



Der Skooner JAN 2021

Porsche Club of America • Great Plains Region • Vol 57 Issue 1





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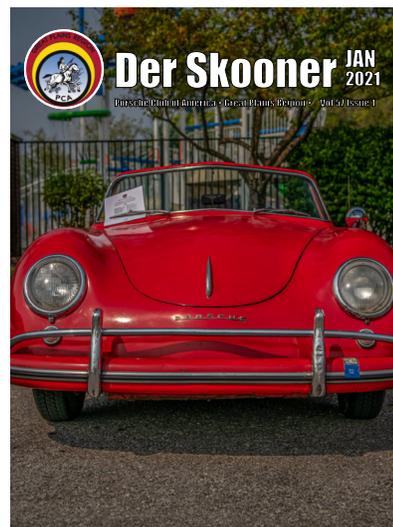
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Der Skooner- Volume 57 Issue 1

Front Cover:
Photo provided by Armando Colorado of
Mark Hoffman's 356

Idle Thoughts

By David Patterson President – Great Plains Region PCA

“A goal without a plan is just a wish.” – Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

The Great Plains Region PCA is grateful for the heroic efforts of scientists and healthcare workers who are allowing us to look towards 2021 with optimism. Indeed, each glance at social media or news outlets the past few weeks provides another photo of someone on the frontline receiving their Covid vaccinations. It is welcome proof that progress is being made and provides mounting evidence that the long dark tunnel of the pandemic will indeed have an end. While we still have a way to go before our desired personal and professional activities can resume, the Club is hard at work planning activities for when that elusive goal of “normal” dawns once again. The board is busy laying the ground work for days at the track, for camaraderie over shared meals, and opportunities for our Porsches to line up single file on beautiful roads between here and there. To be sure, we have a goal and plans are underway!

In the meantime, please know that your thoughts are welcome as we continue to consider and review ways to stay connected. Pandemic or not, I am open to new ideas about how your Club can go the extra mile to provide value and connection to its members. Have you enjoyed a particular location that you think the Club should investigate for an event? Is there something that you would like to learn about at a future gathering? Have an idea on how to optimize a club activity? Drop me a note. I would love to hear from you!

Colder weather often provides an opportunity to dream up the next upgrade or even work on our beloved cars. One thing that social distancing requirements and efforts cannot stifle completely is the sharing of information among our membership. To be sure, a primary motivation for many to become a member of the Great Plains Region is the opportunity to ask questions and learn from other members. The collective knowledge within the club is a priceless benefit of your membership. If you have a question, and do not know who to ask, send a message to myself or any board member. We are happy to provide an answer or connect you with someone who can.

As the earliest days of 2021 roll out before us, I wish you and yours health, safety, prosperity, and another year full of adventure and joy behind the wheel of your Porsche.

Best,
David

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

Thank you - GPR Board Members

Photos and article by Joe Chambers

I would like to thank all of those who served on the GPR Board of Directors between 2019-2020. It was a great experience to serve along side of you during my term as President. I would like to recognize three of our 2020 board members that have rotated off the board this year. Brandon Koom served as Membership Chair, Moe Shanley as Treasurer, and Armando Colorado as Social Chair. Your time and professionalism is greatly appreciated and we look forward to seeing each of you around the club for many years to come.



Above: Brandon Koom with Joe

Below: Armando Colorado with Joe



Below: Moe Shanley with Joe



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As a classic Porsche owner and insurance agent I understand the value of your vehicle(s). We represent several carriers. J.C. Taylor, Hagerty and others. It's important to review your coverages as values change. Reach out to me anytime for a friendly review or quote.

Warmest regards,
Michael Ramm - 402-951-9000

Club Calendar

January

- 9 **CANCELED** Porsches & Pancakes
8:00 am - 10:00 am
- 23 **CANCELED** GPR Annual Party
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

February

- 13 Porsches & Pancakes
8:00 am - 10:00 am
- 20 GPR Social Dinner
TBD

National Calendar
Zone 10 Calendar



Club Racing
Calendar



Online and Social Media



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Der Skooner

Membership News

ANNIVERSARIES *Daniel Surdell 5 years*

News

By the Numbers:

75 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:
Carol Lynch

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!



Passing the time

Article and Photos by Steve Wilwerding

To fill some of the often empty hours during the pandemic, I've taken to watching car reviews on Youtube. They have just about every old segment from Top Gear, or Fifth Gear, or Jay Leno, etc. Though I have a few favorites, I would put Chris Harris at the top of my list; he has a good general knowledge of cars (which is sorely lacking in many other hosts) and has an extensive history with Porsche. Search Youtube for "Chris Harris GT3" where he attends the unveiling of the 992 GT3. It seems that Porsche has a garage dedicated to all of the GT2/GT3 cars they have produced, and Chris remembers most of them - "I drove that one in Barcelona, that one in southern France." To remember not only the details of the model, but also the details about the actual car, is something that few hosts are capable of.

Most of the videos on Youtube show Chris driving the latest model of Porsche, or some resto-mod like a Singer. However, I came across a video a couple weeks ago of him driving an original early 911. No big engine, no fancy modern shocks, no roll cage - just a 911 the way it came off the factory floor in the late 1960s. What Chris appreciated about the car was its purity and the way that everything worked together so well. After driving cars that have been customized to the nth degree, Chris appreciated the package that Porsche themselves put together.

I find myself in a similar situation. After changing just about everything there was to change on my 1998 Boxster (engine, exhaust, suspension, shifter, etc.), I now have a 2013 Boxster S that I intend to leave completely stock. After now having owned the car for a few months, I appreciate the package as Porsche put it together. The exhaust is JUST loud enough not to drone or be annoying, the shifter (yes, I bought one of the few manuals available) is literally the best transmission I have ever driven, and the handling of the car perfectly balances sportiness and comfort. For those of us who think we can improve what Porsche engineers have put together, I would counter that no other car company has yet pulled that off.

I have, however, made a few "tasteful" updates. The first thing I did was to change the amber turn signals in the front bumper to clear LED lights, which definitely improves the looks of a silver car. To be fair, I wasn't really changing what Porsche had done - the clear lights come standard on European cars. The second update came from an interesting article I happened upon that covered

some of the shortcomings of the 981 model. Granted, there are very few - the drivetrain is pretty bulletproof, and even the complex features of the car like the folding top rarely have issues. One shortcoming the article did point out was that you should plan to replace the radiators/AC condensers every few years.

I was taken aback - I had never heard of any issues like that, so I did some digging, and found out that because the front bumpers have such large openings, the radiators are subject to getting damaged from road debris. While it is not an especially common problem, I did find a number of people who had posted to online boards that they had replaced damaged radiators.

Since I was not keen to join that group, I started researching options, and the first place I went was, of course, Youtube. There are a number of videos that show how to fashion your own radiator grills from \$10 worth of Home Depot supplies, and while I'm sure they solved the problem, I did not think they had the look I was going for. Further research turned up nicer grills, but they required the bumper to be removed for installation. I finally found a good solution from a company called Zunsport. They are located in the UK, and make high quality grills that can be snapped in, without having to remove the bumper.

While the Zunsport grills are not as cheap as the Home Depot option, they are also not prohibitively expensive, especially compared with the cost of replacing a radiator, so I ordered a set. Shipping "across the pond" was actually very fast - the grills took less than a week to arrive, and the quality and finish on them is outstanding. Installation is simple with the instructions provided, only takes about 10 minutes, and the grills look fantastic installed.

If you have a later model car, I would highly recommend looking into radiator grills. I had a good experience with Zunsport, but there are many other well-reviewed options available out there. I installed the grills for peace of mind, with the added bonus that they aesthetically improve the look of the front bumper. As far as "upgrades", I am done, and I plan to use and enjoy the car as Porsche intended.



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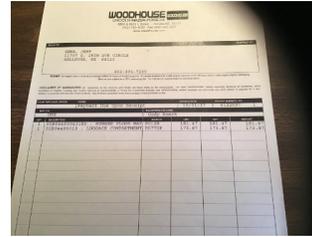
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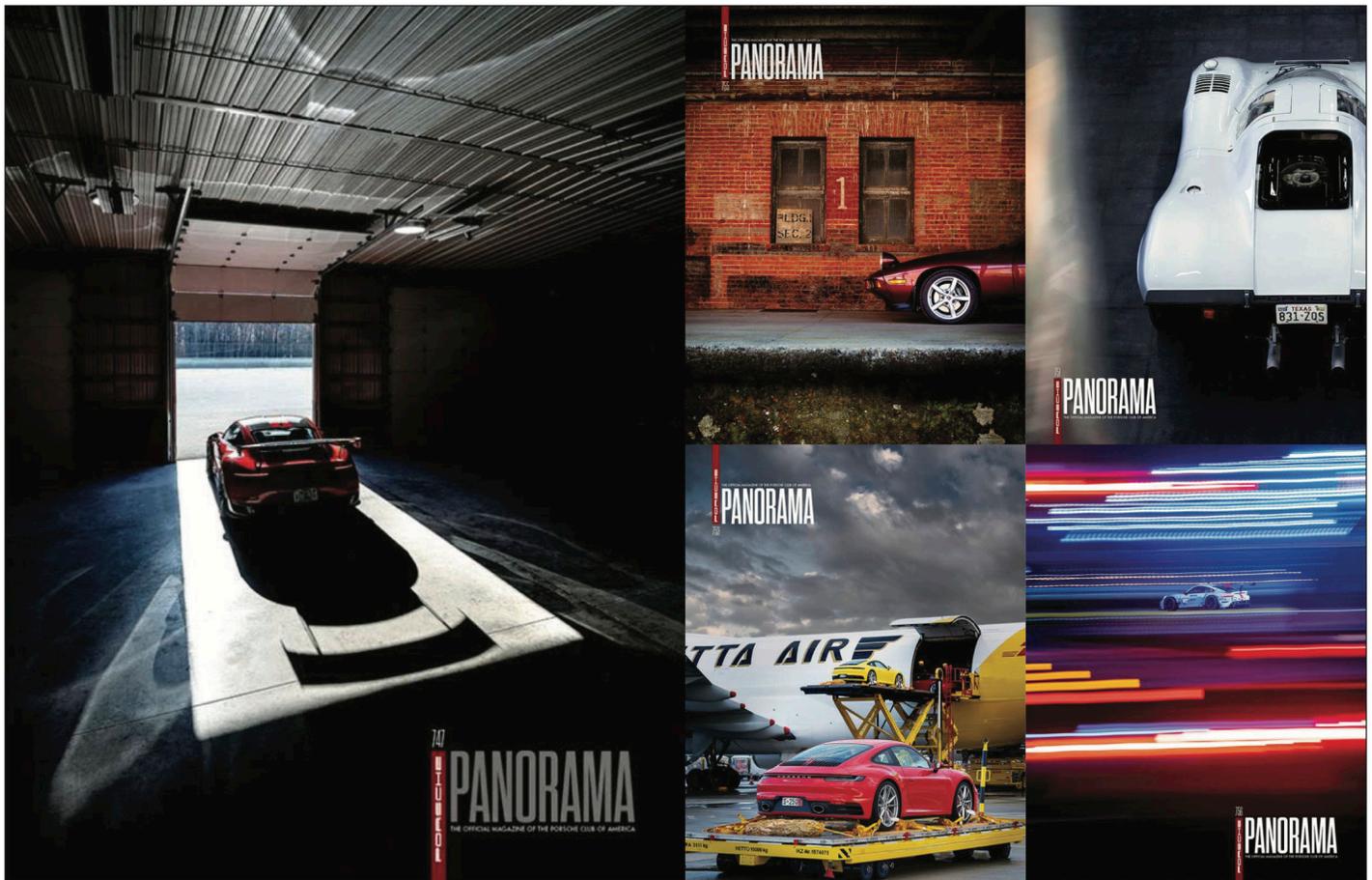
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