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**ON THE COVER: Concours entries lined up  
for judging at the August 17 SEM Picnic/Concours.  
Photo by Ray Massa**

BY MICHAEL COHEN

As many of you know, former board member Matt Fenster and I are the proprietors of SellYourSportsCar.net, an internet based auto brokerage specializing in finding sellers and buyers for used Porsches. We have seen a significant increase in air cooled Porsche values this year. It is not surprising that the biggest winners are the rare models—356 Speedsters, 1965-1973 911’s, 1973 911 Carrera RS’s and the like. In addition, more common models such as 930 Turbos, 911 SC’s, mid to late ‘80’s 911 Carreras, 964’s and even 928’s are seeing significant price increases. What is going on? Certainly the economy is improving, the desire to own air cooled Porsches is increasing and supply is decreasing. Many of these cars are being siphoned off and are being shipped back to Germany. Will prices continue to go up? Will the bubble burst? Will water cooled prices start to go up as the supply of air cooled cars decrease? My crystal ball is quite cloudy, so I don’t have the answers, but it will be fun to see what happens. Who knows, you may be driving your retirement.

Some things are more certain, like we are concluding the 2014 driving season in Michigan. Soon we will be storing our cars for the winter and anticipating the spring. Make sure to take a look at Chris Braden’s Ask the Master Cylinder on page 36 where he discusses the proper procedures for storing your car.

Before we put our cars away however, plan to attend the remainder of our scheduled events. On Sunday, October 12, Matt Lifter of Motor City Auto Spa in Royal Oak will demonstrate a variety of processes in the art of car detailing. Motor City Auto Spa has been voted the #1 auto detailer by Hour Magazine. Next is the annual Fall Color Tour on October 19, chaired this year by Marc Molzon and Greg Gallagher. They have a great route planned followed by a sumptuous dinner. The drive will start in downtown Clarkston. If you plan to arrive early, there is great shopping surrounding our starting point. There are two other events this year that you need to put on your calendar. The annual Membership Dinner will be held in November. It is still in the planning stage but you will be delighted when we announce the final arrangements. On December 6 we have two events planned. During the day, one of our new sponsors, Classic 9 Leather Shop will conduct an open house at their facility in Dearborn Heights. They specialize in restoration of Porsche interiors including leather seats, dashboards and carpets. That evening is our Holiday Party and auction which will be at the Orchard Lake Country Club. This is a first class facility on picturesque Orchard Lake and the food is outstanding. Please plan to attend and sign up early. Event chairpersons need to have early attendance counts to effectively run the programs.

Elections for the 2015-2016 Board of Director positions are

also being held in October. This year, there are four open seats. Three of the nominees, Patti Door, Howard Gilson and Greg Gallagher are incumbents. Our fourth Board member up for election, club secretary Lanita Dunham has decided not to run for re-election. She has been a devoted and active club member for years and we will all miss her input. In her stead, Walt Crump and Thom Christen will vie for her spot. Please take time to read all of the nominees’ bios on page 16 and cast your votes on the ballot which follows. It is very important to take the time to understand the candidates and cast your votes accordingly, because it is this group that will guide the club’s future.

As announced last month, Miranda Christen has joined Alex Lundberg and me as editors for the P4. You can “Meet Miranda Christen” on page 18. She will be a great addition to our staff. Give her a warm welcome when you see her.

Fred Young reminds us that next year’s Porsche Parade will be in nearby French Lick, Indiana. He was very proud of our concours entries at this year’s Parade in Monterey, CA and at our Picnic/Concours this past August and encourages all to consider going to the Parade and entering their Porsches in the national concours. I am sure that Fred will be most helpful to those needing advice. In that vein, don’t forget to attend the Motor City Auto Spa detailing session on October 12.

Until next time, take a few more drives in your Porsche and enjoy the fall colors.

WIN A PRIZE

Tell us about an adventure with your current or previous Porsche, and if your story is chosen for publication, you will win an item from the Goodie Store.

Submit 500-600 words and one or two quality digital images to Michael Cohen at fastkarz2@aol.com

Thanks and good luck!



2014 SEM/PCA CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 9 Board Meeting
- 12 Motor City Auto Spa
- 19 Fall Color Tour

NOVEMBER

- 1 Turbo-fest Munk’s\*
- 5 Board Meeting / 2015 Planning Meeting
- 22 Sharkbite Munk’s\*
- TBD Membership Dinner

DECEMBER

- 3 Board Meeting
- 6 Holiday Party

\*Not a SEMPCA sponsored event

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are typically held on the first Wednesday of the month at various locations; when the Board meets at a Porsche dealership, the meeting is moved to Thursday for that month, to coincide with the dealership’s hours.

The October Board meeting will be held on Thursday, October 9 at Lavery Porsche.

The November Planning and Board meetings will be held at John Keilly’s home on November 5.

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER

Due to unforeseen circumstances, this event scheduled for Friday November 14, 2014 may need to be postponed.

We will contact you by email as soon  
as details are confirmed

*We are sorry for any inconvenience*

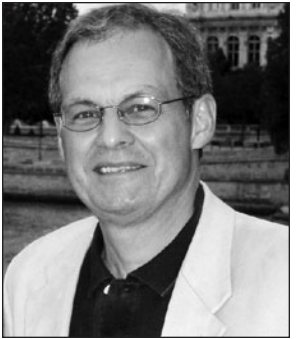
### *Holiday Party Silent Auction*

*We are looking for items to be donated for this year's silent auction. In addition to Porsche related items, consider tickets to local events, gift cards, gift baskets etc.*

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## Start Me Up!



BY JOHN KEILLY

Sixty nine I was twenty one and called the road my own. I love that lyric from Jackson Browne's *Runnin' on Empty* because I was...and I did, in my 325 HP 1969 Torino GT. It always brings back memories of those heady days early in my driving career. (Of course I choose to forget hammering the family car only weeks after getting my license.)

It's likely that you too have similar fond memories. It didn't matter what we were driving; the quantum leap in freedom and independence that came with a driver's license was an incredible rush. Typically, we were less mindful of the quantum leap in responsibility that came with our driver's license. It is such a significant life event that many psychologists consider the driver's license the American rite of passage into adulthood.

Perhaps Porsche is such an iconic brand because it can evoke many of those same early feelings about driving. It's extremely satisfying to be in control of such a capable and refined vehicle. They look and sound great and have world class handling. They are a rush to drive, even if it's just on an errand around town, and even more so on the open road or on a freeway ramp and feeling the car's seemingly infinite cornering power.

The DE team—who can even teach even me to more skillfully drive my car—just completed one of their best seasons in years. Congratulations to DE Co-Chairs Steve Carbary and Garen Nicoghosian and to Chief Instructor Marc Molzon. Congratulations too to all our students. The number of new students was especially gratifying. We look forward to seeing you next season.

We also had a record turnout for the 10th Anniversary Ladies Only Drive, chaired, as always, by Past President and Board Member Patti Door. The rule is “*What happens on the Ladies Drive stays on the Ladies Drive*,” but from what we can tell the ladies had a great time. Thank you, Patti!

The next day, SEM/PCA Vice President Howard Gilson again ran a thoroughly enjoyable celebration of Ferry Porsche's birthday, Drive Your Porsche Day. His route ran along the north shore of Anchor Bay and ended at the delightful Catch 22 Bistro in Algonac. The management and staff there did a first rate job with food and service.

The Fall Color Tour—which will be run by Board Members Marc Molzon and Greg Gallagher—will be on October 19th. Please sign up early.

As I write this the date for our General Membership Dinner in November is in flux; we are working with our guest speaker to get a date that works. Please look for an e-Blast once we have the date confirmed.

On December 6, we will have our annual Holiday Party at the beautiful Orchard Lake Country Club, courtesy of Erhard and Gretchen Dahm. The Dahms owned the first Porsche dealership in southeast Michigan and knew many of our regions founding members.

The Silent Auction will again be an integral part of the Holiday Party. Past Presidents Patti and Jerry Door are chairing the auction. It will again benefit the Jo Brighton Special Olympics Program, here in southeast Michigan. We support this charity because the late Miles Smith—son of Board Member Gretus Hoogestraat and his wife Victoria—was very active in Jo Brighton.

A successful auction requires a good assortment of items. While Porsche and other automotive items tend to dominate, other items - such as tickets to local events, gift cards and gift baskets - are welcome. Please contact Patti and Jerry now if you have items to donate. Advance notice helps them plan display space.

Your ballot for the 2014 Board Election is in this issue. Four seats are up and incumbents Patti Door, Greg Gallagher and Howard Gilson are running for re-election. After innumerable years of service to both SEM/PCA and to the local 356 Club, Board Member Lanita Dunham has decided to take some well deserved time off. Don't miss an opportunity to thank Lanita for her long service to our Club. In addition, we are delighted to have two newcomers running—Tom Christen and Walter Crump. Bios of all candidates are in the issue, along with your ballot.

**PLEASE NOTE:** to be valid, your ballot must include (1) signature (2) printed name and (3) PCA membership numbers for both the primary member and for the affiliate member, if they are also voting. You can either mail your ballot to the address indicated or turn it in at the Fall Color Tour. Please vote. Strong Board Members are critical to the success of the club.

It is a delight to welcome my friend Tom Natoci, proprietor of Cloverleaf Fine Wines, as a new advertiser. I have been doing business with Tom since 1991 and he has added immeasurably to my knowledge and enjoyment of wine. Cloverleaf is located on Main Street in Royal Oak, just south of the railroad crossing. Stop in, thank Tom for his support of the Club, learn about some new and interesting wines and start your Christmas shopping early!

**NOTICE TO OUR ADVERTISERS:** Our planning meeting for the 2015 Porsche calendar will be on November 5th. All advertisers are invited to run an event to showcase their business. Interested advertisers are asked to please contact any Board Member. We strive to develop a coordinated calendar and avoid scheduling conflicts. Thank you advertisers for your support!



# Get Ready For The Fall Color Tour!

*It's hard to believe, but soon the leaves will be turning and it will be time for our annual Fall Color Tour.*

*Save the date –*  
**October 19th**

*We will be gathering at 12 noon in downtown Clarkston with the first car out at 1pm. Plan to come early and visit the quaint Clarkston shops.*



**Dinner \$35/person at Da Edwardo's in Grand Blanc**  
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*RECAP*

## 2014 Picnic & Concours

STORY BY **FRED YOUNG**

PHOTOS BY RAY MASSA

The sun was shining and the birds were chirping at the Springdale Golf Course early on Sunday morning August 17th. It looked like it was going to be a good day. The low exhaust rumble of a Porsche could be heard coming down the road leading into the golf course... then another. One by one they started lining up on the asphalt next to the picnic pavilion. What's this? A pickup truck driven by Jerry Door along with his wife Patti. Good grief? A BMW driven by Don Kleist along with his 50th anniversary 911 driven by Nancy Richardson. Not to worry. They are bringing the picnic supplies and food for the day's festivities. Once unloaded, the BMW and pickup take their rightful place in the back lot out of the way. The stunning black Porsche is allowed to stay.

With the smell of coffee and bacon in the background, the grounds are turning into a beehive of activity. Don Kleist and Patti Door are putting out the breakfast items which include homemade sausage and egg muffins along with bagels, donuts and bacon. Appetizers are now starting to arrive also. Nancy Richardson is putting on the white tablecloths on the picnic tables and Jerry Door is setting up the coolers, pop and ice. Victoria Wade is setting up the Goodie Store. Out in the parking lot everyone is putting the last minute touches on their cars in anticipation of the judging. Of course, everyone is checking out the entrants and the competition.

At 11:30 a.m. the parking lot is almost full and the center isles are being filled up. Cars run the gamut from a beautiful aquamarine blue 1957 S/R S 356 coupe to a shiny new blue 2015 Macan and everything you can imagine in between. Leon Lewis brought his brand spanking new 2014 GT3 with just 50 miles on it. Former picnic hosts, Sue and Dennis Denyer, drove their 356SC champagne yellow coupe to be admired by all. Air-cooled or water-cooled, they were all represented. Some of the cars did not enter



Michael Gilson's latest acquisition - an immaculate 1989 Speedster

the competition including Michael Gilson's new baby—a guards-red speedster—but they were still checked out and admired by the growing crowd. The people's choice award is another tough choice with so many fine cars to choose from. Everyone seems to be enjoying writing the numbers from the windshield on the ballots and casting their votes.

The volunteer judges were given last minute instruction on how to score the cars. Judging then started and the scrutinizing began. Did I forget the fingerprint on the door handle or the smudge on the windshield? Too late—he already noted it on the score sheet. There goes 1/10th of a point. Maybe next time I'll remember at the last minute. After about an hour the results were in. You see that little bit of wax residue in the rubber moved you from first to second place. Yes, the details do count. But overall the results were amazing.

In the meantime, Don Kleist has fired up the charcoal grill to prepare the salmon for our picnic feast. The caterer has arrived with an ungodly amount of ribs and chicken. Add in the sausage

(continued on page 12)



**Picnic/Concours** *(continued from page 11)*

previously prepared and there is enough food to feed a small army. Not even mentioned are the salads, potato dishes and vegetables everyone brought. The variety of food was unbelievable. Everyone's taste buds were sure to be entertained. Picnic dining was as its finest. Add in a host of desserts to top it off and no one went hungry. The only grouching heard was, "I can't believe Sue and Dennis did this for thirty-seven years? It must have been a labor of love!"

Next came the preliminary announcements by club president, John Keilly, about upcoming events and special thanks to our previous hosts, Sue and Dennis Denyer. Don Kleist, Patti Door, Nancy Richardson and Jerry Door were congratulated on taking over the duties this year and having another picnic for the memory

books. Fred Young then proceeded to award the coveted trophies for this year. *(See the list of awards on page 14)*

Truth be told, it was a fun day. After trophy awards it was time to clean up and say good bye to great friends, great food and great cars. A few people lingered to converse with Michael and Lisa Soriano, our Porsche Club Zone 4 representatives who have taken their valuable time to attend many of our SEM events. Until our next event drive carefully and thank our wonderful army of volunteers. Thanks also go to Howard Gilson of Gilson Motorsports for the trophies along with Matt Fenster and Michael Cohen of SellYourSportsCar.net for their generous contribution to the picnic.



*Vic and Lucy Rivera in their 356 Speedster*



*Howard Gilson's red 356*



*Heath Hurlbert's 1957 356 sunroof coupe*



*Former picnic chair Dennis Denyer still cookin'*



*Marilyn Amano selecting from her lunch choices*



*Our videographer Gretus Hoogestraat at work*



*Lunch time at the Picnic*



*Chris Young accepting his award from Concours chair Fred Young*



*Fred Young and Charles Hagen, Motor-Stadt Region President and Concours judge*



*President John Keilly with Zone 4 rep Michael Soriano and his wife Lisa*



# 2014 CONCOURS AWARDS\*

## People's Choice

1964	Champagne Yellow	356SC	Coupe	Sue & Dennis Denyer**
1969	Ossi Blue	911T	Coupe	John Crusse**

## 356 Class

1964	Red	356SC	Coupe	Howard Gilson
1957	Aqua Marine Blue	356 S/R S	Coupe	Heath Hurlbert
1965	Slate Gray	356	Cabriolet	Bill Block & Freda Giblin

## 924 – 928 – 944 - 968 Class

1987	Black	944S	Coupe	Bruce Gearns
1986	Guards Red	944 Turbo	Coupe	Carlos & Veronica Carmona
1988	Guards Red	928S4	Coupe	Chris Young
1988	Black	928S4	Coupe	Jim Hearrell

## Boxster – Cayman – Cayenne Class

1997	Silver	Boxster	Cabriolet	Veronica & Carlos Carmona
2002	Cobalt Blue	Boxster	Cabriolet	James Williams
2001	Orient Red	Boxster	Cabriolet	Michael Sheedy

## 911 – 912 – 914 before 1986 Class

1983	Grey	911SC	Coupe	Bernie Palo
1966	Champagne Yellow	911	Coupe	Bill Lovett

## 1987 – 1998 – 911 Class

1997	Silver	993	Coupe	Ray Massa
1996	Blue	993S4	Coupe	Greg Massa
1987	Red	911	Cabriolet	Chris Braden
1996	Black	993C4S	Coupe	Dave & Deb Miller

## 1999 & up – 911 Class

2014	Guards Red	GT3	Coupe	Leon Lewis
2008	Guards Red	997	Cabriolet	Robert Younce
2004	Black	911S	Coupe	Mark Vander Eyk
1995	Fly Yellow	911	Coupe	Jerry & Patti Door

## Cayenne, Macan, Panamara Class

2015	Dark Blue	Macan	4 Door	Charles Hagen
------	-----------	-------	--------	---------------

\*Entrants are ranked in the order of finish. \*\*Also placed 2nd in Class

Many thanks to our dedicated judges, Bob and Marilyn Amano, Ted Dunham, Gretus Hoogestraat, Bruce Gearns, Charles Hagen, Heath Hurlbert and Jim Williams. They faced the difficult task of ranking a variety of cars meticulously prepared sometimes with only one tenth of a point separating the positions. Many times a second look was necessary to determine the ranking of the cars.

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SEM/PCA Board of Directors  
November 2014 Election Two Year Term (2015-2016)  
Candidate Bios



**Thomas Christen:** Thom has been a member of SEM since purchasing a 1987 944S in 2010. He now has an '87 944 Turbo and an '87 911 to carry him around the track at DE events. His wife, daughter and son all are DE regulars. He is an instructor for the Street Survival event and hopes to be a DE instructor some day. He has always loved fixing and driving cars. Thom seeks to interject enthusiasm into the club and do whatever he can to make the SEM PCA the best it can be.



**Walt Crump:** Walt and his wife Sabrina joined SEM in 2009. Since then they have been regulars at the Picnic, Fall Color Tour, Spring Drive, and other events. Walt's enthusiasm was kindled by owning a 944 driver that required many hours of care and attention. He and Sabrina now have a Boxster that has been personalized and they enjoy driving at club drives and tours. Walt seeks to increase his involvement in SEM and brings his love for cars and people who love cars. He has an automotive engineering background and was a Marine Corps officer before that.



**Patti Door:** Patti joined SEM in 1985 and has remained an active member for the past 29 years. On a region level, Patti and her husband, Jerry, are the founders and co-chaired SEM's annual GingerMan Club Race, the only PCA Club Race in Michigan, for its first 10 successful years and continues to volunteer for this 3 day long event. She served as editor of the P4 newsletter from 1996 to 2004. She joined the SEM Board in 1999 and went on to become the regions first female President for the 2005-06 term. After taking several years off the board she rejoined as a director in 2011. She initiated and has continued to host the Ladies Only Drive for the last 8 years. She has held the responsibility of the SEM Goodie store for several years, passing this duty off to a new enthusiastic member this year. For

2014 she took on a new SEM role becoming the co-chair of the annual SEM picnic. Patti's active participation within the region has earned her the SEM "Enthusiast of the Year" award twice, first in 1996 on her own and then again in 1992 with Jerry. On a National level Patti was the 2013 Parade Banquet Decorations Chair, in addition to assisting the Parade Information Chair. For 2015 she assumes her new role on the national Parade Team as the Hospitality Chair, after co-chairing the 2014 event. Patti's goals for SEM, in keeping with the PCA motto - "it is not just the cars, but the people", is to make both the old and new members alike feel welcome and spend time working to get to know them on a personal basis.



**Greg Gallagher:** Greg has been a member of SEM since purchasing his first Porsche in 2004. Since then, Greg has been a regular at the club's DE events at Waterford Hills and Gingerman. Greg is a lifelong Porsche and automobile enthusiast with thirty years of car magazines in his basement to prove it! Greg was elected to the Board in 2012 where he has helped organize events and is currently the Insurance Chair. He is looking forward to having the opportunity to continue to serve the club and its members.



**Howard Gilson:** Howard's dedication is apparent from his involvement with SEM/PCA. He designed the sempca.org website and was webmaster for nine years. He has been active in DE for over a decade and is currently DE Registrar and serves as Scrutineer for the Club Race. Howard was named Enthusiast of the Year for 2002 and was first elected to the board in 2007. He currently owns Gilson MotorSports where he holds tech events and provides free DE inspections. He also hosts the annual Drive Your Porsche Day tour. Howard is our current Vice President and will become our SEM/PCA club President in 2015. Howard's goal during his presidency is to continue the fun that the club events and people have come to expect.

Southeast Michigan Region / Porsche Club of America  
2014 Election Ballot – Board of Directors

Four of the nine positions on the board are up for election.

The candidates are listed below.

Each SEM member and their affiliate member may vote for up to four candidates to fill the open positions.

Please submit your ballot either (1) in person, at the  
Fall Color Tour on October 19, 2014  
or (2) by mail, postmarked by Friday October 24, 2014,  
Gary Fish SEMPCA c/o Delta Management Company,  
40680 Garfield Road, Suite 1A, Clinton Township, MI 48038

VOTE FOR FOUR CANDIDATES

	Member	Affiliate
Tom Christen	_____	_____
Walter Crump	_____	_____
Patti Door	_____	_____
Gregory Gallagher	_____	_____
Howard Gilson	_____	_____

Signature / Member Number

Member

Affiliate

NEW P4 ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
**Meet Miranda Christen**

STORY BY **MIRANDA CHRISTEN**

**M**y Porsche adventure began 4 years ago when my father, Thom Christen, joined SEM PCA. I have always felt the need for speed, and have scared many a passenger with my swift lane changes and smooth maneuvers, the DE days were exactly what I needed. Having participated in 3 in the past, this club really started with track days for me, and upon meeting more and more members has transformed into something much more. My friends know me as the one who always stops to say hello to dogs, and talk about cars, and now those conversations typically revolve around Porsches and their superiority.

I graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor degree in Communication from Oakland University. I work currently as a content writer and email marketing specialist for an online retailer, with previous experience writing and editing for the publication *RV & Campsite*. I was also an active campus member during my college years working with different organizations on events, recruitment activities, and campus entertainment.

My very first car was a 1998 Dodge Neon, and it took me roughly 4 months to finally break down and actually sit in the driver's seat. See, it was a manual, and I believe I said something along the lines of "Over my dead body will I drive that!" but as 16 year old minds work, the need for freedom finally outweighed the



dislike for the car and I gave in. I will be forever grateful to my father for making me learn to drive a stick, because I now love to cruise around in the 1987 944 Turbo or 1987 911 Carrera (both manuals). My dream Porsche is a 918 Spyder, however, my realistic dream is more along the lines of the Cayman GTS.

New to the Porsche scene, but not new to the garage, I am excited to bring a new perspective to your beloved P4. I have been slowly introduced to the many events and members that make this club so special. I believe that passion is what makes SEM PCA as great as it is, and I am excited to be a part of it all!



SAVE THE DATE  
**Sunday, December 6**

2014 SEM/PCA  
*Holiday Party*

Orchard Lake Country Club

*Space is limited . . . Don't miss out . . . Last year we sold out!*

*Our Silent Auction will again support the Jo Brighton Special Olympics Program*

**To donate items for auction, please contact**

**Patti Door at [pdoor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pdoor@sbcglobal.net) / 248-661-4362**

## **"LOOK OUT French Lick, Indiana"**

That will be the mantra in the Spring of 2015 if the contestants from our summer concours go to Parade in June of next year.

Everyone in our region is encouraged to participate in the 2015 Parade Concours. Never have our cars looked as clean and detailed as they have this year. Even the cars on the sidelines which were not entered looked amazing.

**CONGRATULATIONS, EVERYONE.**

*Fred Young*



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# *RECAP* **Downriver BBQ Party and Tour**

STORY & PHOTOS BY **GRETUS HOOGESTRAAT**

**T**his was the first SEM/PCA event we organized and hosted and let me tell you, it was fun. Because it was so much fun, it was not work and we can only encourage everybody to do the same. All the worries we had before and during the planning phase disappeared when the day arrived.

First, we would like to thank the 40 members that attended our event. A BIG thank you to Jo Brighton (JB) Special Olympic Coordinator and Coach Maggie Gibson and her husband Cliff, JB Special Olympic volunteers Virginia Bartnikowski and Anna Norris, and our neighbors Yolanda and Toni Urresti. We could not have done it without you, thank you so much for helping us enjoying our event. Months ahead of our BBQ, we were planning the menu and we wanted to have something special. We went for kielbasa, bratwurst, hamburger and hanger steak, the most flavorful steak you can get. It took us weeks to find a supplier who could get the amount of fresh steak needed. Victoria made a few trial runs to get it marinated and cooked right. The wine list was very easy; we got the chardonnay wine from a manager at Outback for a special price. A few weeks before the party we got an irresistible offer for the red wine. It was a rare wine called “Triple Overtime” and it is from the winery of Red Wings player Igor Larionov. If you liked the red wine or want to try, it will be at the Silent Auction on our SEM/PCA Holiday Party, Dec. 6.

We ran the driving tour several times throughout the planning phase. The day before our event I did the last run of the tour to make sure no new construction areas were added. The day of the event arrived...everybody was nervous and it was the time for the truth. We left the shopping for the last, fresh groceries, specially the fruits and salsa. It was gray in the morning but the weather forecast predicted a sunny day after 2p.m. We were hoping the weather would cooperate. There was last-minute, pool cleaning, decoration, parking signs, hanging the flags, white wine and beer on ice and hundred more things we thought we had to do. Luckily we had our helpers (mentioned above) who took a boatload of last minute things off our shoulders. Our meeting place was at the South parking lot of Bishop Park. It was right behind Bella



*Host Gretus Hoogestraat welcomes guests to the BBQ while co-host Veronica Wade looks on*

Donna, SEM/PCA member Gary and Pat Ambrus' bridal store. They were so kind to offer refreshments at the back door of their business. Also the restroom was available, and the girls loved the store. The City of Wyandotte closed up 25 parking lots for SEM/PCA. When I arrived at 2 p.m., a white 911 was already in the parking lot. Talking to Gary Ambrus, he didn't know whose car it was and we actually had never seen this car before. As it turns out, it was Leon and Ileana Lewis' brand new 911 Turbo S. They came early to shop and grab a bite to eat in Wyandotte. One car after another trickled in, 20 showed up altogether.

Shortly after 3 p.m., we left the Bishop Park on Biddle Rd. south. Thanks to the Wyandotte police who escorted us throughout the city to Bridge Rd. This way all the cars stayed together going over the toll bridge onto Grosse Ile. The toll was pre-paid...unfortunately one car got hit by the gate on the windshield. Nothing major happened and with Concourse professional Fred Young's help the damage was removed in no time. The next traffic light the caravan approached was 14 miles away. Too bad I couldn't be part of the caravan, had to get back home for last things to do...or so I thought. But everything was already done; I could sit down and relax. The tour was supposed to take about 90 minutes, the first

*(continued on page 24)*



car showed up at our house after 50 minutes. Yes, they got lost and used their GPS. After about 75 minutes more and more cars came...they didn't get lost...you probably know why.

Upon arrival, some co-pilots needed a drink right away...contributed by the pilots' driving (see above LOL). It seemed liked everybody enjoyed themselves. Dinner started around 6 p.m. and it went over very well. Socializing was a great part of the event. Around 8:15 p.m. it was dark enough to get the projector screen into position. We showed some music videos on the big screen (16'x9'). Some people planned to leave earlier but stayed because of the eye candy. Later it was time to show something for the male audience...“C Etait Un Rendezvous”. It is a high speed run with a Ferrari through downtown Paris on a early Sunday morning; it was the perfect selection.

Looking back at our event, we are happy about the participation for a new event and glad everybody had a great time. We would like to encourage any other member to host an event, even

if it is just an appetizer for the Progressive Dinner. It is so much fun and you are not alone. Someone of the SEM/PCA community will definitely help you along the way.

Hope to see you in 2015 at our event.  
Thank you, Gretus and Victoria



Clear enough??



Our Porsches leaving the parking lot lead by a police escort



At the end of the drive, we assemble at Gretus' house



The BBQ venue was festive



New member Patrick Coleman chats with Victoria Wade by the bar



(l to r) President John Keilly, Walt Crump, v.p. Howard Gilson, editor, Michael Cohen and past President Dave Miller



Gary Ambrus checks out our ladies' conversation



New member Alain Baur



Gretus showed videos on his enormous backyard movie screen



SEM/PCA Member Anniversaries - October 2014

Thanks to the SEM/PCA webmaster Erik Ohrnberger, we are pleased to now be able to recognize membership anniversaries each month.  
Congratulations to all who have a membership anniversary this month!  
Anniversaries are noted by the date the primary member joined PCA. Please let us know if we've made an error or omission.

YR	Name(s)	YR	Name(s)
51	Lewis & Violet Moorman	3	Gretus Hoogestraat
49	John & Carole McConnell	3	Michelle Gottschlich
36	Richard & Beth Rubinstein	3	Michael & Colleen Baldwin
33	John & Sandy Chambers	2	William & Imelda Christian
27	Vicente & Lucy Rivera	2	Clark Headrick
25	Michael & Suzanne Gilson	2	Dan Sauve
25	Maynard & Diane McCall	2	Susan & Robert Bezanson
23	Richard Berg	2	Barry & Karen Eckel
17	Peter & Tracy Stuyck	2	Howie Scheer
16	Wayne & Arlene Everett	2	Bill & Kassandra Barley
15	Tim & Chris Swies	2	Daniel Youn
15	Jeffrey & Pamela Feurt	1	John Myer
14	Thomas & Fran Amos	1	Bruce McLaughlan
13	Jack & Todd Luhtanen	1	Mark Brinkman
12	James & Laurie Williams	1	Todd Pugh
10	Tim Thane	1	Ken Paulson
10	Alex & Joan Kindsvater	1	David Fischer
8	Matt Van Benschoten & Cait Cashin	1	Mike Meguiar
4	Hugh Victor	1	Dietra & Eric Litt
3	Jarett Hoffman		

Catfight with Sharks

STORY & PHOTOS BY ANDREW OLSON

In last month's P4 Master Cylinder column, there was a question posed by 928 owner on how their car could have caught fire. Recently, there was another similar fire—not as dramatic—that I can use to demonstrate why it happens and how to hopefully prevent it from happening to you.

Let's start by identifying why this happens. In 1985 with the introduction of the 32v motor, Porsche went from a single distributor to a dual distributor / dual coil setup. Each distributor drives 2 cylinders on each side of the V8 – 1,4,6,7 or 2,3,5,8. In this fashion, the idea was that if one of the critical ignition components like a coil were to fail the car would still operate in a more-or-less “balanced” manner. And that is true. The car will run on 4 cylinders, it will sound close to normal, but will have very little power.

The unfortunate part is that the injection system, is oblivious to the lack of ignition, and happily sprays fuel as if nothing were wrong. This is where the problem begins. Because the engine is able to continue to run, all of the raw fuel gets pushed out the exhaust valve, down the header, and into the catalytic converter.

It is here in the catalytic converter where the real damage can happen. The catalytic converter works through some magic voodoo science to clean the pollutants as a result of internal combustion. Because the exhaust gasses are already hot, and with a little help from Dante, the “cat” gets really hot—hot enough to reach the flash point of the raw fuel vapor that has been dumped into the exhaust. This starts what is affectionately known as a “cat fire.”

This is where the Neanderthal mentality of your average 928 owner comes in to complicate things. (By the way, I'm guilty of this too.) Since the car is down on power, and because the car has a powerful 300hp V8, the owner will try to rev the car to help “clear” it. In fact, all they are really doing is adding fuel to the fire, literally! So what was once a very small fire now becomes a large fire, which often times has disastrous results for the car. The cats get so hot that the undercoating can catch fire and then everything spirals out of control after that.

Adding to this problem, there is some misleading information in the 928 owner's manual about a “limp-home” mode. The limp-



A 928 fire can quickly engulf the entire car very quickly if it reaches the fuel lines

home mode is only for the when the mass air flow (MAF) sensor goes bad, and has nothing to do with the ignition system. But when owners experience this sudden loss of power, they immediately think it is the “limp-home” mode kicking in, and instead of shutting off the car, they think they can “limp-home” not realizing they may kill their car in the process.

Porsche finally realized this was an issue, and in 1989 fitted all 928s with an ignition monitoring system that detects loss of ignition and shuts down the corresponding injectors to prevent a cat fire. I have this on my GT, and I've seen it triggered when I had a bad coil wire. It is only the 1985 through 1988 928s that do not have this protective system. If you ever have a sudden loss of power, stop the motor. Investigate if you have spark on both banks. If you are uncomfortable doing this, take the car to your mechanic, or call me. It takes 5 minutes to diagnose the situation, and you'll be a happier owner as a result.

The 928 group gets together on the second Wednesday of each month for a burger and beer at Sneaker's Pub in Ferndale, on Woodward. If you would like to receive reminders send me an email at andrewmolson@yahoo.com and I will put you on the list. Also, we will be having a fall tech session on November 22. Look for announcements.

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 28

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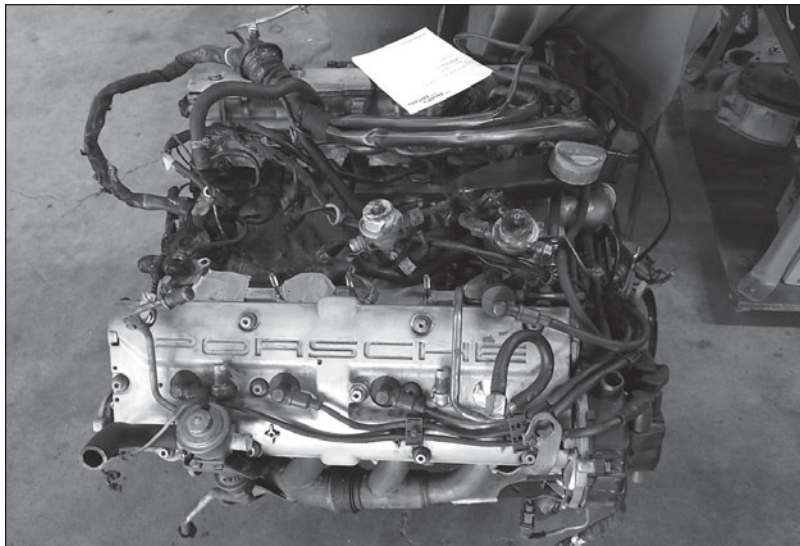
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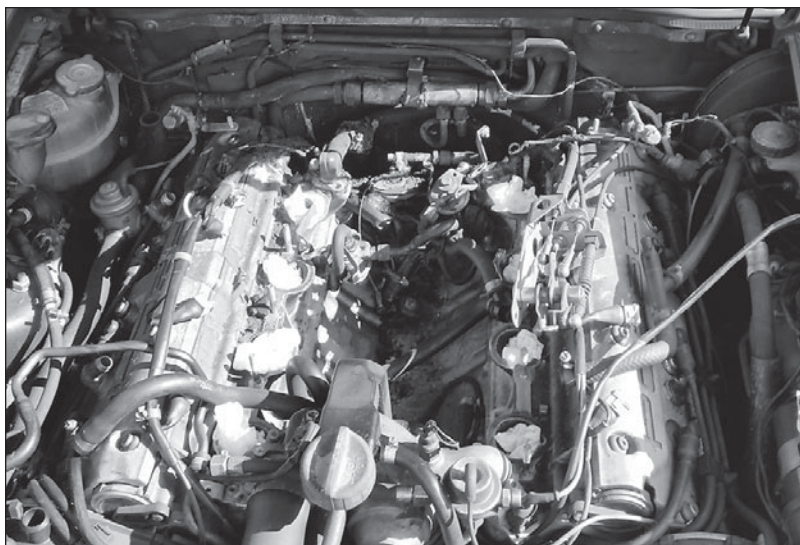




Here's a 928 that caught fire and survived



Obviously the motor had to come out to fix all the damage



The engine on this car did not escape Dante's wrath



All the plastic and rubber parts are melted or gone



This is one of the clips that hold the fuel lines near the catalytic converter

# TURBO FEST

Featuring:

**Nick Mocerì  
of Turbo Concepts**

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**When:** Saturday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

**How:** To register, please contact  
[events@munks.com](mailto:events@munks.com)

Nick will discuss modifications, optimization and all things turbo, how to troubleshoot your own problems before going to a professional and what causes a turbo to fail. All information will be presented with illustrations for easy comprehension and reference.

All makes, models, and turbo enthusiasts are welcome, whether you already own one or are thinking about buying one.

- Lunch will be provided.
- This is a free event.

**Turbo**  
CONCEPTS

The Michigan 928 Owners' Club presents:

how to avoid

## SHARKBITE

**a 928 Tech Session**  
Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
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We'll talk about how to avoid getting "bitten" when you're looking to buy a 928 (which may also apply to other models). Learn from the experts how to buy and care for a 928, and avoid the ultimate in buyer's remorse.

All Porsche 928 enthusiasts are welcome!

Lunch will be provided.

No charge, but donations to MI928OC are gratefully accepted.

To register for this event or for further details, contact: **Andrew Olson @ 734-837-7908** or [andrewmolson@yahoo.com](mailto:andrewmolson@yahoo.com)





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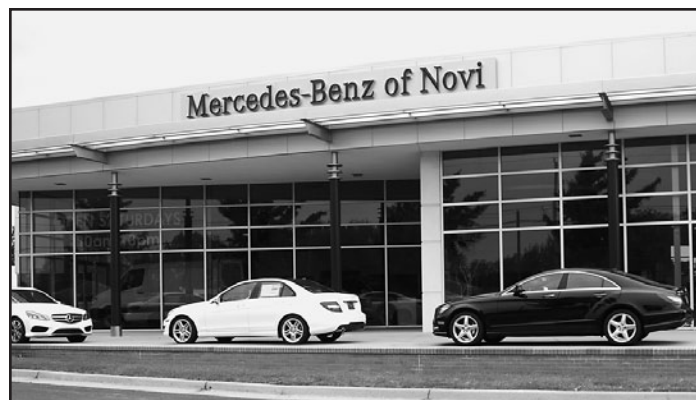
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**FOR SALE: SET OF STAGGERED CARRERA S WHEELS:** Lobster fork, 19 inch wheels in silver. 2 – 19 x 8 inch (offset 57). 2 – 19 x 11 inch (offset 67). Excellent condition includes Porsche center caps. \$1,100 or best offer. Contact Patrick at 248-931-7333 or [mobeansinc@aol.com](mailto:mobeansinc@aol.com) (8/14)

**WANTED: PRE-OWNED 991:** I would like to purchase a 2013-14 pre-owned 991 C4S or Turbo. Please call John at 248-752-3332 (8/14)

**FOR SALE, 2012 PORSCHE 911 CARRERA S COUPE** (new 991) with 2,000+/- miles. This is a like new 991 in mint condition. Garage kept, never winter driven or tracked. Meticulously maintained, all services performed by Porsche dealership with records. Options include: premium Bose audio, satellite radio, navigation, front/rear parking sensors, PDK with auto start-stop, sport chrono package, sport design steering wheel, and sunroof. Vehicle has new car smell. \$90,000. Please call Chris (248) 933-8382 if interested. (8/14)

**FOR SALE: OEM WHEELS:** 4 Turbo Twist wheels from 2001 911. 8x18 and 9x18's with Contis No scratches. Tires have 2,500 miles on them. \$1,200. Contact Tibor 313-882-0039 (9/14)

**FOR SALE: 4 KINESIS 18" WHEELS:** For 996. \$1,100. Originally \$4,800. Great condition. Pls call Peter at 734-678-8325 or email [peter@arborsci.com](mailto:peter@arborsci.com) for more information. (9/14)

**FOR SALE: 2005 PORSCHE 911 TURBO S CABRIOLET:** All stock. 3.6 liter twin turbo 444 hp engine with 6 speed manual transmission, all wheel drive, Bose stereo, all leather interior, triple black. 17,500 non-abused adult miles with fresh oil change with Castrol 5W40. Original window sticker and Porsche maintenance manuals. \$63,500. Contact Chris at 586-873-3857 (10/14)

**FOR SALE: 17" CHROME TURBO TWIST WHEELS:** Replica, made in Italy wheels with Bridgestone Potenza RE760 tires. 225/45 17 and 255/40 R17. \$300. Contact Rick Leonard at [releonard@mayne-mckenney.com](mailto:releonard@mayne-mckenney.com). (10/14)

**FOR SALE: 1989 PORSCHE 928 S4:** Grand prix white with burgundy leather seats and custom sheep skin covers. 5 liter V8 w/ 316 hp, auto trans. excellent condition. Cold a/c. Complete documentation from new. Feature in 2009 Automobile Magazine. 95,000 miles. \$21,000 or best. Contact Michael Cohen 248-227-8604 or [michael@sellyourporsche.com](mailto:michael@sellyourporsche.com)

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Please type or print neatly. You must own (co-own) or lease a Porsche and must be 18 years of age or over to apply for membership.

Prefix: ☐Mr. ☐Mrs. ☐Ms. ☐Miss

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Region Destination Preferred \_\_\_\_\_

\*Some regions also require additional membership fees/appli-  
cation fees these are assessed directly by the regions.  
\*\*Region will be assigned based on where you live, however,  
you can specifically designate to belong to any one of our  
PCA regions.

Regional Endorsement

Your local region can accept and endorse the application to send to the national office.

Region Officer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Region Date \_\_\_\_\_

Member Demographics

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Prefix: ☐Mr. ☐Mrs. ☐Ms. ☐Miss

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Names & Ages of Children \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Family or Affiliate Member \_\_\_\_\_

You can designate a family or affiliate member as part of your membership. This person must be 18 years or older.

Family Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Member \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliate Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

The information collected on this application is used by the PCA and its regions for conduct of its activities. PCA does not re-  
lease any individual membership information to any organization outside of PCA and its regions.

Porsche Car Information

(We only want to know about your Porsche)  
(\*required information)

Car #1 \_\_\_\_\_

\*Year \_\_\_\_\_ \*Model \_\_\_\_\_

\*Body Type \_\_\_\_\_ \*Color \_\_\_\_\_

\*Vin# \_\_\_\_\_

License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_

License Plate State \_\_\_\_\_

Car Used: ☐Daily ☐Pleasure

Maintenance Performed By:

☐Self ☐Dealer ☐Independent

Average number of miles driven annually \_\_\_\_\_

Note: If you own more than one Porsche, you can attach additional pages to this application with your car information.

Payment Information

Term of Membership

☐1 Yr (\$46) ☐2 Yrs (\$90) ☐3 Yrs (\$132)

☐Check enclosed # \_\_\_\_\_

☐Visa ☐MC ☐American Express

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

SEM Board Minutes (9/3/14) by L. Dunham

In attendance: Board Members: John Keilly, Michael Cohen, How-  
ard Gilson, Patti Door, Fred Young, Gretus Hoogestraat, Lanita Dunham,  
Marc Molzon, Leo Wanstreet, Tom & Miranda Christen, Alex Lundberg  
and Walter Crump.

Call to Order: 7 PM by President John Keilly

Minutes: approved.

Membership: 581 + 383 affiliates = 964.

Financial: Checking account is up from last year at this time due to  
successful DE events. Approved.

Insurance: Have for next track event, Ladies drive and drive your  
Porsche Day.

P-4:New Associate Editor, Miranda Christen is learning P-4 proce-  
dures. We are very pleased to have her as part of our team.

OLD BUSINESS:

Aug 17 Picnic: Had 111 members attend and many Concours en-  
trants. Had a whole pan of chicken left, will plan to change the order for  
next year.

Aug 23 Down River Tour & BBQ: The tour of Grosse Ile and dinner  
at Hoogestraat's home was excellent. Had 24 cars and 47 people, includ-  
ing some from the Joe Brighton Foundation.

Sept 11 DE: Plans to hold seminars on data, equipment, along with  
driving skills.

Sept 13 Ladies only Drive: Will visit the Milford area for lunch and  
shopping, after an easy driving tour starting from Toys 'R' Us parking  
lot at 10:30.

Sept 14 Drive Your Porsche Day: Will meet at Gilson MotorSports  
at 12:30. Have 32 signed up so far. Tour to be about 2 hours, driving to  
Algonac area.

Sept 22-Oct 2 Germany Trip: All arrangements have been made for  
an exciting trip.

Oct 12 Motor City Auto Spa open house: See P-4 ad.

Nov 5 Board meeting and 2015 Calendar planning: Will be held at  
Keilly home for board, officers and chairman. Dinner at 6 PM.

Nov 14 All member Dinner w/speaker: Dave Miller will be asked  
to host and plan.

Dec 6 Classic 9's Tech: Details to follow.

Dec 6 Holiday Party: Will be held at Orchard Lake Country Club.  
Charity to be Joe Brighton Foundation.

Elections: up for election, Patti Door, Howard Gilson, Greg Gallagher  
and Lanita Dunham. New names on ballot are Tom Christen, Walter Crump.

Charities: Will request pre-addressed envelopes for Holiday party to  
Joe Brighton fund.

Web site: Site is upgraded continuously and problems resolved.

Goodie Store: Did well at picnic.

Event reports: 2 needed for future events.

NEW BUSINESS:

Club Race: Marc held a meeting with the race committee. Focus on  
racers more than sponsors by contacting race teams, haulers and parts  
suppliers. The decision to hold a race was approved by the board. Con-  
tract with Gingerman yet to be finalized, will vote again to approve the  
track deposit. Will work on the volunteer list.

Treasurer: Acknowledged a nice thank you from the Amos Family,  
and a donation to the Waterford Twp Historical Society in Ed's name.

Stationery: Per request by Secretary, Michael Cohen contacted  
Copyrite for cost of 1,000 sheets - \$260. Amount approved.

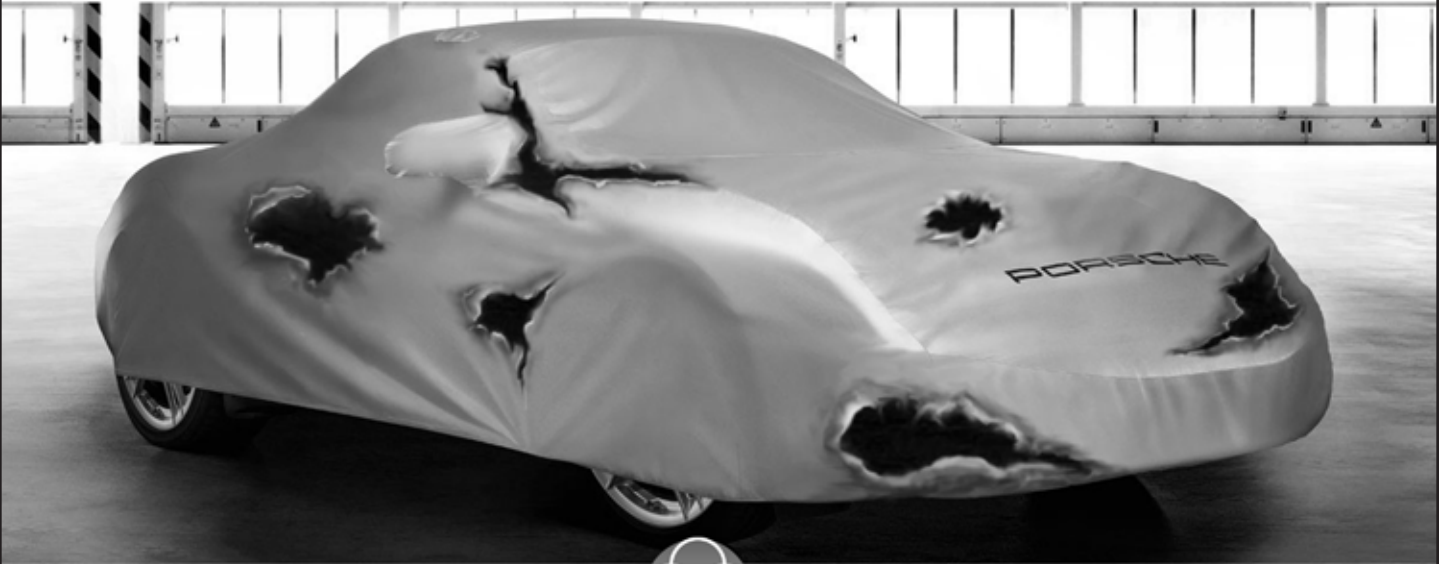
Meeting adjourned at 8:26

Refreshments and Locations: Oct 9: @ Lavery Porsche - Michael  
Cohen

Nov 5: @ Keilly's - John & Catherine

Dec 3: @ Gilson's

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# ASK THE Master Cylinder

These questions and answers are based on actual events.  
Please e-mail your questions to the P4 editor (fastkarz2@aol.com).  
They will be forwarded to the MC and answered in the next issue.

*The advice presented in this column is based on the expertise of the author alone. There may be other approaches to the issues described. SEM/PCA does not endorse any specific approach to a vehicle problem.*



BY **CHRIS BRADEN**, TECHNICAL EDITOR

*Q: I plan to have a direct oil feed installed in my Boxster, but I am confused. Do I still need the LN Engineering bearing? Can I keep my existing bearing? Do you recommend a ceramic bearing? —Pete*

A: With the direct oil feed, you may be able to use your existing bearing if it is in good condition. You can also purchase a new standard bearing if your original bearing feels rough or if you want to put a new one in for insurance. I would vote for the new one regardless since the cost is low and you cannot be sure of the lifespan of the original bearing. As far as the ceramic bearing, it is a fine idea and for even MORE insurance. Go for it. Is the ceramic bearing actually necessary? I do not think so. The load factor on the original bearing is relatively light and simply supplying oil should make it last the life of the engine. —MC

*Q: I am getting ready to put my car up for the winter, just after the color tour. What do you recommend? —Pete*

A: This simple check list is all it takes:

- 1) Wash the car a week or two before you cover it up, allow all the water to evaporate.
- 2) Clean the wheels to remove all the brake dust before you store the car. Your best bet is to remove them first. When you do, you can clean your beautiful brake calipers with the wheels off. Brake dust contains corrosive elements. You do not want that on your wheels and calipers all winter.
- 3) Clean the interior, under the seats, in the map pockets, check the glove box for missing receipts and don't forget any other compartments as well as the trunk(s).
- 4) Wax the car. If it needs a good buffing, do that before you wax it. Now that your wheels are clean, wax them too.
- 5) Use a protectant on the vinyl trim and rubber. Use a leather treatment on the seats.
- 6) Fill your tires to the maximum pressure allowed and for added benefit, consider tire cradles to keep them from flat spotting. Don't worry too much about that however, my tires flat spot over the winter and when I get the car out in the spring, it takes a week or two and the problem goes away. It is important to remember to adjust the pressures back to their proper spec when getting the car OUT of storage. I will often write myself a note to that effect and tuck it in front of the steering wheel, so I'm sure to see it when I get in the car in the Spring.
- 7) Consider a battery cut off switch. If you do not have one, disconnect the negative terminal from the battery until you are ready to fire it up. If you have an electrically operated front hood latch, I suggest that you place something to obstruct the latch. If you don't, and it shuts, you will have to jump power to get it open in the springtime.
- 8) Use a modern high quality battery tender, not a trickle charger, to keep the battery up to snuff. If the unit you have in your car was installed by the

dealer when you bought it, go online and investigate the wisdom of replacing it with a newer version. Ask me why later.

9) Fill the tank with gas. When the tank is full, there is no air space in the tank which can contain moisture. Put some Sta-Bil in the tank and one can of premium gas line treatment containing isopropyl alcohol.

10) If your car is due for an oil change, change it before you store it. If not, don't worry about it.

11) Have you had your annual brake fluid flush? Better to do it more frequently than less. Brake fluid absorbs water from the air and letting it sit in the brake system all winter is not a good idea.

12) Purchase a carpet remnant for your garage's cement floor. This will keep condensation down.

13) If you can bear the thought of not viewing your naked car over the winter, you might want to cover it up.

14) Mice and rodents love upholstery and soy based wiring insulation. Pest control pellets in the garage might be a good idea. Caution, if you have small children, keep that stuff out of sight because they look like candy to a toddler. Ask me how I know! —MC

*Q: Should I start my car up when it is stored in the winter time? If so, how long should I let it run? —Chuck*

A: I do not endorse starting the car routinely in the wintertime unless you can drive it. Starting it up without a full warm up creates more problems that it solves. During warm up, that metal parts get coated with corrosive chemicals that are eliminated when the system gets up to operating temperature. If you decide to drive it, I would recommend a 10- to 20-minute run to get everything up to temp with a few high rpm romps and some hard stops thrown in to clean the flash rust off your brake rotors. Even if it does not help your car, you will feel better; that is what it is all about anyway. —MC

*Q: I am thinking of selling my 944 and moving up to a 928. I wonder which one I should choose and what I should be looking for before I take the plunge. —Emil*

A: Taking a plunge into the Shark Tank can be a scary and exhilarating process. My thumbnail analysis is to budget two times the purchase price to do needed maintenance and repair inevitable problems that these older classics are prone to. I suggest that any one considering a specific model should join the local Club that is most associated with that model. Join the model-specific community of motorheads who live, breathe, and sleep in that world. One group I belong to and recommend is the 928 Owners Club. Attending an event geared toward making an informed decision is also a wise move. The local 928 geeks meet once a month at a local watering hole and they are a great group of guys and gals. Yes, wives and girlfriends are welcome. —MC

## Around The Zone



BY **MICHAEL SORIANO**, ZONE 4 REPRESENTATIVE

*Greetings PCA Zone 4 Members,*

With the arrival of autumn upon us, it is a great time to look back and reflect upon all of the exciting activities that took place within Zone 4 during a busy and fun-filled summer. In a scenic park on a beautiful Sunday afternoon, I attended Southeast Michigan Region's annual Family Picnic and Concours; a tradition that is 38 years old. Over 100 members dined upon an impressive selection of appetizers, side dishes and at least 4 different entrees. A number of trophies were awarded to the nice variety of cars in attendance. I travelled to Northern Ohio Region's 3rd Annual Rib Burn Off and Social, where approximately 150 members were treated to a wide variety of ribs and other types of barbecue. In addition they served fresh cut fries and had a bar with frozen margaritas and beer on tap. I also joined Maumee Valley Region members for their annual Sunday Champagne Brunch at Mon Ami Winery on beautiful Catawba Island; a long standing tradition, and one of the region's most popular events. Members were able to enjoy delicious food and could spend the afternoon listening to live music or visiting some of the other attractions that Lake Erie has to offer. Recently, I was given the opportunity to spend the day driving a nice selection of brand new cars that had just been shipped over from Germany for this event. The first part of the day was spent navigating a 40 acre autocross course in the Panamera GTS and Macan Turbo. The remainder of the day we were able to run the new Boxster GTS, Cayman GTS, and Targa 4S on a test track. I'm sure we would all agree that this was an outstanding way to spend the day, and the expert instruction provided by the Porsche Driving School was an added bonus.

As we look ahead to events being offered this month, there are some great opportunities to enjoy some more time behind the wheel before the driving season concludes and it is time to store your car for the winter. A number of regions have beautiful color tours scheduled as well as a rally and a DE. Make sure to get out and take advantage of these opportunities. The regions have been working very hard to promote their events throughout the zone, and it has been extremely rewarding to see this zone continue to grow as members from every region are offered a variety of events to attend each month. Please remember to check your region's newsletters, websites, and e-mails as well as the Zone 4 website for the most up to date list of events available to you. Please consider attending other regions' events, such as:

- **Allegheny Region's** Grand Concours at Station Square is October 4
- Join **Northern Ohio Region** members on October 4 for a Scenic Railroad Wine Train
- October 4 & 5 is **Ohio Valley Region's** Rallye Porsche Mariemont Tour
- On October 5 join **Motor-Stadt Region** for a Sunday Colors Tour in Mason, MI
- October 11 is **Michiana Region's** Dine and Drive to Crown Pointe
- **Rally Sport Region's** Fall Color Tour is October 11
- October 11 is **Western Michigan Region's** Fall Color Tour
- **Central Indiana and Mid-Ohio Regions** are holding a DE at Putnam Raceway on Oct. 18-19
- October 18 is **Maumee Valley Region's** Annual Planning Meeting
- **Southeast Michigan Region** is holding its Fall Color Tour on October 19
- October 25 is **Eastern Buckeye Region's** Porsche Pasta Party

I look forward to having the opportunity of meeting each and every one of you at these upcoming events. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at MSoriano. ZoneRep@gmail.com

Thanks, **Michael**





# Nostalgic Perspectives

STORY BY **TOM FIELITZ**

One of my favorite T-Shirt sayings is “The older I get the faster I was”. It perhaps points out the human nature of people embellishing the exploits of their youth. That often carries over to the nostalgic feelings toward our past cars. We love to reflect back on those wonderful first cars we owned even when the reality was the cars were not quite as wonderful in fact as they are in our memories. To be fair how wonderful the particular car was depended on what it was being compared against. Some cars were really super cars in their day. The harsh reality is that those same cars compared to what is available today pale in comparison. There are relative economy box cars that outperform the hottest performance cars of just a few decades ago. There are super cars available today that can outperform the iconic top line race cars of just a few decades ago.

My first Porsche, a 1970 914-6 had only 120 horsepower but felt like driving a supercar. I could swear that the mere tilting of my head could make that car change direction. Coming out of a 1967 VW Beetle that 914-6 had phenomenal performance. Naturally I had to drive it in our PCA time trial events at Waterford. I dragged my father out to watch me compete only to fall off track in almost every corner in a pitiful display of exuberance over talent. Not having drivers training at that point I tried to learn by bumming rides with anyone who would let me ride along. After I attended the Jim Russell driving school in a Formula Ford at Mt. Tremblant, Quebec I thought I had finally learned how to drive. But in comparison to the young men who had years of kart racing under their belts my race driving was average at best. Returning back to Waterford and chasing around after my fellow club members revealed to me that what I really enjoyed was just driving at my limit but not racing at the limit.

There are constant comparisons of the top drivers of years past to top drivers of today. The debate on who is the greatest driver of all time is a topic to divide many auto enthusiasts. The factors that made a driver great have changed over time also. The early driving heroes no doubt exhibited extreme bravery considering the lack of safety features in their cars and the tracks they raced on. They also had to display adaptability to drive cars that were rapidly advancing in technology. Many race fans decry the augmentation of driving talent with the advanced racing technology of today. If a past racing hero had the equipment of today's cars what could they achieve? The numbers of super talented drivers were few partly due to the high mortality rate of racing. They were also incredibly dedicated because it was not a high paying

sport and sponsorship was still in its infancy as were commercial endorsements. Today's back marker with no winning record can earn money that even past world championship drivers could not imagine. Yesterday's race driver only had to manage simple driving controls compared to the technology in a modern race car. The current Formula 1 driver can adjust on the steering wheel numerous operational parameters all while he has to battles his competitors and monitor tire wear and track conditions. To excel as a driver he also needs to be part engineer and part computer expert as well as manage public relations and manage sponsorship funding. The one thing both yesteryears and today's driver still needs is a total life dedication to the sport.

When you are an instructor you come across some amazing driving talent that goes beyond the skills of the average driving enthusiast. But a professional race driver has driving skills that are at a totally different level and I have the highest admiration for them and enjoy watching them work. Looking back, the first Porsche racer that inspired me was Vic Skirmants, one of those amazing drivers that still races in his vintage 356 with all of his same driving skill. There are several current repeat champion drivers that defy aging such as Scott Pruett and Randy Pobst and we have our own local champions such as David Finch and Danny Kellermeyer.

There is nothing wrong with remembering the good times and the good cars of the past. But honest reflection brings home the reality that times past were good but for the most part we have never had it as good as we have it today. There is still nothing wrong will feeling good about what you have accomplished and being proud of the cars you once owned. Just like there is nothing wrong with recognizing that you would not trade today for those days gone past. When you get to drive an old Porsche like my 1972 E and then a new Porsche you are quickly reminded that nostalgia is wonderful but our perspective of the perfect sports car has changed. We don't really want to go back to the cars and days of our past but in perspective every one of those past days were just as wonderful as we remember them to be.



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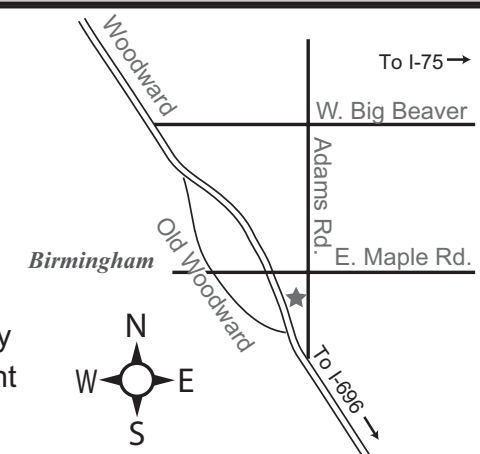
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