



# *Der Skooner*

**Porsche Club of America • Great Plains Region**

**February 2023**





# 2023 Cayenne Platinum Edition

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# *Zero to 60*

**Mike Anderson, GPR President**

In some ways the winter months in the Midwest can drag on with numerous gray days. But, just a few weeks ago we turned the calendar to 2023. Yikes. Zero to 60 again is upon us. When you turn the page and see a new year, you wonder where the last one went.

When you are looking at 2023 plans, there are a lot of activities to consider.

The first two are already over! January 14<sup>th</sup> was the quarterly breakfast at Woodhouse Porsche with a great turnout of roughly 50 people attending. The breakfast part rolled into a presentation by Terry Lessmann of Drivers Education (DE) 202 where he covered many of the finer points of driving on the track.

The second was Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> as the club hosted the annual dinner at Champions Country Club. Again, a great turnout of roughly 120 attendees had a wonderful time catching up with others they may not have seen in a while. You know, COVID and all. Personal opinion: the food was great, the conversations lively and new friendships were started while old friends got reacquainted. All and all a great event. We also had some wonderful raffle items including “Denny” art donated by Denny Strauss. The pictures were wonderful and suitable for hanging in any room in the house.

One of the beneficiaries of the event was the 2023 charity of the year, Least of My Brethren, as more than \$1,500 was raised for them through the sales of raffle tickets. <https://www.leastofmybrethren.org/>

Their focus is on assisting the homeless community through three areas. First, they provide a monthly breakfast for the homeless. Second, they provide essential items to people living on the street like hats, gloves, sleeping bags, boots/shoes, and the list goes on. The third focus is to provide assistance in helping move the homeless into their first apartment. To that end, they provide basic needs of kitchen items, small desks, chairs, beds, etc. A list of their needs is on their website, including the ability to order from Amazon and have it sent directly to their completely volunteer organization.

So, as you plan to keep focused on Spring, consider the following events:

- February 11, 8:00 breakfast at Paradise Bakery at Village Pointe
- February 25, Women’s Only event at Simply Delicious in Valley
- March 11, 8:00 breakfast at Paradise Bakery at Village Point
- March 25, UP RR Museum tour at Beaver Lake from 3:00-5:00 with a dinner to follow.
- April 8, breakfast at Woodhouse with a DE 101 session presentation by Rick Mourey.
- April 15, Fun Run, route and destination is in the works
- April 29, Drivers Ed event at Raceway Park of the Midlands
- May 13, 8:00 breakfast at Paradise Bakery at Village Point
- May 19-21, Club Race and DE at Motorsport Park Hastings

Wow! The year is upon us. Pencil in the events and join when you can. The board is looking forward to seeing you all soon and regularly!

**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 of Directors 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.



# Great Plains Region Club Calendar

## February 2023

February 11th - Breakfast at Paradise Bakery 8:00am

Village Pointe 17305 Davenport St, Suite 101, Omaha, NE 68818

February 25th - Ladies Event - See Page 8 for details! *(RSVP)*

## March 2023

March 11th - Breakfast at Paradise Bakery 8:00am

Village Pointe 17305 Davenport St, Suite 101, Omaha, NE 68818

March 25th - GPR Social Event - See Page 9 for details! *(RSVP)*

## National & Regional Events

February 1st - Porsche Parade Registration Opens <https://www.porscheparade.org/>

### National Calendar



### Club Racing Calendar



## 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)

# Board of Directors Meeting

## Minutes of the GPR Board meeting

### January 9th, 2023

The Great Plains Region PCA Board met at 6:00 pm at the office of Paul Schudel. Present were Mike Anderson, Eric Elliott (via video conference), Carol Lynch, Terry Lessmann (via video conference), Paul Schudel, Jeremy Kroh, Bob Kirchner, Rick Mourey and Kurt Halvorson (via audio conference). David Patterson was unable to attend.

**PRESIDENT:** Mike Anderson opened the meeting. Anderson met with Porsche Omaha, and they agreed to provide \$5,000 in sponsorship to the club again this year. Anderson expressed our appreciation to Porsche for their continued support of the club and our members. An Event/Planning calendar was drafted by Anderson and Social Chair Schudel for 2023 from which we can work for planning and adding events throughout the year. Least Of My Brethren was selected as our charity for the year. They assist homeless with donated items and strive to move them off the street. Monthly needs will be communicated to our membership.

**SECRETARY:** The November 2022 minutes were approved as distributed.

**TREASURER:** The club's cash balance on December 31, 2022, was \$76,180. Revenue for the year was \$22,155; expenses were \$35,137, for a fiscal year 2022 loss of (\$12,982).

**SOCIAL:** January events include Porsche Omaha breakfast on the 14<sup>th</sup> with a DE 202 presentation, and the annual Winter Party on the 21<sup>st</sup>. February 11<sup>th</sup> is Porsches at Paradise. A women's event is being planned for late February. March 11<sup>th</sup> is Porsches at Paradise, and Supercar Saturday for those wishing to attend following breakfast (not a GPR event). A possible UP Museum event is being considered for the end of March. April 8<sup>th</sup> is Porsche Omaha breakfast with a DE 101 presentation to follow. A Fun Run for April 15<sup>th</sup> is being planned as well. Discussion ensued around a possible overnight trip to Valentine and the Sand Hills area for the summer.

**MEMBERSHIP:** We had 219 paid GPR members at 12/31/22 out of 307 PCA Primary members assigned to our region. As of 1/8/23 GPR paid members for 2023 total 153. There are 82 outstanding renewals. Winter Party attendees will be required to have paid their dues in order to attend the dinner party. A Lifetime member was gracious enough to continue to pay their dues for 2023.

**REGISTRAR:** The DE 202 presentation will take place at

the January breakfast at Porsche Omaha on January 14<sup>th</sup>. 2023 DE dates will be added to ClubRegistration.Net as contracts are finalized.

**SAFETY:** Chair Mourey participated in the national quarterly DE committee meeting. 2023 DE Minimum Standards were reviewed; GPR continues to meet or exceed the Standards. EVs not be allowed at DEs in 2023; safety management, fire extinguishing among the reasons. RPM DE dates: 4/29, 8/26, 10/7. MPH Club Race dates are set: 5/19 -5/21 including DE run groups all three days. A DE 101 is planned for the Porsche Omaha breakfast in April. MPH Club Race contract finalized; awaiting national steward assignment, volunteer positions confirmed, looking for additional volunteers to backfill. Working on additional marketing to Club Racers and DE participants for the Club Race weekend. Instructor availability to be confirmed by Mourey with existing approved instructors, with a new Instructor Class planned with PCA for 2023 as well (to add additional instructors to the GPR ranks).

**EDITOR:** January Der Skooner was published and distributed to advertisers and members. February Der Skooner will feature a Meet A Member, a "new" car build and track history installment from a member, and a Rocky Mountain Region contribution. Editor Kroh is researching ideas for prizes for the points winner(s) who participate(s) in the most events this year.

**WEBMASTER:** GPR website is up to date with all membership forms, board page updated, email addresses updated, DE web page and forms updated, new 2023 DE Safety Guidelines form uploaded to site, events updated, club advertisers page updated for 2023, RPM DE dates added to calendar. Der Skooner was emailed out 1/2/23. Email reminders sent out for Winter Party.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Discussion ensued around making GPR medallions available to members for a fee or donation to the club. The use of PCA Glovebox for board document retention was discussed as well, with follow up scheduled at February's meeting.

The next board meeting will be Monday February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at 10250 Regency Circle, Suite 525.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kurt Halvorson, Secretary



# 2023 Membership News

## By the numbers:

PCA Primary Membership: 312

GPR Membership: 159

## January Anniversaries

Bryan McGee – 5 years

Keith Zeigenbein – 10 years

Russ Raebler – 15 years

John Brown – 20 years

## February Anniversaries

None

If any of your contact information has changed, please let us and PCA National know that as well.

The Great Plains Region Board works to ensure there are numerous social and car events for you to enjoy. Some social events are completely supported by the club. Your club dues must be paid for you to enjoy the fun.

If you have any questions about your membership with GPR please contact Carol via email:

Carol Lynch  
Membership Chair GPR  
[Carol.lynch356@gmail.com](mailto:Carol.lynch356@gmail.com)  
[Membership@gprpca.com](mailto:Membership@gprpca.com)

## Members of Great Plains Region:

If you have not renewed your dues to GPR for 2023. Now is the time to do it!!

Please go to [gprpca.com](http://gprpca.com) and find the renew dues drop down menu. Quick and easy and you are set for another year. Thank you if you have already done so.

Check the upcoming events on the calendar and make sure to note the days of DE events at RPM and the Club Race at Hastings MPR. There will be an opportunity for Parade Laps at noon. A great chance to bring your Porsche out to the track and enjoy a drive. A donation of \$10.00 per vehicle is collected and it supports our charity. This year it is Least of My Brethren.

Use the calendar and our website to get the most out of your GPR Membership!!

## Member Name Badges

Look official at our next GPR/PCA event! The magnetic name badges are \$10, which includes shipping. Click the link at the top of the GPRPCA web home page or follow this link to order yours today!

<https://www.gprpca.com/gpr-member-name-badges/>

Don't forget to wear your badge to all GPR/PCA Events!



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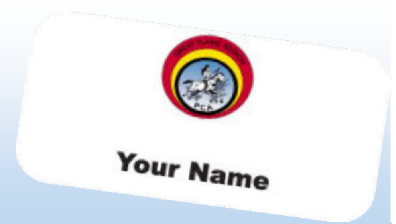
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# *GPR Ladies*

Please join

**Jeanne Mauseth Kuhr**

For a cooking demonstration and participation in  
the art of making the ultimate charcuterie and appetizers  
with wine pairings

**Saturday, February 25, 2023  
Noon**

**The Gallery & Loft  
209 North Spruce Street  
Valley, Nebraska**

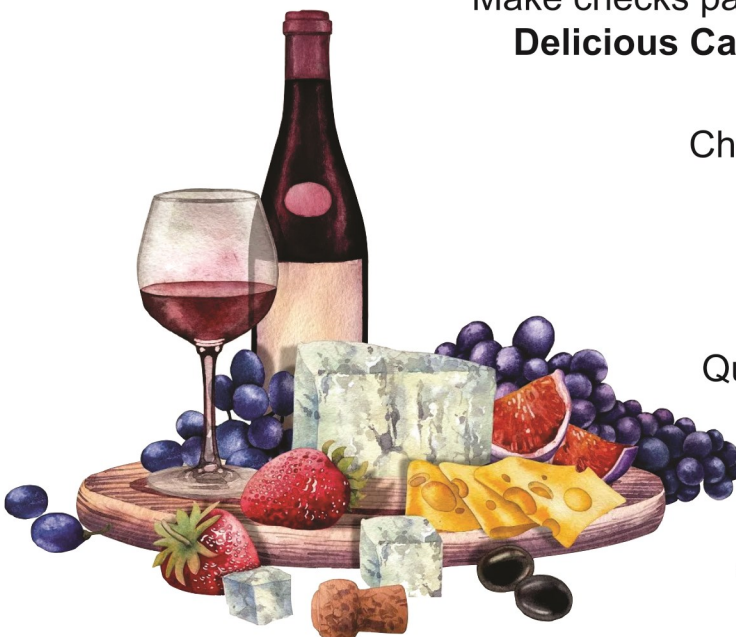
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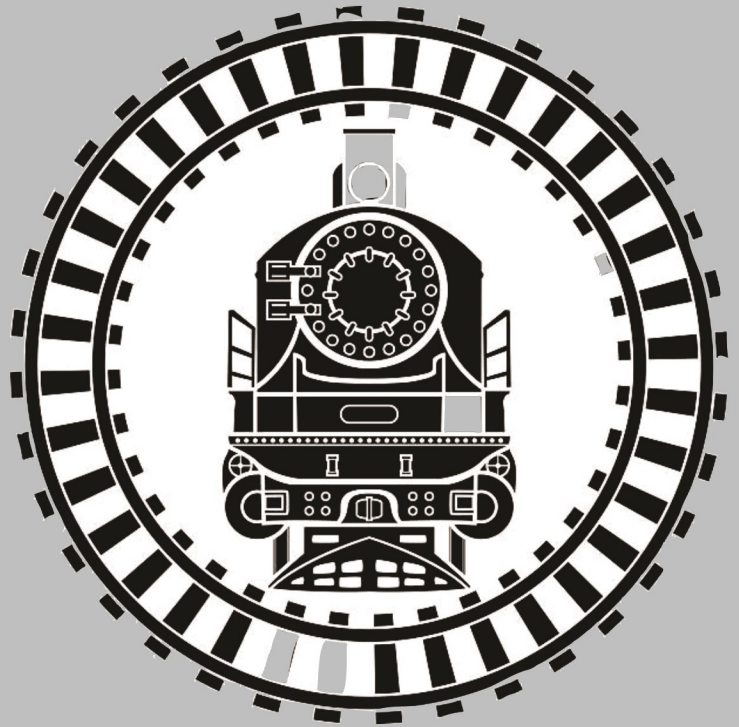
Your check is your reservation.

A minimum of eight participants required.  
Don't miss it! Mail your check today!





**DON'T MISS OUR  
MARCH SOCIAL EVENT  
AT  
J&B UNION PACIFIC  
RAILROAD MUSEUM**



Please join us on **March 25 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.** where we will have an opportunity to tour **Judy and Bill Wimmer's "J&B Union Pacific Railroad Museum"** located at **719 Rock Bluff Road in Plattsmouth (this address is located at Beaver Lake).**

Bill was employed at UP for over 50 years and served as Union Pacific's Chief Civil Engineer during his long career with the Railroad. The Museum consists of four buildings with 5,000 square feet of space and is located on property owned by the Wimmers. Information and photos regarding the Museum can be accessed at <https://www.trainorders.com/discussion/read.php?1,3779899>

After our tour of the Museum is completed, we will adjourn to dinner at a yet to be selected restaurant venue (at each Member's own cost) with dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. Please watch the March issue of Der Skooner and your email for an announcement of the dinner location.

Space is limited to 40 persons, so don't delay to sign up for this event if you are interested. There is no admission charge. Sign up on our GPR website: <https://www.gprpca.com>

# A Porsche Love Affair

*Article and photos thanks to Abe Schlott*

My love affair with Porsche (and 911 in particular) started early, sometime during my teenage years. I remember having a poster of a black 930 Turbo on my bedroom wall, adjacent to a poster of a Lamborghini Countach. That love, however, eventually went dormant as I progressed through high school and college with insufficient income to even consider a Porsche. Then came marriage and children – and more years passed. By 2009, though, my friend John Krecek invited Kelly and I out to a GPR DE for parade laps. I was hooked!

The afternoon passed as quickly as the Porsches lapped the track. Then, as the sun began to fall lower in the sky over Glenwood, I turned to Kelly and proposed the idea that we needed a 911. After all, with two young boys who would fit perfectly in the back, it was the “practical” thing to do! Unable to argue my logic, Kelly consented, and we soon acquired a black 1987 Targa. I was in love! With 218 horsepower on tap and some great suspension upgrades, that little car could keep pace with almost anything out there at the time. Notably, it was still 2009 and there weren’t any Mustangs cantering around with 760 horsepower and an independent suspension capable of high-speed cornering.



By the time 2011 rolled around, we were fortunate enough to purchase one of the only 600 GT3 RS 4.0s made during the 997 years. With 500 naturally-aspirated horses. That car was next-level on the track! My brother Doug and I

could mow down just about anything on the track in that car. Regrettably, due to a lack of foresight, we made a poor decision and sold the car for exactly what we paid for it – roughly a year before values tripled! Follow me for more great investment advice...



Continuing my string of poor decisions, I then traded away our black Targa for a 987 Cayman (another decision I’d come to regret, although I did love the Cayman). Nevertheless, our time with the GT3 RS 4.0 was special, and I fell in love with the 997s. To my eye, they’re the prettiest of the water-cooled cars. As our family grew, we eventually worked our way through a few Cayennes and a Macan until recently, with both of our boys grown and the nest almost empty, I allowed my mind to drift to what I might drive daily now that I no longer have a need for a full-size back seat.

A good friend of mine who’s built several Porsche engines for me in the past, shared online that he was now building 4.1-liter monster motors for 997.1 911s. I commented that it would be amazing to drive one as a daily, but it would need to be a C4 or C4S to be able to drive year-round in the Nebraska snow. And so, two winters ago, that friend texted me pictures of a Guards Red 2007 Targa 4S with 118,000 miles. He’d acquired it very cheaply because the engine needed to be rebuilt as a result of bore scoring. I showed the photos to my wife (who now claims to not remember the conversation) and told her I thought this might be the car for me.

*(Continues on Page 11)*



# Love Affair

*(Continued from Page 10)*

It took two years to complete the 4.1-liter build due to the meticulous and time-consuming work involved. The car was finally delivered just a few days before this past Christmas. I put a set of snow tires on a set of rims I'd acquired from Joe Chambers – and it is indeed a blast to drive! There will be no “garage queen” status for this car. It's going to be driven!



Backing up just a bit: When we say of PCA that it's not just the cars, it's the people, it really is. I'd always regretted my decision to trade my first 911 away, and I'd longed to find it again. Even so, 10 years passed without even a glimpse of it locally. Then in the summer of 2021, our GPR's Jim Avilla sent me a Facebook link to a car that looked remarkably like my old '87 Targa. Jim wanted to buy it, but was kind enough to offer me right of first refusal if it was indeed my old car.

I went to North Omaha to look at the car, and low and behold, it was the very same Targa I'd trad-

ed in more than a decade before. What's more, it only showed an additional 2,000 miles on the odometer! We made a deal (and a good one at that) and I drove my Targa back home where she belongs. This past summer I took her back out for a DE – and all the feels, smells, and sounds from 2009 came right back to me. I love the way that old car moves around the track!

I guess my point is this. I don't know how many more Porsches we'll own in the future. All I do know is that I'm glad have the '87 Targa back. I don't plan on making the same mistake twice, so it's probably here to stay. And the '07 Targa, although its only been in our garage a few weeks now, seems to be off to a great start. I look forward to seeing what our future holds, but one thing's for sure – there is no substitute!





## Meet a GPR Member

### Jerry Hoffman

**When did you join the PCA?**

2022

**What Porsche(s) have you owned and what do you currently own?**

2022 Porsche Taycan



**Where are you from?**

Lincoln, NE

**What makes your car(s) special?**

My wife, Tammi, and I ordered the Taycan to our specifications on the Porsche website, followed it through production on Track Your Dream, including the boat it was on to cross the Atlantic, and the delivery experience at the US Porsche dealership we worked with on the entire process.

**Next Porsche or current project?**

I am privileged to have this Porsche let alone think about the next one. So, current project is to simply enjoy driving this one and take interesting road trips throughout the US.

**Favorite memory with your Porsche?**

Aside from the ordering and delivery experience, my wife and I picked up the car in Indianapolis and drove to Louisville, KY, Nashville, St. Louis, Kansas City, and home in Lincoln. No better way to test out for the first time how an electric vehicle and the Electrify America network works than to drive-in-and-drive. No issues throughout the 1,700 mile journey.



**Favorite road trip, track or race?**

Aside from the trip my wife and I took, every day driving is my favorite road trip.

*(Continues on page 13)*





# Meet a Member

(Continued from page 12)

## What got you interested in Porsche?

My parents worked in Manhattan, NYC, when I was young, in the 1970s. A friend of theirs drove a red 911. That was the coolest car. I was that kid who had a 911 poster on my bedroom wall. Porsche was then and remains today an aspirational icon that drives me toward living a full and energetic life.

## Any other dream cars you would own?

I'm living the dream!

## What is the top song on your driving playlist?

"Time of Our Lives" by Paul Van Dyk



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Carol Lynch | Membership Chair | [carol.lynch356@gmail.com](mailto:carol.lynch356@gmail.com)

# GPR Annual Winter Party

*Article by Paul Schudel (Social Chair). Photos courtesy of Armando Colorado*

The Great Plains Region PCA Club Annual Winter Party was held at Champions Club on Saturday, January 21. A total of 112 members, spouses and guests were in attendance. The Club's guests included Stan Thorne, (PCA Zone 10 Representative and Der Sportwagen Editor in Chief) and his daughter McKenna, and Mitch Schneringer (Porsche Omaha General Manager) and his wife Renee. Both guests addressed the club with some trivia and updates on the new Porsche Omaha dealership that is expected to be completed in October of this year. The evening opened with cocktails and lots of great conversation about our Porsches and driving plans when warmer weather arrives.

Mike Anderson, Club President, welcomed the members and guests, covered 2022 Club highlights and provided an overview of planned Club activities and events for the next four months of 2023. Mike advised the members that the Board of Directors has approved The Least of My Brethren as GPR's 2023 designated charity. This charity provides assistance to homeless individuals and works with other agencies to establish homeless individuals in their own apartments.

After everyone had enjoyed their dinners, including a delicious dessert selection, keeping with Club tradition, President Anderson with the assistance of Past President David Patterson, announced the GPR annual awards. The winners of the awards were:

## ***Enthusiast of the Year***

Joe Chambers

## ***Family of the Year***

Kurt and Melinda Halvorson

## ***Most Improved Driver***

Bill McGinn

In addition, outgoing President David Patterson was presented with a plaque expressing the Club's appreciation for his service as well as a Porsche logo polo shirt. Also outgoing Social Chair, Melinda Halvorson, was recognized for her outstanding contributions to the Club as its past Social Chair with President Anderson noting that a special floral arrangement was delivered to Melinda at her Phoenix winter home to say "thank you".

Also keeping with tradition, a raffle was held with the proceeds being donated to The Least of My Brethren, the 2023 Club charity. A total of \$1,520 was raised through the raffle. Special thanks to Denny Strauss for his donation of three fabulous photographic art pieces comprised of photos that he took at the 2022 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. Further special thanks to Mitch Schneringer for Porsche Omaha's donation of a \$100 gift card and three copies of the terrific 2023 Porsche calendar, and thanks to West Omaha Detailing for donating two \$225 detailing gift certificates. Additional raffle items provided by the Club were \$50 gift cards for Borsheim's Jewelry, and for Biaggi's, Bonefish and Fleming's Restaurants.

Membership Chair Carol Lynch recognized two life members of the Club, Mike Kassebaum with his son Nolan and Gregor and Susan Henricks. New members attending their first Club Annual Dinner were Roni and Alisha Mor and Max Shulyak.

President Anderson closed the party by thanking all present for attending and by thanking all Club members who volunteered their time to make the Club's activities and events in 2022 great successes.

*(Photographs of the Annual Winter Party appear on pages 15-17)*



## GPR Annual Winter Party



*Left: GPR Club President Mike Anderson with his wife Amy*

*Above: GPR Membership Chair Carol Lynch*

*Below: Porsche Omaha General Manager Mitch Schneringer*

*Right: Past President David Patterson, Joe Chambers (Enthusiast of the Year recipient) and Mike Anderson (left to right)*





## GPR Annual Winter Party



*Left: Denny Strauss with raffle winner Michelle Avilla*



*Above: Denny Strauss with raffle winner Max Shulyak*

*Below: Carol Lynch with new Lifetime member Mike Kassebaum and his son Nolan.*

*Right: Zone 10 Representative Stan Thorne addresses the club*





## GPR Annual Winter Party



*Left: Mehran and Andrea Maleki*

*Below: Joe Chambers and Paul De Luca*



*Left: Raffle items donated by Denny Strauss*

*We look forward to seeing you at next year's GPR Annual Winter Party!*





## Great Plains Region 2023 Charity

Least of My Brethren

[www.leastofmybrethren.org](http://www.leastofmybrethren.org)

We are a group of volunteers from the Omaha & Council Bluffs metros looking to make a difference with our charity for the homeless. If you would like to help, please don't hesitate to [Contact Us](#) or consider [Making A Donation!](#) Questions? Please view our [FAQ](#).

We work to help the homeless in the Omaha Metro to get a meal, get an apartment, find a job and anything else we can help. Whether it be our monthly breakfast, donated items such as coats, socks, tents, bikes (to get to interviews), or furniture for their new apartment, Least of My Brethren is working to better the situation for the homeless here in the Omaha & Council Bluffs Metros. If you have additional questions about our homeless charity goals, please [contact us!](#)

**Least of My Brethren** has three areas of focus:

**First**, we host a **“Breakfast Feed Downtown”**. Once a month, we will have a breakfast from 7-11 am on Saturday. We are looking for 5-6 people who would buy, prepare, and serve the breakfast to 75 or so people. Equally, we need help collecting adult bikes and people who would be willing to distribute them during the breakfast.

Contact: Mitch Wendlandt: (402) 740-6179 [MKWendlandt@cox.net](mailto:MKWendlandt@cox.net)

**Second**, we **“Assist people living outside”**. We simply need items that assist in basic survival such as... tents, tarps, sleeping bags, large size socks, underwear, adult size bicycle w/ padlock, toilet paper, bug spray, etc. Anything that others might need when living outside.

Contact: Bill or Celeste Baumert: (402) 332-5201 [WDBaumert@hotmail.com](mailto:WDBaumert@hotmail.com)

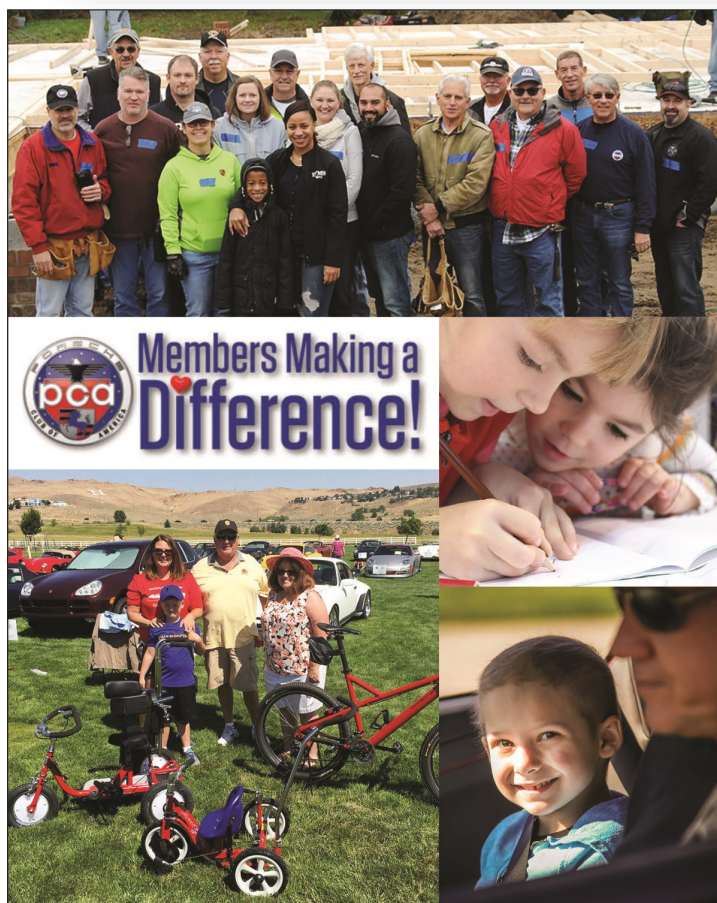
**Third**, our goal is to **“Provide help moving someone off the streets into an apartment”**. All the items are donated to us each week. We need people with vehicles to pick up furnishings, deliver and help setup. We move people every Saturday.

Contact: Dave Harvey: (402) 681-5424 [DLHarvey79@cox.net](mailto:DLHarvey79@cox.net)

[LeastOfMyBrethren@gmail.com](mailto:LeastOfMyBrethren@gmail.com)

## Making a Difference

Mike Anderson (*far right*) presents raffle proceeds from the Annual Winter Party to staff at Least of My Brethren on January 25th.



**Members Making a Difference!**

## PCA members make a difference in their community!

Every year across Porsche Club of America, members are making a difference with many amazing, heartwarming, and thoughtful acts of kindness. PCA is continually collecting stories of member's community contributions, and publishing articles for all to read in an effort to highlight what our club is doing and inspire other regions to help in their own way.

READ ALL OF THE HEART-WARMING MEMBER STORIES:

[www.pca.org/members-making-difference](http://www.pca.org/members-making-difference)

OR SUBMIT YOUR REGION'S CONTRIBUTION:

[www.pca.org/contact-members-making-difference](http://www.pca.org/contact-members-making-difference)



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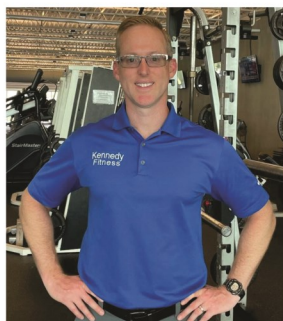


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## A Note from the Editor

Vent foam. That seems to be a popular topic on various social media forums from newbie 986/996/987/997 owners. What is this black foam that blows in my face when I kick the HVAC system on? Long story short, it covers the blend doors in the heater core assembly. It degrades over time and ends up on your jacket or your dates' dress and causes a little bit of panic until you figure out that it isn't crawling around.

A few YouTube videos later and it was time to tackle that issue myself. You basically have three options. 1) Replace the entire assembly (requires removing the dash). 2) Remove the HVAC controls or radio from the dash and cut the ductwork to recover the blend door. Or 3) Remove the heater core with some much less invasive surgery to remove the blend door and recover. I choose option 3. I'll share a few photos, but if you ever want to hear more about it, ask me about it at our next event.



Above: Foam (left) from the blend door (right)  
Below, heater core access



Above: 3D printed solution to "cap" off the project.

That was my latest project, what is next on your agenda? I encourage you to send in your best "social media worthy" photo of your new acquisition, or an article chronicling a road trip or the technical aspects of your latest garage project and I will feature it in an upcoming issue of Der Skooner. We would love to share in your adventures in the garage, track, or stories from the open road. For any inquiries about this, please do not hesitate to contact me. Be sure to patronize our generous sponsors.

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# Winter Driven

*Top: Mehran Maleki's 2007 911 C4S*

*Bottom: Armando Colorado's 2007 Cayman S (a.k.a Helga)*



***Thanks for sharing your photos! Send your best photo to [editor@gprpca.com](mailto:editor@gprpca.com)***

# Rocky Mountain Region

*Article thanks to Danielle Badler of the Rocky Mountain Region PCA*

## All The Best

“All the best.” We use the expression all the time, don’t we. It’s especially handy as a sign-off in correspondence. Where we sometimes condense it into simply “Best.” Which is nice and neat. But it begs a simple question. What do we mean? Have the best day ever? Be the best that we can be? Just what are we doing?

I started to think about this while procrastinating on-line, which is a favorite time-killer of mine. I was skimming YouTube videos and ran into a clip of Secretariat winning the Belmont Stakes in 1973, to win the Triple Crown by obliterating the field.

The call by Chick Anderson is worth the time, in and of itself. “Secretariat is widening now. He’s moving like a tremendous machine!” The horse goes on to win by 31 lengths ... 31 lengths! At the finish, the second-place horse is hardly in the frame of the camera. “Secretariat is all alone!” This is widely considered the greatest race of all time. And Big Red is generally acknowledged as the greatest horse of all time.

Watch the Belmont video. It’s spine-tingling. Like Tiger Woods’ putt at The Masters. The one that went curling up, almost perfectly diagonal to the cup, and then began turning, slowly, toward the hole. It went rolling, rolling, rolling, until ... it ... went ... in. And the call, remember? “Better than most, better than most, better than most....”

In my denial of work to do, I ran across another YouTube video. A speech by a retired SR-71 Blackbird pilot. “Know what kind of radar we had? We didn’t have any radar. Know what kind of computers we had? We didn’t have computers. Know what kind of flaps, spoilers, speed brakes? We didn’t have flaps, spoilers, speed brakes. The airplane was your basic ‘60s street rod, go fast, burn gas airplane, and I loved it,” says Air Force Major (ret) Brian Shul.

He goes on, “Only 93 men in history flew this jet ... we’re doing a mile every two seconds ... over

4,500 missiles were fired at this jet in 25 years. Not one was ever hit.”

Then you have the stories about Stirling Moss and Denis Jenkinson in the 300 SLR, Number 722, winner of the 1955 Mille Miglia. This was before intercoms, remember, and the SLR was a roadster. So conversation was impossible. Jenkinson mapped the entire route, 1,000 miles, on a paper roller. He’d scroll forward as they progressed, and give Moss hand-signals for what was ahead.

The quote I like most from Moss, and I’m paraphrasing, is that the straights are the boring parts between the corners.

My Formula 1 idol, growing up, was Jim Clark. Jackie Stewart was quoted as saying, and again I’m paraphrasing, that a group of drivers in that era were fast. But they all knew that Clark was the fastest.

Clark was asked how he does it, and he shrugged and said he just brakes a little later.

When it comes to Porsches, my favorite stories revolve around the 917/30. The Sunoco 917, run by Penske and driven by Mark Donohue, which so overwhelmed the competition that it killed the Can Am series as it had been. And was the death knell for “run what you brung,” never to be seen again, at least in high-level motor sports.

“You can never have too much horsepower,” Donohue said about the car. And, with upwards of 1,500 hp in qualifying trim, he wasn’t kidding. To prove it, he’d leave the pits with a few quick twitches of the wheel, sending the car into a controlled left, right, left, right slide. Just because.

The stories go on and on. Ruth, Aaron, Jordan, Pele, Messi, Brady, Orr, Gretzky, Woods, Nicklaus, Hogan, Fangio, Schumacher, Rossi. Williams, King, Vonn, Schiffrin. No, this is not an all-inclusive list. But it is a list of some of the most extraordinary. The very best that ever lived. As chronicled by their achievements.

*(Continues on Page 25)*



# Badler

(Continued from page 24)

Achievements we idolize. The best. Do we really believe that, by wishing the best for someone, that the gesture will actually enable them to become the best at whatever they want to be the best at? Hardly. But it's the thought, the encouragement, that counts. Because, otherwise, it will never happen. Otherwise, they may never even take that first step. There's a Yiddish word for a person who makes this gesture. It's "mensch." Which loosely translates to a good person, and it's about as fine a compliment as one can bestow on someone.

Yes, that's what "all the best" should mean. And, in that spirit, we should all keep using it.



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