier

Idle Thoughts

By David Patterson

As the gavel passes into my hands as your new club president, it is important for me to recognize a few individuals who are transitioning out of their official responsibilities on the board after serving for the last two years. First, please join me in commending Joe Chambers for shepherding our club as president. We were lucky to have his steady leadership, especially during the flooding of 2019 and through the uncertainty caused by Covid-19 in 2020. (Joe's time and experience in the role of Past President this coming year will be most welcome, not the least of which by me) A thank you is also in order for Moe Shanley (Treasurer), Brandon Koom (Membership), Armando Colorado (Social), Steve Gehring (Past President). A club like ours relies on a few servant leaders who are willing to donate their time and talents for the greater good and enjoyment of the many. Please show these gentlemen your appreciation for a job well done when you can.

The 2021 board of directors nominees received the necessary affirmative votes and the slate was unanimously approved as proposed on the ballot. I am grateful for the steady commitment and leadership of: Kurt Halvorson (Secretary), Registrar (Terry Lessmann), Safety (Rick Mourey), DS Editor (Mark Eichten), and Webmaster (Eric Elliott). Other board positions are being filled by newly inspired members: Bob Kirchner (Treasurer), Melinda Halvorson (Social), and Carol Lynch (Membership). Additionally, John Krecek has reaffirmed his commitment to the club as Chief Driving Instructor. Future issues of Der Skooner, and our other communications, will also benefit from Armando Colorado as our newly recognized official GPR Photographer.

By the time this newsletter reaches your inbox, the club will have shared the regrettable but necessary news that our annual Winter Party has been postponed out of care and concern for the health of all due to Covid-19. The board will continue to monitor the latest local and state guidelines to inform our decisions on potential activities. All signs seem to indicate that the rising numbers the next few months will create some headwinds for our in-person gatherings. Member safety has and always will be of primary significance. That said, we will be sure to be creative with ways to stay connected.

An eternal optimist, I still have confidence that we will be enjoying some semblance of normalcy later this year. With that in mind, December is a great time to renew your 2021 membership. At \$30 per year, it is a great value that allows you to participate in our events throughout the year. As a reminder, GPR memberships are based on the calendar year and run from January 1st to December 31st. You can renew your membership online at: <https://www.gprpca.com/become-a-member/gpr-membership-form/>.

Our holiday gatherings with family and friends will no doubt be curtailed, limited, or transition to a virtual setting. These are trying times, but we have so much to be grateful for; not the least of which is a shared love for a brand of automobiles that provides a truly exhilarating time while social distancing on the highways and byways of the Great Plains Region. Please accept my warmest wishes to you and yours this holiday season. Stay safe – Stay healthy – Stay sane – Go Drive!

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

Meet an Advertiser - Star Class Motors

Article and Photos by Dane Bergmeier

In 1999 Star Class Motors founder Mark Bertelsen saw there was a need for local independent European auto repair. Mark, being a factory trained Mercedes Benz technician, sought to offer an alternative to dealership service and repair for these unique and special automobiles. Star Class Motors was born as one-man operation working out of a single service bay. Specializing in Mercedes Benz automobiles at the time, Mark continued to grow his customer base and began to expand the team.

As the team grew to include several more technicians, Star Class was able to work with other luxury and performance brands such as BMW, Porsche, Audi, Jaguar and Land Rover. To be able to work with today's high-end automobiles requires special equipment, and the people to operate it. Each make being unique; Star Class has always made factory trained techs, and the latest specialty scan tools and equipment a priority.

Today Star Class has grown to include 4 full time technicians working out of 10 fully functional service bays, A detail and reconditioning shop, and a climate controlled and secured storage facility for our customers fair weather cars.

Everyone on our staff is an automotive enthusiast in their own right. These aren't just tools to get from point A to point B. Whether it be muscle cars, vintage sports cars, exotics, high horsepower European touring cars. We love them all. It's really the best part of what we do. We work with cars that people love. It's always more fun for everyone involved to pursue a passion.

We are very excited to do more and more work with Porsches and the GPR Porsche

Club. Porsche is definitely a motorsport-oriented brand and we all love spending time at the track. Some of the best time we've spent as a company is at the GPR HPDE events. Everyone always looks forward to them.

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Club Calendar

December

12 **CANCELED** Porsches & Pancakes

(December)

8:00 am - 10:00 am

National Calendar

Zone 10 Calendar



January

23 **CANCELED** GPR Annual Party

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Club Racing Calendar



Online and Social Media



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Der Skooner

Membership News

ANNIVERSARIES *Melinda Halvorson 5 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

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



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!



(Continued from page 5)

What is your business story, what got you interested starting and running the business?

We started with an aim to fulfill a need for local independent luxury and performance automobile service and repair, Offering an alternative to dealerships.

What makes your business special?

The personal relationships. The customer is able to talk with the technicians working on their cars directly. No need to communicate indirectly through service advisors like with most dealers. It's also possible for the customer to see their car in shop and look at possible concerns with their own eyes. This approach makes it very easy to communicate with our customers, and for our customers to see exactly what is being done.

Next Porsche or current project?

Currently working on a 24K mile 1986 944 Turbo Barn Find. It's almost ready to go back on the road! Also working with a classic 912 for some drive-ability issues. and another 944 we will call a "rescue". It needed a lot of work but we will make it a nice car again.

Favorite memory with your Porsche?

We've always enjoyed the track days with the GPR. Maybe driving Porsches and maybe not... But always fun to be on track with the club.

Any other dream cars you would want to own?

Porsche 917 LeMans Prototype... You know... For track days



Sally Knapp (Wolf Kitten)



Article and Photos provided by friends of Sally

On Sunday, November 22, we said goodbye, but never forgotten to Sally Knapp, aka Wolf Kitten-Car # 84. Sally battled cancer for many, many months, fighting it with the same tenacity she would fight for position in turn 13 at Hastings.

Sally was a long-standing Porsche Club of America and Great Plains Region member, DE instructor, Club Racer, Region Officer and most importantly an all-around genuine and caring person.

I had the privilege and honor of knowing Sally for the last nine years. A friendship that started on the track and like many other friends of Sally's, both old and new, it grew to extended well beyond that.

Growing up in Hanson Massachusetts with her twin sister Sandy, they both graduated from Whitman-Hanson High School and went on to the University of Massachusetts as music majors. Sally playing the clarinet and Sandy played the French Horn. Can you imagine the two of them in a band and orchestra together! An avid Red Sox and Patriot fan, you frequently saw Sally in the paddock with her classic Red Sox cap or Jersey.

Wearing my Yankee cap one day, was how we discovered we grew up about 50 miles from one another, both winding up in Nebraska and meeting at a track in Iowa.

Sally joined PCA and GPR in 2003 with her prized, white 968 cabriolet and quickly started attending DE events. It was during a DE/Club race weekend at the then Mid America Motorplex (MAM) in Iowa that Sally decided she was going to become a club racer. This itself is a great example of Sally's strength of character.

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Below: The GPR Club Racers



(Continued from page 10)

At the time there were few female race car drivers and even fewer in the mid-west regions where Sally was getting her start. Paralleling her club racing for many years Sally was also the Safety Officer for the Great Plains Region, contributing her time and energy back to an environment she loved. She never considered herself a trail blazer in this respect. She simply enjoyed racing, track days and all aspects it brought both on and off the track. Whether at a DE event or club race, the team of Sally and Sandy pulling in was always a welcome sight. With their smiles and good-natured sister arguments they brought fun and sunshine to every event they attended.

Perhaps her most enduring legacy, aside from the peanut butter cookies Sally and Sandy always brought to the track and one that Sally often said brought her the greatest satisfaction, was mentoring and working with individuals to get them started with attending DE events and for some of those drivers to eventually become club racers. She truly loved getting into the right seat with students and working with them afterwards to improve various aspects of their driving and confidence in the car. These lessons often went well beyond the weekend, with Sally reaching out to students with additional advice and insights that came to mind. This passion and commitment will be sorely missed.

To honor this commitment the Great Plains Region has renamed our annual “Most Improved Driver” award, to the “Sally Knapp Award for Most Improved Driver”.

There are far too many contributions, accolades, from class championships to corner worker awards and stories to list here. To Sally it was “Always about the people”. Everywhere she went Sally developed deep and enduring friendships and I am sure for years to come we will all

share many of those stories at future events, with a beer in hand and of course after the track is cold.

Daughter, sister, wife, mom, grandmother, friend, musician, competitor, coach, confidant, “humble diva” and peanut butter cookie maker, you will be missed but not forgotten.



Personal Tributes for Sally

Carol and I have lost a dear friend, but we are left with many fond memories. We spent numerous evenings with Sandy, Sally and her husband Gene, doing taste tests to determine the best hamburger place in the Omaha Metropolitan area. And true to the individualist that she was, Sally always ordered a patty melt if one was on the menu.

Sandy Steckman, Jim Avilla and I spent many Saturday mornings working on the Wolf Kitten car to improve its speed and handling. While Sally and Sandy spent time drinking coffee with Carol, coming to the shop to occasionally supervise.

My fondest memory is of playing tag on the track with Sally. That was great fun!!

Bob Lynch

Sally was a great competitor on the track. Watching her handle her car and drive with the guys was very inspiring to me. She knew what she was doing.

She started her driving adventure with a single-minded purpose - to compete to the best of her ability.

And she did that so very well. She made friends with many competitors at the numerous tracks she drove. And she always loved catching up with them at the next event.

She was an inspiration to me when I began to attend DE events. And if I would have started earlier in my life, I might have tried to be competitive. She was always good to encourage me, tell me that I was improving and offer a nugget to help me get around a corner with more finesse. It was very inspiring to have that knowledge come from another woman.

There will be an empty spot in the paddock and the track without the Wolf Kitten. The club has lost a member who truly loved the marque and the GPR. She will be greatly missed.

Carol Lynch

Sally was an amazing woman and a fun person to be around at the track and GPR events. The GPR was lucky to have her be so involved with the track and social events. Thank you for everything Sally!"

Jon Theobald

Sally was a dear friend. She was smiling all the time. She always took the time to chat, ask about my kids, Jack and Lauren. She greeted every challenge with energy and enthusiasm. She did not know how to change the blinker fluid in her race car, but she was willing to learn. As a racer she was tough as nails and respected and loved by her competitors and friends alike. FJK

John Krecek

Sally helped me decide to buy my first car – a 1987 924S. She then instructed me in it on the track. She was an enormous inspiration to my-self and others, both on and off the track.

Jack Krecek

Sally was a dear friend whom I referred to as my older sister. In tribute to her Boston upbringing we would play a word game I referred to as drop the "R". I would constantly drop/remove the "R" in a word creating a never-ending Boston banter between us. Sally was the strongest woman I have known in my life. Based on this I pinned the nickname of "Wolf Kitten" which she proudly displayed on her race car. She was extremely strong but equally compassionate. She will truly leave a void in my life.

Jim Avilia



Board of Directors Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Minutes of the GPR Board Meeting November 3, 2020

The Great Plains PCA Board met at 6:00 pm on November 3, 2020 via teleconference. Present were Joe Chambers, Steve Gehring, Rick Mourey, Terry Lessmann, Brandon Koom, Armando Colorado, Eric Elliott and Kurt Halvorson. Moe Shanley and Mark Eichten were regrets. David Patterson, Bob Kirchner, and Melinda Halvorson, 2021 elected board members, also participated in the call.

PRESIDENT: 2020 Club Awards were discussed. Club medallion pricing and colors are still being sourced. President Chambers thanked the outgoing board members for their service and contributions toward the betterment of the club.

SECRETARY: The October minutes were approved as distributed. 2021 GPR Board election results are final, with the proposed slate of candidates approved. The by-laws change was approved by the membership and will be executed and filed with our corporate by-laws. President Chambers welcomed the new members present at the meeting.

SAFETY: October DE and Breakfast Fun Run observer and event reports were filed with PCA. Electronic route mapping for fun runs continues. There were no reportable issues for any of the insured events during 2020. Sixteen novices went through DE training in 2020, the highest number in recent years.

REGISTRAR: Twenty-five people participated in the October Breakfast Fun Run to Fremont and Milady Café. Another 5 joined the group there. The October DE attracted 48 participants, matching the earlier DE this summer, notching the highest DE total in recent years. Registrar Lessmann and outgoing President Chambers will continue to author articles discussing the use of clubregistration.net for event sign up, as well as e-signatures for event documents. DE dates for 2021 include May 1 & 2 at RPM, May 28-30 at MPH (Club Race and Advanced DE), August 21 & 22 at RPM. Contracts will be initiated with both facilities.

TREASURER: The club's cash balance was \$80,888 on October 31, 2020, an increase of \$1,373 over September. Revenues of \$180 and DE profits of \$1,724; newsletter printing costs of \$55, Stripe processing fees of \$7, and \$181 of administrative and postage fees contributed to the net increase in our cash balance.

MEMBERSHIP: Through October, GPR has 155 paid members and 266 PCA members. There were 2 new PCA and GPR members in the month. There are 7 total Test Drive members at present.

SOCIAL: October Fun Run to Fremont's Mi Lady café was well enjoyed. November 7th Ladies luncheon has been cancelled due to Covid. November 14th and December 12th Porsches and Pancakes are back at Garden Café. January 23rd is the planned date for the Annual Winter Party.

EDITOR: Editor Eichten requests articles from the board and members alike! "Meet an Advertiser" column debuted in November's Der Skooner issue and will continue over the coming months. More feature articles with photos is desired for future content.

WEBMASTER: The website is up to date with events and classifieds. Der Skooner was sent out November 1st. Email blasts to remind people of upcoming events will continue on a regular basis up to each event.

Next meeting will be Tuesday January 5, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kurt Halvorson
Secretary

Reminder from the Board:

The GPR is dependent on volunteers as well. It's challenging to identify members who have an interest in leading the club and are willing to make themselves available to serve. We would like to hear from you if you are one of those people. Ideally, we are looking for both men and women to help lead our group. Knowing who has an interest will hopefully help us find a better balance on our board. We sincerely need your help. Please email David if you have any interest President@gprpca.com

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GPR Classified Ads

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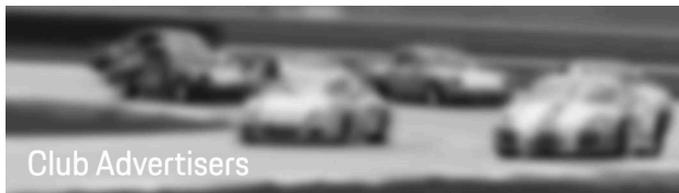
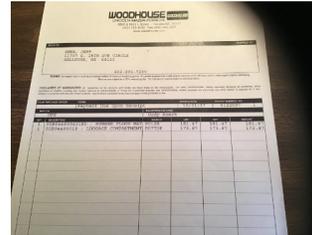
New Porsche Factory Floor liners front and rear, Porsche #96B04480043E0 to fit 2015 Macan..... \$90.

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



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Classifieds

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.

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.

Porsche Club of America September 3, 2020

Events News Magazine Classifieds Technical

e-Brake News

Dear e-Brake News subscriber,
 Porsche Club of America delivers e-Brake News to your inbox every Tuesday. This is the August monthly recap.

Check out the [August issue of Porsche Panorama](#) and scroll down for the top e-Brake articles of the month.

Scroll to the bottom to vote for the Porsche of the Month, and to see July's winning photo.

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V1 for 2025 is here!
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1. Six rare and special Porsches you can still afford (for now)
 PCA—The Porsche market led the big 2011-2015 resurgence in the collector car market, setting trends that continued over the next slightly cooler five years.
[Read More](#)

2. Here are the Spring 2020 Member Only Raffle winners of a Taycan 4S
 PCA—Meet the members who won and find out whether they chose the car or the cash prize.
[Read More](#)

Griot's Garage e-Brake Photo of the Week contest



Are you a member and took a stunning photo you want to share? Submit your pictures to potw@pca.org. Be sure to include your contact information, your Region name, and a few sentences about your picture.

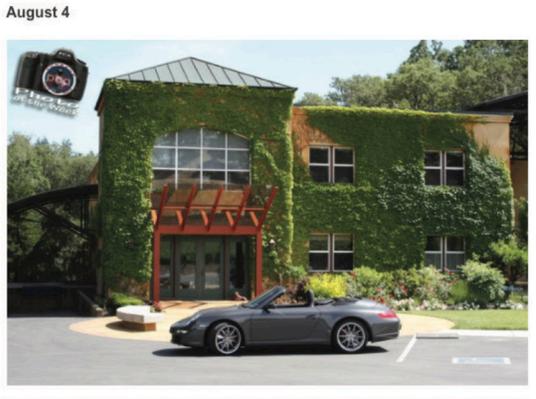
Please note: You must have taken the photo and possess full copyrights to the image. We do not accept photos taken by non-PCA-members.

[Visit GriotsGarage.com](http://VisitGriotsGarage.com)

Vote for your favorite Porsche Photo of the Week

Each month, we will feature the Porsche of the Week photos from the previous month. Then we will tally the votes and crown a new Porsche of the Month winner. PCA, in partnership with [Griot's Garage](#), will be giving away a Concours Lawn Kit to contest winners and a PFM Speed Shine Kit to randomly selected voters.

[Click here to vote for your favorite photo](#)



Want to stay up-to-date on all the latest PCA and Porsche news?

Subscribe to the club's weekly email newsletter, e-Brake News, which includes news articles, exclusive stories, and video from all over the internet.

e-Brake News has a bit of everything, from tech to road tests to motorsports — and you don't have to be a PCA member to subscribe! Every Tuesday evening, e-Brake will have the latest on PCA National events and club programs and entertaining, informative content.

SIGN UP TODAY AND VIEW PAST EDITIONS: pca.org/e-brake-news



PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA