

The devil's Advocate

**March
2005**



**The Official Publication
of the
Diablo Region/PCA**

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Walnut Creek mike@reliantpension.com

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Francisco Cabrita 925.837.2200
Danville fcabrita@aol.com

Ron Leppke, Editor 925.837.2200
Castro Valley lepprd@mac.com

Eugenie Thomas 925.313.9067
Martinez eugenie959@yahoo.com

Advertising	Francisco Cabrita	925.837.2200
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Cover Photo

When I first glanced at the cover photo, My strong impulse was to hit delete. A lens flare was an imperfection that did not belong anywhere among my thousands (I hesitate to type such an astronomical number, but the frequent "your hard disk is full" warnings confirm the reality for this 80 GB disk). I then asked Rob, my friend and esteemed webmaster colleague, for his expert opinion. He confirmed that lens flares have their place and I not only did not trash it, I placed it on page nine.

The placement on page nine was based on not attempting to hide the low sun flare, but on seeking to enhance the early morning look by with a recently discovered Photoshopping adjustment called Photo Filter. I then gave the early birds a "warming" filter set at 25%, a red filter at 30% and a deep yellow touch at 35%. These three filters were barely perceptible, but did further project the early morning effect announced by the flare.

Shot with the Olympus EVOLT, the F Stop value was f/6.3, the aperture max was f 3.5, the ISO was 100, and the focal length was 27 mm.

After tweaking the cover title colors to match, the Denny's breakfast early birds graduated to the cover.

Diablo Region Web Site:
<<http://www.pca.org/dia/>>

The Advocate is the official publication of the Diablo Region of the Porsche Club of America. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of PCA, the Diablo Region or of Porsche, AG. Contributions are welcomed. The deadline is one week after the board meeting. The editor reserves the right to edit any submission.

Ted's Tidbits

By Ted French, President



Here again it is time to write my President's message and not a whole lot has been going on in the way activities for our Region. Our *Advocate* editor has requested I get my message to him within the week following the monthly board meeting so that I might report Region information in a timely manner.

At the February meeting, one concern was the decline in membership over the last two years. The board has discussed this and has not yet come up with any conclusions. A few thoughts have been tossed around but nothing concrete has been planned. I am, therefore, asking for your help. My e-mail address will be at the end of this message every month so you can send your suggestions. Please focus on how we can not only keep you our members interested, but also how we can increase our membership. How many of you have asked a fellow Porsche owner if they belong to the Diablo Region PCA? If they answer why, do you really have an answer? The club has close to 550 current members and many of those individuals participate in various club activities. What about those who just bought a Porsche and don't know about the club (they're out there, believe it or not)?

We have great tours, parties, driving events, wash & shines, and concours that they won't even know about if they aren't a member. Did they buy the car just to go to the store? How sad. Our fun has already started with a great Super Bowl party at the Vern and Howard Thomas home with 25-30 people enjoying good food and refreshments along with admiring their newly remodeled home. For the driving enthusiast the autocross school is being held on Feb. 26th at the Alameda Point. I hope to have my new (to me) car finished by then. Tom

Martenot at Deutsche Motor Sport (see the ad on page 17) has assured me it will be done and ready. One last thing: "The Escape to the Wine Country" event in August is going to be a huge event. All of you need the reserve Aug. 25th thru the 28th on your calendar. There will be more details later, but **watch for it.**

Drive safely. <tdfrnch@yahoo.com>

Potpourri

by the Editor

A fellow Zone 7 editor has recently taken some heat for editorials with non Porsche or even political or controversial topics. I try to keep my page six opinions fairly pristine on that count, but may be a bit more adventurous here.

For some folks, a Mac versus Windows topic reaches the controversial level, so I will merely report a switch. One of the world's greatest drivers ever, Sir Stirling Moss, has upgraded from a Windows laptop to an Apple iBook after giving in to his frustrations with Windows. The purchase, configuration and transfer of an extensive set of photos was accomplished in 90 minutes.



"Stirling has to bring the iBook with him. He is too damned excited to leave it in his room. We go down to the lobby and Stirling immediately sits down and starts showing off his pictures. A crowd forms. I'm thinking to myself: Here's a 75-year-old world motorsports legend, sitting in a hotel in Madison, Wisconsin showing off his pictures on a Apple iBook he bought less than 1 hour ago. How wild is this? Richard looks at me and says, This is pretty cool. Damned right, old chap."

Another legend of mine among racers was Milt Minter. Cancer took its toll when Milt passed away on December 23, 2004. Check the Sequoia site for photos and details. <<http://www.pca.org/sqa/>>



Welcome: New members



From the Board of Directors:

Please visit us at our weekly breakfasts or monthly dinners so we can get acquainted. It will be delightful to meet you in person. After all, it's not just the cars. It's the people.

Warren Gardner, Jr. <warrengardnerjr@comcast.net>

New Members (Jan.)	9
Transfers in	0
Current renewals	N/A
Multi-year renewals	N/A
Late/delete renewals ¹	5
Transfers out	1
Non renewals	N/A
Dual members	8
Total membership	550

¹Previously deleted, now renewed

New members for January:

Name	Affiliate	Porsche	Year	City
Joel Agnello	Laurie	Cayenne	2004	Lafayette
Robert Carlson	Linda	996	2002	Hayward
Neil Goodhue	Diane	911	2004	Oakland
John Goriup	Mary	944 S	1987	Walnut Creek
Laura Mercier		912	1967	Livermore
Michael Pereira	Annette	993	1996	Byron
Patrick Pickerell		914	1974	Pleasanton
Thomas Sullivan		911	1999	Moraga
Vikki Vincenzi		Boxster	1999	Fremont

The difficulties associated with a membership system crash at the national level before a new and better system had been fully implemented have been documented in this space for many months. Meanwhile the N/As in the summary statistics confirm that the improvements are still in progress

There are over 53,000 Porsche Club of America members in 139 regions located in the USA and Canada

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Ron for the Road

By Ron Leppke, Editor <lepprd@mac.com>

I have never made it too much of a fetish when it comes to Porsche "life-style" accessories. I recall looking all over Europe for some Porsche Design sunglasses with interchangeable lenses, but that was for the functionality rather than the name. I finally found a set at the Amsterdam airport that were a few bucks cheaper than the US price. Ironically, I have never yet set foot in the Netherlands proper in spite of my Dutch ancestry.



This past holiday season, I received invitations to buy Porsche merchandise at a discount from Claridge's and Sonnen and possibly Oakland dealerships. This season, I was determined to receive gifts that I wanted and enjoyed so I ordered Porsche high-tac tile driving gloves. I then told my son the price and that my Christmas was on order. These gloves are wonderful and perfect for the morning commute on all those really cold mornings. Since my commute is a mere 2.6 miles, the Boxster does not have time to get warm inside making the gloves all the more important.

BTW, here is another reason to purchase from our dealer advertisers. Online, the Porsche shop did not have my size (not in stock; sold out), but Sonnen had them in the size I needed.

Another must-have Porsche item for me is the Boxster umbrella (WAO 050 087 12). This superbly designed travel umbrella fits perfectly into the passenger-side door sill cubby of the Boxster. Sadly for me but good news for one of our dealers, I left the umbrella atop a parking lot pay machine in San Francisco in January. I am now trying to find one of those gift coupons that has not expired.

My comments last month about newsletter photos being small prompted Patrick, our past President, to report that viewing the *Advocate* from the online PDF allows almost

any size and that even very small details can be seen. The same potential and more is also available when newsletter photos have been posted in one of my homepage galleries. The plus is you can see the photo much larger, in color and there will two or three times more of them. The URL at the bottom of this column and at the bottom of some of the picture pages will get you to this "plus" experience.

Please check out the exciting transformation of the "Goody Bag" on page 20. Thanks to our talented webmaster and his sister, there are new dimensions to our merchandise offerings with more to come.



There is a Diablo Region connection to the marvelous new Porsche factory museum planned for an opening in 2007. Peter Sontag, founder and Principal of Fastlane Travel (Please see the PCA Treffen ad on page0) has met with the museum architects in Vienna and discussed with them how to properly design a goodie store.

There are several outstanding Porsche publications that many of our members read. One that may be less well known is a bi-monthly that comes from the factory in Germany called *Christophorus*. It typically has many large and very beautiful pictures of both the latest and vintage Porsches from a factory perspective. It also covers a wide range of topics including travel, hotels restaurants, and, most recently, a Porsche-funded church organ restoration.

Correction:

The February edition incorrectly identified the "My First Porsche" owner as Richard Bennett; the correct name is Richard Benton. My sincere apology to Richard, a quality control manager, along with my hope that his new

<<http://homepage.mac.com/lepprd/>>

My First Cayenne



With so many other Porsches, other vehicles and a big boat, Scotty, i.e. Irwin Scott, gets a special catery for his first suv Porsche.

Perfect Porsche Parking



Scott Embree's '96 993 C2 (left) on a November fall foliage Sonoma winery tour with his neighbor ('01 996). Scott's photo



New & All Comers Party

April 2, 6:00 P.M.
hosted by
Judy & Herb Schreib

The first New & All Comers Party for 2005 will be held at the Schreib home. Sandwich fixings and beer/wine/soda will be supplied by the Club. The cost to members is \$5. Those with last names beginning with A-Q, please bring a munchie or salad; R-Z, bring a dessert.

RSVP to Judy/Herb at 925.837.4167 by March 26.

New members: Just bring yourselves; come meet us and other Porsche people.

Directions: Take 680; exit at Crow Canyon Rd. Go east for approximately ½ mile; turn left at El Capitan (Note the Crow Canyon Country Club). Continue on El Capitan and turn left on Canfield (second **residential** street); street signs on the right. Proceed to end of Canfield; 3409 is the last house on the left.



2005 Zone 7 Calendar

Date	Region	Event	#	Title	Location
2/19-20/05	GGR		#1	Time trial	Infineon
	GGR	School		Autocross School	Monster Park
2/19/05	SVR	Rally	#1	February Frolic	Dublin (Kahlers)
3/12/05	GGR	Autocross		Region Autocross	TBD
3/20/05	LPR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Marina
	RR	Autocross	#1	Zone Autocross	Santa Rosa Airport
	Zone	Autocross	#2	Zone Autocross	Santa Rosa Airport
4/2/05	SVR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Stockton Fair
4/8/05	GGR	Time Trial	#2	Time trial	Thunderhill (Tent.)
4/9-10/05	GGR	Time Trial	#3	Time trial	Thunderhill
4/9/05	GGR	Autocross		Region Autocross	TBD
	MBR/LPR	Drivers Ed		Coastal Driving School	Thunderhill
	RR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Santa Rosa Airport
	Zone	School		Concours Judging School	Sonnen Porsche
4/22/05	GGR	Drivers Ed		DE Open to Zone 7	Thunderhill
4/23-24/05	GGR	Time Trial	#3	Time trial	Thunderhill
4/23-24/05	SVR	Weekend	#32	CRAB	Sacramento
4/24/05	LPR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Marina
4/29-5/1/05		Club Races		Sports Car Invitational	Mazda/Laguna Seca
5/8/05	SVR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Stockton Fair
5/14/05	GGR	Autocross		Region Autocross	TBD
	YR	Rally	#3	March Madness	Stockton
	RR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Santa Rosa Airport
	SNR	Autocross	#3	Zone Autocross	Stead Airport
	SVR	Autocross	#4	Zone Autocross	Stead Airport
5/14/05	SVR	Rally	#2	Spring Flowers	Vacaville
5/15/05	SqR	Concours	#1	Greater Valley Concours	Fresno
5/21-22/05	GGR	School		Zone Autocross School	Monster Park
5/22/05	LPR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Marina
5/22/05	YR	Concours	#2	Yosemite Zone Concours	Modesto
5/29/05	DR	Concours		Diablo Wash & Shine	Daville Livery
	SVR	DE		Driver Education	Thunderhill
6/5/05	RR	PCA-hospitality		Vintage Races	Infineon
6/4/05	SVR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Stockton Fair
6/5/05	LPR	Concours	#2	PartsHeaven Concours	Hayward
6/11/05	GGR	Autocross		Region Autocross	TBD
6/12/05	SVR	Concours	#3	Shriners concours	Sacramento
6/18/05	YR	Rally	#4	Summer Solstice	TBD
	RR	Autocross		Region Autocross	Santa Rosa Airport

Zone information is subject to changes. Please consult the Zone 7 web site or the sponsoring organization for updated or further details.
<http://www.pca.org/zone7/>

Diablo Region Calendar: 2005

March

- 1 Board Meeting
- 4 Pizza and Porsches
- 17 Thursday Dinner Out

April

- 1 Pizza and Porsches
- 2 New Members Party
- 5 Board Meeting
- 9 Alexander Valley Wine Tour
- 21 Thursday Dinner Out

May

- 3 Board Meeting
- 6 Pizza and Porsches
- 19 Thursday Dinner Out
- 29 Wash & Shine Concours



A first Friday Pizza and Porsches group at Pavlo's in San Ramon.

June

- 3 Pizza and Porsches
- 7 Board Meeting
- 16 Thursday Dinner Out

July

- 1 Pizza and Porsches
- 5 Board Meeting



Former President and past Treasurer Brian Cameron presides over the north breakfast table/

Every Saturday Breakfast

8 AM at Denny's,
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On 680, exit to Sycamore Valley East;
first right to Camino Ramon.

Pizza & Porsches

1st Friday, 7 PM
Pavlo's Pizza
2408 Twin Creeks,
San Ramon

Board of Directors Meeting

First Tuesday, 7 PM
Usually at Ted's home

Thursday Night Dinner Out

3rd Thursday, 6:30 PM
Rocco's Ristorante*
2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd.
Walnut Creek

* Featuring 29 entrees, including
pastas, in addition to pizza.



The typical, but growing, breakfast crowd



Super Bowl Party

Hosted by
Vern & Howard Thomas

February 6, 2005



See all 28 photos full size and in color at:

<<http://homepage.mac.com/lepprd/PhotoAlbum164.html>>

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More Delta Dashing

By John and Joy Wagnon

The Ferrari's 24th annual Delta Dash on January 22nd proved to be a two handed, white knuckled event for this novice senior even in the second tour group supposedly for the slower drivers. Right! But the Carrera 4S more than held its own with the prancers. Some 60 Ferraris were joined by six Porsches, some Mercedes, BMW's, and a Prowler at the Auto Affair in Danville for the start of the event. A sea of red, some blacks, yellows, whites, and gray cars filled the staging area along with a lot of high rev whinnying.

The route was similar to our Ryde Hotel tour, but the back roads of Livermore and Brentwood were traversed with much more speed, a little fog, and some good old muscle tightening curves. We crossed the Antioch Bridge picking up Highway 160 and sailed along the levee roads but, in contrast the Ryde Hotel tours, there were no ferries. After the end gathering ritual at the Ferraris water tower on the east side of the river just north of Freeport, we all headed back to the Grand Island Mansion. Sadly, one of the Ferraris in a southbound passing attempt on the damp levee road went airborne for 100 feet coming down hard landing at the edge

of a river quarry. We were informed that the Modena was demolished and that fortunately the driver and passenger survived but with injuries. The exuberance of the drive quickly diminished as most of us proceeded down the road at a much slower pace.



Since the Mansion was a Ferrari Club affair, we orphans, Rob Haitsma, Phil Eskildsen, and the Wagnons, were on our own for lunch. We meandered down the road to the sleepy little town of Isleton to find a restaurant that was still open. Somehow the topic switched from hot cars to the local river crawdads. Following a discussion on omegas led by Phil, we ordered up these savory delicacies in a variety of servings. Rob, however, was heard to exclaim, "NO WAY—give me a cheese burger!"

We had an exciting drive and, all in all, a great outing.

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The PCA Spirit

by the Editor

There has been some good reaction to a previous month's focus on what Terry Zacone called "The PCA Spirit."

With little space left for this month's account of helpfulness from one Porsche owner to another, here is a brief one involving Dwight Mitchell from Sacramento at the time. The scene was a Zone autocross at Cal Expo. Two of us had some minor car problems so Dwight invited us to go with him to his nearby repair shop during the lunch break. Dwight fixed both of our Porsches and absolutely refused, as a matter of personal policy, to take even one penny as compensation for his time and expertise:

"At PCA events, I am simply a participant, not a shop owner."

IMSA GT3 Cup Challenge Braselton, GA

The International Motor Sports Association (IMSA) announced today, in conjunction with Porsche Motorsports North America (PMNA) and Michelin, the creation of the IMSA GT3 Cup Challenge presented by Michelin, a series designed for Porsche GT3 Cup race cars.

The series will allow amateur and semi-professional drivers, those who do not make their living in motorsports, to compete in a professional environment, similar to many other GT3 Cup series around the world and will run as part of the American Le Mans Series weekends.

"IMSA is delighted to announce the formation of the GT3 Cup series," said Tim Mayer, IMSA COO. "As an organization we are dedicated to the promotion of motorsports at all levels and the GT3 Cup has proven worldwide to create great racing for the fans and for the competitors."

As part of the announcement IMSA announced that Michelin has agreed to be the title sponsor of the series. Michelin will be providing the spec tire for all competitors.

"As part of our racing heritage Michelin is proud to be a part of the first GT3 Cup Challenge in North America," said Amanda Head, Michelin Motorsports Marketing Manager. "Michelin is associated with the GT3 Cup worldwide as part of our commitment to high-performance tires. The tires used in the series reflect the quality street car tires that we are pleased to offer our customers."

The purpose-built race cars, based on the Porsche 996 body style, will have sealed engines and transmissions, providing for close racing where the driver's talents are exemplified. PMNA will provide technical support for the series with personnel, parts and expertise both away from and at the track.

"There are over 100 of these cars already in North America," said Uwe Brettel, Porsche Motorsports North America President. "Last April, during Porsche's Rennsport Reunion at Daytona, we had more than 65 cars entered in the Cup class, and we think a lot of these competitors will be interested in running this new series."

"We are thrilled to be working with Michelin and PMNA to bring this type of exciting racing to North America," said Mayer. "With support from manufacturers like Michelin and Porsche we are able to deliver professional racing to all competitors. I would also like to thank the Porsche Club of America and the Porsche Owners Club which have been very supportive as we launch this series."

The 2005 series schedule includes races at the Grand Prix of Atlanta, Apr. 15-17; American Le Mans at Mid-Ohio, May 20-22; Portland International Raceway, July 29-31 and two other races, one on the east coast and one on the west coast, to be determined at a later date.

IMSA is an approved FIA club that has been sanctioning motor racing events since 1969. IMSA, based in Braselton, Ga., currently sanctions the American Le Mans Series.

**Diablo Region:
Annual Meeting
& Awards Banquet**



Saturday, March 19, 2004

7:00 PM No-host happy hour; Dinner at 7:45 PM

The Livery • 200 Sycamore Valley Road • Danville

Price per person - \$35 (includes tax and service charge)



Entrees: Include salad, baked potato, coffee/tea/wine and dessert.

- **Prime Rib**
- **Ribs/Chicken Combo**

For reservations or information: call/email Ted French: 925.837.8545; <ingtedf@pacbell.net> Please indicate your entree choices with the check. Seating is limited to the first 40 reservations.

***Make checks payable to PCA, Diablo Region and mail to:
Ted French, 1107 Delta Way, Danville, CA 94526***

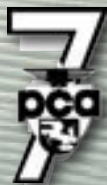


Sacramento Valley Region Presents

River Road

A Time/Speed/Distance Rally

Second Event in the 2005 Zone 7 Rally Series



Saturday, March 12, 2005

IPB Autosport at 12th and C Streets, Sacramento

First Car out at 1:01 P.M. • Four Classes

Finish in Woodland Three Hours Later

Entry Fee: \$12.00 per Car (Two Persons)

Rallymaster: J. Toney

There is also a rally school being presented at 9:30 A.M. (separate event and charge) at the same location as part of the SVR rally seminar series.

For information, contact Rik Larson at (916) 481-6084 (before 9:00 P.M., please) or e-mail <sysnake@comcast.net>

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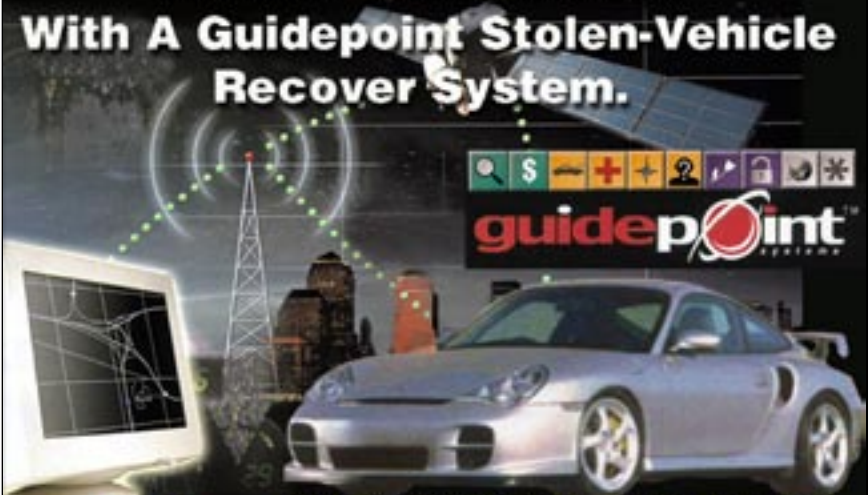
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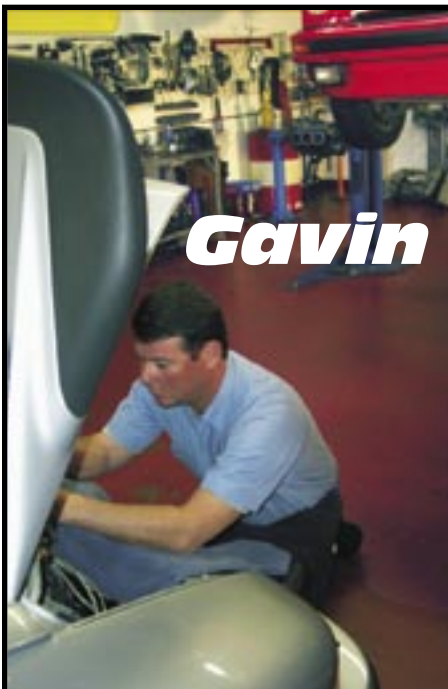
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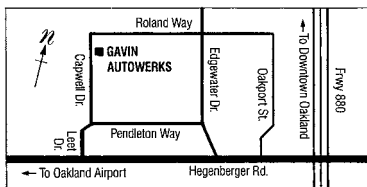


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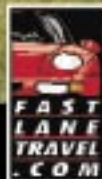
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